CURRENT AFFAIRS — 29-09-2026

Tuesday, 29 September 2026 • Asia/Kolkata (IST) • Madhya Pradesh + National • MPPSC Prelims & Mains digest

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DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS FOR MPPSC

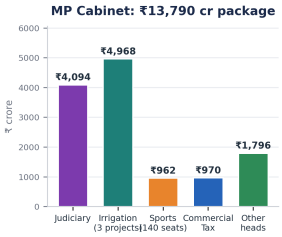
- MP Cabinet clears **Rs 13,790 cr** package for the **16th Finance Commission** period (2026-31).
- **140** Mukhyamantri Sports Complexes across all assembly seats; **Rs 962.5 cr** sanctioned.
- MP judiciary gets **Rs 4,000+ cr** — High Court, Family Courts, Gram Nyayalayas & Legal Aid.
- GIS-2027 push: **Rs 20,193 cr** proposals, **27,592** jobs; summit in **January 2027**.
- Kuno cheetahs rise to **56**; India-born cheetah delivers **4 cubs**; **CCB-2** at Gandhi Sagar.
- **Ladli Behna** 40th installment: **Rs 1,500** each to **1.25 crore** women (**Rs 1,835 cr**).
- India's **first port-based e-methanol plant** launched at **Kandla** (**Rs 2,300 cr**, 150 TPD).
- India's **first LNG-powered train** flagged off from **Sabarmati**; cuts diesel use ~**40%**.
- UNGA adopts **Declaration on Sea Level Rise**; statehood of sinking nations to be presumed.
- IAF hosts **Exercise Tarang Shakti 2026** at **Jodhpur**; **F-35** joins for the first time.

SECTION A • MADHYA PRADESH SPECIAL

MP Cabinet Clears Rs 13,790 Crore Development Package

MADHYA PRADESH | **MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Governance) & GS-III (Infrastructure)**

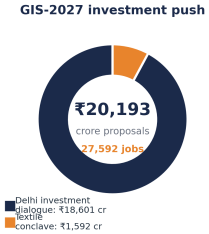
Syllabus Linkage	MPPSC Prelims (MP polity & schemes) + Mains GS-II state governance / GS-III infrastructure, irrigation, power.
Context	The Madhya Pradesh Cabinet, chaired by CM Dr. Mohan Yadav, approved a large development package covering sports, irrigation, thermal power and the judiciary, aligned to the 16th Finance Commission award period.
Key Facts	■ Total package: **Rs 13,790 crore** for the **16th Finance Commission** period (**1 April 2026 - 31 March 2031**). ■ **Rs 962.50 crore** for **Mukhyamantri Sports Complexes** in all **140** targeted assembly constituencies, with permanent helipads at main grounds. ■ Nearly **Rs 4,968 crore** for **3 major irrigation projects** (Suthalia & Parvati-Rinsi in Rajgarh; Javad-Nimach micro-irrigation), adding **88,000+ hectares**. ■ **2,800 MW** thermal power to be procured via competitive bidding. ■ **Rs 4,000+ crore** for the judiciary: **High Court (Rs 2,015.6 cr)**, **Family Courts (Rs 1,000 cr)**, **Gram Nyayalaya (Rs 554.6 cr)**, **Legal Aid Board (Rs 524 cr)**.
Way Fwd	Timely execution and outcome monitoring will decide whether the sports and irrigation outlays translate into jobs, rural incomes and grassroots talent.
Concept	The **16th Finance Commission** (chaired by Arvind Panagariya) recommends devolution for **2026-31**; states plan multi-year outlays around its award. **Gram Nyayalayas** are village-level courts under the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008.



