

TODAY AT A GLANCE — 10 THINGS TO REMEMBER

- Seva Sankalp campaign runs 17 Sept-17 Oct 2026 across Uttarakhand.
- Uttarakhand HC calls the Nainital water crisis 'epidemic-like'.
- Ground-zero study of 5 high-risk glacial lakes begins (GLOF).
- State has 450 glacial lakes; 13 are in max-risk Category A.
- Haridwar Kumbh 2027 prep intensifies; Commissioner gets ₹5 cr powers.
- Uttarakhand GSDP 2025-26 pegged at ₹3.82 lakh crore.
- India hosts the 18th BRICS Summit in New Delhi.
- ISRO EOS-05 is the heaviest GSLV payload at 2,367 kg.
- India ranks 131st on the WEF Global Gender Gap Index 2026.
- RBI holds the repo rate at 5.5% with a neutral stance.

SECTION A • UTTARAKHAND SPECIAL

SEVA SANKALP — 17 Sept to 17 Oct 2026 • towards Viksit Bharat 2047

Seva Setu

doorstep
scheme camps

Aashirwad Ka Diya

lamp-lighting
drive

Aangan Milan Seva

Anganwadi &
ASHA nutrition

Seva First Innovation

IIT / IIM jury
mentors ideas

Sushasan Samvad

governance
dialogue

11 flagship programmes • students, women, youth, beneficiaries, elected reps

Uttarakhand GLOF / Disaster-Management Response Chain



Category A: 13 lakes at maximum risk • ground-zero study from Sept 8, 2026 • trigger: Aug 26 Nepal GLOF

Uttarakhand launches month-long 'Seva Sankalp' service campaign

[UTTARAKHAND]

UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Polity & Governance - Uttarakhand)

Syllabus Linkage	State governance & welfare delivery; Prelims: state schemes, Viksit Bharat 2047; Mains GS-II governance.
Context	CM Pushkar Singh Dhami launched the statewide Seva Sankalp campaign, running 17 Sept-17 Oct 2026 , timed to the PM's birthday, to deepen the citizen-government connect toward Viksit Bharat 2047 .
Key Facts	• 11 flagship programmes, including Seva Setu doorstep scheme camps and Aashirwad Ka Diya. • The Seva First Innovation Challenge uses IIT/IIM experts as jury and mentors. • Guiding theme: 'Jan-Jan Ki Sarkar, Jan-Jan Ke Dwar' (government at the citizen's doorstep). • Targets students, women, youth, beneficiaries and elected representatives.
Way Fwd	Impact hinges on last-mile saturation of central & state schemes and transparent beneficiary feedback.
Concept	Saturation governance aligns with SDG-16 ; Viksit Bharat 2047 is the 2047 centenary development vision.

Haridwar gears up for Kumbh 2027; financial powers delegated

[UTTARAKHAND]

UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Governance & Culture - Uttarakhand)

Syllabus Linkage	Fairs & festivals of Uttarakhand; crowd/event management; cooperative event governance.
Context	Preparations for the 2027 Haridwar Kumbh have intensified, with the Chief Secretary reviewing ghats, roads and bridges and the Cabinet fast-tracking approvals.
Key Facts	• The Mela Officer can sanction works up to ₹1 crore; the Garhwal Commissioner up to ₹5 crore. • 250 new State Transport buses were approved to boost Kumbh-period mobility. • Focus areas: crowd management, sanitation and riverfront (ghat) safety.
Way Fwd	Adopt tech-enabled crowd monitoring and carrying-capacity caps drawn from past pilgrim surges.
Concept	The Kumbh Mela (UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage, 2017) rotates among Haridwar, Prayagraj, Nashik and Ujjain.

