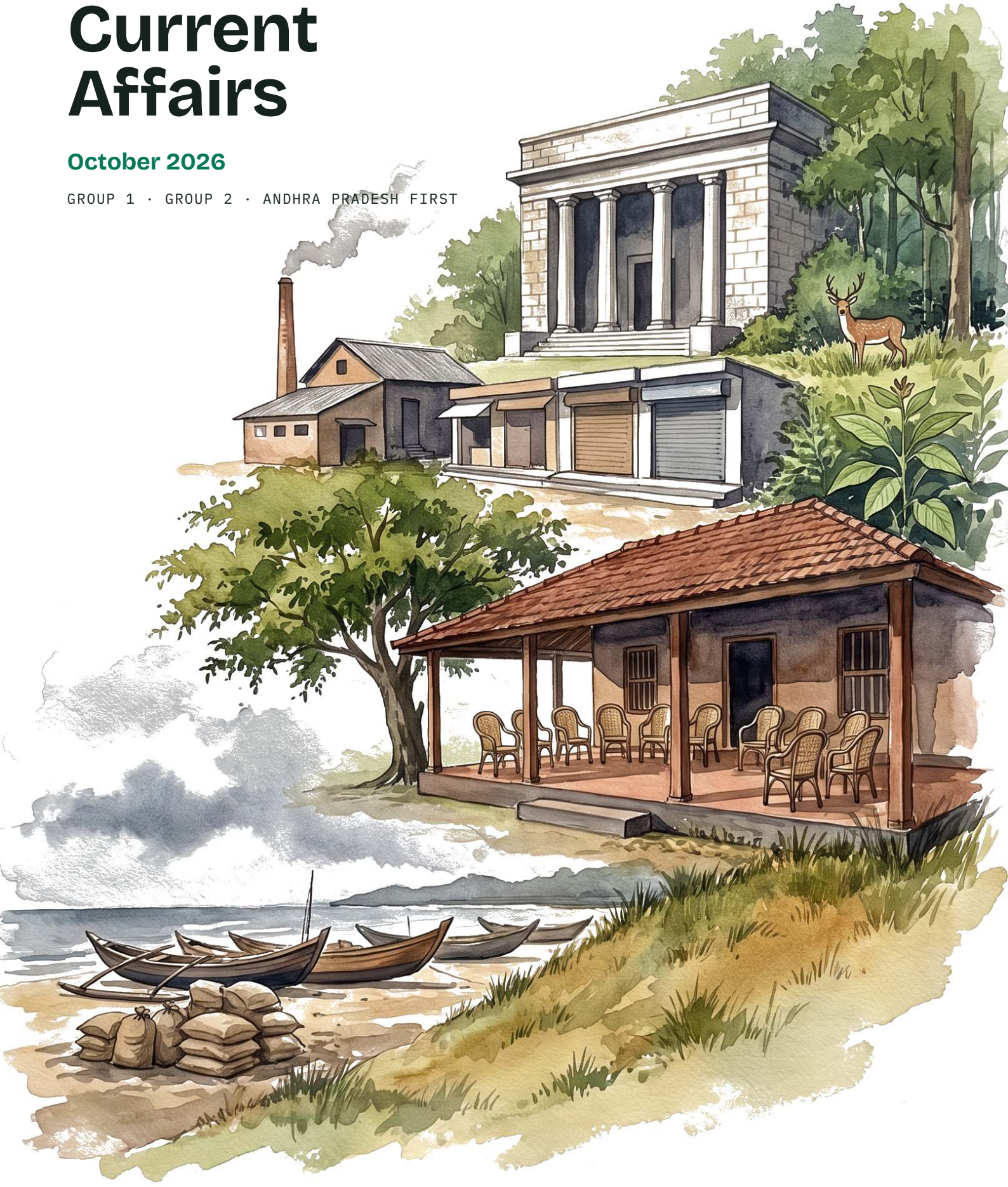
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Current Affairs

October 2026

GROUP 1 · GROUP 2 · ANDHRA PRADESH FIRST



BLOOM APPSC · CURRENT AFFAIRS · OCTOBER 2026

The month, as the paper asks it

> One month of news, in the shapes the APPSC papers use: questions first, the mechanism where a paper tests one, the exact fact where it lifts one.

