

**Current Affairs • 3 October 2026****19 min**

READING TIME

8

KEY STORIES

24

IN BRIEF

5 + 1

MCQS + MAINS

GS2 • 11

GS3 • 22

PAPER MIX

01 — TODAY IN 2 MINUTES

The 5 stories you can't skip**1 India orders Apple to remove Bitchat from App Store under Section 69A**

Why it matters: Digital sovereignty and content regulation: a GS3 and Ethics case study on state security vs. privacy.

GS3 • SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

P

M

2 Admiral Samuel J. Paparo to visit India to deepen U.S.-India defence partnership

Why it matters: U.S.-India maritime security and strategic stability: a key GS2 International Relations topic.

GS2 • INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

P

3 The Ministry of Education approved five Centres of Excellence for Classical Assamese, Bengali, Pali

Why it matters: The Ministry of Education approved five Centres of Excellence to strengthen the research, digitisation, and preservation of Classical Assamese, Bengali, Pali, Marathi, and Prakrit.

GS2 • GOVERNANCE

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4 Union Law Ministry publishes rules for National Tribunals Commission

Why it matters: Judicial reforms and administrative oversight: a key GS2 topic on tribunal independence.

GS2 • POLITY & CONSTITUTION

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5 India identifies 28 geographical features on SoI map following PLA movements

Why it matters: Cartographic sovereignty and border management: a key GS3 Internal Security and Geography topic.

GS3 • INTERNAL SECURITY

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M

NUMBER OF THE DAY

85%

Percentage of Bitchat downloads accounted for by India between July 17 and July 23.

CONNECT TO STATIC

Section 69A of the Information Technology Act

Provision used to order the removal of Bitchat. *In the news:* India orders Apple to remove Bitchat from App Store under Section 69A.

What to know, in 60 seconds each

8 of 33 notes · picked for exam value

GS3 · SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

P M

India orders Apple to remove Bitchat from App Store under Section 69A

Why in news: The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology ordered Apple to remove Bitchat from its App Store under Section 69A of the Information Technology Act.

REMEMBER

- Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) — Nodal ministry for IT regulations in India.
- Section 69A of the Information Technology Act — Provision used to order the removal of Bitchat.
- 85% — Percentage of Bitchat downloads accounted for by India between July 17 and July 23.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the balance between state security measures under Section 69A and the fundamental right to freedom of speech and privacy in the digital age.

USE: Digital Sovereignty Platform Liability Right to Privacy Content Regulation

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/130116

GS2 · INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

P

Admiral Samuel J. Paparo to visit India to deepen U.S.-India defence partnership

Why in news: Admiral Samuel J. Paparo, Commander of the U.S. Pacific Command, is visiting India to advance the U.S.-India major defence partnership and military-to-military cooperation.

REMEMBER

- Admiral Samuel J. Paparo — Commander of the U.S. Pacific Command
- Key focus areas — digital transformation, regional strategic stability, energy resilience, and maritime security
- Visit duration — October 3, 2026, to October 8, 2026

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of the U.S.-India major defence partnership in ensuring maritime security and regional stability in the Indian Ocean region.

USE: maritime security strategic stability defence partnership military-to-military cooperation

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/130214

GS2 · GOVERNANCE

P M

The Ministry of Education approved five Centres of Excellence for Classical Assamese, Bengali, Pali

Why in news: The Ministry of Education approved five Centres of Excellence to strengthen the research, digitisation, and preservation of Classical Assamese, Bengali, Pali, Marathi, and Prakrit.

REMEMBER

- Tezpur University, Visva Bharati University, Central University of Odisha, Central University of Gujarat, and Deccan College Post Graduate and Research Institute are the designated centres.
- The initiative covers five specific languages: Classical Assamese, Bengali, Pali, Marathi, and Prakrit.
- The initiative was praised by Mohan Charan Majhi.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of establishing Centres of Excellence in preserving and digitising India's linguistic heritage in the era of rapid technological advancement.

