CURRENT AFFAIRS — 9 November 2026

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DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS FOR UTTARAKHAND PCS

Monday, 9 November 2026 • Asia/Kolkata (IST) • Uttarakhand + National • UKPSC Prelims & Mains digest

TODAY AT A GLANCE — 10 THINGS TO REMEMBER

- Uttarakhand marked its **26th Foundation Day**; formed on **9 Nov 2000** as India's **27th state**.
- PM said Uttarakhand can become the **'spiritual capital of the world'**.
- Uttarakhand Police: **16th** force to get the **President's Police Colour** ('Nishaan').
- **62 projects worth ₹1,475.31 crore** — **44** foundation stones, **18** inaugurations.
- **Vision 2047** targets a **₹28 lakh crore** economy and **46.6%** forest cover.
- Char Dham Yatra 2026 crossed a record **63 lakh** pilgrims; shrines move to **winter seats**.
- Gross GST, Oct 2026: **₹2,31,290 crore** (**+22.9%**); Uttarakhand **₹1,776 crore** (**+11%**).
- **COP31** opens today in **Antalya, Türkiye** (**9–20 Nov**).
- SC: **National Book Trust** is **'State' under Article 12** — 'pervasive control' test.
- Trade margins on **137 anti-cancer drugs** capped at **30% of MRP** from **today**.

SECTION A | UTTARAKHAND SPECIAL — State schemes, policy, pilgrimage & governance

Uttarakhand @26: Foundation Day honours statehood martyrs, PM pitches 'spiritual capital' vision

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

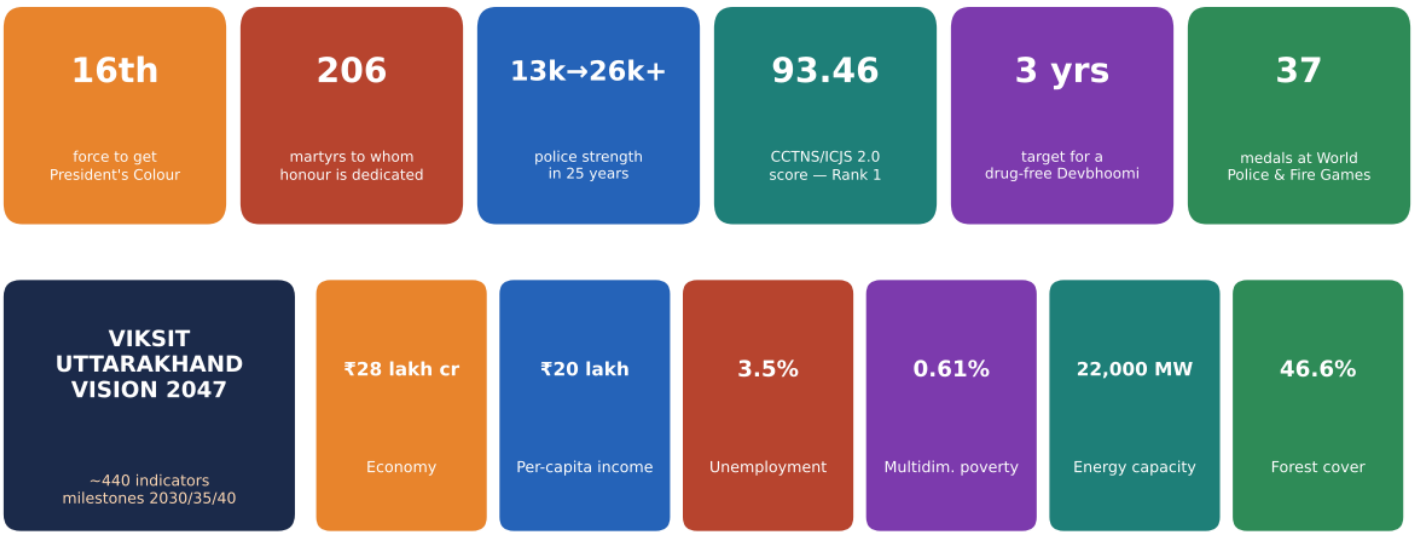
Syllabus Linkage	Uttarakhand statehood movement; state formation & renaming; **Prelims**: key dates, martyr sites, Gairsain.
Context	On **9 November 2026** Uttarakhand celebrated its **26th Foundation Day**. CM **Pushkar Singh Dhami** paid floral tributes at **Shaheed Sthal, Kachahari (Dehradun)** and attended the state function at the **Bhararisain Vidhan Sabha complex, Gairsain (Chamoli)**.
Key Facts	■ Formed on **9 Nov 2000** from Uttar Pradesh as India's **27th state**; renamed from **Uttaranchal** to **Uttarakhand** in **2007**. ■ PM **Narendra Modi**, in a letter and post, said the 'Devbhoomi' has the capacity to become the **'spiritual capital of the world'**. ■ CM named **5 drivers** of development: **farmers, workers, women, tribal communities and youth**. ■ Over **40 agitators** were martyred in the statehood struggle; President **Droupadi Murmu** also greeted the state.
Way Fwd	Convert the 'spiritual capital' idea into **carrying-capacity-based** pilgrimage tourism and stronger **hill-district livelihoods** to curb **palayan**.
Concept	**Uttar Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2000** created the state. Movement flashpoints: **Khatima (1 Sep 1994)**, **Mussoorie (2 Sep 1994)**, **Rampur Tiraha (2 Oct 1994)**. **Gairsain** = summer capital.

