UPPSC Daily Digest — 13 October 2026 (Tuesday)

Uttar Pradesh focus • Prelims + Mains (incl. UP-special GS-V/VI)

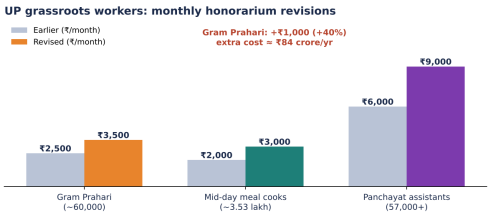
Note: Today's UP items appear first. As fresh UP coverage for 13 Oct is limited, key UP Cabinet decisions and developments from this week (4–12 Oct) are included in Section B.

Data point: Gram Prahari honorarium (proposed) — **₹3,500 / month**. Up 40% from ₹2,500 for about 60,000 village watchmen; extra cost ≈ ₹84 crore a year.

SECTION A — TODAY IN UP

[UP-GOVERNANCE] Gram Prahari honorarium to rise to ₹3,500 a month; CM to announce at Bareilly

The UP government is set to raise the monthly honorarium of about 60,000 village watchmen (gram praharis); CM Yogi Adityanath is slated to announce it while felicitating them at Bareilly Police Lines on 13 Oct.



- Honorarium rises from **₹2,500 to ₹3,500** a month — a **40%** hike, i.e. **₹12,000 more per year** per prahari.
- Covers about **60,000 gram praharis**, who assist the police under the **Home Department** (village watch, reporting suspicious activity).
- Extra cost ≈ **₹7 crore a month (₹84 crore a year)**, likely to be met through a supplementary budget.
- Part of a series: mid-day meal cooks **₹2,000→₹3,000**, panchayat assistants **₹6,000→₹9,000**, PRD volunteers' daily allowance ₹500→₹600.

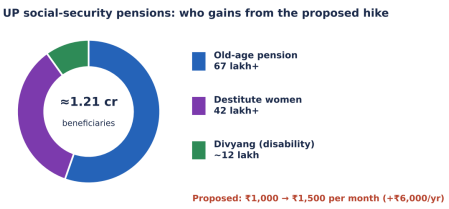
Why it matters: Village-level eyes and ears strengthen community policing; fair pay for honorarium-based frontline workers vs fiscal cost is a likely Mains angle.

Concept: 'Police' and 'Public order' are State List subjects (Entries 1–2, List II, Seventh Schedule); village chowkidars/praharis are a traditional auxiliary of the thana.

Syllabus: GS-II: Governance, police administration | UP-special GS-V/VI: UP law & order, administration | **UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (UP-special GS-V/VI)**

[UP-WELFARE] Social-security pensions may rise from ₹1,000 to ₹1,500 a month for ~1.21 crore people

The CM has given in-principle approval to raise old-age, destitute-women and disability pensions; the proposal is expected before the Cabinet, with funds via a supplementary budget.



- Monthly pension to rise by **₹500** — from ₹12,000 to **₹18,000 a year** (**+₹6,000**).
- Beneficiaries: **67 lakh+** elderly, **42 lakh+** destitute women and **~12 lakh** persons with disabilities — about **1.21 crore** in all.
- Last revised after 2017, from **₹500 to ₹1,000** a month.
- Still a proposal: needs **Cabinet approval** and budget provision before payments begin.

Why it matters: Social pensions are among UP's largest direct cash transfers; they test DBT delivery, beneficiary verification and the State's fiscal space.

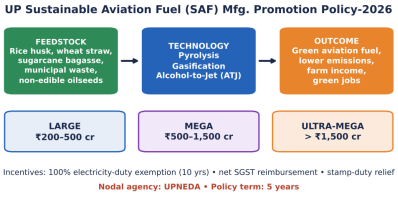
Concept: Article 41 (DPSP) — public assistance in old age, sickness and disablement; the Centre's NSAP (1995) co-funds these pensions.

Syllabus: GS-II: Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections | UP-special GS-VI: UP social sector | **UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (UP-special GS-VI)**

SECTION B — KEY UP DEVELOPMENTS

[UP-POLICY] Cabinet clears UP Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) Manufacturing Promotion Policy-2026

The Cabinet on 9 Oct approved a policy to turn crop residue and waste into green jet fuel and draw private investment into UP.



