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Monthly Current Affairs Compilation

September 2026

Uttar Pradesh PSC (UPPCS) · Uttar Pradesh + National

21 daily editions · 187 topics · 131 rapid-fire facts · 42 MCQs

Month at a glance

- **Saturday, 5 September 2026** — UP launches UPCOS for 20 lakh outsourced workers, fast-tracks 25,000 hectares along expressways, and honours 81 teachers on Teachers' Day.
- **Sunday, 6 September 2026** — UP honours 81 teachers on Teachers' Day; Cabinet clears four new expressways and a Rs 2 lakh crore Data Centre Policy
- **Monday, 7 September 2026** — UP launches 'Project Praveen' skilling in Sarvodaya schools, fast-tracks 25,000 ha for 27 expressway industrial clusters, and stays India's No.1 tourism state.
- **Tuesday, 8 September 2026** — UP Textile Conclave (**UPTEX-2026**) opens in Lucknow with the **UP Tex Mitra portal** and over **₹4,000 crore** in weaver support; CM honours Anganwadi workers in Ayodhya; state rolls out a **Student Mental-Health Policy** for all universities.
- **Wednesday, 9 September 2026** — 9th National Poshan Maah opens in **Varanasi**; UP hikes Anganwadi honorarium to **₹12,000** with **₹5 lakh** health cover; Cabinet clears **₹5,507 cr** industrial push
- **Thursday, 10 September 2026** — UP unveils interest-free ₹1 lakh credit for 1 crore women; UP–Japan Meet 2026 and a ₹5,507 cr Cabinet investment push power the state's $1-trillion economy drive
- **Friday, 11 September 2026** — UP Cabinet clears ₹24,000 cr expressway & industry push; Anganwadi honorarium trebled to ₹12,000 with ₹5 lakh health cover; Lucknow tops India's clean-air survey
- **Saturday, 12 September 2026** — UP's **5th Gomti Book Festival** opens in Lucknow; Anganwadi honorarium raised to **₹12,000** with **₹5 lakh** health cover; UP Cabinet clears **₹5,507 cr** industrial investment.
- **Tuesday, 15 September 2026** — UP clears **250 AC electric buses** & fast-tracks a **₹15,400 cr** expressway push; state emerges as India's electronics-semiconductor hub with **₹43,000 cr** invested.
- **Wednesday, 16 September 2026** — Yogi Cabinet clears 23-proposal package headlined by the ₹1,008-cr Chitrakoot Link Expressway and Krishak Samriddhi Yojana; UP confirmed India's No.1 domestic tourism state; national GST hits a record August of ₹1.99 lakh crore.
- **Thursday, 17 September 2026** — UP launches month-long **Seva Sankalp Abhiyan** and **Divyangjan assistive-device camps** in all **75 districts**, as the Yogi Cabinet clears the **Chitrakoot Link Expressway** and a farmer-loan scheme.
- **Friday, 18 September 2026** — UP Cabinet extends Ganga Expressway to Haridwar and clears a ~₹24,000 crore expressway-and-industry package; one lakh government jobs to be filled from Sep 19; EPFO wage ceiling raised to ₹25,000.
- **Saturday, 19 September 2026** — UP Cabinet's mega welfare push and Chitrakoot Link Expressway lead the day, as Yogi govt hands 818 appointment letters and fast-tracks 25,000 ha for expressway industrial clusters
- **Sunday, 20 September 2026** — UP launches **Mission Rojgar** for **one lakh government jobs in six months**; Cabinet clears **23 proposals** including the **Chitrakoot Link Expressway**; UP tops India in domestic tourism.
- **Monday, 21 September 2026** — UPITS 4.0 opens 25 Sept in Greater Noida, UP rolls out 1 lakh new government jobs, and the Ganga Expressway anchors the state's USD 1-trillion economy push.
- **Tuesday, 22 September 2026** — UPITS 4.0 opens in Greater Noida, UP stays India's No.1 tourism state, and the ₹23,731-cr GOBARdhan CBG scheme gets Cabinet nod.

- **Wednesday, 23 September 2026** — UP Cabinet clears 23 proposals; Chitrakoot Link Expressway & Krishak Samriddhi Yojana approved as UPITS 4.0 opens in Greater Noida
- **Thursday, 24 September 2026** — UP Cabinet clears 23 proposals, UP stays India's No.1 in GI tags, and Semicon 2.0 anchors the national tech push.
- **Friday, 25 September 2026** — UP International Trade Show 2026 opens in Greater Noida; UP clears ₹2,606 cr fresh investment; India–France VARUNA naval exercise
- **Tuesday, 29 September 2026** — UPITS 4.0 wraps up in Greater Noida, heavy-rain alert shuts schools across UP, and Aligarh's Gulveer Singh bags a second Asian Games silver
- **Wednesday, 30 September 2026** — UPITS 2026 closes with ₹6,500 crore MoUs; CM sets 70% approval–60% spending budget targets; MLC & Rajya Sabha polls notified in UP

All topics — key facts for revision

Saturday, 5 September 2026

Full notes with diagrams: studyforgs.com/current-affairs/uppsc/2026-09-05.html

UP-GOVERNANCE UP honours 81 teachers on Teachers' Day 2026

- **5 September** is **National Teachers' Day**, the birth anniversary of **Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan**.
- UP felicitates **81 teachers** of Basic & Secondary Education under the **State Teacher Award** and **Chief Minister Teacher Award**.
- Selection is based on outstanding contribution to teaching, innovation and educational development.

Concept: Dr. S. Radhakrishnan was India's first Vice President and second President; India marks Teachers' Day on his birthday (5 Sep), distinct from World Teachers' Day (5 Oct).

UP-SCHEME Yogi govt launches UPCOS to shield 20 lakh outsourced workers

- **UPCOS = Uttar Pradesh Outsourced Services Corporation**, a **non-profit state body** to regulate and protect outsourced workers.
- Covers about **20 lakh (2 million) outsourced workers** in the state.
- Guarantees **direct salary to bank accounts**, **EPF** and **ESI** cover, and **transparent recruitment without middlemen**.
- Launched by the Chief Minister at **Varanasi** with a dedicated portal and grievance-redressal cell.

Concept: EPF (Employees' Provident Fund) and ESI (Employees' State Insurance) are statutory social-security schemes; extending them to outsourced staff formalises informal-sector employment.

UP-INFRA UPEIDA fast-tracks 25,000 hectares near expressways for industry

- Land is being acquired along the **Purvanchal, Bundelkhand, Ganga, Gorakhpur Link and Agra-Lucknow expressways**.
- Target of **25,000 hectares** to develop **27 Industrial Manufacturing & Logistics Clusters (IMLCs)** across **14 districts** on a **PPP** basis.
- Over **4,250 hectares** already acquired, feeding a **~₹8 lakh crore GBC 5.0 pipeline** toward a **$1-trillion state economy**.

Concept: UPEIDA (UP Expressways Industrial Development Authority) builds expressways and now anchors industrial corridors; GBC = Ground Breaking Ceremony where MoU investments are launched.

UP-GOVERNANCE Month-long 'Seva Sankalp Abhiyan' from 17 September to 17 October

- Runs **17 September to 17 October 2026** with **13 flagship programmes** across all **75 districts**.
- Key events: **Seva Setu camps, Janseva Mahakumbh, Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra** and **Seva Jyoti Yatra (7 Oct)**.
- Reach mandated down to **Gram Panchayat / Nyay Panchayat** level, tracked by a **CMO control room**.

Concept: 'Saturation model' of governance aims to deliver every eligible beneficiary the schemes they qualify for, linked to the Viksit Bharat @2047 vision.

UP-CULTURE UP retains India's No.1 spot in domestic tourism (2026)

- UP recorded about **646.8 million domestic tourist visits** — **more than double** No.2 Tamil Nadu (**306.8 million**).
- **Ayodhya** (~**72 million** in Jan–Jun) and **Varanasi** (~**22.5 million** in Jan–Mar) drive the surge; **Kashi Vishwanath** sees **1 lakh+ daily devotees**.
- Backed by **₹37,688 crore** tourism investment proposals and the **Prayagraj Mahakumbh** after-effect.

Concept: Religious/heritage circuits (Ayodhya–Varanasi–Prayagraj 'spiritual triangle') convert cultural capital into tourism revenue and local employment.

NATIONAL National Teachers' Awards 2026 conferred on Teachers' Day

- President **Droupadi Murmu** honoured **48 teachers** (26 men, 22 women) from **27 States/ UTs** at **Vigyan Bhawan**.
- Awardees received a **certificate, cash prize and silver medal**.
- **5 September** is also the **UN International Day of Charity** (Mother Teresa's death anniversary).

Concept: National Teachers' Awards recognise excellence in school education and are given annually on Teachers' Day.

NATIONAL ISRO launches EOS-05 aboard GSLV-F17

- **GSLV-F17** successfully placed **EOS-05**, described as India's first **imaging satellite designed to operate from geosynchronous (GEO) orbit**.
- Enables **continuous, all-weather Earth observation** for agriculture, disaster management and security.
- Reinforces India's growing space-application capability.

Concept: A geosynchronous imaging satellite stays over the same region, giving near-continuous coverage — unlike low-Earth-orbit satellites that revisit periodically.

Sunday, 6 September 2026

Full notes with diagrams: studyforgs.com/current-affairs/uppsc/2026-09-06.html

UP-GOVERNANCE UP honours 81 teachers on Teachers' Day 2026

- **81 teachers** honoured — **61 from Basic Education** and **20 from Secondary Education**; 33 awardees are women.
- Each awardee receives a citation, memento and **Rs 25,000** prize; State Teacher Award winners get a two-year extension in retirement age.
- Awardees also get lifetime free travel of **4,000 km/year** on state road transport buses.
- Awards recognise innovation, effective school management and holistic student development.

Concept: Teachers' Day is observed on the birth anniversary of Dr S. Radhakrishnan, philosopher and the second President of India.

UP-INFRA Cabinet clears four expressway links to build a seamless grid

- **Vindhya Expressway (~Rs 26,315 crore)** to connect Prayagraj, Bhadohi, Mirzapur and Sonbhadra.
- **Vindhya-Purvanchal Spur Link (Rs 9,039 crore)** linking Ghazipur, Mirzapur and Chandauli.
- Two link expressways connect Agra-Lucknow with the Ganga (Rs 7,489 cr, via Farrukhabad) and Purvanchal (Rs 4,776 cr) expressways.
- All six-lane (expandable to eight); to be built in **36 months** on the EPC model with a five-year maintenance period.

Concept: EPC (Engineering, Procurement & Construction) is a contract model where the government funds the project and the contractor executes it to a fixed design and cost.

UP-SCHEME UP Data Centre Policy 2026 targets Rs 2 lakh crore & AI infrastructure

- Targets **Rs 2 lakh crore** in private investment and **2 GW** of new data-centre capacity.
- Special support for **GPU-based and energy-efficient** facilities and AI-driven computing.
- Enhanced incentives for projects in **Bundelkhand and Purvanchal** to spread investment.
- Expected to create **~7,500 direct** long-term jobs and about **50,000 construction-phase** jobs.

Concept: A data centre is a facility housing servers and networking hardware; 'hyperscale' centres serve large cloud and AI workloads and are power- and land-intensive.

UP-SCHEME Free tablets for youth under Swami Vivekananda scheme

- Over **25 lakh** eligible youth to benefit in FY 2026-27; about **60 lakh** devices already distributed.
- Budget outlay of **Rs 2,374.6 crore** for the year, at roughly **Rs 17,000 per device**.
- Covers UG, PG, diploma, technical, health-education and ITI/skill-development trainees.
- Aims to boost digital learning and **employability skills** of young people.

Concept: The scheme is named after Swami Vivekananda, whose ideas on youth and self-reliance are frequently cited in governance narratives.

UP-GOVERNANCE 'Seva Sankalp Abhiyan' — month-long statewide service drive

- Runs **17 September - 17 October 2026** across villages, towns and cities.
- Activities: **Arogya Melas** (health camps), cleanliness and tree-planting drives, blood-donation camps.
- Distribution of aids and appliances to persons with disabilities and youth-education programmes.
- A **Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra** procession is planned in every district on 7 October.

Concept: 'Viksit Bharat @2047' is the government's vision of making India a developed nation by the centenary of Independence.

UP-SCHEME UP Startup Mission 2026 and Rs 1,000 crore startup fund

- A **Rs 1,000 crore** startup fund to support early-stage and growth-stage ventures.
- Part of a package including new data-centre, urban-reform and home-guard welfare decisions.
- Seeks to expand incubators and formalise support for entrepreneurs across the state.
- Complements UP's investment-summit momentum and MoUs signed at global forums.

Concept: A startup fund / fund-of-funds channels state capital into venture funds that in turn invest in startups, de-risking early-stage finance.

POLITY SC pushes states to raise district judge retirement age to 62

- Aimed at easing a backlog of about **5.18 crore** pending cases in district courts.
- Only **seven states** have agreed to the increase so far.
- Extension to be subject to a **suitability assessment at age 60**.
- Concerns the subordinate/district judiciary, the base of India's court system.

Concept: District judges are appointed by the Governor in consultation with the High Court under Article 233; the district judiciary is administratively controlled by the High Court.

ECONOMY GDP series rebased to 2022-23 with a new PPI deflator

- New **base year 2022-23** revises GDP figures from 2022-23 through 2025-26.
- Deflation shifts from **Wholesale Price Index (WPI)** to a **Producer Price Index (PPI)**.
- Updates the Index of Industrial Production and a new Banking Services Price Index.
- Improves accuracy of real-growth measurement to reflect the current economy.

Concept: A GDP deflator converts nominal GDP to real GDP; rebasing updates the reference year so weights reflect current consumption and production patterns.

NATIONAL ISRO's EOS-05 becomes India's first dedicated GEO imaging satellite

- **2,367 kg** imaging satellite at about **36,000 km** (geosynchronous) altitude.
- Launched aboard **GSLV-F17**, with a mission life of about **nine years**.
- Provides near-real-time coverage for disaster response, border surveillance and crop monitoring.
- Adds persistent, wide-area imaging that low-earth-orbit satellites cannot match.

Concept: A geosynchronous satellite orbits at ~36,000 km with a 24-hour period, so it stays over roughly the same region — ideal for continuous monitoring.

Monday, 7 September 2026

Full notes with diagrams: studyforgs.com/current-affairs/uppsc/2026-09-07.html

UP-SCHEME 'Project Praveen': skilling enters Sarvodaya schools

- Over **3,000 students** of Jai Prakash Narayan Sarvodaya Vidyalayas to gain job skills alongside schooling in **FY 2026-27**.
- Trades cover **Apparel, IT-ITeS and Management**; batches capped at **35 learners**, **300 training hours** each.
- Curriculum aligned to **Sector Skill Council (SSC)** norms; training to begin by **30 September 2026**.
- Run jointly by the Social Welfare Department and the UP Skill Development Mission.

> **Concept:** Sarvodaya Vidyalayas are residential schools for students from weaker sections run by UP's Social Welfare Department.

UP-GOVERNANCE CM promises one lakh government jobs in six months

- Appointment letters given to **3,572 recruits** — 3,446 Technical Assistants (Agriculture Dept) and 126 Mandi Secretaries.
- Target of about **one lakh** fresh government appointments across departments within **six months**.
- Drive stresses **merit and transparency** and curbing examination irregularities.

UP-INFRA 25,000 hectares to be acquired for 27 industrial clusters

- UPEIDA to acquire **25,000 hectares** along expressways for **27 Industrial Manufacturing & Logistics Clusters (IMLCs)**.
- About **5,000 ha identified** so far; over **4,250 ha already acquired** across **14 districts**.
- Nodes span Purvanchal, Bundelkhand, Ganga, Gorakhpur Link and Agra–Lucknow expressways; Bundelkhand & Ganga are the largest.
- Clusters to offer plug-and-play plots, multimodal links and PPP options ahead of **Ground Breaking Ceremony (GBC) 5.0**.

> **Concept:** IMLCs are integrated industrial-plus-logistics zones planned along expressway corridors to draw manufacturing investment.

UP-SCHEME Free bus travel for elderly women; 25 lakh tablets for youth

- **Lokmata Ahilyabai Matrishakti Yojana** — lifelong free UPSRTC bus travel for women aged **60+** (Aadhaar/voter ID as proof); about **1 crore** beneficiaries.
- **Swami Vivekananda Youth Empowerment Scheme** — **25 lakh tablets** for students; **₹2,374.60 crore** for FY 2026-27.
- Rules amended to let elderly parents evict neglectful adult children within a **30-day** hearing window.

UP-INFRA Ganga Expressway to reach Haridwar; new Jhansi Link cleared

- Ganga Expressway to be extended to **Haridwar (Uttarakhand)** at **₹10,761 crore**.
- **106.3-km Jhansi Link Expressway** cleared at **₹7,968.30 crore**, deepening Bundelkhand connectivity.
- **250 electric buses** sanctioned (₹400 crore); Sultanpur cluster (₹272.25 crore) and three FDI projects (₹2,606 crore) approved.

UP-CULTURE UP stays India's No.1 state in domestic tourism

- **646.8 million** domestic visits in 2026 — more than double the next state (about 306.8 million).
- **Ayodhya** drew about **7.2 crore** visitors (Jan–Jun 2026); **Varanasi** about **2.25 crore**; Kashi Vishwanath sees **1 lakh+** pilgrims daily.
- Tourism-policy investment proposals worth **₹37,688.58 crore**; a five-day **Ayodhya–Varanasi–Prayagraj 'Spiritual Triangle'** circuit launched.

UP-CULTURE UP leads GI tagging; 'One District One Cuisine' rolled out

- UP tops India with **77 GI-tagged products**; the **Kashi (Varanasi) region alone holds 32**, a global GI hub.
- **One District One Cuisine (ODOC)** — a culinary extension of ODOP — promotes a signature dish per district (Agra petha, Mathura peda, Banarasi malaiyo).
- GI protection guards artisans against counterfeits, boosts exports and rural jobs (valid **10 years**).

> **Concept:** A Geographical Indication (GI) tag marks goods from a specific origin with qualities due to that origin; it is protected for 10 years and renewable.

NATIONAL ISRO orbits EOS-05 earth-observation satellite

- **GSLV-F17** placed **EOS-05** into geosynchronous orbit (**~35,786 km**) — a geo earth-observation satellite.
- Enables **continuous, real-time imaging** for disaster management and agriculture monitoring.
- Demonstrates the indigenous **Cryogenic Upper Stage** with private-sector participation.

NATIONAL 'Lakhpati Didi' target scaled up to 6 crore women

- Target doubled from 3 crore to **6 crore 'Lakhpati Didis'** under **DAY-NRLM**.
- **₹10 lakh crore** for SHG collective loans and **₹1 lakh crore** for individual women entrepreneurs over five years.
- Quarterly and half-yearly reviews with SRLMs, RBI, NABARD and banks.

> **Concept:** A 'Lakhpati Didi' is an SHG woman member earning at least ₹1 lakh a year; DAY-NRLM is the flagship rural-livelihoods mission.

NATIONAL India and Belgium vow to double trade in five years

- Joint statement launched an **Investment Fast-Track Mechanism** to ease flows both ways.
- Both sides agreed to **double bilateral trade within five years**.
- Belgium reaffirmed support for India's **permanent UN Security Council** seat.

Tuesday, 8 September 2026

Full notes with diagrams: studyforgs.com/current-affairs/uppsc/2026-09-08.html

UP-SCHEME UP Textile Conclave 2026 (UPTEX-2026) opens in Lucknow; UP Tex Mitra portal launched

- Launched the **UP Tex Mitra portal** plus the **Mukhyamantri Handloom Weaver Prosperity Scheme** and a **Textile Sector Training & Skill Development Scheme**.
- **₹416.75 crore** distributed to **157 textile units**; **Letters of Comfort** issued to **214 units** for expansion and diversification.
- **₹3,446.44 crore** electricity relief for **99,929 powerloom weavers** (**Atal Bihari scheme**); **₹77.45 crore** to **4,039 SC weavers** (**Jhalkari Bai Kori scheme**); **₹73.18 crore** to **4,122 weavers** (Handloom & Powerloom Development).
- **PM MITRA** mega textile park coming up on **1,000 acres** at the **Lucknow–Hardoi border**, boundary-wall work nearly complete.

> **Concept:** ODOP (One District One Product) and PM MITRA (Mega Integrated Textile Region & Apparel) parks anchor UP's textile-led industrialisation.

UP-GOVERNANCE CM honours Anganwadi workers in Ayodhya; appointment letters distributed statewide

- About **12,000–15,000 workers and helpers** from the Ayodhya division participated, with parallel ceremonies across all UP districts.
- **Appointment letters** were distributed to newly selected workers and outstanding supervisors were recognised.
- The programme reinforces the **Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)** delivery network for nutrition and early-childhood care.

