

TODAY AT A GLANCE — 10 THINGS TO REMEMBER

- Uttarakhand's month-long 'Seva Sankalp Abhiyan' runs **17 Sep-17 Oct 2026**.
- Dhami Cabinet (**11 Sep**) hikes intern-doctor stipend; **283** posts reserved for athletes.
- **UCC**: nearly **100% online** marriage registration; **4.74 lakh+** marriages registered.
- **Char Dham Yatra 2026** crosses **19.80 lakh** pilgrims; **Kedarnath** leads.
- India chairs **18th BRICS Summit**, New Delhi; **New Delhi Declaration** adopted.
- **GST** August 2026 collection hits record **₹1,99,853 crore** (+14.8%).
- **RBI** holds repo rate at **5.25%**; FY27 GDP growth seen at **6.7%**.
- **ISRO** launches **GISAT-1A (EOS-05)** on **GSLV** for disaster monitoring.
- India-Japan **Ex Veer Guardian-2026** & India-US **Yudh Abhyas** underway.
- **16 Sep - World Ozone Day**; India women lift **8th** Asia Cup T20 title.

SECTION A — UTTARAKHAND SPECIAL

Uttarakhand launches month-long 'Seva Sankalp Abhiyan'

UTTARAKHAND UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Polity & Governance)

Syllabus	State governance & welfare delivery; Uttarakhand-specific GS (state schemes & campaigns). Prelims: campaign dates, nodal theme 'Viksit Bharat @2047'.
Context	CM Pushkar Singh Dhami announced a month-long 'Seva Sankalp Abhiyan' across Uttarakhand from 17 September to 17 October 2026 , timed to PM Modi's birthday (17 Sep) and built on service, participation, dialogue and innovation.
Key Facts	● Runs 17 Sep - 17 Oct 2026; spans 11 flagship programmes. ● Anchored to the 'Viksit Bharat @2047' vision. ● 'Seva Setu' camps deliver Central + State scheme benefits at the doorstep. ● 'Seva First Innovation Challenge' ties in IITs and IIMs. ● Focus on women, youth and rural participation.
Way Fwd	Converts a political milestone into last-mile saturation of welfare schemes ; success hinges on measurable beneficiary outcomes, not just events.
Concept	Links to cooperative federalism & 'Whole-of-Government' delivery; static tie-in: DPSPs (Art. 38, 39) on the welfare state.

Dhami Cabinet clears health, sports & land proposals

UTTARAKHAND UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Polity & Governance)

Syllabus	State executive & policy-making; health and sports administration. Prelims: Sports Policy 2021, medical service-bond rule.
Context	The Uttarakhand Cabinet on 11 September 2026 approved a set of proposals on medical education, sports employment and land allotment.
Key Facts	● Stipend hiked for MBBS & PG intern doctors. ● New 3-year compulsory hill-service bond for govt medical-college MBBS graduates before PG. ● 283 posts across departments reserved for athletes under Sports Policy 2021. ● 15 acres near Haridwar allotted for an ESI hospital. ● 972 sq yd GMVN land transferred to the Garhwal Sabha.
Way Fwd	Hill-service bond targets the doctor shortage in remote districts ; impact depends on actual posting & retention in high-altitude blocks.
Concept	Illustrates the Cabinet system & collective responsibility (Art. 163-164) at the state level; welfare + HR governance.

'Seva Sankalp Abhiyan' (17 Sep - 17 Oct 2026) — 4 Service Pillars, 11 Programmes

Viksit Bharat @2047 — Service · Participation · Dialogue · Innovation

SERVICE	PARTICIPATION	DIALOGUE	INNOVATION
• Seva Setu health camps • Seva: Mera Yogdan • Aangan Milan Seva	• Seva Jyoti Kalash Yatra • Aashirwad Ka Diya • Seva Ki Kahaniyan	• Sushasan Seva Samvad • Nammo Seva theatre • Seva Ke Rang	• Seva First Innovation • (IITs & IIMs) • Mere Sapno Ka Bharat

UCC: near-100% online marriage registration milestone

POLITY

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

Syllabus	Uniform Civil Code; e-governance; women's & children's rights. Prelims: Art. 44, Art. 213 (ordinance), Jan 2025 rollout.
Context	A year after Uttarakhand became the first state to implement the UCC (27 Jan 2025) , the UCC (Amendment) Ordinance, 2026 has streamlined procedures, with marriage registration now almost fully digital.
Key Facts	● Uttarakhand = first state to enforce a UCC (27 Jan 2025). ● Amendment Ordinance 2026 notified 27 Jan 2026 under Art. 213. ● Nearly 100% of marriages now registered online. ● 4,74,447 marriages registered by 19 Jan 2026; certificate in ~5 days. ● Aligns penal procedure with the new criminal codes (BNS/BNSS).
Way Fwd	A template for other states drafting a UCC; must balance uniformity with protection of tribal custom (Scheduled Areas exempted).
Concept	Art. 44 (DPSP) — Uniform Civil Code; Art. 25-28 freedom of religion; ordinance route via Art. 213 .

