CURRENT AFFAIRS — 13 October 2026

Tuesday, 13 October 2026 • Asia/Kolkata (IST) • Prelims + Mains GS-wise digest

StudyForGS.com

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS FOR UPSC CSE

TODAY AT A GLANCE — 10 THINGS TO REMEMBER

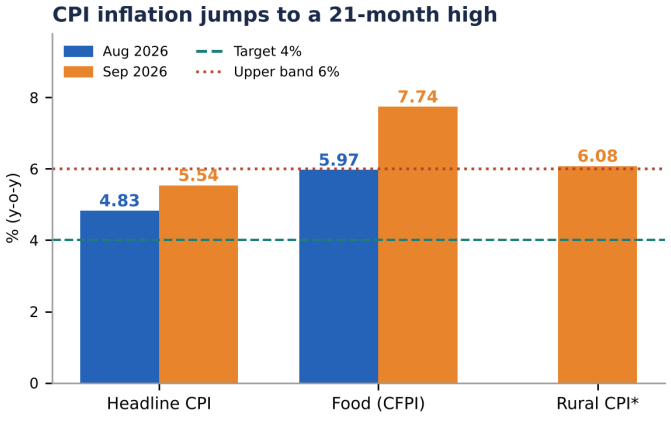
- **CPI inflation** at **5.54%** in Sept 2026 — a **21-month high**; food inflation **7.74%**.
- **IMF WEO (Oct 2026)**: India's FY27 growth raised to **7%** (+0.6 pp); FY28 also **7%**.
- **Nobel Economics 2026**: **Robert E. Hall** and **Michael Woodford** — micro-foundations of macro stabilisation.
- **PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana** completes **one year** — **100 districts**, **36 schemes**, **11 ministries**.
- **INS Mangrol** — **3rd Mahe-class ASW SWC**, built by **Cochin Shipyard**, commissioned at **Mumbai**.
- **Siang Upper Multipurpose Project** (~**11,000 MW**, **9.2 bcm**) faces fresh protests in **Arunachal**.
- **Living Planet Index 2026**: wildlife populations down **73%** on average (**1970–2022**).
- **Supreme Court** asks Centre for modalities to cap margins on **all** essential drugs by **27 Oct**.
- **Six new Governors**: **Arlekar** to **Tamil Nadu**, **Sudha Yadav** to **Karnataka**, **O.P. Mathur** to **Keralam**.
- **IBSAMAR IX** under way at **Simon's Town**, South Africa — **INS Tarkash** represents India.

SECTION A — GS-III: ECONOMY • AGRICULTURE • SECURITY • ENVIRONMENT

1. Retail inflation climbs to 21-month high of 5.54% in September

[ECONOMY] COMMON: Prelims + Mains GS3

Syllabus Linkage	**GS3** – Inflation, monetary policy, food security. **Prelims**: CPI, CFPI, MPC, inflation target.
Context	Official data released on 12 Oct show **CPI inflation** rose to **5.54%** in **September 2026** from **4.83%** in August, driven by costlier **food** and **fuel**, and breaching the **6%** comfort zone for food.
Key Facts	■ **Food inflation (CFPI)**: **7.74%** (Aug: **5.97%**); **rural** CPI **6.08%**, rural food **8.06%**. ■ **11 of 12** sub-groups rose — inflation is **broadening**; **onion** prices up **108%** y-o-y. ■ **MPC** recently raised the **repo rate by 25 bps**; FY27 inflation projection raised to **5.2%**. ■ Upside risks: **crude above $100/bbl**, below-normal rain, **adverse base effect** in Oct–Dec.
Way Fwd	Calibrated **monetary tightening** plus **supply-side** steps — buffer-stock release, import duties rationalisation and **cold-chain** investment for TOP crops.
Concept	**Flexible Inflation Targeting**: under **Sec 45ZA, RBI Act** (amended **2016**) the target is **CPI 4% ± 2%**; a **6-member MPC** sets the repo rate. **CPI** is compiled by **NSO (MoSPI)**.