The book runs section by section: A Andhra Pradesh first, then B to F, and the tab on the page edge tells you which section you are in. Each topic opens with a picture and three questions in the paper's own form; try them before you read, because a guess made first makes the right answer stick. The answers, and why each tempting option is one step short, close the topic. The briefs give one exact thing each, and the one-question news at the end of each section carries its facts in the answer. Before them, two pages hold the whole month, one line per item, for the last revision before the paper. The 30 questions at the back close the month; each names its item, and the key gives the page to go back to. Do not make notes from this book; it is the notes.

THE MONTH AGAINST THE PAPER

The 2024 Group 2 current-affairs section, by category, beside what this month carries in each. A thin row is a research gap, not a quiet month.

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Each letter is a section and marks the tab on the page edge: A Andhra Pradesh, B Polity and Governance, C Economy and Schemes, D Science, Technology, Environment and Health, E The World, F Culture, Awards and Sports. A topic is listed with its picture, then the briefs and the one-question news of its section.

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A

SECTION A

Andhra Pradesh

A1 Cyclone Arnab and the relief orders that followed

A2 Early drought declared in 388 mandals

A3 3 lakh PMAY-G 2.0 houses for Andhra Pradesh

A4 Fleet Support Ship Surya launched at Visakhapatnam

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A11 AP policy for foreign university campuses

One-question news, A-L1 to A-L19

A1 · ENVIRONMENT · ANDHRA PRADESH · 26 TO 29 OCTOBER 2026

Cyclone Arnab and the relief orders that followed

Was the relief money released only after the damage was counted?



Can you answer these yet?

Try them now. The answers, and why each tempting option is one step short, close this unit.

Q1 Under G.O.Rt.No.116 of 26 October 2026, Collectors of 20 districts could draw relief money under Rule TR-27. Which condition did the order set for spending it?

a Wait for the Centre's assessment team before spending any of the money
b Submit bills within 30 days of drawing the money and return any unspent amount
c Spend the money only on evacuation, and not on food or medicines
d Spend the money only after the storm has crossed the coast

Q2 Which country proposed the name Arnab in the list of cyclone names kept by the WMO/ESCAP Panel for the north Indian Ocean?

a India
b Sri Lanka
c Myanmar
d Bangladesh

Q3 Consider these statements about the orders issued for Cyclone Arnab.