Uttarakhand HC pulls up Nainital admin over 'epidemic-like' water crisis

[POLITY]

UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Polity, Governance & Rights - Uttarakhand)

Syllabus Linkage	Judiciary - PIL & Article 226; right to clean water under Art. 21; public-health governance.
Context	The Nainital Division Bench (Justices Manoj Kumar Tiwari and Siddhartha Shah) termed a contaminated-water outbreak ' epidemic-like ' and held officials accountable for negligence.
Key Facts	• 2 deaths and 250+ people fell ill across villages such as Jeolikote, Chhina and Sariyatal. • Peyjal Nigam told to fast-track a Kumaon water-testing lab; the pollution board to sample 20-25 sources in 6 days. • The DM must ensure tanker supply of potable water; ₹4 lakh released for ELISA tests.
Way Fwd	Strengthen rural piped-water quality monitoring under the Jal Jeevan Mission and speed up sewer-leak redressal.
Concept	A PIL under Art. 226 lets High Courts enforce rights; the right to clean water flows from Art. 21 .

Expert teams study 5 high-risk glacial lakes amid GLOF fears

[ENVIRONMENT]

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

Syllabus Linkage	Himalayan geography, GLOF, disaster management (DM Act 2005); Prelims: glaciers, SDMA.
Context	After the 26 Aug 2026 Nepal GLOF , multidisciplinary teams began a ground-zero study (8 Sept 2026) of Uttarakhand's most dangerous glacial lakes.
Key Facts	• 5 critical lakes: Vasudhara (Chamoli), a Dharchula cluster and a Joshimath lake. • The state has 450 glacial lakes; 13 are Category-A (maximum risk). • Teams from the Wadia Institute, CWC and C-DAC assess natural dams and downstream risk.
Way Fwd	Install early-warning sensors, lake-lowering siphons and community GLOF drills before the 2027-30 risk window.
Concept	A GLOF is the sudden release of glacial-lake water when a moraine or ice dam fails, worsened by warming.

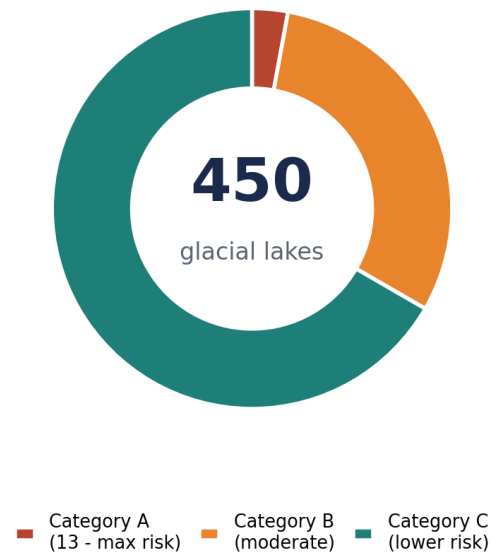
Gross Environment Product: Uttarakhand's green-accounting model in focus

[ENVIRONMENT]

UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Environment & Economy - Uttarakhand)

Syllabus Linkage	Green GDP/GEP, environmental economics, ecosystem services; Prelims: GEP as a first-in-India step.
Context	Uttarakhand's Gross Environment Product (GEP) - India's first - gains fresh policy salience as the state balances hydropower, tourism and Himalayan ecology.
Key Facts	GEP values four resources - air, water, soil and forests - as an ecological balance-sheet. - It complements GDP by pricing ecosystem services, a form of 'green GDP'. - It supports payment-for-ecosystem-services and eco-sensitive-zone planning.
Way Fwd	Institutionalise annual GEP accounting to guide green budgeting and inter-state 'green bonus' claims.
Concept	Ecosystem services - provisioning, regulating, cultural and supporting - underpin GEP valuation.

