

TODAY AT A GLANCE — 10 THINGS TO REMEMBER	
■ Alaknanda basin: 219 hanging glaciers mapped; GLOF & avalanche risk rising.	■ SC pushes states to raise district-judge retirement age to 62 .
■ Uttarakhand on red alert as monsoon triggers landslides; SDRF mobilised.	■ GDP base year shifts to 2022-23 ; WPI replaced by PPI.
■ GEP — Uttarakhand's first-in-India green-accounting index in focus.	■ RBI holds repo at 5.25% ; FY27 growth seen at 6.7% .
■ UCC : Uttarakhand's 2026 amendment keeps the code in active operation.	■ ISRO's GSLV-F17 launches 2,367 kg EOS-05 satellite.
■ Uttarakhand FY27 budget pegged at ₹1.11 lakh crore (~10% up).	■ UN: 1.5°C target to be breached; carbon removal floated as fallback.

SECTION A · UTTARAKHAND SPECIAL

219 Hanging Glaciers Mapped in Alaknanda Basin — Rising GLOF & Avalanche Risk

ENVIRONMENT	UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Geography & Environment — Uttarakhand)
Syllabus Linkage	Uttarakhand geography & Himalayan disaster management; Prelims: glaciers, GLOF, Chamoli 2021.
Context	A recent scientific study inventoried 219 hanging glaciers in the Alaknanda basin of the Garhwal Himalaya , warning that thawing permafrost is loosening ice anchored to steep cliffs and raising the risk of ice-rock avalanches and Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOF) .
Key Facts	■ Total glacier area 71.7 sq km; ice volume 2.39 cubic km; one-third of unstable ice in the Badrinath-Mana sector. ■ Buildings at risk projected to rise 120% by 2030 (vs 2000); population in vulnerable zones up 17%. ■ Recalls the February 2021 Chamoli disaster (Rishiganga valley) that killed 200+ with no prior monitoring. ■ NH-7 (Badrinath highway) and pilgrim sites Badrinath, Kedarnath, Joshimath lie in the risk zone. ■ Glacier types flagged: Ramp-Slab, Terrace-Slab, Terrace-Wedge.
Way Fwd	Install GLOF early-warning sensors , restrict construction in eco-fragile zones, and adopt the monitored-evacuation model (as in Blatten, Switzerland, 2025).
Concept	GLOF : sudden release of water from a glacial lake. Permafrost : permanently frozen ground that acts as 'freeze-glue' anchoring mountain ice.

ALAKNANDA BASIN — GLACIER RISK

Himalayan hanging-glacier & GLOF hazard (Garhwal)

219
Hanging glaciers mapped

71.7
Glacier area (sq km)

2.39
Ice volume (cubic km)

+120%
Buildings at risk by 2030

Uttarakhand on High Alert as Monsoon Fury Triggers Landslides; SDRF Steps Up

UTTARAKHAND	UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Disaster Management & Governance — Uttarakhand)
Syllabus Linkage	Disaster management in Uttarakhand; Char Dham route management; role of SDRF/USDMA.
Context	Intense late-monsoon spells have brought cloudbursts, flash floods and landslides across hill districts, blocking Char Dham routes and prompting red/orange alerts , as the state activates its disaster-response chain from early warning to relief.
Key Facts	■ IMD red alerts issued for multiple hill districts; schools shut and pilgrim movement regulated. ■ SDRF, NDRF and district authorities mobilised; SACHET alerts and control rooms activated. ■ Landslides recurrently block the Rishikesh-Badrinath (NH-7) and Sonprayag-Kedarnath stretches. ■ State pushing a 'disaster-resilient' Char Dham Yatra model after heavy-rain casualties in 2026.
Way Fwd	Strengthen slope stabilisation on highways, expand Doppler-radar and GLOF-sensor coverage, and enforce carrying-capacity limits on the Yatra.
Concept	USDMA : Uttarakhand State Disaster Management Authority. SDRF : State Disaster Response Force, the first responder in hill emergencies.

