

TODAY AT A GLANCE — 10 THINGS TO REMEMBER

- Uttarakhand launches Yuva Bhavishya Nirman Yojana — free exam coaching (Phase 1: 11,000).
- Heavy-rain alert: Dehradun, Tehri, Nainital, Bageshwar, Pithoragarh (Sep 10-14).
- Char Dham Yatra 2026: record 37 lakh+ pilgrims in 61 days.
- UCC faces a fresh legal challenge in the Nainital High Court.
- Uttarakhand Budget 2026-27: ₹1,11,703 crore, GYAN model.
- GEP — Uttarakhand's green-GDP index back in focus.
- Centre proposes Article 371(K) safeguards for Ladakh.
- Cabinet clears 8 rail multitracking projects (₹20,804 cr).
- DRDO launches the SHIELD directed-energy programme.
- PM-KUSUM 2.0 to add an agrivoltaics component.

SECTION A — UTTARAKHAND SPECIAL

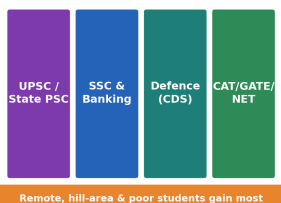
Uttarakhand launches Yuva Bhavishya Nirman Yojana — free exam coaching for youth

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

Syllabus Linkage	UKPSC GS — Governance & social justice; state welfare schemes (a strong Uttarakhand-specific Prelims area).
Context	CM Pushkar Singh Dhami approved the Mukhyamantri Yuva Bhavishya Nirman Yojana , giving free online coaching to state youth for competitive exams; a formal launch is imminent.
Key Facts	- Free online coaching from home for UPSC/PSC, SSC, banking, railways, CDS defence and CAT/GATE/NET aspirants. Phase 1 covers 11,000 students in state universities and govt/aided colleges. - Targets remote, hilly and financially weaker students to bridge the coaching-access gap. - Fits the Budget's Yuva (youth) focus under the GYAN model.
Way Fwd	Digital delivery can democratise exam prep, but needs quality mentors, hill-area connectivity and regular content updates.
Concept	GYAN model = Gareeb, Yuva, Annadata, Nari — the four focus groups of Uttarakhand Budget 2026-27.

Mukhyamantri Yuva Bhavishya Nirman Yojana 2026

FREE coaching • Phase 1: 11,000 students



Heavy-rain alert for five hill districts; disaster machinery on watch

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

Syllabus Linkage	UKPSC GS — Physical geography of Uttarakhand; Himalayan hazards; SDMA & disaster management.
Context	The met department warned of heavy to very heavy rain at isolated places over Sep 10-14 , keeping the disaster-response chain active in the tail of the monsoon.
Key Facts	- Districts on alert: Dehradun, Tehri, Nainital, Bageshwar and Pithoragarh. Thunderstorm and strong-wind warning for all districts through Sep 14. - Monsoon hazards: landslides, flash floods, cloudbursts and road blockages on hill routes. - The Char Dham Yatra can be halted or re-routed during severe spells.
Way Fwd	Early-warning dissemination, slope stabilisation and strict building norms in eco-fragile zones cut recurring monsoon losses.
Concept	Uttarakhand lies in Seismic Zones IV & V and is highly landslide-prone; USDMA coordinates state response; GLOF = Glacial Lake Outburst Flood.

Char Dham Yatra 2026 sees record rush — 37 lakh+ pilgrims in 61 days

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

Syllabus Linkage	UKPSC GS — Economy of Uttarakhand; pilgrimage & tourism; carrying capacity.
Context	The Char Dham pilgrimage logged a record turnout , with over 37 lakh devotees in the first 61 days and a rising share of young pilgrims driving spiritual tourism.
Key Facts	■ Char Dham = Yamunotri, Gangotri, Kedarnath and Badrinath; Kedarnath tops preference. ■ 37 lakh+ pilgrims in 61 days signals strong post-pandemic religious-tourism demand. ■ Online registration is mandatory for crowd and safety management. ■ Tourism is a mainstay of the hill economy and employment.
Way Fwd	Balancing footfall with fragile Himalayan carrying capacity needs staggered registration, better transport and waste management.
Concept	Carrying capacity = the maximum tourist load an ecosystem can sustain without degradation — key for eco-sensitive Himalayan shrines.

