Weekly Current Affairs – Top 20 (27 Oct – 2 Nov 2026)

27-10-2026 – 02-11-2026 · https://www.shanmugamiasacademy.in/weekly-current-affairs/2026-10-27-to-2026-11-02/en

The 20 most exam-worthy current affairs of the week for TNPSC and UPSC, picked from our daily current affairs – one crisp pointer each, with a link to the full day's notes, followed by a 10-question self-test.

#	Pointer	Date
1	**Economy · Energy** MoRTH amended Rule 115 of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 (G.S.R. 911(E), Gazette 26 Oct 2026) to add E100 (100% ethanol) alongside E85 as fuel for flex-fuel vehicles; the power comes from Section 110 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.	27-10-2026
2	**Polity · States** The Kerala Assembly unanimously passed the Keralam Senior Citizens (Care and Protection of Rights) Bill, 2026 ('Vayojana Bill') on 26 Oct 2026 – up to 3 years' jail and a ₹50,000 fine for abandoning or ill-treating elders or misappropriating their property; it also recognises the 'living will'.	27-10-2026
3	**Schemes · Panchayati Raj** The Union Cabinet (28 Oct 2026) approved the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana (PM-VGSY), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj for 2026–27 to 2030–31 with an outlay of ₹7,395.55 crore (Centre ₹4,869.48 crore); about 32 lakh panchayat representatives and functionaries will benefit.	28-10-2026
4	**Economy · Industry** The Union Cabinet approved the ₹10,000 crore Container Manufacturing Promotion Scheme (CMPS), valid till 2039–40, to raise India's shipping-container capacity about tenfold to 7.5 lakh TEU a year (1 TEU = one 20-ft container).	28-10-2026
5	**Environment** IUCN's first global Red List of Ecosystems assessment of coral reefs (22 Oct 2026, at CBD COP17, Yerevan) found 96% of warm-water reef ecosystems (122 of 127 ecoregions) Critically Endangered, with an extremely high risk of collapse by 2075.	28-10-2026
6	**International Relations** The 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum was held on 26–27 Oct 2026 at Samvidhan Sadan, New Delhi, under India's BRICS chairship and chaired by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla; it adopted the 'New Delhi Declaration' (UN/Security Council reform, zero tolerance for terrorism, fair access to AI).	28-10-2026

7	**Awards · Environment** The Earthshot Prize – the environment prize founded by Prince William in 2020 – holds its Awards Night in India for the first time, in Mumbai on 17 Nov 2026; five winners will get £1 million each.	28-10-2026
8	**Tamil Nadu · Recruitment** Tamil Nadu raised the upper age limit for direct recruitment to State Government posts by 5 years, for five years from 30 Oct 2026 – e.g. Group-I general 32 → 37; Group-II/IIA and Group-IV general 30 → 35.	30-10-2026
9	**Tamil Nadu · Important Days** Pasumpon Muthuramalinga Thevar's 119th Jayanti and 64th Guru Puja were held as a State function on 30 Oct 2026 at Pasumpon (Ramanathapuram district); he was both born (1908) and died (1963) on 30 October and was Tamil Nadu president of the All India Forward Bloc.	30-10-2026
10	**Polity · Reports & Indices** The World Justice Project released its Rule of Law Index 2026 (21 Oct), covering 143 countries; Denmark was ranked first and Venezuela last.	30-10-2026
11	**Economy · GST** On the 57th GST Council's recommendation, GST on delivery services supplied through e-commerce operators (other than courier and postal) was cut from 18% to 5% without input tax credit, effective 1 Nov 2026; where the delivery person is not liable to register, the platform pays the tax under Section 9(5) of the CGST Act.	30-10-2026
12	**Art & Culture · Heritage** The Sirpur Cultural and Archaeological Landscape (Mahasamund district, Chhattisgarh, on the Mahanadi) was added to UNESCO's World Heritage Tentative List; with two Andaman sites also added, India's Tentative List now has 81 properties.	30-10-2026
13	**Environment · Biodiversity** The UN named India's Ganges River Dolphin Recovery Programme a 'World Restoration Flagship' under the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration; the Ganges river dolphin (Platanista gangetica) is India's National Aquatic Animal (2009) and 'Endangered' on the IUCN list.	30-10-2026
14	**Economy · Poverty** The World Bank's Poverty and Equity Brief (Oct 2026) says India's extreme poverty fell from 27.1% (2011) to 2.6% (2023), with about 496 million people moving out of poverty; the international extreme-poverty line is $3.00 a day (2021 PPP).	30-10-2026
15	**Defence · Appointments** Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit took charge as the 29th Chief of the Air Staff on 31 Oct 2026, succeeding Air Chief Marshal A.P. Singh; Air Marshal Inderpal Singh Walia was named the new Vice Chief of the Air Staff (taking over on 1 Nov).	01-11-2026