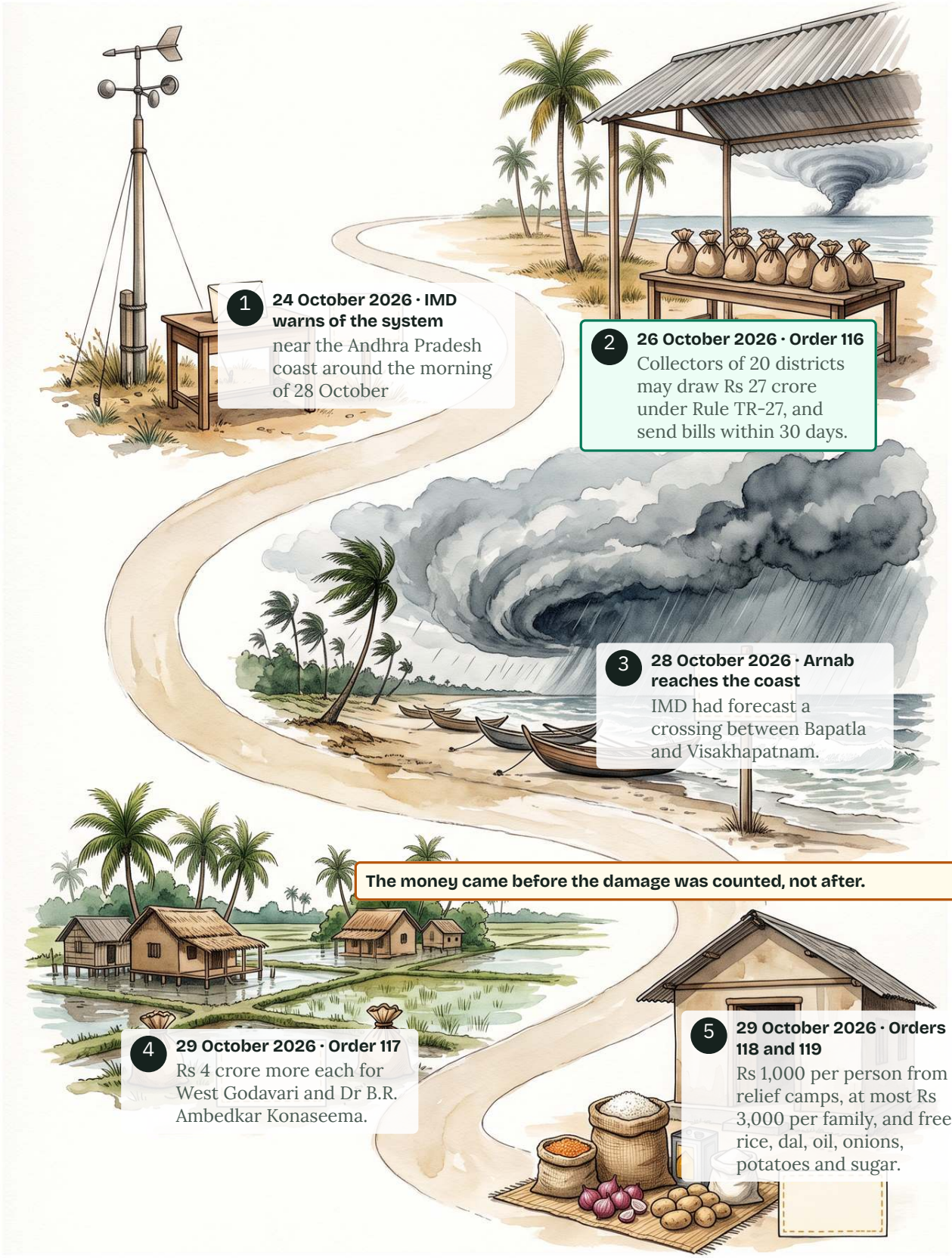
I. G.O.Rt.No.118 gives Rs 1,000 per person, up to Rs 3,000 per family, to people who were sheltered in relief camps.
II. G.O.Rt.No.117 allows West Godavari and Dr B.R. Ambedkar Konaseema Rs 4 crore each, in addition to the first order.
III. G.O.Rt.No.116 allows Rs 4 crore to each of the 20 districts. Which are correct?

a I and II only
b II and III only
c I and III only
d I, II and III

A1 · THE WHOLE STORY ON ONE PAGE

Cyclone Arnab and the relief orders that followed

What the State paid and promised for Cyclone Arnab, how the Centre prepared, and who named the storm.



1 **24 October 2026 · IMD warns of the system**
near the Andhra Pradesh coast around the morning of 28 October

2 **26 October 2026 · Order 116**
Collectors of 20 districts may draw Rs 27 crore under Rule TR-27, and send bills within 30 days.

3 **28 October 2026 · Arnab reaches the coast**
IMD had forecast a crossing between Bapatla and Visakhapatnam.

The money came before the damage was counted, not after.

4 **29 October 2026 · Order 117**
Rs 4 crore more each for West Godavari and Dr B.R. Ambedkar Konaseema.

5 **29 October 2026 · Orders 118 and 119**
Rs 1,000 per person from relief camps, at most Rs 3,000 per family, and free rice, dal, oil, onions, potatoes and sugar.

A

Four terms the story needs

Rule TR-27 is the rule the orders name for urgent relief spending. A Collector, who is also the District Magistrate, draws the money first and accounts for it afterwards.

The orders say their payments come on top of the **SDRF norms**. SDRF is the State Disaster Response Fund, which section 48 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 asks every State to set up.

Who receives the orders in each district?
The Collector and District Magistrate of the district receives them.

How long does a Collector have to send bills under RT-116?
Thirty days from the date the money is drawn.

Why did the orders come before the storm arrived?

The forecast came first. On 24 October the IMD warned that a system in the Bay of Bengal would be near the Andhra Pradesh coast around the morning of 28 October.

The Centre moved at the same time. On 26 October the Cabinet Secretary chaired the NCMC. IMD told the meeting that the system had become a cyclonic storm named Arnab that morning.

What did the IMD message of 24 October forecast?
A system near the Andhra Pradesh coast around the morning of 28 October.