Uttarakhand Glacial Lakes — GLOF Risk Tiers



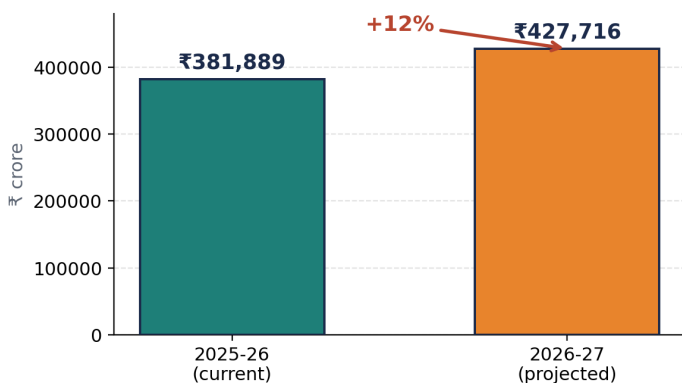
SECTION B • DATA POINT OF THE DAY

UTTARAKHAND GSDP, 2025-26

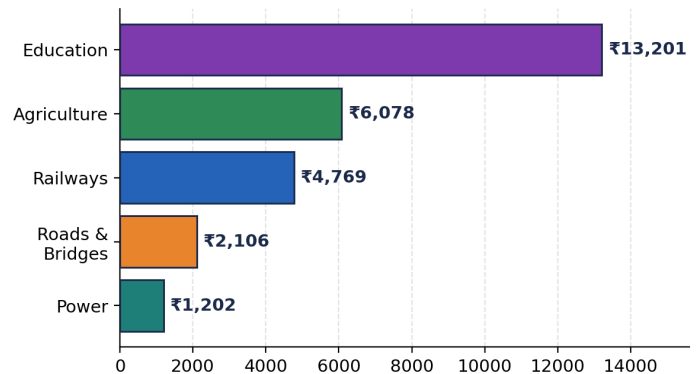
₹3,81,889 crore

Projected to rise about 12% to ₹4,27,716 crore in 2026-27; the state targets 70 million tourists a year by 2030.

Uttarakhand GSDP (₹ crore)



Uttarakhand 2026-27 Budget Allocations (₹ crore)



SECTION C • NATIONAL & WORLD

ISRO EOS-05 — India's First Dedicated GEO Imaging Satellite

EOS-05	EOS-05	EOS-05	EOS-05	EOS-05
GSLV-F17 launch vehicle	2,367 kg heaviest GSLV payload	~36,000 km geosynchronous orbit	7+ yrs mission life	Sept 4 2026, 02:55 IST

India chairs the 18th BRICS Summit in New Delhi

[IR] UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (International Relations)

Syllabus Linkage	India & groupings (BRICS), bilateral diplomacy; Mains GS-II international relations.
Context	India hosted the 18th BRICS Summit (11-13 Sept 2026) in New Delhi , where PM Modi held 15 bilateral meetings.
Key Facts	Modi-Xi: reaffirmed that 'differences must not become disputes' and stressed border peace. Modi-Putin: cooperation on defence, energy and space; India invited to the annual summit in Russia. - The New Delhi Declaration urged restraint on West Asia and humanitarian access to Gaza.
Way Fwd	Leverage BRICS for local-currency trade, connectivity and Global-South priorities.
Concept	BRICS (2009; expanded from 2024) is a plurilateral bloc in which India is a founding member.

ESA and ISRO deepen ties on Gaganyaan, Moon and Venus

[SCI-TECH] UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Science & Tech - Space Diplomacy)

Syllabus Linkage	International S&T cooperation, human spaceflight, planetary missions.
Context	At the Paris space summit (Sept 2026), the ESA and ISRO expanded cooperation across human spaceflight and planetary science.
Key Facts	ESA will provide ground-station support for Gaganyaan (3 crew, 400 km orbit, 3-day mission). - The Venus Orbiter Mission is set for March 2028, costs ₹1,236 crore and carries 19 payloads. - Cooperation extends to the planned Bharatiya Antariksh Station and lunar exploration.
Way Fwd	Global partnerships cut cost and risk for India's crewed and deep-space ambitions.
Concept	Gaganyaan is India's first human-spaceflight programme; V. Narayanan chairs ISRO.

ISRO launches EOS-05, its first dedicated GEO imaging satellite

[SCI-TECH] UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Science & Tech - Space)

Syllabus Linkage	Space tech, Earth observation, GSLV; Prelims: launch vehicles and orbits.
Context	On 4 Sept 2026 , GSLV-F17 placed EOS-05 toward geosynchronous orbit - a first for an Indian imaging satellite.
Key Facts	- At 2,367 kg, it is the heaviest payload ever flown by a GSLV. - It operates near 36,000 km for continuous observation of the same region. - It aids cyclone, flood and forest-fire tracking and disaster response, with a 7+ year life.
Way Fwd	Continuous GEO imaging boosts real-time disaster early-warning, valuable for Himalayan states.
Concept	A geosynchronous orbit (~35,786 km) has an orbital period equal to Earth's rotation.

