Note: Diwali (8 Nov) was a state holiday, so fresh official news for today is thin. Today's items come first; this edition then adds the most exam-relevant UP developments of this week (27 Oct – 8 Nov).

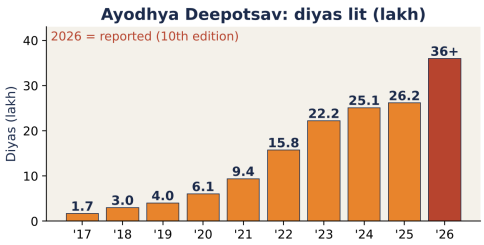
SECTION A — TODAY IN UP

UP-CULTURE 1. 10th Deepotsav: Ayodhya lights 36 lakh+ diyas on 56 Saryu ghats

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

The state's flagship Deepotsav was held in Ayodhya on 7 November 2026 (Chhoti Diwali), its 10th consecutive edition since 2017.

- Over **36 lakh earthen diyas** lit across **56 ghats** of the Saryu incl. **Ram ki Paidi** (target: 30 lakh+); a world-record team monitored the count.
- **2,100 indigenous drones** depicted Ramayana scenes; **2,151 priests** performed a joint Saryu Maha Aarti.
- Chief guest: Vice-President **C.P. Radhakrishnan**, with Governor **Anandiben Patel** and CM Yogi Adityanath; 35,000+ volunteers from Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Avadh University.
- International Ramlila troupes from **Thailand, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Laos and South Africa** performed at Ram Katha Park.



Concept: Deepotsav began in 2017 with about 1.71 lakh diyas; the state has set successive world records since 2018.

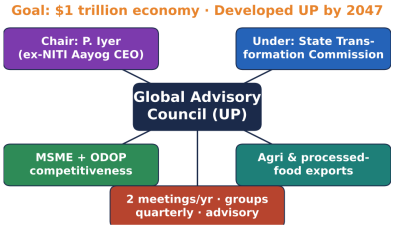
Why it matters: Deepotsav anchors UP's religious-tourism economy (Ayodhya–Kashi–Prayagraj circuit) and cultural diplomacy with Ramayana-tradition countries of South-East Asia — a ready GS-V example of heritage-led growth.

UP-GOVERNANCE 2. UP constitutes Global Advisory Council for $1 trillion economy & Viksit UP@2047

UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II/III | UP-special GS-V/GS-VI · Syllabus: GS-II governance & institutions; GS-VI UP economy, planning & industrial policy

The state government has set up a high-level Global Advisory Council (GAC) under the State Transformation Commission to tap global expertise for its growth targets.

- Chair: **Parameswaran Iyer** (former NITI Aayog CEO); Vice-Chair: CEO of the **State Transformation Commission**.
- Members include World Bank Chief Economist **Indermit Gill** and scientist **Dr. Soumya Swaminathan**, plus industry and policy leaders.
- Focus: **MSME competitiveness, ODOP**, agri-horticulture & processed-food exports, skills, logistics, alternative (multilateral/philanthropic) finance.
- At least **2 full meetings a year**; sector working groups meet **quarterly**; recommendations are **advisory**.



Concept: State Transformation Commission: UP's State Planning Commission was restructured and renamed in 2022 on the NITI Aayog model.

Why it matters: An outcome-tracking global panel can bridge the gap between investment MoUs and ground-level jobs — but its value depends on converting advice into time-bound departmental action.

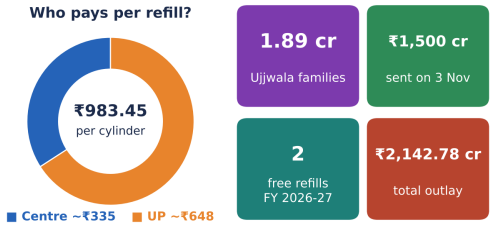
SECTION B — KEY UP DEVELOPMENTS

UP-SCHEME 3. Free LPG refills: ₹1,500 crore to 1.89 crore Ujjwala families

UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Welfare) | UP-special GS-V · Syllabus: GS-II welfare schemes for vulnerable sections; GS-V UP government schemes

On 3 November in Lucknow, the CM transferred the subsidy for the first of two free refills under the state's top-up to PM Ujjwala Yojana.

