**Top stories:** Polling for **11 seats** of the UP Legislative Council (5 Graduates' + 6 Teachers' constituencies) is being held today, while Lucknow hosts the Mission Karmayogi 'Sadhana Shrinkhala-2026' workshop and the 'TechSangam' International Dialogue-26. On the development front, the **594 km Ganga Expressway** is reshaping freight and travel, the state has met a record **32,673 MW** peak power demand, and ₹56.26 crore incentives were cleared for four industrial units.

DATA POINT
**32,673 MW**
UP record peak power demand met

## SECTION A — TODAY IN UP

### UP-POLITY 1. UP Legislative Council: voting today for 11 Graduates' & Teachers' seats

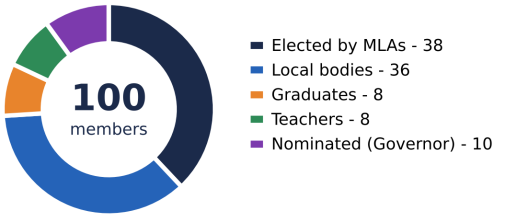
*Biennial polls to the UP Vidhan Parishad are being held on 23 October 2026; only registered graduates and teachers can vote.*

- **11 seats**: 5 Graduates' (Lucknow, Varanasi, Agra, Meerut, Allahabad-Jhansi) + 6 Teachers' (Lucknow, Varanasi, Agra, Meerut, Bareilly-Moradabad, Gorakhpur-Faizabad).
- About **152 candidates**, over **14.81 lakh voters** and **2,697 polling booths**; counting on **27 October 2026**.
- Special casual leave declared for eligible graduate/teacher voters among employees in Lucknow.
- Varanasi Division seats: notification 29 Sept; the Divisional Commissioner is the Returning Officer.

**Why it matters:** UP is one of only six states with a bicameral legislature; graduates' and teachers' seats give educated and teaching communities a direct voice in law-making.

**Concept:** Art. 171(3): 1/3 elected by MLAs, 1/3 by local bodies, 1/12 by graduates (3+ yrs), 1/12 by teachers (3+ yrs, secondary level & above), 1/6 nominated by Governor. UP Council = 100 members; MLC term 6 years.
**Syllabus:** GS-II: State Legislature, Article 169 & 171 | GS-V: Structure of UP Legislature | *UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (UP-special GS-V: UP polity)*

**UP Legislative Council: 100 seats**




**Today: 11 seats (5 Grad. + 6 Teachers)**

### UP-GOVERNANCE 2. Lucknow hosts 'Sadhana Shrinkhala-2026' under Mission Karmayogi

*The CM inaugurates a two-day (23-24 Oct) regional consultative workshop of the Capacity Building Commission (CBC) to reform government training institutions.*

- **Third regional workshop** (after Vijayawada & Guwahati) for **12 States/UTs**: 8 states incl. UP + Chandigarh, Delhi, J&K, Ladakh.
- Roadmap to be linked with the **Unnati portal**, which connects **700+** government training institutions.
- Four focus areas: governance & leadership, operational efficiency, faculty capacity, digital/AI transformation.

**Why it matters:** Upgrading state ATIs (like UP's training academies) is key to 'rule-to-role' civil service reform aligned with Viksit Bharat@2047.

**Concept:** Mission Karmayogi (NPCSCB, 2020) builds role-based competencies of civil servants via the iGOT Karmayogi platform; the CBC is its institutional pillar.
**Syllabus:** GS-II: Civil services & capacity building | GS-V: UP administration | *UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Governance)*

### UP-SECURITY 3. 'TechSangam' International Dialogue-26 opens at UPSIFS, Lucknow

*A three-day dialogue (23-25 Oct) at the UP State Institute of Forensic Science focuses on deepfakes, AI-enabled cybercrime and digital sovereignty.*

- Day 1: digital trust, data security, **AI in forensic investigation**; Day 2 (24 Oct): CM is chief guest; National Quantum Mission presentation.
- Discussions anchored in the **DPDP Act, 2023** and Viksit Bharat-2047 goals.
- Student sessions on banking cyber-security, insurance fraud and cyberbullying evidence.