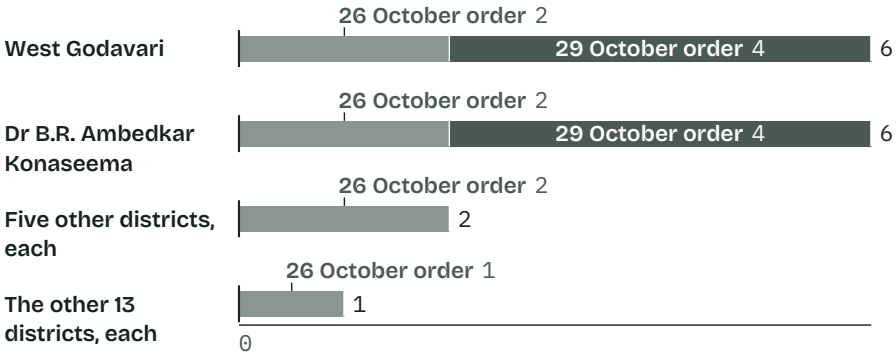
What aim did the Cabinet Secretary set at the NCMC meeting?
To ensure zero loss of life, minimise damage, and restore essential services in the shortest possible time.

The numbers, and what each one means

Read the top two bars: each has a second part, the Rs 4 crore of the later order.

Rs 4 crore appears only in the later order, and only for these two districts.

Fig A1.2 **Rs 2 crore or Rs 1 crore on 26 October; Rs 4 crore more for each of two districts on 29 October**



Careful Rs 8 crore is the later order's total for two districts, not each district's share.

THE FIGURE	WHAT IT IS	THE WRONG FIGURE A QUESTION OFFERS
Rs 27 crore	The total that RT-116 allows 20 Collectors to draw under Rule TR-27 on 26 October 2026.	Rs 8 crore, which is the total of the later order RT-117, or Rs 4 crore, which is its amount for each of two districts.
Rs 4 crore	The extra money RT-117 gave each of West Godavari and Dr B.R. Ambedkar Konaseema on 29 October 2026.	Rs 2 crore, which is what each of those two districts got in RT-116.

THE FIGURE	WHAT IT IS	THE WRONG FIGURE A QUESTION OFFERS
Rs 1,000 per person	The special assistance in RT-118 for people sheltered in relief camps, paid when they go home, with a limit of Rs 3,000 per family.	Rs 3,000 per person, which is the limit for a family.

Where it sits: who pays, who warns, who names

The Disaster Management Act, 2005, as it was first passed, makes the Chief Minister the head of the State Disaster Management Authority (section 14). It asks each State to set up a State Disaster Response Fund (section 48).

The name Arnab comes from the list that the WMO/ESCAP Panel keeps for the north Indian Ocean. It is Bangladesh's entry in column 3, and it is pronounced Ornab. Names are used in turn and never used again.

Who heads the State Disaster Management Authority?

The Chief Minister of the State heads it, under section 14 of the Act as it was first passed.

Can the name Arnab be used again for another cyclone?

No. The WMO page says a name that has been used ceases to be used again.

For Mains: Relief money released before the storm

The orders came early because the forecast came early. On 24 October the IMD warned that a system would be near the Andhra Pradesh coast around 28 October. It also warned of heavy rain over North Coastal Andhra Pradesh. The State's disaster management body asked for urgent relief money. On 26 October, RT-116 let Collectors of 20 districts draw Rs 27 crore under **Rule TR-27**. That was two days before the storm reached the coast.

Advance money lets the district act first and account later. The Collector could hire APSRTC buses, use Government schools as camps, and buy food, water, milk and medicines without a damage count. Bills must follow within 30 days, and unspent money goes back. The later orders reach the household. RT-118 pays Rs 1,000 per person, up to Rs 3,000 per family, to people going home from **relief camps**. RT-119 gives free rice and five other items.

The Godavari delta got more money. RT-116 gave Rs 2 crore each to seven districts, including East Godavari, West Godavari and Konaseema. RT-117 added Rs 4 crore each for West Godavari and Konaseema. IMD had warned of a **storm surge** of 2 to 3.5 metres along the Godavari river mouth. RT-119 gives fishermen and weavers 50 kg of rice, double the 25 kg for other families.

