

**Current Affairs • Week 41 • 5 Oct – 11 Oct 2026****25 min**

READING TIME

10

KEY STORIES

36

IN BRIEF

8 + 2

MCQS + MAINS

GS1 • 1

GS2 • 24

GS3 • 25

PAPER MIX

01 – THE WEEK IN 2 MINUTES

The 6 stories you can't skip

- RBI MPC unanimously votes to hike repo rate to 5.50%**
Why it matters: Monetary policy and inflation management: a core GS3 topic regarding interest rate dynamics.
GS3 • ECONOMY P
- Union Cabinet approves ₹1.86 lakh crore Green Energy Corridor Phase-III**
Why it matters: Renewable energy infrastructure and grid integration: a key GS3 topic on energy security and sustainable development.
GS3 • ECONOMY P M
- ECI caps Form 7 submissions to prevent bulk voter name deletions**
Why it matters: Electoral integrity and administrative safeguards: a GS2 topic on preventing political manipulation of voter rolls.
GS2 • POLITY & CONSTITUTION P M
- Jaishankar meets Ghana leaders to discuss trade, defense and African Union engagement**
Why it matters: South-South Cooperation and India's leadership in the Global South: a key GS2 International Relations topic.
GS2 • INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS P
- Navanethem Pillay awarded 2026 Nobel Peace Prize for UN inquiry oversight**
Why it matters: International judicial bodies and UN inquiries: a GS2 and Ethics case study on human rights and international law.
GS2 • INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS P
- Karl Deisseroth, Peter Hegemann, and Georg Nagel awarded Nobel Prize for optogenetics**
Why it matters: Optogenetics and biotechnology: a key GS3 topic regarding neural circuit manipulation and clinical applications.
GS3 • SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY P

FIGURES WORTH REMEMBERING

5.50%

The new policy repo rate after a 25 basis point hike.

55,276

The Nifty Bank index level after gaining over 147 points.

22,680

The Nifty 50 index level after falling around 100 points.

₹1.86 lakh crore

total outlay for GEC-III.

GS3 · ECONOMY

P

RBI MPC unanimously votes to hike repo rate to 5.50%

Why in news: The RBI Monetary Policy Committee unanimously voted to hike the policy repo rate by 25 basis points to 5.50% to manage monetary variables.

REMEMBER

- Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) — The body responsible for determining the repo rate.
- 5.50% — The new policy repo rate after a 25 basis point hike.
- 55,276 — The Nifty Bank index level after gaining over 147 points.

MAINS ANGLE *Analyze the impact of repo rate hikes on liquidity management and inflation targeting in the Indian economy.*

USE: Monetary Policy Repo Rate Liquidity Management

Inflation Targeting

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/132013

GS3 · ECONOMY

P

M

Union Cabinet approves ₹1.86 lakh crore Green Energy Corridor Phase-III

Why in news: The Union Cabinet approved the ₹1.86 lakh crore Green Energy Corridor Phase-III (GEC-III) to integrate renewable power into the national grid.

REMEMBER

- Green Energy Corridor Phase-III (GEC-III) — project to integrate renewable power into the national grid.
- ₹1.86 lakh crore — total outlay for GEC-III.
- ₹1.36 lakh crore — earmarked for intra-state transmission.

MAINS ANGLE *Discuss the significance of integrating renewable energy into the national grid and the role of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) in achieving India's 500 GW target by 2030.*

USE: Green Energy Corridor Battery Energy Storage System

Viability Gap Funding

Renewable Integration

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/130847

GS2 · POLITY & CONSTITUTION

P

M

ECI caps Form 7 submissions to prevent bulk voter name deletions

Why in news: The Election Commission of India (ECI) capped Form 7 submissions to prevent the bulk deletion of voter names during the Special Intensive Revision.

REMEMBER

- Form 7: The specific form used for the deletion of names from the electoral roll.
- Election Commission of India (ECI): The body overseeing the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls.
- Cap: Individual electors limited to 10 applications during claims and objections and 5 per month during continuous updation.

MAINS ANGLE *Discuss the importance of maintaining the integrity of electoral rolls and the role of the Election Commission in preventing systematic voter suppression.*

USE: Electoral Integrity Voter Suppression

Administrative Oversight

Election Commission

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/133540

GS2 · INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

P

Jaishankar meets Ghana leaders to discuss trade, defense and African Union engagement

Why in news: External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar met Ghanaian leaders to discuss trade, defense, and deepening engagement with the African Union and ECOWAS.

