CURRENT AFFAIRS — 11 NOVEMBER 2026

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DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS FOR UTTARAKHAND PCS

Wednesday, 11 November 2026 • Asia/Kolkata (IST) • Uttarakhand + National • UKPSC Prelims & Mains digest

TODAY AT A GLANCE — 10 THINGS TO REMEMBER

- **Kedarnath** & **Yamunotri** closed for winter today (Bhai Dooj); Kedarnath saw **19.14 lakh** pilgrims.
- **Badrinath** closes on **16 Nov at 9:37 pm**; Panch Puja begins **12 Nov**.
- Uttarakhand **draft voter list** out on **12 Nov**; final roll on **4 Jan 2027**.
- Nepal PM **Balen Shah** likely in India on **22 Nov**; **Pancheshwar** dam on agenda.
- Uttarkashi: **9%** of area hosts **73.5%** of landslides (ML study).
- **Dehradun 31.2°C** on 10 Nov — warmest November day in a decade.
- Foundation Day: honorarium hike for **ASHA, Anganwadi, Bhojan Mata** from **1 Dec**.
- SC: banks may have to **compensate** digital-arrest victims; next hearing **23 Nov**.
- President confers **Swachh Survekshan 2025-26** (10th edition) awards today.
- **COP31** leaders' summit opens in **Antalya, Türkiye** (11–12 Nov).

SECTION A — UTTARAKHAND SPECIAL: Pilgrimage • Polity • Disaster & Ecology • State Schemes

Char Dham Yatra 2026 — Season Snapshot



Kedarnath & Yamunotri Close for Winter on Bhai Dooj; Char Dham 2026 Sets Record

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

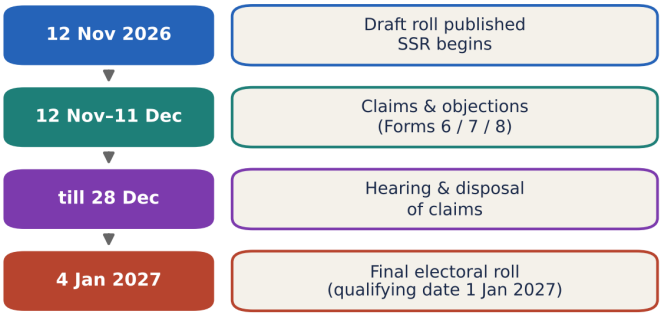
Syllabus Linkage	Culture & pilgrimage of Uttarakhand; Garhwal Himalaya geography — Prelims: **Panch Kedar**, winter seats, rivers at the dhams
Context	The portals of **Kedarnath** (Rudraprayag) closed at **8:30 am on 11 November 2026** (Bhai Dooj) after Vedic rites; **Yamunotri** (Uttarkashi) also shut for winter today. **Badrinath** closes on **16 November (9:37 pm)**, ending the 2026 yatra.
Key Facts	■ **Kedarnath** received over **19.14 lakh** devotees; Char Dham total crossed **60 lakh** by 23 Oct — a **record** (state data). ■ Kedar **utsav doli** halts at **Rampur** (11 Nov) and **Guptkashi** (12 Nov), reaching **Omkareshwar Temple, Ukhimath** on **13 Nov** for **six months** of winter worship. ■ Badrinath **Panch Puja** starts **12 Nov** (Ganesh temple); led by **Rawal Amarnath Namboodiri**; Goddess **Lakshmi** invited on **15 Nov**. ■ Winter seats: **Yamunotri → Kharsali**, **Gangotri → Mukhba**, **Badrinath → Pandukeshwar / Jyotirmath**.
Way Fwd	Promote the **winter (Sheetkaal) Char Dham yatra** to winter seats; enforce **carrying-capacity** caps and real-time health monitoring for 2027.
Concept	**Kedarnath** — one of the **12 Jyotirlingas** and first of the **Panch Kedar**, at ~**3,583 m** on the **Mandakini**; **Yamunotri** — source of the **Yamuna** near **Bandarpunch**; **Badrinath** on the **Alaknanda** between the **Nar–Narayan** ranges.