> **Concept:** ICDS/Poshan Abhiyaan uses Anganwadi centres for supplementary nutrition, pre-school education and health referrals.

UP-GOVERNANCE UP finalises Student Mental-Health & Well-Being Policy for all colleges and universities

- **Mental-Health Support Cells** to be set up in **every college and university**, with confidential counselling, helplines and an online assessment portal.
- **Three-tier governance**: Director of Higher Education as state nodal officer, a **Steering Committee** under the Principal Secretary, and **district committees chaired by District Magistrates**.
- Staff training, awareness drives and an integrated monitoring dashboard target **exam anxiety, career stress and emotional well-being**.

> **Concept:** Institutional mental-health cells operationalise the mental-health dimension of NEP 2020 and the Mental Healthcare Act, 2017.

UP-INFRA Ganga Expressway—UP's longest—nears completion, targeted to open in 2026

- **Six-lane** (expandable to eight), running through roughly a dozen districts including **Budaun, Hardoi, Unnao and Raebareli**.
- It becomes UP's **sixth and longest expressway**, ahead of the Purvanchal (**341 km**) and Bundelkhand (**296 km**) expressways.
- The corridor is designed to cut **Meerut–Prayagraj** travel time sharply and open industrial and logistics clusters along the route.

> **Concept:** Access-controlled expressways under UPEIDA anchor UP's 'growth corridor' industrialisation model.

UP-CULTURE Uttar Pradesh remains India's No. 1 state in GI-tagged products

- GI tags protect region-specific products such as **Banarasi silk, Bhadohi carpets, Firozabad glassware** and a range of **ODOP** items.
- The tags dovetail with the **ODOP** programme, boosting exports and artisan incomes across districts.
- A GI tag is granted for an initial **10 years** (renewable) under the **Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration & Protection) Act, 1999**.

> **Concept:** GI is an intellectual-property right identifying goods originating from a specific geography with qualities due to that origin.

NATIONAL Defence Acquisition Council clears ~₹1.10 lakh crore buys, 98% from domestic industry

- Around **98% of the value** is earmarked for **domestic sourcing**, deepening the **Atmanirbhar Bharat** push in defence.
- Approvals span **CBRN reconnaissance vehicles, advanced helicopters, indigenous marine gas turbines and Arudhra radars**.
- **Indigenous marine gas turbines** cut dependence on foreign suppliers for naval propulsion.

> **Concept:** The DAC is the apex Ministry of Defence body approving capital acquisitions and categorising them (Buy Indian-IDDM etc.).

NATIONAL India's BRICS chairmanship: 'non-West, not anti-West'

- BRICS seeks greater voice for **emerging economies** in bodies like the **IMF and World Bank**.
- The **New Development Bank** (est. **2014**) offers alternative development financing to members.
- India pursues **'strategic autonomy'**—engagement without exclusive alignment.

> **Concept:** BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa + newer members) pushes a multipolar, reformed global order.

NATIONAL **ISRO deepens private-sector role; EOS-05 earth-observation satellite launched**

- The **EOS-05** earth-observation satellite was placed in orbit by a GSLV-class launch (**GSLV-F17**).
- **IN-SPACe** promotes and authorises **non-government (private) space activity**.
- Earth-observation data supports **agriculture, disaster management and remote sensing**.

Concept: IN-SPACe is the single-window promoter-cum-regulator for private space activity under the Space Policy 2023.

Wednesday, 9 September 2026

Full notes with diagrams: studyforgs.com/current-affairs/uppsc/2026-09-09.html

UTTAR PRADESH **9th National Poshan Maah launched from Varanasi**

- **9th Rashtriya Poshan Maah** launched at the **Rudraksh Convention Centre, Varanasi**.
- 2026 theme: **“Our Anganwadis, Our Responsibility”** — citizens co-own Anganwadi centres.
- Rooted in **Poshan Abhiyaan (2018)** and now run under **Mission Saksham Anganwadi & Poshan 2.0**.
- Focus: dietary diversity, adequate protein, hot cooked meals with **millets, pulses & seasonal veg**.

Concept: Poshan Abhiyaan (2018) is a multi-ministerial mission targeting stunting, wasting, anaemia and low birth-weight using technology, convergence and jan-andolan.

UP-SCHEME **UP raises Anganwadi honorarium 50%, adds ₹5 lakh health cover**

- Anganwadi workers' honorarium raised **₹8,000 → ₹12,000/month**; helpers **₹4,000 → ₹6,000**.
- New **cashless health cover of up to ₹5,00,000** for workers and helpers.
- Sarees distributed and appointment letters handed to newly recruited staff.
- Meritorious girl students and top-performing Anganwadi supervisors felicitated.

Concept: ICDS (1975) delivers a package of six services through Anganwadi centres; honoraria are shared by the Centre and states.

UP-GOVERNANCE **UP Cabinet clears ₹5,507 cr investment for 11 industrial units**

- Total **₹5,507.01 crore** across **11 units in 9 districts**, cleared in one Cabinet meeting.
- **8 units (₹2,900.97 cr)** under the **UP Industrial Investment & Employment Promotion Policy 2022**.
- **3 units (₹2,606.04 cr)** under the **FDI/Foreign Capital Investment Policy 2023**.
- Largest: **Canpack India, Unnao (₹1,573.62 cr)**; sectors led by packaging and food & beverages.

Concept: State investment policies offer capital subsidy, stamp-duty and interest reimbursement to attract units in priority sectors and backward regions.

UP-INFRA New 74-km, 6-lane link to join Noida Airport with Ganga Expressway

- **74-km, six-lane** corridor from the **Yamuna Expressway** (near Film City) to the **Ganga Expressway** near Syana.
- Estimated cost about **₹8,586 crore**; passes through **56 villages** in Gautam Buddh Nagar and Bulandshahr.
- About **20 km** runs through the **New Noida Investment Region**; **3-year** completion deadline.
- Feeds the **594-km Ganga Expressway (Meerut–Prayagraj)**, boosting cargo and passenger links.

Concept: Expressways in UP are built via UPEIDA on a land-pooling + EPC model, often anchoring industrial corridors alongside.

UP-SCHEME ODOP milestone: 9 lakh youth employed in nine years

- **One District One Product (ODOP)** launched in **2018** to revive district-level traditional crafts and industry.
- **9 lakh youth** employed through ODOP; **3.25 crore** youth and artisans engaged across schemes.
- Backed by **MSME revival**, Vishwakarma-style skilling, marketing and credit support.
- Many ODOP products overlap with UP's **GI-tagged items** — **UP leads India in GI tags**.

Concept: ODOP identifies one signature product per district and builds a full value-chain (design, credit, skilling, marketing) around it.

ECONOMY India's Q1 FY27 GDP grows 7.8%, beats RBI's 7% forecast

- Real GDP **+7.8% y-o-y** in Q1 FY27; real **GVA +8.2%**; nominal GDP **+10.3%** (released by **MoSPI**).
- **Services +10.0%** and **manufacturing +9.2%** led growth; agriculture **+3.6%**; mining contracted **2.4%**.
- **Gross Fixed Capital Formation surged 11.9%**, its share rising to **34.3%** of GDP.
- Marks a **fourth straight quarter** of near-potential growth despite global headwinds.

Concept: GVA measures output by producers (supply side); GDP adds net taxes on products — GDP = GVA + product taxes − subsidies.

POLITY Supreme Court's Article 142 'complete justice' power in focus

- **Article 142** lets the Supreme Court pass any order needed to do **‘complete justice’** in a case.
- A study counted **791 direct invocations** of the power since **1949**.
- It was recently used to **quash FIRs** arising from nationwide exam protests.
- Critics warn of over-reach; safeguards trace to the **1962 and 1998 rulings** limiting its scope.

Concept: Article 142 empowers the SC; its orders are enforceable throughout India, but cannot override express statutory provisions per later rulings.

NATIONAL India moves on a green-steel decarbonisation push

- India produces about **160 million tonnes** of steel a year, **~32% above** the global emissions intensity.
- Coal-based blast-furnace capacity could rise from **43% to 56% by 2030** without a shift.
- A roughly **₹5,000-crore decarbonisation scheme** is being launched to push **EAF/DRI routes**.
- Supports India's **net-zero-by-2070** pledge and green-hydrogen ambitions.

Concept: Green steel uses low-carbon routes (green-hydrogen DRI, electric-arc furnaces with renewable power) instead of coking-coal blast furnaces.

Thursday, 10 September 2026

Full notes with diagrams: studyforgs.com/current-affairs/uppsc/2026-09-10.html

UP-SCHEME UP to give interest-free ₹1 lakh credit to 1 crore SHG women

- Up to **₹1 lakh** interest-free credit to each of nearly **1 crore SHG women**, paid by **Direct Benefit Transfer**.
- Released in **three tranches — ₹20,000 (by December), ₹30,000 and ₹50,000** — as women scale up their ventures.
- Anchored in the **UP State Rural Livelihood Mission**; adds special women's **credit cards** and digital sales linkage.
- Extra support: up to **₹2 lakh** for women buying **e-rickshaws** and **100 new women-empowerment centres**.
- Final eligibility and beneficiary rules await formal **Cabinet approval**.

Concept: Self-Help Groups (SHGs) are informal savings-and-credit collectives; DAY-NRLM / UP-SRLM channel bank linkage and revolving funds to them.

UP-SKILL PM-SETU skilling funds flow to UP's Meerut ITI cluster

- The 5th National Steering Committee approved **₹735.70 crore** for **three ITI clusters** (including UP).
- UP's **Meerut ITI cluster** secured **₹240.40 crore** for modernisation and industry-linked training.
- Total PM-SETU commitment now stands at about **₹2,171 crore across 9 clusters** nationally.
- Focus: aligning ITI trades with local industry demand and improving trainee employability.

Concept: ITIs deliver trade-specific vocational training; cluster upgradation links them to nearby industry for placements.

UP-INFRA UP–Japan Investment Meet 2026 anchors big-ticket YEIDA projects

- **Escorts Kubota** to invest **₹2,025 crore** (tractors & construction equipment), **3,800+ jobs**, in YEIDA.
- **Minda Corporation** to invest **₹1,166 crore** in auto components, creating about **6,440 jobs**.
- A **500-acre dedicated 'Japanese City'** is planned in YEIDA for Japanese firms and suppliers.
- **Four MoUs** signed with **Yamanashi Prefecture** covering skilling, tourism, GCCs and Japanese-language workforce.
- Positioned as part of UP's drive to become a **$1-trillion economy**.

Concept: YEIDA (Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority) governs planned industrial development near the Noida International Airport at Jewar.

UP-GOVERNANCE Cabinet clears ₹5,507 crore for 11 industrial units in 9 districts

- Total cleared investment of **₹5,507 crore** across **11 units** in **9 districts**.
- Sector split: **packaging (~45%)** and **food & beverage (~41%)** dominate; metals & speciality make up the rest.
- Largest single project: a packaging unit in **Unnao (~₹1,573 crore)**; Unnao district leads overall.
- Approvals routed through the **2022 policy (8 units)** and **2023 FDI policy (3 units)**.

Concept: A 'Letter of Comfort' is a state assurance of policy incentives to an investor, short of a binding guarantee.

UP-INFRA Expressway industrial corridors and Jhansi Link Expressway advance

- About **₹7,000 crore** earmarked for **industrial corridors along 5 expressways**.
- The **Jhansi Link Expressway (~₹7,968 crore)** was cleared, connecting the Bundelkhand Expressway to **NH-44**.
- UP already operates **India's largest expressway network** (Purvanchal, Bundelkhand, Ganga, etc.).
- Corridors aim to spread industry to **Bundelkhand and eastern UP**, easing regional imbalance.

Concept: An industrial corridor bundles transport spines with logistics, land banks and utilities to cluster manufacturing.

UP-GOVERNANCE Assistive-device and artificial-limb camps planned in all 75 districts

- **Assistive-device and artificial-limb distribution camps** to be organised across **all 75 districts**.
- Aims at accessible, on-ground delivery rather than centralised distribution.
- Reinforces UP's welfare architecture for **Divyangjan (persons with disabilities)**.
- Complements pension and accessibility measures already in place.

Concept: The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 recognises 21 disabilities and mandates accessibility and support.

UP-CULTURE Ayodhya–Varanasi–Prayagraj drive religious-tourism surge

- **Ayodhya, Varanasi and Prayagraj** anchor record religious-tourism growth in the state.
- The circuit is emerging as a **multi-day luxury cultural route**, boosting local livelihoods.
- Tourism reinforces UP's ranking among India's **top destinations by visitor numbers**.
- Feeds hospitality, transport and handicraft demand across the corridor.

Concept: Religious/heritage tourism circuits use anchor pilgrimage sites to spread economic benefits along a route.

UP-CULTURE UP retains India's top rank in GI tags, eyes 152 products

- UP holds the **highest number of GI-tagged products** among Indian states.
- A fresh action plan targets roughly **152 GI-tagged products** in the state.
- GI tags protect region-specific crafts and produce, boosting **ODOP** exports.
- Strengthens artisan incomes and brand value for UP handicrafts.

Concept: A Geographical Indication marks goods with a specific origin and qualities tied to that place (GI Act, 1999).

NATIONAL India–Japan air exercise Veer Guardian-2026 at Jodhpur

- **Exercise Veer Guardian-2026** held at **Jodhpur (Rajasthan)** over a **14-day** schedule.
- IAF fielded **Tejas, Su-30 MKI and Rafale**; Japan's ASDF deployed **F-2A** fighters.
- Objective: **interoperability, tactical proficiency and operational synergy**.
- Part of a widening India–Japan **special strategic and global partnership**.

Concept: Veer Guardian is the India–Japan air exercise; distinguish it from Dharma Guardian (army) and JIMEX (navy).

ECONOMY Aluminium tech tie-up and fresh RBI payment approvals

- A national aluminium producer signed a **technology-licensing deal** to add **0.5 million tonnes/year** of smelting capacity at Angul, Odisha.
- The upgrade uses advanced smelting technology to raise efficiency and output.
- The **RBI** cleared a **Payment Aggregator** authorisation for a fintech and a **GIFT City** licence for cross-border services.
- Signals continued formalisation and expansion of India's digital-payments ecosystem.

Concept: A Payment Aggregator lets merchants accept digital payments without building their own gateway; RBI licenses them.

Friday, 11 September 2026

Full notes with diagrams: studyforgs.com/current-affairs/uppsc/2026-09-11.html

UP-SCHEME UP Anganwadi honoraria trebled to ₹12,000; ₹5 lakh cashless health cover added

- **Anganwadi workers' honorarium raised to ₹12,000/month** (from ₹8,000); **helpers to ₹6,000** (from ₹4,000).
- **₹5 lakh annual cashless treatment** for workers and helpers at empanelled, government hospitals and medical colleges.
- Over **70,000 Anganwadi centres** to be restructured, with own buildings planned for centres in rented/shared spaces.
- Workforce is drawn almost entirely from women in lower-income rural households; scheme sits under ICDS.

> **Concept:** ICDS (Integrated Child Development Services) delivers supplementary nutrition, immunisation and pre-school education through Anganwadi centres.

UP-INFRA UP Cabinet approves ~₹24,000 cr push: expressways plus 11 industrial units

- **Ganga Expressway extension** (~**₹10,761 crore**): six-lane greenfield corridor (expandable to eight) along the Prayagraj–Haridwar stretch; DPR to be prepared.
- **Jhansi Link Expressway** (~**₹7,968 crore**) for the Bundelkhand Industrial Development Authority region and Jhansi defence corridor; **Sultanpur logistics cluster** (~₹272 crore).
- **₹5,507 crore** cleared for **11 industrial units** in nine districts, incl. an aluminium beverage-can plant in Unnao (~₹1,573 crore).
- Reinforces UP's push to convert investment-summit MoUs into operating projects and its largest-expressway-network status.

> **Concept:** Greenfield expressways use controlled-access alignments enabling roadside industrial townships; incentives 'ground' summit MoUs.

UP-SCHEME UP Textile Vision 2026: ₹5,196 cr proposals, 10+ parks, PM MITRA and weaver welfare

- **₹5,196 crore** in new investment proposals signed; letters of comfort (~₹163 crore) and subsidy support (~₹60 crore) extended.
- **Textile parks** reserved in Varanasi, Amroha, Bareilly, Sant Kabir Nagar and Bijnor; Noida designated an **apparel city**; a **PM MITRA** mega-hub in the pipeline.
- UP has **~2 lakh handlooms and 5 lakh+ powerloom weavers**; textile exports up **~56% in six years**, making UP India's **4th-largest textile exporter**.
- New **UP Tex Mitra portal** and **Hathkargha Bunkar Samriddhi Yojana** launched; **17 GI-tagged** textile products across 35+ districts.

> **Concept:** PM MITRA parks create integrated 'farm-to-fibre-to-fabric-to-fashion' textile ecosystems with plug-and-play infrastructure.

UP-GOVERNANCE Lucknow tops Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan 2026; 16 UP cities in national clean-air rankings

- **Lucknow scored 198/200** in Category-I (10 lakh+ population), edging Indore (197) by a single point.
- Top order: **Lucknow 198, Indore 197, Jabalpur 195, Bhopal & Agra 192**.
- **16 UP cities** featured in the national clean-air rankings — the first time Lucknow overtook long-time leader Indore.
- Scoring rewards pollution-control actions, monitoring and public awareness, not only ambient PM levels.

Concept: The National Clean Air Programme (NCAP, 2019) sets city-wise PM10 reduction targets; Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan ranks cities on the actions taken.

UP-CULTURE Braj region to be developed 'on the lines of Ayodhya and Kashi'

- Mathura–Vrindavan, Barsana, Nandgaon and Govardhan to get integrated pilgrim facilities and connectivity.
- Model cited is **Ayodhya**, now drawing ~1 lakh visitors daily (5–50 lakh during festivals) with an international airport, Ram Path and Bhakti Path.
- Aims to blend heritage preservation with devotee-centric infrastructure.
- Part of UP's strategy of building pilgrimage hubs as spiritual-cum-economic engines.

Concept: Pilgrimage-led urban regeneration couples heritage conservation with airports, corridors and civic amenities to scale religious tourism.

UP-GOVERNANCE Reemployment age for specialist doctors raised 65→70; 500 consultant posts opened

- Maximum **reemployment age for retired specialist doctors raised from 65 to 70 years**.
- **500 consultant posts** opened to fill specialist gaps in government facilities.
- Targets shortages in district and referral hospitals.
- Complements the Anganwadi and public-health measures announced the same week.

NATIONAL CCEA clears eight railway multitracking projects worth ₹20,804 crore

- **Eight multitracking projects, ~₹20,804 crore**, across **nine states**, serving a population of about **52 lakh**.
- Aim: decongest saturated routes, cut logistics costs and raise freight capacity.
- Adds to recent commissioning of final sections of the **Western Dedicated Freight Corridor** (~₹20,700 crore).
- Supports the PM Gati Shakti multimodal connectivity framework.

Concept: Multitracking (3rd/4th lines) and Dedicated Freight Corridors separate freight from passenger traffic to boost throughput.

NATIONAL Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2026 launched; PMMVY marks 10 years

- **9th Rashtriya Poshan Maah** observed 9 September–8 October 2026; theme: 'Hamari Anganwadi Hamari Jimmedari'.
- Marks **10 years of Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY)**, the maternity cash-benefit scheme.
- Focus on Anganwadi-led community mobilisation for nutrition.
- Directly connects to UP's simultaneous Anganwadi strengthening measures.

> **Concept:** POSHAN Abhiyaan (2018) is India's flagship convergence mission to reduce stunting, wasting and anaemia.

Saturday, 12 September 2026

Full notes with diagrams: studyforgs.com/current-affairs/uppsc/2026-09-12.html

UP-CULTURE 5th Gomti Book Festival 2026 opens at Lucknow University

- Nine-day festival (**12–20 September**), organised by the **National Book Trust** (under the Union Education Ministry).
- Over **120 publishers** and **200+ book stalls**; author interactions, panel talks and book launches.
- Visitors get access to the **Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya**, the national digital library with **3,000+ e-books** across Indian languages.
- Showcases literature, culture and heritage in the state capital.

> **Concept:** The National Book Trust, India (est. 1957) is an apex body under the Ministry of Education for publishing and promoting reading.

UP-SCHEME Anganwadi honorarium raised to ₹12,000; ₹5 lakh cashless health cover

- Workers' monthly honorarium raised from **₹8,000 to ₹12,000**; helpers from **₹4,000 to ₹6,000** — a **four-fold** rise from earlier ₹3,000/₹1,500.
- New annual **₹5 lakh** cashless treatment cover per worker/helper at empanelled hospitals, government hospitals and medical colleges.
- **70,000+** Anganwadi centres reorganised over nine years; dedicated buildings promised for all.
- Part of the state's women & child development and nutrition (Poshan) push.