Uttarakhand Police becomes 16th force to receive the President's Police Colour

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

Syllabus Linkage	Internal security, police reforms, disaster response; **Prelims**: honours, mottos, rankings.
Context	Union Home Minister **Amit Shah** presented the **President's Police Colour ('Nishaan')** to Uttarakhand Police in **Dehradun** on **6 Nov 2026**, during the Foundation Day week.
Key Facts	■ Uttarakhand Police is the **16th** police force in India to receive it; motto **'Karm Satyam Shauryam'**. ■ Honour dedicated to **206 personnel** who made the supreme sacrifice; force grew from **~13,000** to **26,000+** in 25 years. ■ State ranked **1st** on the **CCTNS/ICJS 2.0 dashboard** with a score of **93.46**. ■ Target: **drug-free Devbhoomi in 3 years**; praised for **Silkyara tunnel** rescue and **Dharali, Tharali** disaster response.
Way Fwd	Build on the honour with faster **trial-to-conviction** under the new criminal laws and dedicated **mountain disaster-response** police units.
Concept	**President's Colour** = highest honour for a military/police unit for exceptional service; **Police** is a **State List** subject (**Entry 2, List II, Seventh Schedule**).

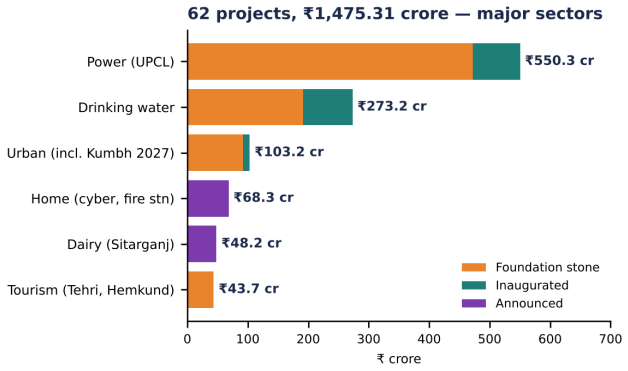
Uttarakhand Police — President's Police Colour ('Nishaan'), 6 Nov 2026 • Motto: Karm Satyam Shauryam

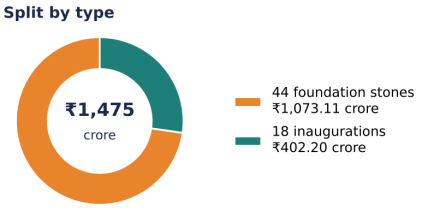


₹1,475 crore push: 62 projects launched for power, water, Kumbh 2027 and tourism

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

Syllabus Linkage	State infrastructure, energy & water supply, tourism economy; **Prelims**: project sites and districts.
Context	At the **Parade Ground, Dehradun** (**6 Nov**), the Union Home Minister and CM launched **62 projects worth ₹1,475.31 crore** as part of the Foundation Day celebrations.
Key Facts	■ **44** foundation stones (**₹1,073.11 crore**) and **18** inaugurations (**₹402.20 crore**). ■ Power (**UPCL**) is the largest head: **20** foundation projects worth **₹472.33 crore**. ■ Urban works (**₹92.25 crore**) include **Haridwar** preparations for **Kumbh 2027**. ■ Tourism: **Dobra-Chanthi** park (**Tehri**) and power infrastructure for the **Hemkund Sahib ropeway**; a **Cyber Excellence Centre** (**₹31.63 crore**) in Dehradun; milk-powder plant at **Sitarganj**.
Way Fwd	Ensure **time-bound completion** before Kumbh 2027 and **disaster-proof** design for hill power and water assets.
Concept	**Dobra-Chanthi** = long **motorable suspension bridge** over **Tehri lake**. **Hemkund Sahib ropeway** (Govindghat–Hemkund, ~**12.4 km**) is planned under **Parvatmala**.