*Rural: September figure only

Fig: Grouped bar chart comparing headline CPI and food inflation for August and September 2026 against the 4% target and 6% upper band

2. IMF raises India's FY27 growth forecast to 7% in October WEO

[ECONOMY] COMMON: Prelims + Mains GS3

Syllabus Linkage	**GS3** – Growth, development, external sector. **Prelims**: IMF, World Economic Outlook, PPP.
Context	The **IMF's World Economic Outlook (October 2026)** lifted India's **FY27** growth projection to **7%**, citing **stronger-than-expected momentum**, though energy and shipping risks persist.
Key Facts	■ **FY27**: **7.0%** (up **0.6 pp** from July); **FY28**: **7.0%** (up **0.3 pp**). ■ **FY26** actual growth: **7.8%** — projections imply a **moderation**. ■ India = **8.2%** of **world GDP** and **13.6%** of EMDE GDP (China **32.3%**). ■ Assumes crude at **~$95.7/bbl (2026)** and **Strait of Hormuz** reopening by **March 2027**.
Way Fwd	Shield growth from oil shocks via **energy diversification**, strategic reserves and faster **logistics/shipping** capacity building.
Concept	**WEO** is published twice a year (**April & October**) with **January & July updates**. **IMF** – Bretton Woods (**1944**); India is a **founding member**; quota-based voting.

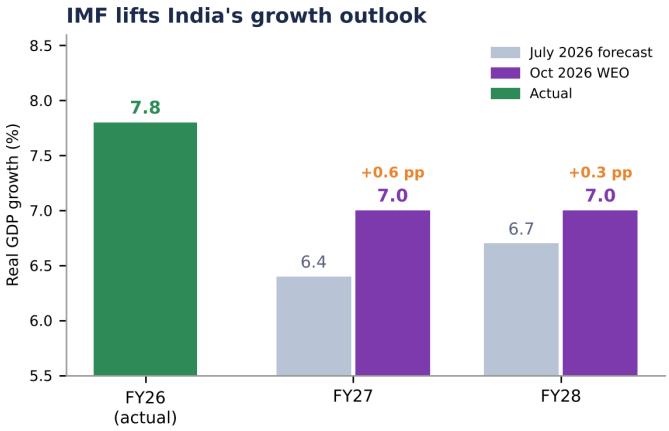


Fig: Bar chart of IMF growth figures for India: FY26 actual 7.8%, FY27 7.0% versus earlier 6.4%, FY28 7.0% versus earlier 6.7%

3. Economics Nobel 2026 to Robert E. Hall and Michael Woodford

[ECONOMY] COMMON: Prelims + Mains GS3

Syllabus Linkage	**GS3** – Monetary & fiscal policy. **Prelims**: awards, New Keynesian model, forward guidance.
Context	The **Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences** awarded the **2026 Sveriges Riksbank Prize** to **Robert E. Hall** (Stanford) and **Michael Woodford** (Columbia) **"for microeconomic foundations of macroeconomic stabilisation"**.
Key Facts	■ **Hall**: household consumption — tested Friedman's **permanent-income hypothesis** (**1978**). ■ **Woodford**: firms' pricing; *Interest and Prices* (**2003**) underpins the **New Keynesian** model and **forward guidance**. ■ Core insight: **forward-looking** households and firms — policy works via **expectations**. ■ Prize: **SEK 12 million**; instituted **1968**, first awarded **1969**.
Way Fwd	Central banks, including the **RBI**, can strengthen **communication** and **forecast transparency** to anchor inflation expectations.

Concept	**Forward guidance** = central bank signalling its future policy path. **Lucas critique (1976)** pushed models to micro-foundations. Indian-origin laureates: **Amartya Sen (1998)**, **Abhijit Banerjee (2019)**.

4. PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana completes one year

[ECONOMY] **COMMON: Prelims + Mains GS3**

Syllabus Linkage	**GS3** – Agriculture, irrigation, agri-credit, government schemes. **Prelims**: scheme features.
Context	**PMDDKY**, launched on **11 Oct 2025**, completed its first year; composite performance scores of its **100 Aspirational Agricultural Districts** have improved.
Key Facts	■ Outlay **₹24,000 crore/year** for **6 years**; at least **one district per State/UT**. ■ District selection on **3 deficits**: low **productivity**, low **cropping intensity**, low **credit**. ■ Convergence of **36 schemes** of **11 ministries**, plus State schemes and private partnerships. ■ **121 indicators** (74 output, 47 outcome); **monthly district rankings** on a NITI Aayog portal.
Way Fwd	Link district plans to **FPO**-led value chains, **soil-health** data and **crop diversification** towards pulses and oilseeds.
Concept	Modelled on the **Aspirational Districts Programme (2018)**. Three-tier governance: **National** (Union Agri Minister), **State** (Chief Secretary), **District** (Collector/DM) committees.

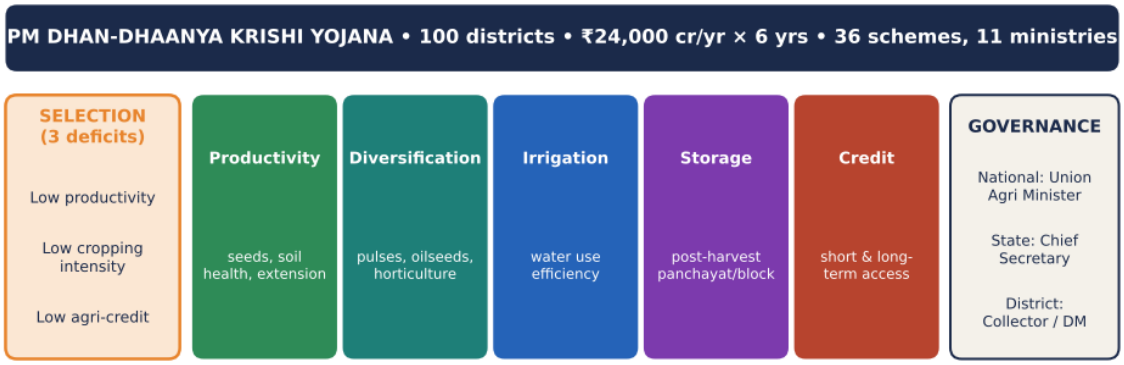


Fig: Pillar diagram of PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana showing selection criteria, five intervention pillars and three-tier governance

5. Navy commissions INS Mangrol, third Mahe-class anti-submarine craft

[DEFENCE] **COMMON: Prelims + Mains GS3**

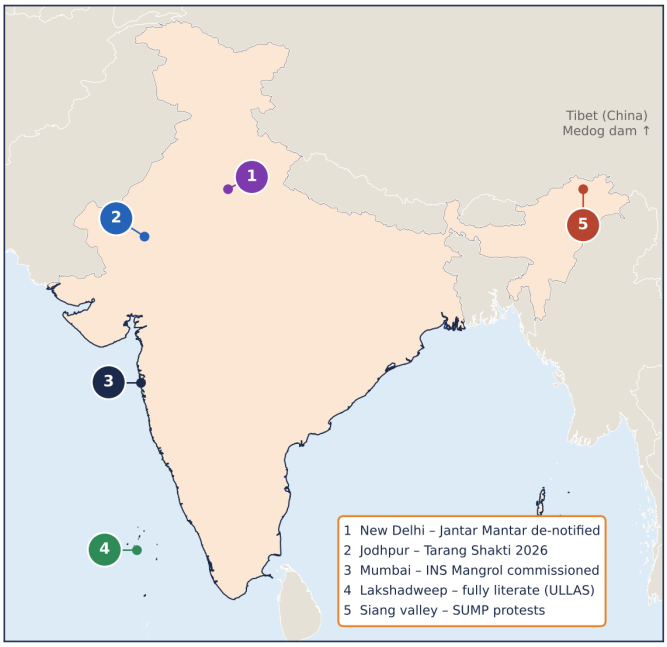
Syllabus Linkage	**GS3** – Security forces, indigenisation of defence. **Prelims**: ships, classes, shipyards.
Context	**INS Mangrol**, an **Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW SWC)**, was commissioned at **Mumbai** on **12 Oct 2026** in the presence of **Vice Adm Sanjay Vatsayan**, FOC-in-C, **Western Naval Command**.
Key Facts	■ Built by **Cochin Shipyard Ltd (CSL)** — **3rd of 8 Mahe-class** craft; **>80%** indigenous content. ■ **~78 m** long, **900–1,100 t**, top speed **25 knots**; hunts submarines in **shallow coastal waters**. ■ **16 ASW SWC** sanctioned: **8 by CSL (Mahe-class)** + **8 by GRSE (Arnala-class)**. ■ Named after **Mangrol** port town (**Junagadh, Gujarat**); earlier **INS Mangrol** minesweeper served till **2004**.
Way Fwd	Speed up **series production**, indigenous **sonars/torpedoes**, and integrate SWCs with **maritime domain awareness** networks.
Concept	**ASW SWC** replace the ageing **Abhay-class** corvettes; they free **frigates/destroyers** for **blue-water** missions. Linked to **Aatmanirbhar Bharat** and **Positive Indigenisation Lists**.

