Current Affairs October 2026

For UPSC, SSC, banking, railway and state PSC examinations. Every item is dated, checked at the source named with it, and written with the form the question takes. Checked 30 October 2026. Free from brolly — the same items are on the current-affairs pages, by day, week, topic and exam.

Economy and banking

Date	What happened	Why it is asked · source
29 October	MoSPI's trial Index of Services Production for August 2026: retail trade up 19.9 per cent, air transport down 9.6. The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation released on 29 October 2026 the experimental sub-sectoral Index of Services Production for August 2026, with base year 2024-25, for 19 sub-sectors. Year-on-year growth was highest in retail trade (19.9 per cent; index 139.2), repair services and real estate (17.6 each) and insurance (16.5); banking grew 14.9 per cent, IT and computer services 13.8 and wholesale trade 10.2, while air transport (−9.6) and arts, entertainment and recreation (−4.7) contracted. The series is a trial; railways, banking and insurance indices use provisional data.	New MoSPI indices, their base years and what they measure are asked alongside IIP, CPI and WPI in economy papers. (PIB, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, 29 October 2026.)
29 October	ESIC extends the New Amnesty Scheme 2025 by three months, to 31 December 2026. The Employees' State Insurance Corporation has extended the New Amnesty Scheme 2025, which ran from 1 October 2025 to 30 September 2026, for three months from 1 October to 31 December 2026 on the same terms, the Labour Ministry said on 29 October 2026. The one-time dispute-resolution scheme lets employers settle ad-hoc assessments by paying actual contributions and interest without damages, have cases withdrawn where dues are paid on payment of 10 per cent of the disputed damages, and covers court cases filed up to 31 March 2025.	ESIC, the ESI Act and amnesty or settlement schemes are banking-awareness and labour-economics questions. (PIB, Ministry of Labour and Employment, 29 October 2026.)
27 October	DPIIT has recognised 2,50,046 startups reporting over 25.42 lakh jobs; FDI of US$843 billion over 12 years. The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade said on 27 October 2026 that it has recognised 2,50,046 startups, reporting more than 25.42 lakh jobs across 770-plus districts — 52 per cent from non-metro cities and 48 per cent with at least one woman director. The Startup India Seed Fund Scheme has approved ₹775.67 crore for 4,194 startups; under the Fund of Funds for Startups SIDBI has committed ₹12,623 crore to 166 AIFs; and the Credit Guarantee Scheme for Startups has guaranteed 532 loans worth ₹1,662.71 crore, with the cover per borrower doubled from ₹10 crore to ₹20 crore. The release counts 47,957 compliances reduced, 900 legal provisions decriminalised, 63 startup regulatory reforms including the abolition of angel tax, and US$843 billion of FDI over 12 years.	Startup India figures, the seed fund and fund of funds, the credit guarantee cover and FDI totals are asked in banking awareness and UPSC economy. (PIB, Ministry of Commerce and Industry (DPIIT), 27 October 2026.)
27 October	TRAI: India had 1,367.93 million telephone subscribers at the end of September 2026; overall tele-density 95.52 per cent. TRAI's telecom subscription data for September 2026, released on 27 October, puts total telephone subscribers at 1,367.93 million (1,319.19 million wireless and 48.74 million wireline), a net addition of 7.23 million in the month and growth of 0.53 per cent. Urban subscribers were 807.78 million and rural 560.16 million, a 59.05 : 40.95 split; tele-density was 95.52 per cent overall with M2M connections (urban 155.85, rural 61.30) and 85.41 per cent without. Broadband subscribers numbered 1,107.68 million with M2M connections, 16.77 million mobile number portability requests were made in the month, and active wireless subscribers on the day of peak VLR were 1,212.80 million.	TRAI's monthly subscriber base, tele-density and the urban–rural split are standard banking and SSC static-plus-current questions. (PIB, Ministry of Communications (TRAI telecom subscription data, September 2026), 27 October 2026.)

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27 October	DPIIT launched the 6th National Startup Awards with 12 new sectors and a first Student Innovator award. DPIIT launched the sixth edition of the National Startup Awards (NSA 6.0) on 27 October 2026, the tenth year of Startup India, which began in January 2016; the awards themselves date from 2019. NSA 6.0 recognises startups across 20 sectoral categories — 12 of them new, among them biomanufacturing, defence and security, semiconductors and advanced manufacturing, ocean and blue economy, and space-tech, drones and aerospace — and three special categories: Women-Led Startup of the Year, North-East Startup Excellence and the new Student Innovator / Aspiring Entrepreneur Award. Winners in eligible categories receive ₹25 lakh; applications are open from 27 October to 20 November 2026.	Startup India milestones and award editions are asked in banking awareness and state PSC economy papers. (PIB, Ministry of Commerce and Industry (DPIIT), 27 October 2026.)
26 October	RELIEF Component II under the Export Promotion Mission extended to 31 March 2027. The Department of Commerce extended Component II of RELIEF (Resilience and Logistics Intervention for Export Facilitation), a time-bound intervention under the Export Promotion Mission launched on 19 March 2026, until 31 March 2027, by Notification No. 37/2026-27 of 30 September, citing continued disruption in West Asia. The component gives 95 per cent risk coverage to encourage exporters to take ECGC cover for shipments to specified regions, with premiums protected against rises beyond pre-disruption levels.	Export-promotion schemes and the role of ECGC are banking-awareness and economy questions. (PIB, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, 26 October 2026.)
25 October	The Prime Minister inaugurated the RBI's new Data Centre and Cybersecurity Training Institute in Bhubaneswar. On 25 October 2026 the Prime Minister inaugurated two Reserve Bank of India facilities in Bhubaneswar, Odisha — a newly established Data Centre and a Cybersecurity Training Institute — describing them as a step towards a more secure financial system that strengthens the central bank's digital infrastructure and cybersecurity capabilities. He said the past decade had taken banking to those deprived of it and the coming decade is about making banking more efficient and reliable, and that the banking system must be protected from cyber attacks as the economy grows.	RBI institutions and their locations, and the cybersecurity push in banking, are asked in banking awareness and UPSC economy; pair with the RBI's other training establishments. (PIB, Prime Minister's Office, 25 October 2026.)
23 October	NSO proposes PLFS changes from January 2027: a separate stratum for digital platform workers and a new two-year panel. The National Statistics Office, MoSPI, proposed on 23 October 2026 to change the Periodic Labour Force Survey from January 2027, when fresh samples for 2027–2028 (Panel 6) are drawn from an updated frame. A new second-stage stratum based on digital platform work is added because the 2026 round under-captured platform workers, giving four strata in rural and five in urban areas with 14 households per first-stage unit. The PLFS, run since 2017, was redesigned in January 2025 for monthly, quarterly and annual estimates; comments on the concept note are invited within 15 days.	The PLFS, its frequency, the conducting body and the gig-worker coverage are asked in economy sections of UPSC and banking papers. (PIB, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, 23 October 2026.)
23 October	Sagarmala Finance Corporation, India's first maritime NBFC, had sanctioned ₹11,563 crore and disbursed ₹5,107 crore by 30 September. Opening the corporate office of Sagarmala Finance Corporation Limited (SMFCL) in New Delhi on 23 October 2026, the Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways said the first dedicated NBFC in the maritime sector had sanctioned ₹11,563 crore and disbursed ₹5,107 crore as on 30 September 2026, and aims at cumulative disbursements of ₹60,205 crore by the end of 2030–31. For the Maritime Development Fund's investment component, SBI Ventures is the fund manager, SEBI registration as an AIF is due by end-November and a first close of ₹5,000 crore is targeted by January 2027.	Sector-specific NBFCs, the Maritime Development Fund and Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047 appear in banking awareness and economy questions. (PIB, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, 23 October 2026.)

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22 October	India Post crossed ₹4,000 crore quarterly revenue for two quarters running; H1 2026-27 revenue ₹8,212.7 crore, up 24 per cent. At the second-quarter review chaired by the Union Communications Minister on 22 October 2026, the Department of Posts reported revenue of ₹8,212.7 crore in April–September 2026, 24 per cent more than the ₹6,636 crore of the same period of 2025-26, and ₹4,201.5 crore in July–September, 25 per cent up on the year — the first time it has crossed ₹4,000 crore in two consecutive quarters. All six verticals grew: parcels 71 per cent, PLI/RPLI 44 per cent, international business 38 per cent, mails 36 per cent and the Post Office Savings Bank 18 per cent (₹1,987 crore in the quarter). Bihar led the circles at 97.15 per cent of its Q2 target, followed by West Bengal and the North East.	Public-sector performance figures of this kind are set as fill-in-the-number questions in banking and SSC general awareness; the Department of Posts is also the POSB's operator, a banking-awareness topic. (PIB, Ministry of Communications, 22 October 2026 (Q2 review of the Department of Posts).)
22 October	Indian Railways set an all-time coal-loading record in October 2026: up 22.5 per cent to 18 October, 430 rakes a day to power plants in H1. The Ministry of Railways said on 22 October 2026 that coal loading in October up to the 18th was 22.5 per cent higher than in the same days of October 2025 — 87 more rakes a day — an all-time record. In the first half of 2026-27 the railways dispatched an average of 430 coal rakes a day to thermal power plants, 7.1 per cent more than a year earlier, and September's dispatches were 14 per cent a day higher than in September 2025. The push responds to higher power demand from industrial production and deficient rainfall in parts of the country, and is coordinated with the Ministries of Coal and Power to keep plant stocks steady.	Railway freight and energy-security figures appear in the economy and railways sections of RRB, SSC and banking papers; the coal–power coordination is a standard infrastructure question. (PIB, Ministry of Railways, 22 October 2026.)
14 October	Wholesale inflation rose to 11.39 per cent in September 2026, the highest in the 2022-23 series. The Office of the Economic Adviser, DPIIT, released the provisional Wholesale Price Index for September 2026 on 14 October: WPI inflation of 11.39 per cent year on year, against 9.92 per cent in August, with the all-commodities index at 112.5 (base 2022-23 = 100). Fuel and power inflation was 25.85 per cent (22.93 in August), primary articles 8.67 per cent (7.76) and manufactured products 9.76 per cent (8.37); the WPI food index rose 8.66 per cent (7.05). Mineral oils, food articles, crude petroleum and natural gas, coal, basic metals, chemicals, textiles, rubber and plastics and electrical equipment drove the rise. The final index for July 2026 stayed at 110.0. News on AIR put cumulative WPI inflation for the first half of 2026-27 at 9.85 per cent against −0.2 per cent a year earlier.	WPI versus CPI, the base year, the major-group weights and the month's headline rate are standard economy questions; the fuel-led spike pairs with the September CPI of 5.54 per cent and the RBI's rate rise. (DPIIT Office of the Economic Adviser press release for September 2026 (eaindustry.nic.in), 14 October 2026; News on AIR, 14 October 2026.)
14 October	CCEA approved the sale of 60.72 per cent of IDBI Bank to a Fairfax entity for ₹52,878 crore. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, at its meeting of 14 October 2026, approved M/s 10955230 Canada Inc., a Fairfax Financial Holdings entity, as the strategic buyer of IDBI Bank Ltd for a purchase consideration of ₹52,878.08 crore — ₹81 a share — for an aggregate 60.72 per cent stake: 30.48 per cent held by the Government of India and 30.24 per cent by LIC, with the proceeds divided in that proportion. The government retains 15 per cent and LIC 19 per cent, both withdrawing their board nominees to become public shareholders; the CCEA delegated minority sales of the residual government stake to the Alternative Mechanism. The two-stage competitive bidding began with the preliminary information memorandum of 7 October 2022; the winning bid exceeded the ₹75.99 average of two independent valuations. The buyer must now present its credentials to the RBI under the fit-and-proper assessment, and the Finance Ministry calls it the largest FDI in India's financial sector so far.	The buyer, the stake split, the price per share and the residual holdings of the government and LIC are the figures bank and SSC examiners will lift from the first privatisation of a public sector bank. (PIB, Ministry of Finance: "Government Approves Strategic Restructuring of IDBI Bank Ltd." and FAQs, 14 October 2026.)

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14 October	Cabinet approved a 78-day productivity linked bonus of ₹2,009.61 crore for 11.4 lakh railway employees. The Union Cabinet on 14 October 2026 approved payment of productivity linked bonus equal to 78 days' wages, ₹2,009.61 crore in all, to 11,40,770 non-gazetted railway employees for the Railways' performance in 2025-26, with a maximum of ₹17,951 per employee, paid before the Durga Puja and Dussehra holidays as every year. Track maintainers, loco pilots, train managers, station masters, supervisors, technicians, pointsmen and ministerial staff are among the categories covered.	The days, the amount, the number of employees and the ceiling per employee are the figures asked in railway and banking general-awareness sections. (PIB, Cabinet: "Cabinet approves Productivity Linked Bonus (PLB) for 78 days to Railway Employees", 14 October 2026.)
13 October	IMF raised India's 2026-27 growth forecast to 7 per cent in the October World Economic Outlook. The International Monetary Fund's World Economic Outlook of October 2026, reported on 13 October, raises India's growth projection for 2026-27 to 7 per cent from the 6.4 per cent of its July update, and lifts the 2027-28 projection by 0.3 percentage points to 7 per cent, citing resilient domestic demand and services; the RBI's own projection for 2026-27, after its October meeting, is 7.1 per cent, and growth in 2025-26 was 7.8 per cent.	The IMF figure beside the RBI's 7.1 per cent is the comparison question of the season; the report's name and timing (twice a year, April and October, with July and January updates) are routine. (News on AIR, "IMF raises India's GDP growth forecast to 7% for 2026-27", 13 October 2026, reporting the IMF World Economic Outlook, October 2026.)
12 October	Retail inflation rose to 5.54 per cent in September 2026, with food inflation at 7.74 per cent. The National Statistics Office's release of 12 October 2026 puts year-on-year CPI inflation (base 2024 = 100) for September 2026 at 5.54 per cent provisional, against 4.83 per cent in August (final) — 6.08 per cent rural and 4.88 per cent urban — with the Consumer Food Price Index at 7.74 per cent (8.06 rural, 7.18 urban). The all-India CPI (General) index stood at 109.49 and the CFPI at 112.17. The rate is above the RBI's 4 per cent target but within the 2–6 per cent tolerance band, and follows the MPC's 25-basis-point rate rise of 7 October.	The headline rate, the food rate, the rural–urban split and the new 2024 base are the CPI questions; pairing it with the WPI of 11.39 per cent and the repo rate of 5.50 per cent is the examiner's habit. (MoSPI, National Statistics Office press release on the CPI for September 2026, 12 October 2026.)
7 October	RBI raised the repo rate by 25 bps to 5.50 per cent and shifted to calibrated tightening. The Monetary Policy Committee, at its 63rd meeting from 5 to 7 October 2026 under Governor Sanjay Malhotra, voted unanimously to raise the policy repo rate by 25 basis points to 5.50 per cent and changed the stance to calibrated tightening, with two members — Nagesh Kumar and Ram Singh — preferring to keep it neutral. The standing deposit facility rate is now 5.25 per cent and the marginal standing facility rate and Bank Rate 5.75 per cent. The RBI projects real GDP growth of 7.1 per cent and CPI inflation of 5.2 per cent for 2026-27 (Q1 growth was 7.8 per cent; August CPI inflation 4.8 per cent); the minutes come on 21 October and the next meeting is on 2–4 December. The Statement on Developmental and Regulatory Policies of the same day brings interoperability among NBFC-Account Aggregators by 31 December 2026 and a Technical Consultative Committee for Financial Markets.	The repo, SDF, MSF and Bank Rate figures, the stance, the vote and the growth and inflation projections are the staple RBI questions in bank, SSC and state-PSC papers. (RBI press releases 2026-2027/1264 and 1265 (rbi.org.in), 7 October 2026.)
5 October	India's internet subscribers crossed 1,092 million at end-March 2026. The Ministry of Communications released the Indian Telecom Services Yearly Performance Indicators report for 2025-26 on 5 October 2026, compiled from data filed by telecom service providers and published on the TRAI website. It put the total number of internet subscribers at about 1,092 million at the end of March 2026, up from about 969 million at the end of March 2025 — a yearly growth of 12.76 per cent. The report also covers cable TV, DTH and radio broadcasting services for the year.	The subscriber base crossing a billion, the growth rate and the publishing body (TRAI) are the figures asked in economy and banking awareness sections. (Ministry of Communications, as reported by All India Radio (newsonair.gov.in), 5 October 2026.)

