# CURRENT AFFAIRS — 28-09-2026

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DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS FOR MPPSC

Monday, 28 September 2026 • Asia/Kolkata (IST) • Madhya Pradesh + National • MPPSC Prelims & Mains digest

## TODAY AT A GLANCE — 10 THINGS TO REMEMBER

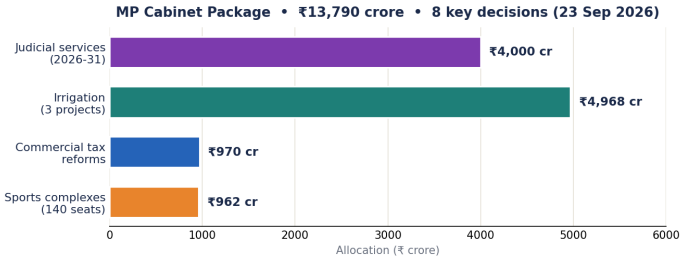
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| MP Cabinet clears ₹13,790 cr package — sports, irrigation, courts, power. | India Q1 FY26 GDP grows 8.2% — among fastest big economies. |
| Project Cheetah crosses 56; 4 new cubs at Kuno, MP. | Russia backs India & Brazil for permanent UNSC seats. |
| Ladli Behna: ₹1,250/month to ~1.29 cr women, heading to ₹1,500. | COP31 (Antalya) criticised for sidelining fossil-fuel phase-out. |
| Ujjain gears up for Simhastha 2028; 272 structures razed for roads. | UNGA declares island states keep statehood despite sea-level rise. |
| MP, the 'Soybean State', sets wheat MSP ~₹2,600/qtl with ₹40 bonus. | NCRB 2024: rape-trial backlog hits 1.86 lakh; ~8% conviction. |

## SECTION A • MADHYA PRADESH SPECIAL

### MP Cabinet clears ₹13,790 crore package: 8 key decisions

MADHYA PRADESH **MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Governance)**

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| **Syllabus Linkage** | MPPSC GS-II — state governance & welfare finance; Prelims — MP cabinet decisions, CM Sports Complex, Gram Nyayalaya. |
| **Context** | The MP Cabinet, chaired by CM Dr Mohan Yadav on 23 Sep 2026, cleared proposals worth about ₹13,790 crore spanning sports, irrigation, power, courts and tax reform. |
| **Key Facts** | • **₹962.50 crore** for **Mukhyamantri Sports Complexes** in all **140 assembly constituencies**, with permanent helipads.<br>• **~₹4,968 crore** for three irrigation projects (Suthalia, Javad-Nimach micro-irrigation, Parvati-Rinsi) covering **88,000+ hectares** over five years.<br>• Over **₹4,000 crore (2026-31)** for judicial services — High Court **₹2,015.6 cr**, Family Courts **₹1,000 cr**, **Gram Nyayalaya** ₹554.6 cr, Legal Aid ₹524 cr.<br>• **2,800 MW** thermal power via competitive bidding; **₹969.87 cr** for commercial-tax/e-Registry reforms.<br>• Earlier September 2026 cabinets cleared cumulative proposals of about **₹42,490 crore** for state development. |
| **Way Fwd** | Timely execution and outcome audits will decide whether the outlay translates into jobs, irrigated area and faster justice delivery. |
| **Concept** | Gram Nyayalayas (Act, 2008) are mobile village courts for speedy, affordable rural justice; the state cabinet is the collective executive under Article 163. |



## Project Cheetah crosses 56 as Kuno welcomes 4 new cubs

MADHYA PRADESH **MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Environment & Ecology)**

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| **Syllabus Linkage** | MPPSC GS-III — wildlife conservation, species reintroduction; Prelims — Kuno & Gandhi Sagar, MP as Tiger/Cheetah State. |
| **Context** | India's cheetah population reached 56 in September 2026, with a fresh litter of four cubs at Kuno National Park (MP) — a second generation born on Indian soil. |
| **Key Facts** | • Total **56 cheetahs**: **36 born in India** (over 60%) and **20 imported** from Namibia, South Africa & Botswana.<br>• India-born female **KGP12** gave birth to **4 cubs** at **Kuno National Park** in Sep 2026.<br>• Project Cheetah began **17 Sep 2022** (8 from Namibia); 12 more from South Africa arrived **18 Feb 2023**.<br>• **Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary** is the second home; expansion to **Rajasthan & Gujarat** under discussion.<br>• MP holds India's **largest forest cover** and is the 'Tiger State'; **Kuno** lies in **Sheopur** district. |
| **Way Fwd** | Long-term success needs a metapopulation across multiple sanctuaries, a stronger prey base and lower cub mortality. |
| **Concept** | Project Cheetah (2022) is the world's first intercontinental large-carnivore translocation; the cheetah is IUCN 'Vulnerable' and was declared extinct in India in 1952. |