> **Concept:** Anganwadi centres are the delivery points of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) scheme for nutrition and early childhood care.

ECONOMY UP Cabinet clears ₹5,507 cr investment — 11 units across 9 districts

- Approved under the **UP Industrial Investment & Employment Promotion Policy 2022** and the **FDI / Fortune Global 500 Policy 2023**.
- Sector split: packaging **₹2,494 cr**, food & beverage **₹2,252 cr**, metals/specialty **₹522 cr**.
- District spread led by **Unnao (₹1,937 cr)**, then Hathras, Gautam Buddh Nagar, Mathura, Bijnor, Barabanki, Lakhimpur Kheri, Kanpur Dehat and Hamirpur.
- Incentives: capital subsidy plus net SGST reimbursement to select units.

> **Concept:** BIMARU (Bihar, MP, Rajasthan, UP) was a 1980s acronym for economically lagging states; UP now cites investment growth to counter it.

UP-INFRA Jewar Link Expressway approved — ₹8,585 cr, 74.5 km

- **Six-lane** access-controlled greenfield expressway (expandable to **eight lanes**), passing through **56 villages**.
- Connects the **Noida International Airport (Jewar)** to the **Ganga Expressway** via Bulandshahr — Bhaipur Brahman (Noida) to Bahapur (Bulandshahr).
- To be developed by the **UP Expressways Industrial Development Authority (UPEIDA)**; no central funding proposed.
- Offers a shorter route toward Prayagraj and strengthens the Jewar airport logistics corridor.

Concept: UPEIDA is the nodal agency that plans and executes access-controlled expressways in Uttar Pradesh.

UP-SCHEME Digital Entrepreneur Scheme launched in 8,000 Nyaya Panchayats

- One digital entrepreneur per Nyaya Panchayat; **50%** reserved for women (daughters/ daughters-in-law of the same panchayat).
- Interest-free loans of up to **₹10 lakh** each; support for optical-fibre access and onboarding village products to online marketplaces.
- Linked to a **₹100 cr** Women Entrepreneur Product Marketing Centre initiative at the Nyaya Panchayat level.
- Complements the rural broadband push to take high-speed internet to gram panchayats across the state.

Concept: A Nyaya Panchayat is a cluster of gram panchayats, used here as the delivery unit for rural digital services.

NATIONAL Universal Bhu-Aadhaar & DILRMP 3.0 for land records

- Introduces a **14-digit** Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (**ULPIN / Bhu-Aadhaar**) for every geo-referenced land parcel.
- Enables paperless registration and integrates revenue courts with land records to curb fraudulent transactions.
- Part of the **Digital India Land Records Modernisation Programme (DILRMP)**.

Concept: DILRMP (formerly NLRMP) aims to build a modern, transparent, conclusive land-titling system across India.

POLITY Bankers' Books Evidence Act 2026 in force from 1 October

- Modernises a **135-year-old** law; effective **1 October 2026**.
- Recognises **digital, cloud-based and virtual** banking records as admissible evidence.
- Certification allowed via manual, digital or electronic signatures.

Concept: The Bankers' Books Evidence Act allows certified copies of bankers' books to be used as evidence without producing original ledgers in court.

NATIONAL **BRICS Chennai Declaration on Science, Technology & Innovation**

- Deepens BRICS cooperation in **AI, quantum technology and biotechnology** via shared research infrastructure and researcher mobility.
- Sets up a **Young Scientist Forum** and **Youth Innovator Prize**; explores a **BRICS Startup Innovation Fund**.
- Reinforces India's science-diplomacy footprint within the grouping.

Concept: BRICS is a grouping of major emerging economies (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa and newer members) coordinating on economy and technology.

Tuesday, 15 September 2026

Full notes with diagrams: studyforgs.com/current-affairs/uppsc/2026-09-15.html

UP-INFRA / GREEN MOBILITY **250 AC electric buses cleared for UP cities (₹425.5 cr)**

- Total outlay **₹425.5 cr**: **₹400 cr** state share + **₹25.5 cr** UPSRTC contribution.
- Fleet split: **100 low-floor 50-seater (3×2)** + **150 41-seater (2×2)** 12-metre AC buses.
- Anchored in the **UP Electric Vehicle Manufacturing & Mobility Policy** (notified **Oct 2022**) — 100% road-tax & registration exemption for EVs.
- Rollout ahead of the **CAQM** norm (from **01 Nov 2026**) allowing only CNG/electric/BS-VI vehicles in Delhi-NCR.

Concept: CAQM (Commission for Air Quality Management) is a statutory body (Act, 2021) for Delhi-NCR & adjoining areas.

UP-ECONOMY / ELECTRONICS **UP becomes India's electronics & semiconductor hub (₹43,000 cr)**

- **200+ companies** operating; **3 lakh+ jobs**; **55%+ of India's mobile-phone production**.
- **1,000-acre** semiconductor park being developed in the Yamuna Expressway (**YEIDA**) region.
- India Chip Pvt Ltd's **ATMP** (Assembly, Testing, Marking, Packaging) unit (**₹3,700 cr**) at YEIDA Sector 28.
- Backed by the **UP Electronics Component Manufacturing Policy 2025**.

Concept: ATMP/OSAT is the back-end of chip-making (packaging & testing), a key entry point for India's semiconductor value chain.

UP-INFRA / EXPRESSWAYS **Supplementary budget fast-tracks expressways (₹15,400 cr)**

- **Vindhya Expressway**: **₹6,500 cr** for land — **594 km** linking Ganga Expressway to **Sonbhadra** via Prayagraj, Mirzapur, Varanasi, Chandauli.
- **Ganga Expressway extension**: **₹5,700 cr** (Meerut–Prayagraj corridor, inaugurated **29 Apr 2026**).
- **Purvanchal Link Spur** (Sonbhadra–Chandauli–Ghazipur): **₹2,300 cr**.
- Implemented by **UPEIDA** (UP Expressways Industrial Development Authority).

Concept: Greenfield expressways are access-controlled corridors built on new alignment, central to UP's industrial-corridor strategy.

UP-GOVERNANCE / JUDICIARY **Welfare & digitisation package for advocates announced at Prayagraj**

- **Cashless health insurance of up to ₹5 lakh** for practising advocates.
- Family assistance from the lawyers' welfare fund raised from **₹1.5 lakh to ₹5 lakh**.
- Eligibility age for family assistance raised from **60 to 70 years**.
- **Tablets for 400 state law officers**; chambers/furniture for **10,000+ lawyers** in multi-level complexes.

UP-ECONOMY / INVESTMENT **UP steps up global outreach for a $1-trillion economy by 2030**

- **Japan**: Yamanashi Prefecture delegation (**200**); a **500-acre 'Japanese city'** planned near Greater Noida.
- **Germany**: GIBA delegation to Lucknow; **Frankfurt MoU (Feb 2026)** on MSMEs, startups, IT, aviation.
- **Taiwan**: UP delegation at **SEMICON 2026, Taipei**, for chip supply-chain and R&D tie-ups.
- Priority sectors: **semiconductors, data centres, green hydrogen** and precision manufacturing.

NATIONAL / ECONOMY **Economy snapshot: GST at ₹2.32 lakh cr; ADB sees 7.4% growth**

- August 2026 gross **GST collection: ₹2.32 lakh crore** — second-highest monthly figure ever.
- ADB revised India's **FY2026-27 GDP growth forecast up to 7.4%**.
- **SEBI extended T+0 same-day settlement** to the top 500 listed securities.

> **Concept:** T+0 settlement means trade settlement on the same day, reducing counterparty risk versus the earlier T+1 cycle.

NATIONAL / SCHEMES **Cabinet clears PM-SHRI Universities Phase-II; Krishi Abhiyan launched**

- **PM-SHRI Universities Phase-II**: **₹22,000 cr** to upgrade **50 central and 100 state universities by 2030**.
- **Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan** targets **6 crore farm families** across **700 districts** over 180 days.
- Focus: crop diversification and awareness of farmer-income schemes.

NATIONAL / AWARDS & DAYS **Observances & honours: Democracy Day, Engineer's Day, Gukesh, Harmanpreet**

- **International Day of Democracy (15 Sep)** — theme: 'Democracy for Sustainable Development'.
- **Engineer's Day** marks the birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna **M. Visvesvaraya**.
- **D. Gukesh** defended the FIDE World Chess title; **Harmanpreet Kaur** named ICC Women's Cricketer of the Decade.

Wednesday, 16 September 2026

Full notes with diagrams: studyforgs.com/current-affairs/uppsc/2026-09-16.html

UP-GOVERNANCE UP Cabinet Clears 23-Proposal Package for Growth & Welfare

- **23 proposals** approved across infrastructure, agriculture, education, employment, industry and urban development.
- Marquee items: **Chitrakoot Link Expressway**, **Krishak Samriddhi Yojana**, **Smart Schools**, Agniveer reservation and a new **Toy Manufacturing Policy-2025**.
- Welfare push includes **cashless medical cover for PRD volunteers** and an extra **₹25/quintal margin** for fair-price shop dealers.
- Ease-of-living moves: **stamp-duty exemption on 10-year lease deeds** to ease rentals of homes and shops.

Concept: State Cabinet is the real executive at the state level under Article 163–164; the Governor acts on its aid and advice.

UP-ECONOMY 4th UP International Trade Show (UPITS) to Open on 25 September

- **UPITS 4.0** to run **25–29 September 2026** at the India Expo Centre & Mart, **Greater Noida**.
- Focus on **ODOP (One District One Product)**, MSMEs, textiles and the state's export ecosystem.
- Positions UP as a leading investment and manufacturing hub, building on record investment intents.

UP-INFRA Chitrakoot Link Expressway Approved at ₹1,008.67 Crore

- **15.172 km**, six-lane, access-controlled greenfield expressway at **₹1,008.67 crore**.
- Entire cost borne by the **UP government**; construction agency via global bidding.
- Improves connectivity in the **Bundelkhand** region and links to the Bundelkhand Expressway.
- Boosts pilgrimage tourism, logistics and industrial access in a backward region.

Concept: Chitrakoot lies in the Bundelkhand region on the UP–MP border, a key pilgrimage site linked to the Ramayana.

UP-SCHEME Mukhyamantri Krishak Samriddhi Yojana: ₹6 Lakh Loans at 6%

- Loans up to **₹6 lakh** at **6% annual interest** for small and marginal farmers.
- Routed through the **UP Cooperative Gram Vikas Bank Ltd**.
- Targets timely, affordable credit to reduce dependence on informal moneylenders.

Concept: Cooperative banks form the third tier of India's rural credit structure, alongside commercial and regional rural banks.

UP-GOVERNANCE 20% Agniveer Reservation & Cashless Cover for PRD Volunteers

- **20% horizontal reservation** for ex-Agniveers in **Enforcement Constable (Transport)** and **Jail Warder** posts.
- Four-year Agniveer service counts toward age; an extra **3-year age relaxation** granted.
- **Cashless medical treatment** for PRD (Provincial Armed Constabulary) volunteers and dependents; duty allowance raised.

Concept: Horizontal reservation cuts across vertical (caste-based) categories, e.g. for women, PwD or ex-servicemen.

UP-INFRA Industrial & Education Push: Toy Policy, Smart Schools, Ethanol Plant

- **Toy Manufacturing Promotion Policy-2025** approved to boost artisans, women's employment and clusters.
- **120 KLPD ethanol plant** cleared at Chhata Sugar Company Ltd, **Mathura**, on a concession-lease.
- **Smart Schools Initiative** to upgrade Basic Education Council primary schools with modern learning infrastructure.
- **WorldFish MoU** signed for an eastern-UP fisheries development project.

Concept: E20 target: 20% ethanol blending in petrol, advanced to 2025–26 to cut oil imports and emissions.

UP-GOVERNANCE NSG Regional Centre in Ayodhya; Urban Expansion Funds Cleared

- **65 acres** of state land allotted **free** in **Ayodhya** for an **NSG Regional Centre**.
- Funds cleared for **Lucknow, Unnao and Raebareli** under the Mukhyamantri Shahri Vistaarikaran Yojana.
- Completion of a high-tech township in Lucknow also approved.

Concept: NSG ('Black Cats'), raised in 1984, is India's premier counter-terror and anti-hijacking force under the MHA.

UP-CULTURE UP Confirmed India's No.1 Domestic Tourism Destination (2026)

- UP recorded **646.8 million** domestic tourist visits in 2026 — **rank 1** nationally.
- More than **double** second-placed Tamil Nadu (306.8 million).
- **Ayodhya** drew **7.2 crore** visitors (Jan–Jun) and **Varanasi 2.25 crore** (Jan–Mar).
- Prayagraj continued a post-**Mahakumbh** surge.

Concept: Faith/heritage tourism spans Ayodhya (Ram Mandir), Varanasi (Kashi Vishwanath) and Prayagraj (Kumbh).

ECONOMY GST Collections Hit a Record August of ₹1.99 Lakh Crore

- Gross GST of **₹1,99,853 crore** in August 2026 — up **14.8%** YoY, a record for any August.
- Domestic GST **₹1,37,249 crore** (+9.3%); import IGST **₹62,604 crore** (+29%).
- April–August cumulative collections at **₹10.43 lakh crore** (+11%).

Concept: GST was introduced by the 101st Constitutional Amendment Act, 2016; the GST Council is under Article 279A.

NATIONAL / IR India Hosts 18th BRICS Summit; New Delhi Declaration Adopted

- **18th BRICS Summit** held at Bharat Mandapam, **New Delhi**; theme: *Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability*.
- Leaders adopted the **New Delhi Declaration** on global-governance and economic cooperation.
- **Ten members** took part, including newer entrants Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Indonesia and the UAE.

Concept: BRICS, formed in 2009 (with South Africa joining in 2010), expanded from 2024 to include new members.

Thursday, 17 September 2026

Full notes with diagrams: studyforgs.com/current-affairs/uppsc/2026-09-17.html

UP-GOVERNANCE 'Seva Sankalp Abhiyan' launched across Uttar Pradesh

- Month-long drive from **17 September to 17 October 2026**, marking the PM's **25 years in public life** and 76th birthday.
- Focus on **service, good governance and public welfare**, taking government achievements to every citizen.
- Includes health camps, welfare-saturation drives and beneficiary-outreach from the block to the district level.
- Coordinated across all districts by the state administration and the ruling party organisation.

Concept: Welfare saturation and good-governance campaigns are used to close the last-mile gap in scheme delivery.

UP-SCHEME Divyangjan assistive-device & artificial-limb camps begin (Phase 1)

- Camps to cover **all 75 districts**, providing **free assistive devices and artificial limbs** to eligible Divyangjan.
- **Phase 1**: **41 districts on 17 September** and **34 districts on 2 October 2026**.
- Later phases run **20 Oct–15 Nov** and **3–15 December 2026**.
- Implemented by the state's **Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities**, via District Divyangjan Empowerment Officers.

Concept: Assistive-technology distribution supports the rights-based approach of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities framework.

UP-INFRA Cabinet clears Chitrakoot Link Expressway

- **15.172 km**, **six-lane access-controlled** greenfield expressway at a cost of **₹1,008.67 crore**.
- Improves connectivity from **Bundelkhand to Chitrakoot Dham** and is expected to boost regional tourism.
- Part of a Cabinet meeting that cleared **23 proposals** spanning infrastructure, jobs, education and welfare.
- Cabinet also allotted **65 acres in Ayodhya** for an **NSG Regional Centre** and urban-development funds for Lucknow, Unnao and Raebareli.

Concept: Expressway-led corridors are central to UP's strategy of connecting industrial nodes and pilgrimage circuits.

UP-GOVERNANCE Yogi Cabinet's 23 proposals: farmer loans, toy policy, ethanol plant

- **Mukhyamantri Krishak Samriddhi Yojana**: loans up to **₹6 lakh** at **6% annual interest** for small and marginal farmers, via the UP Cooperative Gram Vikas Bank.
- **Toy Manufacturing Promotion Policy-2025** approved to make UP a toy-manufacturing hub.
- A **120 KLPD ethanol plant** cleared at Chhata, **Mathura**, on a concession-cum-lease basis.
- **20% horizontal reservation** for former Agniveers in Enforcement Constable (Transport) and Jail Warder posts, with age relaxation.

Concept: State-level policy incentives (subsidised credit, sectoral policies) are tools to raise incomes and attract manufacturing investment.

UP-ECONOMY One lakh new government jobs from 19 September; UPITS 4.0 ahead

- **One lakh new government jobs** to begin from **19 September 2026** and be filled within **six months**.
- State claims over **60 lakh youth** employed through private investment since 2017.
- The **UP International Trade Show (UPITS) 4.0** is scheduled for **25–29 September 2026** at Greater Noida.
- Recruitment and the trade show together underline the state's jobs-and-investment pitch.

Concept: Public recruitment and investment-promotion events are complementary levers for state-level job creation.

UP-CULTURE UP leads India's domestic tourism with 646.8 million visits

- UP recorded about **646.8 million domestic tourist visits in 2026**, the highest among Indian states.
- Growth driven by the **Ayodhya, Varanasi and Prayagraj** religious-tourism circuit.
- Heritage and pilgrimage infrastructure continue to anchor the state's tourism economy.
- Tourism is being positioned as a major driver of jobs and local livelihoods.

Concept: Faith-based and heritage tourism can be leveraged for regional economic development and employment.

ECONOMY Retail inflation rises to 4.82% in August 2026

- **CPI-based retail inflation** accelerated to **4.82% in August 2026** from **4.45% in July**.
- **Food inflation** stood at about **5.95%**.
- Unemployment rate was **5.0%** with a **Labour Force Participation Rate of 55.6%** (PLFS).
- The RBI's phased **100-basis-point CRR cut** continues to support credit expansion.

Concept: CPI measures retail price change; CRR is the share of deposits banks park with the RBI, a liquidity lever.

POLITY India retains 131st rank in Global Gender Gap Index; Pension Sakhis launched

- India **retained its 131st rank** in the Global **Gender Gap Index**, with overall parity at **64.5%**.
- The Rural Development Department and **PFRDA** signed an MoU for a **'Pension Sakhis'** initiative.
- Pension Sakhis are **women-led networks** to expand pension awareness and enrolment in rural India.
- Both items connect gender, social security and last-mile financial inclusion.

Concept: PFRDA regulates pensions; women community cadres (Sakhi models) are used for rural service delivery.

NATIONAL India hosts 18th BRICS Summit; Yudh Abhyas 2026 with the US begins

- India **hosted the 18th BRICS Summit** on **12–13 September**, with outcomes on health, space, agriculture and MSMEs.
- **Yudh Abhyas 2026**, the **22nd India–US** joint exercise, began on **15 September** across Uttarakhand and Rajasthan.
- In sport, **India won its 8th Women's T20 Asia Cup**, beating Sri Lanka by **72 runs**.
- The **2029 World Athletics Championships** were awarded to **Nairobi, Kenya** — the first African edition.

Concept: BRICS is a plurilateral grouping; joint exercises deepen defence interoperability and strategic ties.

Friday, 18 September 2026

Full notes with diagrams: studyforgs.com/current-affairs/uppsc/2026-09-18.html

UP-INFRA Ganga Expressway to be extended to Haridwar

- **Six-lane greenfield corridor**, expandable to eight lanes.
- Estimated cost **₹10,761 crore**; a detailed project report (DPR) is to be prepared.
- Extends the **Meerut** end onward to **Haridwar** (Uttarakhand).
- Cuts UP–Uttarakhand travel time and boosts religious tourism.

Concept: UPEIDA (UP Expressways Industrial Development Authority) is the nodal agency for the state's expressways; the Ganga Expressway runs Meerut–Prayagraj (~594 km).

UP-INFRA ₹24,000 crore expressway + industry package

- Ganga Expressway extension **₹10,761 crore**; Jhansi Link Expressway **₹7,968.30 crore** (Bundelkhand/defence corridor).
- **11 industrial projects worth over ₹5,500 crore** — including Canpack aluminium cans (Unnao, ₹1,573.62 crore).
- Sultanpur integrated manufacturing & logistics cluster **₹272.25 crore** near the Purvanchal Expressway.

Concept: BIDA = Bundelkhand Industrial Development Authority; UP is developing a Defence Industrial Corridor with nodes including Jhansi.

UP-GOVERNANCE One lakh government jobs from Sep 19

- **77,000 posts** in the Police & Home Guards departments.
- State cites **9.5 lakh** government jobs given since 2017.
- Announced at Gorakhpur; **119 projects (~₹40 crore)** inaugurated.
- Pension amount and coverage to be raised for seniors, destitute women and PwD.