- **₹1,500 crore** sent to **1.89 crore** PMUY families; **two free refills** in FY 2026-27 (Diwali: Oct–Dec 2026; Holi: Jan–Mar 2027).
- Cylinder price **₹983.45**: Centre's subsidy about **₹335**, the **state bears about ₹648** per refill.
- Cabinet approval **9 Oct 2026**; total outlay **₹2,142.78 crore**; needs active connection + **Aadhaar-linked account & authentication**.
- CM also flagged a coming **special package for ~3 crore farmer families** (crop loss) and one for women's self-reliance.



Concept: PM Ujjwala Yojana was launched on 1 May 2016 from Ballia, Uttar Pradesh.

Why it matters: Free refills target the 'refill gap' — many Ujjwala households revert to firewood after the first cylinder; sustained clean-cooking use cuts indoor air pollution and women's drudgery.

UP-ECONOMY 4. Asian investment push: Japan, Korea, Singapore enclaves near Jewar airport

UPPSC: Mains GS-III (Investment) | UP-special GS-VI · Syllabus: GS-III investment models, industrial policy; GS-VI UP industrial development

To chase its **$1 trillion** target, the state is courting Japan, South Korea, Singapore and Taiwan with country-specific townships.

- **500-acre enclaves each** for Japan, South Korea, Singapore near **Narendra Modi International Airport (Jewar)**, via **YEIDA**.
- Target sectors: **advanced electronics, data centres, semiconductors**; Japan's Yamanashi prefecture eyes green hydrogen & skills.
- UP has **75,000+ acres** of industrial land and is building **27 integrated manufacturing & logistics clusters**.
- Next **Ground Breaking Ceremony** planned for **December**, targeting projects worth about **₹8 lakh crore**.

Concept: YEIDA (Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority) was set up in 2001 under the UP Industrial Area Development Act, 1976.

Why it matters: Country enclaves cut entry friction (language, standards, supplier clustering) — the Japan-style township model that worked in Gujarat and Tamil Nadu.

UP-INFRA 5. Four link expressways (~322 km, ₹17,542 crore) get developers

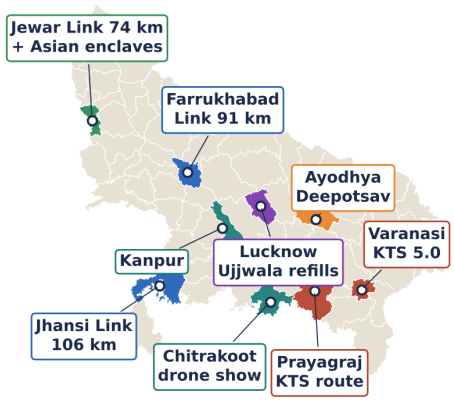
UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Infrastructure) | UP-special GS-VI · Syllabus: GS-III infrastructure — roads; GS-VI UP infrastructure & regional development

The UP Cabinet (27 Oct 2026) selected developers for four link expressways to knit the state's expressway grid; target completion within 3 years.

- **Jhansi Link (~106 km)** — Bundelkhand; **Farrukhabad Link (~90.9 km)**; **Jewar Link (~74 km)** — airport area to Ganga Expressway.
- **Agra–Lucknow to Purvanchal link (50.94 km)** joins two existing expressways.
- Total **~322 km, ₹17,542 crore**; executed through **UPEIDA**.
- Same cabinet: master developer for **PM MITRA textile park (1,000 acres, Lucknow–Hardoi)**, cyber-security ops centre with IIT Kanpur, **UP Inland Waterways Vessel Rules-2026**.

Concept: UPEIDA (UP Expressways Industrial Development Authority) builds the state's expressways — Purvanchal, Bundelkhand, Ganga, Gorakhpur Link.

Uttar Pradesh in Today's News



Schematic; not to scale

Why it matters: Link roads turn isolated corridors into a network, pulling Bundelkhand and central UP into logistics chains — the test is industrial nodes along them, not just tarmac.

UP-RURAL 6. PM-AJAY Adarsh Gram: UP leads with 41,949 works identified

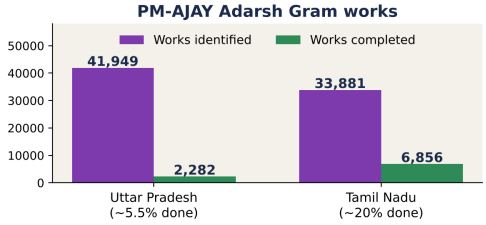
UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Social Justice) | UP-special GS-V · Syllabus: GS-II schemes for SCs; GS-V UP rural development

Union Social Justice Ministry data (RTI) shows UP identified the most development works under the Adarsh Gram component of PM-AJAY, but completion lags.