'Viksit Uttarakhand Vision 2047' and Devbhoomi Parivar Portal: targets for a ₹28 lakh crore economy

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

Syllabus Linkage	State economy, planning, e-governance; **Prelims**: targets and indicators of state vision documents.
Context	On **2 Nov 2026** CM Dhami released the **Viksit Uttarakhand Vision 2047** and launched the **Devbhoomi Parivar Portal**, which gives every registered family a unique **Family ID**.
Key Facts	■ 2047 targets: economy **~₹28 lakh crore**, per-capita income **~₹20 lakh**, unemployment **3.5%**. ■ Multidimensional poverty **0.61%**, energy capacity **~22,000 MW**, forest cover **46.6%**; **~440 indicators**. ■ Interim milestones for **2030, 2035, 2040**; state **Devbhoomi Parivar Authority** + district officers. ■ CM cited **GSDP growth 7.23%**, **3 lakh+ Lakhpati Didis** and **30%** horizontal reservation for women.
Way Fwd	Link the Family ID with **DBT** and migration data to target **hill districts**; track green goals through **GEP**.
Concept	**Gross Environment Product (GEP)** — Uttarakhand was the **first state** to adopt it (2021) to value **air, water, soil, forest**. **Family ID** model is similar to Haryana's **Parivar Pehchan Patra**.

Bhararisain session: ₹7,844 crore supplementary budget and 10 Bills incl. Fire & Emergency Services Bill

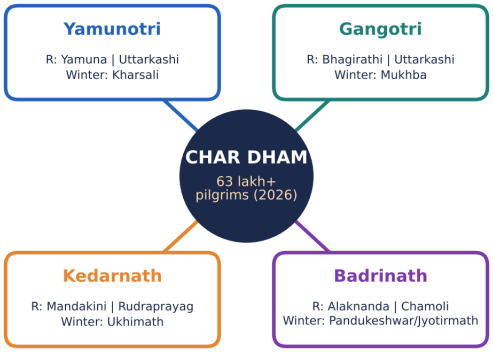
UTTARAKHAND **UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Polity & Governance — Uttarakhand)**

Syllabus Linkage	State legislature, budgeting, UCC, disaster governance; **Prelims**: bills, summer capital, Speaker.
Context	The two-day session at **Bhararisain (Gairsain)**, **27–28 Oct 2026**, passed a **₹7,844.18 crore** supplementary budget and **10 Bills**; Speaker **Ritu Khanduri Bhushan** adjourned the House **sine die**.
Key Facts	■ Bills include the **Fire and Emergency Services Bill**, **Irrigation and Drainage Bill** and **Civil Law (Amendment) Bill**. ■ Also passed: **FRBM (Amendment)**, **Jan Vishwas (Second Amendment)**, **GST (Amendment)** and **Minority Education (Amendment)** Bills. ■ Reported as the **last sitting** of the current Assembly; Opposition protested its short duration.
Way Fwd	Longer, regular sittings at Gairsain would deepen **legislative scrutiny** and the **hill-capital** idea.
Concept	**Supplementary grant** — **Art. 205** (States). **Gairsain** declared **summer capital** in **2020**. Uttarakhand **UCC** came into force in **January 2025** — first state after independence.

