CURRENT AFFAIRS — 20-10-2026

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DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS FOR MPPSC

Tuesday, 20 October 2026 • Asia/Kolkata (IST) • Madhya Pradesh + National • MPPSC Prelims & Mains digest

TODAY AT A GLANCE — 10 THINGS TO REMEMBER

- MP Cabinet clears a **Rs 27,050 crore** development package
- **Soybean Bhavantar** scheme pays the gap below **MSP** by **DBT**
- New **Jabalpur-Indore Economic Corridor** company set up (capital **Rs 100 cr**)
- Cheetahs reach **3rd MP habitat** - **Veerangana Durgavati** Tiger Reserve
- **Ladli Behna** tribal-inclusion PIL before the **Indore** High Court bench
- **Rs 6,000 crore** released under CM **Kisan Kalyan Yojana**
- **Supreme Court**: internet access a **fundamental right**, children included
- **US midterm elections** on **3 November 2026**; Senate at **53-47**
- India's **178 major reservoirs** at **68.58%** of usable capacity
- India's **space economy** eyes **USD 40-45 bn** in 7-8 years

SECTION A • MADHYA PRADESH SPECIAL

MP Cabinet clears a Rs 27,050-crore development package

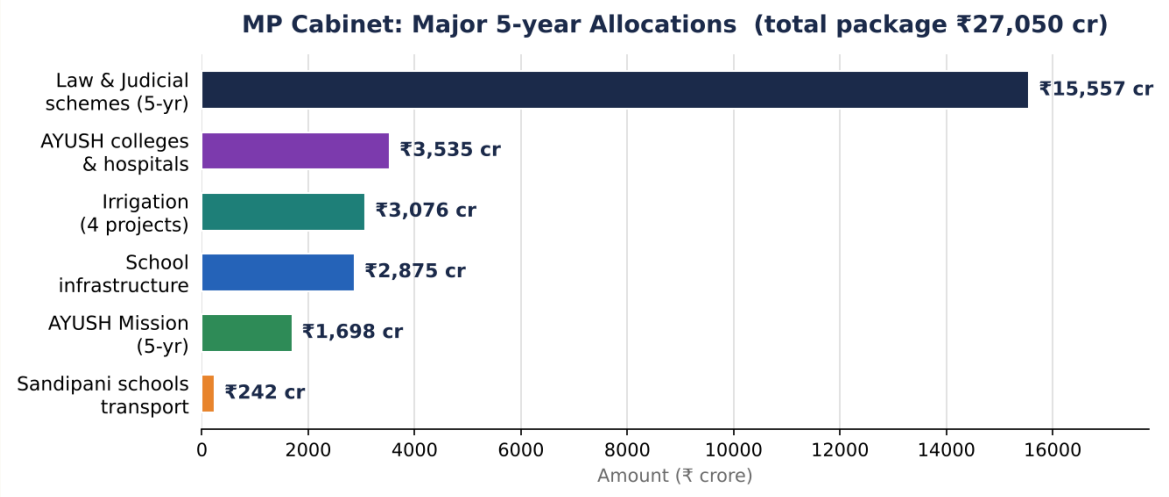
[MADHYA PRADESH] MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Economy)

Syllabus	**MPPSC GS-III** (state economy, public finance); **Prelims** - MP schemes, budget heads, Cabinet decisions.
Context	The **Mohan Yadav** Cabinet approved proposals worth about **Rs 27,050 crore** across departments, front-loading five-year outlays for welfare, law and infrastructure.
Key Facts	■ **Rs 15,557.35 cr** for **law & judicial** schemes (2026-31), incl. **Rs 12,252.66 cr** for judicial staff salaries. ■ **Rs 3,535 cr** for **AYUSH colleges & hospitals**; **Rs 1,697.62 cr** for the **National AYUSH Mission**. ■ **Rs 3,076.37 cr** for **four irrigation projects** (Jhirmiti, Barna, Kayampur-Sitamau, Chitrangi). ■ **Rs 2,875.20 cr** for **government school infrastructure**; **Rs 241.88 cr** for **Sandipani** school transport (tribal).
Way Fwd	Timely release and third-party audit will decide whether the large five-year commitments translate into assets on the ground.
Concept	**Cabinet** = Council of Ministers' executive committee; state spending flows through **demands for grants** voted by the Vidhan Sabha.