© StudyForGS.com

▶ YouTube: @Study_ForGS

▶ Telegram: t.me/studyforgeneralstudies

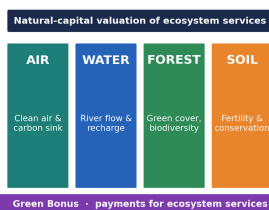
Page 1 of 5

Gross Environment Product (GEP): Uttarakhand's Green-Accounting Model in Focus

ENVIRONMENT	UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Environment & Economy — Uttarakhand)
Syllabus Linkage	Green GDP, natural-capital accounting; Uttarakhand-specific green initiatives.
Context	Uttarakhand pioneered Gross Environment Product (GEP) — India's first index to measure the economic value of ecosystem services — and continues to link it with policy and its demand for a Green Bonus for Himalayan states.
Key Facts	■ GEP values four natural assets: air, water, forest and soil. ■ Uttarakhand is the first Indian state to launch a GEP framework, complementing GSDP with an ecological measure. ■ Underpins the state's demand for a 'Green Bonus' / payments for ecosystem services from the Centre. ■ Aligns with the concept of Green GDP and natural-capital accounting.
Way Fwd	Institutionalise annual GEP reporting, tie forest/water conservation to fiscal transfers, and mainstream payments for ecosystem services.
Concept	Ecosystem services: benefits people derive from nature (clean air, water, pollination). Green GDP: GDP adjusted for environmental costs.

GROSS ENVIRONMENT PRODUCT (GEP)

Uttarakhand — India's first green-accounting index



Uniform Civil Code: Uttarakhand's Rollout and 2026 Amendment in the Spotlight

POLITY	UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Polity & Governance — Uttarakhand)
Syllabus Linkage	UCC & Article 44 (DPSP); Uttarakhand as first state to implement UCC.
Context	Uttarakhand — the first state to implement a Uniform Civil Code (UCC) — refined its rules through the UCC (Amendment) Ordinance 2026 , keeping the code and its registration portal in active operation.
Key Facts	■ UCC covers marriage, divorce, succession and live-in registration; tribal communities are exempted. ■ Backed by Article 44 of the Constitution (Directive Principles of State Policy). ■ A dedicated online portal handles registrations and grievances. ■ The 2026 amendment eased procedural and registration provisions.
Way Fwd	Ensure smooth digital registration, safeguard privacy, and build public awareness while other states study the template.
Concept	Article 44 (DPSP): the State shall endeavour to secure a Uniform Civil Code. DPSP: non-justiciable guidelines for governance.



Static-syllabus web for UKPSC Prelims + Mains revision

Revision web — Uttarakhand disaster & ecology themes

UTTARAKHAND DISASTER-MANAGEMENT RESPONSE CHAIN



Nodal agencies: USDMA · SDRF · District Disaster Management Authorities | Tools: Doppler radar, GLOF sensors, SACHET alerts

SECTION B · DATA POINT OF THE DAY

Uttarakhand State Budget, FY 2026-27

₹1.11 lakh crore

Roughly a **10% increase** over the previous fiscal; **28 cabinet proposals** were cleared alongside — including an **Advanced Apple Nursery** scheme, a **Honey Production Policy 2026** and a **treated-water reuse** policy.

UTTARAKHAND STATE BUDGET

Fiscal Year	Budget (₹ lakh crore)
FY 2025-26	₹1.01 L cr
FY 2026-27	₹1.11 L cr

Outlay up ~10% year-on-year

SECTION C · NATIONAL & WORLD

Supreme Court Nudges States to Raise District Judges' Retirement Age to 62

POLITY UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Polity & Judiciary)

Syllabus Linkage	Judiciary, district courts, pendency; Prelims: subordinate courts (Articles 233–237).
Context	Citing 5.18 crore pending cases in district courts, the Supreme Court directed states to raise the retirement age of judicial officers from 60 to 62 years , with a suitability check at 60.
Key Facts	■ Bench led by CJI Surya Kant; states to decide in two weeks, amend rules in two months. ■ Seven states have already agreed; Uttarakhand is among those yet to commit. ■ Court called the financial-burden objection 'negligible' (citing a 1992 precedent). ■ Suitability assessment to follow the Madras High Court model.
Way Fwd	States should amend service rules promptly and pair it with faster recruitment to cut pendency.
Concept	District judiciary : the subordinate courts at district level, the backbone of access to justice under Articles 233–237 of the Constitution.

