

**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 • 22

GS3 • 27

PAPER MIX

01 – THE WEEK IN 2 MINUTES

The 6 stories you can't skip

- 1 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
- 2 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
- 3 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
- 4 ECI caps voter deletion requests at 10 after Karnataka bulk filing controversy**
Why it matters: The Election Commission of India capped individual voter deletion requests to prevent bulk filing of Form 7 applications following a controversy in Karnataka.
GS2 • POLITY & CONSTITUTION P M
- 5 Supreme Court upholds strike down of 34% Backward Classes reservation**
Why it matters: Judicial review of reservation limits and the necessity of empirical data: a GS2 Polity and Social Justice case study.
GS2 • POLITY & CONSTITUTION P M
- 6 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

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.

What to know, in 60 seconds each

10 of 231 notes · picked for exam value

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 inflation management and capital market volatility in a developing economy like India.

USE: Monetary Policy Repo Rate Inflation Targeting Liquidity Management

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/132013

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 Trade Diversification Multilateralism

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/131889

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 storage systems in achieving India's 2030 energy targets.

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

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/130847

GS2 · POLITY & CONSTITUTION

P

M

ECI caps voter deletion requests at 10 after Karnataka bulk filing controversy

Why in news: The Election Commission of India capped individual voter deletion requests to prevent bulk filing of Form 7 applications following a controversy in Karnataka.

REMEMBER

- Representation of the People Act, 1950
- ECI capped individual voter deletion requests at 10 during claims and objections periods
- ECI capped individual voter deletion requests at 5 monthly during continuous updation

MAINS ANGLE Examine the measures taken by the Election Commission of India to ensure the integrity of the electoral roll against fraudulent deletions.

USE: electoral integrity voter list maintenance procedural safeguards Representation of the People Act

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/133624

Supreme Court upholds strike down of 34% Backward Classes reservation

Why in news: The Supreme Court dismissed an appeal by the Andhra Pradesh government, upholding a High Court ruling that struck down a 34% reservation for Backward Classes in local bodies.

REMEMBER

- 50% reservation ceiling — the limit beyond which the State must provide empirical data to justify a breach.
- Supreme Court — upheld the High Court ruling against the Andhra Pradesh government's reservation attempt.
- Justices Dipankar Datta and Sheel Nagu — the bench that dismissed the appeal.

MAINS ANGLE *Examine the constitutional validity of exceeding the 50% reservation ceiling and the necessity of empirical data in justifying affirmative action for Backward Classes.*

USE: Affirmative Action Reservation Ceiling Empirical Data
Judicial Review

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/133537

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 situation.

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/news/133529

Asiatic lion population grows to 891 in 2025

Why in news: The Government of India highlighted the growth of the Asiatic lion population from 674 in 2020 to 891 in 2025 during Wildlife Week.

REMEMBER

- Asiatic lion population: 891 in 2025 (up from 674 in 2020)
- IUCN: 1,012 out of 7,516 assessed species are currently threatened
- Project Nilgiri Tahr and Phoenix Species Project are active conservation efforts

MAINS ANGLE *Evaluate the effectiveness of species-specific conservation projects in ensuring the recovery of endangered fauna in India.*

USE: Biodiversity conservation Species recovery
In-situ conservation Wildlife management

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/132590

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 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 like HSL contributes to India's maritime security and the 'Aatmanirbharta' initiative in the Indian Ocean Region.*

USE: Aatmanirbharta Maritime Security Shipbuilding
Fleet Support Ships

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/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) alleging violations of the Forest Rights Act in 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 conflict between large-scale infrastructure development and the protection of indigenous forest rights under the Forest Rights Act.*

USE : Judicial Review Forest Rights Act

Environmental Governance Infrastructure Development

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/131064

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 Channelrhodopsin Neural Circuits

Retinitis Pigmentosa

Full note → satyadheesh.in/news/130947

Everything else, one line each

GS1 · HISTORY · SOCIETY · GEOGRAPHY

Provisional Population Census 2027 data to be available by March or April next year

GS2 · POLITY · GOVERNANCE · SOCIAL JUSTICE · IR

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

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

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

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

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.