Jabalpur-Indore Economic Corridor company approved

[MADHYA PRADESH] MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Infrastructure)

Syllabus	**MPPSC GS-III** (industry, infrastructure, investment); **Prelims** - MP industrial corridors, Ease of Doing Business.
Context	The Cabinet set up a fully state-owned **Jabalpur-Indore Economic Corridor Development Company Ltd** to plan and monetise land along the corridor.
Key Facts	■ Initial **paid-up capital of Rs 100 crore**; powers over land acquisition, zoning, leasing and master planning. ■ To host **industrial, agro-processing, logistics, IT parks** and **Global Capability Centres (GCCs)**. ■ Designated an **Investment Region Agency** and nodal agency under the state's **Ease of Doing Business** law. ■ **Forest land** usable only after compensatory afforestation and **NPV** payment; building the road itself is excluded.
Way Fwd	Transparent land pooling and single-window clearances will decide investor confidence in the corridor.
Concept	**GCCs** are offshore capability/back-office centres of global firms; **NPV** compensates for diverted forest's ecological value.



Horizontal bar chart of major MP Cabinet five-year allocations in rupees crore within the Rs 27,050 crore package.

Soybean Bhavantar scheme notified for 2026 kharif

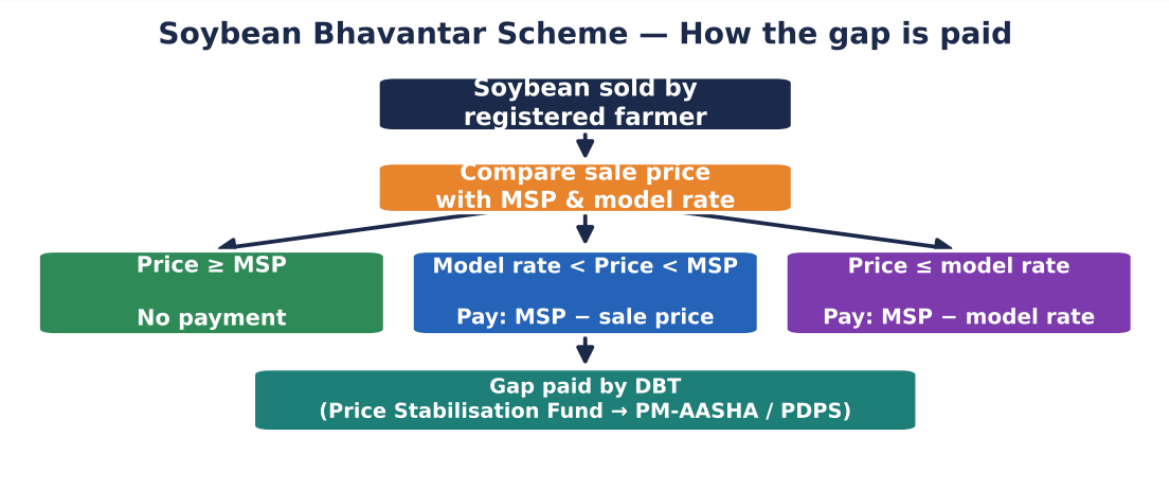
[MADHYA PRADESH] **MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Agriculture)**

Syllabus	**MPPSC GS-III** (agriculture, MSP, farm income); **Prelims** - MP as the 'Soybean State', PM-AASHA, DBT.
Context	A **price-deficiency payment** scheme will pay soybean growers the shortfall when mandi prices fall below the **MSP**, following **PDPS** guidelines under **PM-AASHA**.
Key Facts	■ Registration on the **e-Uparjan** portal by **17 Oct 2026**; eligible sale window **22 Oct 2026 - 15 Jan 2027**. ■ Payment = gap between **MSP** and the higher of sale price or **model rate**, only when that is below MSP. ■ **Model rate** set from a **14-day** weighted mandi average, then recalculated daily. ■ Paid by **DBT**, reimbursed from the **Price Stabilisation Fund**; monitored by the **Chief Secretary** and collectors.
Way Fwd	Accurate productivity and area data, plus leak-proof DBT, are key to reaching small cultivators in the Malwa belt.
Concept	**MSP** is a price floor; a **deficiency payment** tops up the market-MSP gap instead of government procurement.