- Feedstock: **rice husk, wheat straw, sugarcane bagasse**, municipal waste, non-edible oilseeds; technologies: **pyrolysis, gasification, Alcohol-to-Jet**.
- Unit classes: **Large ₹200–500 cr**, **Mega ₹500–1,500 cr**, **Ultra-mega above ₹1,500 cr**.
- Incentives: **100% electricity-duty exemption for up to 10 years**, net SGST reimbursement, stamp-duty relief, interest & skill subsidies, front-end land subsidy.
- **UPNEDA** is the nodal agency; policy valid for **5 years**.

Why it matters: Gives stubble and bagasse a market (less burning, more farm income), creates green jobs and supports India's push to blend SAF in aviation fuel.

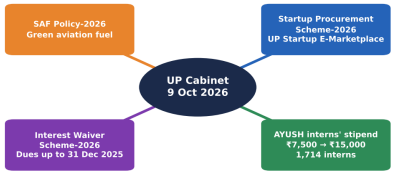
Concept: SAF is a 'drop-in' jet fuel made from biomass or waste; ICAO's CORSIA is the global scheme to curb international aviation emissions.

Syllabus: GS-III: Energy, environment, industrial policy | UP-special GS-VI: UP industrial & energy policies | **UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (UP-special GS-VI)**

[UP-SCHEME] UP Startup Procurement Scheme-2026: a dedicated Startup E-Marketplace for government buying

Approved by the Cabinet on 9 Oct to help State-registered startups win government orders.

- Eligible: innovative enterprises registered under the **UP Startup Policy**.
- A dedicated **UP Startup E-Marketplace** will list their products and services; it will be set up and run by the **UP Startup Mission**.
- Departments will procure from their approved budgets; startups can compete directly for **government work orders**.
- Same meeting: **Interest Waiver Scheme-2026** and doubling of **AYUSH interns' stipend** (see below).



Why it matters: Making the government a 'first customer' tackles startups' biggest hurdle — market access — and supports jobs in tier-2/3 cities.

Syllabus: GS-III: Startups, MSMEs, public procurement | UP-special GS-VI: UP economy | **UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (UP-special GS-VI)**

[UP-ECONOMY] UP Interest Waiver Scheme-2026: relief on old pre-GST tax arrears

The Cabinet approved a one-time window to settle legacy tax dues without interest and penalty.

- Waives **interest and penalty** on arrears created up to **31 Dec 2025**; window open for **3 months**.
- Covers pre-GST laws incl. **UP Sales Tax Act 1948**, CST Act 1956, UP Trade Tax Act 1995, UP Entry Tax Act 2007 and **UP VAT Act 2008**, plus entertainment tax.
- Aim: clear old disputes and realise stuck revenue (Finance Minister **Suresh Kumar Khanna**).

Why it matters: Amnesty-type schemes cut legacy litigation and bring in cash quickly, but repeated waivers can blunt compliance incentives.

Syllabus: GS-III: Fiscal policy, tax administration | UP-special GS-VI: UP finances | **UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (UP-special GS-VI)**

[UP-HEALTH] Stipend of Ayurveda, Unani and Homeopathy interns doubled to ₹15,000

Cabinet decision of 9 Oct for interns of government AYUSH colleges.

- Monthly stipend for **BAMS, BUMS and BHMS** interns: **₹7,500 → ₹15,000**.
- **1,714 interns** benefit — **588 Ayurveda, 150 Unani, 976 Homeopathy**.
- Paid during the compulsory rotating internship (OPD, wards, night shifts).

Why it matters: Better stipends help retain AYUSH graduates in public hospitals and strengthen the traditional-medicine workforce.

Syllabus: GS-II: Health, human resources | UP-special GS-VI: UP health sector | **UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (UP-special GS-VI)**

[UP-CULTURE] Shinzo Abe Memorial Corridor opened at Varanasi's Rudraksh Convention Centre

CM Yogi Adityanath opened the corridor honouring former Japanese PM Shinzo Abe in the presence of Akie Abe, his wife.