Cabinet approves proposal to set up Integrated Transport and Logistics Authority

Preamble philosophy: Supreme Court upheld socialist and secular as integral to the Preamble, dismissing challenges to the 42nd Amendment.

India-Switzerland ties: President Guy Parmelin and PM Modi discussed TEPA, migration partnership, and cooperation on terror financing.

Electoral roll deletions: Supreme Court issued notices to ECI and Centre over alleged unilateral deletion of 13 crore names across 30 States/UTs.

GS3 · ECONOMY · S&T · ENVIRONMENT · SECURITY

RBI interest rates: MPC raised rates by 25 bps and shifted stance to calibrated tightening to combat rising inflation.

GST Enforcement: GST Council scrapped arrest powers for officers and raised prosecution threshold to ₹5 crore.

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.

AMCA propulsion: Proposed ₹5,000 crore investment at HAL Koraput in partnership with MIDHANI to bolster aero-engine capabilities.

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.

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.

DRDO flight-tests indigenous HAPS platform reaching 21 km altitude in milestone trial

Project Cheetah: India-born cheetah KJP21 gave birth to five cubs in Kuno National Park, establishing a new genetic lineage.

Toy tariffs: India increased toy import tariffs from 20% to 70% as the trade deficit with China reached \$112bn.

Gaganyaan mission: India plans its human spaceflight mission for 2027 as part of global space exploration.

MAP WORK

Places in news

Great Nicobar Island	Project site under litigation regarding Forest Rights Act compliance
-----------------------------	--

Padma River	the name of the Ganga River upon entering Bangladesh, 22 km downstream from Farakka Barrage.
--------------------	--

Keralam	no city from this state was selected for waste water management.
----------------	--

Mocha	A port city seized by Houthis in September.
--------------	---

Bab al-Mandeb	A strategic strait threatened by Houthi activities.
----------------------	---

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 What is the revised GDP growth forecast for 2026–27 as projected by the RBI?

☐ a 8.2%
 ☐ b 7.5%
 ☐ c 6.7%
 ☐ d 7.1%
- 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 What is the reservation ceiling mentioned by the Supreme Court as a limit for the State to justify breaching with empirical data?

☐ a 40%
 ☐ b 60%
 ☐ c 50%
 ☐ d 33%
- 6 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
- 7 With reference to wildlife conservation in India, consider the following statements:
 1. The IUCN reported that 1,012 out of 7,516 assessed species are currently threatened.
 2. The Asiatic lion population was recorded at 900 in 2020.
 3. The Asiatic lion population reached 891 in 2025.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

☐ a 1 only
 ☐ b 2 only
 ☐ c 1 and 2 only
 ☐ d 1 and 3 only
- 8 What is the maximum deadweight tonnage capacity of ships that can be built and launched at HSL's upgraded Slipway-4?

☐ a 50,000 tonnes
 ☐ b 45,000 tonnes
 ☐ c 30,000 tonnes
 ☐ d 60,000 tonnes

MAINS PRACTICE

Mains questions to practise

GS3 • ECONOMY

Analyze the impact of repo rate hikes on inflation management and capital market volatility in a developing economy like India.

USE: Monetary Policy Repo Rate Inflation Targeting Liquidity Management Capital Markets

Discuss the significance of integrating renewable energy into the national grid and the role of storage systems in achieving India's 2030 energy targets.

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

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



TELEGRAM



WEBSITE

Get it every morning on Telegram

Daily PDF + quiz at 5 AM · weekly review every Sunday · English and Hindi · free, no sign-up.

t.me/satyadheesh · satyadheesh.in/upsc/reports

Notes are generated from SatyaDheesh's news feed and mapped to the UPSC CSE syllabus. Verify facts with the original report or PIB before using them in an answer.