

AT A GLANCE — TODAY'S TOP 10

- UP Cabinet cleared **23 proposals** on 15 Sept across infrastructure, jobs, education and welfare.
- Chitrakoot Link Expressway** — 15.172 km, 6-lane, ₹1,008.67 crore, fully state-funded.
- Mukhyamantri Krishak Samridhhi Yojana** — farm loans up to ₹6 lakh at 6% via the Cooperative Gram Vikas Bank.
- 20% horizontal reservation** for ex-Agniveers in Enforcement Constable (Transport) & Jail Warder posts.
- NSG Regional Centre** to come up on 65 acres of free state land in **Ayodhya**.
- UP is India's **No.1 domestic tourism** state with **646.8 million** visits in 2026.
- 4th UP International Trade Show (UPITS)** to run **25-29 Sept** at Greater Noida.
- National **GST August 2026** at a record **₹1,99,853 crore**, up **14.8%** YoY.
- India hosted the **18th BRICS Summit**, adopting the **New Delhi Declaration**.
- 16 September** — International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer.

Today's edition leads with the Uttar Pradesh Cabinet's 23-proposal package (cleared late on 15 September and dominating the 16 September news cycle), paired with today's national releases and important-day facts.

SECTION A — TODAY IN UP

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 Samridhhi 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.

Yogi Cabinet Clears 23 Proposals — 6 Focus Pillars



Why it matters: A single Cabinet sitting touching roads, farm credit, security jobs and industry signals the state's integrated 'growth + welfare' governance model — a recurring theme in UPPSC GS-V state-administration questions.

Syllabus: State governance, policy-making & welfare schemes — UP GS-V (state administration).

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.

Why it matters: UPITS has become a key export-promotion and ODOP branding platform; expect Prelims one-liners on its venue and edition and Mains questions on UP's MSME-led growth.

Syllabus: State economy, trade promotion, MSME & ODOP — UP GS-V (UP economy).

SECTION B — KEY UP DEVELOPMENTS

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.

Chitrakoot Link Expressway at a Glance

15.172 km	6-Lane	₹1,008.67 Cr	100%
Total length	Access-controlled	Project cost	State-funded

Why it matters: UP already leads India in operational expressway length; each new link deepens the state's logistics edge — a favourite UPPSC GS-V infrastructure theme.

Syllabus: Infrastructure, expressways & regional connectivity — UP GS-V (UP infrastructure).

UP-SCHEME Mukhyamantri Krishak Samridhhi 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.

Mukhyamantri Krishak Samridhhi Yojana



Affordable institutional credit to boost farm income & rural prosperity

Why it matters: Cheaper cooperative credit directly targets the small/marginal farmer — who dominates UP's landholding profile — and links to GS-III farm-distress and rural-credit themes.

Syllabus: Agriculture, farm credit & cooperative banking — UP GS-V (rural economy).

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.

Why it matters: Agniveer reintegration is a live national-security and employment debate; UP's horizontal-reservation model is a likely GS-II governance case study.

Syllabus: Reservation policy, security personnel & welfare administration.

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.

Why it matters: Ethanol capacity supports the national E20 blending goal, while the Toy Policy fits the 'Vocal for Local' push — both examinable GS-III economy links.

Syllabus: Industrial policy, biofuels/ethanol & school-education infrastructure.

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.

Why it matters: An NSG hub in Ayodhya reflects the security upgrade around high-footfall pilgrimage cities — a GS-III internal-security angle with a strong UP flavour.

Syllabus: Internal security agencies (NSG) & urban development — UP GS-V.

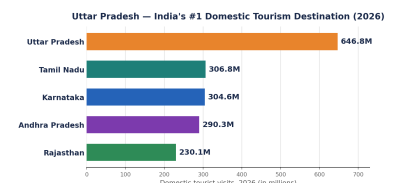
UP-CULTURE UP Confirmed India's No.1 Domestic Tourism Destination (2026)

UP recorded **646.8 million** domestic tourist visits in 2026 — **rank 1** nationally.

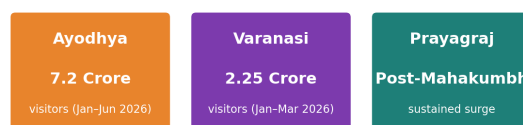
More than **double** second-placed Tamil Nadu (306.8 million).

Ayodhya drew **7.2 crore** visitors (Jan-Jun) and **Varanasi 2.25 crore** (Jan-Mar).

Prayagraj continued a post-**Mahakumbh** surge.



Faith Tourism Triangle Powering UP's Record Numbers



Why it matters: Tourism is now a major UP employment and revenue engine; expect data-based Prelims MCQs and GS-VI Mains questions on heritage-led growth.

Syllabus: Tourism economy & cultural heritage — UP GS-VI (UP culture/heritage).

SECTION C — NATIONAL NEWS FOR UPPSC

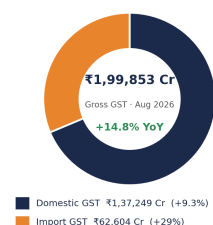
ECONOMY GST Collections Hit a Record August of ₹1.99 Lakh Crore

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%).

GST Collections — August 2026 (Record August High)



Why it matters: GST buoyancy is a core fiscal-health indicator; UPPSC frequently asks the amending Act, the GST Council and revenue trends.

Syllabus: Indian economy, GST & fiscal indicators.

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.

Why it matters: Hosting BRICS elevates India's Global-South leadership; summit themes, host cities and declarations are staple GS-II Prelims facts.

Syllabus: International relations, groupings & summit diplomacy.

SECTION D — UP RAPID-FIRE

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.
GI / ODOP	UP is targeting 152 GI-tagged products ; Gorakhpur terracotta remains a flagship ODOP-GI success.
Defence	Exercise Veer Guardian-2026 — India-Japan air drill at Jodhpur (Su-30 MKI, Rafale, Tejas vs F-2A).
Defence	Yudh Abhyas 2026 — India-US exercise near the LAC; first deployment of the US MLIDS counter-drone system.
Space	ISRO launched GISAT-1A (EOS-05) on a GSLV, ending a seven-month launch gap.
Important Day	16 September — International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer (Montreal Protocol, 1987).

SECTION E — PRACTICE CORNER

Q1. The newly approved Chitrakoot Link Expressway will primarily improve connectivity to which region of Uttar Pradesh?

- (A) Rohilkhand
- (B) Bundelkhand
- (C) Awadh
- (D) Purvanchal

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

Q2. The Goods and Services Tax (GST) was introduced in India through which Constitutional Amendment Act?

- (A) 100th Amendment Act
- (B) 101st Amendment Act
- (C) 102nd Amendment Act
- (D) 103rd Amendment Act

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

Mains Practice: "Expressway-led connectivity has become the backbone of Uttar Pradesh's investment and tourism growth." Examine with recent examples. (250 words)

Hint: 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.

ONE-LINE REVISION: 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.

Compiled & simplified by the **StudyForGS.com** Research Team

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