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2 October	RoDTEP export scheme extended to 31 December 2026. The Department of Commerce, by Notification No. 41/2026-27 dated 30 September 2026, extended the Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme to 31 December 2026 for exports by Domestic Tariff Area units, Advance Authorisation holders, Special Economic Zone units and Export Oriented Units. RoDTEP refunds embedded central, state and local duties and taxes not otherwise rebated on exported goods; the rates and value caps in Appendix 4R and 4RE continue unchanged.	What RoDTEP refunds, the ministry that runs it and the new end date are asked in economy and trade questions. (PIB, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, 2 October 2026.)
2 October	RBI appointed Sudhakar Malli as Executive Director. The Reserve Bank of India appointed Sudhakar Malli as Executive Director with effect from 1 October 2026. He was Chief General Manager-in-Charge of the Department of Supervision and, as ED, will look after the Department of Supervision (Supervisory Assessment).	RBI appointments and portfolios turn up in bank-exam awareness papers. (RBI press release 2026-2027/1241, 2 October 2026.)
1 October	Gross GST collection rose 14.7 per cent to ₹2.04 lakh crore in September 2026. Gross GST collections for September 2026 were ₹2,03,521 crore, 14.7 per cent higher than a year earlier and above ₹2 lakh crore for the third month running. CGST was ₹37,762 crore, SGST ₹45,363 crore and IGST ₹1,20,396 crore. Gross domestic revenue rose 10.1 per cent to ₹1,37,996 crore while revenue from imports rose 25.9 per cent to ₹65,525 crore. Net GST revenue after refunds was ₹1,76,520 crore, up 18.1 per cent. Maharashtra was the largest contributor at ₹29,986 crore, and the April–September 2026 gross total reached ₹12,46,278 crore, up 11.6 per cent.	The monthly gross figure, the growth rate, the top state and the half-year total are asked in banking and SSC papers. (Official GST data released 1 October 2026, as reported by IANS (Morung Express) and ANI (Daily Jagran); the GST portal release was not retrieved.)
1 October	HSBC India Manufacturing PMI rose to a seven-month high of 55.1 in September. The HSBC India Manufacturing PMI, compiled by S&P; Global, rose to 55.1 in September 2026 from 52.8 in August — the strongest improvement in seven months, though below the flash estimate of 55.7. New orders grew at the fastest pace since February, output growth reached a four-month high, export orders picked up and factory hiring resumed at the quickest rate since May. A reading above 50 indicates expansion.	The headline PMI, the 50 dividing line and the compiler (S&P; Global for HSBC) are asked in banking and economy sections. (HSBC/S&P; Global release of 1 October 2026, as reported by Trading Economics and Angel One (the S&P; Global release page blocked our reader).)
1 October	Cabinet raised MSPs for rabi crops for marketing season 2027-28; wheat at ₹2,610. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister, approved Minimum Support Prices for all mandated rabi crops for marketing season 2027-28. Wheat goes to ₹2,610 a quintal (up ₹25), barley ₹2,286, gram ₹5,958, lentil (masur) ₹7,390, rapeseed and mustard ₹6,613 and safflower ₹7,215. The largest absolute increase is for safflower (₹675) followed by rapeseed and mustard (₹413). The expected margin over the all-India weighted average cost of production is highest for wheat at 106 per cent, in line with the rule of fixing MSP at least 1.5 times the cost of production.	Wheat's MSP, the crop with the biggest rise, the deciding body (CCEA) and the 1.5-times-cost rule are standard questions. (PIB, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, 1 October 2026.)

Government schemes

Date	What happened	Why it is asked · source
30 October	National Social Security Board for unorganised, gig and platform workers notified under the Code on Social Security. The Ministry of Labour and Employment notified on 30 October 2026 the constitution of the National Social Security Board for Unorganised Workers and Gig and Platform Workers under the Code on Social Security. Chaired by the Union Labour Minister, the Boards include the Centre and the states, aggregator companies, employers, civil society, workers' unions and gig and platform associations; they meet at least three times a year and recommend schemes for unorganised, gig and platform workers, advise the Centre on the Code, monitor central welfare schemes, review state record keeping and review spending from the fund.	The labour codes, the legal definition of gig and platform workers and the bodies created under the Code on Social Security are UPSC GS-II and economy topics. (PIB, Ministry of Labour and Employment, 30 October 2026.)
29 October	PM-KISAN 24th instalment: over ₹18,690 crore to more than 9.34 crore farmers, released at Banaskantha on 30 October. The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare said on 29 October 2026 that Prime Minister Narendra Modi would release the 24th instalment of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi on 30 October at Banaskantha, Gujarat, transferring more than ₹18,690 crore by Direct Benefit Transfer to over 9.34 crore farmers; Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan joins the programme at Raisen, Madhya Pradesh. More than ₹4.47 lakh crore has been paid out in the first 23 instalments. The Prime Minister also dedicates 521 units built under the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund and inaugurates 12 horticulture clusters.	PM-KISAN's instalment number, amount, beneficiaries and the place of release are asked in SSC, banking and state PSC papers; the scheme's ₹6,000-a-year DBT design is static. (PIB, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, 29 October 2026.)
29 October	Ayushman Vay Vandana completes two years: 23.46 lakh admissions worth ₹5,668.80 crore for citizens aged 70 and above. Ayushman Vay Vandana, launched on 29 October 2024 to extend AB PM-JAY to every citizen aged 70 and above irrespective of income, completed two years on 29 October 2026, the Health Ministry said: about 6 crore senior citizens in around 4.5 crore families are eligible for cover of up to ₹5 lakh per family per year for secondary and tertiary hospitalisation, with a separate top-up of up to ₹5 lakh for those whose families are already covered, and 23.46 lakh hospital admissions worth ₹5,668.80 crore have been authorised. The National Health Authority implements the scheme.	Eligibility (age 70, no income test), cover and the implementing agency of Ayushman Vay Vandana are standard scheme questions. (PIB, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, 29 October 2026.)
27 October	Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana: ₹77.98 crore released to 755 senior-citizen projects for the July–September quarter. A PIB backgrounder of 27 October 2026 on the Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana (AVYAY) says the government released ₹77.98 crore as grant-in-aid to 755 projects under its Integrated Programme for Senior Citizens (IPSrC) for the quarter ending 30 September 2026. Launched in 2021 by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, AVYAY subsumed the National Action Plan for Senior Citizens; IPSrC funds NGOs, panchayats and local bodies to run 764 senior citizen homes, 13 continuous care homes, 17 mobile medicare units and 3 physiotherapy clinics, and the State Action Plan for Senior Citizens lets states use up to 20 per cent of their allocation on their own programmes. India had 10.38 crore people aged 60 and above in Census 2011, projected to reach 23 crore by 2036.	The scheme's ministry, launch year, the scheme it subsumed and its components are standard questions on welfare schemes in UPSC, SSC and state PSC papers. (PIB backgrounder "Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana", 27 October 2026.)

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24 October	11 crore Farmer IDs created under the Digital Agriculture Mission, five months before the 31 March 2027 target. The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare said on 24 October 2026 that the target of 11 crore Farmer IDs was completed by the night of 23 October, five months ahead of the 31 March 2027 deadline set by the Prime Minister. The Farmer ID, created under the Digital Agriculture Mission with the states, gives each farmer a unique digital identity for access to government schemes, bank credit, crop insurance and disaster relief with less paperwork and repeated verification, and a verified farmer database to curb duplication.	Digital Agriculture Mission components — Agri Stack, the Farmer ID — and the target figure are scheme questions in UPSC, banking and state PSC papers. (PIB, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, 24 October 2026.)
22 October	NSDC listed on the NSE Social Stock Exchange with its first zero-coupon zero-principal issue; NABARD subscribed ₹4 crore for 600 rural youth. The Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship rang the bell at the National Stock Exchange on 22 October 2026 to mark the National Skill Development Corporation's debut on the NSE's Social Stock Exchange. NSDC's maiden issue of Zero Coupon Zero Principal (ZCZP) instruments was subscribed by NABARD for ₹4 crore, towards a ₹11.25 crore programme that combines social investment, beneficiary contribution and outcome-linked funding from the Government of Madhya Pradesh to train 600 young people from economically weaker OBC households in the state in Japanese and German for jobs in Japan and Germany.	The Social Stock Exchange and ZCZP instruments are a SEBI-era banking and economy topic; a first listing by a central skilling body with a NABARD subscription gives the examiner a dated fact. (PIB, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, 22 October 2026.)
22 October	Khet Bachao Abhiyan launched from Taraori, Karnal: a nationwide campaign on balanced fertiliser use from 22 October to 30 November. The Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare launched the Khet Bachao Abhiyan on 22 October 2026 from Taraori in Karnal district, Haryana, with farmers, scientists and officials joining from Krishi Vigyan Kendras across the country. The campaign runs to 30 November: agricultural scientists visit villages to press for fertiliser use according to the Soil Health Card rather than by habit, balanced nutrient management, crop rotation, an end to residue burning and a start on natural farming with Beejamrit and Ghanjeevamrit. The Minister noted fertiliser subsidies of over ₹1.5 lakh crore and the role of green ammonia in fertiliser self-reliance, and handed Haryana an approval of ₹1,343 crore of permanent houses for 28,422 poor families.	New agriculture campaigns with a launch place and dates are standard scheme questions for SSC, state PSC and banking papers; soil health and balanced fertilisation recur in UPSC prelims. (PIB, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, 22 October 2026.)
14 October	Cabinet continued the National Social Assistance Programme to 2030-31 with ₹53,428 crore and renamed its pensions. The Union Cabinet on 14 October 2026 approved the continuation of the National Social Assistance Programme for five years from 2026-27 to 2030-31 with a total outlay of ₹53,428 crore, renaming the scheme and its sub-schemes — the Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme becomes the Pradhan Mantri Vridhavastha Pension Yojana, the Widow Pension Scheme the Pradhan Mantri Vidhawa Pension Yojana and the Disability Pension Scheme the Pradhan Mantri Divyangjan Pension Yojana, with the National Family Benefit Scheme continuing. The divyangjan pension rises to ₹375 a month for ages 0–79 and ₹625 for 80 and above, the benchmark disability falls from 80 to 40 per cent under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, and eligibility runs from birth; the old-age, widow and family-benefit schemes continue unchanged. About 3.20 crore beneficiaries across 36 states and UTs are covered, with guidelines within three months. NSAP was launched on 15 August 1995 under Article 41 of the Constitution.	The renamed pensions, the outlay, the new disability threshold and the Article 41 link are the scheme questions set from this decision in SSC, banking and state-PSC papers. (PIB, Cabinet: "Cabinet approves continuation of the National Social Assistance Programme for five years from 2026-27 to 2030-31", 14 October 2026.)

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11 October	PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana completed one year: 100 districts, 36 schemes, scores up from 18.85 to 46.89. The Pradhan Mantri Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana, approved by the Cabinet in July 2025 and launched by the Prime Minister on 11 October 2025, completed a year on 11 October 2026. The six-year programme covers 100 aspirational agricultural districts, converging 36 Central schemes of 11 ministries and departments with state schemes and private participation under a three-tier district, state and national structure, and tracks 121 indicators. All 100 districts have action plans under implementation, and the average district performance score rose from 18.85 in April 2026 to 46.89 in August 2026 across the six objectives; an FPO Sangam in December 2025 drew more than 72 farmer producer organisations from 15 states.	The launch date, the district count, the 36 schemes and 11 ministries and the modelled-on-Aspirational-Districts design are the scheme questions; the one-year score is the new figure. (News on AIR, “Pradhan Mantri Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana completes one year today”, 11 October 2026.)
7 October	Schedule of 375 permissible works notified under the VB-G RAM G Act, 2025. The Ministry of Rural Development notified the Schedule of Permissible Works under the Viksit Bharat — Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) [VB-G RAM G] Act, 2025, listing 375 works — a 41 per cent expansion over the 266 works of the previous framework. The works are grouped under four pillars: Water Security, Core Rural Infrastructure, Livelihood-related Infrastructure, and Special Works for Extreme Weather Events and Disaster Preparedness. Water Security has the most, 128 works, including check dams, recharge shafts and river rejuvenation. Every work must come from the Viksit Gram Panchayat Plan approved by the Gram Sabha and be tracked on the Viksit Bharat National Rural Infrastructure Stack.	The Act’s name, the number of works, the four pillars and the Gram Sabha’s role are the details questions will draw on as the new rural employment law beds in. (Ministry of Rural Development, as reported by All India Radio (newsonair.gov.in), 7 October 2026.)
6 October	eSanjeevani crossed 50 crore teleconsultations. eSanjeevani, India’s National Telemedicine Service, crossed 50 crore teleconsultations across all States and UTs, the Health Ministry said on 6 October 2026. It links more than 1.42 lakh Ayushman Arogya Mandir spokes with over 19,000 hubs and 901 online OPDs, handles 2.5–3 lakh consultations a day in 15 languages and now carries an AI-powered Clinical Decision Support System. Women account for over 57 per cent of use.	Described as the world’s largest telemedicine implementation in primary care; the 50-crore mark and the hub-and-spoke model are the facts to know. (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, as reported by All India Radio (newsonair.gov.in), 6 October 2026.)
1 October	GOBARdhan scheme for compressed biogas launched with a ₹23,731 crore outlay. Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri launched GOBARdhan, a Central Sector Scheme for the compressed biogas (CBG) sector approved by the Union Cabinet on 6 August 2026 with an outlay of ₹23,731 crore. It gives a ten-year framework, FY 2026-27 to FY 2035-36, with assured offtake, stable pricing, capital assistance, pipeline connectivity and credit support, and aims to raise domestic CBG output nearly ten-fold to about 5 MMSCMD. A GOBARdhan Handbook and a Unified GOBARdhan Portal were released at the launch.	The scheme’s ministry, outlay, period and target are examinable; GOBARdhan expands to Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan. (PIB, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, 1 October 2026.)

International

Date	What happened	Why it is asked · source
28 October	India and Mexico sign Terms of Reference, launching negotiations on a Preferential Trade Agreement. India and Mexico signed the Terms of Reference for negotiating a Preferential Trade Agreement during Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal's visit, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry said on 28 October 2026; the Mexican side was led by Undersecretary of Foreign Trade Luis Rosendo Gutiérrez Romano for Secretary of Economy Marcelo Ebrard Casaubon. The ToR sets the framework, scope, modalities and roadmap and covers market access for goods, rules of origin, customs procedures and trade facilitation, dispute settlement, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, technical barriers to trade and trade remedies. The step follows the understanding between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Claudia Sheinbaum on the sidelines of the G7 Summit in Canada in June 2025; automotive, chemicals, electronics, pharmaceuticals, agri-food, energy, critical minerals and medical devices are named as sectors with potential.	Trade agreements in negotiation (PTA versus FTA and CEPA), the partner's leaders and the chapters covered are asked in UPSC international relations and banking awareness. (PIB, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, 28 October 2026.)
27 October	12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum adopted a joint declaration in New Delhi; chairship passed to China. The 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum, inaugurated by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on 26 October, concluded in New Delhi on 27 October 2026 with a joint declaration. It reaffirms the New Delhi Declaration, endorses reform of the UN Security Council to give the Global South more representation, condemns cross-border terrorism, terror financing and safe havens with a call for zero tolerance and no double standards, and carries India's digital public infrastructure and climate agendas. The Speaker handed over the Forum's chairship to China.	BRICS parliamentary and leaders' meetings, the host, the outcome document and the next chair are asked in UPSC and state PSC international relations. (PIB, Lok Sabha Secretariat, 27 October 2026.)
27 October	President hosted Hereditary Prince Alois of Liechtenstein; India–EFTA TEPA cited. President Droupadi Murmu received Hereditary Prince Alois and Hereditary Princess Sophie of Liechtenstein at Rashtrapati Bhavan on 27 October 2026 and hosted a banquet; the Prime Minister also met the Prince. She cited the Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement between India and the European Free Trade Association, concluded in 2024 — of which Liechtenstein is a member — and its commitment to facilitate US$100 billion of investment in India and one million direct jobs over 15 years, and named advanced manufacturing, fintech, agricultural research, sustainable infrastructure, healthcare and material sciences as areas of interest.	The India–EFTA TEPA, its members (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland) and its investment commitment are asked in UPSC and banking awareness. (PIB, President's Secretariat and Prime Minister's Office, 27 October 2026.)
26 October	Lok Sabha Speaker inaugurated the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum at Samvidhan Sadan, New Delhi. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla inaugurated the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum 2026 at Samvidhan Sadan in the Parliament House complex, New Delhi, on 26 October 2026, with delegations from the Parliaments of BRICS member and partner countries; Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Harivansh gave the welcome address in the Central Hall, and the Prime Minister met the visiting MPs. The forum follows the BRICS Summit of Heads of State and Government held in New Delhi under India's chairship in 2026.	The host, the venue, the edition number and India's 2026 BRICS chairship are summit questions in UPSC, SSC and state PSC current affairs. (PIB, Lok Sabha Secretariat and Rajya Sabha Secretariat, 26 October 2026.)
26 October	Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva re-elected President of Brazil. The Prime Minister congratulated Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva on 26 October 2026 on his re-election as President of Brazil, and said he looked forward to deepening the India–Brazil Strategic Partnership and the shared priorities of the Global South.	Heads of state elected in the year are asked in every exam's current affairs; Brazil is a BRICS founder and a G20 member. (PIB, Prime Minister's Office, 26 October 2026.)

