CURRENT AFFAIRS — 2 October 2026

Friday, 2 October 2026 • Asia/Kolkata (IST) • Uttarakhand + National • UKPSC Prelims & Mains digest

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DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS FOR UTTARAKHAND PCS

TODAY AT A GLANCE — 10 THINGS TO REMEMBER

- UERC clears **4 BESS projects** — **76 MW/190 MWh**; largest at **Dhakrani (30 MW)**.
- High Court: Mussoorie **carrying-capacity** plan within **9 months**.
- Gangotri NP treks shut after snowfall; **260 rescued** (**67 airlifted**).
- **Rampur Tiraha firing** — **2 Oct 1994**; state formed **9 Nov 2000**.
- Wildlife Week: **₹51,000** each to **18** brave citizens; **Haldwani zoo** announced.
- **9,93,886** pensioners got **₹147.34 crore** in Sept; free coaching for **divyang** youth.
- **GEC-III**: **₹1,86,405 crore**, **135 GW** RE evacuation, **50 GWh** BESS.
- Rabi MSP 2027-28: wheat **₹2,610 (+₹25)**; safflower **+₹675**.
- GST Sept 2026: **₹2.04 lakh crore**, **+14.7%** YoY.
- RBI MPC on **5–7 Oct**; CPI **4.82%**, repo **5.25%**.

SECTION A | UTTARAKHAND SPECIAL — schemes, policy, disaster & ecology, state economy

UERC clears four mega battery-storage projects (76 MW/190 MWh) for Uttarakhand grid

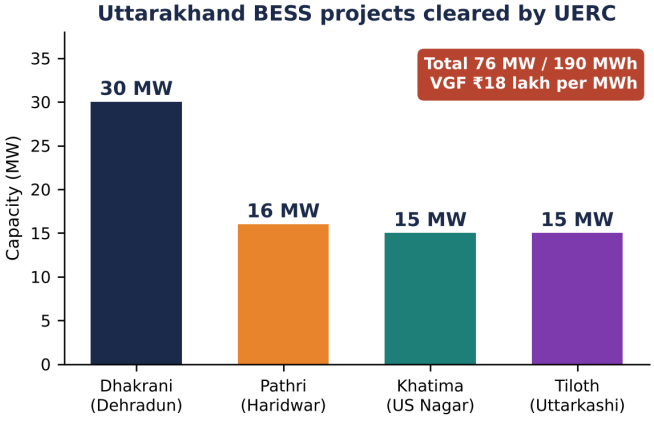
UTTARAKHAND — **UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Geography & Economy — Uttarakhand)**

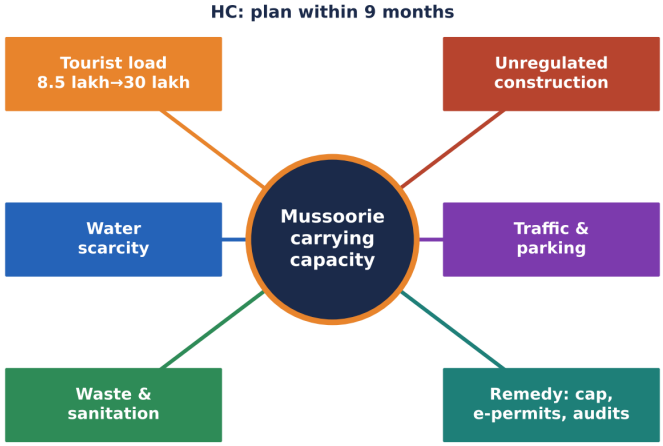
Syllabus Linkage	Uttarakhand economy — **energy & infrastructure**; Sci-Tech (energy storage). Prelims pointers: **UERC**, **UJVN Ltd**, **VGF**, project districts.
Context	On **2 October 2026** it was reported that the **Uttarakhand Electricity Regulatory Commission (UERC)** has conditionally approved tariffs and power-purchase agreements for **four Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)** projects of **76 MW/190 MWh**, to be implemented through **UJVN Ltd**.
Key Facts	■ Sites: **Dhakrani (Dehradun) 30 MW**, **Pathri (Haridwar) 16 MW**, **Khatima (Udham Singh Nagar) 15 MW**, **Tiloth (Uttarkashi) 15 MW**. ■ Approved tariffs of about **₹2.70–2.80 lakh per MW per month** — reported lower than similar projects in Delhi and Punjab. ■ Central **Viability Gap Funding (VGF)** of **₹18 lakh per MWh**, paid in **3 instalments** from the **Power System Development Fund (PSDF)**. ■ Batteries will feed the grid in the **evening peak (6–9 PM)**, cutting costly power-exchange purchases and grid-failure risk. ■ Developers: **Patanjali Renewable Energy Pvt Ltd** (3 projects) and **Army Infotek Ltd** (Tiloth).
Way Fwd	Pair BESS with **solar + hydro** to firm up winter supply when river flows dip; frame **safety norms** for battery sites in seismic hill zones.
Concept	**BESS** stores surplus power (mostly **lithium-ion**) and releases it at peak; here storage is **2.5 hours** (190 MWh ÷ 76 MW). **VGF** = one-time capital grant bridging cost and viability. Uttarakhand's grid is **hydro-dominated**; **UJVN Ltd** is the state hydro generator.

