

**Current Affairs • 11 October 2026****18 min**

READING TIME

8

KEY STORIES

23

IN BRIEF

5 + 1

MCQS + MAINS

GS2 • 17

GS3 • 14

PAPER MIX

01 — TODAY IN 2 MINUTES

The 5 stories you can't skip**1****India acknowledges Katchatheevu belongs to Sri Lanka**

Why it matters: Maritime boundary and territorial integrity: a key GS2 International Relations and India-Sri Lanka bilateral study.

GS2 • INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

P

M

2**India and France to launch TRISHNA satellite for water and temperature monitoring**

Why it matters: Space-based remote sensing for resource management: a GS3 Science & Technology and Geography case study.

GS3 • SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

P

3**GST Council raises prosecution threshold to ₹5 crore, reduces penalties to ₹10,000**

Why it matters: The GST Council, chaired by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, decided to increase the prosecution threshold and reduce penalties to enhance trade stability.

GS3 • ECONOMY

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4**US imposes sanctions on International Criminal Court to block assets**

Why it matters: International Relations and Rule of Law: Analysis of unilateral sanctions on multilateral judicial bodies.

GS2 • INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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5**Special Bench issues notices over alleged violation of October 9 order**

Why it matters: Judicial review of executive orders regarding fundamental rights and public order: a GS2 Polity case study.

GS2 • POLITY & CONSTITUTION

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CONNECT TO STATIC

Section 163 BNSS

Provision under which prohibitory orders were issued in and around the Supreme Court. *In the news:* Special Bench issues notices over alleged violation of October 9 order.

GS2 · INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

P M

India acknowledges Katchatheevu belongs to Sri Lanka

Why in news: Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Disسانayake stated that New Delhi acknowledges Katchatheevu belongs to Sri Lanka, citing the Indian Supreme Court's stance on the 1974 and 1976 agreements.

REMEMBER

- Katchatheevu — An island territory acknowledged by India as belonging to Sri Lanka.
- 1974 and 1976 agreements — Specific maritime agreements India stated it will not reopen.
- Anura Kumara Disسانayake — President of Sri Lanka from the National People's Power coalition.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of maritime boundary agreements in maintaining bilateral stability between India and Sri Lanka while ensuring the safety of artisanal fishing communities.

USE: Maritime Boundary Bilateral Relations

Territorial Integrity Fisheries Management

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/134494

GS3 · SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

P

India and France to launch TRISHNA satellite for water and temperature monitoring

Why in news: URSC announced that the TRISHNA satellite, a joint Indo-French project, is slated for launch in the next 12–16 months to monitor water resources and surface temperature.

REMEMBER

- TRISHNA: Thermal Infra-Red Imaging Satellite for High-resolution Natural Resource Assessment
- CNES: The French space agency collaborating with ISRO
- TRISHNA is the third joint project between ISRO and CNES after Megha-Tropiques and SARAL

MAINS ANGLE Discuss how space-based remote sensing technologies like the TRISHNA mission can enhance India's water resource management and climate change adaptation strategies.

USE: Remote Sensing Space Cooperation

Water Resource Management Surface Energy Budgeting

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/134491

GS3 · ECONOMY

P M

GST Council raises prosecution threshold to ₹5 crore, reduces penalties to ₹10,000

Why in news: The GST Council, chaired by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, decided to increase the prosecution threshold and reduce penalties to enhance trade stability.

REMEMBER

- Prosecution threshold for GST violations increased from ₹1 crore to ₹5 crore
- GST penalties reduced from ₹25,000 to ₹10,000
- Late fee waiver applicable for businesses with turnover up to ₹5 crore

MAINS ANGLE Discuss how the GST Council's recent measures to reduce penalties and increase prosecution thresholds aim to balance tax compliance with ease of doing business in India.

