Note: Section A carries today's UP news. Sections B–C also include major decisions from the past 10 days (state cabinet of 27 Oct; Union Cabinet of 4 Nov) that remain exam-relevant this week.

Section A — Today in UP

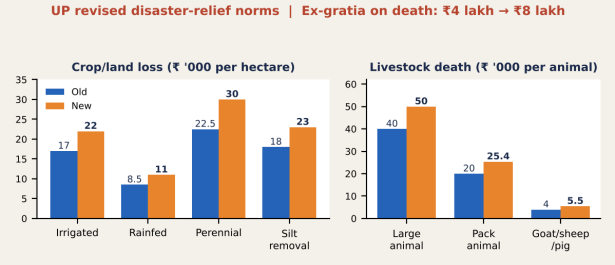
UP-SCHEME

UP doubles disaster ex-gratia to ₹8 lakh, raises crop-loss relief by up to ~30%

Ahead of Diwali, the state government revised relief norms for losses caused by rain, floods and drought between 1 April and 4 November 2026.

- Ex-gratia for death in a natural disaster raised from **₹4 lakh to ₹8 lakh** (doubled).
- Crop loss per hectare: irrigated **₹17,000 → ₹22,000**; rainfed **₹8,500 → ₹11,000**; perennial/agroforestry ₹22,500 → ₹30,000.
- Livestock: large animal **₹40,000 → ₹50,000**; goat/sheep/pig ₹4,000 → ₹5,500; poultry ₹100 → ₹130 per bird.
- Fully destroyed house: ₹1.85 lakh (plains) / ₹2.06 lakh (hills); relief-camp aid for 30 days, drought drinking-water aid for 90 days.
- Paid under **SDRF/NDRF** norms; over **10 lakh farmers** expected to benefit.

◆ **Concept:** SDRF is constituted under Section 48 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005; the Centre funds 75% of SDRF for general-category states.



Why it matters: UP is India's largest foodgrain producer and its Terai and eastern districts are flood-prone; higher relief norms cushion small farmers, but must be paired with faster loss assessment and wider crop-insurance coverage.

Syllabus: GS-III Disaster Management, Agriculture & farmer welfare; GS-VI UP agriculture and disaster profile | UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (UP-special GS-VI)

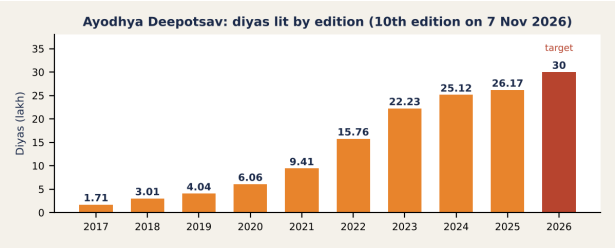
UP-CULTURE

10th Ayodhya Deepotsav on 7 Nov: 30 lakh diyas across 56 ghats of the Saryu

Final preparations are underway in Ayodhya for the state-organised Deepotsav on the eve of Diwali (7 November).

- **10th edition**; the festival began in **2017 with 1.71 lakh diyas**.
- Target of about **30 lakh diyas** on **56 ghats**; 2025 set a world record with **26.17 lakh diyas**.
- Saryu Maha Aarti by **2,147 archaks** (2,128 in 2025, a Guinness record); about **2,100 drones** to depict Ramayana episodes.
- New **open-air theatre at Ram ki Paidi** (~₹23.68 crore, Tourism Dept Phase-2, Shri Ayodhya Ji Teerth Vikas Parishad) for year-round cultural shows.

◆ **Concept:** Ayodhya lies on the right bank of the Saryu (Ghaghara); the district was renamed from Faizabad in 2018.



Why it matters: Deepotsav has become UP's flagship cultural-tourism brand; it boosts the local potters' economy (earthen diyas) and religious-tourism circuits, while raising the need for crowd and river-pollution management.

Syllabus: GS-I Indian culture, fairs & festivals; GS-V UP culture, heritage and tourism | UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-I (UP-special GS-V)

UP-GOVERNANCE

30-day ad hoc Diwali bonus for UP state employees; 75% to go into PF

A government order issued on 5 November grants a 30-day ad hoc bonus for FY 2025-26.