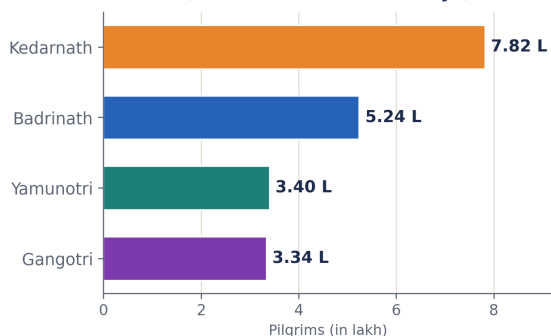
Char Dham Yatra 2026 crosses 19.80 lakh pilgrims

UTTARAKHAND

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

Syllabus	Pilgrimage tourism, carrying capacity & crowd/disaster management in the Himalaya. Prelims: the four dhams and their rivers/districts.
Context	The 2026 Char Dham Yatra saw a record surge; the second phase resumed 15 September 2026 after the monsoon, with safety and traffic management the top priority in fragile terrain.
Key Facts	● 19,80,437 pilgrims in the first 34 days (from 19 Apr 2026). ● Kedarnath highest at 7.82 lakh; Badrinath 5.24 lakh. ● Yamunotri 3.40 lakh, Gangotri 3.34 lakh. ● Single-day peak 89,079 devotees (23 May 2026). ● SDRF/NDRF on alert; online registration mandatory.
Way Fwd	Needs enforceable carrying-capacity caps , real-time weather advisories and decongestion to prevent stampede & ecological damage.
Concept	Char Dham: Yamunotri (Yamuna) , Gangotri (Bhagirathi) , Kedarnath (Mandakini) , Badrinath (Alaknanda) ; theme of sustainable tourism .

Char Dham Yatra 2026 — Footfall by Shrine (Total 19.80 lakh in 34 days)



Himalayan disaster preparedness in focus this monsoon

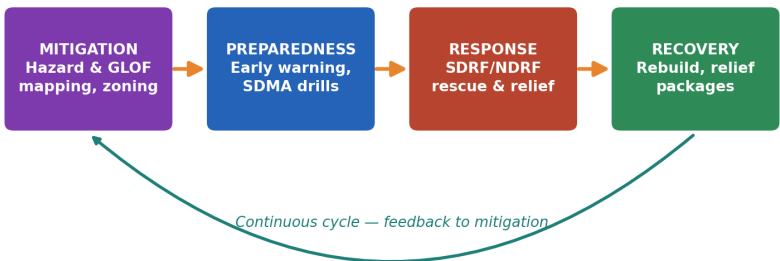
ENVIRONMENT

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

Syllabus	Disaster-management cycle; GLOF, cloudburst, landslide vulnerability of Uttarakhand. Prelims: SDMA, NDMA, GLOF definition, seismic zones.
Context	With the monsoon tail bringing landslide and flash-flood risk, Uttarakhand's disaster machinery stayed on alert; the state is among the most multi-hazard-prone in the Himalaya.
Key Facts	● Key hazards: cloudbursts, flash floods, landslides, GLOF, earthquakes (Seismic Zone IV-V). ● GLOF = Glacial Lake Outburst Flood — sudden release from a moraine-dammed lake. ● USDMA/SDMA is the state nodal body; SDRF the state force. ● Follows the DM cycle: mitigation → preparedness → response → recovery. ● Early warning + hazard mapping are core mitigation tools.
Way Fwd	Invest in GLOF early-warning systems , slope stabilisation and strict eco-sensitive-zone rules over high-risk valleys.
Concept	Disaster Management Act, 2005 ; NDMA (PM-chaired) ; distinguish hazard, vulnerability & risk .