Date	What happened	Why it is asked · source
22 October	India and Poland set a target of doubling bilateral trade by 2030; Poland joins the CDRI. The list of outcomes of the Prime Minister of Poland's official visit to India, issued on 22 October 2026 with the India–Poland Joint Statement, records four announcements: a target of doubling bilateral trade by 2030; Poland's entry into the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI); the establishment of a Defence Industry Dialogue; and agreement on a dialogue on counter-terrorism. The two Prime Ministers made a joint press statement in New Delhi.	Bilateral visits with dated outcomes are a staple of the international-relations questions in UPSC, SSC and banking general awareness; the CDRI, an India-launched coalition, is asked on its own. (PIB, Prime Minister's Office, 22 October 2026 (List of Outcomes and India–Poland Joint Statement).)
14 October	Global Hunger Index 2026: India 100th of 122 with a score of 24.1, in the "serious" category. The 2026 Global Hunger Index, published by Welthungerhilfe and Concern Worldwide on 14 October 2026, ranks India 100th of the 122 countries scored, with a score of 24.1 — "serious" on the index's scale, where 0 is no hunger and 100 the worst. South Asia's score is 23.5 against 18.1 for the world; among neighbours, Sri Lanka stands 53rd (10.0, moderate), Nepal 72nd (14.5), Bangladesh 84th (18.7) and Pakistan 106th (25.5). The index combines undernourishment, child stunting, child wasting and child mortality; the report notes India's child stunting has fallen from 50.0 per cent of under-fives in 2000 to 29.3 per cent. The Government of India has rejected earlier editions' method and sample.	India's rank, score and category on the GHI, its four indicators and the publishers recur in SSC, banking and state-PSC papers every October; the neighbours' ranks make a comparison question. (Global Hunger Index 2026 — India country page and ranking (globalhungerindex.org), 14 October 2026.)
14 October	India to become a full contracting party to the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement. The Union Government on 14 October 2026 approved India's accession to the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA), the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying announced; India moves from the cooperating non-contracting party status it has held since 2022 to a full contracting party, with a seat in the agreement's decisions on conservation and management of high-seas fisheries in the southern Indian Ocean and its scientific committee, and access for Indian vessels to regulated deep-sea stocks. SIOFA was signed at Rome on 7 July 2006 and entered into force in June 2012.	A treaty accession with a date, a secretariat and a changed status is the kind of international-organisation question UPSC and state-PSC prelims set. (News on AIR (Hindi), 15 October 2026, reporting the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying; corroborated by two reports of the decision of 14 October 2026.)
13 October	India hosted the first BIMSTEC Home Ministers' Meeting in New Delhi. India hosted the first meeting of the Home Ministers of the seven BIMSTEC countries — Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand — in New Delhi on 13 October 2026. Union Home Minister Amit Shah called for a collective commitment against terrorism, transnational organised crime, narcotics, radicalisation, human trafficking, illicit financial flows and cyber threats, for extradition and legal cooperation within national laws and treaties, for real-time coordination among intelligence, law-enforcement, financial-monitoring and border agencies through designated nodal agencies, and for bringing fugitives back to face justice, reaffirming India's zero-tolerance policy on terrorism.	BIMSTEC's members, its secretariat in Dhaka and "first-ever" ministerial meetings hosted by India are the questions; the Bay of Bengal grouping is a UPSC and SSC regular. (News on AIR, "India to host first BIMSTEC Home Ministers' meeting in New Delhi", 13 October 2026.)
5–7 October	Swiss President's state visit and the 2nd India–EFTA Prosperity Summit mark a year of TEPA. Swiss President Guy Parmelin paid a state visit to India from 5 to 7 October 2026, holding talks with President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 5 October, and on 7 October addressed with the Prime Minister the 2nd India–EFTA Prosperity Summit at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. The visit marked the first anniversary of the India–EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA), in force since 1 October 2025. The summit's theme was "Building a USD 100 Billion Investment Partnership, creating 1 Million Jobs in India", reflecting TEPA's investment commitment. EFTA's members are Switzerland, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein.	TEPA's entry-into-force date, the four EFTA states and the US$ 100 billion / 1 million jobs commitment are asked in every economy and IR section. (Swiss Federal Council release, 1 October 2026 (admin.ch), and All India Radio, 7 October 2026.)

Date	What happened	Why it is asked · source
1–2 October	G20 Trade Ministers met in Milwaukee under the US presidency. Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal attended the G20 Trade Ministers' Meeting in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on 1–2 October 2026, held under the United States' G20 presidency. Sessions covered structural excess capacity, updating the Most-Favoured-Nation principle and ending forced labour in supply chains. Goyal said India has no structural excess capacity in the sectors the presidency identified and that trade distortions should be met with WTO-consistent, evidence-based measures such as anti-dumping and countervailing duties.	The 2026 G20 presidency (United States), the host city and India's stand on MFN and excess capacity are likely questions. (PIB, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, 1 and 2 October 2026.)
1 October	Bimal N. Patel took oath as a judge of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea. India's Dr Bimal N. Patel took oath on 1 October 2026 as a Judge of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) at its headquarters in Hamburg, Germany, beginning a nine-year term. He was elected on 18 June 2026 at the 36th Meeting of States Parties to the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea in New York, one of seven members elected. ITLOS has 21 independent members elected by UNCLOS States Parties; Dr Patel has served on the UN International Law Commission.	The tribunal's seat (Hamburg), its strength (21), the term (nine years) and the parent convention (UNCLOS) are the standard questions. (PIB, Ministry of External Affairs, 1 October 2026.)

India

Date	What happened	Why it is asked · source
30 October	Holy Piprahwa relics of the Buddha to be exposed for veneration at Tawang, Bomdila and Namsai, 31 October – 21 November. The Ministry of Culture said on 30 October 2026 that the Piprahwa relics of the Buddha from the National Museum, New Delhi, will be exposed for public veneration in Arunachal Pradesh from 31 October to 21 November 2026 at Tawang, Bomdila and Namsai, with the Arunachal government and the International Buddhist Confederation. Culture and Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat inaugurates the exposition at the Gaden Namgyal Lhatse (Tawang Monastery) on 31 October; the relics travel by Indian Air Force aircraft and helicopter, with an exhibition on the discovery and repatriation of the Piprahwa heritage and an international conference on Buddhism in the Himalayan region with delegates from six other countries.	The Piprahwa relics, Buddhist sites of the North-East and the International Buddhist Confederation are art-and-culture questions in UPSC and state PSC papers. (PIB, Ministry of Culture, 30 October 2026.)
28 October	Tawang to host the 14th International Tourism Mart for the North East, 29–31 October. The Ministry of Tourism, with Arunachal Pradesh and the other north-eastern states, is holding the 14th International Tourism Mart for the North Eastern Region at Tawang from 29 to 31 October 2026. Over 200 participants are expected, including 43 international buyers from 22 countries; Union Minister for Tourism and Culture Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Minister of State Suresh Gopi and Chief Minister Pema Khandu attend the opening, which includes a North East Bazaar, and a regional meeting of the north-eastern tourism ministers is on the programme.	Annual flagship events, their edition and host city are asked in SSC and state PSC current affairs. (PIB, Ministry of Tourism, 28 October 2026.)

Date	What happened	Why it is asked · source
27 October	Ministry of Culture signed an MoU with the Bibliothèque nationale de France under Gyan Bharatam. The Ministry of Culture and the Bibliothèque nationale de France (National Library of France) signed an MoU in Paris on 26 October 2026 under the Gyan Bharatam Mission, the ministry's manuscript-heritage initiative. Bringing in the National Archives of India and the National Library, Kolkata, it covers five areas — digitisation, cross-sharing on the National Digital Repository, technology exchange, conservation, and research and development — including the identification and digitisation of Indic-origin manuscripts held by the BnF and OCR and HTR tools for Indian scripts.	Gyan Bharatam Mission and international cultural MoUs are asked in UPSC art and culture and state PSC papers. (PIB, Ministry of Culture, 27 October 2026.)
25 October	NCB's Operation Trident struck 38 locations in Assam, Mizoram and Manipur against a transnational narco-cartel. The Ministry of Home Affairs said on 25 October 2026 that the Narcotics Control Bureau, with central agencies and the police of the three states, raided 38 locations in Assam, Mizoram and Manipur simultaneously on 23 October under Operation Trident: ₹100 crore of hawala transactions were uncovered, 1,424 bank accounts frozen, properties worth ₹17.82 crore attached, 500 detonators and ₹12 lakh in cash seized and 18 people arrested. The network moved narcotics across the India–Myanmar and India–Bangladesh borders; the operation follows the Vision Document on Narcotics Control (2026–2029), which shifts from seizures to network and financial disruption, towards the goal of eliminating drug networks by 31 December 2029.	Named operations, the agencies involved and the narcotics-control vision document feed internal-security questions in UPSC mains and state PSCs. (PIB, Ministry of Home Affairs, 25 October 2026.)
22 October	12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum in the Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan on 26–27 October; theme "Strengthening Parliaments for People-Centric Development". The Lok Sabha Speaker announced on 22 October 2026 that the Parliament of India will host the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum on 26 and 27 October in the Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan, under India's chairship, with the Prime Minister attending and meeting the visiting delegations. Presiding officers and parliamentarians from BRICS member and partner countries will deliberate in four sessions — institutional resilience, ethical AI and digital transformation, global governance reforms and sustainable development — and their International Affairs Committees will meet on parliamentary diplomacy; the delegations' secretaries meet on 25 October to finalise the joint statement.	BRICS presidency events hosted in India are asked with their venue and theme; Samvidhan Sadan, the old Parliament House, is itself a recent-polity fact. (PIB, Lok Sabha Secretariat, 22 October 2026.)
22 October	Kashi Tamil Sangamam 5.0 from 28 November to 12 December 2026 on the theme "Thirukkural Payilvom – Thirukkural Abhyas Karen". The Union Education Minister launched the registration portal for the fifth Kashi Tamil Sangamam on 22 October 2026. The programme runs in Varanasi from 28 November to 12 December 2026 on a Thirukkural theme, taking the classical Tamil text to learners across the country through educational engagement and multilingual resources. First held in 2022 under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat, it is organised by the Department of Higher Education with IIT Madras, Banaras Hindu University and the Central Institute of Classical Tamil, Chennai, with the Uttar Pradesh government and central ministries.	The annual Sangamam, its edition number and theme are regular art-and-culture questions in SSC and state papers; the Thirukkural theme ties to a classical-literature question. (PIB, Ministry of Education, 22 October 2026.)

Date	What happened	Why it is asked · source
22 October	19th Urban Mobility India Conference on 23–24 October and the 2nd National Urban Conclave on 24–25 October in Bhubaneswar. The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, with the Government of Odisha, is holding the 19th Urban Mobility India Conference and Exhibition on 23–24 October 2026 on the theme “Urban Accessibility and Liveability in Digital Age”, followed by the second National Urban Conclave on 24–25 October on “Urban Rising – Rethinking Urban Systems, Solutions and Delivery”, both in Bhubaneswar, it said at a curtain-raiser on 22 October. The National Institute of Urban Affairs is the conclave’s knowledge partner and HUDCO and NBCC its principal sponsors; the Union Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs inaugurates it with the Chief Minister of Odisha.	Annual ministry conferences are asked with their edition, host city and theme in SSC, banking and state-PSC general awareness. (PIB, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, 22 October 2026.)
21 October	Rashtriya Ekta Diwas 2026 at Ekta Nagar on 31 October: the Ekta Parade will mark the end of armed Naxalism. Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan briefed the press in New Delhi on 21 October 2026 on the preparations for Rashtriya Ekta Diwas 2026 and Bharat Parv 2026 at Ekta Nagar, Gujarat. The programme on 31 October opens with the Prime Minister’s tribute to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel at the Statue of Unity. The Ekta Parade has been redesigned: its contingents are drawn from the state police forces, CAPFs and central police organisations that led the fight against armed Naxalism, its march past celebrates the end of armed Naxalism in the country, the National School of Drama stages a production on “Naxal-mukt Bharat” with about 2,000 artists from the 126 districts where armed Naxalism once existed, and about 5,000 people from those districts have been invited as spectators.	Rashtriya Ekta Diwas — 31 October, Sardar Patel’s birth anniversary, observed since 2014 — and the Statue of Unity at Ekta Nagar (Kevadia) are fixtures of polity and current-affairs sections; the parade’s theme ties it to the government’s March 2026 deadline on Naxalism. (PIB, Ministry of Home Affairs, 21 October 2026 (press conference of the Union Home Secretary).)
17 October	Karnataka High Court struck down sections 3 and 4 of the state’s 2022 SC/ST reservation Act; KPSC paused selections for 1,261 posts. The Karnataka Public Service Commission’s note of 17 October 2026 records that the High Court of Karnataka, on 12 October 2026 in WP 200448/2025 (SC-ST-PIL) with WP 25515/2025 (S-RES), struck down sections 3 and 4 of the Karnataka Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Reservation of Seats in Educational Institutions and of Appointments or Posts in the Services under the State) Act, 2022 — the provisions under which reservation in direct recruitment had been raised from 15 to 17 per cent for Scheduled Castes and from 3 to 7 per cent for Scheduled Tribes by the government order of 28 December 2022. Of 2,610 posts under 18 notifications, select lists for 1,349 had already gone to the appointing authorities; the commission has paused the remaining 1,261 posts under nine notifications, including 384 Gazetted Probationers (KAS) posts, pending the government’s directions.	Reservation ceilings and the 50 per cent rule of Indra Sawhney, the Karnataka Act of 2022 and the court’s power of judicial review are polity staples; the figures (15 to 17, 3 to 7 per cent) are the likely question. (kpsc.karnataka.gov.in — note of the Secretary, KPSC, 17 October 2026.)
12 October	President appointed Governors in six states: Arlekar to Tamil Nadu, Mathur to Keralam, Sudha Yadav to Karnataka. A Rashtrapati Bhavan communiqué of 12 October 2026 announced that President Droupadi Murmu has appointed Governors in six states: Om Prakash Mathur, Governor of Sikkim, as Governor of Keralam; Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar, Governor of Keralam, as Governor of Tamil Nadu; Braj Mohan Ram as Governor of Odisha; Dr Sudha Yadav as Governor of Karnataka; Dr Dhal Singh Bisen as Governor of Uttarakhand; and Dushyant Gautam as Governor of Sikkim. The appointments take effect from the dates the appointees assume charge.	Who governs which state is the appointments question every general-awareness paper carries; the Keralam–Tamil Nadu swap and the Karnataka appointment are the ones to remember. (News on AIR, “President Murmu appoints Governors in six states”, 12 October 2026, reporting the Rashtrapati Bhavan communiqué.)

Date	What happened	Why it is asked · source
7 October	Sagarmanthan 2026, the third Great Oceans Dialogue, opened in New Delhi. The third edition of Sagarmanthan: The Great Oceans Dialogue, organised by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways with the Observer Research Foundation, opened in New Delhi on 7 October 2026 with a message from the Prime Minister calling for a free, open, secure and rules-based maritime order; Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal presented Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047 as India's offer of partnership. Delegations from Australia, Belgium, Bhutan, the European Union, France, Norway, the Republic of Korea, the UAE and African states joined the OECD, UN Trade and Development, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and the African Union; the day formally launched the industry coalition of the India–EU Green Shipping Corridor and reviewed the India–Korea framework for shipbuilding, shipping and maritime logistics.	The organisers, the edition number, Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047 and the India–EU Green Shipping Corridor are the details a question will carry. (PIB, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, 7 October 2026.)
7 October	Narendra Modi completed 25 years as head of government. On 7 October 2026 Narendra Modi completed 25 years in office as head of government — Chief Minister of Gujarat from 7 October 2001 and Prime Minister since 26 May 2014. The Prime Minister's Office issued his thanks to the President, the Vice-President, former President Ram Nath Kovind and foreign leaders including the President of South Korea and the Prime Ministers of Japan and Bhutan for their wishes; he said whatever had been achieved belonged to the collective resolve of 140 crore Indians.	A dates question: 7 October 2001 (Gujarat Chief Minister) and 26 May 2014 (Prime Minister). (PIB, Prime Minister's Office releases of 7 October 2026.)
2 October	28 places in Ladakh given standard names on the Survey of India map. The Government of India, in consultation with the Union Territory of Ladakh, identified 28 places and features in Ladakh by standard names on the official Survey of India map. They include Zorawar Peak, Kanishka Peak, Atisha Giri, Rinchen Zangpo and Milarepa Kangri peaks, Skamri and Parpik glaciers, Chapchingal and Shachmirk passes, Guru Rinpoche lake, the Yangpa river, and Gogra and Dehra Compass land areas.	Names with a history — Zorawar (Zorawar Singh), Kanishka, Rinchen Zangpo, Milarepa — are natural map and culture questions. (PIB, Ministry of Home Affairs, 2 October 2026.)
1 October	UPSC marked its centenary; the PM released a commemorative coin and stamp. Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the centenary celebrations of the Union Public Service Commission at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, on 1 October 2026, closing a year-long programme that began on 1 October 2025 to mark 100 years since the Commission was set up in 1926. He released a UPSC Centenary Commemorative Coin, a Commemorative Stamp and a book, "100 Landmark Judgements — Shaping the Policies of UPSC and Public Service Commissions in India". The two-day programme ran on 30 September and 1 October.	UPSC's founding year (1926, as the Public Service Commission), its constitutional basis (Articles 315–323) and the centenary releases are likely questions in every exam this year. (PMIndia (pmindia.gov.in), 30 September 2026, and All India Radio, 30 September 2026.)