Char Dham Yatra crosses record 63 lakh pilgrims as shrines prepare for winter closure

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

Syllabus Linkage	Pilgrimage tourism, crowd & disaster management; **Prelims**: shrines, rivers, districts, winter seats.
Context	The **2026 Char Dham Yatra** has crossed **63 lakh** pilgrims (as of **5 Nov**), a record. Portals close for winter after Diwali, while the weather office forecasts **rain in 5 districts** and **snowfall** in higher reaches today.
Key Facts	■ Traditionally **Gangotri** closes on **Annakut (Govardhan Puja)**; **Kedarnath** and **Yamunotri** on **Bhai Dooj**; **Badrinath** closes last. ■ Winter seats: **Kedarnath → Omkareshwar, Ukhimath**; **Badrinath → Pandukeshwar/Jyotirmath**; **Gangotri → Mukhba**; **Yamunotri → Kharsali**. ■ Heavy footfall at **Kedarnath** and **Badrinath** — raising **carrying-capacity** and **landslide-risk** concerns.
Way Fwd	Promote the **winter Char Dham (Sheetkalin Yatra)** circuit to spread footfall; make **registration-linked crowd caps** and **early-warning** systems routine.
Concept	Rivers: **Kedarnath – Mandakini**, **Badrinath – Alaknanda**, **Gangotri – Bhagirathi**, **Yamunotri – Yamuna**. **Western Disturbances** bring winter rain/snow to the state.



Char Dham at a glance — river, district and winter seat of each shrine

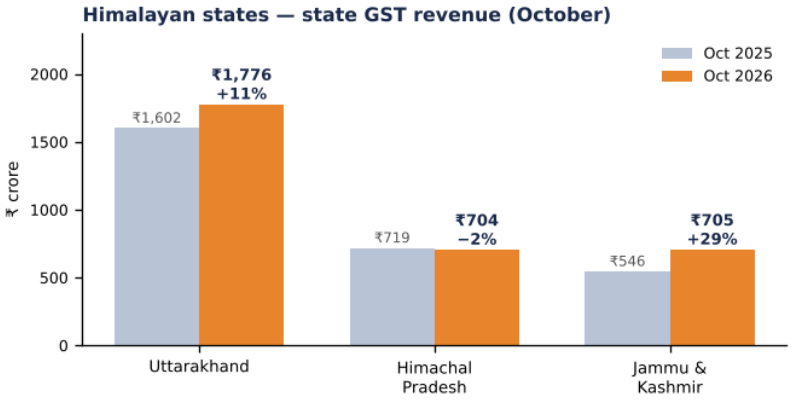


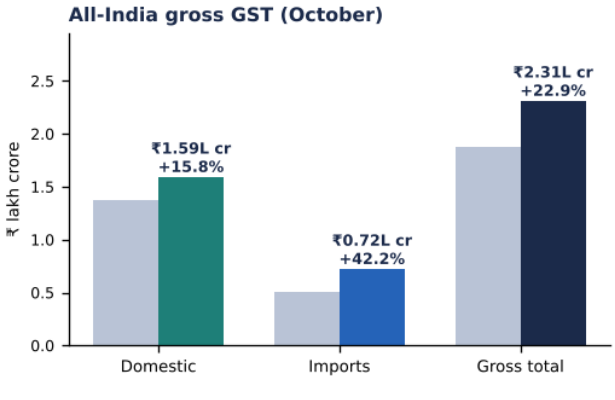
SECTION B | DATA POINT OF THE DAY

INDIA'S GROSS GST COLLECTIONS — OCTOBER 2026

₹2,31,290 crore (+22.9% YoY)

Imports **+42.2%** (**₹72,246 crore**), domestic **+15.8%** (**₹1,59,044 crore**); net GST **₹2,03,356 crore** (**+25.6%**). Uttarakhand **₹1,776 crore** (**+11%**) vs Himachal Pradesh **₹704 crore** (**−2%**). Apr–Oct gross **₹14,77,569 crore** (**+13.2%**).





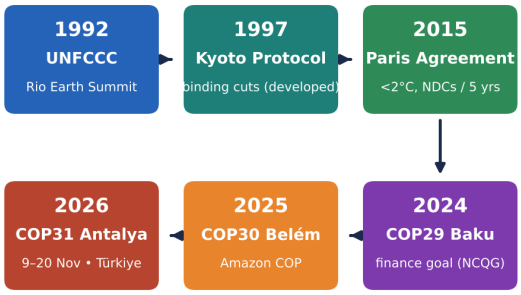
SECTION C | NATIONAL & WORLD — Polity, Environment, Defence, Health, Sci-Tech

COP31 opens in Antalya, Türkiye: climate talks under a shared Türkiye–Australia arrangement