Uttarakhand Disaster-Management Cycle — Himalayan Hazards (GLOF · Cloudburst · Landslide)

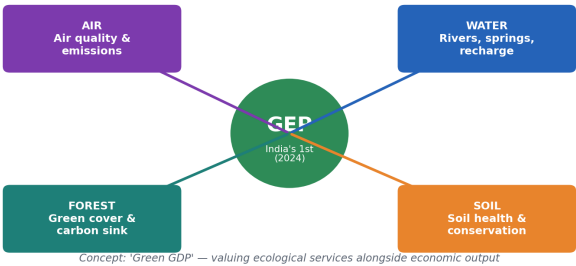
Nodal body: Uttarakhand SDMA / USDMA • Forces: SDRF & NDRF



Uttarakhand's Gross Environment Product (GEP) model

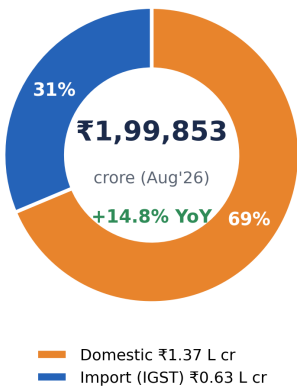
ENVIRONMENT	UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Environment & Ecology — Uttarakhand)
Syllabus	Green accounting; ecosystem services. Prelims: GEP is the first such index, its four components.
Context	Uttarakhand's pioneering Gross Environment Product (GEP) framework — a 'green GDP' — continues to shape the state's conservation-linked policy and green initiatives.
Key Facts	- Uttarakhand = first state (2024) to launch a GEP index. - Measures the value of air, water, forest and soil. - Complements economic output with ecological value. - Feeds payment-for-ecosystem-services thinking for hill states. - Strengthens the state's Green Bonus demand.
Way Fwd	Institutionalise GEP in budgeting & Green Bonus claims so ecological stewardship is financially rewarded.
Concept	Green GDP / natural-capital accounting ; ecosystem services (provisioning, regulating, cultural, supporting).

Gross Environment Product (GEP) — Uttarakhand's 4 Green Pillars



SECTION B — DATA POINT OF THE DAY

GST Collection — August 2026



GST collection — August 2026

₹1,99,853 crore

Record August mop-up, up **14.8% YoY**; domestic GST **₹1.37 lakh cr** (+9.3%), import GST up **29%**; the Apr-Aug FY27 total is **₹10.42 lakh cr** (+11%).

SECTION C — NATIONAL & WORLD

India chairs 18th BRICS Summit in New Delhi**IR** UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Polity & International Relations)

Syllabus	India & multilateral groupings; global-governance reform. Prelims: BRICS members, venue, declaration.
Context	India hosted the 18th BRICS Summit at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi (12-13 Sep 2026) on the theme 'Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability'.
Key Facts	● New Delhi Declaration adopted by consensus. ● Expanded bloc includes Egypt, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iran, UAE with the founders. ● Focus on governance reform & economic cooperation. ● Bharat Mandapam also hosted the 2023 G20 Summit. ● BRICS' bank is the New Development Bank (NDB), HQ Shanghai.
Way Fwd	BRICS as a platform for the Global South and for reform of UNSC/IMF/World Bank quotas.
Concept	BRICS = Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa + new members; NDB & Contingent Reserve Arrangement (CRA) .

RBI holds repo at 5.25%, lifts FY27 growth view**ECONOMY** UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Indian Economy)

Syllabus	Monetary policy & inflation targeting. Prelims: repo, SDF, MSF, MPC composition, policy stance.
Context	The RBI's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) kept the repo rate unchanged at 5.25% with a neutral stance , while raising the FY27 growth projection.
Key Facts	● Repo rate: 5.25% (unchanged); stance neutral. ● FY27 GDP growth projection raised to 6.7%. ● SDF 5.00%, MSF/Bank Rate 5.50%. ● MPC = 6 members (3 RBI + 3 external); majority vote. ● Inflation target: 4% (±2%) under flexible inflation targeting.
Way Fwd	Balancing growth vs inflation ; the rate path depends on food inflation and global commodity/currency moves.
Concept	Repo, Reverse repo, SDF, MSF, CRR, SLR; MPC under the RBI Act (amended 2016).

RBI Monetary Policy — August 2026 (62nd MPC) • Stance: Neutral**5.25%**

Repo Rate

Neutral

Stance

6.7%

FY27 GDP

5.00%

SDF

5.50%

MSF / Bank Rate

ISRO launches GISAT-1A (EOS-05) on GSLV**SCI-TECH** UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Science & Technology)

Syllabus	Space technology & applications. Prelims: GSLV, geostationary orbit, Earth-observation uses.
Context	ISRO placed the geo-imaging satellite GISAT-1A (EOS-05) into orbit via a GSLV , resuming launches after earlier setbacks in 2026.
Key Facts	● A geostationary Earth-observation satellite. ● Launched by GSLV (cryogenic upper stage). ● Aids disaster monitoring, agriculture & forestry. ● Replaces GISAT-1, lost in a 2021 failure. ● Enables near-real-time imaging of a fixed region.
Way Fwd	Boosts disaster early-warning for flood/cyclone-prone regions incl. the Himalaya; supports crop & forest-fire watch.
Concept	GEO vs LEO/SSO orbits; GSLV vs PSLV vs LVM3 ; remote sensing & GIS applications.