GIS-2027 Push: MP Bags Rs 20,193 Crore Fresh Investment Proposals

MADHYA PRADESH | **MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Economy & Industry)**

Syllabus Linkage	MPPSC Prelims (MP economy, investment summits) + Mains GS-III industrial policy, employment, investment mobilisation.
Context	Ahead of the Global Investors Summit (GIS)-2027, Madhya Pradesh continued its investor outreach through sector conclaves and a Delhi investment dialogue, drawing proposals in sunrise sectors.
Key Facts	■ Fresh proposals worth **Rs 20,193 crore** with an estimated **27,592** direct & indirect jobs. ■ **GIS-2027** is scheduled for **January 2027**; previous **GIS-2025** drew proposals exceeding **Rs 33 lakh crore**. ■ Focus sectors: **semiconductors, data centres, IT & AI, textiles, defence manufacturing, renewable energy**. ■ **PM MITRA Textile Park, Dhar** reported **90%** plot allocation soon after its foundation. ■ MP infrastructure cited: **5 lakh km** road network, **8 airports**, **6** international container facilities.
Way Fwd	Converting MoUs into grounded projects — the perennial gap in investment summits — will be the real test of GIS-2027's employment promise.
Concept	**PM MITRA** (Mega Integrated Textile Region & Apparel) parks aim at a full textile value chain under '5F' — Farm to Fibre to Factory to Fashion to Foreign. MP is a leading cotton & garment state.



Project Cheetah: Kuno's Cheetah Count Rises to 56

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

Syllabus Linkage	MPPSC Prelims (MP wildlife, national parks) + Mains GS-III conservation, species reintroduction, biodiversity.
Context	An India-born cheetah delivered four cubs at Kuno National Park, taking the total cheetah population there to 56, while cheetah CCB-2 joined the second home at Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary.
Key Facts	■ Kuno cheetah population rose to **56** after an India-born cheetah delivered **4 cubs**. ■ Cheetah **CCB-2** relocated to **Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary** (Mandsaur-Neemuch), the second cheetah home. ■ **Project Cheetah** launched **17 September 2022** with cheetahs from **Namibia** and **South Africa** — world's first intercontinental big-cat translocation. ■ MP is India's **'Tiger State'** and now the **only state with cheetahs**; Kuno lies in the **Sheopur** district. ■ Other big-cat parks: **Kanha, Bandhavgarh, Pench, Panna, Satpura**.
Way Fwd	Sustaining wild-born survival rates and expanding prey base at Gandhi Sagar are key to a self-sustaining metapopulation across MP.
Concept	The **cheetah (Acinonyx jubatus)** is the world's fastest land animal; the Asiatic cheetah was declared extinct in India in **1952**. Reintroduction uses the **African** subspecies. IUCN status: **Vulnerable**.

Madhya Pradesh — India's Tiger & Cheetah State



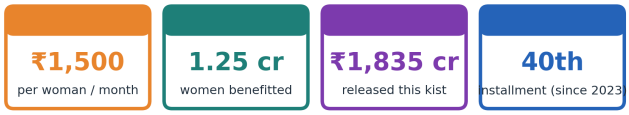
Big-cat parks: Kanha • Bandhavgarh • Pench • Panna • Satpura | Kuno lies in Sheopur district

Ladli Behna Yojana: 40th Installment of Rs 1,500 to 1.25 Crore Women

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

Syllabus Linkage	MPPSC Prelims (MP flagship schemes) + Mains GS-II welfare schemes, women & vulnerable-section empowerment.
Context	The Madhya Pradesh government released the 40th installment of the Mukhyamantri Ladli Behna Yojana, the state's flagship direct-benefit scheme for women, into beneficiaries' bank accounts.
Key Facts	■ **40th installment** of **Rs 1,500** each transferred to about **1.25 crore** women (~**Rs 1,835 crore** total). ■ Scheme launched in **2023**; provides monthly financial assistance to eligible women aged **21-60**. ■ Payments made via **Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)** to Aadhaar-linked bank accounts. ■ Festive-month top-ups have earlier raised some installments (e.g. Rakhi) above the base **Rs 1,500**. ■ One of India's largest state-run women's cash-transfer schemes by beneficiary count.
Way Fwd	Fiscal sustainability and better targeting will determine whether such transfers complement — rather than crowd out — capital and skilling spends.
Concept	**DBT** routes subsidies directly to beneficiaries, cutting leakages. Cash-transfer schemes for women are debated for their impact on **female labour-force participation** and household autonomy.