Speed raises its own questions. One view is that money drawn before checks can be misused. The other is that waiting for a damage count costs lives. RT-116 answers with a check after the money is drawn: a statement of urgency to the Accountant General and bills within 30 days. The way forward is to make the **warning-to-money link** a standard step, publish what was spent, and plan delta shelters for surge. The IMCTs' assessment will shape any further help.

MAINS QUESTION

Examine the role of the advance release of relief funds during Cyclone Arnab (October 2026) in disaster response in Andhra Pradesh. What safeguards does such spending need? (250 words)

POINTS FOR YOUR ANSWER

- The IMD warning of 24 October reached the State before the storm, and APSDMA asked for relief money on that basis.
- G.O.Rt.No.116 of 26 October let Collectors of 20 districts draw Rs 27 crore under Rule TR-27, two days before the storm reached the coast.
- The money was allowed for evacuation, food, shelter, medicines, fuel, transport and restoring essential services, using APSRTC buses and Government schools.
- Accountability follows the drawal: a statement of urgency to the Accountant General, bills within 30 days, and any unspent money returned.
- The delta districts got more money, and RT-118 and RT-119 added cash and free food on top of the SDRF norms.
- Future practice can tie IMD warnings to pre-approved district funds, publish spending, and prepare the delta for storm surge.

You can now answer these

√ **Q1 · b, bills within 30 days.** If you chose a, you were one step short. Nothing in the order makes Collectors wait for a central team, and RT-116 came before the storm.

√ **Q2 · d, Bangladesh.** If you chose India, you were one step short. The storm hit India, but the Panel list gives Arnab as Bangladesh's entry. India's entry in the same column is Murasu.

√ **Q3 · a, I and II only.** If you chose all three, statement III held you back. RT-116 gave Rs 2 crore to seven districts and Rs 1 crore to thirteen.



CARRY THIS

Order RT-116 of 26 October 2026 let 20 Collectors draw Rs 27 crore under Rule TR-27, two days before the storm reached the coast.

Sources: Government of Andhra Pradesh, Revenue (Disaster Management.I) Department, G.O.Rt.No.116 (26 October 2026) and G.O.Rt.Nos.117, 118 and 119 (29 October 2026); PIB 2328434 (Cabinet Secretariat, 26 October 2026) and PIB 2329879 (Ministry of Home Affairs, 29 October 2026); IMD National Bulletin No. 22 (28 October 2026) and Press Release-7 (29 October 2026); WMO/ESCAP Panel list of names, and PIB 1619051; Disaster Management Act, 2005, original text; All India Radio, 28 October 2026; past question: APPSC Group 1 Mains 2025, Paper 2.

BRIEFS · ANDHRA PRADESH

A

A2 · WATER AND FARMING · ANDHRA PRADESH · 1 OCTOBER 2026

Early drought declared in 388 mandals

- Andhra Pradesh declared drought early, by **G.O.Ms.No.4** dated 1 October 2026.
- The Drought Manual asks for the Kharif declaration by **31 October**.
- Of the **388** mandals, 283 are severe and 105 are moderate.
- The mandals lie in **21** districts, from Srikakulam to Chittoor.
- The order cites a **53.4%** rainfall deficit from June to August 2026.

