RICE EDUCATION

Daily

Current Affairs

FOR WBPSC CLERKSHIP

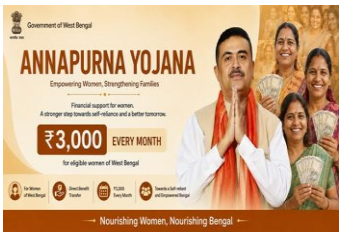
DATE

31st, Oct 2026

Daily Current Affairs for WBPSC CLERKSHIP

31st October 2026 – Current Affairs

West Bengal Specific Current Affairs



- **West Bengal Budget 2026–27:** Allocated ₹36,000 crore for Annapurna Yojana, announced a 20% DA hike for state employees and proposed a greenfield airport at Kalyani along NH-12.



- **West Bengal Yuva Shakti Yojana (Bhorsha Karmasuchi):** Launched in October 2026, providing monthly assistance of ₹3,000 to unemployed graduates and ₹2,000 to other eligible unemployed youth aged 21–45 with annual family income below ₹1 lakh.
- **Mukhyamantri Krishak Samman Nidhi (MKSN):** First DBT instalment of ₹2,000 scheduled for 5 November 2026 for eligible PM-KISAN beneficiaries from Pursurah, Hooghly.

Government Schemes, Policies & Welfare Initiatives

- **Banaskantha Development Projects:** PM Narendra Modi launched projects worth over ₹14,000 Crore in Gujarat covering dairy, agriculture, renewable energy and PM-KISAN cash transfers.



- **Punah Bharan App:** Launched by the Ministry of Jal Shakti for scientific groundwater recharge planning and sustainable water management.
- **National Social Security Board:** Constituted by the Ministry of Labour and Employment under the Code on Social Security for unorganised, gig and platform workers.



- **Ayushman Vay Vandana Scheme:** Completed two years on 29 October 2026, providing free AB PM-JAY health coverage to all senior citizens aged 70 years and above through NHA.
- **Pradhan Mantri Viksit Gram Swaraj Yojana (PM VGSY):** Approved as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for FY 2026–27 to 2030–31 with ₹7,395.55 Crore to prepare 2.55 lakh Gram Panchayat Development Plans annually and train 32 lakh elected representatives.

Banking & Financial Updates

- **Fuel Export Duty:** Centre removed special additional excise duty on petrol exports and increased export levies on diesel to ₹11.50/litre and ATF to ₹11/litre.
- **Cotton Duty Exemption:** Ministry of Finance extended customs duty exemption on cotton imports until 31 December 2026.



- **SEBI–Bank of England MoU:** Signed to strengthen regulatory cooperation and information sharing concerning SEBI-recognised Clearing Corporations.
- **Bank Credit Growth:** Bank credit increased 17.94% year-on-year to ₹232.54 lakh crore by mid-October, against deposit growth of 16.60%.
- **GST Revenue:** October 2026 gross GST collections reached ₹2.31 lakh crore, registering 23% year-on-year growth and the second-highest monthly collection.

Appointments & Persons in News

- **Commonwealth Games 2030 Board:** Saina Nehwal and Rahul Dravid were nominated to the Organising Board.
- **FSIB Chairperson:** Subhas Chandra Lal Das was appointed part-time Chairperson of the Financial Services Institutions Bureau for three years.
- **ONGC Chairman:** Sunil Kumar was appointed the next Chairman of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation, effective 7 December 2026.
- **HDFC Bank MD & CEO:** Anup Bagchi assumed charge, succeeding Sashidhar Jagdishan.
- **IREDA CMD:** Jatin Kumar Nayak assumed charge as Chairman and Managing Director of the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency.
- **Chief of the Air Staff:** Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit became India's 29th Chief of the Air Staff on 31 October 2026, succeeding A.P. Singh.





Awards & Honours

- **65th National Exhibition of Art & 3rd Print Biennale India:** President Droupadi Murmu presented the national visual arts awards organised by Lalit Kala Akademi.
- **Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar (2024–25):** Sangeet Natak Akademi selected 106 young artists for this national honour.
- **French Legion of Honour:** Sunil Bharti Mittal, Founder and Chairman of Bharti Enterprises, received France's highest civilian honour for strengthening India-France relations.
- **IIFA Awards 2026:** Ranveer Singh won Best Actor, while Aneet Padda won Best Actress.
- **Kendriya Grihmantri Dakshata Padak 2026:** Awarded to 490 police personnel across India for exceptional devotion to duty.



Important Days, Books & Authors

- **Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay NIF Book Prize 2026:** Five non-fiction books were shortlisted for the award.

- **World Day for Audiovisual Heritage:** Observed annually on 27 October to promote preservation of moving images and recorded sound.
- **Rashtriya Ekta Diwas 2026:** Observed on 31 October to mark the 151st birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel; the Union Home Minister flagged off the Run for Unity.

Sports & Games



- **Obituary:** Indian Paralympic javelin thrower and three-time Asian Para Games gold medallist Neeraj Yadav passed away at 42 in New Delhi.
- **World Armwrestling Championship 2026:** New Delhi hosted the 47th World Armwrestling and 28th World Para Armwrestling Championships.
- **Senior World Wrestling Championships:** Manisha Bhanwala became the first Indian woman wrestler to win gold at the Senior World Wrestling Championships in the 59 kg category.
- **Commonwealth Kabaddi Championship 2026:** India won the inaugural men's title under Surjeet Singh, defeating Sri Lanka 54–20, while the women's team under Nidhi Sharma defeated Uganda 35–15.