India ranks 131st on the Global Gender Gap Index 2026

[REPORT] UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Society & Reports/Indices)

Syllabus Linkage	Gender indices, social justice; Prelims: reports and their publishing bodies.
Context	The Global Gender Gap Index 2026 placed India at 131st , with Iceland again topping the global ranking.
Key Facts	- India retained its 131st rank; gaps persist in economic participation and health. Iceland remains No. 1, as it has for well over a decade. - The index scores four sub-indices: economy, education, health and political empowerment.
Way Fwd	Raising female labour-force participation and political representation is key to closing the gap.
Concept	The World Economic Forum publishes the Gender Gap, Global Risks and Travel & Tourism reports.

RBI holds the repo rate at 5.5% with a neutral stance

[ECONOMY] UKPSC: Prelims + Mains (Economy - Monetary Policy)

Syllabus Linkage	Monetary policy, MPC, inflation targeting; Prelims: repo/CRR and RBI tools.
Context	The Monetary Policy Committee kept the repo rate at 5.5% , retaining a neutral stance amid easing inflation.
Key Facts	Repo rate: 5.5%; policy stance: neutral. - GDP growth is projected at around 6.8% for the year. - The inflation-targeting band remains 4% (+/- 2%).
Way Fwd	A data-dependent RBI keeps balancing growth support against price stability.
Concept	The MPC (6 members) sets policy under the RBI Act's flexible inflation-targeting framework.

BRICS Summit 2026 — India's Chairship & Key Bilaterals



SECTION D • PRELIMS RAPID-FIRE

- GSLV-F17** launched **EOS-05** on **4 Sept 2026** - India's first GEO imaging satellite.
- Venus Orbiter Mission**: ₹1,236 crore, launch **March 2028, 19 payloads**.
- Uttarakhand's **GEP** (air, water, soil, forests) was **India's first** green-GDP model.
- The **Kumbh Mela** is on UNESCO's **Intangible Cultural Heritage** list (**2017**).
- Iceland** tops the **Global Gender Gap Index 2026**; **India** is **131st**.
- RBI repo rate**: **5.5%**; inflation target **4% (+/- 2%)**.

SECTION E • PRACTICE CORNER

Q1. With reference to Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOF) in Uttarakhand, consider the following statements: 1. The state has classified its glacial lakes into risk categories A, B and C. 2. Category-A lakes carry the maximum risk. 3. The Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology is among the agencies studying them. Which of the statements given above are correct?

- 1 and 2 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (d) — Uttarakhand's ~450 glacial lakes are tiered A/B/C; the 13 Category-A lakes are highest-risk; the Wadia Institute, CWC and C-DAC are among the study agencies. Hence all three are correct.

Q2. EOS-05, recently launched by ISRO, is best described as:

- A navigation satellite in low Earth orbit
- India's first dedicated imaging satellite in geosynchronous orbit
- A communication satellite launched by the PSLV
- A lunar orbiter

Answer: (b) — EOS-05, launched on **GSLV-F17** at 2,367 kg (the heaviest GSLV payload), is India's first dedicated Earth-imaging satellite headed to geosynchronous orbit (~36,000 km) for continuous observation.

Mains Practice: Recurrent GLOF and cloudburst events expose the fragility of Himalayan states. Discuss the disaster-management measures Uttarakhand needs, integrating early-warning technology and community preparedness. (250 words)

Hint: Anchor on the Aug 2026 Nepal GLOF, 450 lakes / 13 Category-A, the DM Act 2005 and SDMA, sensors and lake-lowering siphons, and community drills; conclude with green-accounting (GEP) linkages.

REVISE IN ONE LINE: Revise today: Seva Sankalp (17 Sep-17 Oct), 450 glacial lakes / 13 Category-A, EOS-05 on GSLV-F17 (2,367 kg), 18th BRICS in New Delhi, India 131st on the Gender Gap Index, RBI repo 5.5%.

Compiled & simplified by the StudyForGS.com Research Team

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