Uttarakhand Draft Electoral Roll on 12 Nov; Special Summary Revision Begins

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

Syllabus Linkage	ECI & electoral rolls (**RP Act, 1950**) — Prelims: **Art. 324–326**, qualifying date
Context	The **CEO, Uttarakhand** publishes the **draft voter list on 12 Nov 2026**; the **Special Summary Revision (SSR)** uses **1 January 2027** as qualifying date, ahead of the **2027 Assembly polls**.
Key Facts	■ **Claims & objections: 12 Nov – 11 Dec 2026**; hearings till **28 Dec 2026**. ■ **Final electoral roll: 4 January 2027**. ■ **Form-7** (objection/deletion) cap: **5 per month** per voter; max **10** in the whole claims period. ■ Uttarakhand has **70** Assembly, **5** Lok Sabha and **3** Rajya Sabha seats.
Way Fwd	Door-to-door **BLO verification** and outreach to migrant voters of **palayan-hit** hill villages for clean, inclusive rolls.
Concept	**Art. 324** — ECI superintends elections; **Art. 325** — one general roll, no exclusion on religion/race/caste/sex; **Art. 326** — adult suffrage at **18** (**61st Amendment, 1988**). **Form 6** = new enrolment; **Form 8** = correction/shifting.

Uttarakhand SSR 2027 — Timeline



Nepal PM Balendra Shah Likely to Visit on 22 Nov; Pancheshwar Dam on Agenda

IR | UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (International Relations & Geography — Uttarakhand)

Syllabus Linkage	India–Nepal relations; water resources & hydropower of Uttarakhand — Prelims: **Mahakali/Sharda**, Pancheshwar, border districts
Context	State Cabinet Minister **Satpal Maharaj** said (10 Nov) that Nepal's PM **Balendra (Balen) Shah** is likely to visit India on **22 November**, with Uttarakhand-linked issues on the table. The visit is **proposed, not yet confirmed**.

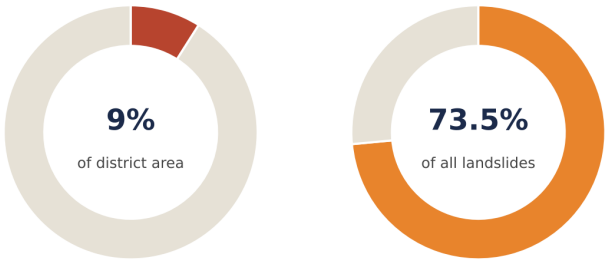
Key Facts	■ **Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project** stalled over **cost-sharing, water-sharing and benefit distribution**. ■ Proposed **dry port** at **Mahendranagar** (Nepal) for border trade. ■ **Religious circuit: Maa Purnagiri Dham** (Champawat) + **Siddhbaba temple** (Nepal). ■ **Eco-tourism: Jim Corbett NP ↔ Chitwan NP** cooperation; Nepal's Tourism Minister may accompany.
Way Fwd	Build consensus on the **DPR** via the **Pancheshwar Development Authority** and develop cross-border pilgrim corridors in **Champawat–Pithoragarh**.
Concept	**Mahakali Treaty (1996)** — integrated development of the **Mahakali (Sharda)** incl. Pancheshwar; the **Kali river** forms the **India–Nepal boundary** along **Pithoragarh & Champawat**; **Pancheshwar Development Authority** set up in **2014**.

ML Study Maps Uttarkashi Landslides: 9% of Area Holds 73.5% of Slides

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

Syllabus Linkage	Disaster management; physical geography of Uttarakhand — Prelims: **Bhagirathi/Yamuna** valleys, landslide zones, NDMA
Context	**Banaras Hindu University** researchers used machine learning to build a **landslide susceptibility map** of **Uttarkashi** (~**8,016 sq km**): about **9%** of the district accounts for **73.52%** of its landslides.
Key Facts	■ **1,994** landslide + **1,994** non-landslide points; **14** factors (slope, rainfall, soil, roads, rivers). ■ Models: **Random Forest, XGBoost, LightGBM**; **5** susceptibility classes. ■ Most slides at **1,501–3,000 m**; high-risk belts along **Yamuna & Bhagirathi** and the **Yamunotri–Gangotri highways**. ■ State: mitigation done in **78%** of identified prone areas; **~40 of ~50** Char Dham-route sites treated.
Way Fwd	Embed the map in **district DM plans**, road-cutting norms and **early-warning** systems before the 2027 yatra.
Concept	**Susceptibility** = *where* slides are likely (spatial), not *when*. **NDMA Landslide Guidelines (2009)**; the national **Landslide Atlas (2023)** ranked **Rudraprayag** and **Tehri** as India's most landslide-exposed districts.