- Located at **Rudraksh International Cooperation & Convention Centre**, Varanasi — built with **Japanese assistance**, inaugurated in **2021**.
- Abe visited Varanasi in **Dec 2015** with PM Modi (Ganga Aarti); he was conferred the **Padma Vibhushan (2021)**.
- **Varanasi–Kyoto** partner-city ties; UP's MoUs with Japanese firms ≈ **₹90,000 crore**; a 500-acre 'Japan City' is planned near Jewar airport.
- **2027** marks **75 years** of India–Japan diplomatic ties (established **1952**).

Why it matters: Shows UP's 'paradiplomacy' — using cultural links to attract foreign investment.

Syllabus: GS-II: India–Japan relations | GS-I: Culture | UP-special GS-V: UP heritage & cities | **UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II & GS-I (UP-special GS-V)**

[UP-CULTURE] 10th Ayodhya Deepotsav on 5–7 November: 33 lakh diyas on Saryu ghats

Preparations are on for the 10th edition of the State's flagship Diwali festival in Ayodhya.

- **10th edition**, a 3-day celebration on **5–7 Nov 2026**.
- **33 lakh** earthen diyas along ~**2 km** of **Ram ki Paidi** and the **Saryu** riverfront.
- About **34,000 volunteers** plus ~34,000 students; **65 lakh wicks**, **55,000 litres** of oil, 150 kg camphor.
- Deepotsav began in **2017** and has set several **Guinness World Records** for lamps lit.



Why it matters: Drives Ayodhya's religious-tourism economy and potters' livelihoods; crowd, waste and safety management are key governance tests.

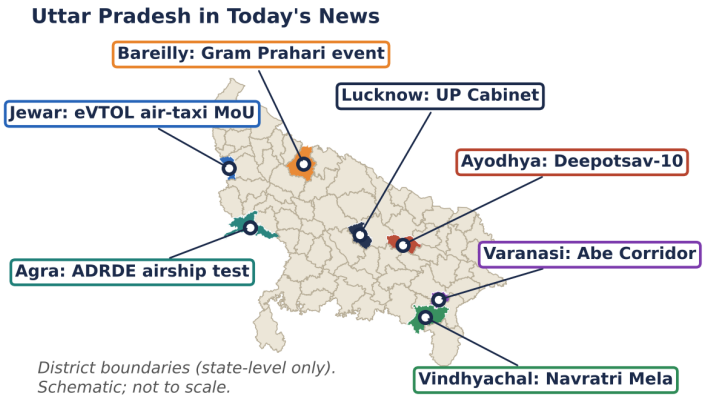
Syllabus: GS-I: Indian culture, festivals | UP-special GS-V: UP culture & tourism | **UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-I (UP-special GS-V)**

[UP-INFRA] Noida International Airport (Jewar) signs pact for electric air-taxi (eVTOL) infrastructure

On 8 Oct the airport signed an MoU with the ePlane Company to develop Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) infrastructure in Delhi-NCR.

- Airport at **Jewar, Gautam Buddha Nagar**; partner: **ePlane Company** (an IIT Madras-incubated startup).
- Covers **vertiports**, charging, operating procedures and safety; trials of the **e200X** prototype planned.
- Needs **DGCA** and **BCAS** clearances; NCR air-taxi services are eyed around **2028**.
- Also in UP: DRDO's **ADRDE, Agra** tested a high-altitude airship platform (see Rapid-Fire).

Why it matters: Puts western UP at the frontier of urban air mobility and strengthens Jewar's role as an aviation and logistics hub.



Syllabus: GS-III: Infrastructure, S&T | UP-special GS-VI: UP infrastructure | **UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (UP-special GS-VI)**

SECTION C — NATIONAL NEWS RELEVANT FOR UPPSC

[ECONOMY] Economics Nobel 2026 to Robert E. Hall and Michael Woodford

Announced on 12 Oct for the microeconomic foundations of macroeconomic stabilisation.