6. Siang Upper Multipurpose Project faces fresh protests in Arunachal

[ENVIRONMENT] **COMMON: Prelims + Mains GS3**

Syllabus Linkage	**GS3** – Infrastructure (energy), environment, border security. **GS2** – India–China. **Prelims**: rivers, dams.
Context	The proposed **Siang Upper Multipurpose Project (SUMP)** — seen as India's counter to China's mega-dam at **Medog** — is stalled as the **Adi** community protests the **pre-feasibility study**.
Key Facts	■ **SUMP**: **~11,000 MW** capacity and **9.2 bcm** storage; **national project** status since **2008**. ■ China's **Medog** project on the **Yarlung Tsangpo**: **~60,000 MW** (as per State government). ■ **30 Sept** violence at **Ugeng** village (Siang district); protesters fear **displacement** of Adi villages. ■ Same river: **Yarlung Tsangpo** (Tibet) → **Siang** (Arunachal) → **Brahmaputra** (Assam) → **Jamuna** (Bangladesh).
Way Fwd	Build trust through **free, prior and informed consent**, transparent **EIA**, fair **R&R**, and push China for a **hydrological data**-sharing pact.
Concept	India–China have only **Expert Level Mechanism (2006)** and flood-season **MoUs** for data sharing — **no water treaty**. **Arunachal** is covered by **Art 371H**, not the Sixth Schedule.

INDIA IN NEWS — 13 Oct 2026



Map not to scale; boundaries as per India's official position

Fig: India in News locator map with numbered pins at New Delhi, Jodhpur, Mumbai, Lakshadweep and the Siang valley in Arunachal Pradesh

7. Living Planet Index 2026: wildlife populations down 73% since 1970

[REPORT] **COMMON: Prelims + Mains GS3**

Syllabus Linkage	**GS3** – Conservation, biodiversity loss. **Prelims**: reports & indices, biodiversity frameworks.
Context	The **WWF Living Planet Report 2026** shows an **average 73% decline** in monitored vertebrate wildlife populations between **1970 and 2022**, tracking **35,803** populations.
Key Facts	■ **50%** of populations declining, **43%** increasing, **7%** stable — the index is **not** a count of extinctions. ■ Steepest regional falls: **Latin America & Caribbean 95%**, **Africa 80%**; **Asia 49%**, **Europe 23%**. ■ 2022 edition showed **69%**; trend line revised as **~1,000 populations** were added; only **native species** counted. ■ Main drivers: **habitat loss**, overexploitation, invasive species, disease and **climate change**.
Way Fwd	Deliver **30×30** under the **Kunming–Montreal GBF** via India's updated **NBSAP (2024)** and community-led conservation.
Concept	**Kunming–Montreal GBF** (Dec **2022**): **23 targets**, **4 goals**. India has parts of **4 of 36** global **biodiversity hotspots**. **Biological Diversity Act 2002** (amended **2023**).