- UP: **41,949 works identified**, only **2,282 completed (~5.5%)**.
- Tamil Nadu: 33,881 identified, **6,856 completed** — a far higher completion rate.
- UP in 2025-26: **2,093 new villages** selected; **446 declared Adarsh Gram**.
- Criteria: SC population **above 40%**, total population **≥500**, **70/100 points** on 50 indicators in 10 sectors, ODF status.

Concept: PM-AJAY (2021-22) merged three schemes: PM Adarsh Gram Yojana, Special Central Assistance to SC Sub-Plan and Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojana.

PM-AJAY Adarsh Gram works



Why it matters: Scale without completion yields little: convergence with MGNREGA, Jal Jeevan and PMAY plus social audits can close UP's execution gap.

UP-CULTURE 7. Kashi Tamil Sangamam 5.0 (28 Nov – 12 Dec) to centre on Thirukkural

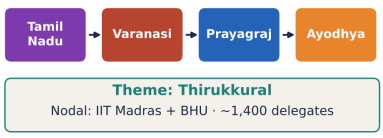
UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-I (Culture) | UP-special GS-V · Syllabus: GS-I Indian culture & national integration; GS-V cultural heritage of Kashi

Preparatory meetings at BHU have finalised the fifth edition of the Varanasi–Tamil Nadu cultural confluence under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat.

- Theme: **'Thirukkural Payilvom – Thirukkural Abhyas Karen'** (ethical teachings of Thiruvalluvar's Thirukkural).
- Delegates tour **Varanasi, Prayagraj and Ayodhya**; **~1,400 participants** from Tamil Nadu.
- About **50 Tamil Nadu teachers** will teach Thirukkural in UP schools & colleges.
- Nodal institutions: **IIT Madras and BHU**; Ministry of Education coordinates. KTS 1.0 was held in **2022** at BHU.

Concept: Thirukkural (Thiruvalluvar) has 1,330 couplets in three books: Aram (virtue), Porul (wealth), Inbam (love).

KTS 5.0 · 28 Nov – 12 Dec 2026



Why it matters: The Sangamam turns the ancient Kashi–Tamil bond into people-to-people exchange, strengthening linguistic harmony and boosting Purvanchal tourism.

SECTION C — NATIONAL NEWS FOR UPPSC

NATIONAL 8. Mahabharata, Arthashastra, Rajatarangini manuscripts enter UNESCO MOWCAP register

UPPSC: Prelims GS-I (Culture) · Syllabus: GS-I ancient Indian literature & heritage

Three Indian manuscripts were inscribed on UNESCO's Memory of the World Asia-Pacific (MOWCAP) Regional Register at its 11th session in Jakarta.

- **Rajatarangini** of **Kalhana** (12th-century chronicle of Kashmir's kings).
- **Mahabharata birch-bark manuscript** held at BORI, **Pune**; **Kautilya's Arthashastra** palm-leaf manuscript at ORI, **Mysuru**.
- UP link: **Ramcharitmanas** (Tulsidas), Panchatantra and Sahrdayaloka-Locana entered the same register in **2024**.

Concept: UNESCO's Memory of the World Programme began in 1992 to preserve documentary heritage.

Why it matters: Inscription boosts digitisation and conservation funding for manuscripts — relevant to UP's own vast manuscript holdings in Varanasi's institutions.

NATIONAL 9. Bharat Renewable Energy Summit 2026: 500 GW more clean power in a decade

UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Energy & Environment) · Syllabus: GS-III energy security, climate change

The PM inaugurated the summit (2–5 Nov, Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi), organised by MNRE with ISA, IREDA and SECI.

- Target: **500 GW additional non-fossil capacity** over the next **10–11 years**.
- India crossed **50% non-fossil installed capacity in 2025** — five years ahead of its NDC goal.
- Investment commitments of nearly **USD 400 billion**; theme **'Invest. Innovate. Inspire.'**

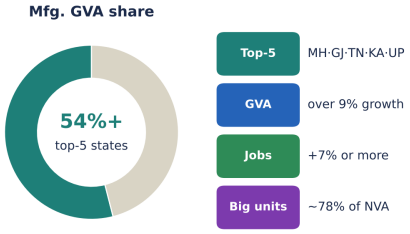
Why it matters: For UP, the next phase means rooftop and Bundelkhand solar parks plus storage — key to the state's clean-energy and investment goals.