Uttarkashi: Landslides Are Highly Concentrated



1,994 mapped landslide sites • 14 factors • ML models (RF, XGBoost, LightGBM)

Dehradun Hits 31.2°C — Warmest November Day in a Decade

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

Syllabus Linkage	Climatology — **western disturbances**, climate change in the Himalaya — Prelims: winter rainfall, forest-fire link
Context	**Dehradun** recorded a maximum of **31.2°C on 10 November 2026**, about **5°C above normal** — equalling the last such reading on **2 November 2016**. Night temperatures are also higher than usual.
Key Facts	■ Causes: **clear skies**, a long **post-monsoon dry spell** and **weak western disturbances**. ■ Forecast: dry weather on **11 Nov**; light rain/snow only in **higher reaches**. ■ Risks: delayed **snow cover**, early **forest-fire** season, stress on **rabi** sowing and apple **chilling hours**.
Way Fwd	Update **district heat & forest-fire action plans** and densify **automatic weather stations** in the hills.
Concept	**Western Disturbances** — extra-tropical storms from the **Mediterranean** carried by the **subtropical westerly jet**; they bring **winter rain & snow** to NW India and Uttarakhand, vital for **rabi crops** and glacier health.

Uttarakhand — Today's News Locations



Schematic map - not to scale; locations indicative

26th Foundation Day: Honorarium Hike, Statehood-Activist Panel Announced at Gairsain

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

Syllabus Linkage	Uttarakhand state schemes & welfare; statehood movement — Prelims: **9 Nov 2000**, Gairsain, state awards
Context	At the **26th Foundation Day** event in **Gairsain (Chamoli)** on **9 November 2026**, CM **Pushkar Singh Dhami** announced a slate of welfare steps; the state had released **Viksit Uttarakhand Vision-2047** and the **Devbhoomi Parivar Portal** on **2 November**.
Key Facts	■ **Cabinet committee** on **statehood activists'** demands (identification norms, double-pension issue, certificates for dependents). ■ Higher honorarium for **Anganwadi** workers, **ASHAs** and **Bhojan Matas** from **1 December 2026**; hike for **guest teachers**. ■ **Lakhpati Didi** incentive in **two instalments**; grid power to all revenue villages; **2 digital libraries per district**. ■ **Uttarakhand Gaurav Samman** (posthumous) to folk artists **Gopal Babu Goswami** and **Chandra Singh Rahi**. ■ Vision-2047 targets: economy **₹28 lakh crore**, per-capita income **₹20 lakh**, forest cover **46.6%**.
Way Fwd	Time-bound notification with budget lines and **outcome tracking** through the **Devbhoomi Parivar ID** to avoid duplication.
Concept	Uttarakhand formed on **9 November 2000** as the **27th state** under the **UP Reorganisation Act, 2000**; **Gairsain** declared **summer capital** in **2020**. **Devbhoomi Parivar ID** — 'one family, one identity' database for scheme targeting.

Foundation Day (9 Nov) — Gairsain Announcements

Welfare	Higher honorarium: Anganwadi, ASHA, Bhojan Mata (from 1 Dec 2026)
Livelihood	Lakhpati Didi incentive (2 instalments); guest-teacher honorarium hike
Governance	Apuni Sarkar portal simplified; easier land purchase for migrant Uttarakhandis
Infrastructure	Grid power to all revenue villages; 2 digital libraries per district
Culture & Safety	Gaurav Samman: Gopal Babu Goswami, Chandra Singh Rahi; aid to wildlife victims

SECTION B — DATA POINT OF THE DAY

5.54%

India's retail (CPI) inflation — September 2026

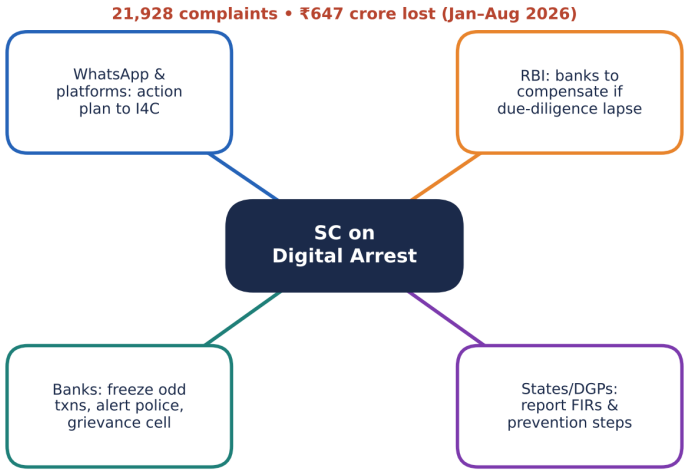
Up from **4.83%** in August — the **highest of 2026**; food inflation **7.74%**. **October CPI** is due on **12 Nov**. RBI's mandate: **4% ± 2%** (flexible inflation targeting).