UCC faces a fresh legal challenge in the Nainital High Court

POLITY UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Indian Polity & Constitution)

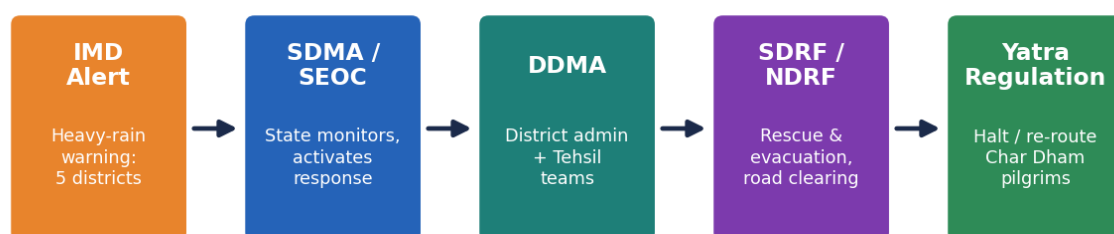
Syllabus Linkage	UKPSC GS — Constitution & Fundamental Rights; Uttarakhand's Uniform Civil Code.
Context	Petitions in the Uttarakhand High Court continue to challenge the Uniform Civil Code — India's first state UCC — with hearings this month on its constitutional validity.
Key Facts	■ Uttarakhand is the first state to implement a UCC (in force from 27 Jan 2025; an Amendment Ordinance 2026 added rules). ■ PILs argue the law violates Articles 14, 15, 19 and 21 and privacy. ■ UCC covers marriage, divorce, succession and live-in registration; Scheduled Tribes are excluded. ■ Article 44 (DPSP) urges a Uniform Civil Code for citizens.
Way Fwd	Courts will weigh gender-justice gains against liberty and privacy, shaping how other states model their own codes.
Concept	Article 44 is a Directive Principle (non-justiciable); the State shall endeavour to secure a UCC.

Green accounting: Uttarakhand's Gross Environment Product back in focus

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

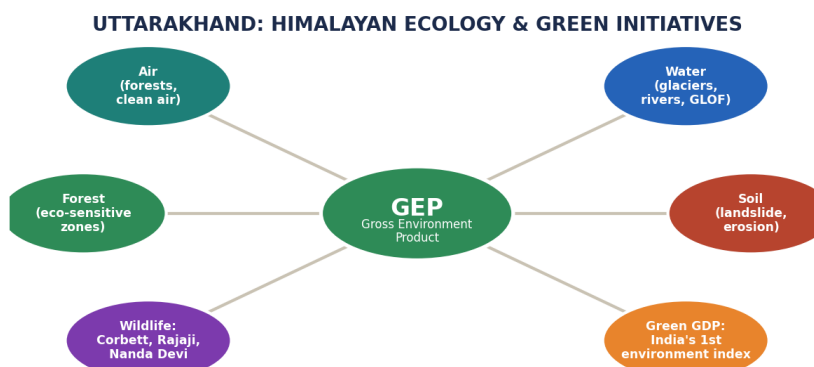
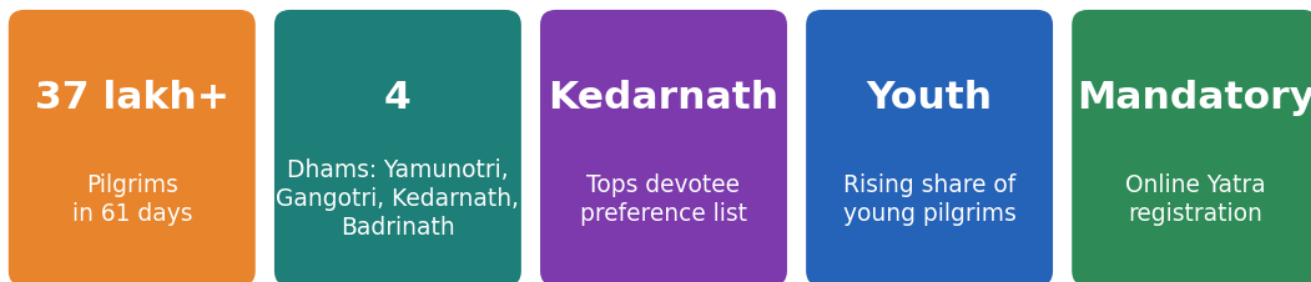
Syllabus Linkage	UKPSC GS — Environment & ecology; Himalayan conservation; green GDP.
Context	As monsoon hazards underline the value of intact ecosystems, Uttarakhand's pioneering Gross Environment Product (GEP) framework returns to attention as a model for valuing nature.
Key Facts	■ Uttarakhand is the first Indian state to launch a GEP (Green GDP) index. ■ GEP values four ecological services: air, water, soil and forest. ■ It aims to quantify nature's contribution alongside GSDP growth. ■ It complements protected areas: Corbett, Rajaji, Nanda Devi, Valley of Flowers, Gangotri.
Way Fwd	Linking GEP to budgeting and green-bonus transfers can reward hill states for conservation and curb migration ('palayan').
Concept	GEP / Green GDP internalises ecological value and complements GSDP — an 'ecosystem services' valuation.