Science and technology

Date	What happened	Why it is asked · source
27 October	Prime Minister inaugurated the Emerging Science, Technology and Innovation Conclave (ESTIC) 2026 at Bharat Mandapam. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Emerging Science, Technology and Innovation Conclave 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, on 27 October, after meeting startup founders. The opening day drew more than 5,000 delegates and included plenary talks by Nobel laureates Joachim Frank and Richard Roberts on structural biology and life sciences and parallel sessions on advanced manufacturing, generative and autonomous AI, and systems and synthetic biology; Principal Scientific Adviser Ajay K. Sood called for aligning research, industry and policy across ESTIC's 12 priority domains. In his address the Prime Minister said India must create the technologies of the future and build self-reliance in critical technologies, beginning his review of the year with nuclear energy ahead of Homi Jehangir Bhabha's birth anniversary on 30 October.	Science conclaves, their venue and the Nobel laureates who address them are asked in UPSC and SSC science and technology current affairs. (PIB, Prime Minister's Office and Ministry of Science and Technology, 27 and 28 October 2026.)
26 October	TDB backs Manastu Space with ₹116 crore for a hydrogen-peroxide green propulsion system. The Technology Development Board of the Department of Science and Technology signed an agreement on 26 October 2026 with Manastu Space Technologies of Navi Mumbai for ₹116 crore from the Research Development and Innovation (RDI) Fund, as optionally convertible debt, towards a ₹277.63 crore project to take its green propulsion system for satellites and launch vehicles (5 mN to 300 N thrust) from technology readiness level 6 to 9. The system uses a hydrogen-peroxide-based green propellant.	Private space start-ups, the RDI Fund, TRLs and green propellants are science-technology questions in UPSC and state papers. (PIB, Ministry of Science and Technology, 26 October 2026.)
24 October	AATAL, an air-pollution source-analysis laboratory for Delhi-NCR, opened at IITM's Delhi branch under Mission Mausam. The Minister of State for Science and Technology and Earth Sciences inaugurated the Integrated Atmospheric Chemistry and Aerosol Toxicity Analysis Laboratory (AATAL) at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology's Delhi branch on 24 October 2026, described as the first facility of its kind in the world. It identifies the composition of pollutants, their real-time sources and their health implications, is integrated with the AIRWISE system for source apportionment and air-quality forecasting, and supports CAQM and pollution-control agencies. It was set up under Mission Mausam.	New scientific facilities, their host institution and the parent mission are asked in science-technology and environment sections. (PIB, Ministry of Earth Sciences, 24 October 2026.)
8 October	Prime Minister inaugurated the 10th India Mobile Congress at Yashobhoomi; theme "Scale Without Boundaries". The Prime Minister inaugurated the 10th edition of the India Mobile Congress at Yashobhoomi, New Delhi, on 8 October 2026. Organised jointly by the Department of Telecommunications and the Cellular Operators Association of India from 7 to 10 October, IMC 2026 has the theme "Scale Without Boundaries" and four pillars — Srishti (building the future), Samvardhan (fuelling growth), Sashakt (expanding opportunities) and Suraksha (strengthening trust). It covers nine sectors, from 5G and 6G, AI-native networks, semiconductors and non-terrestrial networks to quantum communication and electronics manufacturing, adds smart mobility, stadium experience, industrial robotics and transport technology, and expects over 1.5 lakh participants from more than 100 countries, 500-plus exhibitors, 600-plus start-ups and 120-plus sessions.	Asia's largest telecom event: the edition number, venue, organisers, theme and four pillars are the examinable details. (PIB, Prime Minister's Office curtain-raiser of 7 October 2026 (release 2320050).)

Date	What happened	Why it is asked · source
6 October	DRDO flight-tested an indigenous High-Altitude Platform to 21 km. The Defence Research and Development Organisation conducted a successful flight trial of an indigenously developed High-Altitude Platform (HAPS) on 6 October 2026, with the Indian Air Force, the Centre for Military Airworthiness and Certification, the DGCA and the Airports Authority of India. The platform climbed to 21 km above mean sea level and held 20 km for more than 30 minutes — a step, the Defence Minister said, towards a long-endurance stratospheric airship.	HAPS and stratospheric airships are new surveillance and communications technologies; the altitude and the developer are the details asked. (Ministry of Defence, as reported by All India Radio (newsonair.gov.in), 6 October 2026.)

Environment

Date	What happened	Why it is asked · source
29 October	Green hydrogen offtake commitments by Indian companies reach 5,55,610 tonnes a year, over 70 per cent for export. The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy said on 29 October 2026 that Indian companies have signed 23 green hydrogen offtake contracts since the National Green Hydrogen Mission began in 2023, for 5,55,610 tonnes a year of green hydrogen equivalent — about 11 per cent of the Mission's target and, by the ministry's account, the world's largest — including 18 agreements for over 4 lakh tonnes in 2026. More than 70 per cent is earmarked for export, largely as green ammonia and green methanol to Europe and Japan, with investment of about ₹90,000 crore. The Mission, approved with an outlay of ₹19,744 crore to 2029-30, aims at production of at least 5 million tonnes a year by 2030.	The National Green Hydrogen Mission's outlay and 2030 target, and green ammonia as a shipping and fertiliser fuel, are UPSC environment and economy topics. (PIB, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, 29 October 2026.)
29 October	ARISE Cities Forum adopts the Delhi Declaration 2026 on local climate action, to be taken to COP31 in Antalya. The second ARISE Cities Forum, held at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, on 27 and 28 October 2026 by ICLEI South Asia with the National Institute of Urban Affairs and the support of the Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry, closed with the adoption of the Delhi Declaration on Local Action for Global Climate Goals. Under the theme "From Bharat to Antalya — Commit. Implement. Deliver", more than 200 participants from over 50 cities in 18-plus countries called for stronger multilevel collaboration and for cities and local governments of the Global South to be recognised as partners in climate governance; the declaration goes to COP31 in Antalya, Türkiye.	COP host cities, multilevel climate governance and urban bodies such as ICLEI and NIUA come up in UPSC environment and international relations. (PIB, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, 29 October 2026.)
28 October	Centre sent a central team after a Kuno cheetah died of firearm pellet injuries. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change deputed a high-level team — the Inspector General of Forests of the National Tiger Conservation Authority and two Wildlife Crime Control Bureau officers — after KNG22, a 19-month-old male cheetah of Kuno National Park and an offspring of the cheetah Nirva, died of firearm pellet injuries. It was found injured on 25 October 2026 in the territorial forests of Morena outside the park, rescued from the Sheopur division and operated on at Jabalpur, where five pellets were removed, and died on 27 October. Madhya Pradesh has formed a Special Task Force of forest and police officers; the central team will also review security and monitoring under Project Cheetah.	Project Cheetah, Kuno National Park, the NTCA and the WCCB are recurring environment and state PSC topics. (PIB, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, 28 October 2026.)

Date	What happened	Why it is asked · source
26 October	Central Motor Vehicles Rules amended for E85 and E100 flex-fuel vehicles. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways said on 26 October 2026 that it has amended the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989, to support flex-fuel vehicles able to run on high-ethanol fuels: the emission certification provisions now name E100 alongside E85. E85 is a petrol–ethanol blend with up to 85 per cent ethanol by volume; the letter stands for ethanol and the number for its share. The fuels are only for vehicles designed and certified for them, not for vehicles already on the road.	Ethanol blending, what E20, E85 and E100 mean and the rules being amended are asked in UPSC environment and economy and in SSC and state papers. (PIB, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, 26 October 2026.)
26 October	Cyclonic storm ‘Arnab’ in the Bay of Bengal forecast to cross the Andhra Pradesh coast on 28 October. The National Crisis Management Committee chaired by Cabinet Secretary T. V. Somanathan reviewed preparedness on 26 October 2026 for cyclonic storm ‘Arnab’ over the Bay of Bengal. The IMD forecast it to cross the Andhra Pradesh and Yanam coasts between Bapatla and Visakhapatnam as a very severe cyclonic storm, with sustained winds of 115–125 km/h gusting to 140 km/h, by the forenoon of 28 October, before affecting Telangana, southern Odisha, Chhattisgarh, eastern Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.	Cyclone names, landfall and the NCMC’s role are geography and disaster-management questions; candidates in the affected states should watch their commissions’ sites for exam rescheduling. (PIB, Cabinet Secretariat, 26 October 2026.)
25 October	India has 103 Ramsar sites covering over 13.87 lakh hectares — first in Asia and third in the world by number. A PIB backgrounder of 25 October 2026 puts India’s Wetlands of International Importance at 103 sites covering more than 13.87 lakh hectares across 28 states and union territories, up from 26 in 2014 — first in Asia and third globally by number of sites. The Ramsar Convention, adopted at Ramsar, Iran, on 2 February 1971 and in force from 1975, now has 172 contracting parties and over 2,536 sites; India became a party on 1 February 1982. Conservation rests on the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017, the National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Ecosystems, Amrit Dharohar, MISHTI and Mission Sahbhagita.	The Ramsar count, India’s rank, the convention’s year and place and the wetland schemes are standard environment questions in UPSC prelims, SSC and state PSCs. (PIB backgrounder “Ramsar Sites in India”, 25 October 2026.)
21 October	CAQM invoked GRAP Stage I across Delhi-NCR as Delhi’s average AQI rose to 245 (“poor”). The Commission for Air Quality Management’s sub-committee on the Graded Response Action Plan met on 21 October 2026 after the Central Pollution Control Board’s daily bulletin recorded Delhi’s average AQI in the “poor” band at 2 pm and 245 at 4 pm. Reviewing the IMD and IITM forecasts, it ordered all 25 actions under Stage I of the GRAP schedule implemented across the National Capital Region with immediate effect — enforcement of dust-mitigation rules at construction and demolition sites, covered storage and transport of material, anti-smog guns and water sprinkling, and strict monitoring by every implementing agency so that the AQI does not slip further.	The GRAP bands — Stage I “poor” (AQI 201–300), II “very poor” (301–400), III “severe” (401–450), IV “severe plus” (above 450) — the CAQM Act of 2021 and the CPCB’s AQI categories are regular environment questions each winter. (PIB, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (CAQM), 21 October 2026.)
5 October	India’s cheetah population rose to 60 with five cubs at Kuno. An Indian-born female cheetah, KJP21, gave birth to five cubs at Kuno National Park on 5 October 2026, taking India’s cheetah population to 60, of which 41 are Indian-born. The father is a male from Botswana, so the litter begins a Botswana lineage in India. KJP21 is the third Indian-born female to give birth, after Mukhi and KGP12.	Project Cheetah numbers, Kuno’s state (Madhya Pradesh) and the source countries (Namibia, South Africa, Botswana) are asked often. (Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, as reported by All India Radio (newsonair.gov.in), 5 October 2026.)

Date	What happened	Why it is asked · source
2 October	Tigress released in Buxa Tiger Reserve to begin tiger reintroduction. A tigress, T138, brought from Valmiki Tiger Reserve in Bihar, was released in Buxa Tiger Reserve in West Bengal on 2 October 2026 in the presence of Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav and West Bengal Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari, starting a phased Tiger Reintroduction Programme to restore a self-sustaining population. The release opened Wildlife Week 2026 (2–8 October). Buxa, declared a tiger reserve in 1983, connects with forests in Bhutan and Assam but had lost its resident tigers to habitat degradation and prey decline.	Source and recipient reserves, their states and the year Buxa became a tiger reserve are likely questions; Wildlife Week dates are a perennial. (PIB, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, 2 October 2026.)

Defence

Date	What happened	Why it is asked · source
29 October	DRDO and CENJOWS hold VISV-2026 at Manekshaw Centre to show indigenous defence technology to partner nations. Minister of State for Defence Sanjay Seth was to inaugurate VISV-2026 — Vision, Innovation, Synergy, Values — on 30 October 2026 at the Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi, the Defence Ministry said on 29 October. Organised by DRDO with the Centre for Joint Warfare Studies on the theme “Showcasing Defence Capabilities, Strengthening Global Partnerships”, it presents DRDO’s work in aeronautics, land and naval systems, sensors and communications, missiles, microelectronics, computing and soldier support to the diplomatic community and industry, with a panel on joint development with friendly nations.	Defence events, their organisers (DRDO, CENJOWS) and venues are asked in CDS, AFCAT and SSC general awareness. (PIB, Ministry of Defence, 29 October 2026.)
29 October	INS Trishul concludes a port call at Civitavecchia, Italy, during its Mediterranean deployment. The stealth frigate INS Trishul concluded a port call at Civitavecchia, Italy, on 28 October 2026 during its operational deployment in the Mediterranean, the Navy said on 29 October: the commanding officer called on the Italian Navy’s Fleet Commander, Vice Admiral Aurelio De Carolis, the crew visited the aircraft carrier ITS Cavour, and the Indian Ambassador to Italy, Vani Rao, hosted a cultural event on board attended by defence envoys of 13 nations.	Indian Navy ship deployments and port calls, and the partner navy’s ships, are asked in CDS and NDA general awareness. (PIB, Ministry of Defence, 29 October 2026.)
27 October	11th edition of India–Indonesia special forces exercise Garuda Shakti began at Banyuwangi, Indonesia. The 11th edition of the India–Indonesia Joint Special Forces Exercise GARUDA SHAKTI is being held at Banyuwangi, Indonesia, from 27 October to 6 November 2026, the Ministry of Defence said. The Indian contingent is drawn from the Parachute Regiment (Special Forces) and the Indonesian from the Indonesian Special Forces. Training covers special operations in jungle terrain — obstacle crossing, combat marksmanship, mountaineering, air assault and combat-hardening — and the exchange of weapons, equipment and practices, ending with a validation exercise.	Exercise names, partner countries, venues and the participating units are among the most-asked defence current-affairs questions. (PIB, Ministry of Defence, 27 October 2026.)
27 October	SIMBEX-2026, the 33rd Singapore–India maritime exercise, concluded at Visakhapatnam. The 33rd Singapore–India Maritime Bilateral Exercise, SIMBEX-2026, hosted by the Indian Navy at Visakhapatnam, concluded on 26 October 2026. A harbour phase of subject-matter expert exchanges, cross-deck visits and planning was followed by a sea phase in the Bay of Bengal with maritime interdiction, anti-submarine, anti-air and anti-surface warfare drills and cross-deck flying. The Republic of Singapore Navy fielded the Formidable-class stealth frigate RSS Supreme with an SH-70B helicopter; India fielded the stealth frigate INS Nilgiri, the ASW corvette INS Kamorta, P-8I and Dornier aircraft, Hawk trainers and MH-60R helicopters.	SIMBEX is one of India’s longest-running naval exercises; its edition, venue and ships recur in defence and SSC questions. (PIB, Ministry of Defence, 27 October 2026.)

Date	What happened	Why it is asked · source
27 October	Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel ‘Srishti’ (Yard 1283) launched at Goa Shipyard. Yard 1283, named Srishti (“creation”), a Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel for the Indian Navy, was launched at Goa Shipyard Limited on 27 October 2026 in the presence of Secretary (Defence Finance) Vishvajit Sahay. The indigenously designed NGOPVs, built concurrently at GSL Goa and GRSE Kolkata, will add to the existing OPVs for maritime surveillance, search and rescue, protection of offshore assets, HADR and anti-piracy missions. The day before, an MSME yard in Thane launched the Navy’s first 300-tonne sullage barge and laid the keels of the third sullage barge and the first bottom-opening dumb barge, built for MARPOL compliance.	Ship launches, their class, name and shipyard are routine defence and SSC questions under Aatmanirbhar Bharat. (PIB, Ministry of Defence, 27 October 2026.)
26 October	Defence Acquisition Council accorded AoN to proposals worth about ₹2.12 lakh crore. The Defence Acquisition Council chaired by Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh on 26 October 2026 accorded Acceptance of Necessity to capital acquisition proposals worth about ₹2,12,000 crore. For the Army: high-mobility vehicles, a self-propelled tracked gun system, gun shot response system, light multi-role helicopters (also for the IAF), very short-range air defence systems, platform-based counter-UAS, surveillance UAVs, an integrated surveillance and strike system and long-range kamikaze drones. For the Navy: the Active Offboard Decoy System against anti-ship missiles and indigenously designed major naval platforms. For the IAF: helicopters including special utility helicopters, air defence systems, weapons and a mobile X-band Doppler weather radar.	The DAC, its chair, what AoN means and the headline value and platforms are standard defence questions in UPSC, CDS, AFCAT and SSC. (PIB, Ministry of Defence, 26 October 2026.)
26 October	Raksha Mantri to lead India at the 13th ADMM-Plus in Cebu, Philippines, on 28–29 October. The Ministry of Defence said on 26 October 2026 that Rajnath Singh will lead the Indian delegation at the 13th ASEAN Defence Ministers’ Meeting–Plus at Cebu, Philippines, on 28 and 29 October. The Philippines chairs ADMM-Plus in 2026. The forum brings the eleven ASEAN members together with eight dialogue partners — India, the US, China, Russia, Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand; the first ADMM-Plus met in Hanoi on 12 October 2010, and India co-chairs the Experts’ Working Group on Counter-Terrorism with Malaysia for 2024–27.	ADMM-Plus membership, its first meeting, the 2026 chair and India’s co-chairship are defence and international-relations questions. (PIB, Ministry of Defence, 26 October 2026.)
24 October	DRDO’s indigenous AIP Energy Module for the Navy’s submarines entered Setting to Work Phase-2 at L&T; Hazira. The Setting to Work Phase-2 activity of the Air Independent Propulsion (AIP) Energy Module, developed by DRDO’s Naval Materials Research Laboratory, was inaugurated at Larsen and Toubro’s AM Naik Heavy Engineering Complex in Hazira, Gujarat, on 24 October 2026, with the Defence Secretary and DRDO Chairman attending virtually. AIP raises a diesel-electric submarine’s underwater endurance by reducing its dependence on atmospheric oxygen. In the next phase the module will be energised for power production and tested to the Navy’s protocols before handover to Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders for integration on a Kalvari-class submarine in early 2027.	AIP, the developing laboratory, the Kalvari (Scorpene) class and the shipyard are asked in defence and science-technology sections of UPSC, CDS and AFCAT. (PIB, Ministry of Defence, 24 October 2026.)