Living Planet Index 2026

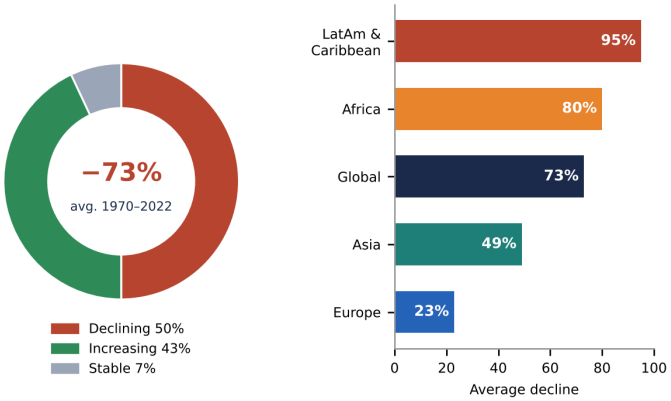


Fig: Donut chart of population trend shares (50% declining, 43% increasing, 7% stable) and bar chart of regional declines in the Living Planet Index 2026



Fig: INS Mangrol at a glance (Item 5)

SECTION B — ECONOMY DATA POINT OF THE DAY

5.54%

CPI (retail) inflation, September 2026

21-month high, up from **4.83%** in August; food inflation **7.74%**, rural CPI **6.08%** — above the **4%** target but within the **2–6%** tolerance band.

SECTION C — GS-II: GOVERNANCE • POLITY • HEALTH • INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

8. SC pushes Centre to cap margins on all essential medicines, not just cancer drugs

[HEALTH] **COMMON: Prelims + Mains GS2**

Syllabus Linkage	**GS2** – Health, government policies, judiciary. **GS4** – Ethics in healthcare. **Prelims**: NPPA, DPCO, NLEM.
Context	The Centre told a Bench of **Justices Vikram Nath** and **Sandeep Mehta** that **trade margins** on non-scheduled **anti-cancer drugs** will be capped at **30%**; the Court called it **inadequate** and sought modalities for wider caps by **27 October**.
Key Facts	■ **30%** cap expected to save patients ~**₹2,500 crore a year**. ■ Court flagged a cardiac **stent** costing ~**₹5,000** sold for **₹25,000+**; saline drip costing **₹11** sold at **₹270**. ■ **Scheduled** drugs: ceiling = average market price + **16%** retailer margin; **non-scheduled** MRP rise capped at **10%/year**. ■ **2019**: trade margin rationalisation capped margins at **30%** on **42** anti-cancer drugs.
Way Fwd	Extend **trade margin rationalisation** to devices and high-mark-up generics, expand **Jan Aushadhi** and enforce **generic prescription**.
Concept	**NPPA** (**1997**) enforces **DPCO 2013** issued under the **Essential Commodities Act, 1955**. **NLEM 2022** lists **384** medicines. Right to health flows from **Art 21**; **Art 47** (DPSP) on public health.

9. Jantar Mantar de-notified as Delhi's designated protest site

[POLITY] COMMON: Prelims + Mains GS2

Syllabus Linkage	**GS2** – Fundamental Rights, reasonable restrictions, Centre–UT relations. **Prelims**: Art 19, Art 239AA, BNSS.
Context	On **12 Oct 2026** Delhi Police **de-notified Jantar Mantar** as a protest venue following an **MHA**-constituted committee's recommendation; **Ramlila Maidan**, **Burari Ground** and **CBD Ground** are suggested alternatives.
Key Facts	■ **Art 19(1)(a)** & **19(1)(b)** — speech and **peaceful assembly without arms**; restrictions under **Art 19(3)**. ■ Prohibitory orders now under **Sec 163, BNSS 2023** (earlier **Sec 144 CrPC**). ■ **MKSS v. UoI (2018)**: SC said a **blanket ban** on protests at Jantar Mantar is impermissible; needs **regulation**. ■ **Amit Sahni (2020)**: public ways **cannot be occupied indefinitely** for protests.
Way Fwd	Balance **right to protest** with **public order** through clear, time-bound permission norms and **accessible alternative sites** near seats of power.
Concept	**Art 239AA(3)(a)**: **police, public order and land** in Delhi are outside the Delhi Assembly's domain — hence **MHA** control of **Delhi Police**. Jantar Mantar built by **Sawai Jai Singh II**; Jaipur's is a **UNESCO WHS (2010)**.