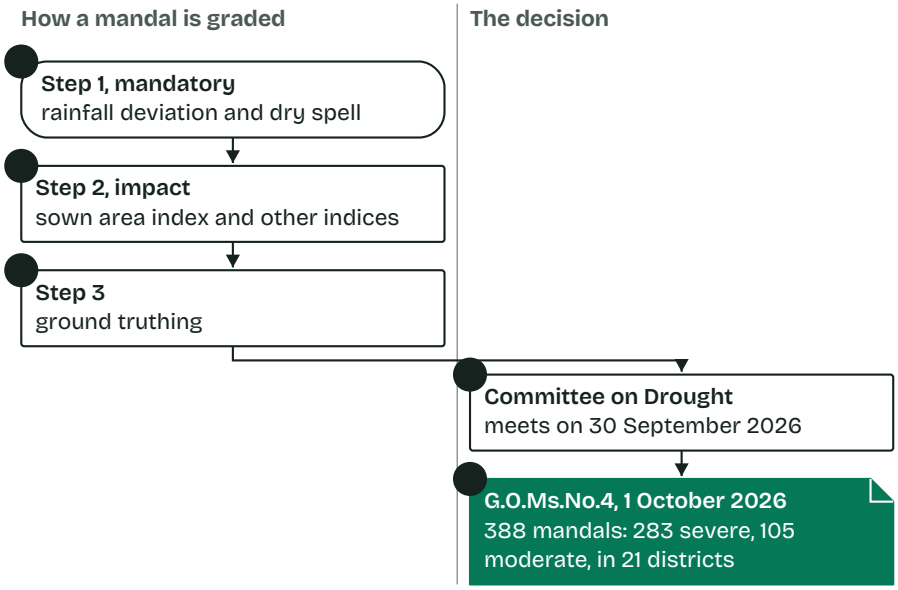


388 The mandals declared drought affected, made of 283 severe and 105 moderate; a question may offer 283, which is only the severe group.

197.6 mm The average rainfall from 1 June to 31 August 2026, against a normal of 424.3 mm; the normal figure is the tempting wrong option.

Follow steps 1 to 3 down the left, then the Committee and the order of 1 October.

Fig A2.1 **Three steps grade each mandal; one order declares 388**



Careful 283 is only the severe group; 388 is the total.

Q1 G.O.Ms.No.4 of 1 October 2026 declared early Kharif drought in how many Andhra Pradesh mandals?

a 21
b 105
c 283
d 388

Q1 · d. The order declares 388 mandals, made of 283 severe and 105 moderate.

WHY IT MATTERS FOR MAINS

A drought declaration shows how a State uses evidence before it acts for farmers. Andhra Pradesh issued **G.O.Ms.No.4** on 1 October 2026, before the 31 October date in the Drought Manual. It declared 388 mandals in 21 districts drought affected. The order cites a 53.4% rainfall deficit and El Niño conditions. Open question: will an early declaration bring help to farmers faster on the ground?

Mains question Examine the role of rainfall, dry spell and impact indicators in declaring drought, with reference to Andhra Pradesh's early Kharif drought declaration of October 2026. (150 words)

Sources: Government of Andhra Pradesh, Revenue (Disaster Management-II) Department, G.O.Ms.No.4, 1 October 2026 (goir.ap.gov.in, document 586962).

A3 · SCHEMES · ANDHRA PRADESH · 4 OCTOBER 2026

3 lakh PMAY-G 2.0 houses for Andhra Pradesh

- Burripalem in **Guntur** district hosted the event on 4 October 2026.
- The Union Minister handed over a first instalment of **3 lakh** PMAY-G 2.0 houses.
- The houses are sanctioned, worth **Rs 3,600 crore**, and still to be built.
- Officials had first proposed **76,000** houses; the allocation rose to 3 lakh.
- A pilot of **177** houses will use 3D concrete printing, costing Rs 14 crore.



3 lakh The houses in the first instalment under PMAY-G 2.0 for Andhra Pradesh; a question may offer 76,000, the first allocation officials proposed.

177 The houses in the 3D concrete printing pilot, costing Rs 14 crore; a question may offer Rs 3,600 crore, which is the value of the 3 lakh houses.

Compare the grey bar with the long bar below it: the allocation rose to 3 lakh.

Fig A3.1 **From 76,000 proposed to 3 lakh sanctioned**



Careful **Rs 3,600 crore is the value of the 3 lakh houses, not the pilot's cost.**

Q1 The first instalment of 3 lakh PMAY-G 2.0 houses for Andhra Pradesh, worth Rs 3,600 crore, was handed over on 4 October 2026 at Burripalem village in:

a Guntur district
b Bapatla district
c Krishna district
d Palnadu district

Q1 · a. The event was at Burripalem village in Guntur district. Bapatla district tempts as a neighbouring district, but the release names Guntur.

WHY IT MATTERS FOR MAINS

Rural housing tests how fast welfare reaches the ground. Andhra Pradesh received a first instalment of 3 lakh houses under **PMAY-G 2.0**, worth Rs 3,600 crore. Officials had first proposed 76,000. These houses are sanctioned, not yet built. The Union Minister asked the State to complete them before more are sanctioned. A pilot of 177 houses will test 3D concrete printing. Open question: can construction keep pace with sanctions?