Rs 6,000 crore released under CM Kisan Kalyan Yojana

[ECONOMY] **MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Agriculture & DBT)**

Syllabus	**MPPSC GS-III** (farm welfare, state finance); **Prelims** - CM Kisan Kalyan Yojana, PM-KISAN top-up, DBT.
Context	The Cabinet cleared disbursement of about **Rs 6,000 crore** to eligible farmers under the **CM Kisan Kalyan Yojana**, the state top-up to **PM-KISAN**.
Key Facts	■ Benefit transferred by **DBT** directly into farmers' bank accounts. ■ The scheme supplements the central **PM-KISAN** income-support instalments. ■ Supports farm liquidity ahead of the **rabi** sowing season. ■ Part of a welfare push alongside the Soybean **Bhavantar** scheme for MP cultivators.
Way Fwd	Clean, de-duplicated beneficiary databases keep such income-support transfers efficient and targeted.
Concept	**DBT** routes benefits straight to Aadhaar-linked accounts, cutting leakages and intermediaries.



Flowchart showing how the Soybean Bhavantar scheme pays the difference between MSP and the sale or model rate via DBT.

Cheetahs reach Madhya Pradesh's third habitat

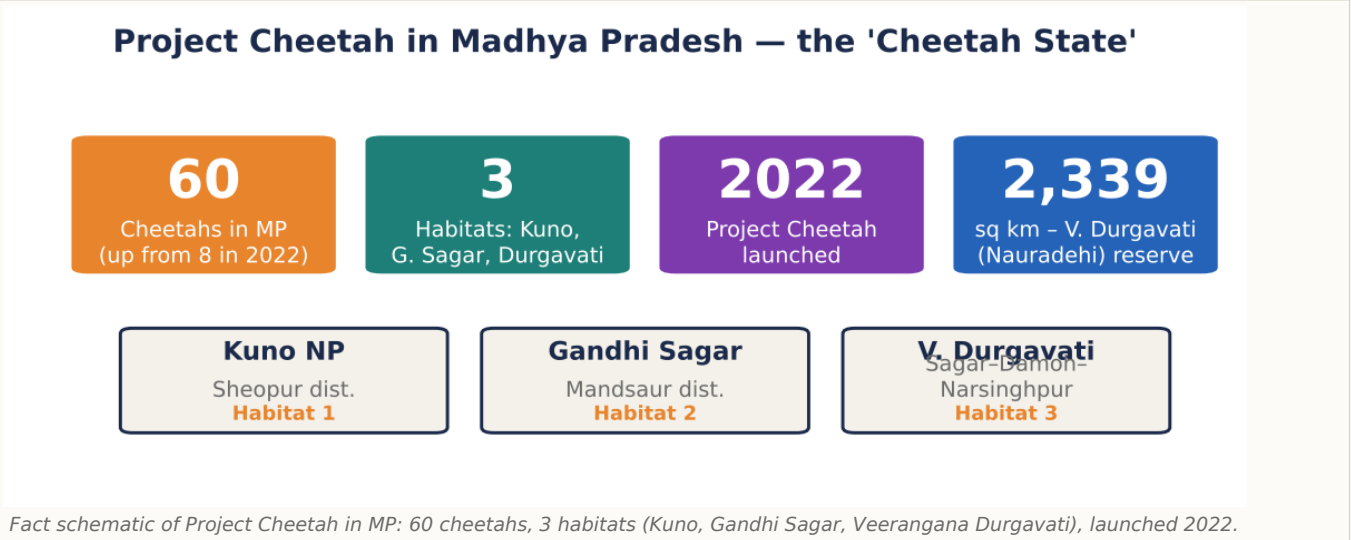
[ENVIRONMENT] **MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Environment & Ecology)**