ECONOMY 10. ASI 2024-25: UP among top-5 states giving 54%+ of manufacturing GVA

UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Economy) · Syllabus: GS-III industrial growth; GS-VI UP's industrial profile

MoSPI released detailed results of the Annual Survey of Industries for April 2024 – March 2025.

- **Maharashtra, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh** together contribute **over 54%** of manufacturing GVA.
- Manufacturing GVA grew **over 9%**; persons engaged rose **over 7%**.
- Large units (investment ≥₹10 crore) are ~16% of factories but hold **~87% of fixed capital** and **~78% of net value added**.
- Top employers: food products, textiles, basic metals, motor vehicles, apparel (**41%+** of jobs).



Concept: ASI is conducted by MoSPI under the Collection of Statistics Act, 2008, covering factories registered under the Factories Act, 1948.

Why it matters: UP's top-5 slot backs its 'manufacturing hub' pitch, but small-unit dominance means MSME productivity (ODOP clusters) is key to climbing further.

SECTION D — UP RAPID-FIRE

Area	Quick fact
₹250 coin	Union FM released a **₹250 commemorative coin** for **Muthuswami Dikshitar's 250th birth anniversary** at **BHU, Varanasi** (3 Nov); Dikshitar studied music in Kashi.
Ranking	**IIT (BHU) Varanasi** rose to **219th** (from 237th) in **QS Asia University Rankings 2027**; IIT Delhi is India's best at 66th.
Renaming	**Noida International Airport, Jewar** is being renamed **Narendra Modi International Airport** (UP Cabinet resolution, Oct 2026).
Festival	**Chitrakoot**: **500 drones** formed Ramayana scenes over Ramghat at the **Deepawali Amavasya fair**, followed by Mandakini aarti.
Conference	**CSJM University, Kanpur** hosted the **3rd International Conference on Wellness** (30 Oct–1 Nov), inaugurated by Assembly Speaker **Satish Mahana**.
Sports	India won the **Men's Asian Champions Trophy hockey** for a record **6th time**, beating Japan **4–1**; Harmanpreet Singh was Player of the Tournament.

SECTION E — PRACTICE CORNER

Q1. Consider the following statements about Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) and UP's 2026 refill scheme:
1. PMUY was launched in 2016 from Ballia, Uttar Pradesh.
2. Under UP's free-refill scheme, the state bears a larger share of the refill cost than the Centre.
3. Two free refills are to be given to about 1.89 crore families in FY 2026-27.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
Answer: (d) — All correct: PMUY began on 1 May 2016 at Ballia; of the ₹983.45 cylinder price the Centre gives about ₹335 and the state about ₹648; ₹1,500 crore went to 1.89 crore families on 3 Nov for the first of two refills.

Q2. The theme of Kashi Tamil Sangamam 5.0, to be held from 28 November to 12 December 2026, is based on which of the following?
(a) Silappatikaram (b) Thirukkural (c) Sage Agasthyar (d) Learning the Tamil language
Answer: (b) — KTS 5.0's theme is 'Thirukkural Payilvom – Thirukkural Abhyas Karen'. Sage Agasthyar was the focus of KTS 3.0 and 'Let us Learn Tamil' of KTS 4.0.

Mains practice: Link expressways and country-specific industrial enclaves are central to Uttar Pradesh's $1 trillion economy goal. Critically examine whether infrastructure-led growth can reduce regional imbalance between Western UP and Bundelkhand–Purvanchal. (GS-VI, 200 words)
Hint: Intro: West UP's NCR edge vs lagging Bundelkhand/Purvanchal. Body: Jhansi/Farrukhabad links, Bundelkhand & Purvanchal expressways, Jewar enclaves, 27 clusters; limits — enclaves concentrate near NCR, land, skills, water. Way forward: industrial nodes on new corridors, ODOP clusters, GAC monitoring.

One-line revision: Deepotsav-10: 36 lakh+ diyas, 56 ghats | GAC chair: Parameswaran Iyer | Ujjwala refills: ₹1,500 cr, 1.89 cr families | 4 link expressways: 322 km, ₹17,542 cr | KTS 5.0: Thirukkural, 28 Nov–12 Dec

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