### PROJECT CHEETAH — Madhya Pradesh, the wildlife state

*Kuno National Park & Gandhi Sagar Sanctuary • status as on 26 Sep 2026*




## Ladli Behna Yojana stays MP's flagship women's welfare push

MADHYA PRADESH **MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Social Justice)**

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| **Syllabus Linkage** | MPPSC GS-II — welfare schemes for women & vulnerable sections; Prelims — MP flagship DBT schemes. |
| **Context** | Mukhyamantri Ladli Behna Yojana remains MP's flagship women's welfare programme, giving eligible women a monthly direct cash transfer. |
| **Key Facts** | • Monthly transfer of **₹1,250**, being raised in phases toward **₹1,500**.<br>• About **1.29 crore women** beneficiaries across the state.<br>• **DBT** to bank accounts; **40th instalment** released in 2026.<br>• Eligibility: married/widowed/divorced/abandoned women, age **21-60**, within income limits. |
| **Way Fwd** | Fiscal sustainability and convergence with skilling and self-employment can turn cash support into lasting empowerment. |
| **Concept** | DBT routes subsidies straight to Aadhaar-linked accounts, cutting leakage; women-centred cash transfers aim at financial inclusion. |

### LADLI BEHNA YOJANA — women's cash support




## Ujjain gears up for Simhastha 2028; road widening under way

MADHYA PRADESH **MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-I (Art, Culture & Geography)**

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| **Syllabus Linkage** | MPPSC GS-I — fairs & festivals of MP, urban infrastructure; Prelims — Simhastha Kumbh, Ujjain-Mahakal, Kshipra river. |
| **Context** | Ahead of Simhastha Kumbh 2028, Ujjain is undergoing major road-widening; about 272 structures — including the CM's ancestral house — are being razed. |
| **Key Facts** | • State has approved about **₹25,000 crore** of Simhastha 2028 works; up to **40 crore devotees** expected.<br>• About **272 structures** along the alignment demolished for road widening in Ujjain (Sep 2026).<br>• Simhastha is held every **12 years** on the banks of the **Kshipra (Shipra)** river at Ujjain.<br>• Ujjain hosts the **Mahakaleshwar Jyotirlinga**, one of the **12 Jyotirlingas**. |
| **Way Fwd** | Balancing heritage-sensitive urban renewal with fair rehabilitation of displaced residents is key to a smooth mega-event. |
| **Concept** | The Kumbh/Simhastha rotates among Prayagraj, Haridwar, Nashik and Ujjain; Ujjain was ancient Avantika, a hub of Indian astronomy. |

## 'Soybean State' MP anchors MSP procurement of wheat & pulses

**ECONOMY** **MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Economy & Agriculture)**

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| **Syllabus Linkage** | MPPSC GS-III — agriculture, MSP & procurement; Prelims — MP as Soybean State, Sharbati wheat, Rabi crops. |
| **Context** | Madhya Pradesh, India's leading soybean producer, continues large-scale MSP procurement of wheat and pulses to support its farmers. |
| **Key Facts** | • MP is the **'Soybean State'** (largest soybean producer) and famed for **Sharbati wheat**.<br>• Rabi 2026-27 state wheat procurement price set at about **₹2,600/quintal**, incl. a **₹40 bonus** over central MSP.<br>• Around **1.9 million (19 lakh)** farmers registered for MSP wheat procurement.<br>• Key crops: **soybean, wheat, gram/pulses**; Narmada, Chambal & Betwa basins anchor irrigation. |
| **Way Fwd** | Crop diversification, better warehousing and value-addition can cushion price volatility and soil stress from wheat-soy monocultures. |
| **Concept** | MSP is the floor price announced on CACP advice; a state bonus tops up central MSP to boost procurement and protect farm incomes. |

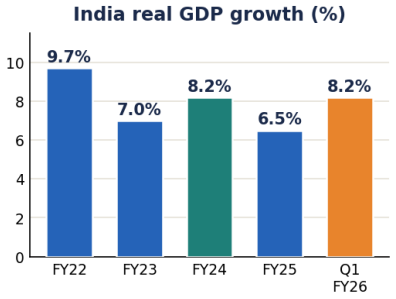
## SECTION B • DATA POINT OF THE DAY

**DATA POINT OF THE DAY**

# 8.2%

**India real GDP growth**

Q1 FY2026-27 (Apr-Jun) — among the fastest of major economies, powered by manufacturing & services.