Concept: Home Guards is a voluntary auxiliary force assisting the police; recruitment reflects law-and-order and employment governance.

UP-SCHEME Cabinet clears youth, women & artisan schemes

- **Swami Vivekananda Yuva Sashaktikaran Yojana**: 25 lakh free tablets; **₹2,374.60 crore** (2026-27), 5-year rollout.
- **Lokmata Ahilyabai Matrushakti Yojana**: free UPSRTC bus travel for women aged **60+** (1 crore+).
- **Vishwakarma Shram Samman Yojana 2.0**: toolkits and margin-money loans for artisans.

Concept: 'Vishwakarma' schemes target traditional artisans; the state's version links skills, toolkits and credit under Vocal for Local.

UP-SCHEME Social-security net widened

- **1.10 crore** seniors, destitute women and PwD get a **₹12,000/year** pension; amounts and coverage to rise.
- Women aged **60+** get lifetime free state-bus travel.
- **25 lakh** youth to receive tablets for digital access.

Concept: DBT (Direct Benefit Transfer) routes benefits straight to beneficiaries' accounts, cutting leakages.

UP-ECONOMY Countdown to UPITS 4.0 at Greater Noida

- Showcases **ODOP products, MSMEs** and UP manufacturing to global buyers.
- Sectors: textiles, food processing, engineering, electronics, handicrafts.
- Anchored in the **'Vocal for Local → global'** export drive.
- Builds on **ODOP**, UP's district-led export model, now a national blueprint.

Concept: ODOP (One District One Product) was launched in UP in 2018, assigning each district a signature product for branding and exports.

ECONOMY EPFO wage ceiling raised to ₹25,000

- About **51 lakh additional employees** are expected to be covered.
- Government outlay ~**₹11,339 crore/year** (**₹56,696 crore** over five years).
- UPI: **zero charges up to ₹2,000** and on RuPay debit cards (Payment & Settlement Systems Act, 2007).
- **PM Kisan Maandhan Yojana completed 7 years** — a pension scheme for small and marginal farmers.

Concept: EPFO functions under the Ministry of Labour & Employment and runs the EPF, EPS (pension) and EDLI (insurance) schemes.

NATIONAL SEMICON India 2026 inaugurated

- Theme: **'Silicon to Systems: Building the Ecosystem'**.
- **600+ exhibitors**; **12 semiconductor projects** approved nationally.
- Advances India's chip-manufacturing self-reliance push.

Concept: The India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) drives chip-fabrication incentives to reduce import dependence.

NATIONAL India deepens trade ties & partnerships

- **India–MERCOSUR**: electronic Certificates of Origin; modernised preferential trade.
- **2027 to be 'Year of India–Vietnam Friendship'** (55 years); trade target **USD 25 billion by 2030**.
- **India–ASEAN trade USD 128 billion** in FY 2025-26.

Concept: MERCOSUR is a South American trade bloc (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay).

Saturday, 19 September 2026

Full notes with diagrams: studyforgs.com/current-affairs/uppsc/2026-09-19.html

UTTAR PRADESH CM hands 818 UPPSC/UPSSSC appointment letters in Lucknow

- **818 appointment letters** given across four departments through **UPPSC** and **UPSSSC**.
- **Ayush: 404** posts (teachers, Ayurveda/Unani/Homeopathy, pharmacists); **Medical & Health: 357** X-Ray Technicians.
- **Skill/Vocational Education: 48** instructors; **MSME: 9** Assistant Statistical Officers.
- Selections stressed as **transparent and merit-based** through the recruitment commissions.

Concept: UPPSC recruits Group A/B posts; UPSSSC handles Group C. Both are state recruitment bodies distinct from the UPSC.

UP-INFRA UP Cabinet clears Chitrakoot Link Expressway among 24 decisions

- **Chitrakoot Link Expressway**: **15.172 km**, six-lane access-controlled greenfield road, **₹1,008.67 cr**, linking Bundelkhand to Chitrakoot Dham.
- **Ex-Agniveers**: **20% horizontal reservation** in Enforcement Constable (Transport) and Jail Warder posts, with age relaxation.
- **NSG Regional Centre**: **65 acres** allotted free in **Milkipur tehsil, Ayodhya**.
- **Mukhyamantri Krishak Samriddhi Yojana**: loans up to **₹6 lakh at 6%** for small/marginal farmers; **120 KLPD ethanol plant** at Chhata, Mathura; new **Toy Manufacturing Policy-2025**.

Concept: 'Horizontal' reservation cuts across all vertical categories (SC/ST/OBC/General), unlike 'vertical' quotas that are category-specific.

UP-SCHEME Mega welfare push: free bus travel for elderly women, tablets for youth

- **Lokmata Ahilyabai Matrushakti Yojana**: free lifetime travel on all UPSRTC buses for **1 crore+ women aged 60+**.
- **Swami Vivekananda Yuva Sashaktikaran Yojana**: **25 lakh free tablets**, budget **~₹2,374.60 cr** for 2026-27, five-year rollout.
- **Ganga Expressway** extended to **Haridwar (Uttarakhand)**, easing UP–Uttarakhand travel and pilgrimage.
- Package deliberately spans **social security + digital empowerment + transit connectivity**.

> **Concept:** 'Horizontal' welfare targeting by age/gender complements income-based targeting — a recurring theme in scheme design questions.

UP-INFRA UP fast-tracks 25,000 hectares for expressway industrial clusters

- **25,000 hectares** targeted for **27 Industrial Manufacturing & Logistics Clusters (IMLCs)**; **~4,250 ha** already acquired.
- Corridors: **Purvanchal, Bundelkhand, Ganga, Gorakhpur Link and Agra-Lucknow** expressways.
- **GBC 5.0** targets private investment near **₹8 lakh crore**; Invest UP has compiled a project list of **~₹6 lakh crore**.
- IMLCs offer plug-and-play plots, multimodal connectivity and **flatted factories** for land efficiency.

> **Concept:** Ground Breaking Ceremony (GBC) converts investment MoUs from investor summits into actual project launches on the ground.

UP-SCHEME Vishwakarma Shram Samman mela drives 'Atmanirbhar UP' artisan push

- Held under **Vishwakarma Shram Samman Yojana 2.0** on Vishwakarma Jayanti at Indira Gandhi Pratishthan, Lucknow.
- Launch of a **Margin Money Loan Portal** plus distribution of **toolkits and cheques** to beneficiaries.
- Links traditional trades to modern technology, credit and markets under **Vocal for Local / Atmanirbhar UP**.
- Complements **ODOP (One District One Product)** and the upcoming **UP International Trade Show 2026** (25–29 Sep, Greater Noida).

> **Concept:** ODOP promotes one signature product per district for branding, credit and market linkage — a model later echoed nationally.

UP-INFRA Six states, including UP, sign Kishau multipurpose project pact

- Signatories: **Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Delhi and Haryana**.
- On the **Tons river** (largest tributary of the Yamuna); dam height **232.6 m** — among India's tallest.
- Storage **1,562 MCM**, irrigation **97,000 ha**, hydropower **1,476 MU**; cost **~₹15,624 cr**.
- **25% environmental flow** earmarked for **Yamuna rejuvenation**; environmental & forest clearances still pending.

Concept: The Tons is the largest tributary of the Yamuna; multipurpose projects combine irrigation, hydropower and drinking-water supply.

NATIONAL PM Janaushadhi scheme widens basket beyond medicines

- **20,000+ Jan Aushadhi Kendras** operating nationwide; basket now **2,110 medicines + 315 devices**.
- Cumulative sales (2021–26) **₹7,873.85 cr**; estimated citizen savings **₹37,200 cr**.
- New sub-baskets **Janaushadhi Bachpan** (infants) and **Jan Aushadhi Swabhiman** (adult care).
- Administered by the **Department of Pharmaceuticals** (PMBJP).

Concept: Generic medicines have the same composition as branded drugs but cost far less; Jan Aushadhi lowers out-of-pocket health expenditure.

ECONOMY US Fed hikes rate 25 bps to 3.75-4.00% — first rise in three years

- Rate raised by **25 basis points** to a **3.75–4.00%** range — the **first hike in three years**.
- Higher US rates can spur **rupee depreciation** and **capital outflows** from emerging markets.
- Widens pressure on the **RBI's** own rate calculus and on external borrowing costs.
- US inflation not expected to reach the **2% target before 2029**.

Concept: A basis point is 0.01%; higher US yields make dollar assets attractive, pulling capital away from emerging markets like India.

ENVIRONMENT FAO 'Forests for Food' report flags wild-food and deforestation trends

- Over **50,000 wild species** are used globally for food and medicine.
- Global deforestation stands at **10.9 million hectares annually** (2015–25 decade).
- Wild foods are linked to **lower child stunting**; forest foods can supply up to **80% of protein** in some communities.
- India's tools: **Forest Rights Act (2006)**, **Van Dhan Vikas Kendras**, **National Agroforestry Policy (2014)**.

Concept: FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization) is a UN specialised agency headquartered in Rome, promoting food security worldwide.

Sunday, 20 September 2026

Full notes with diagrams: studyforgs.com/current-affairs/uppsc/2026-09-20.html

UP-GOVERNANCE Mission Rojgar: one lakh UP government jobs targeted in six months

- Department-wise plan: **~36,000 UP Police**, **~41,000-42,000 Home Guards**, 25,000-30,000 UPSSSC (phase 1), 20,000-25,000 UPSSSC (phase 2) and **15,000-16,000 UPPSC** posts.
- About **818 selected candidates** received appointment letters on 19 September; roughly 1,000 more were scheduled for 20 September.
- **Interviews abolished** for Group C and Group D recruitment to curb manipulation; about **9.5 lakh youths** were placed under earlier Mission Rojgar rounds.

Concept: Mission Rojgar is the UP government's umbrella employment and self-employment programme covering government jobs, skilling and self-employment linkages.

UP-INFRA UP Cabinet clears 23 proposals led by the Chitrakoot Link Expressway

- **Chitrakoot Link Expressway**: a **15.172-km, six-lane** expressway costing **₹1,008.67 crore** on **EPC mode** to improve Bundelkhand-Chitrakoot connectivity and tourism.
- Agniveer veterans granted **20% horizontal reservation** and age relaxation in Enforcement Constable (Transport) and Jail Warder posts.
- **Toy Manufacturing Promotion Policy-2025** approved; a **120 KLPD ethanol plant** cleared at Chhata, Mathura.
- **65 acres** of barren land in Ayodhya allotted free to set up an **NSG Regional Centre**.

Concept: EPC (Engineering, Procurement and Construction) is a turnkey contracting mode where the developer is paid a fixed price to design and build, with the government retaining the asset.

UP-SCHEME Mukhyamantri Krishak Samriddhi Yojana: farm loans up to ₹6 lakh at 6%

- Provides long-term loans of up to **₹6 lakh** to small and marginal farmers.
- Credit is routed through the **Uttar Pradesh Cooperative Gram Vikas Bank Ltd**.
- Concessional interest rate of **6% per annum** funds land development, equipment and allied activities to raise rural incomes.

Concept: Cooperative Gram Vikas (Land Development) Banks provide long-term agricultural credit against land, complementing short-term crop loans from primary cooperative societies.

UP-SCHEME CM Smart Schools plan to digitise 14,429 primary schools

- Covers **14,429 primary schools** under the Basic Education Council.
- Total outlay of about **₹300 crore**, roughly **₹2.07 lakh per school**.
- Funds internet, ICT facilities and digital content for interactive, technology-enabled classrooms.

Concept: ICT-enabled 'smart classrooms' align with the National Education Policy 2020's push for technology in foundational and school education.

UP-INFRA Fourth UP International Trade Show set for 25-29 September in Greater Noida

- Scheduled for **25-29 September 2026** at the India Expo Centre & Mart, **Greater Noida** (Gautam Buddha Nagar).
- Expected participation of about **2,500 exhibitors** and **650 foreign buyers** across 17-plus halls.
- Dedicated space for MSMEs and **One District One Product (ODOP)**, with Invest UP, UPEIDA and UPSIDA showcases.

Concept: One District One Product (ODOP) promotes a signature product from each district to boost local manufacturing, employment and exports.

UP-CULTURE Uttar Pradesh tops India in domestic tourism with 646.8 million visits

- **646.8 million** domestic tourist visits in 2026 - more than double the second-ranked state.
- Ayodhya drew about **7.20 crore visitors** in January-June 2026 following the Ram temple's opening.
- Varanasi recorded about **2.25 crore visits** in January-March 2026, with over one lakh daily devotees at Kashi Vishwanath.
- Investment proposals worth over **₹37,688 crore** have been received under the state tourism policy.

Concept: A 'spiritual triangle' or circuit tourism model links Ayodhya, Varanasi and Prayagraj to spread footfall and infrastructure investment across the region.

NATIONAL 20th Rozgar Mela: over 51,000 central appointment letters handed out

- More than **51,000 appointment letters** distributed to newly recruited central government personnel.
- Rozgar Mela is a recurring drive to fast-track recruitment across central ministries and departments.
- The initiative complements state-level employment drives such as UP's **Mission Rojgar**.

Concept: The Rozgar Mela, launched in 2022, is a periodic mission-mode recruitment exercise for central government jobs.

POLITY Active FCRA-registered NGOs decline to 14,466

- Active FCRA-registered NGOs fell from **29,022 in 2015 to 14,466** by mid-September 2026.
- The decline reflects tighter compliance and non-renewal of registrations under the **Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act**.
- Foreign contributions reported have nonetheless increased over the period.

Concept: The Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act regulates the acceptance and use of foreign funding by individuals and associations to protect national interest.

NATIONAL **Defence Minister pitches integrated civil-military aerospace ecosystem**

- Emphasis on building **sovereign aircraft-design** and development capacity within India.
- Aims to align civil aviation and military aerospace supply chains for scale and self-reliance.
- Supports the broader **Atmanirbhar Bharat** push in defence manufacturing.

Concept: The UP Defence Industrial Corridor is one of two national defence corridors intended to localise defence manufacturing and design.

Monday, 21 September 2026

Full notes with diagrams: studyforgs.com/current-affairs/uppsc/2026-09-21.html

UP-ECONOMY **UPITS 4.0 opens 25 Sept in Greater Noida with 45,000+ buyers registered**

- The **4th UP International Trade Show (UPITS)** runs **25-29 Sept 2026** at India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida.
- **45,000+ domestic B2B buyers** already registered (target **1.5 lakh**); around 1,500 international buyer registrations.
- Partner countries confirmed: **Japan, Vietnam, Russia, Singapore, Austria**; 36,500 sq m exhibition space booked.
- 20 knowledge sessions and cultural programmes; showcases UP's industries, **ODOP** products, MSMEs and export strength.

Concept: ODOP (One District One Product) is UP's flagship scheme giving each district a signature product for branding, financing and export.

UP-GOVERNANCE **'Seva Sankalp Abhiyan' launched from Varanasi**

- Launched **17 Sept** (PM's birthday) in Varanasi by the Union Defence Minister and the UP CM.
- Features a **20-day Varanasi-Vadnagar bike yatra** (500 youth, 250 bikes) and a river-water exchange between Kashi and Gujarat.
- Exhibition '25 Years of Janseva se Rashtra Seva' held at the Rudraksha Convention Centre under the 'Ek Bharat-Shreshtha Bharat' theme.

Concept: 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' promotes cultural exchange and unity among Indian states.

UP-JOBS **UP to give 1 lakh new government jobs in six months**

- CM announced **1,00,000 new state jobs** in the next six months; recruitment began **19 Sept 2026**.
- **77,000 posts** in Police & Home Guards; the remaining ~23,000 across other departments.
- Government claims **9.5 lakh jobs** already provided to youth since 2017 — stressed as merit-based and transparent.
- Simultaneous move to raise social-pension amounts and coverage (currently ~1.10 crore beneficiaries).

Concept: Public-sector recruitment is a key instrument of state welfare and employment policy in India.

UP-SCHEME Vishwakarma Shram Samman Yojana 2.0 & Swadeshi Mela

- Relaunched around **Vishwakarma Jayanti** to empower traditional artisans across **18 trades**.
- Combines **skill training + free toolkits + a new Margin-Money Loan portal + market linkage**.
- Advances the **'Vocal for Local' / Swadeshi** push; toolkits and loan sanction letters distributed at Lucknow.

Concept: Convergence of skilling, collateral-free credit and market linkage is the standard template of modern artisan-welfare schemes.

UP-GOVERNANCE Cabinet clears LDA takeover of Sushant Golf City township

- The **UP Cabinet (15 Sept)** approved the Lucknow Development Authority (LDA) claim to complete the stalled township.
- Release of **2,747 mortgaged plots** (of 3,489) protects existing registries and gives relief to thousands of homebuyers.
- LDA to finish development pocket-wise and place its proposal before the **NCLT**; early release via a refundable guarantee.

Concept: RERA (2016) and NCLT are the twin institutional routes for resolving stalled real-estate projects and protecting homebuyers.

UP-INFRA Ganga Expressway — 594 km corridor powering UP's rise

- **594 km**, 6-lane (expandable to 8) greenfield expressway linking **Meerut to Prayagraj** across **12 districts**.
- Cost around **Rs 36,230 crore** (including ~Rs 9,500 crore land acquisition); operational since 2026.
- Industrial nodes planned at Meerut, Budaun, Kanpur, Prayagraj & Varanasi; sections double as an IAF emergency airstrip.
- Phase-2: **Meerut-Haridwar (110 km)** and **Prayagraj-Ballia (314 km)** extensions under development.

Concept: Greenfield expressways with linked industrial corridors are a core lever of infrastructure-led economic growth.

UP-ECONOMY UP's growth engine: the road to a USD 1-trillion economy

- Strategy rests on six pillars: **expressways & infra, jobs & skilling, ODOP/GI, investment (UPITS), textiles/MSME and tourism/heritage**.
- UP is **India's No.1 state in GI-tagged products** and among the leaders in expressway length.
- Investment inflows (UPITS, PM MITRA textile park, industrial corridors) anchor the manufacturing-and-export drive.

Concept: State GSDP growth is driven by convergence of infrastructure, investment, human capital and export competitiveness.

ECONOMY EPFO wage ceiling raised to Rs 25,000 a month

- The EPF monthly wage ceiling was revised from **Rs 15,000 to Rs 25,000**, its first hike in years.
- Brings an estimated **51 lakh additional workers** into formal social-security coverage (annual cost ~Rs 11,339 crore).

Concept: EPFO administers provident-fund, pension and insurance for formal-sector workers under the EPF & MP Act, 1952.

NATIONAL Semicon 2.0 approved; chip units enter commercial production

- Union Cabinet cleared **Semicon 2.0** with a **Rs 1,27,500 crore** outlay to deepen India's chip ecosystem.
- **5 of 12** first-phase semiconductor units are now in commercial production; SEMICON India 2026 drew ~40,000 visitors.

Concept: The India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) provides fiscal support for fabs, ATMP/OSAT and design to build a domestic chip supply chain.

ECONOMY Key macro data — inflation, exports, services

- Retail (CPI) inflation at **4.82%** in August; merchandise exports **USD 82.68 bn** (+25.4% YoY).
- Software/services exports for 2025-26 at **USD 221.4 bn** (+8.2%) — a resilient external sector.

Concept: CPI inflation is the RBI's headline target under flexible inflation targeting (4% +/- 2%).

Tuesday, 22 September 2026

Full notes with diagrams: studyforgs.com/current-affairs/uppsc/2026-09-22.html

UTTAR PRADESH UP International Trade Show (UPITS 4.0) opens 25 September in Greater Noida

- 4th edition, 25–29 September 2026 at the India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida; focus on industry, investment and exports.
- Over **45,000 domestic B2B buyers** registered (target 1.5 lakh) plus 1,500+ international buyers; six partner nations — Japan, Vietnam, Russia, Singapore and Austria (Thailand pending).
- **36,500 sq.m** of exhibition space booked; **20 knowledge sessions** and 25 cultural programmes planned; showcases ODOP products, MSMEs and development authorities.
- Expected to generate a boost of about **₹25,000 crore** for the state's MSME sector.

Concept: ODOP (One District One Product) is UP's flagship scheme (launched 2018) that promotes a signature product from each district for branding, credit and export support.

UP-CULTURE Uttar Pradesh remains India's No.1 domestic tourism state in 2026

- UP logged **646.8 million** domestic visits in 2026 — No.1 in India, ahead of Tamil Nadu (306.8 mn) and Karnataka (304.6 mn).
- **Ayodhya** drew about **7.2 crore** visitors (Jan–Jun 2026); **Varanasi** about **2.25 crore** (Jan–Mar); Kashi Vishwanath sees 1 lakh+ devotees daily.
- Tourism projects worth **₹1,283 crore** initiated; investment proposals of **₹37,688 crore** received.
- The Ayodhya–Kashi–Prayagraj spiritual circuit, plus the Braj region (to be developed on Ayodhya/Kashi lines), drives the boom.

