

GENERAL STUDIES II

UPSC Current Affairs 14 October 2026: Top 9 Important Topics for Prelims & Mains 2027 | BIMSTEC, Article 22, TB-Free India, ULLAS Scheme & Practice MCQs

Faculty/Author: Faculty Editorial Board**Date:** 14 October 2026**Platform:** Civil Service Gurukul Research Wing**Reading Time:** 5 Mins

Prepare for UPSC Prelims and Mains with Civil Service Gurukul's current affairs analysis for 14 October 2026. Today's nine important topics include India's TB elimination efforts and JOSH campaign, Agrivision 2026, NRC 268 and NRC 270 soybean varieties, Khajuraho's Javari Temple, Lakshadweep's literacy achievement under ULLAS, the BIMSTEC Delhi Declaration, constitutional safeguards against preventive detention, naval exercise IBSA MARIX and Costa Rica's geography. This exam-focused guide connects each development with the UPSC syllabus and includes concise revision notes, practice MCQs with explanation, Mains questions and priority areas for revision.

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DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS | 14 OCTOBER 2026

Comprehensive, easy-to-revise current affairs notes with GS syllabus links, important facts, explanations, practice MCQs and Mains answer-writing questions.

Civil Service Gurukul Editorial Team | UPSC CSE Preparation

Today's Current Affairs at a Glance

9

Important topics

9

Original Prelims MCQs

4

Mains practice questions

Topic	UPSC Connection	Priority
TB-Free India	GS II: Health	Very High
Preventive Detention	GS II: Constitution	Very High
BIMSTEC Declaration	GS II: International Relations	Very High
ULLAS Scheme	GS II: Education	High
Soybean Varieties	GS III: Agriculture	High
IBSAMAN IX	GS III: Security	High
Jamiri Temple	GS I: Art and Culture	High
Agrivision 2026	GS III: Agriculture	Medium
Costa Rica	Prelims: Geography	High

GS PAPER II • HEALTH

1. Towards a TB-Free India: JOSH Campaign

Why in News? The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare launched the JOSH (Joint Squad for Health) campaign across 11 states and 55 districts to encourage youth and community participation in tuberculosis elimination.

Important Facts

- TB is caused by Mycobacterium tuberculosis.
- It spreads through airborne particles released by people with infectious pulmonary TB.
- Latent TB infection is not contagious; active pulmonary TB can be infectious.

- India's programme is called the National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme (NTEP).
- India's stated elimination target was 2025, ahead of the global 2030 SDG milestone.
- The Ni-kshay Poshan Yojana provides nutritional assistance to notified TB patients.
- BPaLM is an important shorter treatment regimen for eligible drug-resistant TB cases.

UPSC Mains Analysis: TB elimination requires more than medicines. It needs early diagnosis, complete treatment, nutritional security, private-sector notification, stigma reduction and community participation.

Prelims Focus: Mycobacterium tuberculosis, latent versus active TB, NTEP, Ni-kshay Mitra, BPaLM, and SDG 3.3.

GS PAPER III • AGRICULTURE

2. Agrivision 2026: Moving Towards Market-Oriented Agriculture

Why in News? The 10th National Convention on Agrivision was held in New Delhi on 13–14 October 2026, highlighting agricultural entrepreneurship and strong agri-food value chains.

Key Takeaways

- Promote demand-led agriculture rather than only production-led agriculture.
- Strengthen storage, processing, packaging and market access.
- Encourage agri-startups, rural innovation and youth participation.
- Connect farmers with research institutions, industry and markets.
- Improve farmer income through value addition and better price realisation.

Important Concept: An agricultural value chain includes input suppliers, cultivation, aggregation, processing, logistics, marketing and final consumers.

Prelims and Mains Focus: FPOs, agriculture marketing, food processing, cold chains, value addition and rural entrepreneurship.

GS PAPER III • SCIENCE & AGRICULTURE

3. Soybean Varieties NRC 268 and NRC 270

Why in News? Improved soybean varieties NRC 268 and NRC 270 were showcased by the ICAR–National Soybean Research Institute, Indore, with encouraging field performance.

Key Facts

- Botanical name of soybean: Glycine max.
- Institution: ICAR–National Soybean Research Institute, Indore.
- Major soybean states include Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.
- Soybean is an important kharif oilseed and protein-rich crop.
- NRC 270 is noted for its bold-seeded characteristics.
- Improved varieties can support productivity and climate resilience.

Field demonstrations reported yields around 20 quintals per hectare. These are observations under particular conditions, not guaranteed yields for every farm.

UPSC Link: Connect improved oilseed varieties with the National Mission on Edible Oils–Oilseeds, agricultural research, farm productivity and edible-oil import dependence.

GS PAPER I • ART & CULTURE**4. Khajuraho's Javari Temple**

Why in News? The Archaeological Survey of India reported tracing the missing head of a Vishnu idol associated with Javari Temple at Khajuraho.