**Why it matters:** UPSIFS positions UP as a forensic-capacity hub as new criminal laws mandate forensic evidence collection in serious offences.

**Syllabus:** GS-III: Cyber security, AI & quantum tech | GS-VI: UP police & forensic reforms | *UPPSC: Mains GS-III (Internal security, Sci-Tech)*

## SECTION B — KEY UP DEVELOPMENTS

### UP-INFRA 4. Ganga Expressway: 594 km corridor cutting travel time by up to 10 hours

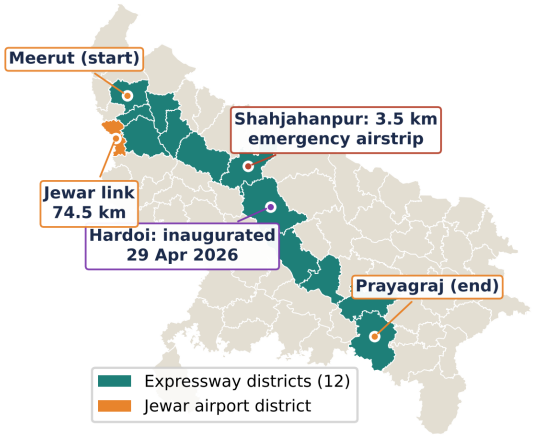
*Operational since its inauguration by the PM at Hardoi on 29 April 2026, the Meerut-Prayagraj expressway is changing freight and passenger travel.*

- **~594 km**, six-lane (expandable to 8), access-controlled; cost about **₹36,230 crore**; passes through **12 districts**.
- Meerut-Prayagraj time cut from 10-12 hrs to **~6 hrs**; trucks Saharanpur-Prayagraj 20-22 hrs to 11-12 hrs.
- Planned: **3.5 km emergency airstrip** at Shahjahanpur and a ~2,635 ha manufacturing & logistics corridor.
- A **74.467 km** greenfield link (₹8,585.51 cr, UPEIDA) will join Noida International Airport, Jewar to the expressway via Bulandshahr.

**Why it matters:** Expressway-led industrial nodes can spread growth from western UP to Awadh and Prayagraj regions, cutting logistics costs for MSMEs and ODOP products.

**Concept:** UPEIDA (UP Expressways Industrial Development Authority) builds state expressways: Purvanchal, Bundelkhand, Gorakhpur Link, Ganga.
**Syllabus:** GS-III: Infrastructure & logistics | GS-VI: UP expressways & industrial corridors | *UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (UP-special GS-VI: UP infrastructure)*

**Ganga Expressway: 12 districts**




Schematic; not to scale; route not drawn.

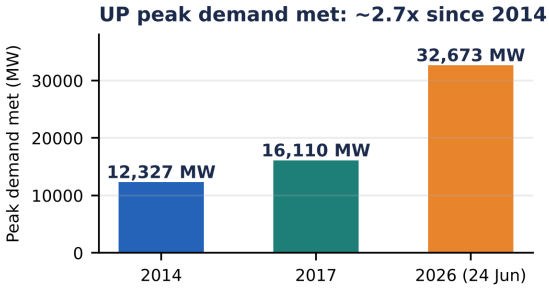
## UP-ECONOMY 5. UP meets record 32,673 MW peak power demand; cheap PM-KUSUM solar approved

*State data released on 22 October show peak demand met has grown about 2.7 times since 2014; UPERC has cleared new solar power purchase agreements.*

- Record **32,673 MW** met on 24 June 2026 vs 12,327 MW (2014) and 16,110 MW (2017).
- Supply schedule: 24 hrs district HQ, 21.5 hrs tehsil HQ, 18 hrs rural areas.
- UPERC approved **10 PPAs (19.7 MW)** under **PM-KUSUM Component C-2** (feeder-level solarisation) at **₹2.91-2.99/unit**; lowest bid from Chitrakoot.

**Why it matters:** Rising demand signals industrial and household growth; feeder solarisation gives farmers daytime power and eases discom subsidy burden.