Syllabus	**MPPSC GS-III** (wildlife, conservation); **Prelims** - Project Cheetah, MP tiger/cheetah reserves, IUCN.
Context	Two cheetahs, **Vyom** and **Neera**, were released at the **Veerangana Durgavati (Nauradehi) Tiger Reserve**, making it MP's **third cheetah habitat** after **Kuno** and **Gandhi Sagar**.
Key Facts	■ Reserve spans **Sagar-Damoh-Narsinghpur** in **Bundelkhand**; area about **2,339 sq km** (MP's largest tiger habitat). ■ **Project Cheetah** was launched in **2022**; MP's cheetah count has grown from **8 to 60**. ■ About **439 hectares** set aside with enclosures (**bomas**); two more cheetahs expected next month. ■ MP is the **Tiger State** and now a leading **cheetah** state; the reserve is also called **Nauradehi**.
Way Fwd	Prey-base build-up and genetic diversity across the three sites are vital to a self-sustaining metapopulation.
Concept	**Project Cheetah** reintroduced the **African cheetah** (**Acinonyx jubatus**) after the Asiatic cheetah went locally extinct (**1952**).

Ladli Behna: tribal-inclusion plea before the High Court

[SOCIETY] **MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Governance & Social Justice)**

Syllabus	**MPPSC GS-II** (welfare schemes, vulnerable sections); **Prelims** - Ladli Behna, PESA tribes, DBT.
Context	A PIL before the **Indore bench** of the **MP High Court** seeks to include **Baiga, Sahariya and Bharia** tribal women in the **Ladli Behna Yojana**, from which a nutrition grant currently excludes them.
Key Facts	■ Women already drawing **Rs 1,000+/month** from a government scheme are ineligible for Ladli Behna. ■ A separate **Rs 1,500** nutrition grant to the family's woman head triggers this exclusion. ■ Petitioner estimates about **five lakh** tribal women are affected. ■ Plea argues the two schemes have **different objectives** - child nutrition vs women's economic independence.
Way Fwd	Harmonising overlapping eligibility rules can prevent India's most tribal state from excluding its most vulnerable women.
Concept	**PVTGs** such as the **Baiga, Sahariya and Bharia** are **Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups** needing targeted support.



Fact schematic of Project Cheetah in MP: 60 cheetahs, 3 habitats (Kuno, Gandhi Sagar, Veerangana Durgavati), launched 2022.

SECTION B • DATA POINT OF THE DAY

68.58%

India's 178 major reservoirs - live storage

Of usable capacity (126.717 BCM) on the latest bulletin - down 24.53% year-on-year; the Narmada basin, MP's lifeline, stays above normal.

SECTION C • NATIONAL & WORLD

Supreme Court: internet access is a fundamental right

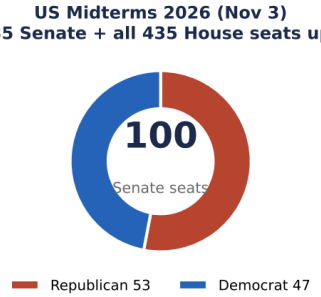
[POLITY] MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Polity & Rights)

Syllabus	**MPPSC GS-II** (fundamental rights, judiciary); **Prelims** - Articles 19(1)(a) & 21, landmark judgments.
Context	The **Supreme Court** held that **internet access** is a **fundamental right of every individual, including children**, linking it to **Article 19(1)(a)** and **Article 21**.
Key Facts	■ Rejected **blanket bans** on children's access and rigid **age-verification** that risks mass surveillance. ■ Any curb must pass a **three-part proportionality test** - legal basis, legitimate aim, proportionality. ■ Centre to frame a **default child mode** and a verified **National Hash & URL List Database**. ■ Platforms must remove **CSAM** within **2 hours** and acknowledge complaints within **24 hours**.
Way Fwd	Balancing child safety with privacy and access will need careful rule-making and independent oversight.
Concept	**Proportionality** tests whether a rights restriction is the least-intrusive means to a legitimate end.