High Court gives State 9 months to frame Mussoorie carrying-capacity plan

UTTARAKHAND — **UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Polity, Governance & Environment — Uttarakhand)**

Syllabus Linkage	**Uttarakhand High Court (Nainital)** — PILs & environmental governance; Himalayan ecology & **sustainable tourism**. Prelims: carrying capacity, **NGT**.
Context	On **1 October 2026**, a Division Bench of Justice **Manoj Kumar Tiwari** and Justice **Pankaj Purohit** directed the **Chief Secretary** to prepare a policy and action plan based on **Mussoorie's carrying capacity** within **9 months**.
Key Facts	■ PIL flagged unregulated construction, **tree felling**, traffic jams, **water scarcity** and sanitation stress. ■ Tourist arrivals rose from about **8.5 lakh (2000)** to about **30 lakh (2019)** while parking and civic capacity lagged. ■ Plan must factor in earlier **National Green Tribunal (NGT)** directions; petitioners may submit data to the Chief Secretary. ■ Bench also asked the **Tehri DM** to act on safety at **Tapovan Ganga ghats** — orders within **8 weeks**.
Way Fwd	Notify a **visitor cap** with online permits and parking-linked entry; mandate a **geotechnical audit** before new construction, as after **Joshimath**.
Concept	**Carrying capacity** = the maximum use an area can sustain without degrading its environment (physical, real and effective). **NGT** was set up under the **NGT Act, 2010**; in **2023** it sought a holistic study of Mussoorie after **Joshimath** subsidence. **Uttarakhand High Court** est. **9 Nov 2000**, seat **Nainital**.





Snowfall shuts Gangotri National Park treks; 260 brought back safely from Bhagirathi-II and Gaumukh routes

UTTARAKHAND **UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Disaster Management & Geography — Uttarakhand)**

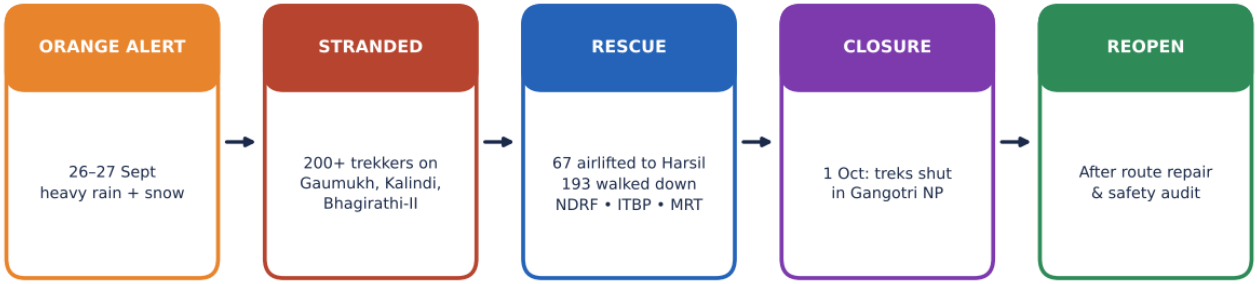
Syllabus Linkage	**Disaster management** in Uttarakhand — early warning, NDRF/ITBP roles; protected areas of **Uttarkashi**. Prelims: **Gangotri NP**, **Gaumukh**, Bhagirathi peaks.
Context	On **1 October 2026**, the **Gangotri National Park** administration banned trekking after heavy rain and snowfall on **26–27 September** damaged routes, while a joint operation brought **260 trekkers, porters and climbers** safely to Gangotri.
Key Facts	■ Routes hit: **Gangotri–Gaumukh–Tapovan**, **Kedartal**, **Kalindi** trek; reopening only after safety checks. ■ **67 airlifted** (28–29 Sept) to **Harsil helipad**; **193 walked down** with rescuers; incl. **9 climbers** of the **Bhagirathi-II** expedition. ■ Agencies: district administration, **NDRF**, **ITBP (35th Bn)**, Mountain Rescue Team, Forest Dept — acting on an **IMD orange alert**. ■ Monsoon withdrawing from most of Uttarakhand by **3 October**, as per the state Met Centre.
Way Fwd	Make **online registration + GPS tracking** mandatory for high-altitude treks; pre-position supplies at Bhojbasa/Tapovan for early-winter storms.
Concept	**Gangotri NP** (est. **1989**, **~2,390 km²**) — snow leopard & bharal habitat. **Gaumukh**, snout of the **Gangotri glacier**, is the source of the **Bhagirathi**, which meets the **Alaknanda** at **Devprayag** to form the **Ganga**. IMD alerts: green–yellow–**orange (be prepared)**–red (take action).