- Covers **non-gazetted** state employees and eligible staff of aided educational institutions, local bodies and district panchayats.
- **25% paid in cash, 75% credited to the Provident Fund** account.
- Daily-wage employees capped at **₹1,184**; retiring/retired staff get the full bonus in cash.

Why it matters: The cash-PF split supports festive demand while limiting the immediate fiscal and inflationary impact—a common tool in state wage policy.

Syllabus: GS-II State administration & welfare; GS-V UP governance and public finance | UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (UP-special GS-V)

Section B — Key UP Developments

UP-ECONOMY

Japan, Korea & Singapore enclaves near Noida-Jewar airport in push for $1-trillion economy

A Singapore business delegation met the CM in Lucknow this week; the state is courting East Asian capital for country-specific townships.

- Three **500-acre** enclaves (Japan, South Korea, Singapore) planned by **YEIDA** near the airport, now named **Narendra Modi International Airport, Noida-Jewar** (Oct 2026).
- Proposed **'Singapore City' in YEIDA Sector 7**: semiconductors, data centres, AI, logistics, green hydrogen.
- UP makes about **55% of India's mobile phones**; Feb 2026 Singapore visit yielded MoUs worth **₹60,000 crore**.
- **Ground Breaking Ceremony 3.0** in December to launch projects worth about **₹8 lakh crore**.



Why it matters: Country-specific enclaves (on the lines of Japanese industrial townships) offer plug-and-play land, language and regulatory comfort—vital for converting MoUs into actual investment.

Syllabus: GS-III Investment models, industrial policy; GS-VI UP economy and industrial development | UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (UP-special GS-VI)

UP-INFRA

Four link expressways worth ₹17,542 crore (≈322 km) to knit UP's expressway grid

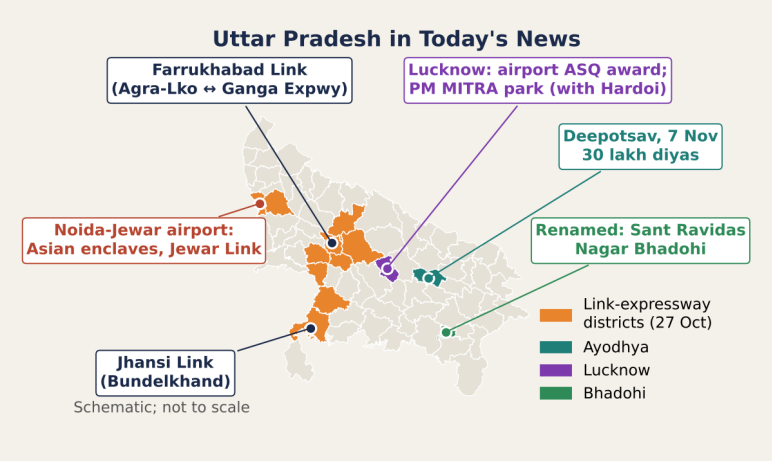
The state cabinet (27 October) cleared 22 proposals, led by four link expressways to connect existing corridors.

- **Farrukhabad Link (~90.9 km)**: Agra-Lucknow Expressway ↔ **Ganga Expressway** via Etawah, Kannauj, Mainpuri, Farrukhabad, Hardoi, Shahjahanpur.
- **Agra-Lucknow ↔ Purvanchal Expressway link (50.94 km)**; **Jhansi Link (~106 km)** for Bundelkhand.
- **Jewar Link (~74 km)**: Noida-Jewar airport ↔ Ganga Expressway via Bulandshahr.
- Same cabinet: **Cyber Security Operations Centre** via IIT Kanpur's C3iHub; master developer for **PM MITRA textile park (1,000 acres, Lucknow-Hardoi)**.

◆ **Concept:** Expressways in UP are built by UPEIDA (UP Expressways Industrial Development Authority), set up in 2007.

Why it matters: Link expressways convert standalone corridors into a network, cutting freight time between western UP, the NCR airport hub, Bundelkhand and Purvanchal—key to the $1-trillion economy goal.