Concept: Domestic tourist visits are compiled from state tourism data; UP's lead rests on its temple towns, Kumbh legacy and river-front redevelopment.

UP-GOVERNANCE Yogi Cabinet clears 23 proposals across infrastructure, farming, jobs and industry

- **Chitrakoot Link Expressway** (15.172 km, six-lane, **₹1,008.67 crore**) cleared to link the Bundelkhand Expressway with Chitrakoot Dham.
- **Mukhyamantri Krishak Samriddhi Yojana** — loans up to **₹6 lakh at 6%** for small and marginal farmers via the Cooperative Gram Vikas Bank.
- **20% horizontal reservation** for ex-Agniveers in Enforcement Constable (Transport) and Jail Warder posts, with age relaxation.
- **NSG Regional Centre** on 65 acres at Milkipur, Ayodhya (cost-free); a 120 KLPD ethanol plant at Chhata, Mathura; and the Toy Manufacturing Policy-2025.

Concept: 'Horizontal reservation' cuts across vertical (SC/ST/OBC) categories, applying to defined groups such as ex-servicemen or, here, ex-Agniveers.

UP-INFRA Chitrakoot Link Expressway approved to connect Bundelkhand with Chitrakoot Dham

- Length **15.172 km**, six-lane (expandable), to be built on **EPC mode** at **₹1,008.67 crore**.
- Connects the **Bundelkhand Expressway** to **Chitrakoot Dham**, cutting travel time to the temple town.
- Aims to boost religious tourism and industrial access in the Bundelkhand region.
- Adds to UP's expressway grid — the country's densest — alongside Ganga, Purvanchal and Bundelkhand expressways.

Concept: EPC (Engineering, Procurement & Construction) is a turnkey mode where the government funds the project and a contractor delivers it complete.

UP-SCHEME Mukhyamantri Krishak Samriddhi Yojana widens cheap farm credit in UP

- Long-term loans up to **₹6 lakh at 6%** annual interest through the **UP Cooperative Gram Vikas Bank Ltd**.
- Targets farm mechanisation, irrigation and allied activities to raise rural incomes.
- The same cabinet also cleared a **WorldFish MoU** for eastern UP and an extra **₹25/quintal** margin for fair-price shop dealers.
- Complements ODOP and PM-KISAN by deepening institutional credit access in rural UP.

Concept: Cooperative land-development banks provide long-term agricultural credit for capital assets, distinct from short-term crop loans by primary societies.

UP-ECONOMY ODOP + MSME push drives UP toward a one-trillion-dollar economy

- MSME and **ODOP** initiatives have generated over **4 crore jobs** in the state.
- State exports stand at about **₹2 lakh crore** annually; investments of about **₹15 lakh crore** grounded.
- Supporting schemes: **Startup Policy-2026**, Vishwakarma Shram Samman Yojana and a new **One District One Cuisine (ODOC)**.
- These feed UP's declared goal of becoming a **one-trillion-dollar economy**.

Concept: Vishwakarma Shram Samman Yojana provides tool-kits, training and credit to traditional artisans and craftsmen under the ODOP umbrella.

NATIONAL Cabinet approves ₹23,731-crore GOBARdhan scheme for Compressed Bio-Gas

- Outlay **₹23,731 crore** for **FY 2026-27 to FY 2035-36**; run by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas.
- Capital assistance up to **₹2 crore per TPD** of capacity; CBG price fixed at **₹2,110/MMBTU** for 10 years.
- CBG blending obligation rises **3% (FY27) → 4% (FY28) → 5% (FY29 onwards)**; targets roughly a ten-fold rise in output.
- GOBARdhan = **Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan**; converts cattle dung, farm residue and organic waste into clean fuel.

Concept: Compressed Bio-Gas (CBG) is purified biogas (>90% methane) usable as an automotive and industrial fuel, part of the SATAT initiative.

NATIONAL New National Investment Policy for Urea (NIPU-2026) to lift domestic output

- Targets new **gas-based urea plants**; India has 33 units with a reassessed capacity of about **269.42 LMT**.
- Return-on-equity band of **12–16%**; expected savings of **₹250 crore+ per plant** versus the 2012 policy.
- Reforms include fixed/variable cost separation and conversion of fixed costs to rupees after 4 years to cut forex risk.
- Successor to NIP-2012 (which added 6 urea plants); aims at fertiliser self-reliance under Atmanirbhar Bharat.

> **Concept:** Urea is a nitrogenous fertiliser sold at a statutorily controlled price; the gap between output and demand is met through imports.

NATIONAL Asian Games 2026 under way in Aichi–Nagoya; India opens its medal account

- India had **6 medals (0 gold, 4 silver, 2 bronze)** and stood **12th** in the early tally; China led with 38.
- Shooter **Elavenil Valarivan** became the first Indian woman to win an Asian Games silver in the individual 10m air rifle.
- **43 sports** feature on the programme; the Games run **19 September – 4 October 2026**.
- Multi-sport events, hosts and Indian medallists are standard current-affairs facts.

> **Concept:** The Asian Games are held every four years under the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA); the 2026 edition is hosted by Aichi–Nagoya, Japan.

Wednesday, 23 September 2026

Full notes with diagrams: studyforgs.com/current-affairs/uppsc/2026-09-23.html

UP-GOVERNANCE Yogi Cabinet approves 23 proposals in one sitting

- **23 proposals** approved in a single Cabinet meeting chaired by the Chief Minister.
- Headline clearances: a new **Chitrakoot Link Expressway**, **Mukhyamantri Krishak Samriddhi Yojana** and **20% reservation for ex-Agniveers**.
- Industrial push: a **120 KLPD ethanol plant** at Chhata (Mathura) and the **Toy Manufacturing Policy-2025**.
- Urban/welfare items under Mukhyamantri Shahri Vistaarikaran Yojana for Lucknow, Unnao and Raebareli; **65 acres** allotted for an **NSG regional centre at Ayodhya**.
- Fair-price shop dealers' margin raised by **Rs 25/quintal**; stamp-duty and vehicle-testing amendments also cleared.

> **Concept:** State Cabinet is the real executive under Art. 163-164; the Governor acts on its aid & advice.

UP-INFRA Chitrakoot Link Expressway gets Cabinet nod

- Length **15.172 km**, built to **six-lane** standard (expandable).
- Sanctioned cost about **Rs 1,008.67 crore** as per official state data.
- Improves **Bundelkhand-Chitrakoot** connectivity and links to the Bundelkhand Expressway network.
- Expected to cut travel time, aid religious tourism to Chitrakoot and support industrial corridors.

Concept: UPEIDA is the nodal agency executing UP's expressway network under the PWD/ industrial framework.

UP-SCHEME Mukhyamantri Krishak Samriddhi Yojana launched

- Long-term loans of up to **Rs 6 lakh** per eligible farmer.
- Concessional interest of **6% per annum**, aimed at small & marginal cultivators.
- Loans meant for farm assets such as irrigation, equipment and allied activities.
- Complements central schemes like KCC and PM-KISAN by targeting capital investment on farms.

Concept: Small & marginal farmers hold <2 ha and form ~86% of India's farm households.

UP-GOVERNANCE 20% reservation for ex-Agniveers in two UP cadres

- **20% horizontal reservation** for ex-Agniveers in **Enforcement Constable (Transport)** and **Jail Warder** posts.
- **3-year age relaxation** granted to the first batches of ex-Agniveers.
- Follows similar assurances for police and PAC recruitment made earlier by the state.
- PRD (Provincial Armed Constabulary/Home Guard) volunteers also got a cashless medical scheme and higher duty allowance.

Concept: Horizontal reservation cuts across vertical (SC/ST/OBC) categories, applied within each.

UP-ECONOMY UP International Trade Show 4.0 opens at Greater Noida

- **Fourth edition (UPITS 4.0)**, held at the India Expo Centre & Mart, **Greater Noida**.
- Over **45,000 domestic buyers** registered (target 1.5 lakh); **~1,500 international** buyers.
- Partner countries include **Japan, Vietnam, Russia, Singapore and Austria**.
- Platform links UP's MSMEs, exporters and ODOP artisans with global buyers and investors.

Concept: ODOP (One District One Product) anchors UP's export strategy by branding a signature product per district.

UP-CULTURE UP tops India in domestic tourism with 646.8 million visits

- **646.8 million** domestic visits in 2026 — roughly double second-placed Tamil Nadu (306.8 M).
- **Ayodhya** drew about **72 million** devotees in Jan-Jun 2026; **Varanasi ~22.5 million** in Jan-Mar.
- Ayodhya, Varanasi and Prayagraj form the state's 'spiritual triangle' tourism engine.
- Tourism growth is being tied to jobs, hospitality investment and heritage-city upgrades.

Concept: Tourism multiplier: every direct tourism job supports several indirect livelihoods in transport, food & crafts.

NATIONAL India's Asian Games 2026 campaign underway at Aichi-Nagoya

- Host: **Aichi-Nagoya, Japan** — the 20th edition of the Asian Games.
- Weightlifter **Mirabai Chanu** claimed a medal in the women's 49 kg on Day 4.
- India's haul on 23 September spanned weightlifting, shooting (skeet) and other disciplines.
- UP athletes such as distance runner **Parul Chaudhary** feature in India's athletics squad.

Concept: Asian Games are held every 4 years under the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA).

ECONOMY GST 2.0 four-slab structure stays in the exam spotlight

- Rate structure simplified to broadly **0%, 5%, 18% and 40%** slabs.
- Most everyday and essential items moved to **lower slabs**, easing household costs.
- A high **40%** slab is retained for select luxury/'sin' goods.
- GST is administered by the **GST Council**, a model of Centre-State fiscal cooperation.

Concept: GST Council (Art. 279A) has Union & State members; decisions need a 3/4th weighted majority.

Thursday, 24 September 2026

Full notes with diagrams: studyforgs.com/current-affairs/uppsc/2026-09-24.html

UTTAR PRADESH Health, education, sport and farm — the day's UP roundup

- Health watch: a confirmed **H1N1 (swine-flu)** case in a 60-year-old woman (Barabanki) triggered **Rapid Response Team** screening and a KGMU-Lucknow referral, with seasonal influenza monitoring reinforced across districts.
- Education: a state minister inspected an under-construction **CM Model Composite School** (Kannauj), pushing timely completion; composite schools club pre-primary to upper-primary on one campus to cut dropouts.
- Agriculture: a farmers' **mahapanchayat** has been called for **7 October**, with a demand to raise the sugarcane state advised price to **₹600/quintal**.
- Sport: **three Kanpur players** were selected for the **Junior State Kabaddi Championship at Ayodhya**.

Concept: IDSP (Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme) enables early detection and response to outbreaks like H1N1 through district-level Rapid Response Teams.

UP-GOVERNANCE UP Cabinet clears 23 proposals — industry, housing and welfare push

- A **₹200-crore ethanol plant** at Chhata (Mathura) revives a defunct sugar mill, targeting **~3.96 crore litres a year** from cane and rice — boosting the ethanol-blending economy.
- A **20%** horizontal-style reservation was approved for **ex-Agniveers** in state recruitments across departments and forces.
- A **Toy Manufacturing Promotion Policy 2025** (5-year term) aims to make UP a toy hub, focusing on eastern UP and Bundelkhand.
- The **Lucknow Development Authority** will take over a stalled hi-tech township, protecting **~5,000 homebuyers** with a liability cap of **₹2,912 crore**.

Concept: Ethanol Blending Programme (EBP) blends ethanol with petrol to cut crude imports and support cane farmers; India targets 20% blending.

UP-SCHEME Vishwakarma Shram Samman 2.0 & Swadeshi Mela empower artisans

- The scheme links traditional artisans (carpenters, potters, blacksmiths, tailors) with **skill training, modern toolkits and collateral-light credit** under 'Vocal for Local'.
- A new **Margin Money Loan portal** was launched with cheque and toolkit distribution to beneficiaries in Lucknow.
- The initiative dovetails with **ODOP (One District One Product)** to widen market access and branding for local crafts.

Concept: ODOP promotes one signature product per district to build clusters, skilling, credit and export linkages.

UP-INFRA Expressway and connectivity drive keeps UP India's infra front-runner

- The state has committed to a large multi-expressway programme (about **₹50,000 crore for seven new expressway projects**) to deepen east-west and north-south links.
- UP already operates/builds **one of India's densest expressway networks**, anchoring industrial corridors and logistics parks.
- Toll-collection and O&M contracts under the state expressway authority (**UPEIDA**) reflect a maturing PPP and revenue model.

Concept: UPEIDA (Uttar Pradesh Expressways Industrial Development Authority) plans, builds and manages the state's expressways and adjoining industrial corridors.

UP-CULTURE Prayagraj–Varanasi–Ayodhya circuit gets a Magh Mela transport plan

- Railways and roadways were directed to add **~10% extra capacity** (rakes and buses) over the previous Magh Mela to manage pilgrim surges.
- A **'ring-rail' style circular service** connects the three faith cities, easing crowd flow across the spiritual circuit.
- Tenders and ground works are being **front-loaded** so infrastructure is ready before the mela season.

Concept: Faith/pilgrimage tourism circuits combine culture, connectivity and crowd management to drive regional economic growth.

UP-CULTURE Uttar Pradesh stays India's No.1 state for GI-tagged products

- UP leads the country with **77 GI (Geographical Indication) tags**, protecting the identity of region-specific crafts and produce.
- The **Varanasi region alone accounts for ~32 GI products** — among the densest GI clusters in the world.
- GI protection boosts artisan incomes, exports and **ODOP** branding for products like Banarasi silk, Bhadohi carpets and various regional foods and crafts.

Concept: A GI tag certifies a product's geographical origin and reputation; it is granted for 10 years and is renewable.

NATIONAL Semicon 2.0: India deepens its chip ecosystem with a ₹1.27 lakh-crore push

- **India Semiconductor Mission 2.0** carries an outlay of about **₹1.27 lakh crore** to build fabs, design, equipment, materials and packaging (**ATMP/OSAT**).
- **Six pillars** span chip design and IP, domestic equipment/materials, more fabs, advanced ATMP, sub-28nm nodes and large-scale talent development.
- An **indigenous 64-bit microprocessor line** (developed by a national computing centre) signals a self-reliance thrust in strategic electronics.

> **Concept:** ATMP/OSAT (Assembly, Testing, Marking, Packaging / Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test) are the back-end stages that turn fabricated wafers into usable chips.

ECONOMY GST 2.0 rate structure simplifies India's indirect-tax slabs

- The rationalised GST structure works around a leaner slab design — broadly **0%, 5% and 18%**, with a special **40%** rate on select sin/luxury goods.
- Fewer slabs aim to **cut classification disputes**, ease compliance for MSMEs and make everyday goods cheaper.
- Rate rationalisation is expected to support consumption while the **GST Council** continues trade-facilitation measures.

> **Concept:** GST is a destination-based indirect tax; the GST Council (Centre + States) decides rates, embodying cooperative fiscal federalism.

Friday, 25 September 2026

Full notes with diagrams: studyforgs.com/current-affairs/uppsc/2026-09-25.html

UP-INFRA / ECONOMY UP International Trade Show (UPITS) 2026 opens in Greater Noida

- **Fourth edition** of UPITS held **25–29 September 2026** at India Expo Centre & Mart, **Greater Noida**; inaugurated by the Union Home Minister and the Chief Minister, with the valedictory by the Union Defence Minister.
- Over **2,400 exhibitors** and **550+ international buyers** from **85 countries**; six partner nations — **Austria, Japan, Russia, Singapore, Belarus and Vietnam**.
- Showcases **One District One Product (ODOP)** and the new **One District One Cuisine (ODOC)** across 20+ sectors — EVs, defence, electronics, textiles, IT and food processing.
- The **2025 edition** drew about **5.07 lakh visitors** and MoUs worth roughly **₹1,882 crore**.

> **Concept:** ODOP (One District One Product), launched in UP in 2018, promotes a signature product from each district for employment, skilling and exports.

UP-SCHEME / ECONOMY UP clears ₹2,606 crore in fresh industrial investment

- Letters of Comfort issued to three units: **Canpack India** (aluminium beverage cans, **Unnao**) **₹1,573.6 cr**; **Agristo Masa** (potato flakes & French fries, **Bijnor**) **₹794.3 cr**; **Supreme Industries** (plastic building solutions, **Kanpur Dehat**) **₹238.2 cr**.
- Investments extend manufacturing to Unnao, Bijnor and Kanpur Dehat, strengthening **food processing** and **packaging**.
- Expected to create direct and indirect employment across the three districts.

> **Concept:** A 'Letter of Comfort' is a state assurance to an investor that promised incentives/ approvals will be honoured, easing project financing.

UP-SCHEME Vishwakarma Swarojgar & Swadeshi Mela empowers traditional artisans

- Held at Indira Gandhi Pratishthan, **Lucknow** under the **Vishwakarma Shram Samman Yojana 2.0**.
- Launched an online **Margin Money Loan Portal**; distributed cheques and free **toolkits** to artisans.
- Blends traditional crafts with modern technology and market access under the **'Vocal for Local'** mission.

> **Concept:** The Vishwakarma Shram Samman Yojana provides toolkits, skill training and margin-money loans to traditional craftspeople (carpenters, potters, weavers, etc.).

UP-INFRA New 76-km link to connect Jewar airport with the Ganga Expressway

- Proposed **76-km expressway** to link **Noida International (Jewar) Airport** with the **Ganga Expressway** via **Bulandshahr**, meeting the Yamuna Expressway about 24 km short.
- Estimated at roughly **₹4,415 crore**, with about **₹1,000 crore** released initially; benefits **Meerut and Bulandshahr**.
- Part of a plan for **12 expressway hubs** (4 on Bundelkhand, 8 on Purvanchal) plus about ₹800 crore to strengthen the **Agra–Lucknow corridor**.

> **Concept:** UP has India's largest expressway network; expressway 'hubs' add fuel, food and logistics facilities along corridors to spur roadside economies.

UP-CULTURE GI-tagged crafts and ODOC put UP heritage on display

- **Amroha's GI-tagged dholak** (crafted from mango and sheesham wood) and namkeen sev featured at UPITS under **ODOP/ODOC**.
- **Uttar Pradesh leads Indian states** in the number of **GI-tagged products**, spanning handicrafts and agri-products.
- **One District One Cuisine (ODOC)** debuts to promote regional culinary heritage alongside ODOP crafts.

> **Concept:** A Geographical Indication (GI) tag identifies goods originating from a specific place with qualities due to that origin; it is protected under the GI Act, 1999 (WTO/TRIPS-linked).

NATIONAL Exercise VARUNA 2026: India–France naval drills off Toulon

- **24th edition** of the **India–France** bilateral naval exercise, held off **Toulon, France**; **INS Trishul** participated.
- Harbour and sea phases covered **air defence, anti-submarine warfare and surface operations**.
- VARUNA began in **1983** and was formally named in **2001**; it is conducted alternately near India and France.

Concept: VARUNA is India's flagship naval exercise with France; other India–France drills include Garuda (air) and Shakti (army).

NATIONAL Make in India momentum: manufacturing and PLI gains

- **Manufacturing GVA** grew about **10.88% annually** (revised accounts) in recent years; **PLI schemes** drew over **₹2.40 lakh crore** of investment by **March 2026**.
- PLI-linked production/sales crossed **₹22.66 lakh crore**; **electronics and mobile manufacturing** now meet most domestic demand.
- Anchors the **Atmanirbhar Bharat** drive across **14 sectors**.

Concept: PLI (Production Linked Incentive) schemes give firms incentives on incremental sales of goods made in India, to scale domestic manufacturing.

NATIONAL Momentum builds for UN Security Council veto restraint

- A **France–Mexico initiative** for voluntary veto restraint during mass atrocities has backing from about **128 countries**; the **UK is the second P5 member** to endorse it.
- The **Liechtenstein 'veto initiative' (2022)** mandates a **UN General Assembly debate within 10 working days** of any veto.
- Feeds the wider debate on **UNSC reform and expansion**, in which **India seeks permanent membership**.

Concept: The UNSC has 5 permanent (P5) members with veto power; reform demands, including India's G4 bid, seek expansion and curbs on veto misuse.