SECTION C — NATIONAL & WORLD

SC Seeks WhatsApp's Action Plan, Bank Compensation on 'Digital Arrest' Scams

POLITY UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Polity, Governance & Internal Security)

Syllabus Linkage	Judiciary & fundamental rights; cyber security; banking regulation — Prelims: **I4C**, helpline **1930**, suo motu
Context	A bench of **CJI Surya Kant**, **Justice Joymalya Bagchi** and **Justice V. Mohana**, in the suo motu case *In Re: Victims of Digital Arrest*, asked **WhatsApp** and other intermediaries to file anti-fraud **action plans** with **I4C**; next hearing **23 November 2026**.
Key Facts	■ **21,928** digital-arrest complaints involving **₹647 crore+** in **Jan–Aug 2026** (Centre's data). ■ **RBI** to make banks **compensate** victims (not less than the loss) where fraud followed the **bank's lack of due diligence**. ■ Banks: **hold unusual transactions**, alert police, set up grievance redressal and recovery systems. ■ WhatsApp says it acted on ~**9,400** accounts; **States/DGPs** to report FIRs and prevention steps.
Way Fwd	Combine **platform accountability**, a crackdown on **mule accounts** and mass awareness: no agency 'arrests' anyone over a video call.
Concept	**Digital arrest** — fraudsters pose as police/CBI/ED on video calls to extort money; no such legal procedure exists. **I4C** (2020) works under the **MHA**; report on helpline **1930** or the national cybercrime portal. **Art. 21** and **Art. 142** underpin the Court's directions.

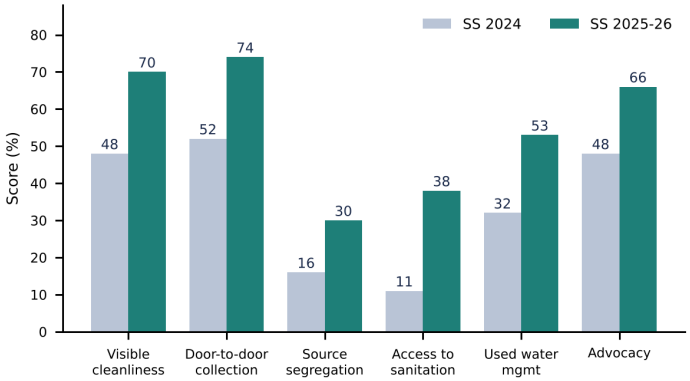


President Confers Swachh Survekshan 2025-26 Awards — 10th Edition

SOCIETY UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Governance & Social Issues)

Syllabus Linkage	Urban local bodies, sanitation & public health — Prelims: **SBM-U 2.0**, **74th Amendment**, **12th Schedule**
Context	President **Droupadi Murmu** confers the **Swachh Survekshan 2025-26** awards at **Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi** today (**11 Nov**). The 10th edition, themed **'Swachhata Ki Nayi Pehel – Badhayein Haath, Karein Safai Saath'**, assessed **4,751+** cities.
Key Facts	■ **43 indicators** in **10 assessment areas**; **3,000+** assessors with GPS-based verification. ■ Coverage grew from **73 ULBs (2016)** to **4,751+** cities. ■ **Swachh Shehar Jodi** (27 Sept 2025): **70 mentor** + **191 mentee** cities in **33** States/UTs. ■ Biggest mentee gain: **access to sanitation 11% → 38%**; source segregation still only **30%**.
Way Fwd	Reward **waste processing & dumpsite remediation**, not just visible cleanliness; extend mentoring to small hill ULBs.
Concept	**SBM-Urban 2.0** (1 Oct 2021; **₹1,41,600 crore**; 'Garbage Free Cities'); sanitation is in the **12th Schedule** (**Art. 243W**, **74th CAA, 1992**); **SWM Rules, 2016** make source segregation mandatory.

Swachh Shehar Jodi: Mentee-City Gains



COP31 Leaders' Summit Opens in Antalya; India Presses Climate Finance & Equity

ENVIRONMENT UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Environment & International Relations)

Syllabus Linkage	Climate change, UNFCCC & Paris Agreement; India's foreign policy — Prelims: **CBDR-RC**, **Art. 9.1**, negotiating blocs
Context	The **World Leaders' Summit** of **COP31** opens today (**11–12 Nov**) in **Antalya, Türkiye** (conference: **9–20 Nov 2026**). India, represented by MoEFCC Secretary **Narendra Bhooshan**, reaffirmed its commitment to climate multilateralism.