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

Syllabus Linkage	Climate change, international environmental conventions; **Prelims**: COP venues, presidencies, treaty years.
Context	The **31st UN Climate Change Conference (COP31)** runs from **9 to 20 November 2026** in **Antalya, Türkiye**, alongside **CMP21** and **CMA8**.
Key Facts	■ **Murat Kurum** (Türkiye) is **COP31 President**; **Chris Bowen** (Australia) is **President of Negotiations**. ■ Includes the **Antalya Leaders' Summit** and **2026 Climate Action Progress Reports**. ■ Goals in focus: **1.5°C** limit, **adaptation** for vulnerable communities, **net zero by 2050** globally.
Way Fwd	India should press for **predictable climate finance** and **adaptation** support for Himalayan states facing **GLOFs** and glacier retreat.
Concept	**UNFCCC (1992, Rio) → Kyoto Protocol (1997) → Paris Agreement (2015)**: well below **2°C**, NDCs every **5 years**. India's **net-zero** target: **2070**.

Road to COP31 — the global climate regime



'Rahat Mitra': India and Myanmar hold their first tri-services HADR exercise in Chennai

DEFENCE **UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Polity, Governance & IR)**

Syllabus Linkage	India's neighbourhood policy, defence cooperation; **Prelims**: exercises and partner countries.
Context	The inaugural **India–Myanmar** bilateral **tri-services Humanitarian Assistance & Disaster Relief (HADR)** exercise **'Rahat Mitra'** was held in **Chennai** on **5–6 Nov 2026**, coordinated by the **Indian Navy**.
Key Facts	■ **300+ personnel** from the **Army, Navy and Air Force** of both countries took part. ■ Theme: **'Together for Humanity, Stronger through Partnership'**. ■ Linked to **Neighbourhood First** and the **MAHASAGAR** vision; focus on **interoperability** in disasters.
Way Fwd	Institutionalise it as an **annual** drill and extend HADR cooperation to **cyclone-prone Bay of Bengal** partners.
Concept	**MAHASAGAR** = Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions (successor to **SAGAR**). India–Myanmar border (~**1,643 km**) touches **Arunachal, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram**.

Supreme Court: National Book Trust is 'State' under Article 12 due to pervasive government control

POLITY **UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Polity & Governance)**

Syllabus Linkage	Fundamental Rights, definition of 'State', writ jurisdiction; **Prelims**: Art. 12 tests, landmark cases.
Context	On **6 Nov 2026**, a bench of Justices **Prashant Kumar Mishra** and **Augustine George Masih** upheld a Delhi HC Full Bench ruling (**2012**) that the **National Book Trust (NBT)** is an 'other authority' and hence **'State'**.
Key Facts	■ Registration as a **society/trust** does not take a body outside **Art. 12** if control is **financial, functional and administrative**. ■ Government appoints the **Chairman**; **CAG** audits accounts; ministries sit on its governing body. ■ State status does **not** make employees **civil servants** or confer **Arts. 309–311** protection automatically. ■ Separately, SC held mere **cultivation** without residence does not make one a **'forest dweller'** under the **FRA**.
Way Fwd	Clear Art. 12 tests improve **accountability** of autonomous bodies while preserving their **operational autonomy**.
Concept	**Art. 12** defines 'State' for **Part III**. Tests: **Ajay Hasia (1981)** instrumentality test; **Pradeep Kumar Biswas (2002)** 'deep and pervasive control'. **FRA = 2006** Act.

Cancer care cheaper from today: trade margins on 137 anti-cancer drugs capped at 30% of MRP

HEALTH **UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Polity, Governance & Social Justice)**

Syllabus Linkage	Health policy, drug pricing, social justice; **Prelims**: NPPA, DPCO, statutory basis.
Context	The **NPPA's** cap on **trade margins** for **137 non-scheduled anti-cancer drugs**, notified on **17 Oct 2026**, takes effect from **9 Nov 2026**.
Key Facts	■ Margins capped at **30% of MRP**; MRPs may fall by **up to 70%**. ■ Invoked under **Paragraph 19** of the **Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013** (extraordinary powers). ■ Expanded list recommended by an **expert committee** under the **DGHS**.
Way Fwd	Monitor **pass-through** to patients and pair price caps with **PM-JAY** cover and **Jan Aushadhi** outlets in hill districts.
Concept	**NPPA (1997)** under the **Department of Pharmaceuticals**; **DPCO** is issued under the **Essential Commodities Act, 1955**. **Trade margin** = gap between price to stockist and MRP.