USE: Linguistic heritage Digitisation Cultural preservation Research infrastructure

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/129918

GS2 · POLITY & CONSTITUTION

P M

Union Law Ministry publishes rules for National Tribunals Commission

Why in news: The Union Law Ministry published rules for the National Tribunals Commission to oversee 16 tribunals following the passage of the Tribunals Reforms Bill in August.

REMEMBER

- National Tribunals Commission — Body established to oversee 16 tribunals to ensure independence and transparency.
- Delhi — Headquarters of the National Tribunals Commission.
- ₹2.5 lakh — Monthly remuneration for the chairperson of the Commission.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of the National Tribunals Commission in ensuring the independence of judicial bodies and reducing the pendency of cases in Indian tribunals.

USE: Judicial Independence Tribunal Reforms Administrative Oversight Transparency

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/129803

India identifies 28 geographical features on SoI map following PLA movements

Why in news: The Government of India identified 28 geographical features on the official Survey of India (SoI) map following PLA troop movements along the LAC since April 2020.

REMEMBER

- Survey of India (SoI) — The official body responsible for mapping and geographical features in India.
- Ladakh — The Union Territory where the 28 geographical features were identified.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of accurate cartographic mapping in maintaining territorial integrity and managing border disputes in the context of the LAC.

USE: territorial integrity cartographic sovereignty LAC

border management

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/129798

IAF faces squadron depletion due to Tejas Mk-1A production delays

Why in news: Air Chief Marshal A.P. Singh highlighted that delays in the Tejas Mk-1A production by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) are hindering the Indian Air Force's ability to replenish depleting fighter squadrons.

REMEMBER

- Air Chief Marshal A.P. Singh — Current Chief of the Indian Air Force
- IAF squadron count — Reduction from 42 to 29
- Tejas Mk-1A deals — ₹48,000 crore for 83 jets and ₹62,370 crore for 97 jets

MAINS ANGLE Analyze the challenges in indigenous aircraft manufacturing and the strategic implications of squadron depletion on India's air superiority.

USE: indigenous manufacturing defense procurement

strategic autonomy

squadron depletion

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/130123

India examines Bangladesh extradition request for ousted ex-PM Sheikh Hasina

Why in news: The Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh stated that India is legally examining Dhaka's extradition request for ousted ex-Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina following her August 2024 removal.

REMEMBER

- Tarique Rahman — Leader of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party demanding Hasina's return
- Extradition — Legal process being examined by India regarding the request from Dhaka

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the implications of extradition treaties and diplomatic protocols on bilateral relations between India and Bangladesh in the context of political transitions.

USE: Extradition treaty Political asylum Bilateral relations

Sovereign immunity

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/130133

India rescues five nationals from Kuwait-flagged tanker in Strait of Hormuz

Why in news: The Embassy of India in Oman reported the rescue of five Indian nationals from the Kuwait-flagged tanker MT Kazimah III after it was struck by a projectile in the Strait of Hormuz.

REMEMBER

- Strait of Hormuz — a critical maritime passage in the Persian Gulf
- Over 4,500 Indian seafarers — currently operating in the Persian Gulf area as of September 2026
- MT Kazimah III — a Kuwait-flagged crude oil tanker

MAINS ANGLE Examine the significance of the Strait of Hormuz for global energy security and the challenges faced by Indian seafarers in volatile maritime corridors.

USE: Maritime Security Strait of Hormuz Seafarer Safety

Energy Security

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/129848

Everything else, one line each

GS2 · POLITY · GOVERNANCE · SOCIAL JUSTICE · IR

Auto-rickshaw welfare: New welfare board to support 20 lakh families and subsidies for battery-operated vehicles.

Panchami Gramam project: Provides up to ₹40 lakh for infrastructure and housing in settlements with fewer than 15 SC families.

AP Reservation: State filed a Special Leave Petition in the Supreme Court challenging a High Court order on 34% BC reservation.

Rajasthan State Election Commission announces 4-phase elections for 14,403 Gram Panchayats

Leprosy cases: India recorded 91,783 new cases in 2025–26, with child cases exceeding NLEP targets by 91.6%.

Online safety framework: Revanth Reddy directed state departments to create a framework for children's online safety in collaboration with SLISA.