USE: Ease of Doing Business Tax Compliance GST Council

Fiscal Federalism

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/134467

GS2 · INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

P M

US imposes sanctions on International Criminal Court to block assets

Why in news: The United States imposed sanctions on the International Criminal Court (ICC), blocking its assets and threatening its operations, prompting calls for EU and State Parties to protect the court's independence.

REMEMBER

- International Criminal Court (ICC) — An international judicial body facing US sanctions.
- Sanctions Regime — Measures including asset blocking and operational threats against the ICC.
- 180-day grace period — The timeframe established for the court to respond to the US measures.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the implications of unilateral sanctions on international judicial bodies like the ICC for the global rule of law and international justice.

USE: Rule of Law Extraterritoriality Judicial Independence

Multilateralism

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/134419

Special Bench issues notices over alleged violation of October 9 order

Why in news: A Special Bench issued notices to the Union Home Secretary, Delhi Police Commissioner, and DMRC chairperson for allegedly violating an October 9 order regarding movement and internet access.

REMEMBER

- Section 163 BNSS: Provision under which prohibitory orders were issued in and around the Supreme Court.
- Prohibitory zone: A four-km zone in central Delhi, including Jantar Mantar, where detentions were restricted.
- Jantar Mantar: Designated site for protests in central Delhi.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the judicial balancing act between upholding the fundamental right to free movement and the State's power to impose reasonable restrictions for maintaining public order.

USE: Judicial Review Fundamental Rights Public Order

Proportionality

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/134400

NASA and Starfish Space launch SSPICY mission to approach inactive objects

Why in news: NASA and Starfish Space launched the SSPICY mission to test autonomous proximity operations and robotic capabilities for satellite repair and debris removal.

REMEMBER

- SSPICY: Small Spacecraft Propulsion and Inspection Capability mission
- Otter spacecraft: Designed to autonomously approach four inactive US objects in low Earth orbit
- Vandenberg Space Force Base: Launch site for the SSPICY mission

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of autonomous space robotics in addressing the growing challenges of orbital debris and the sustainability of space infrastructure.

USE: Orbital Debris Space Sustainability

Autonomous Systems On-orbit Servicing

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/134245

Kerala High Court directs Union government to operationalize Data Protection Board

Why in news: The Kerala High Court directed the Union government to operationalize the Data Protection Board within eight weeks and ruled that Digi Yatra cannot mandate Aadhaar details.

REMEMBER

- Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023: Legislation governing the processing of digital personal data in India
- Data Protection Board: The regulatory body established under the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023
- Digi Yatra: A facial recognition-based seamless travel initiative

MAINS ANGLE Examine the significance of establishing an independent Data Protection Board in ensuring the right to privacy under the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023.

USE: Right to Privacy Data Sovereignty

Regulatory Compliance Digital Governance

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/134313

US Department of Labor suspends Infosys and TCS from PERM programme

Why in news: The US Department of Labor suspended eight major technology firms, including Infosys and TCS, from the Permanent Labor Certification (PERM) programme.

REMEMBER

- PERM: Permanent Labor Certification programme managed by the US Department of Labor
- Indian firms accounted for less than 2% of last year's PERM certifications
- TCS plans to hire 15,000 US workers over a five-year period

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the implications of labor certification regulations on the operational model of Indian IT service providers in the US market.

USE: Labor Certification Outsourcing

Regulatory Compliance Human Capital

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/134249

Everything else, one line each

23 more notes · full versions online

GS2 · POLITY · GOVERNANCE · SOCIAL JUSTICE · IR

VPT scheme: Tamil Nadu expanded the Vettri Payanam Thittam to provide no-fare bus travel for women.

Voter appeals: 37 lakh voter appeals in West Bengal are pending due to vacancies in 3 of 19 appellate tribunals.

ECI appointment: Rajasthan-cadre officer Prakash Rajpurohit appointed as Deputy Election Commissioner until April 8, 2030.