**Concept:** PM-KUSUM (2019): A = decentralised solar plants, B = standalone solar pumps, C = solarisation of grid-connected pumps (C-2: feeder level).
**Syllabus:** GS-III: Energy, renewable power | GS-VI: UP power sector | *UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (UP-special GS-VI: UP energy)*



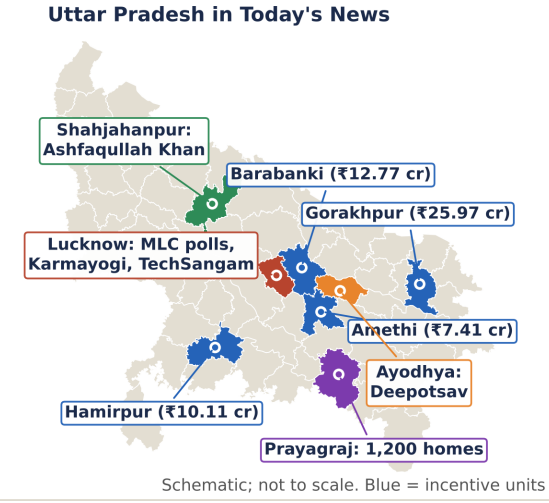

## UP-ECONOMY 6. ₹56.26 crore incentives cleared for four industrial units across UP

*The Empowered Committee chaired by the Chief Secretary (12th meeting) approved incentives under the COVID-19 Rapid Investment Promotion Policy, 2020.*

- **Gorakhpur unit - ₹25.97 cr** (largest); food-processing unit, Barabanki - ₹12.77 cr; cement units at Hamirpur - ₹10.11 cr and Amethi - ₹7.41 cr.
- Units span **Purvanchal, Madhyanchal and Bundelkhand**, supporting balanced regional growth.
- Incentives are quarter-wise reimbursements for 2025-26 and early 2026-27.

**Why it matters:** Timely incentive disbursal builds investor confidence and helps UP convert MoUs into ground-level projects outside the NCR belt.

**Syllabus:** GS-III: Investment models | GS-VI: UP industrial policies & regional balance | *UPPSC: Mains GS-III (UP-special GS-VI: industrial policy)*



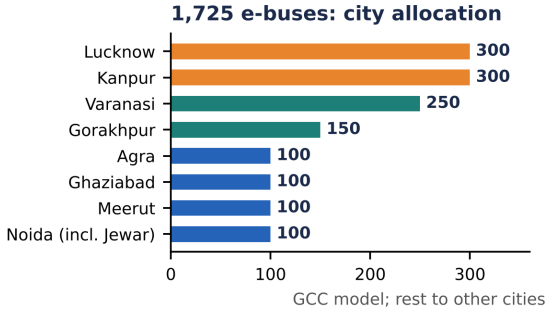

## UP-SCHEME 7. Two free LPG refills for Ujjwala families; 1,725 AC e-buses for 18 cities

*Cabinet decisions now being rolled out: the first free Diwali refill phase (Oct-Dec 2026) is under way for PM Ujjwala beneficiaries.*

- About **1.86 crore** Ujjwala households; expected cost about **₹2,143 crore** for FY 2026-27.
- Phase 1: **Oct-Dec 2026** (Diwali); Phase 2: **Jan-Mar 2027** (Holi); Aadhaar-linked bank account & authentication required; subsidy via DBT.
- **1,725 AC electric buses** for 18 cities on **Gross Cost Contract** model: Lucknow & Kanpur 300 each, Varanasi 250, Gorakhpur 150.

**Why it matters:** Free refills tackle the refill-gap that pushes poor households back to chulhas; e-buses cut urban PM2.5 and support UP's EV policy.

**Concept:** Gross Cost Contract: operator is paid a fixed per-km fee; fare revenue risk stays with the government.
**Syllabus:** GS-II: Welfare schemes | GS-III: Clean energy, urban transport | GS-V: UP schemes | *UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II/III (UP-special GS-V: welfare schemes)*