GDP Base Year Shifts to 2022-23; WPI Replaced by Producer Price Index

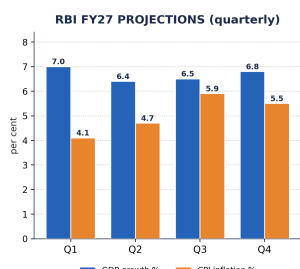
ECONOMY UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Economy & National Income)

Syllabus Linkage	National income accounting, GDP, price indices (WPI, PPI, CPI).
Context	The official statistics agency released National Accounts Statistics 2026 with a new base year of 2022-23 , and moved from the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) to a Producer Price Index (PPI) for deflating GDP.
Key Facts	■ New base year: 2022-23 (from 2011-12). ■ PPI replaces WPI; a new Banking Services Price Index (BkSPI) — India's first — is introduced. ■ IIP item coverage widened; 60 statements including revised estimates released. ■ Aligns India's statistics with international standards.
Way Fwd	Ensure back-series continuity and transparent methodology so revised growth numbers stay comparable.
Concept	PPI : measures the average change in producers' selling prices. Base year : the reference year for constant-price (real) GDP.

RBI Holds Repo Rate at 5.25%, Raises FY27 Growth View to 6.7%

ECONOMY UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Economy — Monetary Policy)

Syllabus Linkage	Monetary policy, RBI, MPC, repo rate, inflation targeting.
Context	In its August 2026 review, the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) kept the repo rate at 5.25% with a neutral stance, nudging up the growth forecast while trimming the inflation projection.
Key Facts	■ Repo 5.25%, SDF 5.00%, MSF/Bank Rate 5.50%; decision unanimous. ■ FY27 GDP raised to 6.7%; CPI cut to 5.0%. ■ Quarterly GDP: Q1 7.0%, Q2 6.4%, Q3 6.5%, Q4 6.8%. ■ Cited global uncertainty from Middle-East geopolitical tensions.
Way Fwd	Stay data-dependent; balance growth support with the 4% (±2%) inflation-target band.
Concept	Repo rate : the rate at which RBI lends to banks. MPC : the 6-member committee that sets the policy rate; inflation target 4% ±2% .



India-China Hold First Corps Commander Talks in Arunachal's Eastern Sector

IR UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (International Relations & Security)

Syllabus Linkage	India's neighbourhood, border management, India-China relations, LAC.
Context	India and China held their first Corps Commander-level meeting in Arunachal Pradesh , focusing on de-escalation along the eastern sector of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) .
Key Facts	■ Talks aimed at easing border tensions in the eastern (Arunachal) sector. ■ Part of continued military-diplomatic engagement on the LAC. ■ Complements ongoing disengagement discussions across sectors. ■ China claims Arunachal as 'South Tibet'; India firmly rejects this.
Way Fwd	Sustain military-diplomatic channels, complete disengagement, and restore border tranquillity per past agreements.
Concept	LAC : the de facto boundary between India and China. Corps Commander talks : a senior military-level mechanism to manage border standoffs.

ISRO's GSLV-F17 Successfully Launches EOS-05 Earth-Observation Satellite

SCI-TECH UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Science & Technology — Space)

Syllabus Linkage	Space technology, ISRO launch vehicles, satellites & applications.
Context	ISRO placed the 2,367 kg EOS-05 — its heaviest GSLV payload — into a geosynchronous transfer orbit aboard GSLV-F17 , ending an eight-month launch hiatus.
Key Facts	■ EOS-05 mass 2,367 kg; 9-year design life; geosynchronous orbit (~36,000 km). ■ 19th GSLV flight; 107th launch from Sriharikota (SDSC-SHAR). ■ Three-stage vehicle (51.7 m, ~420 t) with an indigenous cryogenic upper stage. ■ Uses: agriculture, disaster management, environment and border monitoring.
Way Fwd	Leverage continuous imaging for flood and landslide monitoring in hill states like Uttarakhand.
Concept	GSLV : Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle. Cryogenic engine : uses super-cooled liquid fuel and oxidiser for high thrust.

