UPSC Current Affairs

Friday, 27 November 2026 · Sources: PIB and The Hindu · 21 items

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GS2	15	In Rajasthan, the girls who refuse to be spoken for; Two-thirds of adolescents in India are deficient in vitamin
GS3	4	CPI announces three-day ‘Jail Bharo Andolan’ from December 1; Infectious diseases from free-ranging domestic animals threa

Every item links to its original source: tap a headline or the Source line to open the full article on thehindu.com or the press release on pib.gov.in. The Hindu text here is only the short RSS excerpt.

GS Paper I: Heritage, Culture, History, Geography & Society

INDIAN SOCIETY

Samajwadi Party releases manifesto with focus on youth, jobs and farmers

HIGH IMPORTANCE · Mains · Indian Society

• Its promises include 25 lakh government jobs, ■5,000 a month for unemployed graduates, caste census, annual pension of ■40,000 for elderly women, immediate farm loan waiver, 300 units of free domestic electricity and subsidised canteens

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Economy:** Jobs for a young workforce decide whether India reaps its demographic dividend; PLFS tracks the labour force participation rate.
• **Society:** Rising gig and platform work needs social security (Code on Social Security 2020); low female labour force participation remains a gap.
• **Governance & polity:** Debates on MSP legal guarantee, crop diversification away from water-intensive paddy, and agricultural marketing reforms.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Samajwadi Party, Its

Source: The Hindu, National, 26 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/uttar-pradesh/sps-election-manifesto-promises-5000-

INTERNAL SECURITY

Two women booked over use of banned VPNs in Poonch; absconder held after two decades in Reasi: Officials

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Internal Security, International Relations, Indian Society

• In 2025, the District Magistrate, Poonch, issued prohibitory orders on the use of VPN apps in the district close to the Line of Control (LoC) and also considered as an infiltration route of terrorists

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Society:** Women's safety, workforce participation and representation (Women's Reservation Act 2023, one-third seats after delimitation).
• **Governance & polity:** Laws such as the POSH Act 2013 and the new criminal laws (BNS 2023) and their implementation gaps.
• **Internal security:** Cross-border terrorism and infiltration across the LoC remain India's core security concern; links to J&K, drones dropping arms/drugs in Punjab, and terror financing (FATF).
• **International relations:** India's stated policy: no talks with terror; Indus Waters Treaty (1960) held in abeyance since April 2025; China–Pakistan nexus including CPEC through PoK.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Two, VPNs, Poonch, Reasi, District Magistrate

Source: The Hindu, National, 26 Nov 2026 ·
https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/jammu-and-kashmir/two-women-booked-over-use-of-bann

GS Paper II: Polity, Governance, Social Justice & IR

ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

Delhi tops list of most polluted NCR cities for PM2.5, PM10 despite no severe AQI days

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Environment & Ecology, Governance & Social Justice

• The city's air quality remained in the poor or very poor categories for 30 days

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Environment:** Air pollution is a public-health emergency in North India; NCAP, GRAP and the Commission for Air Quality Management (2021) are the policy tools.
• **Governance & polity:** Needs inter-state coordination (Punjab, Haryana, Delhi) and alternatives to stubble burning such as Happy Seeder and bio-decomposers.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Delhi, NCR, PM2, PM10, AQI

Static connect: Air quality governance

• Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR (statutory since 2021) enforces the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP).
• National Clean Air Programme (NCAP, 2019) targets particulate reduction in non-attainment cities.
UPSC angle: Pollution control framework (GS3).

Source: The Hindu, Health, 26 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/health/delhi-tops-list-of-most-polluted-ncr-cities-for-p

GOVERNANCE & SOCIAL JUSTICE

In Rajasthan, the girls who refuse to be spoken for

HIGH IMPORTANCE · Both · Governance & Social Justice

• Rajasthan ranks sixth among India’s States with the highest prevalence of child marriage, according to the latest National Family Health Survey (2023-24).
• Poverty, the lack of education, and entrenched customs such as atta-satta, reinforced by a skewed sex ratio, continue to fuel the practice, particularly in tribal and rural areas.

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Society:** Data and policy for social justice: the next Census will include caste enumeration; sub-classification of SC/ST (Supreme Court 2024) and the 50% ceiling (Indra Sawhney).
• **Governance & polity:** Targeting welfare and reservation policy needs reliable data; also linked to delimitation.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Rajasthan, National Family Health Survey, Poverty

Source: The Hindu, National, 26 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/rajasthan/in-rajasthan-the-girls-who-refuse-to-be-s

Two-thirds of adolescents in India are deficient in vitamin B12: ICMR survey

HIGH IMPORTANCE · Both · Governance & Social Justice

• Findings raise concerns about the long-term consequences of nutritional deficiencies across generations, particularly among children, adolescents, and pregnant women

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Society:** Women's safety, workforce participation and representation (Women's Reservation Act 2023, one-third seats after delimitation).
• **Governance & polity:** Laws such as the POSH Act 2013 and the new criminal laws (BNS 2023) and their implementation gaps.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Two-thirds, B12, ICMR, Findings