- **Robert E. Hall** (Stanford) — consumption as a 'random walk' (1978); **Michael Woodford** (Columbia) — *Interest and Prices* (2003), New Keynesian models, **forward guidance**.
- Prize: **12 million SEK**, shared equally; Indian-origin laureates earlier: Amartya Sen (1998), Abhijit Banerjee (2019).
- India link: RBI's **6-member MPC** targets **CPI inflation of 4% ± 2%**.

Why it matters: Their work underpins modern inflation targeting, including how the RBI guides expectations.

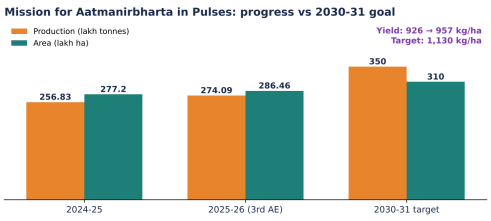
Syllabus: GS-III: Monetary policy, inflation | Prelims: Awards | **UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III**

[NATIONAL] Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses completes its first year

The six-year mission launched on 11 Oct 2025 completed a year.

- Outlay **₹11,440 crore** (2025-26 to 2030-31); focus crops **Tur, Urad, Masur**.
- 2030-31 targets: **350 lakh tonnes**, **310 lakh ha**, **1,130 kg/ha**.
- **100% procurement** of tur, urad and masur at MSP by **NAFED & NCCF** for four years (PM-AASHA).
- Output rose from **256.83** to **274.09 lakh tonnes** (2025-26, 3rd AE); UP is a major pulse state (Bundelkhand).

Why it matters: Cuts import dependence and gives Bundelkhand's rain-fed farmers an assured market.



Syllabus: GS-III: Agriculture, food security, MSP | UP-special GS-VI: UP agriculture | **UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (UP-special GS-VI)**

SECTION D — UP RAPID-FIRE

HAPS airship test	DRDO's **ADRDE, Agra** flew a high-altitude airship to ~**21 km**; it held ~20 km for 30+ minutes.
Vindhyachal Mela	**Sharadiya Navratri Mela** at **Vindhyachal (Mirzapur)**, 11–26 Oct; railways added special arrangements.
National SC-ST Hub	**UP** tops the leading States under the MSME Ministry's **National SC-ST Hub** (launched 2016).
Cricket – Lucknow	India beat West Indies by **8 wickets** in the 1st T20I at **Lucknow**; India lead the 5-match series **2–1**.
Namo Bharat art	**NCRTC–IGNCA MoU** to showcase art & heritage at stations of the **Delhi–Meerut** Namo Bharat corridor.
Day of the Day	**13 Oct** – International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (UN, 1989); linked to the **Sendai Framework 2015–30**.

SECTION E — PRACTICE CORNER

Q1. Consider the following about UP's SAF Manufacturing Promotion Policy-2026: 1. UPNEDA is the nodal agency. 2. Units with investment above ₹1,500 crore are classed as 'Mega'. 3. It offers 100% electricity-duty exemption for up to 10 years. Which are correct?
(a) 1 only (b) 1 and 3 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
Answer: (b) — Units above ₹1,500 crore are 'Ultra-mega'; 'Mega' is ₹500–1,500 crore. Statements 1 and 3 are correct.

Q2. The recently opened Shinzo Abe Memorial Corridor is located at:
(a) Gorakhpur (b) Rudraksh Convention Centre, Varanasi (c) Jewar, Gautam Buddha Nagar (d) Ram ki Paidi, Ayodhya
Answer: (b) — It is at the Japan-assisted Rudraksh Convention Centre, Varanasi.

Mains practice: Honorarium-based frontline workers (gram praharis, anganwadi workers, cooks) are the backbone of UP's service delivery. Discuss their issues and suggest a sustainable pay framework. (GS-II/GS-VI, 200 words)
Hint: Intro: recent hikes (gram prahari ₹3,500, cooks ₹3,000). Issues: low/irregular pay, no social security, fiscal load. Way forward: inflation indexation, timely DBT, insurance cover, Centre–State cost sharing.

One-line revision: UP today: Gram Prahari ₹3,500 (+40%) | Pension ₹1,500 proposal (~1.21 cr) | SAF Policy-2026 | Deepotsav-10: 33 lakh diyas

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