

**Current Affairs • 8 October 2026****19 min**

READING TIME

8

KEY STORIES

24

IN BRIEF

5 + 1

MCQS + MAINS

GS1 • 1

GS2 • 28

GS3 • 27

PAPER MIX

01 – TODAY IN 2 MINUTES

The 5 stories you can't skip**1 GST Council scraps arrest powers and raises prosecution threshold to ₹5 crore****Why it matters:** Ease of Doing Business vs Tax Compliance: a key GS3 and Fiscal Federalism case study.

GS3 • ECONOMY

P

M

2 Supreme Court asks amicus curiae to examine if DGP rules violate Prakash Singh judgment**Why it matters:** The Supreme Court directed amicus curiae Raju Ramachandran to examine whether state rules for DGP appointments violate the 2006 Prakash Singh judgment following a complaint regarding Tadasha Mishra's appointment.

GS2 • POLITY & CONSTITUTION

P

M

3 India aims to double 5G user base to one billion by 2030**Why it matters:** Digital infrastructure and cybersecurity: a key GS3 Science & Technology and Internal Security topic.

GS3 • SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

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M

4 Union government caps trade margins at 30% for non-scheduled cancer drugs**Why it matters:** Price capping and pharmaceutical regulation: a GS2 case study on reducing out-of-pocket healthcare costs.

GS2 • SOCIAL JUSTICE

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M

5 MeitY to train 10 million youth in AI via AIKOSH roadmap**Why it matters:** Digital literacy and AI governance: a GS3 Science & Technology and Ethics case study.

GS3 • SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

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NUMBER OF THE DAY

10 million

Target number of Indian youth to be brought into the AI space

CONNECT TO STATIC

RPwD Act, 2016Defines the 21 disability conditions identified by the tool. *In the news:* MoE trains 72 lakh teachers to use PRASHAST tool for 21 disability conditions.

What to know, in 60 seconds each

8 of 56 notes · picked for exam value

GS3 · ECONOMY

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GST Council scraps arrest powers and raises prosecution threshold to ₹5 crore

Why in news: The GST Council approved scrapping arrest powers for GST officers and raising the prosecution threshold from ₹1 crore to ₹5 crore to ease enforcement.

REMEMBER

- Prosecution threshold — increased from ₹1 crore to ₹5 crore
- General penalties — reduced from ₹25,000 to ₹10,000
- Committee of Officers — formed to study input tax credit protections within three months

MAINS ANGLE Discuss how the shift from punitive enforcement to a threshold-based prosecution model in GST administration balances tax compliance with the ease of doing business.

USE : Ease of Doing Business Fiscal Federalism
Tax Compliance Administrative Reform

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/132799

GS3 · SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

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India aims to double 5G user base to one billion by 2030

Why in news: Communications Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia announced India's target to double its 5G user base to one billion by 2030 and called for a global framework with the GSMA to curb cyber frauds and deepfakes.

REMEMBER

- 5G user base target: 1 billion by 2030
- Bharat 6G Alliance: 90 institutions involved with 7,700 patents
- GSMA: Global body called upon to create a framework against cyber frauds and deepfakes

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of India's leadership in 6G technology and the necessity of a global framework to mitigate emerging digital threats like deepfakes.

USE : Digital Sovereignty Cybersecurity Framework
Deepfakes 6G Technology

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/132623

GS2 · POLITY & CONSTITUTION

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Supreme Court asks amicus curiae to examine if DGP rules violate Prakash Singh judgment

Why in news: The Supreme Court directed amicus curiae Raju Ramachandran to examine whether state rules for DGP appointments violate the 2006 Prakash Singh judgment following a complaint regarding Tadasha Mishra's appointment.

REMEMBER

- Raju Ramachandran: Appointed as amicus curiae by the Supreme Court to examine DGP appointment rules.
- Prakash Singh judgment: A 2006 Supreme Court ruling governing the appointment process of State Police chiefs.
- Supreme Court: The body overseeing the legality of state-level DGP appointment rules.

MAINS ANGLE Examine the constitutional implications of state governments exercising unilateral discretion in the appointment of Director Generals of Police (DGP) against the principles of institutional autonomy.