Source: The Hindu, Health, 26 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/health/two-thirds-of-adolescents-in-india-are-deficient-

How IITs and IISc are redefining medical education in India

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Governance & Social Justice

• A technical institute’s medical degree will only be distinct if its curriculum, admissions, and thesis requirements are deliberately built around that engineering core

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: How IITs and IISc

Source: The Hindu, Health, 26 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/education/how-iits-and-iisc-are-redefining-medical-education-in-i

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Israel kills nine in Gaza, including Hamas-appointed deputy Education Minister, officials say

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · International Relations, Governance & Social Justice

• Medics said an Israeli airstrike hit an apartment in Deir Al-Balah in central Gaza Strip, killing ■Khaled Abu Nada, the Deputy Gaza Education Minister, and his wife.

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Economy:** India imports most of its crude oil, much of it from the Gulf; conflict raises oil prices, shipping and insurance costs, inflation and the current account deficit.
• **Society:** About 9 million Indians live in the Gulf; their safety (evacuation operations such as Ajay/Kaveri) and remittances (India is the world's largest recipient) are at stake.
• **International relations:** India balances ties with Israel, Iran and the Arab states; projects like Chabahar and IMEC depend on regional stability.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Israel, Gaza, Hamas-appointed, Education Minister, Medics

Static connect: Gaza Strip

• Narrow Palestinian territory on the Mediterranean coast, bordering Israel and Egypt (Rafah crossing).
• India's long-standing position supports a two-state solution.

UPSC angle: India's West Asia policy and humanitarian law (GS2).

Source: The Hindu, International, 26 Nov 2026 ·
https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/israel-kills-nine-in-gaza-including-hamas-appo

Kremlin accuses Ukraine of trying to widen conflict zone to Mediterranean and Baltic seas

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · International Relations, Science & Technology

• Ukraine sank a Russian naval corvette in a Libyan port using maritime drones on Sunday, a day after ■it carried out a ■drone strike on a Russian military-linked cargo ship in the Gulf of Finland

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **International relations:** India's strategic autonomy: abstentions at the UN, call for dialogue and diplomacy, while keeping ties with Russia and the West.
• **Economy:** Discounted Russian crude, fertiliser and defence spares; Western sanctions and secondary tariffs create payment and trade risks for India.
• **Internal security:** Dependence on Russian defence equipment (S-400, Su-30) and the push for indigenisation (Atmanirbhar Bharat in defence).
• **Society:** Drug abuse among youth; NDPS Act, 1985 and Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Kremlin, Ukraine, Mediterranean and Baltic, Russian, Libyan

Source: The Hindu, International, 26 Nov 2026 ·
https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/kremlin-accuses-ukraine-of-trying-to-widen-con

China's Defence Ministry urges Japan to stop 'stirring up' South China Sea disputes

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · International Relations, Science & Technology, Internal Security

• The comments were in response to an ■announcement earlier this month that Japan will provide the Philippines with radars and drones to boost its coastal surveillance capabilities

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Internal security:** Unsettled LAC (eastern Ladakh, Arunachal): border infrastructure, disengagement and buffer zones; China's dual-use villages (Xiaokang) and dams on the Brahmaputra (Yarlung Tsangpo).
• **Economy:** Large trade deficit and dependence on Chinese inputs (APIs, electronics, solar, rare earths) drive PLI schemes, Press Note 3 (2020) FDI curbs and supply-chain diversification.
• **International relations:** Strategic competition in the Indian Ocean (String of Pearls), BRI vs connectivity alternatives (IMEC), and balancing via Quad while engaging in BRICS/SCO.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: China, Defence Ministry, Japan, South China Sea, Philippines

Static connect: South China Sea

• Overlapping claims by China, Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan.
• A 2016 arbitral tribunal under UNCLOS (Philippines v. China) rejected China's 'nine-dash line' claim.
UPSC angle: UNCLOS, freedom of navigation and India's Act East policy (GS2).

Source: The Hindu, International, 26 Nov 2026 ·
https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/chinas-defence-ministry-urges-japan-to-stop-st

The Siang dam — strategic ambition, ecological fallout

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · International Relations, Environment & Ecology

• The Siang hydroproject in Arunachal Pradesh highlights the costs of China-India geopolitical rivalry for communities and ecosystems

Why it matters for India and UPSC

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• **Economy:** Large trade deficit and dependence on Chinese inputs (APIs, electronics, solar, rare earths) drive PLI schemes, Press Note 3 (2020) FDI curbs and supply-chain diversification.
• **International relations:** Strategic competition in the Indian Ocean (String of Pearls), BRI vs connectivity alternatives (IMEC), and balancing via Quad while engaging in BRICS/SCO.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Siang, Arunachal Pradesh, China-India

Source: The Hindu, Lead (Op-Ed), 26 Nov 2026 ·
https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/lead/the-siang-dam-strategic-ambition-ecological-fallout/

POLITY & CONSTITUTION

Amended Delimitation Bill likely to be tabled in special Parliament sitting from November 30