Key Facts	■ Developed nations must meet finance duties under **Article 9.1** of the Paris Agreement. ■ India's priorities: **equity, just transition and adaptation** for the Global South. ■ Aligns with **G77 + China**, **LMDC** and **BASIC** groups; upholds **CBDR-RC**.
Way Fwd	Push a credible **finance roadmap** and **adaptation** support — crucial for fragile Himalayan states like **Uttarakhand**.
Concept	**UNFCCC** (1992) → **Kyoto Protocol** (1997) → **Paris Agreement** (2015, COP21: **well below 2°C**, pursue **1.5°C**; NDCs). **Art. 9.1** — developed countries **shall provide** finance. **BASIC** = Brazil, South Africa, India, China.

IAF IL-76MD 'Gajraj' Lands at 13,629 ft at Nyoma — Highest for Its Type

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

Syllabus Linkage	Border infrastructure & security — Prelims: **Nyoma (Mudh)**, **LAC** sectors, **BRO**
Context	On **7 November 2026**, an **IL-76MD** heavy-lift aircraft landed at the **Mudh–Nyoma** airbase in **eastern Ladakh** (**13,629 ft**), the highest landing ever for the type, per the IAF.
Key Facts	■ Airbase is ~**25 km** from the **LAC** with China. ■ **BRO** upgraded the runway to **2.7 km** under a **₹218 crore** project. ■ IL-76MD: Russian-origin four-engine transport, inducted in **1985**.
Way Fwd	Replicate high-altitude airfield upgrades in the **middle sector**, incl. Uttarakhand's **Chinyalisaur** and **Pithoragarh** strips.
Concept	**LAC** (~**3,488 km**) has western (Ladakh), **middle (HP–Uttarakhand)** and eastern sectors. **ALG** = Advanced Landing Ground; **BRO** (1960) works under the **Ministry of Defence**.

SECTION D — PRELIMS RAPID-FIRE

1	**National Education Day (11 Nov)** marks the birth anniversary of **Maulana Abul Kalam Azad**, India's first Education Minister.
2	Uttarakhand was formed on **9 Nov 2000** as the **27th state**; **Gairsain** became the **summer capital** in **2020**.
3	India re-elected **President of the International Solar Alliance** for a **third consecutive term** (Nov 2026).
4	**Global Innovation Index 2026:** India **38th** of **139** economies; **Switzerland** 1st.
5	**Pancheshwar** lies at the **Kali–Sarju** confluence on the India–Nepal border (Champawat–Pithoragarh).
6	**Ukhimath (Omkareshwar)** is the winter seat of **Kedarnath**; **Mukhba** of **Gangotri**.

SECTION E — PRACTICE CORNER (UKPSC Pattern)

Q1. Consider the following pairs (Char Dham shrine — Winter seat): 1. Kedarnath — Ukhimath 2. Gangotri — Mukhba 3. Yamunotri — Kharsali. How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None
Answer: (c) — All three are correct: **Kedarnath → Omkareshwar Temple, Ukhimath**; **Gangotri → Mukhba**; **Yamunotri → Kharsali**. Badrinath's winter worship is at **Pandukeshwar/Jyotirmath**.

Q2. With reference to the Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project, consider the following statements: 1. It is proposed on the Mahakali (Sharda) river on the India–Nepal border. 2. It is covered under the Mahakali Treaty of 1996. 3. It is located in Chamoli district of Uttarakhand. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3
Answer: (a) — Pancheshwar is on the **Mahakali (Kali/Sharda)** at the India–Nepal border under the **Mahakali Treaty (1996)**; it lies in the **Champawat–Pithoragarh** region, not Chamoli.

Mains Practice (GS)

The Char Dham Yatra has set new footfall records even as studies flag concentrated landslide risk along pilgrimage corridors. Examine the challenges of balancing religious tourism with Himalayan ecological fragility in Uttarakhand and suggest a sustainable pilgrimage model. (250 words)

Hint: Intro with **60 lakh+** pilgrims & **Uttarkashi** study (**9% area → 73.5% slides**) → challenges: carrying capacity, road-cutting, waste, warming winters, health emergencies → model: **registration caps**, **winter yatra**, slope-stabilised roads, early warning, local livelihoods → conclude with sustainable Himalayan tourism.

ONE-LINE REVISION: Kedarnath & Yamunotri shut **11 Nov**, Badrinath **16 Nov** • Draft roll **12 Nov** → final **4 Jan 2027** • Pancheshwar = **Mahakali Treaty 1996** • SC: banks may **compensate** digital-arrest victims.

Compiled & simplified by the StudyForGS.com Research Team
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