Syllabus: GS-III Infrastructure; GS-VI UP infrastructure, expressways & regional development | UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (UP-special GS-VI)



UP-GOVERNANCE

Tech-led governance: UP-AIM, Startup Procurement Scheme and SAF policy approved

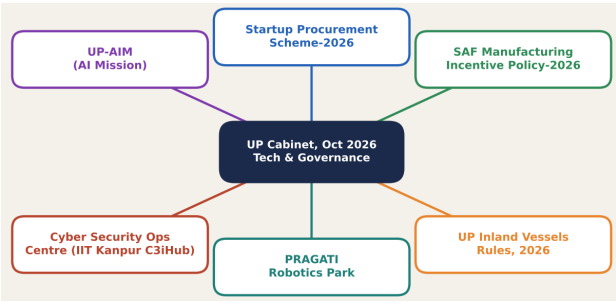
October cabinet meetings approved a cluster of technology and new-economy policies.

- **UP Artificial Intelligence Mission (UP-AIM)** to set up and run state AI initiatives.
- **UP Startup Procurement Scheme-2026** to raise government purchases from startups.
- **UP Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) Manufacturing Incentive Policy-2026**; **PRAGATI Robotics Park**; **UP Inland Vessels Rules, 2026**.
- Also: **6,650 AC e-buses** in **18 cities** over four years on the **Gross Cost Contract (GCC)** model.

◆ **Concept:** Under the GCC model, the government pays the operator a fixed per-km fee and retains fare revenue and risk.

Why it matters: Public procurement is one of the strongest demand-side levers for startups; paired with an AI mission and SAF incentives, UP is positioning itself in sunrise sectors beyond traditional manufacturing.

Syllabus: GS-III Science & technology, energy; GS-II e-governance; GS-VI UP policies | UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (UP-special GS-VI)



Section C — National News relevant for UPPSC

NATIONAL

Fast Track Special Courts scheme extended to 2031 with ₹3,788 crore; courts to rise to 850

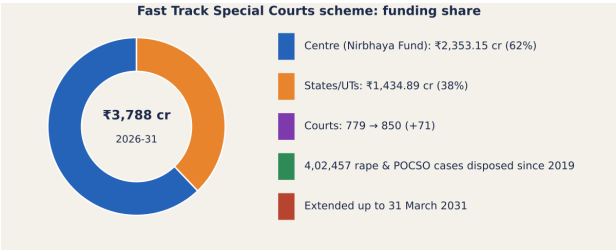
The Union Cabinet (4 Nov) continued the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for FTSCs for rape and POCSO cases for FY 2026-27 to 2030-31.

- Outlay **₹3,788.04 crore**: Centre **₹2,353.15 crore from the Nirbhaya Fund**, states ₹1,434.89 crore.
- Courts to increase from **779 to 850**; 399 of the existing courts are exclusive POCSO courts.
- Over **4,02,457 cases** disposed since launch on **2 October 2019**; each court has a judicial officer, a Special PP and 6 staff.

◆ **Concept:** FTSCs flow from the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018; the Nirbhaya Fund was created in 2013.

Why it matters: States with large POCSO pendency, including UP, gain dedicated capacity; speedy trials are central to deterrence and victim-centric justice.

Syllabus: GS-II Judiciary, welfare of vulnerable sections (women & children) | UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II



NATIONAL

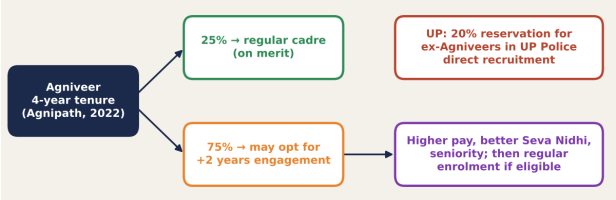
Agniveers not absorbed after 4 years may serve 2 more years under Agnipath

After a four-year review of the scheme launched in 2022, the Union Cabinet approved an additional engagement option.

- **25%** of each batch selected for regular cadre on merit; the remaining **75%** may opt for **two more years**.
- During the extension: higher pay, improved **Seva Nidhi** package and seniority benefits; regular enrolment possible if eligible.
- UP link: the state provides **20% reservation for ex-Agniveers** in UP Police direct recruitment.