UTTARAKHAND DISASTER-MANAGEMENT RESPONSE CHAIN (monsoon 2026)



Districts on alert: Dehradun · Tehri · Nainital · Bageshwar · Pithoragarh

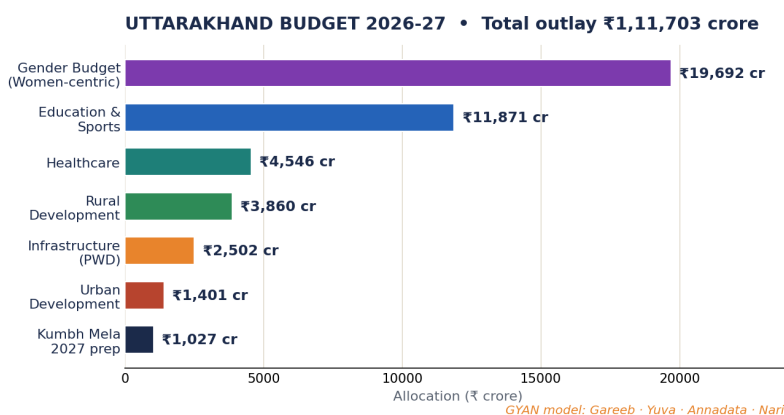
CHAR DHAM YATRA 2026 — SPIRITUAL TOURISM AT A GLANCE



SECTION B — DATA POINT OF THE DAY

₹1,11,703 crore
Uttarakhand Budget 2026-27 outlay

Capex ₹46,714 cr • Gender budget ₹19,692 cr • ~10% YoY rise • themed on the GYAN model.



SECTION C — NATIONAL & WORLD

Centre proposes special 'Article 371(K)' safeguards for Ladakh

POLITY UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Indian Polity & Federalism)

Syllabus Linkage	GS — Constitution; special provisions; centre-UT relations.
Context	The Union Home Ministry floated a customised Article 371-type framework to give Ladakh constitutional safeguards over land, jobs and culture amid statehood/Sixth Schedule demands.
Key Facts	- A proposed 'Article 371(K)' would offer special protections and a possible legislative body for Ladakh. - Ladakh became a UT without legislature after Article 370 was read down in 2019. - Demands include Sixth Schedule status, statehood and job/land safeguards. Article 371 already gives special provisions to states like Nagaland, Mizoram and Sikkim.
Way Fwd	A negotiated constitutional guarantee could balance ecological fragility, tribal identity and local aspirations in the cold desert.
Concept	Sixth Schedule (Art 244) — autonomous district councils for tribal areas in Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.

India's defence push: DRDO's SHIELD directed-energy programme and joint drills

DEFENCE UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Science-Tech, Defence & Security)

Syllabus Linkage	GS — Defence; indigenisation; science & technology.
Context	DRDO launched SHIELD to test high-power microwave and directed-energy weapons, even as India runs major exercises with the US and Japan this month.
Key Facts	SHIELD = programme to test high-power microwave & directed-energy (anti-drone) tech. 22nd India-US 'Yudh Abhyas' exercise runs Sep 9-28. India-Japan 'Veer Guardian 2026' air exercise at Jodhpur (Tejas, Su-30, Rafale vs F-2A). - The Army's AASHVAST Lab will detect Chinese components in drones.
Way Fwd	Directed-energy and counter-drone capability is central to future warfare and to Atmanirbharta in defence.
Concept	Directed-Energy Weapons (DEW) use focused energy (microwave/laser) instead of projectiles — very low cost-per-shot.