Tuesday, 29 September 2026

Full notes with diagrams: studyforgs.com/current-affairs/uppsc/2026-09-29.html

UP-ECONOMY UP International Trade Show 4.0 concludes today at Greater Noida

- **2,400+ exhibitors**; buyers from about **85 countries**; ~**1.5 lakh B2B visitors** expected.
- **6 partner countries:** Japan, Russia, Vietnam, Singapore, Austria, Belarus.
- New **'One District, One Cuisine' (ODOC)** showcase alongside ODOP pavilions.
- UP exports goods worth **over ₹2 lakh crore** a year; state has **79 GI-tagged** products.
- 2025 edition: 5.07 lakh visitors, 2,400+ MoUs (₹1,882 cr), inquiries of ₹11,200 cr+.

Concept: Trade fairs reduce information gaps between small producers and foreign buyers — a key export-promotion tool under state export policies.

UP-DISASTER MGMT Heavy-rain alert: schools shut across UP districts; paddy damage and cattle-shelter deaths reported

- At least **17 rain-related deaths** reported; schools shut in **19 districts** at the weekend peak.
- Extreme-rain alert for **8 Terai/Rohilkhand districts** incl. Shravasti, Bahraich, Lakhimpur Kheri, Pilibhit.
- Standing **paddy flattened** in Jaunpur, Mirzapur and Azamgarh.
- **Badaun:** administration confirmed **32 cattle deaths** in gau-ashrayas; case filed, CDO-level monitoring.

> **Concept:** Western disturbances are extra-tropical low-pressure systems from the Mediterranean; their interaction with monsoon lows intensifies rainfall over north India.

UP-SPORTS Aligarh's Gulveer Singh wins second silver at Asian Games, Nagoya

- Double silver: **10,000 m** and **1500 m**.
- Same day: Yashvir Singh javelin silver (85.72 m), Rohit Yadav javelin bronze (84.35 m).
- Vithya Ramraj (400 m hurdles bronze) broke **P.T. Usha's 42-year-old** national record.
- Men's and women's **kabaddi** teams won gold, beating Iran.

UP-GOVERNANCE Yogi Cabinet's 23 decisions: Chitrakoot Link Expressway, ex-Agniveer quota, cheap farm loans

- **Chitrakoot Link Expressway:** 15.172 km, six-lane, **₹1,008.67 cr**.
- Small/marginal farmers: loans up to **₹6 lakh at 6% p.a.** via Cooperative Gram Vikas Bank.
- **20% horizontal reservation** for ex-Agniveers in Enforcement Constable & Jail Warder posts.
- **14,429 primary schools** to become smart schools (₹300 cr); PRD allowance **₹500→₹600/day**.
- ~26 ha free land for an **NSG regional hub in Ayodhya**; 120 KLPD ethanol plant at Chhata (Mathura).

> **Concept:** Horizontal reservation cuts across vertical (SC/ST/OBC) categories — the selected candidate is adjusted within his/her own vertical category.

UP-INFRA AMRUT 2.0 in UP: ₹29,716-crore urban water & sewerage portfolio

- **Drinking water ₹18,829 cr** and **sewerage ₹10,124 cr** — the two biggest heads.
- Lake rejuvenation ₹403.45 cr; parks/green spaces ₹89.76 cr.
- Status: **114 completed**, 453 ongoing.
- Executing agency: **UP Jal Nigam**; focus on time-bound completion.

> **Concept:** AMRUT 2.0 (launched 2021) aims at water security and 'water-secure cities' in all statutory towns, with sewerage/septage in 500 AMRUT cities.

UP-SCHEME ODOP, GI & Vishwakarma Shram Samman 2.0: UP's craft-to-export chain

- **ODOP** (launched 24 Jan 2018, UP Diwas): one signature product per district.
- Famous GI crafts: **Bhadohi carpets, Moradabad brassware, Kannauj perfume, Banarasi silk**.
- **6 lakh+ artisans** trained/given toolkits; trades covered raised **from 11 to 25**.
- UP has **1 crore+ MSME units** employing **3 crore+** people.

> **Concept:** GI tags are granted under the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration & Protection) Act, 1999; registration is valid for 10 years and renewable.

UP-CULTURE Deepotsav 2026: Ayodhya plans ~30 lakh diyas and a 2,100-drone show on 7 November

- Target of **~30 lakh diyas** (2025 record: ~26 lakh).
- **2,100-drone** aerial show, repeated on **Jamghat**; 3D projection, laser, green fireworks.
- **284 projects worth ₹5,452.79 cr** to be inaugurated/founded during the festivities.
- Ten Ramayan-themed gateways on Dharma Path; diaspora from 30+ countries invited.

> **Concept:** Ayodhya Deepotsav began in 2017 on the Saryu ghats (Ram ki Paidi) and has set successive world records for the most lamps lit together.

UP-GOVERNANCE New Automated Testing Station Policy 2026 and a statewide road-repair push

- Up to **3 ATS per district**, each testing up to **24,000 vehicles/year**.
- Land norm cut **2.5 acre → 1 acre**; **₹6-crore net-worth** condition dropped.
- Private investment model — **no extra burden** on the state exchequer.
- PWD review: pothole repair, pending projects above ₹50 cr, plan for FY 2027-28.

> **Concept:** Automated Testing Stations are mandated under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules for fitness certification; registration is linked to the Vahan database.

NATIONAL · ECONOMY OECD raises India's FY27 growth forecast to 7.1%

- Upgrade of **80 basis points**; **FY28** growth seen moderating to **6.5%**.
- OECD: Paris-based, **38 members**; India is a key partner, **not a member**.
- At UPITS, the Union HM cited India's **7.8%** growth as fastest among major economies.

NATIONAL · INFRA Centre notifies India's first four 'mega ports' under the Indian Ports Act, 2025

- Criteria: **150 MMT/year** cargo (bulk) or **7.5 million TEUs** (container).
- **Mundra** is the only privately operated port on the list.
- States: Gujarat (Kandla, Mundra), Maharashtra (JNPA), Odisha (Paradip).

Wednesday, 30 September 2026

Full notes with diagrams: studyforgs.com/current-affairs/uppsc/2026-09-30.html

UP-ECONOMY UPITS 2026 concludes: 4,400 MoUs worth ₹6,500 crore

- **4,400 MoUs worth ~₹6,500 crore** signed; potential business from enquiries **₹15,500 crore**.
- **41,500 B2B meetings** (+31%); total footfall **~5.99 lakh** incl. ~1.75 lakh business buyers.
- Partner countries rose from 1 (Russia, 2025) to **6: Russia, Austria, Japan, Singapore, Belarus, Vietnam**.
- Theme **"Ultimate Sourcing Begins Here"**; ODOP plus the new **One District One Cuisine** showcased all 75 districts.

> **Concept:** ODOP (launched 24 Jan 2018, UP Diwas) gives each district a signature product for branding, credit and market access.

UP-GOVERNANCE CM sets November targets: 70% approvals, 60% spending of Budget 2026-27

- UP Budget 2026-27: **₹9,99,056.48 crore**; development schemes **₹5,01,957.09 crore**.
- Approvals so far **₹5.16 lakh crore (51.6%)**; expenditure **₹2.84 lakh crore**.
- Target by November: **70% financial approvals, 60% expenditure**; Finance Minister to hold regular reviews.
- Focus: KCC mapping of farmers, better credit-deposit ratio, a **Rural Credit Conclave**, branding of **GI products**.

> **Concept:** Budget outlay ≠ outcome: utilisation ratio and quarterly spending pattern are key markers of fiscal efficiency.

UP-POLITY Polls notified for 11 UP Legislative Council seats and 10 Rajya Sabha seats

- MLC: **5 Graduates' + 6 Teachers' seats**; polling **23 Oct**, counting **27 Oct**; seats fall vacant **6 Dec 2026**.
- Rajya Sabha: **10 UP seats**, polling & counting **16 Oct**; nine terms end **25 Nov 2026**.
- Nominations till **6 Oct**; withdrawal **9 Oct** (both polls).
- RS quota: **37 first-preference votes** per seat (effective Assembly strength 397), single transferable vote.

> **Concept:** UP Vidhan Parishad has 100 members; 1/12 each are elected by graduates and by teachers (Art. 171(3)).

UP-SPORTS Meerut's Parul Chaudhary wins two bronzes at Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games

- **3000m steeplechase bronze (27 Sept)** in **9:08.67 — new national record** (old: 9:12.46).
- **5000m bronze (28 Sept)** in **15:14.61**; also 4th in the 1500m.
- At Hangzhou 2022 she won **5000m gold** and steeplechase silver; she is an **Arjuna Award** winner.

UP-SCHEME Cabinet clears Mukhyamantri Krishak Samriddhi Yojana among 23 decisions

- **Mukhyamantri Krishak Samriddhi Yojana**: long-term loans up to **₹6 lakh at 6% a year** for small & marginal farmers.
- Channel: **UP Cooperative Village Development Bank**.
- Council primary schools to become **smart schools**; **cashless treatment up to ₹5 lakh** for PRD volunteers.
- Modified **Chitrakoot Link Expressway** (Bundelkhand) approved; land for an **NSG regional hub at Milkipur**.

Concept: Long-term (investment) credit is given by cooperative agriculture & rural development banks; short-term crop loans by PACS/KCC.

UP-GOVERNANCE 20% horizontal quota for ex-Agniveers; new Automatic Testing Station Policy

- **20% horizontal reservation** for ex-Agniveers in **jail warden** and **transport enforcement** posts.
- **3-year upper age relaxation** for them.
- **ATS Policy 2026**: up to **3 automated vehicle-testing stations per district**, needing only **1 acre** of land.
- Stamp duty on rent agreements simplified (annual rent up to **₹10 lakh**).

Concept: Horizontal reservation cuts across vertical (SC/ST/OBC/EWS) categories — e.g., for women, ex-servicemen, divyangjan.

UP-INDUSTRY UP Toy Manufacturing Policy 2025 and a ₹200-crore ethanol plant at Chhata

- **Toy Manufacturing Incentive Policy 2025** aims to make UP a toy hub and cut import dependence.
- **Chhata sugar mill (Mathura)** to get an ethanol plant costing **>₹200 crore**, capacity **3.96 lakh litres/day**.
- Plant is multi-feed: **sugarcane, maize and rice**; the mill reopens after about **19 years**.
- Private **Sai Global University**, Kol tehsil (Aligarh), gets Letter of Intent.

Concept: National Policy on Biofuels targets 20% ethanol blending (E20); grain-based ethanol widens the feedstock base.

UP-GOVERNANCE CM: 1 lakh more government appointments within six months

- **1 lakh youths** to get appointment letters in the **next 6 months**.
- About **9.5 lakh** appointments already made through state recruitment bodies.
- CM stressed **transparent, merit-based recruitment** by boards and commissions such as UPPSC.

UP-SCHEME Vishwakarma Shram Samman Yojana 2.0 and margin-money loan portal launched

- **Vishwakarma Shram Samman Yojana 2.0** — umbrella support for traditional artisans.
- New **Margin Money Loan Portal**; cheques and **toolkits** distributed to beneficiaries.
- Built on **Vocal for Local** and the ‘Atmanirbhar Uttar Pradesh’ goal.

> **Concept:** UP's scheme (first launched 2018) predates the Central PM Vishwakarma scheme (Sept 2023) for 18 trades.

NATIONAL Net FDI hits 5-year high of $7.35 billion in July 2026

- Net FDI **$7.35 bn in July 2026**, up **~64%** year-on-year.
- Gross inflows **$14.58 bn**; communication, financial & computer services ≈ **60%** of equity inflows.
- **April–July 2026**: net FDI **$13.4 bn (+38%)**.

NATIONAL India's first Blue Bond issued for maritime infrastructure

- Base size **₹600 crore** + **₹500 crore green-shoe**; **10-year** tenor; rated **AA+**.
- Funds for **ports, greenfield port projects, coastal roads** and maritime lending.
- Blue bonds are debt instruments earmarked for **ocean/marine** projects.

NATIONAL KAZIND-2026: India–Kazakhstan exercise begins at Oskemen

- **9th edition**; Indian contingent of **60**, led by a **Garhwal Rifles** battalion.
- Focus: **counter-terrorism** in semi-urban & mountainous terrain (UN mandate).
- 8th edition (2024) was held at **Auli, Uttarakhand**.

Prelims rapid-fire — 131

1	**Teachers' Day (5 Sep)** — birth anniversary of **Dr. S. Radhakrishnan**.
2	**UPCOS** to cover ~**20 lakh** outsourced workers.
3	UP tops domestic tourism: **646.8 million** visits (2026).
4	**EOS-05** launched aboard **GSLV-F17** (first GEO imaging satellite).
5	**27 IMLCs** planned along UP expressways by **UPEIDA**.
6	**Seva Sankalp Abhiyan**: 17 Sep–17 Oct across all **75 districts**.
7	**UP Data Centre Policy 2026**: **₹2 lakh crore / ~2 GW** target.
8	**Ayodhya** drew ~**72 million** visitors in Jan–Jun 2026.
9	**Legal Metrology (IST) Rules 2026**: IST as sole official time.
10	Botanical Survey of India found new plant species **Osbeckia ulotricha**.
11	**5 Sep** is also the **UN International Day of Charity**.
12	Teachers' Day awards venue: Gorakhpur (Yogiraj Baba Gambhirnath Auditorium).
13	Vindhya Expressway districts: Prayagraj, Bhadohi, Mirzapur, Sonbhadra.
14	UP Startup Fund size: Rs 1,000 crore under Startup Mission 2026.
15	Ayodhya Deepotsav 2026 preparations under way ahead of the Diwali record event.
16	UP Tourism to showcase the state at global travel fair FITUR 2026.
17	UP data-centre capacity target: 2 GW; investment target Rs 2 lakh crore.
18	Appointments: UP Outsource Service Corporation — logo, website and portal launched in Lucknow.
19	Employment: 3,572 appointment letters distributed (Agriculture Dept + Mandi Board).
20	GI Hub: Kashi (Varanasi) region holds 32 of UP's 77 GI tags.
21	Tourism: UP ranked No.1 in domestic tourism — 646.8 million visits in 2026.
22	Culture: 'One District One Cuisine' (ODOC) promotes a signature dish per district.
23	Skilling: 'Project Praveen' brings 300-hour vocational courses to Sarvodaya schools.
24	Portal: **UP Tex Mitra portal** launched to support textile businesses & weavers.
25	Scheme: **Mukhyamantri Handloom Weaver Prosperity Scheme** rolled out for handloom weavers.
26	Infra: **PM MITRA** mega textile park (**1,000 acres**) coming up at the Lucknow–Hardoi border.
27	Expressway: **594-km Ganga Expressway** (Meerut–Prayagraj) set to become UP's longest.
28	Heritage: UP remains India's **No. 1 state** by number of **GI-tagged products**.
29	Governance: **Mental-Health Support Cells** to be set up in every UP college & university.
30	Poshan Maah 2026 theme: **“Our Anganwadis, Our Responsibility”** (9th edition)
31	Poshan Maah 2026 host city: **Varanasi** — Rudraksh Convention Centre
32	UP Anganwadi worker honorarium: raised to **₹12,000/month**; helpers **₹6,000**
33	UP Cabinet industrial clearance: **₹5,507 cr** — 11 units across 9 districts
34	Noida Airport–Ganga Expressway link: **74 km, 6-lane**, ~₹8,586 cr
35	GI tags leader in India: **Uttar Pradesh** — highest number of GI-tagged products
36	**Appointment:** Cricketer **Rinku Singh** named a Regional Sports Officer by the UP government.

37	**Sport:** India finished **4th** at the Pickleball World Cup 2026 in Vietnam with **41 medals (7 gold)**.
38	**Policy:** UP Startup Policy 2026 proposes a **₹1,000 crore fund** with deep-tech support.
39	**Heritage:** UP targets ~**152 GI-tagged products**, retaining its national lead.
40	**Infra:** Jhansi Link Expressway (**₹7,968 cr**) to link the Bundelkhand Expressway to **NH-44**.
41	**Tribute:** State paid homage to **Govind Ballabh Pant**, UP's first CM, on his 139th birth anniversary.
42	Clean Air No. 1: Lucknow tops Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan 2026 (198/200); Agra also in top five.
43	Politics: BSP chief Mayawati expels nephew Akash Anand from the party, ahead of the 2027 UP polls.
44	Textiles: UP is India's 4th-largest textile exporter; 17 GI-tagged textile products across 35+ districts.
45	National award: Kishor Makwana (NCSC) receives the Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Jan Seva Puraskar 2026.
46	Science: Deep Ocean Mission's new research vessel ORV 'Sagar Manthan' (~₹840 cr) to replace Sagar Kanya.
47	New portal/scheme: UP launches 'UP Tex Mitra' portal and 'Hathkargha Bunkar Samriddhi Yojana' for weavers.
48	**Gomti Book Festival**: organised by the National Book Trust at Lucknow University; 5th edition, 12–20 Sep 2026.
49	**Anganwadi honorarium** raised to ₹12,000/month (worker) and ₹6,000 (helper), with ₹5 lakh health cover.
50	**Jewar Link Expressway**: 74.5 km, ₹8,585 cr; links the Noida (Jewar) airport to the Ganga Expressway.
51	**GI tags**: Uttar Pradesh leads all Indian states in the number of GI-tagged products.
52	**Bankers' Books Evidence Act 2026** effective 1 October; digital banking records now admissible.
53	**Schizopygopsis waddellii** — a rare Tibetan coldwater fish recorded in India for the first time (Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh).
54	**New UP DGP**: Rajeev Krishna — first full-time DGP after years of acting chiefs (2026).
55	**Appointment**: Former DGP Prashant Kumar appointed UPESSC chairman.
56	**GI leadership**: UP remains India's leader in number of GI-tagged products.
57	**CAQM deadline**: From 01 Nov 2026, only CNG/electric/BS-VI vehicles allowed in Delhi-NCR.
58	**Global ranking**: IIT Bombay at 118th — India's best in QS World University Rankings 2027.
59	**Naval push**: Cabinet cleared 'Mission Anant' — ₹1.44 lakh cr for 18 warships (Make in India).
60	Sports: India won the **Women's T20 Asia Cup**, beating Sri Lanka by **72 runs** for a record **8th** title; Shafali Verma hit a 24-ball fifty.
61	GI / ODOP: UP is targeting **152 GI-tagged products**; Gorakhpur terracotta remains a flagship ODOP–GI success.
62	Defence: **Exercise Veer Guardian-2026** — India–Japan air drill at Jodhpur (Su-30 MKI, Rafale, Tejas vs F-2A).
63	Defence: **Yudh Abhyas 2026** — India–US exercise near the LAC; first deployment of the US MLIDS counter-drone system.
64	Space: ISRO launched **GISAT-1A (EOS-05)** on a GSLV, ending a seven-month launch gap.

65 Important Day: **16 September** — International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer (Montreal Protocol, 1987).

66 **Appointment**: Monisha Chakraborty took charge as an **RBI Executive Director** (Foreign Exchange & Financial Markets Regulation).

67 **Sports**: India won its **8th Women's T20 Asia Cup** title, beating Sri Lanka by **72 runs**; Shafali Verma hit a **24-ball fifty**, the fastest in the tournament.

68 **Sports venue**: The **2029 World Athletics Championships** were awarded to **Nairobi, Kenya** — the first in Africa.

69 **UP-Security**: The UP Cabinet allotted **65 acres in Ayodhya** (Milkipur) for an **NSG Regional Centre**.

70 **UP-Culture**: **Vishwakarma Jayanti** was observed across UP on **17 September 2026**.

71 **UP-Industry**: UP's **Toy Manufacturing Promotion Policy-2025** aims to make the state a toy-manufacturing hub.

72 Expressway — Ganga Expressway to be extended to Haridwar (**₹10,761 crore**).

73 Free travel — women aged **60+** under the Lokmata Ahilyabai Matrushakti Yojana.

74 Free tablets — **25 lakh** youth under the Swami Vivekananda Yuva Sashaktikaran Yojana.

75 Jobs drive — **1 lakh** posts in 6 months; recruitment from **Sep 19**.

76 Mega event — **UPITS 4.0** at Greater Noida, **Sep 25-29, 2026**.

77 Artisans — Vishwakarma Shram Samman Yojana 2.0 (toolkits + margin-money loans).

78 India's Oscar entry (99th Academy Awards) — 'Gondhal' (Marathi), dir. Santosh Davakhar

79 New NSG Regional Centre site — Milkipur tehsil, Ayodhya (UP) — 65 acres

80 120 KLPD ethanol plant approved at — Chhata Sugar Co., Mathura (UP)

81 Ganga Expressway now extended to — Haridwar, Uttarakhand

82 New 6-day luxury cultural circuit — Varanasi–Prayagraj–Ayodhya

83 Ex-Agniveer reservation in UP posts — 20% horizontal (Transport Constable, Jail Warder)

84 **Agniveer reservation (UP)**: 20% horizontal reservation + age relaxation in Enforcement Constable (Transport) & Jail Warder posts.