Date	What happened	Why it is asked · source
24 October	Swavlamban 2026, the Navy's fifth innovation and indigenisation seminar, at the Manekshaw Centre on 26–27 October. The fifth edition of the Indian Navy's Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Seminar, Swavlamban 2026, is at the Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi, on 26–27 October 2026 on the theme "Strength & Power through Innovation and Indigenisation", with the Raksha Mantri at the plenary on 26 October. Its exhibition covers maritime surveillance, counter-UAS, AI and quantum technologies, NBCD and safety; sessions cover quantum, AI, autonomous and hypersonic technologies, the iDEX ecosystem and domestic supply chains. Swavlamban began in 2022.	Edition numbers, venues and themes of defence seminars are asked in CDS, AFCAT and SSC general awareness. (PIB, Ministry of Defence, 24 October 2026.)
23 October	India–Russia naval exercise INDRA 2026 concluded off Vladivostok; INS Sahyadri departed on 20 October. The Ministry of Defence said on 23 October 2026 that INS Sahyadri left Vladivostok on 20 October after the bilateral naval exercise INDRA 2026 with the Russian Federation Navy. The harbour phase covered leaders' interactions, cross-deck visits and subject-matter exchanges; the sea phase covered coordinated manoeuvres, integrated communications, helicopter operations and medical evacuation drills.	Exercise names, partner countries and venues are among the most asked defence questions in CDS, AFCAT, SSC and state PSC papers. (PIB, Ministry of Defence, 23 October 2026.)
22 October	Navy's First Training Squadron — INS Tir, INS Sujata and ICGS Sarathi — arrived in the Maldives on a long-range training deployment. Ships of the Indian Navy's First Training Squadron (1TS) — INS Tir, INS Sujata and the Coast Guard ship Sarathi — arrived off Malé on 21 October 2026 as part of the squadron's Long Range Training Deployment and were received by the Maldives National Defence Force, the Ministry of Defence said on 22 October. The Senior Officer called on the MNDF's Chief of Defence Force and the Commandant of its Coast Guard and on the Indian High Commissioner; trainees visited the Girifushi Training Centre, with cross-deck visits and sports fixtures planned. The visit is framed in the MAHASAGAR vision — Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions.	Naval deployments, ship names and the MAHASAGAR expansion are asked in CDS, AFCAT, NDA and the defence sections of SSC and state papers. (PIB, Ministry of Defence, 22 October 2026.)
21 October	IAF briefed about 100 industry representatives on its roadmap for unmanned and autonomous systems. The Indian Air Force held an industry outreach programme at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, on 21 October 2026, chaired by Air Marshal Premkumar K., Director General (Weapon Systems) at Air Headquarters, for about 100 representatives of drone companies, MSMEs, start-ups and industry partners. It builds on the IAF Roadmap for Unmanned and Autonomous Systems released at IAF Dronethon 2026 at Pokhran on 14 September 2026: the IAF set out its long-term requirements and technology priorities, distributed the roadmap booklet, and stressed indigenous propulsion, autonomous software, resilient navigation and standardised interfaces as the capabilities that reduce dependence on foreign technology.	The defence-awareness strand of CDS, NDA and AFCAT general knowledge — the Dronethon at Pokhran, the roadmap and its priorities — and the Atmanirbhar theme recur in defence and SSC papers. (PIB, Ministry of Defence, 21 October 2026.)

Date	What happened	Why it is asked · source
14 October	DRDO tested a quantum key distribution platform on the live network of its Chandipur test range. DRDO announced on 14 October 2026 that it had configured and tested a Quantum Key Distribution platform on the live network of the Proof and Experimental Establishment, Chandipur, Odisha, to secure the real-time observations and telemetry of artillery and armoured-vehicle weapon trials against eavesdropping; the system, developed in DRDO's laboratories with Taqbit Labs of Bengaluru as production partner, provides keys whose interception is detectable by the laws of quantum physics. It follows the fibre-based QKD link of about 100 km between Prayagraj and Vindhyachal tested in July 2026, which recorded a quantum bit error rate of about 6 per cent and a key rate of about 5 kilobits a second.	What QKD is, where it was tested and the Prayagraj–Vindhyachal link are the science-and-defence questions; the PXE at Chandipur is itself a frequent answer. (DRDO statement of 14 October 2026 as reported by two agreeing outlets (DRDO's press page did not respond to the sweep).)
7–8 October	Coast Guard's SAREX-2026 off Paradip with 32 foreign observers. Minister of State for Defence Sanjay Seth was to open the 12th National Maritime Search and Rescue Exercise, SAREX-2026, conducted by the Indian Coast Guard, on 7 October and review a search-and-rescue demonstration off Paradip, Odisha, on 8 October 2026. Thirty-two observers from 30 countries are attending; 15 Coast Guard ships, Dornier aircraft and helicopters, IAF C-130J and Mi-17 aircraft and two naval ships simulate a passenger aircraft with 228 people ditching at sea. The 24th National Maritime SAR Board meeting, chaired by Coast Guard Director General Paramesh Sivamani, is held in Bhubaneswar alongside.	Exercise name, edition, conducting force and location are the standard defence-exercise questions. (PIB, Ministry of Defence, 6 October 2026 (programme announcement).)
6 October	Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit named the next Chief of the Air Staff. The Ministry of Defence announced on 6 October 2026 that Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit, the Vice Chief of the Air Staff, will be the 29th Chief of the Air Staff, taking over on 31 October 2026 when Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh retires. Born on 9 December 1966 and commissioned in the fighter stream on 6 December 1986, he has flown more than 3,500 hours on types including the Mirage-2000, MiG variants, Jaguar and Tejas, is an experimental test pilot, and earlier served as Chief of Integrated Defence Staff to the Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee, and as AOC-in-C, Central Air Command.	Service-chief appointments — name, number and date of taking over — are among the most-asked current affairs questions. (PIB, Ministry of Defence, 6 October 2026.)
6 October	Fleet Support Ship-1 'Surya' launched at Hindustan Shipyard. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched the Navy's Fleet Support Ship-1, named Surya, laid the keel of Fleet Support Ship-5 and inaugurated an upgraded Slipway-4 and a 300-tonne Goliath crane at Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam, on 6 October 2026. Fleet support ships replenish warships at sea, extending the Navy's reach and endurance.	Ship name, class, builder and yard are the usual defence questions. (Ministry of Defence, as reported by All India Radio (newsonair.gov.in), 6 October 2026.)
1 October	HQ Integrated Defence Staff marked its silver jubilee. Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff marked 25 years since its establishment on 1 October 2001, observed as Tri-Service Day, under the theme "Future readiness through jointness & Integration". The 'Trishakti Manthan' event was addressed by the Chief of Defence Staff and Secretary, Department of Military Affairs, General N. S. Raja Subramani, and by the Chief of Integrated Defence Staff to the Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee, Air Marshal Tejinder Singh; a silver jubilee book and film were released and CDS Unit Citations conferred.	Founding date of HQ IDS, the current CDS and CISC, and the jointness theme are defence and polity questions. (PIB, Ministry of Defence, 1 October 2026.)

Awards

Date	What happened	Why it is asked · source
12 October	Economics Nobel 2026 to Robert E. Hall and Michael Woodford for the microeconomic foundations of macroeconomic stabilisation. The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel 2026 was awarded jointly, on 12 October 2026, to Robert E. Hall and Michael Woodford “for microeconomic foundations of macroeconomic stabilisation”, closing the 2026 announcements: medicine (Deisseroth, Hegemann and Nagel, optogenetics), physics (Francis Halzen, IceCube), chemistry (Kagan and Soai, asymmetric synthesis), literature (Anne Carson) and peace (Navi Pillay) — ten laureates in all.	The economics laureates, their citation and the full 2026 list are the awards questions of the season in every general-awareness section. (NobelPrize.org, prize in economic sciences 2026 summary, 12 October 2026.)
9 October	Nobel Peace Prize 2026 to Navi Pillay for her efforts to promote peace and international law. The Norwegian Nobel Committee awarded the Nobel Peace Prize 2026, announced on 9 October 2026, to Navanethem “Navi” Pillay of South Africa “for her efforts to promote peace and international law” — a former judge of the International Criminal Court, president of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (2008–2014).	The peace laureate, her nationality and her UN post are the one-line questions; the prize is the only Nobel decided in Oslo. (NobelPrize.org, Nobel Peace Prize 2026 summary, 9 October 2026.)
8 October	Nobel Prize in Literature 2026 to Anne Carson. The Swedish Academy awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature 2026, announced on 8 October 2026, to the Canadian poet, essayist and classicist Anne Carson “for her bold and inventive oeuvre that, in playful dialogue with the classical tradition, has created new forms for contemporary literature”.	The literature laureate and the citation’s key phrase are a standard awards question. (NobelPrize.org, Nobel Prize in Literature 2026 summary, 8 October 2026.)
7 October	Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2026 to Henri B. Kagan and Kenso Soai for asymmetric synthesis. The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences awarded the 2026 Nobel Prize in Chemistry jointly to Henri B. Kagan and Kenso Soai, each with a half share, “for the discovery of non-linear effects and autocatalysis in asymmetric organic synthesis” — the chemistry of making one mirror-image form of a molecule in preference to its twin, which bears on how the single-handed molecules of life arose. It follows the Medicine prize for optogenetics on 5 October and the Physics prize to Francis Halzen for IceCube on 6 October.	The two laureates, the shared citation and the field — chirality and asymmetric synthesis — are the askable facts of this year’s Chemistry prize. (NobelPrize.org, Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2026 summary, 7 October 2026.)
6 October	Nobel Prize in Physics 2026 to Francis Halzen for IceCube. The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences awarded the 2026 Nobel Prize in Physics to Francis Halzen of the University of Wisconsin–Madison “for decisive contributions to the IceCube Neutrino Observatory and the discovery of high-energy neutrinos of astrophysical origin”. IceCube, a cubic kilometre of Antarctic ice at the South Pole fitted with light sensors and completed in 2011, detects the flashes produced when rare neutrinos strike atomic nuclei. The prize is worth 12 million Swedish kronor.	Sole laureate, the observatory and its location, and the particle (neutrino) are what questions will ask. (NobelPrize.org press release, 6 October 2026.)
5 October	Nobel Prize in Medicine 2026 for optogenetics. The Nobel Assembly at Karolinska Institutet awarded the 2026 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine jointly to Karl Deisseroth (Howard Hughes Medical Institute and Stanford University, USA), Peter Hegemann (Humboldt University of Berlin) and Georg Nagel (University of Würzburg) “for their discoveries concerning light-gated ion channels and optogenetics”. Hegemann and Nagel discovered channelrhodopsin, a light-sensitive protein in a single-celled alga; Deisseroth turned it into a light-controlled switch for nerve cells, letting researchers turn individual neurons on and off in a living brain.	Laureates, the field (optogenetics) and the awarding body for medicine (Karolinska Institutet) are asked every year. (NobelPrize.org press release, 5 October 2026.)

Sports

Date	What happened	Why it is asked · source
25 October	India finished the Asian Para Games 2026 with a record 114 medals, its best-ever performance. At the close of the Asian Para Games 2026 in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan (18–24 October), India's para-athletes had won a record 114 medals, the country's best-ever showing at the Games, as the Prime Minister noted on 25 October 2026. The week's highlights included a podium sweep in the men's javelin throw.	The final tally, the host and the comparison with India's earlier best are the sports questions; pair with the 85 medals at the Asian Games in the same city. (PIB, Prime Minister's Office, 23 and 25 October 2026.)
19 October	Asian Para Games 2026 opened for India with 11 medals on day one; Simran's 100 m T12 gold set a Games record. At the Asian Para Games 2026 in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan (18–24 October), India won 11 medals on the opening day of competition, 19 October — four gold, five silver and two bronze — to sit fourth in the standings, as News on AIR reported. On 21 October the Prime Minister congratulated Simran on her gold in the women's 100 m T12 with a new Games record; the PMO's messages that week also marked golds for Dilip Gavit and medals for Rohit Kumar, Pranav Desai, Himanshu Nandal, Shailesh Kumar, Karamjyoti, Sukhchain, Ravi Karthik Budigina and Mohammed Basil M. By the evening of 22 October India stood fifth with 62 medals — 14 gold, 22 silver and 26 bronze — according to press tallies; its 2022 Hangzhou haul was a record 111.	Host city, dates, India's opening-day tally and the Games-record winners are the sports questions; pair the 2026 Asian Para Games with the Asian Games haul of 85 medals from the same city. (News on AIR, 19 October 2026; PIB (Prime Minister's Office), 21 October 2026; running tally from press reports.)
19 September – 4 October	India won 85 medals, including 21 gold, at the Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games. The 20th Asian Games closed in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan, on 4 October 2026, with 1,407 medals awarded in 469 events across 43 sports. India's 501-member contingent won 85 medals — 21 gold, 27 silver and 37 bronze. Archery led with five golds, shooting and boxing three each, and cricket, hockey and kabaddi two each: the men's cricket team beat Pakistan by 19 runs in the final, the men's hockey team retained its title by beating Malaysia 5–1, and the women's hockey team won gold for the first time in over four decades. Athletics produced the most medals (24). Japan hosted the Games for the third time after Tokyo 1958 and Hiroshima 1994; the 5th Asian Para Games follow in Aichi-Nagoya from 18 to 24 October.	India's tally, the top sports, the hockey finals and the host's history are asked; compare Hangzhou 2022's record 107 medals. (PIB Backgrounder "Asian Games 2026", 6 October 2026, and PIB (PMO) releases of 2 October 2026.)

Days and themes

Date	What happened	Why it is asked · source
27 October	Vigilance Awareness Week 2026, 26 October – 1 November: "Probity for Prosperity". The Central Vigilance Commission is observing Vigilance Awareness Week 2026 from 26 October to 1 November on the theme "Probity for Prosperity", beginning with the integrity pledge administered by Central Vigilance Commissioner A. S. Rajeev and Vigilance Commissioner Praveen Vashista at Satarkata Bhawan, New Delhi. The Commission had asked central ministries to run a three-month preventive vigilance campaign from 17 August to 16 November 2026, and holds a workshop on "Transformation Through Technology" on 30 October.	The week coincides with Sardar Patel's birth anniversary on 31 October; its theme and the CVC's office-holders are asked in SSC, banking and state papers. (PIB, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, 27 October 2026.)
17 October	International Day for the Eradication of Poverty 2026: "United for Peace and Human Rights", with a focus on safe homes for all. The International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, observed on 17 October every year under General Assembly resolution 47/196 of 1992, carries the 2026–2028 theme "United for Peace and Human Rights", and the 2026 observance focuses on "Safe Homes for All" — housing insecurity as a driver of poverty and exclusion.	The date, the resolution year and the current theme are the day-and-theme questions. (un.org, International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, 2026 observance page.)