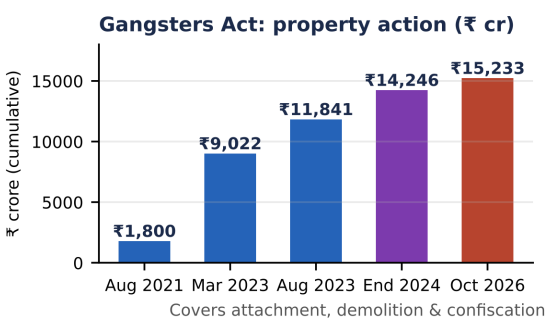

## UP-LAW & ORDER 8. Gangsters Act: property action crosses ₹15,233 crore; homes for poor on seized land

*Figures released on 22 October show cumulative attachment/demolition/confiscation under the UP Gangsters Act has reached ₹15,233 crore.*

- Value rose from ₹1,800 cr (Aug 2021) to **₹15,233 cr (Oct 2026)**; total includes attachment, not only final confiscation.
- **148 flats** built on freed land: 76 at Lukarganj, Prayagraj (PMAY-U) and 72 EWS flats at Dalibagh, Lucknow.
- **Kasari-Masari, Prayagraj**: 1,200 homes under Padmalok Awas Yojana (foundation 15 Oct 2026) - would take total to **1,348**.

**Why it matters:** Repurposing criminal assets for the poor is a strong deterrent, but must respect due process and Supreme Court guidelines on demolitions.

**Concept:** UP Gangsters and Anti-Social Activities (Prevention) Act, 1986 - Sec. 14 allows the DM to attach property acquired through gang crime.
**Syllabus:** GS-III: Organised crime | GS-II: Rule of law, due process | GS-VI: UP law & order | *UPPSC: Mains GS-II/III (UP-special GS-VI: law & order)*



### UP-CULTURE 9. 10th Ayodhya Deepotsav (5-7 Nov) to light 33 lakh diyas; Ashfaqullah Khan remembered

*Preparations for the 10th Deepotsav are in the final stretch; 22 October marked the birth anniversary of Kakori hero Ashfaqullah Khan.*

- **10th Deepotsav**, 5-7 Nov 2026: **33 lakh diyas** on a ~2 km stretch from Ram Ki Paidi to Saryu ghats; ~34,000 volunteers.
- Materials: ~65 lakh wicks, 55,000 litres of oil, 150 kg camphor.
- **Ashfaqullah Khan** (b. 22 Oct 1900, **Shahjahanpur**), HRA member, took part in **Kakori train action (9 Aug 1925)**; hanged at **Faizabad Jail**, 19 Dec 1927.

**Why it matters:** Deepotsav anchors Ayodhya's religious-tourism economy; Kakori martyrs (Bismil, Ashfaqullah, Lahiri, Roshan Singh) are a UP-PCS favourite.

**Syllabus:** GS-I: Art & culture, freedom struggle | GS-V: Fairs-festivals & freedom fighters of UP | *UPPSC: Prelims (UP-special GS-V: UP culture & history)*

## SECTION C — NATIONAL NEWS RELEVANT FOR UPPSC

### NATIONAL 10. NSAP revamped as 'PM Samajik Sahayata Yojana' with ₹53,428 crore outlay

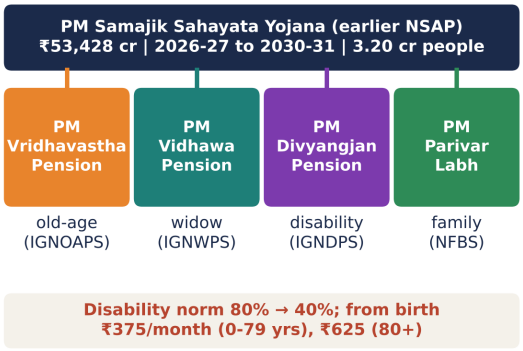
*The Union Cabinet has continued the National Social Assistance Programme for 2026-27 to 2030-31 under a new name and relaxed disability norms.*

- Outlay **₹53,428 crore**; about **3.20 crore beneficiaries** in all 36 States/UTs.
- Sub-schemes renamed: PM Vridhavastha, PM Vidhawa, PM Divyangjan Pension Yojana and PM Parivar Labh Yojana.
- Disability pension: benchmark disability **80% → 40%**, eligibility from birth; ₹375/month (0-79 yrs), ₹625 (80+).

**Why it matters:** As the most populous state, UP has the largest pension caseload; the 40% norm aligns with the RPwD Act, 2016 and widens coverage.