Rampur Tiraha firing anniversary: State pays homage to statehood martyrs

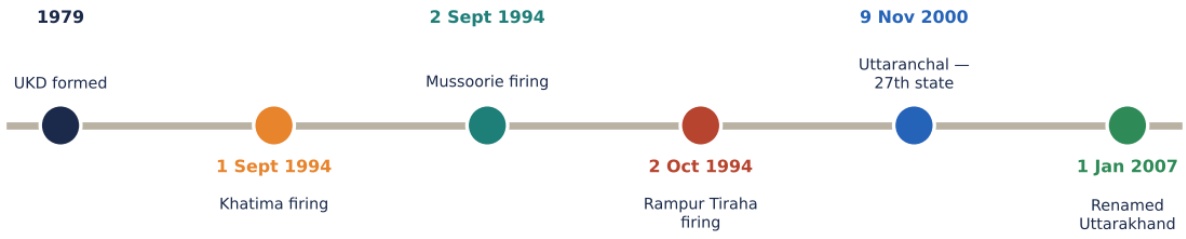
UTTARAKHAND **UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (History & Culture — Uttarakhand)**

Syllabus Linkage	History of Uttarakhand — **statehood movement (1994–2000)**. Prelims: dates of **Khatima**, **Mussoorie** and **Rampur Tiraha** incidents; Article 3.
Context	On **2 October 2026**, CM **Pushkar Singh Dhami** laid a wreath at the **Shaheed Sthal** in the Kachahari premises, **Dehradun**, on the anniversary of the **Rampur Tiraha firing (2 October 1994)**, saying the agitators' sacrifice made statehood a reality.
Key Facts	■ Night of **1–2 Oct 1994**: police fired on agitators heading to a **Delhi rally** at **Rampur Tiraha, Muzaffarnagar (UP)**; several were killed. ■ Preceded by the **Khatima firing (1 Sept 1994)** and **Mussoorie firing (2 Sept 1994)**. ■ **Uttaranchal** formed on **9 Nov 2000** as India's **27th state** (**UP Reorganisation Act, 2000**); renamed **Uttarakhand** from **1 Jan 2007**. ■ **Uttarakhand Kranti Dal (UKD)**, formed in **1979**, led the political demand.
Way Fwd	Record **oral histories** of agitators, add the movement to school syllabi and keep welfare benefits for **state agitators (Rajya Andolankari)** time-bound.
Concept	New states are created under **Article 3** by a law of Parliament passed by **simple majority**, after the President refers the Bill to the state legislature for views (**not binding**). In 2000 also: **Chhattisgarh (1 Nov)** and **Jharkhand (15 Nov)**.

High-altitude disaster response — Gangotri National Park (Uttarkashi): 260 brought back safely



Uttarakhand statehood movement — key milestones



Wildlife Week 2026 opens at FRI: ₹51,000 each for 18 citizens who braved wild-animal attacks

ENVIRONMENT **UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Environment & Ecology — Uttarakhand)**

Syllabus Linkage	Biodiversity & **protected areas** of Uttarakhand; **human–wildlife conflict**. Prelims: Wildlife Week (**1–7 Oct**), FRI Dehradun, Corbett & Rajaji.
Context	Inaugurating **Wildlife Week 2026** at the **Forest Research Institute (FRI), Dehradun** on **1 October**, CM Dhami honoured **18 persons** for courage during wildlife conflict with **₹51,000 each** — an amount to be given to all such future awardees.