10. President appoints Governors in six States; Arlekar to Tamil Nadu

[POLITY] COMMON: Prelims + Mains GS2

Syllabus Linkage	**GS2** – Executive, Centre–State relations, constitutional posts. **Prelims**: Art 153–162.
Context	President **Droupadi Murmu** on **12 Oct 2026** appointed new Governors for **six States**, including a full-time Governor for **Tamil Nadu**.
Key Facts	■ **Tamil Nadu**: **Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar** (moves from Keralam; held TN as **additional charge**). ■ **Keralam**: **Om Prakash Mathur** (from Sikkim); **Sikkim**: **Dushyant Gautam**. ■ **Karnataka**: **Sudha Yadav**; **Odisha**: **Braj Mohan Ram**; **Uttarakhand**: **Dhal Singh Bisen**. ■ Outgoing: **Thaawarchand Gehlot** (Karnataka), **Hari Babu Kambhampati** (Odisha), **Gurmit Singh** (Uttarakhand).
Way Fwd	Implement **Sarkaria/Punchhi** advice — consult the **Chief Minister**, appoint detached eminent persons and fix a **secure tenure**.
Concept	**Art 155**: appointed by the **President** by warrant; **Art 156**: holds office during the **pleasure** of the President (5-year term); **Art 157**: minimum age **35**. **7th Amendment (1956)** allows one Governor for **two or more States**. **B.P. Singhal (2010)**: removal cannot be arbitrary.

11. Canadian Foreign Minister in India; CEPA talks targeted for end-2026

[IR] COMMON: Prelims + Mains GS2

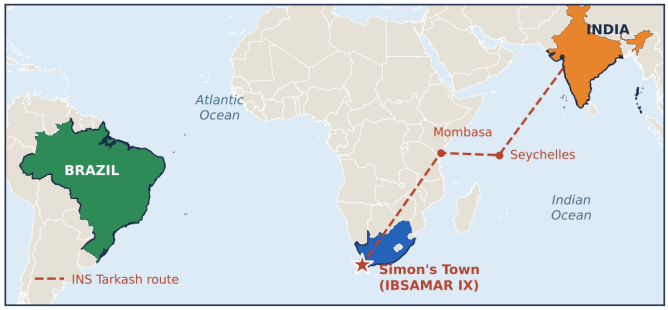
Syllabus Linkage	**GS2** – Bilateral relations, trade agreements, diaspora. **Prelims**: CEPA, trade figures.
Context	Canadian FM **Anita Anand** is on a **13–16 Oct** visit to hold talks with **EAM S. Jaishankar** on trade, energy, security and defence, as the reset in ties gathers pace.
Key Facts	■ **CEPA** negotiations — **5th round** held in **Ottawa**; aim to conclude by **end-2026**. ■ Trade Minister **Maninder Sidhu** leads ~**300** business delegates — Canada's **largest** to India in **30+ years**. ■ Bilateral trade **USD 30.4 bn (2025)**; target **USD 70 bn by 2030**. ■ Focus areas: **energy**, **critical minerals**, **aerospace**, clean tech, agri-food.
Way Fwd	Lock in an **early-harvest CEPA**, secure **uranium/critical-mineral** supply chains and keep **security concerns** on a dialogue track.
Concept	**CEPA** is broader than an **FTA** — covers goods, services, investment and IPR. Canada supplies **uranium** under the **2010 Nuclear Cooperation Agreement** (in force **2013**); hosts a large **Indian diaspora**.