Why it matters: The change addresses the biggest criticism of Agnipath—short tenure and post-service insecurity—while keeping the armed forces' youthful profile.

Syllabus: GS-III Internal security & defence; GS-II government policies | UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III



EDUCATION

QS Asia University Rankings 2027: India has 325 institutions, but top-100 entrants slip

The 2027 edition assessed 1,722 universities from 26 higher-education systems on 11 indicators.

- India: **325 institutions** (up from 294), second only to mainland China (448).
- Only **6 Indian institutions in the top 100**, all declined; **IIT Delhi** best-ranked (59 → 66).
- Rankings fell for ~**71%** of Indian universities; **University of Hong Kong** ranked first.

Why it matters: Quantity is rising but research output, faculty ratios and international outlook need NEP-2020 reforms to translate into quality.

Syllabus: GS-II Education, human resources | UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II

Section D — UP Rapid-Fire

Topic	Key fact
Lucknow's Chaudhary Charan Singh Intl Airport	ACI ASQ Awards 2025 incl. **Best Airport at Arrivals – Globally**
Noida International Airport (Jewar)	Renamed **Narendra Modi International Airport, Noida-Jewar** (Oct 2026)
Bhadohi district	Renamed **Sant Ravidas Nagar Bhadohi** (Oct 2026)
Suhas L.Y. (UP Sports Secretary)	**Bronze**, men's singles SL4 para-badminton, Asian Para Games 2026
Sainik School, Mainpuri	**9.524 ha** land transferred free of cost (cabinet, 27 Oct)
Prayagraj	**845 residential units** approved for High Court officials

30 lakh

Data point of the day — Ayodhya Deepotsav diyas target (10th edition)
Up from 1.71 lakh in the first edition (2017) and 26.17 lakh in 2025.

Section E — Practice Corner

Q1. With reference to Uttar Pradesh's revised disaster-relief norms (November 2026), consider the following statements:
1. Ex-gratia for death in a natural disaster has been raised to ₹8 lakh.
2. Compensation for crop loss on irrigated land is now ₹22,000 per hectare.
3. The relief is paid entirely from the state's own budget outside the SDRF/NDRF framework.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
Answer: (b) — Death ex-gratia rose from ₹4 lakh to ₹8 lakh and irrigated crop loss from ₹17,000 to ₹22,000/ha. Relief is paid under SDRF/NDRF norms, so statement 3 is wrong.

Q2. The proposed Farrukhabad Link Expressway in Uttar Pradesh will connect which of the following?
(a) Purvanchal Expressway and Gorakhpur Link Expressway (b) Agra-Lucknow Expressway and Ganga Expressway (c) Yamuna Expressway and Bundelkhand Expressway (d) Ganga Expressway and Purvanchal Expressway
Answer: (b) — The ~90.9 km Farrukhabad Link joins the Agra-Lucknow Expressway with the Ganga Expressway via Etawah, Kannauj, Mainpuri, Farrukhabad, Hardoi and Shahjahanpur.

Mains Practice: Uttar Pradesh has doubled disaster ex-gratia and raised crop-loss relief. Examine how far enhanced relief norms can reduce farmers' vulnerability to climate extremes in the state, and suggest complementary measures. (125 words, GS-VI)
Hint: Intro: UP's flood (Terai, east) and drought (Bundelkhand) exposure. Body: gains—higher ₹/ha, livestock and housing cover, SDRF/NDRF basis; limits—delayed assessment, tenant farmers, under-insurance. Way forward: PMFBY with tech-based yield estimation, early warning, climate-resilient seeds, FPO-linked storage. Conclude with resilience over relief.

One-line revision: Death ex-gratia ₹8 lakh | Deepotsav 10th edition, 30 lakh diyas | 4 link expressways ₹17,542 cr | FTSCs 850 till 2031 | Agniveer +2 years for 75%.

Compiled & simplified by the StudyForGS.com Research Team | ▶ YouTube: @Study_ForGS | ➤ Telegram: t.me/studyforgeneralstudies