Summits & International Affairs

- **NATO Defence Partnership:** Ukraine joined NATO's Security Cooperation Support Partnership under the NATO Support and Procurement Agency.
- **World Bank Poverty Brief (October 2026):** India lifted 496 million people out of poverty between 2011 and 2023, reducing the extreme poverty rate to 2.6%.
- **Gyan Bharatam Mission:** Ministry of Culture signed an MoU with Bibliothèque nationale de France (BnF), Paris, for digital archiving of manuscripts.
- **14th International Tourism Mart 2026:** Held from 29–31 October 2026 in Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh.

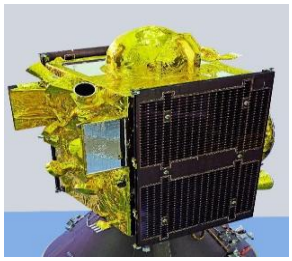


Science, Space & Technology



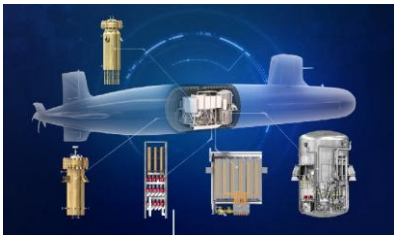
- **Science on Wheels:** IIT Mandi launched this initiative in Himachal Pradesh to provide practical science education to rural school students.
- **AI in Armed Forces:** Sarvam AI signed a five-year MoU with Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff (HQ IDS) to develop AI applications for the Army, Navy and Air Force.

- **Project Suncatcher:** Google reportedly demonstrated an AI response processed in space using its Gemini 4 AI model on a satellite and transmitted to Earth.
- **NVS-03 Satellite:** Highlighted in national technology updates concerning India's expanding navigation satellite constellation.
- **ISRO Emerging Space Technologies:** ISRO is advancing Next-Generation Launch Vehicles (NGLV), reusable rockets, indigenous propulsion and in-space docking for Gaganyaan and Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS).



Defence Updates

- **Air Force Command Change:** Air Chief Marshal Ashutosh Dixit assumed charge as the 29th Chief of the Air Staff on 31 October 2026.
- **Indigenous AIP System:** Indian Navy achieved the Setting to Work Phase-2 (STW-2) milestone for its indigenous Air Independent Propulsion Energy Module.
- **Exercise AUSTRAHIND 2026:** India-Australia Joint Validation Exercise concluded on 30–31 October in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, focusing on coastal and jungle counter-terrorism operations under Chapter VI of the UN Charter.





Miscellaneous

- **CCI Approvals:** Competition Commission of India approved Adani Energy Solutions' acquisition of Intellismart Infrastructure, Aditya Birla Renewables' purchase of Solenergy Power and Vega SAS's stake acquisition in Vodafone Group PLC.
- **India Biennale:** The Ministry of Culture announced the second India Art, Architecture and Design Biennale from 4 December 2026.
- **Special Campaign 6.0 (SCDPM 6.0):** Cleanliness, record management and digital governance campaigns were conducted across DRDO, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.



Daily Current Affairs MCQs

1. The West Bengal Yuva Shakti Yojana (Bhorsha Karmasuchi), launched in October 2026, provides monthly financial assistance of how much to eligible unemployed graduates?

A) ₹1,000
B) ₹2,000
C) ₹3,000
D) ₹5,000

Answer: C) ₹3,000

2. The Punah Bharan App was launched by which Union Ministry?

A) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
B) Ministry of Jal Shakti
C) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
D) Ministry of Rural Development

Answer: B) Ministry of Jal Shakti

3. Who was appointed as the next Chairman of the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), effective 7 December 2026?

A) Sunil Kumar
B) Jatin Kumar Nayak
C) Subhas Chandra Lal Das
D) Anup Bagchi

Answer: A) Sunil Kumar

4. Rashtriya Ekta Diwas is observed every year on which date to commemorate the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel?

A) 2 October
B) 14 November
C) 31 October
D) 26 November

Answer: C) 31 October

5. Which Indian woman wrestler became the first Indian woman to win gold at the Senior World Wrestling Championships in the 59 kg category?

A) Vinesh Phogat
B) Manisha Bhanwala
C) Sakshi Malik
D) Antim Panghal

Answer: B) Manisha Bhanwala

6. The 14th International Tourism Mart 2026 was held in which state?

A) Sikkim
B) Assam
C) Meghalaya
D) Arunachal Pradesh

Answer: D) Arunachal Pradesh

7. Which institution signed a five-year MoU with Sarvam AI to develop AI applications for the Indian Armed Forces?

A) Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
B) Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff (HQ IDS)
C) Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
D) National Security Council Secretariat

Answer: B) Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff (HQ IDS)

8. Exercise AUSTRAHIND 2026 was a joint military exercise between India and which country?

A) Japan
B) France
C) Australia
D) Russia

Answer: C) Australia

9. Which of the following organisations signed an MoU with the Bibliothèque nationale de France (BnF), Paris, for digital archiving of manuscripts under the Gyan Bharatam Mission?

A) Ministry of Culture
B) Ministry of Education
C) Ministry of External Affairs
D) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

Answer: A) Ministry of Culture

10. Which of the following was the venue of the 47th World Armwrestling and 28th World Para Armwrestling Championships in 2026?

A) Mumbai
B) New Delhi
C) Kolkata
D) Bengaluru

Answer: B) New Delhi

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