12. IBSAMAR IX: India, Brazil, South Africa navies drill at Simon's Town

[IR] COMMON: Prelims + Mains GS2 & GS3

Syllabus Linkage	**GS2** – Groupings involving India. **GS3** – Maritime security. **Prelims**: exercises & venues.
Context	The **9th edition** of the trilateral **IBSAMAR** exercise began on **12 Oct 2026** at **Simon's Town**, South Africa (False Bay), and runs till about **21 Oct**.
Key Facts	■ India: **INS Tarkash** (stealth frigate) with an integral **Chetak** helicopter; India is **lead nation**. ■ Brazil: **BNS Barroso**; South Africa: **SAS Amatola**, **SAS King Sekhukhune I**, **SAS Adam Kok III** and submarine **SAS Manthatisi**. ■ Theme: **"Stronger Together Towards a Shared Future in the Maritime Domain"**. ■ Drills: **anti-submarine**, anti-air, surface warfare, **anti-piracy**, **SAR**, maritime interdiction.
Way Fwd	Use IBSA to deepen **South–South** maritime cooperation and **IOR–Atlantic** connectivity under **MAHASAGAR**.
Concept	**IBSA Dialogue Forum** — **Brasilia Declaration (2003)**; **IBSA Fund (2004)** managed with the UN Office for South-South Cooperation. **IBSAMAR** first held in **2008**.

IBSAMAR IX — India • Brazil • South Africa



Map not to scale; boundaries as per India's official position

Fig: Map highlighting India, Brazil and South Africa with the IBSAMAR IX venue at Simon's Town and INS Tarkash's route via Seychelles and Mombasa

SECTION D — PRELIMS RAPID-FIRE

1. **Tarang Shakti 2026** (2nd edition) concluded on **12 Oct** at **AF Station Jodhpur** — theme **"Power in Partnership"**; **7** foreign air forces, **32** observer nations.
2. **Lakshadweep** declared **fully literate** under **ULLAS** (benchmark **95%**); **Ladakh** was the first UT (**2024**), **Mizoram** the first State (**2025**).
3. **IPCC-65** at **Addis Ababa**: deadlock over **AR7** timeline — **2028** (to feed **Global Stocktake** at COP33) vs a longer timeline sought by **India, China, Saudi Arabia**.
4. **JOSH Teams** (Joint Squad for Health) under **TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan** pair **MY Bharat** volunteers with **NCC** cadets — **6,347** squads.
5. **TRISHNA** — **ISRO–CNES** thermal-infrared satellite due in **12–16 months**; 3rd Indo-French satellite after **Megha-Tropiques (2011)** and **SARAL (2013)**.
6. **Garba** of Gujarat — inscribed on **UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage** list in **Dec 2023** as India's **15th** element.

SECTION E — PRACTICE CORNER

Q1. With reference to the Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW SWC) programme of the Indian Navy, consider the following statements:
1. Mahe-class craft are being built by Cochin Shipyard Limited.
2. INS Mangrol is the first ship of the Mahe-class.
3. Sixteen ASW SWC have been sanctioned, split between two shipyards.
Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 1 and 3 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b) — **INS Mangrol** is the **third** Mahe-class craft, so statement 2 is wrong. **16** ASW SWC are split as **8 CSL (Mahe-class)** and **8 GRSE (Arnala-class)**.

Q2. Consider the following statements about the PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana:
1. Districts are selected on the basis of low productivity, low cropping intensity and low credit disbursement.
2. It converges 36 schemes of 11 ministries/departments.
3. It is implemented only in States, excluding Union Territories.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 2 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (c) — The scheme covers **100 districts** with **at least one in every State and UT**, so statement 3 is wrong; statements 1 and 2 are correct.

MAINS PRACTICE (GS-II): High trade margins on medicines undermine the right to health. Critically examine India's drug-price regulation framework in light of recent Supreme Court observations and suggest reforms. (15 marks, 250 words)

Hint: Intro: **Art 21** + **Art 47**. Body: **DPCO 2013**, **NPPA**, **NLEM**, ceiling vs non-scheduled drugs, **trade margin** gaps (stents, cancer drugs), industry concerns on supply. Reforms: **TMR** for all essential drugs/devices, **Jan Aushadhi**, generic prescription, price transparency. Conclude with **UHC/SDG 3.8**.

ONE-LINE REVISION: CPI **5.54%** (21-month high) • IMF: India **7%** FY27 • Nobel: **Hall & Woodford** • **INS Mangrol** = 3rd Mahe-class • LPI **−73%** • SC drug-margin modalities by **27 Oct** • **IBSAMAR IX** at Simon's Town

Compiled & simplified by the StudyForGS.com Research Team | ▶ **YouTube: @Study_ForGS** | ➤ **Telegram: t.me/studyforgeneralstudies**