Mains question Discuss the challenges in turning sanctioned rural houses into completed homes under PMAY-G 2.0. What role can new building methods such as 3D concrete printing play in Andhra Pradesh? (250 words)

Sources: PIB, Ministry of Rural Development, Guntur, 4 October 2026 (PRID 2318899 and PRID 2318911).

A4 · DEFENCE · ANDHRA PRADESH · 6 OCTOBER 2026

Fleet Support Ship Surya launched at Visakhapatnam

- The Raksha Mantri launched **FSS-1**, named Surya, at Visakhapatnam on 6 October 2026.
- He also laid the keel of **FSS-5**, the fifth Fleet Support Ship.
- Slipway-4 now takes ships of up to **45,000 DWT**.
- The **300-tonne** Goliath Crane spans Slipways 3 and 4.
- He recalled **Jala Usha**, the first ship built in independent India, launched in 1948.

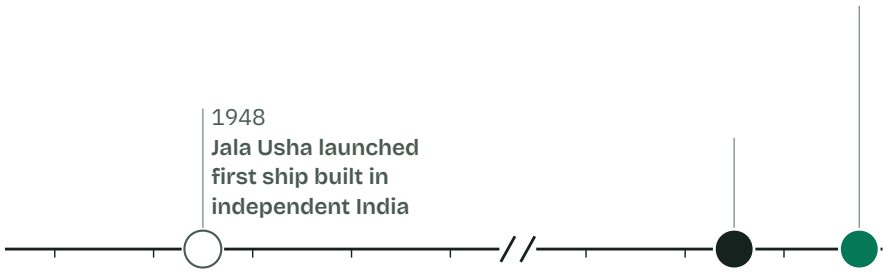


45,000 DWT The size of ship the upgraded Slipway-4 can build and launch; a question may offer 300, the tonnes of the Goliath Crane.

1948 The year Jala Usha, the first ship built in independent India, was launched at Visakhapatnam; a tempting wrong year is 2025, when HSL reached Miniratna Category-I status.

Read the line from left to right: Jala Usha in 1948, then the two recent steps.

Fig A4.1 **From Jala Usha in 1948 to Surya in 2026, at one shipyard city**



Careful **1948 is Jala Usha's year; 2025 is the Miniratna year.**

Q1 FSS-1 'Surya', launched on 6 October 2026 at Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam, is a:

a Landing platform dock
b Fleet Support Ship
c Offshore patrol vessel
d Survey vessel

Q1 · b. The release calls FSS-1 the first Fleet Support Ship.

WHY IT MATTERS FOR MAINS

Fleet Support Ships keep a navy working at sea through at-sea replenishment and sustained support. On 6 October 2026, at Hindustan Shipyard Limited in Visakhapatnam, the Raksha Mantri launched **FSS-1 Surya**, designed and built indigenously. Its Slipway-4 now takes ships of up to 45,000 DWT. The Raksha Mantri wants Visakhapatnam developed as a major Maritime Industrial Hub. Open question: can this shipbuilding base bring wider industrial growth to Andhra Pradesh?

Mains question Examine the significance of indigenous naval shipbuilding for self-reliance in defence, with reference to the role of Visakhapatnam as a maritime centre. (150 words)

Sources: PIB, Ministry of Defence, 6 October 2026 (PRID 2319481).

A5 · WATER AND FARMING · ANDHRA PRADESH · 5 TO 28 OCTOBER 2026

Paddy procurement guarantee for KMS 2026-27

- AP MARKFED is an **additional** paddy agency beside APSCSCL for KMS 2026-27.
- The Government guaranteed **Rs 6,500 crore** for an NCDC loan to AP MARKFED.
- AP MARKFED lends the loan onward to APSCSCL, which is responsible for **custom milling**.
- A consolidated order of **Rs 21,000 crore** subsumes the earlier guarantee orders.
- Decentralised procurement began in the State on **1 October 2015**.