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Polity & Constitution

• Centre announces special sitting of Parliament from November 30, 2026, over 100 days since both Houses were adjourned without prorogation; government trying to pass the Bill after ‘operation lotus’, says Congress

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Amended Delimitation Bill, Parliament, November, Houses, Bill

Source: The Hindu, National, 26 Nov 2026 ·
https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/government-to-reconvene-parliament-from-november-30

Pendency a challenge to justice delivery, says President

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Polity & Constitution

• At the Constitution Day celebrations organised by the Supreme Court, President Murmu listed measures used to improve timely delivery of justice

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Governance & polity:** Judicial review and the separation of powers; such rulings often clarify fundamental rights or federal relations and become Mains examples.
• **Society:** Access to justice and pendency (over 5 crore cases) affect citizens' trust in institutions.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Pendency, President, At the Constitution Day, Supreme Court, President Murmu

Source: The Hindu, National, 26 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/pendency-a-challenge-to-justice-delivery-says-presi

Serbia sets Presidential election for December 27 after students won Parliamentary vote

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Polity & Constitution, Economy

• The Presidential vote will be held after a student movement defeated Mr.
• Vucic's right-wing Serbian Progressive Party in an early Parliamentary ballot on October 25

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Serbia, Presidential, December, Parliamentary, Vucic

Source: The Hindu, International, 26 Nov 2026 ·
https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/serbia-sets-presidential-election-for-december

ALSO IN THE NEWS (LOWER PRIORITY)

• Myanmar says it will not fully comply with ICJ genocide orders (The Hindu, International, 26 Nov 2026)
• Israel's Gadi Eisenkot reaches deal with left-wing parties (The Hindu, International, 26 Nov 2026)
• Low funding for postdoc roles fuelling brain drain, govt. funds only 2,500 positions (The Hindu, Science, 26 Nov 2026)
• Indian pharma company Hetero begins supply of generic twice-yearly HIV prevention injection in Africa (The Hindu, Health, 26 Nov 2026)

GS Paper III: Economy, Environment, S&T, Security & DM

AGRICULTURE

CPI announces three-day ‘Jail Bharo Andolan’ from December 1

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Agriculture, Economy

• Demands include CEC Gyanesh Kumar’s resignation, implementation of women’s quota, and legal MSP guarantee for farmers

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Economy:** RBI's MPC targets 4% CPI inflation (±2%); rate decisions affect EMIs, credit growth, investment and the rupee.
• **Society:** Food inflation hits poor households the most; links to supply-side measures like buffer stocks and export curbs.
• **Governance & polity:** Debates on MSP legal guarantee, crop diversification away from water-intensive paddy, and agricultural marketing reforms.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: CPI, Jail Bharo Andolan, December, Demands, CEC Gyanesh Kumar

Static connect: Minimum Support Price

• Announced by the Centre for 22 mandated crops (plus FRP for sugarcane) on the recommendation of the CACP; approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs.
• Pegged at least 1.5 times the A2+FL cost of production since 2018-19.
UPSC angle: Farm incomes, procurement and food security (GS3).

Source: The Hindu, National, 26 Nov 2026 ·
https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/cpi-announces-three-day-jail-bharo-andolan-from-dec

Cultural values of language remain irreplaceable in AI era: Arabic meet

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Agriculture, Science & Technology, Ethics & Integrity

• Cultural values of language remain irreplaceable in AI era: Arabic meet

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Cultural, Arabic

Source: The Hindu, National, 26 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala/cultural-values-of-language-remain-irreplace

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ECONOMY

Nvidia stops shipping AI servers to four Southeast Asian nations

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Economy, Science & Technology, Reports & Indices

• The Financial Times report said Nvidia had instructed manufacturing partners to stop shipping computer servers to buyers in Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Indonesia

Why it matters for India and UPSC

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• **Society:** Food inflation hits poor households the most; links to supply-side measures like buffer stocks and export curbs.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Nvidia, Southeast Asian, Financial Times, Malaysia, Singapore

Source: The Hindu, International, 26 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/nvidia-stops-shipping-ai-servers-to-four-south

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ENVIRONMENT & ECOLOGY

Infectious diseases from free-ranging domestic animals threaten Nilgiris wildlife

MEDIUM IMPORTANCE · Both · Environment & Ecology, Science & Technology

• Five of the 12 reported instances of wildlife deaths since 2005 likely due to infections contracted from feral animals were recorded in the Nilgiris district, shows report by Forest Department

Why it matters for India and UPSC

• **Environment:** Conservation under the Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972 and Forest Conservation Act 1980; India's commitments under the CBD (30x30 target).

• **Society:** Human–wildlife conflict and the rights of forest dwellers under the Forest Rights Act 2006.

• **Economy:** RBI's MPC targets 4% CPI inflation (±2%); rate decisions affect EMIs, credit growth, investment and the rupee.

Prelims pointers

• Key terms: Infectious, Nilgiris, Five, Forest Department

Source: The Hindu, Environment, 26 Nov 2026 · https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/infectious-diseases-from-free-ranging-do

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