₹147 crore in monthly pensions to 9.93 lakh beneficiaries; free civil services coaching for divyang youth

SOCIETY **UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Social Justice & Welfare Schemes — Uttarakhand)**

Syllabus Linkage	Welfare of **vulnerable sections** — elderly & persons with disabilities; Uttarakhand schemes. Prelims: scheme names, Day of Older Persons, RPwD Act.
Context	On the **International Day of Older Persons (1 October)**, CM Dhami announced **free civil services coaching** for **differently-abled (divyang) youth** and said **9,93,886** pensioners received **₹147.34 crore** in September.

Key Facts	■ A **zoo at Haldwani** (Nainital district) announced as a manifesto commitment. ■ Officials told to develop **at least one new tourism site per district** without harming natural beauty. ■ Ex-gratia for death in wildlife attacks was raised from **₹6 lakh to ₹10 lakh** (Cabinet, Nov 2025) with **free treatment** for the injured. ■ 2025 toll: bears — **5 deaths, 69 injured**; leopards — **12 deaths, 88 injured**.
Way Fwd	Scale up **solar fencing**, SMS early warning, quick-response teams and village **waste management** that draws bears and leopards.
Concept	**Wildlife Week** is observed **1–7 October** every year. **Jim Corbett NP** (**1936**, as Hailey NP) is India's **first national park**; **Rajaji** became a tiger reserve in **2015**. **FRI Dehradun** dates to **1906**.

Key Facts	■ Schemes cited: **Atal Vayo Abhyudaya Yojana** (elderly welfare) and **Deendayal Matri-Pitri Tirthatan Yojana** (free pilgrimage). ■ **23 senior citizens** honoured, incl. Garhwali folk singer **Padma Shri Madhuri Barthwal**. ■ **Parents & Senior Citizens Maintenance Act, 2007** to be enforced; old-age homes strengthened in all districts. ■ Next: State Cabinet meets at **Banbasa (Champawat)** on **4 Oct**; **tablets for Class 10 & 12** students of govt inter colleges likely on the agenda.
Way Fwd	Use **DBT + Aadhaar-seeded** pension rolls to stop leakages; build accessible coaching (screen readers, sign-language) under the divyang initiative.
Concept	**International Day of Older Persons** — **1 October** (UNGA, observed since **1991**). **Article 41** (DPSP): public assistance in old age and disablement. **RPwD Act, 2016** lists **21 disabilities** and **4%** reservation in government jobs.

SECTION B | DATA POINT OF THE DAY

Gross GST collection — September 2026

₹2.04 lakh crore (+14.7% YoY)

Gross **₹2,04,050 crore** vs **₹1,77,279 crore** in Sept 2025. Domestic **₹1.38 lakh crore (+10.1%)**, imports **₹65,525 crore (+25.9%)**; refunds **₹27,001 crore**; net **₹1.77 lakh crore (+18.1%)**. **H1 FY27** gross **₹12.46 lakh crore (+11.6%)**. GST came into force on **1 July 2017** (**101st Amendment**); **GST Council** under **Article 279A**.

DATA POINT: GST collections, September 2026



SECTION C | NATIONAL & WORLD — polity, economy, sci-tech, IR for UKPSC

Cabinet clears ₹1.86 lakh crore Green Energy Corridor Phase-III to integrate 135 GW renewables

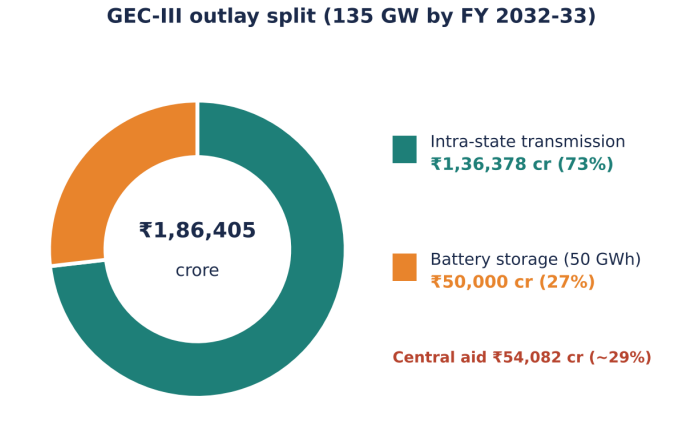
ENVIRONMENT **UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Science-Tech & Environment)**