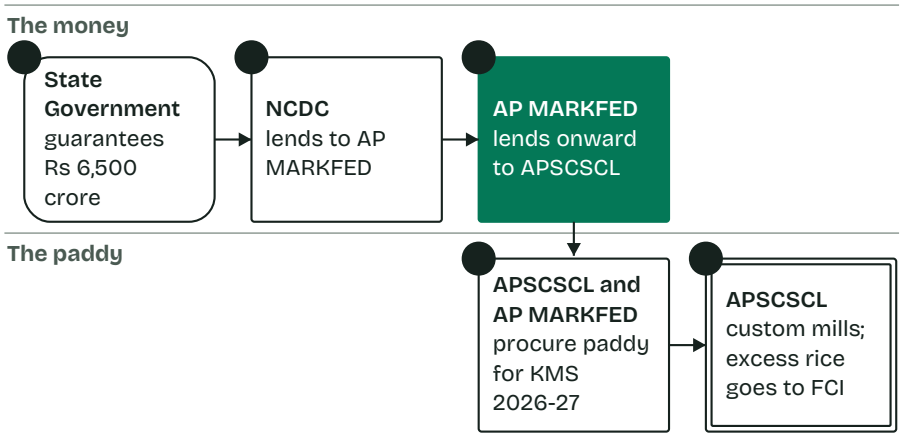


Rs 6,500 crore The Government guarantee for AP MARKFED's NCDC loan for KMS 2026-27; a tempting wrong figure is Rs 7,000 crore, the additional loan the Civil Supplies Department asked for.

Rs 21,000 crore The consolidated order that subsumes the earlier guarantee orders; a tempting wrong figure is Rs 14,000 crore, the earlier guarantees for 2025-26.

Follow the arrows: the guarantee backs the loan, and the loan moves on to APSCSCL.

Fig A5.1 **The State guarantees, NCDC lends, the money reaches the procuring agency**



Careful Rs 7,000 crore was a request; Rs 6,500 crore is the guarantee.

OCTOBER 2026

30 questions to close the month

Mixed from every section, in the proportions of the Group 2 current-affairs section. Each question names the item it comes from; the key on the last page gives the answer and the page to go back to.

Q1 A1 The name of Cyclone Arnab (October 2026) comes from the WMO/ESCAP Panel list of cyclone names for the north Indian Ocean. Which country contributed the name?

a India
b Bangladesh
c Myanmar
d Sri Lanka

Q2 A2 Consider the following statements on G.O.Ms.No.4 of the Revenue (Disaster Management-II) Department, dated 1 October 2026: 1. It declared 388 mandals in 21 districts drought-affected, of which 283 are severe and 105 are moderate. 2. It cites a rainfall deficit of 53.4 per cent for June to August 2026 and El Nino conditions. 3. The Drought Manual asks for the Kharif drought declaration by 31 October, so this declaration came early. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a 1 only
b 1 and 2 only
c 2 and 3 only
d 1, 2 and 3

Q3 A4 Match List I (milestone at Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam) with List II (description): List I: A. FSS-1 B. Jala Usha C. Slipway-4 D. Goliath Crane List II: 1. Launched at Visakhapatnam in 1948 as the first ship built in independent India 2. Named Surya 3. Can build and launch ships of up to 45,000 DWT (deadweight tonnage) 4. A 300-tonne crane that spans Slipways 3 and 4 Select the correct answer:

a A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4
b A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
c A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3
d A-1, B-2, C-4, D-3

Q4 A7 The Andhra Pradesh State Election Commission held the urban local body poll on 1 November 2026. Which Article of the Constitution vests the conduct of elections to Municipalities in the State Election Commission?

a Article 243K
b Article 243D
c Article 243ZA
d Article 243T

Q5 C5 Consider the following statements on the Andhra Pradesh Socio Economic Survey 2025-26: 1. The GSDP growth of 10.75 per cent is measured against the First Revised Estimate for 2024-25 of about Rs 15.91 lakh crore. 2. The per capita income of Andhra Pradesh for 2025-26 is lower than the all-India per capita income. 3. The Survey compares Andhra Pradesh per capita income based on NSDP (Net State Domestic Product) with all-India per capita income based on NNI (Net National Income). Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a 1 only
b 2 and 3 only
c 1 and 3 only
d 1, 2 and 3

Q6 A-L13 G.O.Ms.No.82 of the Law Department, dated 3 October 2026, raised the age of superannuation of officers of the Andhra Pradesh State Judicial Service from 61 to 62 years. How was this change made?

a By amending Rule 17 of the Andhra Pradesh State Judicial (Service and Cadre) Rules, 2026
b By an amendment to the Constitution of India
c By a new Act of the State Legislature
d By an order of the High Court on its judicial side