Supreme Court orders Centre to ensure uninterrupted metro and internet during protests

UN rebuttal: India defended self-defence actions against a Pahalgam attack and cited UN Resolution 1540 and the Indus Waters Treaty.

Hospital penalties: NTR Vaidya Seva Trust fined 203 hospitals ₹34.39 crore for irregularities and duplicate billing detected via AI.

BNSS Section 163: Supreme Court ordered removal of barricades and withdrawal of Section 163 during CJP protests.

Agniveer recruitment: Haryana Cabinet exempts ex-Agniveers from Group-C exams and Physical Screening Tests for specific departments.

Tarang Shakti-2026: German and French generals praised IAF operational capabilities during the exercise in Jodhpur.

Riyadh airport strike: India condemned a missile strike on King Khalid International Airport that killed 12 and injured over 300 people.

F-35 jet sales: US made no official offer to sell F-35 jets to India during Tarang Shakti-2026 exercise.

Caste data collection: Madras High Court ruled private employers and institutions cannot mandatorily collect caste details.

Reservation cap: Andhra Pradesh Cabinet capped SC, ST, and BC reservations at 50% in local bodies to align with Supreme Court mandates.

GS3 · ECONOMY · S&T · ENVIRONMENT · SECURITY

AI exposure: Routine automation pressure in India rose by 4.8 percentage points between 2012 and 2025.

DURGA E-Auto Scheme: Delhi government to provide 1,300 electric autos to women and transgender persons across 13 districts.

PRLS appraisal: Union Jal Shakti Ministry delayed the Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme appraisal pending Tribunal decisions.

LSI Scheme: Andhra Pradesh Horticulture Department launched the scheme to protect orchards from El Niño-induced heat stress.

Lancet Commission: Identified 17 major threats including nuclear war and AI misuse risking human extinction by 2100.

LHC upgrade: CERN is upgrading the Large Hadron Collider to High Luminosity LHC to increase collision rates tenfold.

El Niño forecast: NOAA predicts a 100 percent chance of an extremely strong El Niño through December 2026.

Exam integrity: Committee suggests amending Public Examinations Act to restrict rallies and allow late entry via undertakings.

CREAMS bulletin: Detected 287 crop-residue burning incidents across 7 states between September 15 and October 6, 2026.

Nobel Prize 2026: Awarded to Karl Deisseroth, Peter Hegemann, and Georg Nagel for discoveries in optogenetics.

5 questions, 5 minutes

Answers at the bottom, upside down

1 With reference to the maritime boundary between India and Sri Lanka, consider the following statements:

1. India acknowledges that Katchatheevu belongs to Sri Lanka.
2. Anura Kumara Dissanayake is the President of Sri Lanka.
3. The maritime agreements of 1974 and 1976 are subject to being reopened by New Delhi.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

2 Which space agency is collaborating with ISRO on the TRISHNA satellite mission?

- (a) JAXA (b) NASA
(c) ESA (d) CNES

3 What is the duration of the grace period established for the International Criminal Court to respond to the US sanctions?

- (a) 90 days (b) 180 days
(c) 365 days (d) 60 days

4 With reference to the prohibitory orders in central Delhi, consider the following statements:

1. The prohibitory zone was extended to a five-km radius from the Supreme Court.
2. The court ordered the Delhi Police to maintain internet blackouts indefinitely.
3. Section 163 BNSS is the provision under which the prohibitory orders were issued.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

5 Which legislative act provides the framework for establishing the Data Protection Board in India?

- (a) Personal Data Protection Bill, 2019 (b) Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023
(c) Right to Information Act, 2005 (d) Information Technology Act, 2000

MAINS PRACTICE

Write one answer today

GS2 · INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Discuss the significance of maritime boundary agreements in maintaining bilateral stability between India and Sri Lanka while ensuring the safety of artisanal fishing communities.

USE: Maritime Boundary Bilateral Relations Territorial Integrity Fisheries Management Diplomatic Continuity

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



TELEGRAM



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