

**Current Affairs • 17 October 2026****14 min**

READING TIME

7

KEY STORIES

0

IN BRIEF

5 + 1

MCQS + MAINS

GS2 • 4

GS3 • 3

PAPER MIX

01 — TODAY IN 2 MINUTES

The 5 stories you can't skip**1 Pakistan named incoming chair of IMF and World Bank Group Boards for 2027**

Why it matters: Multilateral financial governance and debt management: a GS2 International Relations and Economics case study.

GS2 • INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

P

2 Kerala students to choose graduation timeline under FYUGP by 2027

Why it matters: Higher education flexibility and credit systems: a GS2 Social Justice and Education policy case study.

GS2 • SOCIAL JUSTICE

P

3 BIPM to stop issuing leap seconds by May 2027

Why it matters: Time synchronization and systemic risks: a relevant GS3 Science & Technology topic.

GS3 • SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

P

4 Wildlife biologist identifies habitat fragmentation as primary threat to elephants

Why it matters: Habitat fragmentation and corridor mapping: a key GS3 Environment and Ecology case study.

GS3 • ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

P

5 Tamil Nadu fixes weaving wages for Pongal 2027 free distribution scheme

Why it matters: Impact of government-mandated wage fixings on the sustainability of traditional handloom and powerloom sectors: a GS3 Economy case study.

GS3 • ECONOMY

P

NUMBER OF THE DAY

₹13.66 crore

Budget allocation for the 2026-27 fiscal year

CONNECT TO STATIC

Supreme Court order

Mandates a nationwide survey of elephant corridors for protection. *In the news: Wildlife biologist identifies habitat fragmentation as primary threat to elephants.*

What to know, in 60 seconds each

7 of 7 notes · picked for exam value

GS2 · INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

P

Pakistan named incoming chair of IMF and World Bank Group Boards for 2027

Why in news: Pakistan was named the incoming chair of the Boards of Governors of the IMF and World Bank Group for 2027 during the 2026 WBG-IMF Annual Meetings in Bangkok.

REMEMBER

- Bangkok — Venue of the 2026 WBG-IMF Annual Meetings
- Extended Fund Facility (EFF) — USD 7 billion facility for Pakistan
- Resilience and Sustainability Facility (RSF) — USD 1.4 billion facility for Pakistan

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the role of multilateral financial institutions like the IMF and World Bank in managing the debt distress of developing nations.

USE : Multilateralism Debt Sustainability
Structural Adjustment Financial Governance

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/137473

GS3 · SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

P

BIPM to stop issuing leap seconds by May 2027

Why in news: BIPM announced it will stop issuing leap seconds to adjust Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) starting May 2027 to avoid risks from a potential negative leap second by 2029.

REMEMBER

- BIPM: International Bureau of Weights and Measurements
- UTC: Coordinated Universal Time
- UT1: Universal Time

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the technical and systemic implications of transitioning away from leap second adjustments in global timekeeping and synchronization systems.

USE : Time Synchronization Atomic Clocks Standardization
Systemic Risk

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/137495

GS2 · SOCIAL JUSTICE

P

Kerala students to choose graduation timeline under FYUGP by 2027

Why in news: Students in the FYUGP programme in Keralam must decide by March 2027 whether to graduate after three years or continue for a fourth year.

REMEMBER

- FYUGP (Four-Year Undergraduate Programme) allows students to choose between three-year degrees or a four-year path.
- Students requiring 133 credits can choose between Honours or Honours with Research.
- Kerala Public Service Commission, UPSC, and SSC accept three-year degrees under FYUGP.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the implications of the Four-Year Undergraduate Programme (FYUGP) on higher education flexibility and employability in India.

USE : Higher Education Credit System Employability
Academic Flexibility

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/137514

GS3 · ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

P

Wildlife biologist identifies habitat fragmentation as primary threat to elephants

Why in news: Wildlife biologist P.S. Easa identified habitat fragmentation as the primary threat to elephants during a Coexistence Collective conclave in Thiruvananthapuram.