GS3 · ECONOMY · S&T · ENVIRONMENT · SECURITY

USBRL project: Vande Bharat Express speed limit increased from 75 kmph to 100 kmph on the 111-km Katra–Banihal section.

Quantum computing: Andhra Pradesh to launch quantum computing in Amaravati by 2027 in collaboration with IBM, TCS, and L&T.

Western Ghats mapping: Paani Earth Foundation mapped 89 villages in Karnataka following the rejection of the Kasturirangan Committee report.

KSRTC to install 100 Advanced Driver Assistance Systems in buses by October 2027

Kerala IT Department: Renamed to include Artificial Intelligence and Future Technologies to align with the 2026 policy address.

Drought relief: Karnataka requested ₹7,142.64 crore from NDRF for crop losses and water issues across 177 taluks.

Power shortage: India's power shortage surged to 544 MU in September as actual demand outpaced projections.

Cryptocurrency risks: RBI Governor warns of risks to monetary sovereignty while supporting distributed ledger technology and tokenisation.

India maintained high growth through strong macroeconomic fundamentals despite global uncertainty, says P.K. Mishra

Alcohol taxation: Alcohol for human consumption remains outside the GST framework, leading to significant price variations across states.

VIPR viral system: Researchers at IGI used AI to screen 2.3 million proteins to identify a system that forms a triplex to silence genes.

Tiger relocation: Tigress T138 moved from Valmiki Tiger Reserve to Buxa Tiger Reserve to establish a self-sustaining population.

3D Concrete Printing: Andhra Pradesh to launch a national-level pilot project to construct rural homes under PMAY-G.

CAS and market timings: Sebi proposed changes to the Closing Auction System and derivative settlement methodology for public comment.

Space seeds grew slower but remained viable after 6-month International Space Station mission

Cellphone ban: Supreme Court ruled to ban cellphones in Bandhavgarh tiger reserve by early 2026 for wildlife protection.

FPI sell-off: FPIs sold \$27.8 billion in Indian equities during the first nine months of 2026, exceeding the previous year's figures.

US bond yields hit highest levels since 2002 as Indian equities post 8-week losses

MAP WORK

Places in news

Delhi	Headquarters of the National Tribunals Commission.
Ladakh	The Union Territory where the 28 geographical features were identified.
Strait of Hormuz	a critical maritime passage in the Persian Gulf
Lomé	a port city in Togo
Kodagu and Udipi	Districts in Karnataka where 89 villages were mapped for ecological analysis.

5 questions, 5 minutes

Answers at the bottom, upside down

1 With reference to the removal of Bitchat from Indian app stores, consider the following statements:

1. India accounted for 95% of Bitchat downloads between July 17 and July 23.
2. The order was issued by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.
3. The app was removed from the App Store and Google Play following user protests.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

2 With reference to the visit of Admiral Samuel J. Paparo to India, consider the following statements:

1. Admiral Samuel J. Paparo is the Commander of the U.S. Pacific Command.
2. The visit is scheduled to take place in the year 2025.
3. The visit focuses on maritime security and regional strategic stability.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

3 Where is the headquarters of the National Tribunals Commission located?

- (a) Delhi (b) Mumbai
(c) Hyderabad (d) Bengaluru

4 With reference to the geographical features identified on the Survey of India (Sol) map, consider the following statements:

1. The identification was conducted in consultation with the administration of Ladakh.
2. The list includes a total of 15 peaks and mountains.
3. A total of 28 geographical features were identified on the official map.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

5 Who is the leader of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party demanding the return of the ousted ex-Prime Minister?

- (a) Tarique Rahman (b) Arafat Ali
(c) Ziaur Rahman (d) Sheikh Mujibur Rahman

MAINS PRACTICE

Write one answer today

GS3 • SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Discuss the balance between state security measures under Section 69A and the fundamental right to freedom of speech and privacy in the digital age.

USE: Digital Sovereignty Platform Liability Right to Privacy Content Regulation Cybersecurity

ANSWERS • 1 (d) 2 (d) 3 (a) 4 (c) 5 (a)



TELEGRAM



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