USE : Institutional Autonomy Executive Discretion
Judicial Review Police Reforms

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/132649

GS2 · SOCIAL JUSTICE

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Union government caps trade margins at 30% for non-scheduled cancer drugs

Why in news: The Union government decided to cap trade margins at 30% for non-scheduled anti-cancer drugs to reduce out-of-pocket costs, which currently reach 75%.

REMEMBER

- Trade margin cap: 30% of the maximum retail price for non-scheduled anti-cancer drugs.
- Projected annual savings: ₹2,500 crore from reduced out-of-pocket costs.
- National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority: Body responsible for identifying mark-ups in drug pricing.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the measures required to regulate pharmaceutical trade margins to ensure affordable access to life-saving medicines for the common man.

USE : out-of-pocket expenditure pharmaceutical pricing
market regulation public health accessibility

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/132975

MeitY to train 10 million youth in AI via AIKOSH roadmap

Why in news: Electronics and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw announced a consultation paper on AI to address harms like deepfakes and psychological disorders while highlighting the AIKOSH roadmap to train 10 million Indian youth.

REMEMBER

- MeitY — Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- AIKOSH — The roadmap linked to the AI initiative for youth
- 10 million — Target number of Indian youth to be brought into the AI space

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the dual challenge of fostering AI-driven human resource development while mitigating the socio-psychological risks posed by generative AI technologies in India.

USE : Generative AI Digital Literacy

Human Resource Development

Algorithmic Governance

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/132957

BBBP programme improved birth outcomes, adding about 15 girls per 1,000 births

Why in news: A report titled 'Policy Interventions and the Sex Ratio at Birth: Evidence from India' revealed that the Beti Bachao

REMEMBER

- India's sex ratio at birth rose from 919 in 2015–16 to around 930 on the BBBP dashboard.
- The BBBP programme added about 15 additional girls per 1,000 births in initial districts.
- Goa, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Mizoram, and Kerala recorded the highest sex ratios at birth.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss how large-scale social and behavioural interventions like Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao can address the structural issues of gender imbalance at birth in India.

USE : Sex Ratio at Birth Beti Bachao Beti Padhao

Gender Imbalance

Social and Behavioural Intervention

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/132928

MoE trains 72 lakh teachers to use PRASHAST tool for 21 disability conditions

Why in news: The Ministry of Education (MoE) trained 72 lakh teachers across 60,000 schools to utilize the PRASHAST digital tool for identifying 21 disability conditions.

REMEMBER

- PRASHAST: A digital tool used to identify 21 disability conditions.
- RPwD Act, 2016: Defines the 21 disability conditions identified by the tool.
- PM DAKSH: Integrated with PRASHAST to support scholarship and data integration.

MAINS ANGLE How does the integration of digital identification tools like PRASHAST facilitate the inclusive education mandate of the RTE Act 2009 for children with disabilities?

USE : Inclusive Education Digital Governance Disability Rights

Data Interoperability

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/132955

16th Finance Commission recommends urbanization premium for large urban bodies

Why in news: The 16th Finance Commission recommended a one-time urbanization premium grant for urban local bodies with populations exceeding one lakh to support cleanliness and water infrastructure.

REMEMBER

- Urbanization premium — one-time grant for urban local bodies with populations exceeding one lakh.
- Qualification criteria — publication of audited figures and 5% revenue growth.
- State eligibility — states must have disbursed at least 20% of previous grants.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of fiscal devolution to urban local bodies in achieving the goals of the Swachh Bharat Mission and urban sustainability.

USE : Fiscal Federalism Urban Local Bodies Devolution

Revenue Growth

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/132737

Everything else, one line each

GS2 · POLITY · GOVERNANCE · SOCIAL JUSTICE · IR

Supreme Court directs Union government to form committee on legally enforceable pharmaceutical marketing code

Mocha port seizure: Houthis seized Mocha in September, threatening the Bab al-Mandeb strait and escalating maritime security risks.

Voter deletion: Nearly 70 lakh voters were permanently deleted from Telangana's electoral rolls during the Special Intensive Revision.

Learn Happily: A Kerala initiative providing counseling for academic pressure and substance abuse in government schools.