## SECTION C • NATIONAL & WORLD

## Right to vote: statutory or fundamental? Debate revives

**POLITY** **MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Polity & Constitution)**

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| **Syllabus Linkage** | MPPSC GS-II — nature of rights, electoral process, ECI; Prelims — RPA 1951, Articles 19(1)(a)/21/326. |
| **Context** | A debate has revived on whether the right to vote is statutory or constitutional, after reports of eligible voters being dropped from rolls via the ECI's digital system. |
| **Key Facts** | • Right to vote is presently a **statutory right** under **Section 62, RPA 1951**, not a fundamental right.<br>• In Goa, **97 eligible voters** were reportedly deleted and officers could not override the software.<br>• Key rulings: **Kuldip Nayar (2006)** — statutory; **Rajbala (2015)** — constitutional; **Anoop Baranwal (2023)** dissent linked voting to **Articles 19(1)(a) & 21**.<br>• Roll deletions can cascade into loss of welfare-scheme access tied to electoral status. |
| **Way Fwd** | Auditable override mechanisms, human oversight of automated deletions and clear grievance timelines can protect the franchise. |
| **Concept** | Article 326 provides adult suffrage; a fundamental right invites stricter judicial scrutiny than a statutory one. |

## Russia backs India & Brazil for permanent UNSC seats

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

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| **Syllabus Linkage** | MPPSC GS-II — India & global institutions; Prelims — UNSC, G4, Article 108 UN Charter. |
| **Context** | Russia reaffirmed support for permanent UNSC seats for India and Brazil, even as it opposed Germany and Japan, keeping reform of the global body in focus. |
| **Key Facts** | • Russia backs **India & Brazil**; opposes **Germany & Japan**, citing a 'path to militarism'.<br>• **G4** = India, Brazil, Germany, Japan; countered by the **Uniting for Consensus** bloc.<br>• **African Union** seeks seats via the **Ezulwini Consensus**.<br>• Reform needs a **2/3 UNGA majority + all five P5** ratifications (**Article 108**); China is yet to back India. |
| **Way Fwd** | India leans on plurilateral coalitions and text-based negotiations to break the decades-old reform logjam. |
| **Concept** | The UNSC has 5 permanent (veto-holding) + 10 elected members; text-based negotiations seek a single draft to advance reform talks. |

**India's UNSC permanent-seat bid — the reform landscape**




## COP31 (Antalya) faces heat over sidelined fossil-fuel exit

**ENVIRONMENT** **MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Environment)**

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| **Syllabus Linkage** | MPPSC GS-III — climate change, UNFCCC/COP; Prelims — CBDR, India's net-zero & non-fossil targets. |
| **Context** | The upcoming COP31 (Antalya, Türkiye, Nov 2026) faces criticism for keeping fossil-fuel transition and loss-and-damage finance off the core agenda. |
| **Key Facts** | • Unusual **split presidency**: Türkiye hosts, Australia is vice-president.<br>• Listed priorities: electrification (**~20%→35% by 2035**), oceans, circular economy — fossil-fuel phase-out is absent.<br>• India targets **500 GW non-fossil capacity by 2030** and **net zero by 2070**, anchored on **CBDR**.<br>• Loss-and-damage financing remains a sticking point for developing nations. |
| **Way Fwd** | A credible COP31 must reconcile host-country fossil interests with a just, finance-backed transition for the Global South. |
| **Concept** | CBDR-RC (Common But Differentiated Responsibilities) under the UNFCCC assigns greater climate obligations to historically high-emitting developed countries. |

**India's climate pledge (non-fossil capacity)**




## UNGA declaration shields island states from sea-level rise

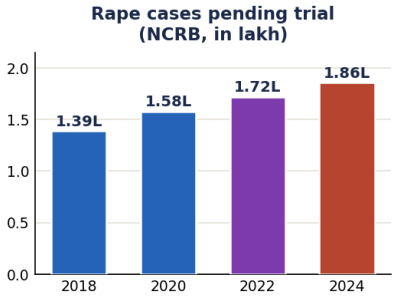
**IR** **MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II/III (IR & Environment)**

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| **Syllabus Linkage** | MPPSC GS-II/III — UN, oceans governance, climate impacts; Prelims — UNCLOS, small island states. |
| **Context** | The UN General Assembly adopted a declaration (24 Sep 2026) affirming that states threatened by sea-level rise retain statehood, UN membership and maritime zones despite land loss. |
| **Key Facts** | • Declaration **freezes maritime baselines** under **UNCLOS** even if coastlines retreat.<br>• Protects **statehood, fishing rights and seabed resources** of small island states (Fiji, Tuvalu, Vanuatu).<br>• **Non-binding** UNGA consensus but influential in shaping **customary international law**.<br>• Relevant to India's **Lakshadweep, Andaman & Nicobar, Sundarbans** and long coastline. |
| **Way Fwd** | Codifying frozen baselines into treaty law would give vulnerable states legal certainty over shrinking territory. |
| **Concept** | UNCLOS (1982) defines maritime zones — territorial sea (12 nm), EEZ (200 nm) — measured from coastal baselines. |