85 **Industrial LoCs**: ₹2,606 crore cleared - Canpack (Unnao), Agristo (Bijnor), Supreme Industries (Kanpur Dehat).

86 **NSG Regional Centre**: 65 acres of land allotted free in Ayodhya for a National Security Guard regional centre.

87 **Sports**: India won trap gold at the ISSF Junior World Cup Shotgun 2026 in Italy.

88 **Appointment**: Hansraj Singh Verma named India's Ambassador to Cuba.

89 **UP fairs**: Vishwakarma Swarojgar & Swadeshi Mela 2026 organised in Lucknow to promote local artisans.

90 **GI Leader:** UP is **India's No.1** in GI-tagged products (**77**); the Kashi region alone has **32** GI tags — the 'world's GI hub' (~Rs 25,500 crore/yr business).

91 **Textiles:** UPTEX-2026 (Lucknow) disbursed **Rs 416.75 crore** to **157** textile units; a **PM MITRA** mega textile park (1,000 acres) is coming up on the Lucknow-Hardoi border.

92 **Water:** The **Kishau multipurpose dam** MoU was signed by **6 CMs including UP** — a 232.6 m dam on the Tons River.

93

	Sports: The **Asian Games 2026** opened on **19 Sept** at Aichi-Nagoya, Japan; India's contingent, including UP athletes, is in action.
94	**Jobs:** The **20th Rozgar Mela** (national) distributed **51,000+** appointment letters; ~12.75 lakh since October 2022.
95	**Energy:** UP power plants' **coal stock rose 16%** in a fortnight to **8.41 lakh tonnes** — energy security ahead of the festive season.
96	UP Diwas 2026: Celebrated with the theme 'Viksit Bharat – Viksit Uttar Pradesh'.
97	GI leadership: UP has the highest number of GI-tagged products in India (75+).
98	Chitrakoot Link Expressway: 15.172 km, six-lane, ₹1,008.67 crore, EPC mode.
99	Agniveer quota: 20% horizontal reservation in UP Transport Enforcement Constable & Jail Warder posts.
100	Braj region: To be developed on the lines of Ayodhya and Kashi.
101	Asian Games 2026: Elavenil Valarivan — first Indian woman with an individual 10m air rifle silver.
102	Biggest Cabinet decision: 23 proposals cleared on 23 Sep 2026
103	New expressway approved: Chitrakoot Link Expressway (15.172 km, 6-lane)
104	New farmer scheme: Mukhyamantri Krishak Samriddhi Yojana (up to Rs 6 lakh @6%)
105	Ex-Agniveer quota: 20% horizontal reservation + 3-yr age relaxation
106	UPITS 2026: 4th edition, 25-29 Sep, India Expo Centre, Greater Noida
107	Tourism rank: UP No.1 in domestic visits (646.8 million, 2026)
108	Ex-Agniveers: **20% reservation** approved in UP state recruitments.
109	Mathura ethanol plant: **₹200 crore**; **~3.96 crore litres/year** capacity.
110	GI tags — UP: **77 products**, India's No.1 state for GI tagging.
111	Varanasi: **~32 GI products** — a global Geographical-Indication hub.
112	Farmer mahapanchayat: called for **7 Oct**; demand to raise cane price to **₹600/quintal**.
113	Kabaddi: **3 Kanpur players** picked for the Junior State Championship, Ayodhya.
114	Partner nations at UPITS 2026: **Austria, Japan, Russia, Singapore, Belarus, Vietnam**.
115	New concept at UPITS 2026: **One District One Cuisine (ODOC)**.
116	Amroha GI product: **Dholak** (made from mango & sheesham wood).
117	Exercise VARUNA: **24th edition**, India–France, off **Toulon** (INS Trishul).
118	UP industrial clearance: **₹2,606 cr** — Canpack, Agristo Masa, Supreme Industries.
119	GI leadership: **UP has the most GI-tagged products** among Indian states.
120	**Ashok Singhal centenary**: Year-long celebrations launched in Lucknow on **27 Sep** (born 27 Sep 1926)
121	**PRD volunteers**: Daily duty allowance raised to **₹600**; ~27,794 beneficiaries
122	**Chhata (Mathura)**: **120 KLPD** ethanol plant approved at the Chhata sugar mill
123	**Smart schools**: **14,429** UP primary schools to be upgraded (₹300 cr)
124	**WEF T&T Index 2026**: India rises 9 places to **31st**; Japan tops
125	**CBSE Chairperson**: **Mandeep K. Bhandari** (IAS, 2001 batch) appointed
126	**Asian Games medallist (UP):** Parul Chaudhary (Meerut, UP Police DSP) — bronze in 3000m steeplechase (NR 9:08.67) & 5000m

127	**Award (health):** UP honoured as top large State for ABDM-enabled HMIS in sub-centres at Arogya Manthan 2026
128	**Transport:** Namo Bharat (Delhi–Meerut RRTS) launches trip passes of up to 40 journeys
129	**Education:** Sai Global University, Kol tehsil (Aligarh) — Letter of Intent approved
130	**Security:** Land approved for NSG regional hub at Milkipur (Ayodhya)
131	**Festival / Culture:** Vishwakarma Jayanti (17 Sept) — Vishwakarma Swarojgar & Swadeshi Mela, Lucknow

Data points

646.8 million (No.1 in India) — **UP domestic tourist visits, 2026**
More than double No.2 Tamil Nadu (306.8 million); led by Ayodhya and Varanasi.

Rs 47,600+ crore — **UP expressway push (four new links)**
Combined approved outlay for the Vindhya Expressway, its Purvanchal spur and two Agra-Lucknow link expressways.

646.8 million — **UP domestic tourist visits, 2026**
Rank 1 in India — more than double the second-placed state.

₹4,000+ crore — **UPTEX-2026 weaver & textile support**
Combined disbursal across powerloom electricity relief, SC-weaver, handloom and textile-unit incentive schemes on day one of the conclave.

7.8% — **India Q1 FY27 real GDP growth**
Beat the RBI's 7% forecast; GVA grew 8.2% (MoSPI, Apr–Jun 2026).

₹1 lakh × ~1 crore women — **Women's interest-free credit**
Released in three DBT tranches (₹20k + ₹30k + ₹50k) via the UP State Rural Livelihood Mission.

₹24,000 crore — **UP Cabinet capital push (single day)**
Expressways + industrial units cleared on 10 Sep 2026, led by the Ganga Expressway extension.

₹5,507 crore — **UP Cabinet single-cycle investment clearance**
11 industrial units across 9 districts

₹43,000 crore — **UP electronics & semiconductor investment**
200+ companies • 3 lakh+ jobs • 55% of India's mobile-phone output

646.8 million visits — **UP Domestic Tourism, 2026**
India's No.1 state — more than double 2nd-placed Tamil Nadu (306.8 million).

4.82% — **CPI retail inflation, August 2026**
Up from **4.45%** in July 2026; food inflation about **5.95%**.

₹24,000 crore — **UP Cabinet package**
Expressways plus 11 industrial projects cleared in one Cabinet meeting.

25,000 hectares

UP expressway industrial land targeted
for 27 IMLCs; ~4,250 ha already acquired ahead of the proposed GBC 5.0 (₹8 lakh crore).

646.8 million — **UP domestic tourist visits, 2026**
India's highest - more than double the second-placed state; led by Ayodhya, Varanasi and Prayagraj.

1,00,000 — **New UP government jobs (6 months)**
77,000 in Police & Home Guards; recruitment began **19 Sept 2026**.

646.8 million — **UP domestic tourist visits, 2026**
Rank #1 in India — more than double the No.2 state.

646.8 million — **UP domestic tourist visits, 2026**
Highest among Indian states — nearly double Tamil Nadu; powered by Ayodhya, Varanasi & Prayagraj.

77 (India's No.1) — **UP GI-tagged products**
Varanasi region alone has ~32 GI products, among the densest GI clusters in the world.

~₹1,882 crore MoUs; 5.07 lakh visitors — **UPITS 2025 impact (benchmark for 2026)**
The 2025 edition also generated business inquiries exceeding ₹11,200 crore, setting the target the 2026 show aims to beat.

₹29,716.29 crore — **AMRUT 2.0 outlay in Uttar Pradesh**
637 approved projects across 762 urban local bodies; 114 completed so far

₹6,500 crore — **UPITS 2026 MoU value**
Up 142.5% from ₹2,680 crore in 2025

Practice MCQs — 42

Q1. With reference to UPCOS recently in news, consider: 1) It is a state corporation for outsourced workers. 2) It provides EPF and ESI cover. 3) It is a central government body. Which of the above are correct?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 2 and 3 only
3. 1 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

Q2. The EOS-05 satellite recently launched by ISRO was carried by which launch vehicle?

1. PSLV-C57
2. GSLV-F17
3. SSLV-D3
4. LVM3-M4

Q3. With reference to the recently approved UP expressway projects, consider the following: 1. The Vindhya Expressway will connect Prayagraj, Bhadohi, Mirzapur and Sonbhadra. 2. All four approved expressways are to be built on the BOT (toll) model. Which of the statements is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

Q4. The National Accounts Statistics 2026 revised India's GDP series. Which of the following changes was introduced?

1. Base year shifted to 2022-23 with a Producer Price Index (PPI)-based deflator
2. Base year shifted to 2011-12 with a Consumer Price Index deflator
3. GDP replaced by Gross National Income as the headline number
4. Switch from PPI to Wholesale Price Index for deflation

Q5. With reference to Uttar Pradesh's 'One District One Cuisine' (ODOC) initiative, consider the following statements: 1. It is an extension of the One District One Product (ODOP) scheme. 2. It seeks to identify and promote a signature traditional dish from each district. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

Q6. The 'Lakhpati Didi' initiative, seen in the news, is most closely associated with which one of the following?

1. Digital literacy for senior citizens
2. Self-Help Group women under DAY-NRLM
3. A UNESCO world-heritage programme
4. Crop insurance for small farmers

Q7. With reference to the PM MITRA scheme, consider the following: 1) It sets up mega integrated textile parks. 2) A PM MITRA park is coming up at the Lucknow–Hardoi border in Uttar Pradesh. Which is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

Q8. A Geographical Indication (GI) tag in India is initially granted for a period of:

1. 5 years
2. 10 years
3. 15 years
4. 20 years

Q9. With reference to the National Poshan Maah, consider the following statements: 1. It is observed every year in the month of September. 2. It is anchored in the Poshan Abhiyaan launched in 2018. 3. It is currently implemented under Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0. Which of the statements given above are correct?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 2 and 3 only
3. 1 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

Q10. Article 142 of the Constitution of India is best described as the power of the Supreme Court to:

1. Advise the President on questions of law
2. Pass any order necessary for doing 'complete justice'
3. Review its own judgments
4. Transfer cases between High Courts

Q11. The proposed UP scheme to give interest-free credit up to ₹1 lakh to nearly one crore women is anchored in which of the following?

1. National Rural Employment Guarantee framework
2. UP State Rural Livelihood Mission (self-help groups)
3. Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana only
4. State Public Distribution System

Q12. Exercise 'Veer Guardian-2026', in the news recently, is a bilateral air exercise between India and which country?

1. France
2. Japan
3. Australia
4. United Kingdom

Q13. With reference to the Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan 2026, consider the following statements: 1. It is conducted under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP). 2. Lucknow topped the Category-I (cities with over 10 lakh population). Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

Q14. The Ganga Expressway extension approved by the UP Cabinet is planned to enhance connectivity primarily along which stretch?

1. Prayagraj–Haridwar
2. Delhi–Meerut
3. Lucknow–Gorakhpur
4. Agra–Lucknow

Q15. The Gomti Book Festival 2026 was organised by which of the following bodies?

1. Sahitya Akademi
2. National Book Trust
3. NCERT
4. National Council of Science Museums

Q16. The 14-digit unique identification number assigned to every land parcel under DILRMP is known as:

1. Bhu-Aadhaar (ULPIN)
2. Khasra Number
3. e-Dhara ID
4. Bhoomi Code

Q17. With reference to the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM), consider the following: 1. It is a statutory body for Delhi-NCR and adjoining areas. 2. From 1 November 2026, only CNG, electric and BS-VI vehicles are permitted in its zone. Which of the statements is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

Q18. The Vindhya Expressway, in the news, will connect the Ganga Expressway to which district of Uttar Pradesh?

1. Sonbhadra
2. Saharanpur
3. Shamli
4. Sant Kabir Nagar

Q19. The newly approved Chitrakoot Link Expressway will primarily improve connectivity to which region of Uttar Pradesh?

1. Rohilkhand
2. Bundelkhand
3. Awadh
4. Purvanchal

Q20. The Goods and Services Tax (GST) was introduced in India through which Constitutional Amendment Act?

1. 100th Amendment Act
2. 101st Amendment Act
3. 102nd Amendment Act
4. 103rd Amendment Act

Q21. Consider the following statements about the Chitrakoot Link Expressway approved by the UP Cabinet in September 2026: 1. It is a six-lane, access-controlled expressway of about 15 km. 2. It is intended to improve connectivity between the Bundelkhand region and Chitrakoot Dham. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

Q22. Which one of the following is correct regarding key national data reported around August–September 2026?

1. CPI inflation fell below 4%
2. CPI inflation rose to 4.82% in Aug 2026
3. India ranked 1st in the Gender Gap Index
4. Unemployment crossed 10%

Q23. The Lokmata Ahilyabai Matrushakti Yojana, approved by the UP Cabinet, primarily provides:

1. Free tablets to students
2. Free UPSRTC bus travel to women aged 60 and above
3. Interest-free loans to artisans
4. Old-age pension to farmers

Q24. The EPFO mandatory wage ceiling was recently revised to:

1. ₹18,000 per month
2. ₹21,000 per month
3. ₹25,000 per month
4. ₹30,000 per month

Q25. With reference to the recently approved Chitrakoot Link Expressway in Uttar Pradesh, consider the following: 1. It is a six-lane access-controlled greenfield expressway. 2. It connects the Bundelkhand region to Chitrakoot Dham. 3. Its approved length is about 150 km. Which of the statements is/are correct?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 2 and 3 only
3. 1 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

Q26. The Kishau Multipurpose Project, for which a six-state agreement was recently signed, is located on which river?

1. Tons (tributary of the Yamuna)
2. Betwa
3. Ken
4. Gandak

Q27. With reference to the Mukhyamantri Krishak Samriddhi Yojana recently approved in Uttar Pradesh, consider the following statements: 1. It provides long-term loans of up to ₹6 lakh to small and marginal farmers. 2. The loans are routed through the UP Cooperative Gram Vikas Bank Ltd at 6% annual interest. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

Q28. In 2026, Uttar Pradesh ranked first among Indian states in which of the following? 1. Domestic tourist visits 2. Number of Geographical Indication (GI) tags Select the correct answer using the code below:

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

Q29. The Ganga Expressway (Phase-1), recently operational, connects which two cities of Uttar Pradesh?

1. Lucknow - Ballia
2. Meerut - Prayagraj
3. Agra - Varanasi
4. Delhi - Kanpur

Q30. The EPFO monthly wage ceiling was recently revised to which of the following?

1. Rs 18,000
2. Rs 21,000
3. Rs 25,000
4. Rs 30,000

Q31. The UP International Trade Show (UPITS) 2026 is being held at which venue?

1. Vibhuti Khand, Lucknow
2. India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida
3. Rudraksh Convention Centre, Varanasi
4. HCL City, Noida

Q32. The GOBARdhan scheme approved with an outlay of ₹23,731 crore is primarily associated with which sector?

1. Compressed Bio-Gas (CBG)
2. Solar rooftop power
3. Green hydrogen
4. Urea manufacturing

Q33. With reference to the Chitrakoot Link Expressway approved by the UP Cabinet (Sep 2026), consider the following: 1. It is planned as a six-lane expressway. 2. It improves connectivity for the Bundelkhand region. Which is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

Q34. Which body, established under Article 279A, decides GST rates and slabs in India?

1. Finance Commission
2. GST Council
3. NITI Aayog
4. Central Board of Indirect Taxes

Q35. Uttar Pradesh recently retained its position as India's leading state in a particular category. It is the No.1 state in India for:

1. Number of operational expressways
2. Number of GI (Geographical Indication) tagged products
3. Installed solar capacity
4. Number of international airports

Q36. With reference to 'Semicon 2.0' (India Semiconductor Mission 2.0), consider the following statements: 1. It aims to build fabrication units, chip design and packaging (ATMP/OSAT) capacity. 2. It has an outlay of about Rs 1.27 lakh crore. Which is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

Q37. With reference to the UP International Trade Show (UPITS) 2026, consider the following statements: (1) It was held in Lucknow. (2) The 2026 edition was its fourth. (3) It showcases both ODOP and the new One District One Cuisine (ODOC). Which of the statements are correct?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 2 and 3 only
3. 1 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

Q38. Exercise VARUNA, seen recently in the news, is a bilateral naval exercise between India and which country?

1. United States
2. Russia
3. France
4. United Kingdom

Q39. With reference to the UP International Trade Show (UPITS) 2026, consider the following statements: 1. It was the fourth edition, held at Greater Noida. 2. Japan and Russia were among its partner countries. 3. 'ODOC' showcased at the event stands for 'One District, One Crop'. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 1 and 2 only
3. 2 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

Q40. Which of the following ports were notified as 'mega ports' under the Indian Ports Act, 2025? 1. Paradip 2. Mundra 3. Vizhinjam 4. Deendayal (Kandla). Select the correct answer:

1. 1, 2 and 4 only
2. 1 and 3 only
3. 2, 3 and 4 only
4. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Q41. With reference to the UP International Trade Show (UPITS) 2026, consider the following statements: 1. It was the fourth edition, held at Greater Noida. 2. Russia was its only partner country. 3. MoUs worth about ₹6,500 crore were signed. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 1 and 3 only
3. 2 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

Q42. Consider the following about the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Council: 1. It has 100 members. 2. One-twelfth of its members are elected by graduates of at least three years' standing. 3. Teachers' constituency voters must have taught for at least three years in institutions not lower than secondary school. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 1 and 2 only
3. 2 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

Answer key & explanations

Q1 — Answer: A
UPCOS is a Uttar Pradesh (state) non-profit corporation providing direct salary, EPF and ESI to outsourced workers; it is not a central body, so statement 3 is incorrect.

Q2 — Answer: B
EOS-05, India's first imaging satellite designed to operate from geosynchronous orbit, was launched aboard GSLV-F17.

Q3 — Answer: A
The Vindhya Expressway links Prayagraj, Bhadohi, Mirzapur and Sonbhadra, so statement 1 is correct. The projects are being built on the EPC (not BOT) model, so statement 2 is wrong.

Q4 — Answer: A
The series was rebased to 2022-23 and the deflator moved from the WPI to a Producer Price Index (PPI), improving the measurement of real growth.

Q5 — Answer: C
ODOC extends the ODOP model into culinary heritage, promoting one signature dish per district to boost tourism and local enterprise. Both statements are correct.

Q6 — Answer: B
'Lakhpati Didi' aims to help Self-Help Group women earn at least ₹1 lakh a year under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana–National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM); the target was scaled up to 6 crore.

Q7 — Answer: C
PM MITRA (Mega Integrated Textile Region & Apparel) parks are being developed across states, and UP's park is on 1,000 acres at the Lucknow–Hardoi border. Both statements are correct.

Q8 — Answer: B
Under the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration & Protection) Act, 1999, a GI is registered for 10 years and is renewable. Uttar Pradesh leads India in the number of GI tags.

Q9 — Answer: D
Poshan Maah is observed each September; it flows from Poshan Abhiyaan (2018) and is delivered under Mission Saksham Anganwadi & Poshan 2.0. All three are correct.

Q10 — Answer: B
Article 142 lets the SC pass any decree/order for 'complete justice'; advisory jurisdiction is Article 143 and review is Article 137.

Q11 — Answer: B
The scheme routes interest-free working capital to self-help-group women through the UP State Rural Livelihood Mission, in three DBT tranches of ₹20,000, ₹30,000 and ₹50,000.

Q12 — Answer: B
Veer Guardian is the India–Japan bilateral air exercise; the 2026 edition was held at Jodhpur with IAF Tejas/Su-30 MKI/Rafale and Japanese F-2A fighters.

Q13 — Answer: C
Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan is conducted under NCAP (2019). In the 2026 edition Lucknow topped Category-I (10 lakh+ cities) with 198/200, ahead of Indore. Both statements are correct.

Q14 — Answer: A
The approved extension is a greenfield corridor along the Prayagraj–Haridwar stretch, connecting major pilgrimage/Kumbh nodes, with an estimated cost of about ₹10,761 crore.