**Concept:** NSAP (1995) is a centrally sponsored 'core of the core' scheme that gives effect to Article 41 (public assistance in old age, sickness, disablement).
**Syllabus:** GS-II: Welfare schemes, DPSP Art. 41 | GS-V: Social-security coverage in UP | *UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-II (Welfare of vulnerable sections)*

**Revamped social-pension umbrella**




### SCI-TECH 11. ISRO to launch NVS-03 navigation satellite on 30 October

*ISRO announced on 22 October that the third second-generation NavIC satellite will fly on a GSLV Mk II from Sriharikota.*

- **NVS-03**: 3rd of the NVS series and **12th satellite of IRNSS/NavIC**; launch from Satish Dhawan Space Centre.
- NavIC covers India and about **1,500 km** beyond its boundary for positioning, navigation and timing.

**Why it matters:** A full NavIC constellation reduces dependence on foreign GNSS for defence, disaster management and logistics tracking.

**Syllabus:** GS-III: Space technology, indigenisation | *UPPSC: Prelims + Mains GS-III (Space technology)*

## SECTION D — UP RAPID-FIRE

| Category | Quick fact |
|---|---|
| **Renaming** | Bhadohi district to be renamed **Sant Ravidas Nagar Bhadohi** (UP Cabinet, 9 Oct 2026). |
| **Naming** | **Noida International Airport, Jewar** to be named after PM Narendra Modi (UP Cabinet decision). |
| **Tech mission** | **UP-AIM** (UP AI Mission): train **5 lakh** youth in AI, AI centres in all **75 districts**, back 100+ AI startups. |
| **Green policy** | UP **Sustainable Aviation Fuel Policy-2026**: nodal agency **UPNEDA**; feedstock - crop residue, MSW, non-edible oils. |
| **Sports** | **Suhas L.Y.** (IAS, UP Sports Dept.) won **bronze** in men's singles SL4 para-badminton at the Asian Para Games 2026. |
| **Festival** | **Ayodhya Ramlila 2026** staged in Delhi for the first time (10-20 Oct); organisers claim **74 crore+** views across 57 countries. |

## SECTION E — PRACTICE CORNER

**Q1.** With reference to the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Council, consider the following statements: 1. It has 100 members. 2. One-twelfth of its members are elected by teachers who have taught for at least three years in institutions not lower than secondary school. 3. One-sixth of its members are nominated by the Governor. Which of the statements given above are correct?

**(A)** 1 and 2 only **(B)** 2 and 3 only **(C)** 1 and 3 only **(D)** 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (D)** — UP Council has **100 members**; Art. 171(3)(c) gives **1/12** to teachers (3+ years, secondary level and above) and Art. 171(3)(e) **1/6** nominated by the Governor. Today 11 graduate & teacher seats go to polls.

**Q2.** The Ganga Expressway connects Meerut with Prayagraj. Which one of the following districts does it NOT pass through?

**(A)** Hardoi **(B)** Unnao **(C)** Kanpur Nagar **(D)** Sambhal

**Answer: (C)** — Its **12 districts** are Meerut, Hapur, Bulandshahr, Amroha, Sambhal, Budaun, Shahjahanpur, Hardoi, Unnao, Rae Bareli, Pratapgarh and Prayagraj - **Kanpur Nagar** is not on the route.

**Mains Practice:** "Expressways are becoming the growth spine of Uttar Pradesh." Examine this statement with reference to the Ganga Expressway and the state's industrial-corridor strategy. (UPPSC GS-VI, 125 words)

**Hint:** Intro: 594 km, 12 districts, ₹36,230 cr. Body: travel-time & logistics gains, industrial nodes/corridors, airport links (Jewar), balanced regional growth, defence airstrips; challenges - land acquisition, induced development, safety, ecological concerns along the Ganga. Conclude with integrated corridor planning for a $1-trillion UP economy.

**ONE-LINE REVISION:** UP Council 100 seats (11 polled today) | Ganga Expressway 594 km, 12 districts | Power peak 32,673 MW | Deepotsav 33 lakh diyas | NSAP → PM Samajik Sahayata Yojana.

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