Mukhyamantri Ladli Behna Yojana — 40th Installment



MP Fast-Tracks Simhastha 2028 Preparations at Ujjain

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

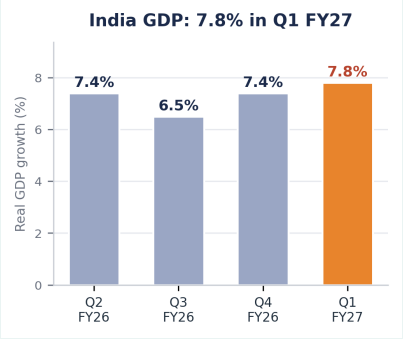
Syllabus Linkage	MPPSC Prelims (MP heritage, fairs & festivals) + Mains GS-I culture; GS-III event infrastructure & tourism economy.
Context	The state government is fast-tracking infrastructure and civic works at Ujjain for the Simhastha 2028 Kumbh, one of India's largest religious congregations, held on the banks of the Shipra.
Key Facts	■ **Simhastha (Kumbh)** at Ujjain is held every **12 years**; the next is in **2028**. ■ Held on the banks of the **Shipra (Kshipra)** river; Ujjain hosts the **Mahakaleshwar Jyotirlinga**. ■ Government targets road widening, riverfront and crowd-management infrastructure for lakhs of pilgrims. ■ Ujjain was the ancient capital of **Avanti / Malwa** and a historic centre of astronomy (**prime meridian**). ■ Part of MP's push to position itself as a leading spiritual-tourism destination.
Way Fwd	Balancing large-scale construction with Shipra's ecology and sanitation will be central to a 'grand yet green' Simhastha.
Concept	The **Kumbh Mela** rotates among **Prayagraj, Haridwar, Ujjain and Nashik**; UNESCO recognised it as **Intangible Cultural Heritage** in 2017. Ujjain's is called **Simhastha** (Sun/Jupiter in specific zodiac signs).

SECTION B • DATA POINT OF THE DAY

India's GDP growth, Q1 FY27 (Apr-Jun 2026)

7.8%

India's real GDP grew **7.8%** in **Q1 FY27**, beating expectations despite external headwinds — among the fastest for major economies. (official government data)

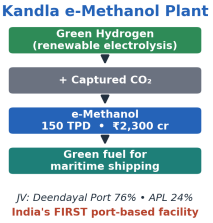


SECTION C • NATIONAL & WORLD

India Launches First Port-Based e-Methanol Plant at Kandla

SCI-TECH **MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Sci-Tech, Energy & Environment)**

Syllabus Linkage	MPPSC Prelims (energy & environment) + Mains GS-III clean energy, green fuels, decarbonisation.
Context	The foundation was laid for India's first port-based e-methanol production facility at the Deendayal (Kandla) Port in Gujarat, aimed at decarbonising maritime shipping.
Key Facts	■ Location: **Deendayal Port, Kandla (Gujarat)** on **75 acres**. ■ Joint venture: **Deendayal Port Authority (76%)** and **Assam Petro-Chemicals Ltd (24%)**. ■ Total investment **Rs 2,300 crore**; capacity **150 tonnes/day** (Phase-I 50 TPD, Phase-II 100 TPD). ■ Expected to create **3,500+** direct & indirect jobs. ■ Supports India's **Net Zero by 2070** target and green maritime fuel goals.
Way Fwd	Scaling green hydrogen and captured-CO2 feedstock at competitive cost will decide whether e-methanol can displace conventional bunker fuels.
Concept	**e-methanol** is made by combining **green hydrogen** (from electrolysis using renewables) with **captured CO2**; it is a low-carbon 'e-fuel' for shipping under IMO decarbonisation goals.