India in Ex Veer Guardian-2026 & Yudh Abhyas**DEFENCE** UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Security & International Relations)

Syllabus	India's defence diplomacy & bilateral exercises. Prelims: match the exercise with the partner country.
Context	India is running two major bilateral drills: the air exercise Veer Guardian-2026 with Japan and the army exercise Yudh Abhyas with the USA .
Key Facts	● Veer Guardian-2026 (India-Japan air) at Jodhpur, 9-22 Sep 2026. ● IAF flew Tejas, Su-30 MKI, Rafale; Japan F-2A. ● Yudh Abhyas 2026 (India-US army) held near the LAC. ● First deployment of the US MLIDS counter-drone system. ● Yudh Abhyas began in 2004.
Way Fwd	Deepens interoperability & Indo-Pacific security ties; the counter-drone focus reflects new battlefield threats.
Concept	Know the pairs — Malabar (naval, Quad), Varuna (France), Indra (Russia), Garuda (France air) .

India win 8th Women's T20 Asia Cup; Asian Games open

SOCIETY UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Sports & Awards)

Syllabus	Sports current affairs & major events. Prelims: host, edition, record-holders.
Context	India's women beat Sri Lanka to lift a record title, while the 2026 Asian Games open in Japan and the world marks World Ozone Day .
Key Facts	- India won the Women's T20 Asia Cup — a record 8th title (Dubai, 13 Sep). Shafali Verma hit the tournament's fastest fifty (24 balls). 2026 Asian Games: Aichi-Nagoya, Japan, 19 Sep-4 Oct. - India's contingent: 508 athletes across 37 sports. 16 September = World Ozone Day (Montreal Protocol, 1987).
Way Fwd	Sustained investment in women's sport & grassroots pipelines ahead of the LA 2028 Olympics.
Concept	The Montreal Protocol phases out ODS (CFCs) ; the Kigali Amendment targets HFCs .

This Week in Numbers

18th

BRICS Summit
New Delhi

508

India athletes
Asian Games'26

8th

Women's T20
Asia Cup title

37

Sports at
Aichi-Nagoya

SECTION D — PRELIMS RAPID-FIRE

- Seismic zones** covering most of Uttarakhand: **Zone IV & V**.
- Char Dham** by 2026 footfall: **Kedarnath > Badrinath > Yamunotri > Gangotri**.
- State bird / animal** of Uttarakhand: **Himalayan Monal / Alpine Musk Deer**.
- Repo rate** (Aug 2026): **5.25%**; **SDF 5.00%**, **MSF 5.50%**.
- 18th BRICS Summit** venue: **Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi**.
- World Ozone Day: 16 September**; treaty: **Montreal Protocol (1987)**.

SECTION E — PRACTICE CORNER

Q1. With reference to the Gross Environment Product (GEP), consider the following: (1) Uttarakhand was the first Indian state to launch a GEP index. (2) GEP measures the value of air, water, forest and soil. Which is/are correct?
(A) 1 only (B) 2 only (C) Both 1 and 2 (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: C. Uttarakhand (2024) launched India's first GEP index, which values air, water, forest and soil — so both statements are correct.

Q2. Consider the Char Dham shrines and their rivers. Which pair is correctly matched?

(A) Kedarnath – Alaknanda (B) Badrinath – Mandakini (C) Gangotri – Bhagirathi (D) Yamunotri – Saraswati

Ans: C. Gangotri lies on the Bhagirathi (a headstream of the Ganga). The correct pairs are Kedarnath-Mandakini, Badrinath-Alaknanda and Yamunotri-Yamuna.

Mains. Uttarakhand faces recurring cloudbursts, flash floods and GLOF events. Critically examine the adequacy of the state's disaster-management framework and suggest measures to build Himalayan resilience. (250 words)

Hint: Use the DM cycle (mitigation→preparedness→response→recovery); cite the DM Act 2005, USDMA/SDRF, GLOF early-warning, eco-sensitive zones and carrying-capacity limits for the Char Dham Yatra.

QUICK REVISION

Must-revise today: Seva Sankalp Abhiyan (17 Sep-17 Oct), UCC online-marriage milestone, Char Dham 19.80 lakh, GST ₹1,99,853 cr, Repo 5.25%, BRICS New Delhi Declaration, GISAT-1A, World Ozone Day.

Compiled & simplified by the StudyForGS.com Research Team

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