Date	What happened	Why it is asked · source
11 October	International Day of the Girl Child 2026: end child marriage and invest in girls' rights. The International Day of the Girl Child, observed on 11 October since 2012 under General Assembly resolution 66/170, took the 2026 theme developed with girls' organisations and UN partners — a call to end child marriage and invest in girls' rights.	The date, the first year of observance and the year's theme are the standard questions. (un.org, International Day of the Girl Child, 2026 page.)
8 October	Air Force Day 2026: the Indian Air Force marked its 94th anniversary. The Indian Air Force, raised on 8 October 1932, marked its 94th Air Force Day on 8 October 2026. The Prime Minister greeted the air warriors, saying India is proud of them and saluting their courage and commitment to protect the nation's skies. The Ministry of Defence had named Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit, the Vice Chief, as the next Chief of the Air Staff on 6 October.	The founding date (8 October 1932), the anniversary number and the incoming Chief are the regular Air Force Day questions. (PIB, Prime Minister's Office, 8 October 2026; Ministry of Defence, 6 October 2026.)
5 October	World Habitat Day 2026: "Adequate Housing for All". World Habitat Day, observed on the first Monday of October — 5 October in 2026 — took the theme "Adequate Housing for All", focusing on policies and partnerships for lower-income households, the homeless and people displaced by crises and disasters. Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs Tokhan Sahu addressed India's celebration in New Delhi.	The "first Monday of October" rule and the 2026 theme are asked. (United Nations (un.org/en/observances/habitat-day); All India Radio, 5 October 2026.)
1 October	International Day of Older Persons 2026: "The Age of Longevity: Rethinking Systems for Longer Lives". The UN International Day of Older Persons on 1 October 2026 took the theme "The Age of Longevity: Rethinking Systems for Longer Lives", asking governments, business and older people themselves how added years can become healthy, productive and dignified ones. The UN notes that the gap between life expectancy and healthy life expectancy reached 9.6 years in 2019. The Day was designated by the UN General Assembly in 1990 and first observed in 1991.	Date, 2026 theme and the founding year are the recurring questions. (United Nations (un.org/en/observances/older-persons-day).)

Exams and recruitment

Date	What happened	Why it is asked · source
30 October	TGPSC notifies 102 statistical officer posts; RRB JE postponed CBT on 2 November; SSC CPO 2025 PET result; UPSC legal-posts test on 9 January. TGPSC Notification 07/G/ES/2026 of 28 October opens 102 Mandal Planning and Statistical Officer posts from 30 October to 27 November. The RRBs reschedule the JE CBT 1 postponed at four Andhra Pradesh cities to 2 November (notice of 28 October) and postpone the ALP CBAT at four centres (29 October). The SSC's write-up of 29 October clears 10,676 candidates of the SI in Delhi Police and CAPFs Examination 2025 for Paper 2. UPSC fixes a combined recruitment test for sixteen legal and trade-mark recruitments on 9 January 2027, and IBPS advertises its own Server Administrator, Assistant and Programming Assistant posts to 12 November.	New windows and changed dates are what aspirants act on; each exam guide on this site carries the full schedule. (websitenew.tgpsc.gov.in, 28 October 2026; RRB portal notices, 28 and 29 October 2026; ssc.gov.in, 29 October 2026; upsc.gov.in, 28 October 2026; ibps.in, 29 October 2026.)

Date	What happened	Why it is asked · source
28 October	UGC NET December 2026 deadline extended to 31 October; APPSC Group-I to 9 November; RRB JE CBT postponed at four Andhra Pradesh cities. NTA's notice of 27 October extends UGC-NET December 2026 applications to 31 October (11:50 pm) without any late fee. APPSC's web note of the same day extends Group-I (07/2026), AEE (08/2026), Horticulture Officer (19/2026), HWO Grade-II (25/2026) and ATWO/ASWO (26/2026) to 9 November, with the Group-I screening test still on 24 January 2027. The RRBs postponed the 28 October JE CBT 1 at Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam, Rajahmundry and Vijayawada because of cyclone Arnab, and MCC's NEET PG Round 1 allotment of 24 October has joining to 2 November.	Deadline extensions and postponements are what aspirants act on; each exam guide on this site carries the full schedule. (ugcnet.nta.nic.in notice, 27 October 2026; psc.ap.gov.in web note, 27 October 2026; RRB portal notice, 27 October 2026; mcc.nic.in.)
27 October	RRB Station Master CEN 08/2026 (1,265 posts), SSC JE and CPO dates revised, TNTET for working teachers notified. The RRBs' CEN 08/2026 of 26 October, corrected on 27 October, recruits 1,265 Station Masters at Level 6 with applications from 27 October to 25 November 2026. The SSC's corrigendum of 26 October moves CPO Paper 1 to 23–28 November and adds 30 November–1 December to JE Paper 1 (2–6 November). Tamil Nadu's TRB notified the TNTET for working teachers (02/2026) on 26 October: apply 27 October–19 November, papers on 20 December. National Insurance's 321 AO posts close on 28 October.	Notification dates and vacancy figures are what aspirants act on; each exam guide on this site carries the full schedule. (RRB portal CEN 08/2026 and corrigendum; ssc.gov.in corrigendum, 26 October 2026; trb.tn.gov.in Notification 02/2026; nationalinsurance.nic.co.in advertisement.)
24 October	JEE Main 2027 notified: Session 1 applications to 22 November and examination on 20–24 and 28 January; UPSC Geo-Scientist 2026 final result. NTA's information bulletin of 24 October 2026 opens JEE (Main) 2027 Session 1 on jeemain.nta.nic.in until 22 November 2026, with a ₹500 late fee from 23 to 26 November, admit cards on 13 January and the examination on 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 and 28 January 2027; Session 2 is on 2–7 April. The UPSC's final result of the Combined Geo-Scientist Examination 2026, of 16 October, recommends 66 candidates against 69 vacancies.	Notification dates and the result figures are what aspirants act on; the JEE Main page on this site carries the full schedule. (jeemain.nta.nic.in public notice and bulletin, 24 October 2026; upsc.gov.in final result press note, 16 October 2026.)
23 October	IIT JAM 2027 registration extended a third time, to 24 October; RRB NTPC CEN 07/2026 confirmed at 1,688 undergraduate posts. IIT Kharagpur's JAM 2027 home page now gives 24 October 2026 as the last date to apply, after the 12, 19 and 22 October dates before it; the examination stays on 14 February 2027. On the RRB portal the detailed CEN 07/2026 of 14 October confirms 1,688 Non-Technical Popular Categories (Under Graduate) posts — Commercial cum Ticket Clerk 700, Junior Clerk cum Typist 600, Accounts Clerk cum Typist 200 and Trains Clerk 188 — with applications on rrbapply.gov.in from 15 October to 13 November 2026 and a modification window from 16 to 25 November.	Deadline moves and confirmed vacancy counts are what aspirants act on; both the JAM and the RRB NTPC pages on this site carry the details. (jam.iitkgp.ac.in home page and the RRB portal's CEN 07/2026, read 23 October 2026.)
19 October	CDS II 2026 written result posted on upsc.gov.in; 8,956 qualified for the SSB, as reported. The Union Public Service Commission's what's-new list carries the written result of the Combined Defence Services Examination (II) 2026, held on 13 September 2026 for 451 vacancies at the IMA, INA, AFA and OTA. Two reports citing the Commission date the result 19 October 2026 and put the qualified candidates at 8,956; the result PDF itself could not be read by this sweep. Qualified candidates register for the SSB on joinindianarmy.nic.in, and CDS I 2027 is on the calendar for 11 April 2027 with its notification on 2 December 2026.	The CDS vacancy split (IMA 100, INA 26, AFA 32, OTA 275 men and 18 women) and the SSB route are defence-exam facts; the result's timing is the practical one for candidates. (upsc.gov.in what's-new listing, 22 October 2026; date and count from two agreeing reports.)

Date	What happened	Why it is asked · source
8 and 16 October	UGC NET December 2026 notified: apply to 28 October; exam 14–18 and 21 December after a corrigendum. NTA opened UGC-NET December 2026 on 8 October 2026 — applications on ugcnet.nta.nic.in to 28 October, late fee to 31 October, 87 subjects, computer-based — and on 16 October issued a corrigendum with an updated information bulletin that moves the examination from 14–19 December to 14–18 and 21 December 2026, with the city intimation slip on 23 November and admit cards on 7 December.	Recorded here because the December cycle's dates are themselves asked in teaching-exam awareness sections; the full notice is on the UGC NET guide. (ugcnet.nta.nic.in public notices of 8 and 16 October 2026.)
13 October	APPSC notified a new Group-II round of 686 posts and ten brief notifications for 1,466 posts in all. The Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission's brief notifications of 13 October 2026 cover 1,466 provisional posts: Group-II Services 686 (Deputy Tahsildar 200, Deputy MPDO 176, Senior Accountant 90, ASO 80, Junior Accountant 48, GST Officer 40, Excise SI 29 and others; applications 10–30 November), 503 Assistant Executive Engineers in eight engineering departments (2–22 November), 160 DIET and SCERT lecturers (18 November – 8 December), 50 Assistant Motor Vehicle Inspectors and mines, excise and endowments posts (6–26 November). Detailed notifications with the age limits, fees and community-wise vacancies follow before each window.	The state's job calendar and the commission's notification numbers are the AP state-PSC general-awareness question; the Group-II count of 686 and the AEE 503 are the figures to remember. (psc.ap.gov.in web note and brief notifications of 13 October 2026.)
7 October	RRB NTPC CEN 06/2026: 3,548 graduate posts, applications 8 October – 6 November. The Railway Recruitment Boards published CEN 06/2026 for the Non-Technical Popular Categories (Graduate) on 7 October 2026 — Goods Train Manager 2,750, Senior Clerk cum Typist 371, Junior Accounts Assistant cum Typist 300 and Chief Commercial cum Ticket Supervisor 127 — with online applications on rrbapply.gov.in from 8 October to 6 November 2026, age 18–33 on 1 January 2027 and the typing skill test dispensed with. The same day NTA notified the Joint CSIR-UGC NET December 2026 (applications to 5 November; examination 19, 22 and 27 December) and the SSC declared the CHSL 2025 final result, recommending 3,515 candidates.	Recruitment numbers and dates are asked in state-level and railway general-awareness sections; the NTPC and CSIR NET windows are the ones to act on. (RRB portal CEN 06/2026; csirnet.nta.nic.in; ssc.gov.in, all 7 October 2026.)
25 September – 5 October	India won four golds and a silver at the 19th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics. All five members of India's team won medals at the 19th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics (IOAA), held in Hanoi, Vietnam, from 25 September to 5 October 2026. Pranjal Dixit, Sumant Gupta, Akshat Srivastava and Arnav Sehrawat won gold and Harshil Amitkumar Patel silver. India finished joint third with Vietnam behind Iran and South Korea; 307 students from 64 countries took part, the largest IOAA yet.	Venue, India's medal count and rank are the usual olympiad questions. (All India Radio (newsonair.gov.in), 5 October 2026.)

Current affairs quiz — October 2026

112 questions from the items above. Answer key on the last page.

Q1. The National Social Security Board for gig and platform workers notified in October 2026 is constituted under the
(A) Code on Wages, 2019
(B) Industrial Relations Code, 2020
(C) Code on Social Security, 2020
(D) Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020

Q2. The Buddha relics exposed in Arunachal Pradesh from 31 October 2026 are known as the
(A) Piprahwa relics
(B) Sanchi relics
(C) Sarnath relics
(D) Vaishali relics

Q3. TGPSC Notification 07/G/ES/2026 of 28 October 2026 is for
(A) Assistant Engineers
(B) Mandal Planning and Statistical Officers
(C) Group-II Services
(D) Divisional Accounts Officers

Q4. The 24th instalment of PM-KISAN was released on 30 October 2026 at
(A) Raisen, Madhya Pradesh
(B) Banaskantha, Gujarat
(C) Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
(D) Bhagalpur, Bihar

Q5. Ayushman Vay Vandana covers citizens aged
(A) 60 and above with low income
(B) 65 and above
(C) 70 and above, irrespective of income
(D) 75 and above

Q6. The base year of MoSPI’s trial Index of Services Production released in October 2026 is
(A) 2011-12
(B) 2017-18
(C) 2022-23
(D) 2024-25

Q7. The National Green Hydrogen Mission targets green hydrogen production of at least
(A) 1 million tonnes a year by 2030
(B) 5 million tonnes a year by 2030
(C) 10 million tonnes a year by 2035
(D) 50 million tonnes a year by 2047

Q8. The Delhi Declaration 2026 of the ARISE Cities Forum is to be carried to COP31, to be held in
(A) Belém, Brazil
(B) Baku, Azerbaijan
(C) Antalya, Türkiye
(D) Bonn, Germany

Q9. VISV-2026, held at the Manekshaw Centre in October 2026, was organised by DRDO with
(A) the Centre for Joint Warfare Studies
(B) the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses
(C) the National Defence College
(D) the Defence Research and Development Service

Q10. In October 2026 INS Trishul made a port call at Civitavecchia in
(A) Greece
(B) France
(C) Italy

(D) Spain

Q11. ESIC’s New Amnesty Scheme 2025 has been extended up to
(A) 30 September 2026
(B) 31 October 2026
(C) 31 December 2026
(D) 31 March 2027

Q12. In October 2026 India and Mexico signed the Terms of Reference to negotiate a
(A) Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement
(B) Preferential Trade Agreement
(C) Bilateral Investment Treaty
(D) Free Trade Agreement

Q13. Kuno National Park, the site of Project Cheetah, is in
(A) Rajasthan
(B) Gujarat
(C) Madhya Pradesh
(D) Chhattisgarh

Q14. The 14th International Tourism Mart for the North Eastern Region (October 2026) is being held at
(A) Shillong
(B) Gangtok
(C) Tawang
(D) Kohima

Q15. The last date for UGC NET December 2026 applications, after NTA’s notice of 27 October 2026, is
(A) 28 October 2026
(B) 31 October 2026
(C) 5 November 2026
(D) 9 November 2026

Q16. The Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana (AVYAY) is implemented by the Ministry of
(A) Health and Family Welfare
(B) Social Justice and Empowerment
(C) Rural Development
(D) Women and Child Development

Q17. The guarantee cover per borrower under the Credit Guarantee Scheme for Startups now stands at
(A) ₹5 crore
(B) ₹10 crore
(C) ₹20 crore
(D) ₹50 crore

Q18. The theme of Vigilance Awareness Week 2026 is
(A) Culture of Integrity for Nation’s Prosperity
(B) Probity for Prosperity
(C) Corruption-free India for a Developed Nation
(D) Integrity — A Way of Life

Q19. RRB CEN 08/2026, issued in October 2026, recruits
(A) Goods Train Managers
(B) Station Masters
(C) Traffic Assistants
(D) Commercial cum Ticket Clerks

Q20. According to TRAI, India’s overall tele-density (with M2M connections) at the end of September 2026 was
(A) 61.30 per cent
(B) 85.41 per cent
(C) 95.52 per cent
(D) 155.85 per cent

Q21. ESTIC 2026, inaugurated by the Prime Minister on 27 October 2026, was held at

(A) Yashobhoomi, New Delhi
(B) Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
(C) Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi
(D) IISc, Bengaluru

Q22. Garuda Shakti is a joint special forces exercise between India and
(A) Malaysia
(B) Indonesia
(C) Thailand
(D) Vietnam

Q23. SIMBEX is a bilateral maritime exercise between India and
(A) Sri Lanka
(B) Singapore
(C) Saudi Arabia
(D) South Africa

Q24. The Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel ‘Srishti’, launched on 27 October 2026, was built by
(A) Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers
(B) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders
(C) Goa Shipyard Limited
(D) Cochin Shipyard Limited

Q25. Which award category is introduced for the first time in the 6th National Startup Awards (2026)?
(A) Women-Led Startup of the Year
(B) North-East Startup Excellence
(C) Student Innovator / Aspiring Entrepreneur
(D) Rural Impact Startup

Q26. After the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum in New Delhi (October 2026), the Forum’s chairship passed to
(A) Brazil
(B) Russia
(C) China
(D) South Africa

Q27. The Ministry of Culture’s MoU of October 2026 with the Bibliothèque nationale de France was signed under
(A) Gyan Bharatam Mission
(B) National Mission for Manuscripts Abhiyan
(C) Project Mausam
(D) Adopt a Heritage 2.0

Q28. Under the India–EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement, the EFTA states committed to facilitate investment in India of
(A) US$50 billion over 10 years
(B) US$100 billion over 15 years
(C) US$100 billion over 25 years
(D) US$150 billion over 15 years

Q29. The 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum in October 2026 was held in
(A) Kazan
(B) Brasília
(C) New Delhi
(D) Johannesburg

Q30. Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) for defence capital acquisitions is accorded by the
(A) Cabinet Committee on Security
(B) Defence Acquisition Council
(C) Defence Research and Development Organisation
(D) Department of Defence Production

Q31. Who was re-elected President of Brazil in October 2026?
(A) Jair Bolsonaro
(B) Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva

(C) Fernando Haddad
(D) Geraldo Alckmin

Q32. In the fuel name E85, the number 85 denotes
(A) the octane rating
(B) the share of ethanol by volume, up to 85 per cent
(C) the emission norm
(D) the year of the standard

Q33. The National Crisis Management Committee is chaired by the
(A) Prime Minister
(B) Union Home Secretary
(C) Cabinet Secretary
(D) Vice-Chairman of the NDMA

Q34. RELIEF Component II encourages exporters to take cover from
(A) SIDBI
(B) EXIM Bank
(C) ECGC
(D) NABARD

Q35. Manastu Space's green propulsion system, funded by TDB in October 2026, is based on
(A) hydrazine
(B) liquid oxygen and kerosene
(C) hydrogen peroxide
(D) xenon ion thrust

Q36. India co-chairs which ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group for 2024–27?
(A) Maritime Security
(B) Counter-Terrorism
(C) Peacekeeping Operations
(D) Cyber Security

Q37. The RBI Data Centre and Cybersecurity Training Institute inaugurated on 25 October 2026 are in
(A) Bhubaneswar
(B) Hyderabad
(C) Navi Mumbai
(D) Kolkata