India Flags Off Its First LNG-Powered Train from Sabarmati

SCI-TECH **MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Sci-Tech & Environment)**

Syllabus Linkage	MPPSC Prelims (transport, energy) + Mains GS-III clean transport, emissions, infrastructure.
Context	Indian Railways flagged off the country's first LNG-powered (diesel-LNG dual-fuel) train from Sabarmati, marking a step toward greener rail traction.
Key Facts	■ Flagged off from **Sabarmati (Ahmedabad Division, Western Railway), Gujarat**. ■ Dual-fuel traction: **LNG substitutes up to 40%** of diesel consumption. ■ Uses two **1,400 HP** power cars with **2,200-litre** cryogenic tanks (**-162 degC**). ■ Estimated fuel saving of about **Rs 23.9 lakh** per 8-coach train per year. ■ Cuts **particulate matter, NOx and CO2** versus conventional diesel.
Way Fwd	Building LNG fuelling infrastructure along key routes is essential before dual-fuel traction can scale beyond pilot corridors.
Concept	**LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas)** is natural gas cooled to about **-162 degC** to a liquid for storage/transport. Dual-fuel engines burn LNG with diesel, lowering emissions and import-heavy diesel use.

Is the Right to Vote a Fundamental Right? Debate Renewed

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

Syllabus Linkage	MPPSC Prelims (Constitution, elections) + Mains GS-II fundamental rights, electoral reforms, ECI.
Context	Debate over whether voting should be a fundamental right resurfaced amid concerns over electoral-roll deletions, even as the Election Commission announced governance reforms.
Key Facts	■ In India, voting is currently a **statutory/legal right** (Representation of the People Act, 1951), not a fundamental right. ■ The **61st Constitutional Amendment (1988)** lowered the voting age from **21 to 18** years. ■ The **Kuldip Nayar (2006)** verdict held voting to be a statutory right. ■ ECI announced **nine reform decisions** — including mandatory meeting minutes and an independent ECINet review committee. ■ Advocates cite **Article 25 of the ICCPR** and stronger protection against arbitrary deletions.
Way Fwd	Codifying stronger procedural safeguards for roll revisions may address grievances without amending the Constitution's rights framework.
Concept	**Statutory right** flows from ordinary law and can be altered by Parliament; a **fundamental right** (Part III) enjoys constitutional protection enforceable under **Article 32**. Voting draws from **Article 326** (adult suffrage).

UNGA Adopts Landmark Declaration on Sea Level Rise

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

Syllabus Linkage	MPPSC Prelims (international bodies, climate) + Mains GS-II global governance / GS-III climate change.
Context	The UN General Assembly adopted by consensus a Declaration on Sea Level Rise, addressing the statehood and maritime rights of nations threatened by rising oceans.
Key Facts	■ Adopted by **consensus** at the **81st UN General Assembly**. ■ Co-facilitated by **Australia** and **Cabo Verde**. ■ Affirms a **presumption of continued statehood** for nations losing land to the sea. ■ Supports **fixed maritime baselines** under **UNCLOS**, so zones do not shrink as coastlines retreat. ■ Prioritises protection of displaced people and **Small Island Developing States (SIDS)**.
Way Fwd	Turning the declaration's principles into binding legal protection under UNCLOS remains the key diplomatic challenge for vulnerable states.
Concept	**UNCLOS (1982)** defines maritime zones — **territorial sea (12 nm)**, **EEZ (200 nm)** — measured from baselines. Sea-level rise threatens to shift these baselines, shrinking SIDS' ocean entitlements.