US midterm elections due on 3 November 2026

[IR] MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (International Relations)

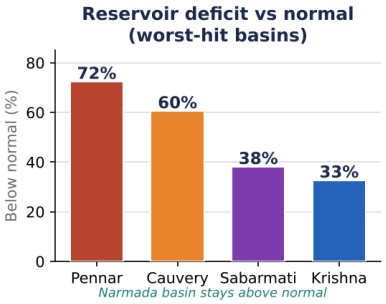
Syllabus	**MPPSC GS-II** (world polity, major democracies); **Prelims** - US Congress structure, elections.
Context	The **US midterms** on **3 November 2026** will contest **all 435 House seats** and **35 of 100 Senate seats**, shaping the second half of the presidential term.
Key Facts	■ Senate currently **53-47** Republican; Democrats need a net **+4** to flip it. ■ A working House majority needs **218 seats**. ■ Reported backdrop: inflation **3.7%**, petrol up **9.1%**, presidential approval around **32%**. ■ **AI data-centre** expansion has become a local electoral issue.
Way Fwd	Results will influence US trade, immigration and climate positions that matter for India.
Concept	**Midterms** fall mid-presidential-term and often serve as a referendum on the incumbent.



India's reservoirs at 68.58% of usable capacity

[ENVIRONMENT] MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Water Resources)

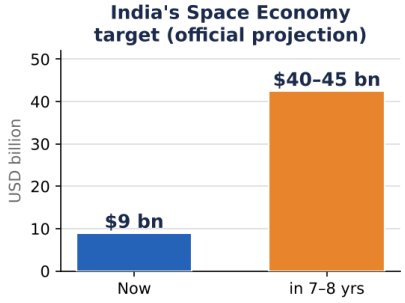
Syllabus	**MPPSC GS-III** (water, drought); **Prelims** - Central Water Commission, river basins, BCM.
Context	**Official data** show India's **178 major reservoirs** held **126.717 BCM**, or **68.58%** of usable capacity, well below last year.
Key Facts	■ Storage down **24.53%** year-on-year and **16.44%** below normal. ■ Worst basin deficits: **Pennar 72.32%**, **Cauvery 60.50%**, **Sabarmati 38.03%**, **Krishna 32.59%**. ■ Above normal: **Narmada**, **Mahanadi** and **Swarnarekha** basins. ■ Low individual reservoirs include **Idukki (10.62%)** and **Mettur (32.49%)**.
Way Fwd	Demand-side efficiency and watershed recharge matter as southern basins run dry.
Concept	**BCM** (billion cubic metres) measures live storage; the **Narmada** is MP's lifeline river.



India's space economy targets USD 40-45 billion

[SCI-TECH] MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Science & Technology)

Syllabus	**MPPSC GS-III** (space, S&T); **Prelims** - ISRO missions, Gaganyaan, space economy.
Context	An **official projection** says India's **space economy**, now about **USD 9 billion**, could reach **USD 40-45 billion** in **7-8 years**, as ISRO advances **Gaganyaan**.
Key Facts	■ **ISRO** completed **Crew Module-Service Module** separation tests at **VSSC, Thiruvananthapuram**. ■ The first uncrewed **Gaganyaan (G1)** mission is targeted within **2026**. ■ Growth is to be driven by private players and space start-ups. ■ India opened the sector via **IN-SPACe** and the **Indian Space Policy 2023**.
Way Fwd	Private capital, launch capacity and downstream applications will decide if the target is met.
Concept	**Gaganyaan** is India's first **human spaceflight** programme; **IN-SPACe** is the private-sector promotion body.