REMEMBER

- South-South Cooperation: Framework for deepening engagement with African Union and ECOWAS.
- ICAR: Indian Council of Agricultural Research
- CSIR-Crops Research Institute: Involved in MoU exchange with Ghana

MAINS ANGLE *Discuss the significance of India's deepening engagement with the African Union and ECOWAS in the context of its 'Global South' leadership aspirations.*

USE: South-South Cooperation Strategic Autonomy

Economic Diplomacy

Multilateralism

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/131889

Navanethem Pillay awarded 2026 Nobel Peace Prize for UN inquiry oversight

Why in news: The Norwegian Nobel Committee awarded the 2026 Nobel Peace Prize to South African judge Navanethem Pillay for her work in international law and overseeing a UN inquiry into the Gaza genocide.

REMEMBER

- Navanethem Pillay — South African judge and current judge at the International Court of Justice
- International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda — body where Pillay previously served
- Norwegian Nobel Committee — body responsible for awarding the Nobel Peace Prize

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the role of international judicial bodies and UN inquiries in upholding international law and addressing allegations of genocide in modern conflicts.

USE : International Law Genocide Judicial Oversight

Human Rights

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/133529

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

Karl Deisseroth, Peter Hegemann, and Georg Nagel awarded Nobel Prize for optogenetics

Why in news: Karl Deisseroth, Peter Hegemann, and Georg Nagel were awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for their pioneering work in optogenetics.

REMEMBER

- Optogenetics: A technique using light to control neurons by expressing light-sensitive proteins.
- Channelrhodopsin: An algal protein used in optogenetics to control neural circuits.
- Retinitis pigmentosa: A condition being treated in clinical trials using optogenetic methods to restore sight.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss the potential of optogenetics in revolutionizing neurological treatments and the ethical considerations surrounding neural circuit manipulation.

USE : Optogenetics Neural Circuits Channelrhodopsin

Retinitis Pigmentosa

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/130947

Rajnath Singh launches FSS-1 and lays keel for FSS-5 at HSL

Why in news: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched the 43,500-tonne FSS-1 and laid the keel for FSS-5 at Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) to enhance the Indian Navy's maritime reach.

REMEMBER

- Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) — Yard producing ships up to 45,000 deadweight tonnes.
- Fleet Support Ship (FSS) — Vessel designed to refuel and resupply warships at sea.
- Rs 1,969 crore — Production value recorded by HSL in 2025-26.

MAINS ANGLE Discuss how the expansion of domestic shipbuilding infrastructure and the 'Aatmanirbharta' initiative contribute to India's maritime security in the Indian Ocean Region.

USE : Aatmanirbharta Maritime Security

Shipbuilding Infrastructure

Fleet Support Ships

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/131759

Supreme Court dismisses Centre's plea against Great Nicobar project order

Why in news: The Supreme Court dismissed the Centre's plea against a Calcutta High Court order upholding Public Interest Litigations (PILs) regarding the Great Nicobar Island project.

REMEMBER

- Great Nicobar Island — Project site under litigation regarding Forest Rights Act compliance
- Forest Rights Act — Legislation cited in PILs regarding the Great Nicobar project
- Public Interest Litigation — Mechanism used to allege violations of forest rights in the project

MAINS ANGLE *Examine the judicial role in balancing large-scale infrastructure development with environmental protections and the rights of local communities in ecologically sensitive zones.*

USE : Judicial Review Public Interest Litigation

Environmental Governance Infrastructure Development

Full note → satyadheesh.in/upsc/note/131064

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

Everything else, one line each

36 more notes · full versions online

GS2 · POLITY · GOVERNANCE · SOCIAL JUSTICE · IR

India ceasefire plan: Proposed a three-part plan to Ukraine covering energy infrastructure, Black Sea port flows, and commercial shipping.

Trump administration announces sanctions to dismantle ICC after Netanyahu, Gallant arrest warrants

Reservation ceiling: Supreme Court upheld strike down of 34% Backward Classes reservation in local bodies due to lack of empirical data.

Labor Certification: US suspends several tech firms from Permanent Labour Certification programme over alleged indentured servants fraud.

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

ICC Sanctions: The United States imposed sanctions on the International Criminal Court to block its assets and threaten operations.

Court notices: Special Bench issued notices to Union Home Secretary, Delhi Police Commissioner, and DMRC chairperson.

Japan investment: Japan to invest 10 trillion yen over 10 years to bolster India's manufacturing and energy security.

Ganga Water Sharing Treaty: Bangladesh hopes for a new agreement before the current 30-year treaty expires on December 12, 2026.

Lebanon conflict: Israel's re-intensified attacks resulted in over 9,000 deaths and a projected 6 percent economic contraction by 2026.

US bars Microsoft, Tata, Wipro and 6 others from PERM programme over worker replacement

Ethiopian forces enter Mekelle as TPLF withdraws, ending 2022 Pretoria ceasefire

Trade margin cap: Union government caps trade margins at 30% for non-scheduled anti-cancer drugs to save ₹2,500 crore annually.