Karunya health schemes: Kerala allocated over ₹600 crore to clear pending claims for KASP and KBF to restore normal functioning.

Maritime investment: Saudi Arabia expressed interest in the Vadhavan port project and Maritime Development Fund during Sagarmathan 2026.

Death sentence commutation: Supreme Court judges suggested the 'forgiving nature' in commuting death sentences to life imprisonment must be re-evaluated.

University Finance Commission: Commission appointed by Kerala government to evaluate financial sustainability and PPP models for state universities.

Voter registration: Maharashtra SEC organized special camps and house-to-house verifications to address ECI SIR process discrepancies.

Land title deeds: Kerala Revenue Department issued over 10,000 title deeds to SC, ST, and fishing communities in Attappady.

Tamil Nadu Assembly resolution: The 2003 resolution to arrest The Hindu editors was withdrawn in 2004, making the legal challenge infructuous.

Russia reportedly rejects India's comprehensive ceasefire proposal to protect global energy and shipping

GS3 · ECONOMY · S&T · ENVIRONMENT · SECURITY

Asiatic lion: Population increased from 674 in 2020 to 891 in 2025.

Paytm Payments Bank: RBI removed PPBL from the Second Schedule of the RBI Act, 1934, following a Delhi High Court winding order.

Repo rate hike: RBI raised the repo rate by 25 basis points to 5.50% to manage currency depreciation and inflation.

Plantations and climate change reduced Western Ghats native habitats to one-third

India ranks 10th on AI Readiness Index as country attracts US\$4.1 billion investment

Satellite internet: Starlink, Jio Satcom, and Eutelsat OneWeb are currently awaiting security clearances from the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Red List Assessment: Kerala launches a two-year project to map ecological risks across 14 districts using the IUCN RLE framework.

PERM programme: US Labour Department suspended PERM filings for Infosys, Wipro, TCS, Cognizant, Tata, HCL, and Capgemini.

Renewable energy: Andhra Pradesh mobilized ₹4 lakh crore for 97 projects including solar, wind, and pumped storage hydro.

WHO warns mercury in skin-lightening products poses health risks during Hyderabad discussion

NH10 Upgrade: ₹993.64 crore project to upgrade NH10 from Rangpo to Ranipool to counter Teesta River landslides.

Nobel Prize: Henri Kagan and Kensō Soai awarded for solving chemical asymmetry to enable side-effect-free pharmaceuticals.

MAP WORK

Places in news

Mocha	A port city seized by Houthis in September.
Bab al-Mandeb	A strategic strait threatened by Houthi activities.
Galathea Bay	a maritime project site of interest to Saudi Arabian investors.
Teesta River	Source of landslides and land sinking in the region
Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve	Covers 2,339 sq km across Sagar, Damoh, and Narsinghpur districts

5 questions, 5 minutes

Answers at the bottom, upside down

- 1 What is the reduced amount for general penalties under the new GST Council guidelines?

(a) ₹5,000
(b) ₹20,000

(c) ₹15,000
(d) ₹10,000
- 2 Which global body was called upon by India to create a framework to curb cyber frauds and deepfakes?

(a) GSMA
(b) UNCTAD

(c) IEEE
(d) W3C
- 3 Which body is responsible for identifying mark-ups in drug pricing as per the note?

(a) Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation
(b) Drug Controller General of India

(c) National Health Authority
(d) National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority
- 4 Which ministry is responsible for launching the AIKOSH roadmap to train Indian youth in AI?

(a) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
(b) Ministry of Science and Technology

(c) Ministry of Education
(d) Ministry of Skill Development
- 5 Which act defines the 21 disability conditions identified by the PRASHAST tool?

(a) Disability Rights Act, 1995
(b) Right to Education Act, 2009

(c) RPwD Act, 2016
(d) National Education Policy, 2020

MAINS PRACTICE

Write one answer today

GS3 · ECONOMY

Discuss how the shift from punitive enforcement to a threshold-based prosecution model in GST administration balances tax compliance with the ease of doing business.

USE : Ease of Doing Business Fiscal Federalism Tax Compliance Administrative Reform GST Council

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



TELEGRAM



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