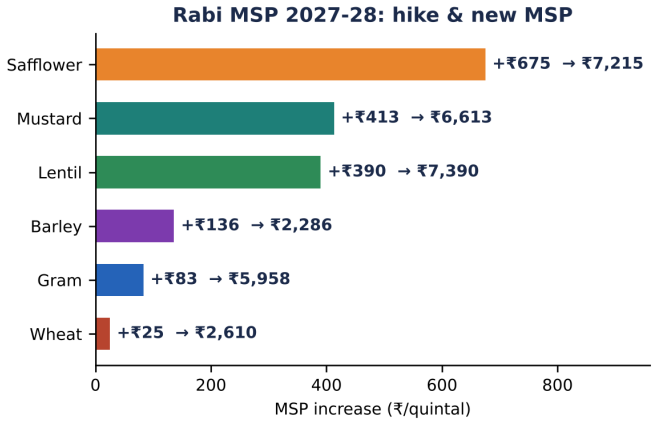
Syllabus Linkage	Energy security & **renewable integration**; climate commitments (NDC). Prelims: GEC phases, **BESS**, STUs.
Context	On **30 September 2026**, the **Union Cabinet** approved **Green Energy Corridor Phase-III (GEC-III)** with an outlay of **₹1,86,405 crore** to evacuate and integrate up to **135 GW** of renewable power into state grids by **FY 2032-33**.
Key Facts	■ Split: **₹1,36,378 crore** for **intra-state transmission (InSTS)** + **₹50,000 crore** for **50 GWh** of battery storage. ■ Central support of **₹54,082 crore** (~**29%**) to ease intra-state transmission charges. ■ **State Transmission Utilities (STUs)** lead; new projects via **competitive bidding**, upgrades on cost-plus. ■ Targets **intermittency**, grid congestion and **curtailment** of solar/wind at peak hours.
Way Fwd	Hill states such as **Uttarakhand** should bid early for transmission + BESS to evacuate **small hydro and solar**; fast-track right-of-way clearances.
Concept	**GEC-I** (from **2015**) was backed by Germany's **KfW**; **GEC-II** (**2022**) targeted ~**20 GW** in 7 states. India met its **NDC** goal of **50%** installed capacity from non-fossil sources in **2025**, ahead of **2030**.

Rabi MSP 2027-28: oilseeds and pulses get the biggest hikes; wheat up just ₹25 to ₹2,610

ECONOMY **UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Indian Economy & Agriculture)**

Syllabus Linkage	Agricultural pricing, **MSP**, crop diversification. Prelims: **CACP**, CCEA, cost concepts.
Context	On **30 September 2026**, the Centre raised **MSPs for six rabi crops** for **Rabi Marketing Season 2027-28**, giving the largest increases to oilseeds and pulses to cut import dependence.
Key Facts	■ **Safflower +₹675 → ₹7,215/qtl** (highest); **rapeseed-mustard +₹413 → ₹6,613**. ■ **Lentil +₹390 → ₹7,390**; **barley +₹136 → ₹2,286**; **gram +₹83 → ₹5,958**. ■ **Wheat +₹25 only → ₹2,610/qtl**, yet the highest margin over cost at **106%**. ■ Other margins over cost: mustard **96%**, lentil **92%**, gram **59%**, barley **58%**, safflower **50%**.
Way Fwd	Back price signals with **assured procurement** of pulses and oilseeds; in Uttarakhand's hills, extend procurement and branding to **millets (mandua, jhangora)**.
Concept	MSP is fixed for **22 mandated crops** (plus FRP for sugarcane) on the advice of the **CACP** (est. **1965**, attached office of the Agriculture Ministry, **not statutory**); the **CCEA** approves. Since **2018-19**, MSP is at least **1.5×** the all-India weighted average cost (**A2+FL**).