IAF Hosts Exercise Tarang Shakti 2026 at Jodhpur

DEFENCE **MPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Defence & Security)**

Syllabus Linkage	MPPSC Prelims (defence exercises) + Mains GS-III security, defence diplomacy, indigenous platforms.
Context	The Indian Air Force hosted Exercise Tarang Shakti 2026, a large multinational air combat exercise, at Air Force Station Jodhpur, Rajasthan.
Key Facts	■ Hosted at **Air Force Station Jodhpur, Rajasthan**; theme **'Power in Partnership'**. ■ Participating nations included the **US, Australia, France, Germany, UAE, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh**. ■ The **F-35** joined for its first operational participation, alongside **Rafale, Su-30MKI and HAL Tejas**. ■ Focus on **5th-generation combat training**, sensor fusion, stealth tactics and beyond-visual-range operations. ■ Included an **International Defence Aviation Seminar** and aerospace-industry engagement.
Way Fwd	Such exercises boost interoperability and showcase indigenous platforms like Tejas to prospective export partners.
Concept	**Tarang Shakti** is India's largest multinational air exercise. **HAL Tejas** is an indigenous light combat aircraft (LCA); interoperability drills strengthen **defence diplomacy** and export prospects.

Exercise Tarang Shakti 2026 (multinational air exercise)



SECTION D • PRELIMS RAPID-FIRE

Q1. **Kuno National Park** (cheetahs) lies in MP's **Sheopur** district; the 2nd cheetah home is **Gandhi Sagar** Sanctuary.

Q2. The **16th Finance Commission** (chair **Arvind Panagariya**) covers the award period **2026-31**.

Q3. **Sharbati wheat** of **Sehore (MP)** carries a **GI tag**; MP is India's leading **wheat & soybean** state.

Q4. India's first port-based **e-methanol** plant is at **Kandla (Deendayal Port), Gujarat**.

Q5. The **61st Constitutional Amendment (1988)** lowered the voting age to **18** years.

Q6. **Exercise Tarang Shakti 2026** was held at **Jodhpur**; theme **'Power in Partnership'**.

SECTION E • PRACTICE CORNER

Q1. Consider the following statements about Project Cheetah in Madhya Pradesh:
1. Kuno National Park is located in the Sheopur district.
2. Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary is being developed as the second home for cheetahs.
3. The cheetahs reintroduced in India belong to the Asiatic subspecies.
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
Ans: (a) Kuno is in Sheopur district and Gandhi Sagar is the second cheetah home, so statements 1 and 2 are correct. The reintroduced cheetahs are of the African subspecies (from Namibia and South Africa), not Asiatic, so statement 3 is wrong.

Q2. With reference to the recently launched e-methanol plant, consider the following:
1. It is India's first port-based e-methanol production facility.
2. It is located at the Deendayal (Kandla) Port in Gujarat.
3. e-methanol is produced by combining green hydrogen with captured carbon dioxide.
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
Ans: (d) All three are correct: it is India's first port-based e-methanol plant, located at Deendayal (Kandla) Port, Gujarat, and e-methanol combines green hydrogen with captured CO2 to serve as a low-carbon shipping fuel.

Mains Practice: "Direct cash-transfer schemes for women, such as Madhya Pradesh's Ladli Behna Yojana, have become central to state welfare politics." Critically examine their impact on women's empowerment and state finances. (250 words)
Hint: Discuss DBT design and reach; gains in autonomy and consumption vs. limited effect on female labour-force participation; fiscal burden and trade-offs with capital/skilling spends; suggest better targeting, convergence with skilling and outcome monitoring.

★ **QUICK REVISION:** Remember today: MP Cabinet Rs 13,790 cr (16th FC, 140 sports complexes) | Kuno cheetahs 56 | Ladli Behna 40th kist Rs 1,500 | India's 1st port e-methanol (Kandla) & 1st LNG train (Sabarmati) | UNGA Sea Level Rise Declaration | Tarang Shakti 2026 (Jodhpur) | GDP Q1 FY27 7.8%.

Compiled & simplified by the StudyForGS.com Research Team

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