PRASHAST tool: MoE trained 72 lakh teachers to use the tool for identifying 21 disability conditions across 60,000 schools.

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

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

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

Israel-Palestine conflict: Hamas and Palestinian armed groups killed over 1,200 people and took 251 hostages on 7 October 2023.

GS3 · ECONOMY · S&T · ENVIRONMENT · SECURITY

RBI to sell ₹250 billion in bonds as banks must maintain 99% CRR

5G expansion: India targets increasing 5G users from 550 million to one billion by 2030.

GDP Forecast: World Bank upgraded India's FY27 growth projection to 7.1 per cent due to robust domestic demand and exports.

Repo rate hike: RBI expected to raise benchmark repurchase rate by a quarter point to 5.50 per cent to combat inflation.

TRISHNA satellite to launch in 12-16 months to monitor water resources and temperature

Data Protection Board: Kerala High Court ordered the Union government to operationalize the body within eight weeks.

SSPICY mission: NASA and Starfish Space launched the mission to test autonomous proximity operations and robotic capabilities.

Forex derivatives: RBI prohibits rebooking of cancelled rupee-linked contracts and lowers hedging threshold to \$5 million.

Indian Navy to commission Mangrol, third indigenous Anti-Submarine Warfare craft, in Mumbai

AIKOSH roadmap: MeitY initiative to integrate 10 million Indian youth into the AI space while addressing safety concerns.

Urbanization premium: One-time grant for urban local bodies over one lakh population to incentivize revenue growth and transparency.

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.

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

Defence SOP: Revised SOP waives charges and reserves quarterly slots for indigenous projects at proof and firing ranges.

Indigenous smartphone: MeitY to partner with Indian firms to produce a smartphone with Indian design and Android OS by 2028.

Winter Action Plan: Mandates 'No PUCC, No Fuel' at 500 stations and bans non-BS-VI vehicles from November 1.

MAP WORK

Places in news

Black Sea	The strategic waterway central to the grain and energy flow discussions.
Great Nicobar Island	Project site under litigation regarding Forest Rights Act compliance
Katchatheevu	An island territory acknowledged by India as belonging to Sri Lanka.
Padma River	the name of the Ganga River upon entering Bangladesh, 22 km downstream from Farakka Barrage.
Mocha	A port city seized by Houthis in September.

8 questions, 8 minutes

Answers at the bottom, upside down

- 1 Which body is responsible for determining the repo rate in India?

☐ a Financial Stability Board
 ☐ b Securities and Exchange Board
 ☐ c Monetary Policy Committee
 ☐ d National Development Council
- 2 What is the target capacity for Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) under the Green Energy Corridor Phase-III?

☐ a 100 GWh
 ☐ b 75 GWh
 ☐ c 25 GWh
 ☐ d 50 GWh
- 3 With reference to the Election Commission of India's measures on electoral rolls, consider the following statements:
 1. Individual electors are limited to 15 applications during claims and objections.
 2. Form 7 is the specific form used for the deletion of names from the electoral roll.
 3. The cap of 5 applications per month applies during continuous updation.
 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
- 4 Which Indian body signed an MoU with the University of Ghana during the visit?

☐ a Wildlife Institute of India
 ☐ b National Institute of Oceanography
 ☐ c Botanical Survey of India
 ☐ d Zoological Survey of India
- 5 Which international judicial body currently has Navanethem Pillay serving as a judge?

☐ a International Court of Justice
 ☐ b European Court of Human Rights
 ☐ c World Bank
 ☐ d International Criminal Court
- 6 Which protein is used in optogenetics to control neural circuits with light?

☐ a Myoglobin
 ☐ b Keratin
 ☐ c Hemoglobin
 ☐ d Channelrhodopsin
- 7 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
- 8 Which strategic waterway is central to the grain and energy flow discussions in India's ceasefire proposal?

☐ a Red Sea
 ☐ b Caspian Sea
 ☐ c Mediterranean Sea
 ☐ d Black Sea

MAINS PRACTICE

Mains questions to practise

GS3 • ECONOMY

Analyze the impact of repo rate hikes on liquidity management and inflation targeting in the Indian economy.

USE:

Discuss the significance of integrating renewable energy into the national grid and the role of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) in achieving India's 500 GW target by 2030.

USE : Green Energy Corridor Battery Energy Storage System Viability Gap Funding Renewable Integration Grid Stability

ANSWERS • 1 (c) 2 (d) 3 (d) 4 (d) 5 (a) 6 (d) 7 (d) 8 (d)



TELEGRAM



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