Important Prelims Facts

- Location: Khajuraho, Chhatarpur district, Madhya Pradesh.
- Dynasty: Chandela.
- Deity: Lord Vishnu.
- Period: Approximately the late 11th century CE.
- Temple group: Eastern Group of Khajuraho temples.
- Khajuraho Group of Monuments: UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1986.

The temple is associated with the Nagara style of temple architecture, a curvilinear shikhara and decorative sculptural elements.

Architecture Terms: Garbhagriha means sanctum, mandapa means assembly hall, antarala means vestibule, and nirandhara refers to a shrine without an internal circumambulatory path.

Revision Focus: Chandela architecture, Nagara shikhara, Khajuraho temple groups, ASI and UNESCO heritage conservation.

GS PAPER II • EDUCATION

5. Lakshadweep's Literacy Achievement and ULLAS Scheme

Why in News? Lakshadweep was declared a fully literate Union Territory under the ULLAS adult literacy initiative.

ULLAS: Essential Facts

- Full form: Understanding Lifelong Learning for All in Society.
- Also called Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram or New India Literacy Programme.
- Ministry: Ministry of Education.
- Target group: Non-literate persons aged 15 years and above.
- Approved implementation period: FY 2022–23 to FY 2026–27.
- It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme aligned with NEP 2020.

Five Components

1. Foundational Literacy and Numeracy
2. Critical Life Skills
3. Basic Education
4. Vocational Skills
5. Continuing Education

ULLAS also encourages volunteers and community participation in adult learning.

Exam Clarification: A declaration of full literacy is an administrative achievement under the applicable assessment framework; it should not automatically be interpreted as every resident possessing identical education qualifications.

GS PAPER II • INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

6. BIMSTEC Delhi Declaration 2026

Why in News? The first BIMSTEC Home Ministers' Meeting in New Delhi adopted the Delhi Declaration, emphasising regional security cooperation.

Seven BIMSTEC Members

Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

Major Security Priorities

- Counterterrorism and countering terror financing.

- Cybercrime and cross-border online fraud.
- Human trafficking and victim protection.
- Drug trafficking and organised crime.
- Intelligence sharing and cooperation among law-enforcement agencies.
- Legal assistance and stronger regional security mechanisms.

Why It Matters for India: BIMSTEC connects South Asia with Southeast Asia and complements India's Neighbourhood First and Act East policies. Regional security cooperation can support stability and connectivity around the Bay of Bengal.

Prelims Focus: BIMSTEC membership, Bay of Bengal, regional groupings, cyber crime cooperation and India's Act East policy.

GS PAPER II • INDIAN CONSTITUTION

7. Preventive Detention, Article 22 and Personal Liberty

Why in News? Judicial scrutiny of detention and restrictions surrounding protests renewed attention to constitutional safeguards for personal liberty.

What Is Preventive Detention?

Preventive detention means detention intended to prevent anticipated harmful activity, rather than punishment following conviction for a past offence.

Constitutional Provision	Meaning
Article 21	Protection of life and personal liberty
Article 22(1)–(2)	Ordinary arrest and detention safeguards
Article 22(3)	Exceptions for enemy aliens and preventive detention
Article 22(4)	Constitutional limits and Advisory Board safeguards
Article 22(5)	Communication of grounds and opportunity for representation
Article 22(6)	Public-interest exception to disclosure of certain facts

Important Distinction

Ordinary criminal detention concerns investigation or prosecution of an offence. Preventive detention seeks to prevent future prejudicial conduct under a specific law.

Detention powers remain subject to constitutional safeguards and judicial review.

Prelims Trap: The 44th Constitutional Amendment proposed reducing the Advisory Board-related threshold from three months to two months, but that particular change has not been brought into force. Remember the operative constitutional position and relevant statutory safeguards.

Mains Focus: Liberty versus security, proportionality, procedural safeguards, judicial oversight and the protection of peaceful dissent.

GS PAPER III • DEFENCE & SECURITY

8. Exercise IBSAMAR IX 2026

Why in News? INS Tarkash participated in the ninth edition of Exercise IBSAMAR in South Africa.

Important Facts

- Participants: India, Brazil and South Africa.
- Framework: IBSA Dialogue Forum.
- Type: Trilateral naval exercise.
- Host of ninth edition: South Africa.
- Indian naval platform: INS Tarkash.
- Activities include maritime drills, interoperability and search-and-rescue exercises.

UPSC Prelims Tip: Do not confuse IBSAMAR with other Indian naval exercises. Remember IBSAMAR = India + Brazil + South Africa. IBSA is different from BRICS.

PRELIMS • WORLD GEOGRAPHY

9. Costa Rica: Mapping and International Relations

Why in News? India operationalised a resident diplomatic mission in San José, Costa Rica, effective 10 October 2026.

Geography Facts

- Region: Central America.
- Capital: San José.
- Land borders: Nicaragua and Panama.
- Water bodies: Pacific Ocean and Caribbean Sea.