16	**Science & Technology · Space** ISRO's GSLV-F18 (20th GSLV flight) launched NVS-03 – the third next-generation NVS navigation satellite – from Sriharikota on 30 Oct 2026 into GTO; it adds the L1 signal and helps restore NavIC services.	01-11-2026
17	**International Relations · Water** The 30-year India–Bangladesh Ganga Waters Treaty (signed 12 Dec 1996 by H.D. Deve Gowda and Sheikh Hasina; water-sharing at Farakka Barrage) expires on 12 Dec 2026; Bangladesh wants a new pact with a 'guarantee clause', while India says river talks go through the Joint Rivers Commission.	01-11-2026
18	**Sports** Manisha Bhanwala (Haryana) won women's freestyle 59 kg gold at the World Wrestling Championships in Astana, Kazakhstan (30 Oct 2026) – the first Indian woman senior world wrestling champion; India's only earlier world champion was Sushil Kumar (2010).	01-11-2026
19	**Tamil Nadu · Important Days** Tamil Nadu Day was celebrated on 1 Nov 2026 – on 1 Nov 1956 the States Reorganisation Act, 1956 reorganised Madras State on linguistic lines; the State now celebrates both 18 July (1967 Assembly resolution for the name 'Tamil Nadu') and 1 November.	01-11-2026
20	**Sports** At the Dakar 2026 Summer Youth Olympic Games (Senegal – the first Olympic event held in Africa), 16-year-old Dhinidhi Desinghu won bronze in the girls' 100m freestyle on 2 Nov – India's first-ever swimming medal at the Youth Olympics.	02-11-2026

Questions

1. In October 2026 the Central Motor Vehicles Rules were amended to add which fuel alongside E85 for flex-fuel vehicles?

A. E20
B. E100
C. M15
D. LNG

2. Which Ministry implements the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana (PM-VGSY) approved on 28 Oct 2026?

A. Ministry of Rural Development
B. Ministry of Home Affairs
C. Ministry of Finance
D. Ministry of Panchayati Raj

3. Including projected warming, what share of the world's warm-water coral reef ecosystems did IUCN's Red List of Ecosystems (Oct 2026) assess as Critically Endangered?

A. 96%
B. 50%
C. 75%
D. 33%

4. After the Tamil Nadu order of 30 Oct 2026, what is the upper age limit for direct recruitment to Group-I posts for the general category?

A. 35 years
B. 40 years
C. 37 years
D. 42 years

5. Which country was ranked first in the World Justice Project's Rule of Law Index 2026?

A. Norway
B. Denmark
C. Finland
D. Switzerland

6. From 1 Nov 2026, GST on delivery services supplied through e-commerce operators (other than courier and postal) is

A. 5% without input tax credit
B. 12% with input tax credit
C. 18% with input tax credit
D. Exempt

7. Who became the first Indian woman senior world wrestling champion at the 2026 World Championships in Astana?

A. Neelam Sirohi
B. Kajal Dhochak
C. Tanu Sharma
D. Manisha Bhanwala

8. The India–Bangladesh Ganga Waters Treaty that expires on 12 Dec 2026 was signed in which year?

A. 1977
B. 1972
C. 1996
D. 2011

9. Which launch vehicle placed the navigation satellite NVS-03 in orbit on 30 Oct 2026?

A. GSLV-F18
B. PSLV-C62
C. LVM3-M6
D. SSLV-D3

10. Where are the 2026 Summer Youth Olympic Games – where Dhinidhi Desinghu won India's first Youth Olympic swimming medal – being held?

A. Buenos Aires, Argentina
B. Nanjing, China
C. Singapore
D. Dakar, Senegal

Answers with explanations

1. **B) E100** – Rule 115 now reads 'E85 or E100' – E100 is 100% ethanol fuel (G.S.R. 911(E)).

2. **D) Ministry of Panchayati Raj** – PM-VGSY is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj (2026–27 to 2030–31; ₹7,395.55 crore).

3. **A) 96%** – 122 of 127 ecoregions (96%) face an extremely high risk of collapse by 2075.

4. **C) 37 years** – Raised by 5 years from 32 to 37 (Group-II/IIA and Group-IV general: 30 to 35).

5. **B) Denmark** – Denmark was first among 143 countries (released 21 Oct 2026); Venezuela was last.

6. **A) 5% without input tax credit** – Cut from 18% to 5% (without ITC) on the 57th GST Council's recommendation.

7. **D) Manisha Bhanwala** – Manisha Bhanwala (Haryana) won women's freestyle 59 kg gold on 30 Oct 2026.

8. **C) 1996** – Signed on 12 Dec 1996 for 30 years to share the Ganga's dry-season flow at Farakka.

9. **A) GSLV-F18** – GSLV-F18 – the 20th GSLV flight – launched NVS-03 from Sriharikota, boosting NavIC.

10. **D) Dakar, Senegal** – Dakar 2026 is the first Olympic event held in Africa; Dhinidhi won 100m freestyle bronze on 2 Nov.

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