REMEMBER

- Habitat fragmentation: Identified as the primary threat to elephants.
- Thiruvananthapuram: Venue of the Coexistence Collective conclave.
- National Board for Wildlife: Organization whose former member attended the conclave.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss how habitat fragmentation impacts elephant conservation and evaluate the role of corridor mapping in mitigating human-wildlife conflict.

USE : Habitat fragmentation Wildlife corridors
Human-wildlife coexistence Biodiversity conservation

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/137481

Tamil Nadu fixes weaving wages for Pongal 2027 free distribution scheme

Why in news: The Tamil Nadu government issued a Government Order fixing weaving wages for the Pongal 2027 free distribution scheme

REMEMBER

- Handlooms, Handicrafts, Textiles and Khadi Department — Nodal department for the scheme in Tamil Nadu
- ₹45.76 per sari and ₹19.04 per dhoti — Fixed weaving wages for Pongal 2027
- ₹13.66 crore — Budget allocation for the 2026–27 fiscal year

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the impact of government-mandated wage fixings on the sustainability of the traditional handloom and powerloom sectors in India.

USE : Wage fixation Handloom industry Fiscal allocation

Market distortion

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/137475

LG Vinai Kumar Saxena announces Sankoo as Ladakh's eighth district

Why in news: Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena announced the creation of Sankoo as Ladakh's eighth district, carved from Kargil, following demands by local leaders to Amit Shah.

REMEMBER

- Sankoo: Newly formed eighth district of Ladakh carved from Kargil
- Sankoo district comprises four tehsils: Sankoo, GM Pore, TSG, and Taisuru
- Ladakh's district expansion included five districts and 17 tehsils in April

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the administrative significance of creating new districts in Union Territories like Ladakh for improving grassroots governance and service delivery.

USE : Administrative decentralization Grassroots governance

Union Territory Hill Council

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/137468

ECI orders Special Summary Revision in Manipur to enroll first-time voters

Why in news: The Election Commission of India (ECI) ordered a Special Summary Revision in Manipur to enroll first-time and left-out voters ahead of the March 2027 elections.

REMEMBER

- Special Summary Revision — process to enroll first-time and left-out voters in electoral rolls.
- January 1, 2027 — qualifying date for the Special Summary Revision in Manipur.
- January 4, 2027 — scheduled date for publication of final electoral rolls in Manipur.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the significance of periodic electoral roll revisions in ensuring the integrity of the democratic process and the inclusion of marginalized voters.

USE : Electoral Roll Universal Adult Franchise

Special Summary Revision Democratic Inclusion

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/137472

5 questions, 5 minutes

Answers at the bottom, upside down

- 1** What is the value of the Resilience and Sustainability Facility (RSF) allocated to Pakistan?
- (a) USD 2.5 billion (b) USD 10 billion
(c) USD 1.4 billion (d) USD 5 billion
-
- 2** With reference to the Four-Year Undergraduate Programme (FYUGP) in Kerala, consider the following statements:
1. Students requiring 133 credits can choose between Honours or Honours with Research.
 2. Students must decide their graduation timeline by March 2028.
 3. Three-year degrees under the programme qualify for UPSC and Kerala Public Service Commission posts.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 3 only (b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 2 and 3 only
-
- 3** How many leap seconds have been added to Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) since 1972?
- (a) 40 (b) 12
(c) 32 (d) 24
-
- 4** Which body's former member attended the Coexistence Collective conclave in Thiruvananthapuram?
- (a) Forest Survey of India (b) Wildlife Trust of India
(c) Central Zoo Authority (d) National Board for Wildlife
-
- 5** Which department serves as the nodal body for the Pongal 2027 free distribution scheme in Tamil Nadu?
- (a) Department of Industries and Commerce (b) Handlooms, Handicrafts, Textiles and Khadi Department
(c) Ministry of Textiles (d) Tamil Nadu Tourism Department

MAINS PRACTICE

Write one answer today

GS2 · INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Discuss the role of multilateral financial institutions like the IMF and World Bank in managing the debt distress of developing nations.

USE: Multilateralism Debt Sustainability Structural Adjustment Financial Governance

(q) 5 (p) 4 (c) 3 (c) 2 (c) 1 · ANSWERS



TELEGRAM



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