- Costa Rica abolished its standing army in 1948; the principle was incorporated into its constitutional system in 1949.
- The country is known for biodiversity, ecotourism and protected areas.

Mapping Tip: Locate Costa Rica on the Central American isthmus. Mark Nicaragua to its north, Panama to its southeast, the Caribbean Sea to its east and the Pacific Ocean to its west and southwest.

UPSC Prelims Practice: 9 Original MCQs

These are newly created practice questions based on the topics discussed above. They are not represented as actual UPSC previous-year questions.

Q1. Tuberculosis is caused by which organism?

- (a) Plasmodium vivax
- (b) Mycobacterium tuberculosis
- (c) Vibrio cholerae
- (d) Salmonella Typhi

Answer: (b) Tuberculosis is a bacterial disease caused by Mycobacterium tuberculosis.

Q2. The principal objective of agricultural value-chain development is to:

- (a) Eliminate all intermediaries by law
- (b) Improve coordination, processing and market access
- (c) Restrict food processing
- (d) Replace all food crops with cash crops

Answer: (b) Value chains connect production with aggregation, processing, logistics and final markets.

Q3. NRC 268 and NRC 270 are associated with:

- (a) Rice
- (b) Wheat
- (c) Soybean
- (d) Cotton

Answer: (c) They are improved soybean varieties associated with ICAR research at Indore.

Q4. Javari Temple is primarily associated with which dynasty?

- (a) Pallava
- (b) Chandela
- (c) Chola
- (d) Rashtrakuta

Answer: (b) Javari Temple belongs to the Chandela-era temple heritage of Kanjura, Madhya Pradesh.

Q5. ULLAS primarily targets which age group?

- (a) Children under 6 years
- (b) Students of Classes 9–12 only
- (c) Non-literate individuals aged 15 and above
- (d) University teachers only

Answer: (c) ULLAS is an adult literacy programme for non-literate individuals aged 15 years and above.

Q6. Which of the following is NOT a BIMSTEC member?

- (a) Nepal
- (b) Thailand
- (c) Pakistan
- (d) Sri Lanka

Answer: (c) Pakistan is not a member of BIMSTEC. The organisation has seven members.

Q7. Which Article specifically provides safeguards concerning preventive detention?

- (a) Article 17
- (b) Article 22
- (c) Article 32 alone
- (d) Article 44

Answer: (b) Article 22 contains protections and exceptions relating to arrest and detention, including preventive detention.

Q8. IBSAMAR is a naval exercise among:

- (a) India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka
- (b) India, Brazil and South Africa
- (c) India, Japan and Australia
- (d) India, France and UAE

Answer: (b) IBSAMAR is the trilateral maritime exercise involving the IBSA countries.

Q9. Costa Rica shares land borders with:

- (a) Honduras and Guatemala
- (b) Nicaragua and Panama
- (c) Colombia and Venezuela
- (d) Belize and Mexico

Answer: (b) Costa Rica is located between Nicaragua and Panama in Central America.

UPSC Mains Answer-Writing Practice

GS II | Health | 150 Words

Despite advances in treatment and diagnosis, tuberculosis elimination remains a major public-health challenge in India. Examine the role of nutrition, community participation and health-system strengthening.

GS II | Polity | 150 Words

Preventive detention is an exceptional power that must be reconciled with constitutional liberty. Discuss the safeguards under Article 22.

GS II | International Relations | 250 Words

Analyse the significance of BIMSTEC security cooperation for India's Neighbourhood First and Act East policies.

GS III | Agriculture | 150 Words

How can climate-resilient oilseed varieties and market-oriented agricultural value chains improve farmers' incomes and India's edible-oil security?

Final Revision Checklist for UPSC Aspirants

- JOSH campaign, NTEP and Ni-kshay Poshan Yojana
- Agricultural value addition and market linkages
- Soybean NRC 268 and NRC 270
- Chandela dynasty and Nagara architecture
- ULLAS scheme and its five components
- BIMSTEC's seven member countries
- Article 22(3) to Article 22(7)
- IBSAMAR and BRICS membership
- Costa Rica's capital, borders and surrounding seas

Civil Service Gurukul's Study Strategy: Revise static concepts alongside each current-affairs development. Give special attention to constitutional provisions, international organisations, government schemes and map-based facts.

Conclusion

The current affairs of 14 October 2026 demonstrate how diverse developments connect with the UPSC syllabus. The TB elimination programme, BIMSTEC security cooperation and preventive detention have particular relevance for analytical Mains answers.

For Prelims, aspirants should memorise the institutional details of ULLAS, soybean variety names, Khajuraho architecture, IBSAMAR participants and Costa Rica's location.

Consistent revision, conceptual clarity and regular MCQ practice are more useful than collecting facts without connecting them to the syllabus.

Editorial Note: These notes simplify current-affairs developments for examination preparation. Numerical claims, evolving government programmes and legal developments should be checked against the latest official notifications when revising.

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