RBI MPC meets 5–7 October; first rate hike since 2023 on the table as CPI hits 4.82%

ECONOMY UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Indian Economy — Money & Banking)

Syllabus Linkage	Monetary policy, **inflation targeting**, RBI tools. Prelims: **MPC** composition, repo rate, CPI vs WPI.
Context	The RBI's **Monetary Policy Committee**, chaired by Governor **Sanjay Malhotra**, meets on **5–7 October 2026**; most economists polled expect a **25 bps** hike in the **repo rate** from **5.25%** to **5.50%**.
Key Facts	■ **CPI inflation 4.82% (August)** — above the **4%** target for the **third straight month**; **WPI 9.92%**. ■ Pressures: high **crude prices**, geopolitical tension, rupee down about **6%** vs the dollar in 2026, tightening by the **US Fed** and **Bank of Japan**. ■ Repo **unchanged at 5.25%** for **four** reviews after **125 bps** of cuts in 2025. ■ A hike would be the **first since February 2023**.
Way Fwd	Complement monetary tightening with **supply-side steps** — edible-oil and pulse imports, fuel-tax calibration — to protect growth.
Concept	Six-member **MPC** under **Section 45ZB, RBI Act 1934** (amended **2016**): **3 RBI + 3 Centre-nominated** members; Governor has a **casting vote**. Target: **CPI 4% ± 2%**. **Repo** = rate at which RBI lends short-term funds to banks.

Nation marks Gandhi's 157th and Shastri's 122nd birth anniversary

SOCIETY UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (History & Culture — Modern India)

Syllabus Linkage	Modern Indian history — **Gandhian phase**; Gandhi's links with Uttarakhand. Prelims: dates, slogans, international days.
Context	On **2 October 2026**, President **Droupadi Murmu**, Vice-President **C.P. Radhakrishnan** and PM **Narendra Modi** paid tribute at **Rajghat** and **Vijay Ghat**; the PM urged citizens to buy at least one **Khadi** product.
Key Facts	■ **2 October** is also the UN **International Day of Non-Violence** (UNGA resolution, **2007**). ■ **Swachh Bharat Mission** was launched on **2 Oct 2014**; swachhata drives and **shramdaan** held across states. ■ Gandhi born **1869**, **Porbandar**; Shastri born **1904**, **Mughalsarai** — gave the slogan **'Jai Jawan Jai Kisan'** (**1965**). ■ In **1929** Gandhi stayed at **Kausani (Bageshwar)**, wrote his introduction to **Anasakti Yoga** and called it the **'Switzerland of India'**.
Way Fwd	Apply Gandhian ideas — **Khadi, Gram Swaraj**, local self-reliance — to revive hill economies and curb **palayan** (out-migration).
Concept	Gandhian principles in the DPSP: **Art. 40** (village panchayats), **43** (cottage industries), **46** (weaker sections), **47** (prohibition), **48** (cattle). **Anasakti Ashram**, Kausani, marks his stay.

India–Canada eye ~$70 billion trade in five years; Putin praises Modi's Ukraine peace ideas

IR UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (International Relations)

Syllabus Linkage	India's bilateral relations, **trade agreements**, energy & critical-mineral diplomacy. Prelims: CEPA, G20, Valdai.
Context	On **2 October 2026**, Canada's International Trade Minister **Maninder Sidhu**, at the **G20 Trade Ministers' Meeting** in **Milwaukee (USA)**, said both sides aim to lift bilateral trade from about **$30 billion** to nearly **$70 billion** in **five years**. Separately, President **Vladimir Putin** told the **Valdai** forum that PM Modi has 'very good ideas' for a mutually acceptable Ukraine settlement.
Key Facts	■ **5th round** of **CEPA** talks opens in **Ottawa**; **4 rounds** done; both sides target a deal by **end-2026**. ■ Focus areas: **LNG**, **critical minerals** (EV battery inputs), **aerospace**, investment and research. ■ India's stand on Ukraine: **'on the side of peace'** — dialogue and diplomacy, no bloc alignment. ■ The **USA** holds the **G20 presidency** in 2026.
Way Fwd	Conclude CEPA with safeguards for **dairy and agriculture**; tap Canadian minerals for the **National Critical Mineral Mission**.