UN Warns 1.5°C Target Will Be Breached; Pins Hope on Carbon Removal

REPORT UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Environment & Climate Change)

Syllabus Linkage	Climate change, Paris Agreement, carbon removal, global environmental governance.
Context	A UN environment report concluded that the 1.5°C Paris goal will be breached 'in the next few years', with warming already near 1.4°C , and floated large-scale carbon dioxide removal (CDR) as a fallback.
Key Facts	■ Current warming ~1.4°C; on present policies, 2.6°C by 2100. ■ Fallback: cap overshoot near 1.8°C, then remove carbon to bring temperatures down. ■ CDR methods: afforestation, BECCS, direct air capture (DAC), enhanced weathering. ■ Warns of AMOC weakening and near-total coral bleaching at 1.5°C.
Way Fwd	Deep, immediate emission cuts remain primary; CDR must not become an excuse for delay ('moral hazard').
Concept	CDR : removing CO2 from the atmosphere. AMOC : Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation, a key ocean-current system.

GSLV-F17 · EOS-05 EARTH-OBSERVATION MISSION

2,367 kg

Heaviest GSLV payload

~36,000 km

Geosynchronous orbit

9 years

Design mission life

51.7 m

Vehicle height

19th GSLV

107th launch @ SDSC

SECTION D · PRELIMS RAPID-FIRE

■ Winter **Corbett-region tourism festivals** promote off-season Kumaon tourism and 'Vocal for Local'.

■ The **16th National Meet of State Biodiversity Boards** was held in **Chandigarh**.

■ The **National Biodiversity Authority** crossed **₹200-crore** cumulative Access & Benefit-Sharing disbursement.

■ India's **U-20 men's football** team qualified for the **AFC U-20 Asian Cup** after 20 years.

■ The **IAF Sarang** helicopter display team performed at the **EI Alamein Airshow, Egypt**.

■ **Tamil Nadu** began **Phase-3 underwater archaeology** at **Poompuhar**.

SECTION E · PRACTICE CORNER

PRELIMS MCQ 1

Consider the following about Gross Environment Product (GEP): (1) Uttarakhand was the first Indian state to launch a GEP index. (2) GEP measures the value of air, water, forest and soil. (3) GEP replaces Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP). Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 and 2 only
(B) 2 and 3 only
(C) 1 and 3 only
(D) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: A. GEP complements — it does not replace — GSDP; it is an ecological measure valuing ecosystem services across air, water, forest and soil. Hence statement 3 is incorrect.

PRELIMS MCQ 2

With reference to the RBI's August 2026 monetary policy, which statement is correct?

- (A) Repo rate was raised to 5.50%
(B) Repo rate was kept at 5.25% with a neutral stance
(C) FY27 GDP growth was cut to 6.0%
(D) The CPI inflation target was scrapped

Ans: B. The MPC held the repo rate at 5.25% (neutral stance), raised FY27 GDP to 6.7% and trimmed CPI to 5.0%; the 4% ($\pm 2\%$) inflation target remains in force.

MAINS PRACTICE QUESTION

The Himalayan state of Uttarakhand faces a rising frequency of GLOF and cloudburst-driven disasters. Discuss the structural and ecological factors behind this, and suggest a disaster-resilient development model for the state. (250 words)

Hint: Cover permafrost thaw and hanging glaciers (219 in the Alaknanda basin), unregulated construction on fragile slopes, and Char Dham pressure; then link solutions — GLOF early-warning sensors, carrying-capacity limits, eco-sensitive zoning and GEP-based green planning.

REVISION SNAPSHOT — Remember: **219 hanging glaciers** in the Alaknanda basin; **GEP** values air-water-forest-soil; **RBI repo** held at **5.25%** with FY27 GDP at **6.7%**; **EOS-05 (2,367 kg)** launched on **GSLV-F17**; **UCC** — Uttarakhand is the first state.

Compiled & simplified by the StudyForGS.com Research Team

► YouTube: @Study_ForGS ► Telegram: t.me/studyforgeneralstudies