## NCRB 2024: rape-trial pendency rises, conviction stays low

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

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| **Syllabus Linkage** | MPPSC GS-II — criminal justice, women's safety; Prelims — NCRB, BNSS timelines. |
| **Context** | NCRB 2024 data show rising pendency of rape trials and low conviction rates, spotlighting systemic bottlenecks in criminal justice. |
| **Key Facts** | • **29,536** rape cases registered in 2024 (~**84 per day**).<br>• Trial backlog rose from **1.39 lakh (2018)** to **1.86 lakh (2024)** — about **90%** of the trial pool.<br>• Of **20,587** trials disposed in 2024, only **~8% convictions** (421); about **68% acquittals**.<br>• **BNSS** mandates investigation and trial within about two months each — largely directory. |
| **Way Fwd** | More fast-track courts, forensic capacity, witness protection and better investigation quality are needed to cut pendency. |
| **Concept** | NCRB (under MHA) compiles national crime statistics; conviction rate = convictions ÷ cases in which trials were completed. |




## Poompuhar dives reveal ancient Chola port's ocean trade

**SOCIETY** **MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-I (History & Culture)**

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| **Syllabus Linkage** | MPPSC GS-I — ancient trade, maritime history; Prelims — Chola ports, Indian Ocean trade. |
| **Context** | Underwater excavations off Poompuhar (Tamil Nadu) have yielded fresh evidence of the ancient Chola port's Indian Ocean trade links. |
| **Key Facts** | • Finds include a West Asian **'torpedo jar'** fragment, **four terracotta ring wells** and **250+ ceramic fragments**.<br>• Located at the mouth of the **Cauvery** in Mayiladuthurai district; habitation dated to **5th-4th century BCE**.<br>• City likely submerged by floods/tsunami around the **3rd-4th century CE**.<br>• Traded within a network linking **Arikamedu, Pattanam and Korkai**. |
| **Way Fwd** | Systematic marine archaeology can reconstruct India's early maritime economy and its West-Asian and Roman contacts. |
| **Concept** | Poompuhar (Kaveripattinam) was the Early Chola capital-port celebrated in Sangam literature; 'torpedo jars' were West-Asian transport containers. |

## SECTION D • PRELIMS RAPID-FIRE

- Kuno National Park — Project Cheetah's first home — is in **Sheopur** district, MP.
- **Mahakaleshwar** Jyotirlinga at **Ujjain** sits on the **Kshipra (Shipra)** river.
- India's non-fossil capacity target: **500 GW by 2030**; net zero by **2070**.
- **Article 108** of the UN Charter governs its amendment (needs all P5 + 2/3 UNGA).
- **Sharbati** wheat, a premium variety, is grown in Madhya Pradesh.
- **NCRB** functions under the **Ministry of Home Affairs**.

## SECTION E • PRACTICE CORNER

**Q1. Consider the following statements about Project Cheetah:**
**1. Kuno National Park is in Madhya Pradesh.**
**2. The cheetah was declared extinct in India in 1952.**
**3. Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary is a designated second home for cheetahs.**
**Which of the statements given above are correct?**
(A) 1 and 2 only
(B) 2 and 3 only
(C) 1 and 3 only
(D) 1, 2 and 3
**Answer: D.** All three are correct. Kuno (Sheopur, MP) is the first home, the cheetah was declared extinct in India in 1952, and Gandhi Sagar Sanctuary is the designated second reintroduction site.

**Q2. The 'Ladli Behna Yojana', often in the news, is associated with which state and delivery mechanism?**
(A) Rajasthan — food coupons
(B) Madhya Pradesh — Direct Benefit Transfer
(C) Uttar Pradesh — subsidised loans
(D) Gujarat — in-kind rations
**Answer: B.** Ladli Behna Yojana is Madhya Pradesh's flagship women's welfare scheme, transferring monthly cash directly to bank accounts through DBT.

**Mains Practice:** Madhya Pradesh has emerged as a national leader in wildlife conservation even as it pursues infrastructure-led growth. Discuss with reference to Project Cheetah and the state's forest resources. (250 words)

**Hint:** *Cover MP as the Tiger/Cheetah State, Kuno-Gandhi Sagar, largest forest cover, and the conservation-vs-development balance (e.g., Simhastha/road works).*

★ **QUICK REVISION:** MP = Soybean State + Tiger/Cheetah State; Kuno in Sheopur; Ladli Behna = DBT for women; UNSC reform needs 2/3 UNGA + all P5 (Art. 108); India GDP Q1 FY26 = 8.2%.

Compiled & simplified by the **StudyForGS.com** Research Team