Q15 — Answer: B
The National Book Trust (under the Union Education Ministry) organised the 9-day festival at Lucknow University.

Q16 — Answer: A
ULPIN, also called Bhu-Aadhaar, is a 14-digit identifier for geo-referenced land parcels under DILRMP 3.0.

Q17 — Answer: C
CAQM is a statutory body (Act, 2021); the phased norm from 01 Nov 2026 restricts entry to CNG/electric/BS-VI vehicles — UP's e-bus rollout is timed to it.

Q18 — Answer: A
The 594-km Vindhya Expressway links the Ganga Expressway to Sonbhadra via Prayagraj, Mirzapur, Varanasi and Chandauli.

Q19 — Answer: B
Chitrakoot lies in the Bundelkhand region; the 15.172-km link connects the town to the Bundelkhand Expressway.

Q20 — Answer: B
The 101st Constitutional Amendment Act, 2016 introduced GST; the GST Council is set up under Article 279A.

Q21 — Answer: C
The expressway is a **15.172-km**, six-lane, access-controlled project (**₹1,008.67 crore**) meant to link Bundelkhand with Chitrakoot Dham and boost tourism. Both statements are correct.

Q22 — Answer: B
CPI retail inflation rose to **4.82%** in August 2026 (from **4.45%** in July). India retained the **131st** rank in the Gender Gap Index and the unemployment rate was around **5.0%**.

Q23 — Answer: B
It grants lifetime free travel on UPSRTC buses to women aged 60+, benefiting over 1 crore women.

Q24 — Answer: C
The Union Cabinet raised it from ₹15,000 to ₹25,000/month — the first revision since 2014.

Q25 — Answer: A
The Chitrakoot Link Expressway is a 15.172-km (not 150 km) six-lane access-controlled greenfield expressway costing ₹1,008.67 crore, linking Bundelkhand to Chitrakoot Dham. Statements 1 and 2 are correct; 3 is wrong on length.

Q26 — Answer: A
Kishau is on the Tons river, the largest tributary of the Yamuna. The pact involves Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Delhi and Haryana, with a 232.6 m dam and 25% flow reserved for Yamuna rejuvenation.

Q27 — Answer: C
The scheme offers long-term loans up to ₹6 lakh to small and marginal farmers through the UP Cooperative Gram Vikas Bank Ltd at 6% per annum, so both statements are correct.

Q28 — Answer: C
Uttar Pradesh leads India both in domestic tourist visits (646.8 million in 2026) and in the number of GI-tagged products, so both are correct.

Q29 — Answer: B
The Ganga Expressway is a **594 km**, 6-lane greenfield expressway from **Meerut to Prayagraj**, passing through **12 districts** (~Rs 36,230 crore).

Q30 — Answer: C
The ceiling was raised from **Rs 15,000 to Rs 25,000**, bringing about **51 lakh** more workers under EPF coverage.

Q31 — Answer: B
UPITS 4.0 (25–29 Sept 2026) is held at the India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida — UP's flagship export and investment expo.

Q32 — Answer: A
GOBARdhan is the National Unified/Circular Bioenergy Scheme for Compressed Bio-Gas, run by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (FY2026-27 to 2035-36).

Q33 — Answer: C
The Chitrakoot Link Expressway (~15.172 km, about Rs 1,008.67 crore) is a six-lane project meant to boost Bundelkhand-Chitrakoot connectivity, so both statements are correct.

Q34 — Answer: B
The GST Council (Art. 279A) — chaired by the Union Finance Minister with state representatives — decides rates, slabs and exemptions, embodying cooperative fiscal federalism.

Q35 — Answer: b
UP leads India with 77 GI tags; the Varanasi region alone has ~32. GI tags protect region-specific goods and boost artisan incomes and exports.

Q36 — Answer: c
Semicon 2.0 (outlay ~₹1.27 lakh crore) spans design, fabs, equipment/materials, ATMP/OSAT, advanced nodes and talent — so both statements are correct.

Q37 — Answer: B
UPITS 2026 was held in Greater Noida, not Lucknow, so (1) is wrong; the 2026 event was the 4th edition and it features ODOP plus the new ODOC, so (2) and (3) are correct.

Q38 — Answer: C
VARUNA is the premier annual India–France bilateral naval exercise; its 2026 edition (the 24th) was held off Toulon, France.

Q39 — Answer: B
UPITS 4.0 was held at India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida, with six partner countries incl. Japan and Russia. ODOC means **'One District, One Cuisine'**, so statement 3 is wrong.

Q40 — Answer: A
The four notified mega ports are **Deendayal (Kandla), JNPA, Paradip and Mundra**; Vizhinjam is not on the list.

Q41 — Answer: B
The 2026 edition (25–29 Sept) had six partner countries — Russia, Austria, Japan, Singapore, Belarus and Vietnam — so statement 2 is wrong.

Q42 — Answer: D
Article 171(3)(b) and (c) provide 1/12 seats each for graduates and teachers; UP's Council has 100 members.

Mains practice questions

1. “Uttar Pradesh's expressways are being reimagined from transit routes into industrial corridors.” In light of UPEIDA's IMLC push and the Data Centre Policy 2026, examine how infrastructure is anchoring the state's $1-trillion-economy ambition. (250 words)
   Link expressways to IMLCs & logistics, then to investment (GBC) and jobs; add digital infrastructure (data centres, AI); note challenges — land acquisition, power, skilling and balanced regional (Bundelkhand/Purvanchal) growth.
2. Uttar Pradesh is combining large expressway grids with policies for data centres, startups and digital empowerment of youth. Examine how such physical and digital infrastructure can together drive balanced regional development in the state. (250 words)
   Link expressways (logistics, market access, industrial corridors) with the Data Centre Policy and Startup Mission (jobs, AI economy) and the tablet scheme (skills); stress incentives for Bundelkhand and Purvanchal to argue balanced, region-wide growth.
3. "Expressway-led industrial corridors have become the fulcrum of Uttar Pradesh's economic strategy." Examine this in the light of the state's Industrial Manufacturing & Logistics Clusters (IMLCs) and its $1-trillion-economy goal. (150 words)
   Connect expressway land-banks → plug-and-play IMLCs → investment via GBC → jobs and backward-region integration (Bundelkhand). Balance with challenges: land acquisition, environmental clearance and balanced regional growth.
4. Uttar Pradesh's expressway grid and textile-park push are presented as engines of industrial growth and employment. Examine how such infrastructure- and cluster-led initiatives can transform the state's economy, and the challenges involved. (250 words)
   Cover: expressway network (>1,700 km) & logistics; PM MITRA/ODOP clusters & jobs; weaver welfare & MSMEs; investment via Invest UP; challenges—land, skilling, credit, market linkage, sustainability.
5. “Uttar Pradesh's expressway-led, policy-backed investment model is reshaping the state's economic geography.” Examine, with recent examples. (UPPSC Mains, GS-III / UP-special)
   Cite the ₹5,507 cr Cabinet clearance, the Noida Airport–Ganga Expressway link, ODOP jobs; link expressways to industrial corridors, logistics, land value and balanced regional growth; add a note on Purvanchal/Bundelkhand equity.
6. "Linking self-help groups to interest-free credit can transform rural women from beneficiaries into entrepreneurs." Examine this in the context of Uttar Pradesh's recent women's-credit initiative. (250 words)
   Cover the SHG–bank linkage model and UP-SRLM; the three-tranche DBT design and add-ons (e-rickshaw aid, credit cards, women centres); expected gains for income, employment and SDG-1/5; and risks — repayment discipline, market linkage and last-mile inclusion.
7. "Uttar Pradesh's expressway network is increasingly the spine of its industrial and tourism economy." Discuss with reference to recent state initiatives. (250 words)
   Link expressways (Ganga, Purvanchal, Bundelkhand, Jhansi Link) to industrial corridors/authorities, logistics-cost reduction, ODOP clusters and pilgrimage tourism (Prayagraj, Ayodhya, Braj). Note challenges: land acquisition, financing model, balanced regional development.
8. “Incentive-driven industrial policy is helping Uttar Pradesh shed its erstwhile BIMARU image.” Critically examine with recent examples. (250 words)
   Use the ₹5,507 cr / 11-unit single-cycle clearance, the 2022 & 2023 investment policies, expressway-led logistics (Jewar Link), and sectoral diversification (packaging, food processing); balance with regional imbalance as eastern-UP districts were largely absent.
9. "Uttar Pradesh's clean-mobility and expressway drive is reshaping the state's economic geography." Examine how green transport initiatives and expressway corridors together

advance UP's goal of a one-trillion-dollar economy. (10 marks, 150 words)
Link e-buses & EV policy to air quality and net-zero; connect expressways (Vindhya, Ganga, Purvanchal) to industrial corridors, logistics cost, tourism and investment; conclude with the $1-trillion target and balanced regional growth.

10. “Expressway-led connectivity has become the backbone of Uttar Pradesh's investment and tourism growth.” Examine with recent examples. (250 words)
Cover the expressway grid (Purvanchal, Bundelkhand, Ganga, and the new Chitrakoot link), industrial corridors and Invest UP, ODOP-led exports, and faith tourism (Ayodhya, Varanasi, Prayagraj); balance gains with land-acquisition and regional-equity concerns. Link to UP GS-V.
11. Uttar Pradesh is increasingly positioning itself as a manufacturing and investment hub through expressway-led corridors and sector-specific policies. Examine how such infrastructure and policy measures can translate into inclusive employment and balanced regional development. (250 words)
Link expressways (e.g., Chitrakoot Link) and policies (toy, ethanol, ODOP) to industrial corridors, jobs and Bundelkhand/eastern-UP balance; add caveats on land, skilling and last-mile welfare.
12. “Uttar Pradesh's expressway network is increasingly being leveraged as a backbone for industrial corridors.” Discuss with recent examples. (GS-III)
Link the Ganga and Jhansi Link Expressways to the BIDA/defence corridor and logistics clusters; cover investment, jobs, regional balance (Bundelkhand, Purvanchal) and ODOP linkage.
13. "Expressway-led industrialisation has become the cornerstone of Uttar Pradesh's growth strategy." In light of the state's Industrial Manufacturing & Logistics Clusters (IMLCs) along expressway corridors, examine how this model can transform the state economy, and the challenges it must overcome. (250 words)
Structure: (i) expressway network + IMLC/land-bank model and ₹8-lakh-cr GBC 5.0 ambition; (ii) gains — jobs, logistics cost, investment, balanced regional growth (Bundelkhand/Purvanchal); (iii) challenges — land acquisition, environmental clearances, skilled labour, last-mile connectivity; conclude with sustainable, inclusive industrial corridors.
14. Infrastructure-led development - expressways, industrial corridors and investment fairs - is increasingly the engine of Uttar Pradesh's economy. Critically examine how far this model can translate into broad-based employment and inclusive growth. (250 words)
Link expressways (Ganga, Chitrakoot Link) and industrial corridors to logistics, land value and industry clustering; add ODOP, MSME and the trade show for jobs and exports; balance with concerns of agrarian credit gaps, regional (Bundelkhand vs west UP) disparity and quality of employment.
15. "Expressway-led infrastructure is emerging as the backbone of Uttar Pradesh's ambition to become a one-trillion-dollar economy." Critically examine. (250 words)
Link the Ganga and other expressways to industrial corridors, UPITS investment, ODOP/export nodes and jobs; balance this with land-acquisition, fiscal-debt and regional-equity concerns.
16. Discuss how Uttar Pradesh's ODOP (One District One Product) model and events like UPITS are reshaping the state's export economy and rural employment. (250 words)
Cover ODOP design and district branding, MSME linkage, UPITS as a global marketplace, the export/investment figures (~₹2 lakh cr exports, 4 crore jobs) and the one-trillion-dollar goal; balance with challenges — credit access, logistics, quality certification and market volatility.
17. Expressway-led connectivity and religious tourism are together reshaping Uttar Pradesh's economy. Discuss. (250 words)
Link expressways (Chitrakoot Link, Ganga Expressway) to industrial corridors and logistics; connect Ayodhya-Varanasi-Prayagraj tourism (646.8 M visits) to jobs, MSMEs and ODOP; note challenges — land acquisition, carrying capacity, seasonality.

18. Discuss how Geographical Indication (GI) tagging and the One District One Product (ODOP) scheme together strengthen Uttar Pradesh's rural economy and traditional crafts. (150 words)
    Link GI's identity protection with ODOP's market access, skilling and credit; cite Banarasi silk, Bhadohi carpets; note income, exports, employment and preservation of traditional knowledge.
19. One District One Product (ODOP) has become the cornerstone of Uttar Pradesh's export and artisan-empowerment strategy. Discuss its objectives and the role of platforms such as the UP International Trade Show in scaling it.
    Cover ODOP's aims (promoting local products, employment, exports); link it to ODOC and GI tags; explain how UPITS provides B2B market access and global buyers; close with challenges — credit, branding and logistics.
20. "ODOP, GI tagging and trade platforms like UPITS can turn Uttar Pradesh's MSME base into an export engine." Examine. (GS-VI, 125 words)
    Intro: 1 crore+ MSMEs, ₹2 lakh cr+ exports. Body: ODOP branding, 79 GI tags, Vishwakarma 2.0 credit/toolkits, UPITS buyer linkages; gaps — logistics for a landlocked state, quality certification, credit access. Way forward: DFC-linked ICDs, e-commerce, design support.
21. Trade fairs such as UPITS and schemes like ODOP aim to plug Uttar Pradesh's MSMEs into global value chains. Examine their role and limits in UP's pursuit of a $1 trillion economy. (125 words)
    Intro: 96 lakh MSMEs, UPITS 2026 figures. Body: market access, branding (ODOP/GI), B2B links, credit; limits — MoU-to-order conversion, logistics, quality standards, credit gaps. Conclude with export-cluster and GI branding push.

One-line revision — the whole month

- **Saturday, 5 September 2026:** Sept 5 = Teachers' Day • UPCOS shields 20 lakh workers • UP #1 in domestic tourism (646.8 mn) • 27 IMLCs on expressways • EOS-05 on GSLV-F17 • Seva Sankalp 17 Sep–17 Oct.
- **Sunday, 6 September 2026:** Revise: 81 teachers felicitated (61 Basic + 20 Secondary); four UP expressways (Vindhya ~Rs 26,315 cr); Data Centre Policy 2026 (Rs 2 lakh cr, 2 GW); SC seeks judge retirement age 60->62; GDP rebased to 2022-23 (PPI deflator); ISRO EOS-05 first GEO imaging satellite.
- **Monday, 7 September 2026:** One-line revision: Praveen skilling + Ahilyabai/Vivekananda welfare + expressway-driven IMLCs, and UP's culture-to-economy edge — 77 GI tags and No. 1 in domestic tourism.
- **Tuesday, 8 September 2026:** Remember today: UPTEX-2026 + UP Tex Mitra portal (₹4,000 cr+ weaver support), Anganwadi honour in Ayodhya, state Student Mental-Health Policy, 594-km Ganga Expressway, UP No.1 in GI tags; nationally—₹1.10 lakh cr DAC (98% domestic), India's BRICS chairmanship, ISRO EOS-05.
- **Wednesday, 9 September 2026:** Revise: 9th Poshan Maah (theme ‘Our Anganwadis, Our Responsibility’, Varanasi) • UP Anganwadi honorarium ₹12,000/₹6,000 + ₹5 lakh health cover • ₹5,507 cr Cabinet clearance (11 units/9 districts) • 74-km Noida Airport–Ganga Expressway link • ODOP 9 lakh jobs • Q1 FY27 GDP 7.8% • Article 142.
- **Thursday, 10 September 2026:** Remember: UP women's credit = up to ₹1 lakh, interest-free, 1 crore SHG women, three DBT tranches (₹20k+₹30k+₹50k) via UP-SRLM; Cabinet cleared ₹5,507 cr for 11 units; Veer Guardian-2026 = India–Japan air exercise, Jodhpur.
- **Friday, 11 September 2026:** Remember today: ₹24,000 cr UP Cabinet push (Ganga Expressway extension ₹10,761 cr) • Anganwadi ₹12,000 + ₹5 lakh health cover • Lucknow No.1 in Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan 2026 • CCEA rail ₹20,804 cr.

- **Saturday, 12 September 2026:** Gomti Book Festival (NBT, 5th ed., today) · Anganwadi honorarium → ₹12,000 + ₹5 lakh health cover · ₹5,507 cr / 11-unit investment cleared · Jewar Link Expressway ₹8,585 cr (74.5 km) · Bhu-Aadhaar = 14-digit ULPIN.
- **Tuesday, 15 September 2026:** Remember: **250 AC e-buses (**₹425.5 cr**) • ₹43,000 cr** electronics/semiconductor hub (**55%** of India's mobiles) • **₹15,400 cr** expressway push (Vindhya **594 km**) • Advocates get **₹5 lakh** cover • GST **₹2.32 lakh cr**.
- **Wednesday, 16 September 2026:** Chitrakoot Link Expressway ₹1,008.67 cr (15.172 km, 6-lane) • Krishak Samriddhi ₹6 lakh @6% • UP No.1 in domestic tourism (646.8M) • GST Aug 2026 ₹1.99 lakh cr (+14.8%) • 16 Sept = Ozone Layer Day.
- **Thursday, 17 September 2026:** Revise today: Seva Sankalp Abhiyan (**17 Sep–17 Oct**) • Divyangjan camps in **75 districts** • Chitrakoot Link Expressway **₹1,008.67 cr** • Krishak Samriddhi loans **₹6 lakh @6%** • CPI **4.82%** • Gender Gap **131st**.
- **Friday, 18 September 2026:** Ganga Expressway → Haridwar (₹10,761 crore) • 1 lakh UP jobs from Sep 19 • 25 lakh free tablets • EPFO ceiling ₹15k→₹25k • UPITS 4.0 Sep 25-29 at Greater Noida.
- **Saturday, 19 September 2026:** Today's must-revise: Chitrakoot Link Expressway (15.17 km, ₹1,008.67 cr) • Matrushakti Yojana (1 cr+ women 60+ free UPSRTC travel) • 25,000 ha for 27 IMLCs • Kishau dam on Tons (6 states) • Jan Aushadhi ₹37,200 cr savings.
- **Sunday, 20 September 2026:** Revise: **Mission Rojgar** (1 lakh jobs / 6 months, 19 Sep); Cabinet's **23 proposals** incl. **Chitrakoot Link Expressway** (₹1,008.67 cr, EPC); **Krishak Samriddhi Yojana** (₹6 lakh @ 6%); UP **No.1** in domestic tourism (646.8 M) and GI tags.
- **Monday, 21 September 2026:** UPITS 4.0 (25-29 Sept, Greater Noida) - 1 lakh new UP jobs (77k police/home-guard) - Ganga Expressway 594 km / 12 districts - UP No.1 in GI tags (77) - EPFO ceiling Rs 15k to Rs 25k.
- **Tuesday, 22 September 2026:** UPITS 4.0 (25–29 Sep, Greater Noida) • UP No.1 in tourism (646.8 mn) • Chitrakoot Link Expressway ₹1,008.67 cr • GOBARdhan CBG ₹23,731 cr • Asian Games 2026 in Aichi–Nagoya.
- **Wednesday, 23 September 2026:** Remember: 23 Cabinet proposals (23 Sep) | Chitrakoot Link Expressway 15.172 km/Rs 1,008.67 cr | Krishak Samriddhi up to Rs 6 lakh @6% | ex-Agniveer 20% quota | UPITS 4.0 Greater Noida 25-29 Sep | UP No.1 tourism 646.8 M.
- **Thursday, 24 September 2026:** UP = No.1 in GI tags (77) • ex-Agniveers get 20% state quota • Mathura ethanol plant ₹200 cr • Semicon 2.0 outlay ₹1.27 lakh crore.
- **Friday, 25 September 2026:** UPITS 2026 = 4th edition, Greater Noida, 25–29 Sep — ODOP + new ODOC, 85 countries, 6 partner nations; ₹2,606 cr new UP investment; VARUNA = 24th India–France naval exercise (Toulon).
- **Tuesday, 29 September 2026:** UPITS 4.0 (Greater Noida, 25–29 Sep, 6 partners) • Cabinet: Chitrakoot Link E-way ₹1,008.67 cr, 20% ex-Agniveer quota • AMRUT 2.0 UP ₹29,716 cr • 79 GI tags • Deepotsav 7 Nov, ~30 lakh diyas • OECD FY27: 7.1%
- **Wednesday, 30 September 2026:** UPITS 2026 = 4,400 MoUs / ₹6,500 cr / 6 partner nations | Budget ₹9.99 lakh cr → 70% approvals, 60% spend by Nov | MLC 11 seats (23 Oct), RS 10 seats (16 Oct)