Mughal cheetah painting fetches a record at auction

[SOCIETY]	MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-I (Art & Culture)
Syllabus	**MPPSC GS-I** (medieval art, Mughal painting); **Prelims** - Mughal atelier, miniature painting.
Context	A Mughal miniature attributed to **Basawan**, 'A Family of Cheetahs in a Rocky Landscape', sold at auction for **GBP 10.245 million**.
Key Facts	■ **Basawan** was a leading master in **Akbar's** imperial atelier in the **16th century**. ■ It came from the collection of **Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan**. ■ Mughal miniatures fused **Persian, Indian and European** techniques. ■ The cheetah theme echoes its historic use in royal hunts.
Way Fwd	Record sales renew focus on conserving and repatriating Indian heritage art.
Concept	**Mughal miniature painting** peaked under Akbar and Jahangir, known for naturalism and fine detail.

Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar for 106 young artists

[SOCIETY]	MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-I (Culture & Institutions)
Syllabus	**MPPSC GS-I** (performing arts, cultural bodies); **Prelims** - Sangeet Natak Akademi, national awards.
Context	The **Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar** for **2024 and 2025** was conferred on **106 young artists** in New Delhi.
Key Facts	■ Instituted in **2006** and given by the **Sangeet Natak Akademi**. ■ Each award carries **Rs 25,000**, a **Tamrapatra** and an **Angavastram**. ■ Eligibility is up to **40 years** of age as of 1 April of the nomination year. ■ Honours young talent in music, dance, theatre and allied arts.
Way Fwd	Sustained patronage of young artists keeps India's classical and folk traditions alive.
Concept	The **Sangeet Natak Akademi** (est. **1952**) is India's national academy for music, dance and drama.

SECTION D • PRELIMS RAPID-FIRE

1. MP's **3rd cheetah habitat**: **Veerangana Durgavati (Nauradehi)** Tiger Reserve, ~**2,339 sq km**, in **Bundelkhand**.

2. Soybean **Bhavantar** eligible sale window: **22 Oct 2026 - 15 Jan 2027**; follows **PDPS** under **PM-AASHA**.

3. **Jabalpur-Indore Economic Corridor Development Co. Ltd** - initial paid-up capital **Rs 100 crore**.

4. **Supreme Court**: internet access a **fundamental right** under **Articles 19(1)(a)** and **21**.

5. India's **space economy** ~**USD 9 bn** now; target **USD 40-45 bn** in **7-8 years**; **Gaganyaan G1** due in **2026**.

6. **US midterms** on **3 Nov 2026**; Senate stands **53-47**, House has **435** seats.

SECTION E • PRACTICE CORNER

Q1. The Veerangana Durgavati (Nauradehi) Tiger Reserve, Madhya Pradesh's third cheetah habitat, lies across which districts?

(A) Sheopur, Morena and Bhind **(B)** Mandsaur, Neemuch and Ratlam **(C)** Sagar, Damoh and Narsinghpur **(D)** Panna, Chhatarpur and Tikamgarh

Ans: (C) The reserve spans Sagar, Damoh and Narsinghpur in Bundelkhand and is MP's largest tiger habitat (about 2,339 sq km).

Q2. The Soybean Bhavantar scheme follows the Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS) under which umbrella scheme?

(A) PM-KISAN **(B)** PM-AASHA **(C)** PM-FME **(D)** PM-KUSUM

Ans: (B) PDPS is a component of PM-AASHA (Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan), which pays farmers the gap when prices fall below MSP.

Mains Practice (GS-III): Price-deficiency payment schemes such as Madhya Pradesh's Soybean Bhavantar Yojana are increasingly used to protect farm incomes. Examine their rationale and the practical challenges in implementation. (GS-III)

Hint → *Cover: MSP vs market gap, fiscal cost vs procurement, model-rate/mandi-price manipulation risks, DBT and data accuracy, and comparison with physical procurement.*

★ **ONE-LINE REVISION:** Remember today: Durgavati is MP's 3rd cheetah home; Bhavantar pays the MSP gap by DBT; and the Supreme Court has called internet access a fundamental right.

Compiled & simplified by the StudyForGS.com Research Team

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