Asian Games 2026: India's women's recurve archers win maiden team gold, beat South Korea 5-3

SPORTS UKPSC: Prelims (Sports & Current Events)

Syllabus Linkage	Current events of national importance — **sports**. Prelims: host cities, **OCA**, first-time achievements.
Context	On **2 October 2026**, the trio of **Ankita Bhakat, Kirti Sharma** and **Kumkum Mohod** won India's **first-ever Asian Games gold** in the **women's recurve team** event, edging 10-time Olympic champions **South Korea 5-3** at **Aichi-Nagoya**.
Key Facts	■ India beat **China 5-1** in the semi-final to reach its **first** women's recurve team final. ■ Decisive moment: a **score correction** in set four (an 8 upgraded to a 9) sealed **54** points for India. ■ **20th Asian Games**: **19 Sept–4 Oct 2026**, **Aichi & Nagoya, Japan**; India sent **496 athletes** in **36 sports**. ■ India's flag-bearers: **Manu Bhaker** and **Pawan Sehrawat**.
Way Fwd	Build on the result through **Khelo India** and TOPS support for archery, and grassroots talent hunts in hill states such as **Uttarakhand**.

Concept	**CEPA** is broader than an FTA — covers goods, **services, investment** and IPR. The **Valdai Discussion Club** is a Moscow-based forum (est. **2004**). India–Canada ties were **reset in 2025** with High Commissioners restored.

Concept	Asian Games are run by the **Olympic Council of Asia (OCA)**, HQ **Kuwait City**. The **first Asian Games** were held in **New Delhi (1951)**. Recurve is the **only bow used at the Olympics**; compound archery is not an Olympic event.

SECTION D | PRELIMS RAPID-FIRE

1. Uttarakhand **State Election Commissioner Sushil Kumar** called on the Governor at **Lok Bhavan, Dehradun** (1 Oct).	**4.** Monsoon withdrawal line: **Gurdaspur–Chandigarh–Muzaffarnagar–Aligarh**; Uttarakhand largely monsoon-free by **3 Oct**.
2. Dehradun Warriors won **Uttarakhand Premier League Season 3**, beating Haridwar in the final (1 Oct).	**5. Seva Sankalp Abhiyan** in Uttarakhand runs **17 Sept–17 Oct 2026** with **11** programmes linked to **Viksit Bharat 2047**.
3. Haridwar Kumbh 2027: Mela Officer **Sonika** and IG **Yogendra Rawat** briefed the Governor on preparations incl. **AI-based** crowd management (30 Sept).	**6. 5th Kautilya Economic Conclave** opens in **New Delhi** on **3 Oct**.

SECTION E | PRACTICE CORNER

PRELIMS MCQs (UKPSC pattern)

Q1. Arrange the following events of the Uttarakhand statehood movement in chronological order: 1. Mussoorie firing 2. Formation of Uttarakhand Kranti Dal 3. Rampur Tiraha firing 4. Khatima firing

(a) 2-4-1-3 **(b)** 4-1-2-3 **(c)** 2-1-4-3 **(d)** 4-2-1-3

Answer: (a) — **UKD (1979) → Khatima (1 Sept 1994) → Mussoorie (2 Sept 1994) → Rampur Tiraha (2 Oct 1994)**.

Q2. Consider the following statements about Minimum Support Price (MSP): 1. The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) is a statutory body. 2. MSP is announced for 22 mandated crops. 3. For RMS 2027-28, wheat received the highest absolute MSP increase. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only **(b)** 2 only **(c)** 2 and 3 only **(d)** 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b) — CACP is an **attached office** (not statutory). Wheat got the **smallest** hike (**₹25**); **safflower** got the highest (**₹675**).

MAINS PRACTICE QUESTION

Q. Over-tourism is straining Uttarakhand's hill towns. Discuss the need for carrying-capacity-based tourism regulation, citing recent judicial interventions, and suggest a framework for Mussoorie. (125 words, 8 marks)

Hint: Intro: tourist growth **8.5 lakh → 30 lakh**. Body: HC's **9-month** deadline, NGT's post-**Joshimath** study; issues (water, traffic, construction, waste). Framework: visitor cap + e-permits, parking-linked entry, building bye-laws, **geotechnical audits**, green fee. Conclude with sustainable hill tourism.

ONE-LINE REVISION: BESS 76 MW/190 MWh (UERC) • Mussoorie plan in **9 months** (HC) • **Rampur Tiraha — 2 Oct 1994** • **GEC-III ₹1.86 lakh crore/135 GW** • Wheat MSP **₹2,610** • GST Sept **₹2.04 lakh crore (+14.7%)**

Compiled & simplified by the StudyForGS.com Research Team • ▶ YouTube: @Study_ForGS • ➤ Telegram: t.me/studyforgeneralstudies