INDIA'S DEFENCE DRILLS — SEP 2026

Yudh Abhyas

22nd India-US • 9-28 Sep

Veer Guardian 2026

India-Japan air • Jodhpur

SHIELD

DRDO directed-energy & microwave programme

AASHVAST Lab

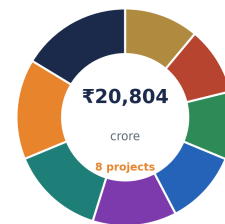
Army: detect Chinese components in drones

Cabinet clears 8 railway multitracking projects worth ₹20,804 crore

ECONOMY UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Economy & Infrastructure)

Syllabus Linkage	GS — Infrastructure; transport; PM Gati Shakti.
Context	The Union Cabinet approved eight railway multitracking projects across nine states to expand freight and passenger capacity and cut logistics costs.
Key Facts	- Total outlay ₹20,804 crore, spread over nine states. Multitracking adds parallel lines to decongest busy routes. - Supports PM Gati Shakti and the National Logistics Policy. - Aims to raise rail's freight share and lower emissions.
Way Fwd	Faster capacity addition must pair with last-mile connectivity and a modal shift from road to rail.
Concept	PM Gati Shakti — an integrated multimodal infrastructure master-plan for logistics efficiency.

UNION CABINET: RAILWAY MULTITRACKING



Across 9 states • freight & passenger capacity boost

PM-KUSUM 2.0 with an agrivoltaics component on the anvil

ENVIRONMENT UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Economy, Agriculture & Environment)

Syllabus Linkage	GS — Renewable energy; agriculture; central schemes.
Context	The government signalled a second phase of PM-KUSUM with a dedicated agrivoltaics component that combines farming with solar generation on the same land.
Key Facts	PM-KUSUM (2019) promotes solar pumps and grid-connected solar for farmers. Phase 2 to add agrivoltaics — crops + solar panels together. - Boosts farmer income, energy security and clean-energy targets. - Supports India's 500 GW non-fossil capacity goal by 2030.
Way Fwd	Agrioltaics can ease land-versus-energy trade-offs but needs crop-suitability studies and viable tariffs.
Concept	Agrioltaics = simultaneous use of land for solar PV and agriculture, improving land-use efficiency.

SECTION D — PRELIMS RAPID-FIRE

1. Sheetal Devi won compound gold at the **World Archery Para Series** (Ahmedabad); India finished **2nd** overall.

2. Uttarakhand's **GYAN model** targets **Gareeb, Yuva, Annadata, Nari**.

3. PM-SETU approved **₹735.7 cr** for 3 new **ITI clusters** (Bhiwadi, Medchal, Meerut).

4. New lichen species **Buellia maharajensis** found in **Mathikettan Shola NP, Kerala**.

5. Char Dham = **Yamunotri, Gangotri, Kedarnath, Badrinath** (Uttarakhand).

6. Dr Vinaya Prakash Singh re-elected **APPU** Secretary-General (2027-30).

7. GalaxEye (India) won a US patent for **OptoSAR** — fusing **optical + SAR** for all-weather imaging.

SECTION E — PRACTICE CORNER

Q1. Consider the following about Uttarakhand's Uniform Civil Code (UCC): (1) Uttarakhand was the first state to implement a UCC. (2) It provides for registration of live-in relationships. (3) Scheduled Tribes are excluded from its ambit. Which of the above are correct?

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

Ans: D. All three are correct. The UCC (in force 27 Jan 2025) is India's first state UCC; it mandates live-in registration and exempts Scheduled Tribes.

Q2. The Gross Environment Product (GEP) index, first launched by an Indian state, values which of the following ecological services?

- (A) Air and water only
- (B) Air, water, soil and forest
- (C) Only forest cover
- (D) Carbon credits alone

Ans: B. Uttarakhand's GEP values four services — air, water, soil and forest — as a green-GDP style measure.

Mains Practice

Rising pilgrim footfall on the Char Dham route highlights the tension between religious tourism and Himalayan ecological fragility. Discuss with reference to carrying capacity and disaster management. (250 words)

Hint: Cover the record footfall, carrying capacity, monsoon hazards (landslides/GLOF), SDMA measures, and sustainable-tourism steps like staggered registration and waste management.

ONE-LINE REVISION

Remember today: ₹1.11 lakh cr Uttarakhand Budget (GYAN) • 5-district rain alert • 37 lakh Char Dham pilgrims • Article 371(K) for Ladakh • ₹20,804 cr rail multitracking • DRDO SHIELD.

Compiled & simplified by the StudyForGS.com Research Team

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