Q38. According to the PIB backgrounder of 25 October 2026, India's number of Ramsar sites is
(A) 75
(B) 89
(C) 103
(D) 115

Q39. India's medal tally at the Asian Para Games 2026 in Aichi-Nagoya was
(A) 85
(B) 107
(C) 111
(D) 114

Q40. Operation Trident (October 2026) was an anti-narcotics operation by the NCB across
(A) Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan
(B) Assam, Mizoram and Manipur
(C) Gujarat, Maharashtra and Goa
(D) Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka

Q41. The target of 11 crore Farmer IDs, met in October 2026, falls under which mission?
(A) National Mission on Natural Farming
(B) Digital Agriculture Mission
(C) Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture
(D) National Food Security Mission

Q42. The indigenous Air Independent Propulsion system reaching Setting to Work Phase-2 in October 2026 was developed by
(A) DRDO’s Naval Science and Technological Laboratory
(B) DRDO’s Naval Materials Research Laboratory
(C) BARC
(D) Bharat Electronics Limited

Q43. The AATAL facility for analysing Delhi-NCR’s air pollution, opened in October 2026, is located at
(A) IIT Delhi
(B) IITM’s Delhi branch
(C) the CPCB headquarters
(D) IMD Mausam Bhawan

Q44. Swavlamban 2026 (26–27 October 2026) is the Indian Navy’s seminar on
(A) maritime logistics
(B) innovation and indigenisation
(C) coastal security
(D) naval aviation

Q45. The JEE (Main) 2027 Session 1 examination is scheduled on
(A) 21–28 January 2027
(B) 20–24 and 28 January 2027
(C) 22–24 and 28–30 January 2027
(D) 2–7 April 2027

Q46. RRB CEN 07/2026 (NTPC Under Graduate) carries how many posts in all?
(A) 1,688
(B) 3,548
(C) 3,058
(D) 5,810

Q47. From January 2027 the PLFS will add a separate second-stage stratum for
(A) self-help group members
(B) digital platform workers
(C) MGNREGA workers
(D) migrant workers

Q48. India’s first dedicated NBFC for the maritime sector is
(A) Indian Ports Finance Ltd
(B) Sagarmala Finance Corporation Ltd
(C) Maritime India Finance Ltd
(D) Shipping Credit Corporation of India

Q49. INDRA 2026, which concluded in October 2026, is a naval exercise between India and
(A) France
(B) Russia
(C) Indonesia
(D) the United States

Q50. The Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI), which Poland joined during its Prime Minister’s visit to India in October 2026, was launched by India in
(A) 2019, at the UN Climate Action Summit
(B) 2015, at the Paris climate conference
(C) 2021, at COP26 in Glasgow
(D) 2023, at the G20 summit in New Delhi

Q51. In the first half of 2026-27 the Department of Posts recorded revenue of about
(A) ₹8,213 crore, up 24 per cent
(B) ₹6,636 crore, up 14 per cent
(C) ₹4,000 crore, up 10 per cent
(D) ₹12,000 crore, up 30 per cent

Q52. In the first half of 2026-27 Indian Railways dispatched to thermal power plants an average of how many coal rakes a day?
(A) 430
(B) 87
(C) 250
(D) 1,000

Q53. Zero Coupon Zero Principal (ZCZP) instruments, of which NSDC made its first issue on the NSE Social Stock Exchange in October 2026, are a way for
(A) not-for-profit organisations to raise funds from donors, with no interest or repayment
(B) banks to raise tier-II capital
(C) companies to issue bonus shares
(D) the government to borrow from the RBI

Q54. The 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum of October 2026 is hosted at
(A) Samvidhan Sadan, New Delhi
(B) Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
(C) Hyderabad House
(D) Vigyan Bhawan

Q55. The theme of Kashi Tamil Sangamam 5.0 (28 November – 12 December 2026) is built around which text?
(A) Thirukkural
(B) Silappatikaram
(C) Tolkappiyam
(D) Manimekalai

Q56. The nationwide Khet Bachao Abhiyan of October–November 2026 was launched from
(A) Taraori, Karnal (Haryana)
(B) Sehore (Madhya Pradesh)
(C) Ludhiana (Punjab)
(D) Nagpur (Maharashtra)

Q57. MAHASAGAR, the vision cited for the Indian Navy's October 2026 training-squadron visit to the Maldives, stands for
(A) Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions
(B) Maritime Alliance for Humanitarian Assistance, Security and Growth Across Regions
(C) Mutual Agreement on Harbours, Shipping and Growth Across Regions
(D) Maritime Heritage and Security Across the Global Arabian Region

Q58. The 19th Urban Mobility India Conference and Exhibition (October 2026) is being held in
(A) Bhubaneswar
(B) Gandhinagar
(C) Kochi
(D) Lucknow

Q59. Rashtriya Ekta Diwas, celebrated at the Statue of Unity in Ekta Nagar, marks the birth anniversary of
(A) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
(B) Jawaharlal Nehru
(C) Subhas Chandra Bose
(D) B. R. Ambedkar

Q60. GRAP Stage I was invoked in Delhi-NCR on 21 October 2026 when Delhi's average AQI entered which category?
(A) Moderate (101–200)
(B) Poor (201–300)
(C) Very poor (301–400)
(D) Severe (401–450)

Q61. The IAF Roadmap for Unmanned and Autonomous Systems, discussed with industry on 21 October 2026, was released at
(A) Aero India 2026, Bengaluru
(B) IAF Dronethon 2026, Pokhran

(C) the Air Force Day parade, Hindon
(D) DefExpo 2026

Q62. The Asian Para Games 2026, where India won 11 medals on the opening day, are being held in
(A) Hangzhou, China
(B) Aichi-Nagoya, Japan
(C) Jakarta, Indonesia
(D) Doha, Qatar

Q63. The Combined Defence Services Examination (II) 2026, whose written result was posted in October 2026, was notified for how many vacancies?
(A) 341
(B) 451
(C) 459
(D) 501

Q64. The Karnataka Act of 2022 whose sections 3 and 4 the High Court struck down on 12 October 2026 had raised reservation in direct recruitment for SCs and STs to
(A) 15 and 3 per cent
(B) 17 and 7 per cent
(C) 18 and 8 per cent
(D) 20 and 10 per cent

Q65. The 2026–2028 theme of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (17 October) is
(A) Ending Social and Institutional Maltreatment
(B) Dignity for All in Practice
(C) United for Peace and Human Rights
(D) Safe Homes for All

Q66. By NTA's corrigendum of 16 October 2026, UGC NET December 2026 will be held on
(A) 14–19 December 2026
(B) 14–18 and 21 December 2026
(C) 20–21 December 2026
(D) 27–31 December 2026

Q67. Provisional WPI inflation for September 2026, released on 14 October 2026, was
(A) 5.54 per cent
(B) 8.66 per cent
(C) 9.92 per cent
(D) 11.39 per cent

Q68. Under the strategic restructuring of IDBI Bank approved on 14 October 2026, the stake sold to the Fairfax entity totals
(A) 30.48 per cent
(B) 49 per cent
(C) 60.72 per cent
(D) 75 per cent

Q69. The productivity linked bonus approved by the Cabinet on 14 October 2026 for non-gazetted railway employees is equal to
(A) 70 days' wages
(B) 75 days' wages
(C) 78 days' wages
(D) 80 days' wages

Q70. In the Global Hunger Index 2026, India's rank among the 122 countries scored is
(A) 94th
(B) 100th
(C) 102nd
(D) 105th

Q71. The Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement, to which India approved accession on 14 October 2026, was signed in

(A) Rome, 2006
(B) Nairobi, 2008
(C) Port Louis, 2010
(D) Jakarta, 2012

Q72. Under the Cabinet decision of 14 October 2026, the Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme is renamed
(A) Pradhan Mantri Vridhavastha Pension Yojana
(B) Pradhan Mantri Vidhawa Pension Yojana
(C) Pradhan Mantri Divyangjan Pension Yojana
(D) Pradhan Mantri Parivar Labh Yojana

Q73. The quantum key distribution platform DRDO announced on 14 October 2026 was tested on the live network of
(A) Integrated Test Range, Balasore
(B) Proof and Experimental Establishment, Chandipur
(C) DRDL, Hyderabad
(D) ARDE, Pune

Q74. The IMF’s World Economic Outlook of October 2026 projects India’s growth for 2026-27 at
(A) 6.4 per cent
(B) 6.7 per cent
(C) 7 per cent
(D) 7.8 per cent

Q75. The first BIMSTEC Home Ministers’ Meeting, held on 13 October 2026, was hosted in
(A) Dhaka
(B) Bangkok
(C) New Delhi
(D) Kathmandu

Q76. APPSC’s Brief Notification No. 37/2026 of 13 October 2026 for Group-II Services carries how many provisional vacancies?
(A) 503
(B) 673
(C) 686
(D) 891

Q77. Provisional CPI (combined) inflation for September 2026, released by MoSPI on 12 October 2026, was
(A) 4.83 per cent
(B) 5.20 per cent
(C) 5.54 per cent
(D) 6.08 per cent

Q78. By the appointments announced on 12 October 2026, the new Governor of Tamil Nadu is
(A) Om Prakash Mathur
(B) Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar
(C) Sudha Yadav
(D) Dushyant Gautam

Q79. The 2026 Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences was awarded to
(A) Daron Acemoglu and Simon Johnson
(B) Robert E. Hall and Michael Woodford
(C) Claudia Goldin
(D) Ben Bernanke, Douglas Diamond and Philip Dybvig

Q80. The Pradhan Mantri Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana, which completed one year on 11 October 2026, covers how many districts?
(A) 50
(B) 75
(C) 100
(D) 150

Q81. The International Day of the Girl Child is observed on

(A) 8 March
(B) 24 January
(C) 11 October
(D) 20 November

Q82. The Nobel Peace Prize 2026 was awarded to
(A) María Corina Machado
(B) Navi Pillay
(C) Nihon Hidankyo
(D) Narges Mohammadi

Q83. The theme of the 10th India Mobile Congress, held at Yashobhoomi, New Delhi, in October 2026, was
(A) Innovate to Transform
(B) Scale Without Boundaries
(C) The Future is Now
(D) Connecting Bharat

Q84. The Nobel Prize in Literature 2026 was awarded to
(A) László Krasznahorkai
(B) Han Kang
(C) Anne Carson
(D) Jon Fosse

Q85. The Indian Air Force was established on
(A) 8 October 1932
(B) 15 January 1949
(C) 26 January 1950
(D) 4 December 1971

Q86. After the Monetary Policy Committee meeting of 5–7 October 2026, the policy repo rate stands at
(A) 5.25 per cent
(B) 5.50 per cent
(C) 5.75 per cent
(D) 6.00 per cent

Q87. Sagarmanthan: The Great Oceans Dialogue is organised by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways together with
(A) NITI Aayog
(B) the Observer Research Foundation
(C) the International Maritime Organization
(D) FICCI

Q88. Narendra Modi first took office as Chief Minister of Gujarat on
(A) 7 October 2001
(B) 26 May 2014
(C) 12 September 1998
(D) 1 January 2002

Q89. Which of the following is NOT a member of the European Free Trade Association, India’s partner in TEPA?
(A) Norway
(B) Iceland
(C) Liechtenstein
(D) Austria

Q90. How many permissible works are listed in the Schedule notified under the VB-G RAM G Act, 2025?
(A) 128
(B) 266
(C) 375
(D) 412

Q91. The 2026 Nobel Prize in Chemistry was awarded for discoveries in
(A) metal–organic frameworks
(B) non-linear effects and autocatalysis in asymmetric organic synthesis

(C) quantum dots
(D) click chemistry

Q92. DRDO’s High-Altitude Platform, flight-tested on 6 October 2026, is a step towards developing a
(A) Hypersonic glide vehicle
(B) Long-endurance stratospheric airship
(C) Reusable launch vehicle
(D) Submarine-launched drone

Q93. Who was named on 6 October 2026 as the next Chief of the Air Staff, to take over on 31 October 2026?
(A) Air Marshal Tejinder Singh
(B) Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit
(C) Air Marshal A. P. Singh
(D) Air Marshal S. P. Dharkar

Q94. Fleet Support Ship-1, launched on 6 October 2026, was built by
(A) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders
(B) Garden Reach Shipbuilders
(C) Hindustan Shipyard Limited
(D) Cochin Shipyard

Q95. The IceCube Neutrino Observatory, central to the 2026 Nobel Prize in Physics, is located at
(A) Kamioka, Japan
(B) the South Pole
(C) CERN, Geneva
(D) Gran Sasso, Italy

Q96. According to the Indian Telecom Services Yearly Performance Indicators report for 2025-26, India’s internet subscribers at the end of March 2026 numbered about
(A) 869 million
(B) 969 million
(C) 1,092 million
(D) 1,250 million

Q97. After the birth of five cubs at Kuno National Park on 5 October 2026, India’s cheetah population stood at
(A) 41
(B) 52
(C) 60
(D) 72

Q98. The 2026 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine was awarded for work on
(A) mRNA vaccines
(B) Optogenetics and light-gated ion channels
(C) microRNA
(D) Immune tolerance

Q99. The 19th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics (2026), where India won four golds, was held in
(A) Mumbai
(B) Hanoi
(C) Seoul
(D) Tehran

Q100. How many gold medals did India win at the 2026 Asian Games in Aichi-Nagoya?
(A) 16
(B) 21
(C) 28
(D) 35

Q101. The RoDTEP scheme, extended to 31 December 2026, is administered by the
(A) Department of Revenue
(B) Department of Commerce
(C) Reserve Bank of India

(D) Department of Financial Services

Q102. In October 2026 the Government gave standard names on the Survey of India map to 28 places and features in which Union Territory?
(A) Jammu and Kashmir
(B) Ladakh
(C) Andaman and Nicobar Islands
(D) Lakshadweep

Q103. The G20 Trade Ministers' Meeting of 1–2 October 2026 was held in
(A) Johannesburg
(B) Milwaukee
(C) Rio de Janeiro
(D) New Delhi

Q104. The tigress released in Buxa Tiger Reserve on 2 October 2026 was brought from
(A) Kanha Tiger Reserve
(B) Valmiki Tiger Reserve
(C) Sundarbans Tiger Reserve
(D) Jim Corbett National Park

Q105. India's gross GST collection for September 2026 was about
(A) ₹1.74 lakh crore
(B) ₹1.86 lakh crore
(C) ₹2.04 lakh crore
(D) ₹2.37 lakh crore

Q106. The HSBC India Manufacturing PMI for September 2026 stood at
(A) 52.8
(B) 55.1
(C) 55.7
(D) 57.4

Q107. For rabi marketing season 2027-28, which crop received the highest absolute increase in MSP?
(A) Wheat
(B) Gram
(C) Rapeseed and mustard
(D) Safflower

Q108. The Union Public Service Commission completed 100 years on 1 October 2026. In which year was it first set up?
(A) 1919
(B) 1926
(C) 1935
(D) 1950

Q109. The International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, to which India's Bimal N. Patel was sworn in on 1 October 2026, is headquartered in
(A) The Hague
(B) Geneva
(C) Hamburg
(D) Kingston

Q110. The GOBARdhan Central Sector Scheme launched on 1 October 2026 aims to boost production of
(A) Green hydrogen
(B) Compressed biogas
(C) Ethanol from sugarcane
(D) Organic fertiliser only

Q111. Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff, which marked its silver jubilee on 1 October 2026, was established in
(A) 1999
(B) 2001
(C) 2005

(D) 2019

Q112. What was the theme of the International Day of Older Persons 2026?
(A) Ageing with Dignity
(B) The Age of Longevity: Rethinking Systems for Longer Lives
(C) Older Persons and Climate Action
(D) Leave No Older Person Behind

Answer key

Q1. C. Code on Social Security, 2020 — The Code on Social Security; the Board is chaired by the Union Labour Minister and meets at least three times a year.

Q2. A. Piprahwa relics — The Piprahwa relics, kept at the National Museum, New Delhi, shown at Tawang, Bomdila and Namsai.

Q3. B. Mandal Planning and Statistical Officers — Mandal Planning and Statistical Officer / Assistant Statistical Officer — 102 zonal posts, applications 30 October to 27 November 2026.

Q4. B. Banaskantha, Gujarat — Banaskantha, Gujarat — over ₹18,690 crore to more than 9.34 crore farmers; the Agriculture Minister marked it at Raisen, Madhya Pradesh.

Q5. C. 70 and above, irrespective of income — 70 and above, irrespective of socio-economic status, with cover of up to ₹5 lakh per family per year; launched on 29 October 2024.

Q6. D. 2024-25 — 2024-25 — the experimental index covers 19 service sub-sectors; August 2026 data were released on 29 October 2026.

Q7. B. 5 million tonnes a year by 2030 — At least 5 million tonnes a year by 2030, with an initial outlay of ₹19,744 crore to 2029-30; signed offtake commitments stood at 5,55,610 tonnes a year in October 2026.