India–EU conclude talks for India's association with €93.5 billion Horizon Europe research programme

SCI-TECH **UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Science-Tech & IR)**

Syllabus Linkage	S&T cooperation, India–EU relations; **Prelims**: programme size, timeline, pillars.
Context	On **6 Nov 2026**, India and the **European Commission** concluded negotiations on India's **association** with **Horizon Europe**, the EU's flagship research & innovation programme.
Key Facts	■ Budget **€93.5 billion**; programme period **2021–2027**. ■ Talks launched **Feb 2026**, formal negotiations from **July 2026**; agreement likely to be signed in **January**. ■ Key access to **Pillar II** — 'Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness' (health, digital, climate, energy, space).
Way Fwd	Use it for joint work on **Himalayan climate science**, clean energy and **AI**; build capacity in state universities to compete for grants.
Concept	**India–EU Trade and Technology Council (TTC)** launched **2022**. India's R&D push: **Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) Act, 2023**.

SC clarifies OBC creamy-layer ruling: concluded selections stay, CSE 2025 allocation to follow it

POLITY **UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Polity, Governance & Social Justice)**

Syllabus Linkage	Reservation, social justice, judicial review; **Prelims**: creamy layer, Art. 16(4), key cases.
Context	The Supreme Court clarified that its **11 March 2026** judgment on **OBC creamy-layer** criteria does **not reopen** selections already concluded.
Key Facts	■ The creamy-layer principle will govern **service allocation** for **UPSC CSE 2025**. ■ Similar pending claims were given **eight more weeks**. ■ Balances **finality of selections** with the benefit of reservation reaching the **truly backward**.
Way Fwd	Periodic, data-based revision of the **income ceiling** and clear rules on **salary/agricultural income** would cut litigation.
Concept	**Creamy layer** introduced by **Indra Sawhney (1992)**; OBC ceiling **₹8 lakh** p.a. (since **2017**). Art. **16(4)** — reservation in public posts for backward classes.

SECTION D | PRELIMS RAPID-FIRE

Quick fact	Answer
Uttarakhand Police motto	**Karm Satyam Shauryam**
CCTNS/ICJS 2.0 dashboard — Uttarakhand	Rank **1** (score **93.46**)
Supplementary budget at Bhararisain (Oct 2026)	**₹7,844.18 crore**
Horizon Europe budget / period	**€93.5 billion** / **2021–27**
First India–Myanmar tri-service HADR exercise	**Rahat Mitra** (Chennai)
COP31 President / President of Negotiations	**Murat Kurum** / **Chris Bowen**

SECTION E | PRACTICE CORNER — UKPSC pattern

Q1. With reference to the President's Police Colour, consider the following statements: 1. It is the highest honour conferred on a police force by the President of India. 2. Uttarakhand Police is the 16th police force to receive it. 3. It was presented to Uttarakhand Police at Nainital. 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

Answer: (b) — It was presented in **Dehradun** on **6 Nov 2026**, not Nainital; statements 1 and 2 are correct.

Q2. Consider the following pairs (Char Dham shrine — Winter seat): 1. Kedarnath — Ukhimath 2. Badrinath — Mukhba 3. Yamunotri — Kharsali. How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

(a) Only one **(b)** Only two **(c)** All three **(d)** None

Answer: (b) — **Mukhba** is the winter seat of **Gangotri**; Badrinath's winter seat is **Pandukeshwar/Jyotirmath**. Pairs 1 and 3 are correct.

Mains Practice (GS): In 26 years of statehood, Uttarakhand has made economic gains but continues to face migration and disaster challenges. Critically examine, with reference to the 'Viksit Uttarakhand Vision 2047'. (250 words)

Hint: Intro: **9 Nov 2000**, 27th state. Gains: **GSDP growth 7.23%**, per-capita income, tourism (**63 lakh** Char Dham pilgrims), **Lakhpati Didi**. Challenges: **palayan**, fragile Himalaya, **landslides/GLOF**, crowding. Vision 2047 targets (**₹28 lakh crore**, **46.6%** forest, **3.5%** unemployment). Way forward: GEP, carrying capacity, Family ID-based targeting.

ONE-LINE REVISION: Uttarakhand **26** (9 Nov 2000) • Police Colour: **16th** force • **₹1,475 cr / 62** projects • Vision 2047: **₹28 lakh cr** • Char Dham **63 lakh+** • GST **₹2.31 lakh cr** • **COP31** Antalya • NBT = **'State'** (Art. 12) • **137** cancer drugs @ **30%** margin

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