Q8. C. Antalya, Türkiye — Antalya, Türkiye — the forum's theme was "From Bharat to Antalya — Commit. Implement. Deliver".

Q9. A. the Centre for Joint Warfare Studies — The Centre for Joint Warfare Studies (CENJOWS); VISV stands for Vision, Innovation, Synergy, Values.

Q10. C. Italy — Italy — the crew also visited the Italian aircraft carrier ITS Cavour.

Q11. C. 31 December 2026 — 31 December 2026 — a three-month extension of the scheme that ran from 1 October 2025 to 30 September 2026.

Q12. B. Preferential Trade Agreement — A Preferential Trade Agreement — the ToR signed during the Commerce Secretary's visit, announced on 28 October 2026, formally launches the negotiations.

Q13. C. Madhya Pradesh — Madhya Pradesh (Sheopur district); the cheetah KNG22 was found injured in Morena's territorial forests on 25 October 2026.

Q14. C. Tawang — Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh, from 29 to 31 October 2026.

Q15. B. 31 October 2026 — 31 October 2026 (11:50 pm), without any late fee; corrections remain on 2–4 November.

Q16. B. Social Justice and Empowerment — Social Justice and Empowerment, through the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment; AVYAY was launched in 2021 and subsumed the National Action Plan for Senior Citizens.

Q17. C. ₹20 crore — ₹20 crore, doubled from ₹10 crore, with the annual fee cut to 1 per cent for the 27 Champion Sectors, by DPIIT's release of 27 October 2026.

Q18. B. Probity for Prosperity — "Probity for Prosperity", observed from 26 October to 1 November 2026.

Q19. B. Station Masters — Station Masters — 1,265 posts at Level 6 (initial pay ₹35,400) after the corrigendum of 27 October 2026; applications 27 October to 25 November.

Q20. C. 95.52 per cent — 95.52 per cent overall; urban tele-density was 155.85 per cent and rural 61.30 per cent, and 85.41 per cent without M2M connections.

Q21. B. Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi — Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi; the inaugural day drew more than 5,000 delegates.

Q22. B. Indonesia — Indonesia — the 11th edition runs at Banyuwangi from 27 October to 6 November 2026, with the Parachute Regiment (Special Forces) for India.

Q23. B. Singapore — Singapore — the 33rd edition, SIMBEX-2026, was hosted at Visakhapatnam and concluded on 26 October 2026.

Q24. C. Goa Shipyard Limited — Goa Shipyard Limited; NGOPVs are being built concurrently at GSL Goa and GRSE Kolkata.

Q25. C. Student Innovator / Aspiring Entrepreneur — The Student Innovator / Aspiring Entrepreneur Award is new in NSA 6.0; the other two special categories continue from earlier editions.

Q26. C. China — China — Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla handed over the chairship at the close of the Forum on 27 October 2026.

Q27. A. Gyan Bharatam Mission — The Gyan Bharatam Mission, the ministry's flagship initiative for India's manuscript heritage; the MoU was signed in Paris on 26 October 2026.

Q28. B. US$100 billion over 15 years — US$100 billion over 15 years, with one million direct jobs, as the President recalled on 27 October 2026.

Q29. C. New Delhi — New Delhi — inaugurated by the Lok Sabha Speaker at Samvidhan Sadan on 26 October 2026, in the year of India's BRICS chairship.

Q30. B. Defence Acquisition Council — The Defence Acquisition Council, chaired by the Raksha Mantri; on 26 October 2026 it accorded AoN to proposals worth about ₹2.12 lakh crore.

Q31. B. Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva — Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva; the Prime Minister congratulated him on his re-election on 26 October 2026.

Q32. B. the share of ethanol by volume, up to 85 per cent — Up to 85 per cent ethanol by volume in a petrol–ethanol blend; the CMV Rules, 1989 were amended to name E100 alongside E85 for certified flex-fuel vehicles.

Q33. C. Cabinet Secretary — The Cabinet Secretary; T. V. Somanathan chaired its review of preparedness for cyclone Arnab on 26 October 2026.

Q34. C. ECGC — The Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India, with 95 per cent risk coverage; the component now runs to 31 March 2027.

Q35. C. hydrogen peroxide — A hydrogen-peroxide-based green propellant; TDB's ₹116 crore support is meant to take it from TRL-6 to TRL-9.

Q36. B. Counter-Terrorism — Counter-Terrorism, with Malaysia; the 13th ADMM-Plus meets at Cebu, Philippines, on 28–29 October 2026.

Q37. A. Bhubaneswar — Bhubaneswar, Odisha; the Prime Minister inaugurated both facilities on 25 October 2026.

Q38. C. 103 — 103 sites covering over 13.87 lakh hectares, up from 26 in 2014; India ranks first in Asia and third in the world.

Q39. D. 114 — A record 114 medals, India's best-ever at the Asian Para Games; the Asian Games in the same city gave India 85.

Q40. B. Assam, Mizoram and Manipur — 38 locations in Assam, Mizoram and Manipur on 23 October 2026; 1,424 bank accounts were frozen and 18 people arrested.

Q41. B. Digital Agriculture Mission — The Digital Agriculture Mission; the target was met by 23 October 2026, five months before the 31 March 2027 deadline.

Q42. B. DRDO's Naval Materials Research Laboratory — The Naval Materials Research Laboratory of DRDO; the module is to be integrated on a Kalvari-class submarine by Mazagon Dock in early 2027.

Q43. B. IITM's Delhi branch — The Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology's Delhi branch; it was set up under Mission Mausam and works with AIRWISE.

Q44. B. innovation and indigenisation — The fifth Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Seminar, at the Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi, on the theme "Strength & Power through Innovation and Indigenisation".

Q45. B. 20–24 and 28 January 2027 — 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 and 28 January 2027, by the bulletin of 24 October 2026; 22–24 and 28–30 January was the earlier proposed calendar, and 2–7 April is Session 2.

Q46. A. 1,688 — 1,688 — Commercial cum Ticket Clerk 700 (Level 3), Junior Clerk cum Typist 600, Accounts Clerk cum Typist 200 and Trains Clerk 188 (Level 2); CEN 06/2026 (Graduate) has 3,548.

Q47. B. digital platform workers — Digital platform workers, a subset of gig workers, under-captured in the 2026 round; fresh Panel 6 samples cover 2027–2028.

Q48. B. Sagarmala Finance Corporation Ltd — Sagarmala Finance Corporation Limited (SMFCL), which had disbursed ₹5,107 crore by 30 September 2026.

Q49. B. Russia — Russia; INS Sahyadri took part and left Vladivostok on 20 October 2026.

Q50. A. 2019, at the UN Climate Action Summit — India launched the CDRI at the UN Climate Action Summit in New York in September 2019; its secretariat is in New Delhi.

Q51. A. ₹8,213 crore, up 24 per cent — ₹8,212.7 crore in April–September 2026 against ₹6,636 crore a year earlier; the quarterly figure crossed ₹4,000 crore in both Q1 and Q2.

Q52. A. 430 — 430 rakes a day, 7.1 per cent more than in the first half of 2025-26; October 2026 loading to the 18th was up 22.5 per cent, or 87 rakes a day.

Q53. A. not-for-profit organisations to raise funds from donors, with no interest or repayment — ZCZPs are listed on the Social Stock Exchange by registered not-for-profit organisations; subscribers fund the social project and receive neither coupon nor principal back.

Q54. A. Samvidhan Sadan, New Delhi — The forum of 26–27 October 2026 meets in the Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan, the former Parliament House, on the theme “Strengthening Parliaments for People-Centric Development”.

Q55. A. Thirukkural — “Thirukkural Payilvom – Thirukkural Abhyas Karen”: the fifth edition takes the Thirukkural, the classical Tamil work of Thiruvalluvar, to young learners nationwide.

Q56. A. Taraori, Karnal (Haryana) — Launched on 22 October 2026 at Taraori in Karnal district by the Union Agriculture Minister; it runs to 30 November with scientists visiting villages on balanced fertiliser use.

Q57. A. Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions — MAHASAGAR — Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions — is the 2025 successor to the SAGAR doctrine for the Indian Ocean region.

Q58. A. Bhubaneswar — Bhubaneswar, Odisha, on 23–24 October 2026, on the theme “Urban Accessibility and Liveability in Digital Age”, followed by the National Urban Conclave on 24–25 October.

Q59. A. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel — Sardar Patel, born on 31 October 1875; the day has been observed as Rashtriya Ekta Diwas since 2014, with the 2026 Ekta Parade themed on the end of armed Naxalism.

Q60. B. Poor (201–300) — Poor — AQI 201–300; Delhi recorded 245 at 4 pm. Stage II follows at “very poor”, Stage III at “severe” and Stage IV above 450.

Q61. B. IAF Dronethon 2026, Pokhran — IAF Dronethon 2026 at Pokhran on 14 September 2026; the 21 October outreach at Vigyan Bhawan drew about 100 industry representatives.

Q62. B. Aichi-Nagoya, Japan — Aichi-Nagoya, Japan, from 18 to 24 October 2026, after the Asian Games in the same city; India opened with 4 gold, 5 silver and 2 bronze.

Q63. B. 451 — 451 — IMA 100, INA 26, AFA 32, OTA 275 men and 18 women — for courses commencing in July and October 2027.

Q64. B. 17 and 7 per cent — 17 per cent for SCs (from 15) and 7 per cent for STs (from 3), applied by the government order of 28 December 2022; KPSC has paused 1,261 posts pending directions.

Q65. C. United for Peace and Human Rights — “United for Peace and Human Rights” for 2026–2028, with the 2026 observance focused on “Safe Homes for All”.

Q66. B. 14–18 and 21 December 2026 — 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 21 December 2026; the bulletin of 8 October had said 14–19 December with 20–21 December in reserve.

Q67. D. 11.39 per cent — 11.39 per cent year on year, up from 9.92 per cent in August; fuel and power inflation was 25.85 per cent and the food index 8.66 per cent.

Q68. C. 60.72 per cent — 60.72 per cent — 30.48 per cent from the Government of India and 30.24 per cent from LIC — for ₹52,878 crore at ₹81 a share; the government keeps 15 per cent and LIC 19 per cent.

Q69. C. 78 days’ wages — 78 days, ₹2,009.61 crore for 11,40,770 employees, with a ceiling of ₹17,951 per employee, for the Railways’ performance in 2025-26.

Q70. B. 100th — 100th, with a score of 24.1 in the “serious” category; India had been 102nd in 2025.

Q71. A. Rome, 2006 — Signed at Rome on 7 July 2006 and in force since June 2012; India had been a cooperating non-contracting party since 2022.

Q72. C. Pradhan Mantri Divyangjan Pension Yojana — Pradhan Mantri Divyangjan Pension Yojana, with assistance of ₹375 (ages 0–79) and ₹625 (80 and above) a month and the benchmark disability lowered from 80 to 40 per cent; the NSAP outlay is ₹53,428 crore for 2026-27 to 2030-31.

Q73. B. Proof and Experimental Establishment, Chandipur — The Proof and Experimental Establishment (PXE), Chandipur, Odisha, to secure weapon-trial telemetry; a 100-km fibre QKD link between Prayagraj and Vindhyachal had been tested in July 2026.

Q74. C. 7 per cent — 7 per cent, up from 6.4 per cent in the July update; the RBI projects 7.1 per cent for the year.

Q75. C. New Delhi — New Delhi, with Union Home Minister Amit Shah addressing the seven-member grouping on terrorism, organised crime, narcotics, trafficking and cyber threats.

Q76. C. 686 — 686, including 200 Deputy Tahsildars and 176 Deputy MPDOs; the 2026 job calendar had projected 673, and 503 is the AEE count under 27/2026.

Q77. C. 5.54 per cent — 5.54 per cent (rural 6.08, urban 4.88), with food inflation at 7.74 per cent; August was 4.83 per cent.

Q78. B. Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar — Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar, moved from Keralam; Om Prakash Mathur goes from Sikkim to Keralam, Sudha Yadav to Karnataka and Dushyant Gautam to Sikkim.

Q79. B. Robert E. Hall and Michael Woodford — Hall and Woodford, jointly, “for microeconomic foundations of macroeconomic stabilisation”.

Q80. C. 100 — 100 aspirational agricultural districts, converging 36 Central schemes of 11 ministries over six years; launched 11 October 2025.

Q81. C. 11 October — 11 October, since 2012 under General Assembly resolution 66/170; the 2026 theme calls for an end to child marriage and investment in girls’ rights.

Q82. B. Navi Pillay — Navanethem “Navi” Pillay of South Africa, former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, “for her efforts to promote peace and international law”.

Q83. B. Scale Without Boundaries — “Scale Without Boundaries”, with the pillars Srishti, Samvardhan, Sashakt and Suraksha; organised by the DoT and COAI from 7 to 10 October 2026.

Q84. C. Anne Carson — Anne Carson of Canada, “for her bold and inventive oeuvre that, in playful dialogue with the classical tradition, has created new forms for contemporary literature”.

Q85. A. 8 October 1932 — 8 October 1932; 8 October 2026 was the 94th Air Force Day.

Q86. B. 5.50 per cent — 5.50 per cent after a 25-basis-point increase; SDF 5.25 per cent, MSF and Bank Rate 5.75 per cent; the stance moved to calibrated tightening.

Q87. B. the Observer Research Foundation — The Observer Research Foundation; the third edition opened in New Delhi on 7 October 2026.

Q88. A. 7 October 2001 — 7 October 2001; he has been Prime Minister since 26 May 2014, so 7 October 2026 marked 25 years as head of government.

Q89. D. Austria — Austria is an EU member; EFTA comprises Switzerland, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein. TEPA entered into force on 1 October 2025.

Q90. C. 375 — 375 works, 41 per cent more than the 266 of the previous framework; the Water Security pillar alone has 128.

Q91. B. non-linear effects and autocatalysis in asymmetric organic synthesis — Henri B. Kagan and Kenso Soai shared the prize for non-linear effects and autocatalysis in asymmetric organic synthesis.

Q92. B. Long-endurance stratospheric airship — A long-endurance stratospheric airship; the platform reached 21 km and held 20 km for over 30 minutes.

Q93. B. Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit — Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit, the Vice Chief, who becomes the 29th Chief of the Air Staff on Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh’s retirement.

Q94. C. Hindustan Shipyard Limited — Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam; the ship is named Surya, and the keel of Fleet Support Ship-5 was laid the same day.

Q95. B. the South Pole — The South Pole — a cubic kilometre of ice instrumented with light sensors; the prize went to Francis Halzen alone.

Q96. C. 1,092 million — About 1,092 million, up 12.76 per cent from about 969 million at end-March 2025.

Q97. C. 60 — 60, including 41 born in India; the cubs’ father is from Botswana, starting a new lineage.

Q98. B. Optogenetics and light-gated ion channels — Optogenetics — to Karl Deisseroth, Peter Hegemann and Georg Nagel, building on the algal protein channelrhodopsin.

Q99. B. Hanoi — Hanoi, Vietnam, from 25 September to 5 October 2026; India finished joint third with Vietnam.

Q100. B. 21 — 21 gold among 85 medals (27 silver, 37 bronze); archery contributed five golds.

Q101. B. Department of Commerce — The Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, through Notification No. 41/2026-27 of 30 September 2026.

Q102. B. Ladakh — Ladakh — among them Zorawar Peak, Kanishka Peak, Skamri Glacier and Guru Rinpoche lake.

Q103. B. Milwaukee — Milwaukee, Wisconsin, under the United States’ 2026 G20 presidency; India was represented by Piyush Goyal.

Q104. B. Valmiki Tiger Reserve — Valmiki Tiger Reserve in Bihar; Buxa is in West Bengal and was declared a tiger reserve in 1983.

Q105. C. ₹2.04 lakh crore — ₹2,03,521 crore (about ₹2.04 lakh crore), up 14.7 per cent year on year; net collection after refunds was ₹1,76,520 crore.

Q106. B. 55.1 — 55.1, a seven-month high, up from 52.8 in August; 55.7 was the flash estimate. The index is compiled by S&P; Global.

Q107. D. Safflower — Safflower, up ₹675 a quintal to ₹7,215; rapeseed and mustard rose ₹413 and wheat ₹25 to ₹2,610.

Q108. B. 1926 — 1926, as the Public Service Commission; it became the Federal Public Service Commission under the 1935 Act and the UPSC in 1950.

Q109. C. Hamburg — Hamburg, Germany. It has 21 judges serving nine-year terms; Kingston (Jamaica) hosts the International Seabed Authority and The Hague the ICJ.

Q110. B. Compressed biogas — Compressed biogas — about 5 MMSCMD, nearly ten times current output — with ₹23,731 crore over FY 2026-27 to FY 2035-36.

Q111. B. 2001 — 1 October 2001, after the post-Kargil review; the day is observed as Tri-Service Day. The post of CDS itself dates from 2019–20.

Q112. B. The Age of Longevity: Rethinking Systems for Longer Lives — “The Age of Longevity: Rethinking Systems for Longer Lives”; the Day is marked on 1 October.

brolly — exam preparation. Facts are checked at primary sources on the date shown; a scheme’s targets and an examination’s dates can change afterwards, so confirm on the conducting body’s site before acting.