

November 2024
Uttarakhand Disaster & Accident Analysis Initiative (UDAAI)
Monthly Reports

Social Development for Communities (SDC) Foundation
Dehradun, Uttarakhand
www.sdruk.in
contactsdruk@gmail.com

About UDAAI Monthly Reports

Uttarakhand Disaster & Accident Analysis Initiative (UDAAI) is a monthly initiative by Dehradun-based environmental action and advocacy group, Social Development for Communities (SDC) Foundation. The goal of the UDAAI reports is to document disasters and accidents in Uttarakhand, leading to human and ecological casualties. UDAAI is based on media reports in respectable publications in English and Hindi newspapers, as well as news portals. UDAAI neither attempts nor claims to document all disasters and all accidents in Uttarakhand; its focus instead is to document major casualties and non-casualty events on a regular basis.

We strongly believe that with the perils of inclement climate and unabated disasters, the ecologically fragile and earthquake-prone state of Uttarakhand needs to take many more steps to increase its disaster preparedness. We therefore see UDAAI as a document that highlights attention towards the urgent need of a holistic disaster management and accident minimization policy framework in Uttarakhand.

It is our earnest hope that UDAAI will spur political leadership, policy makers, bureaucracy, research and academic institutions, businesses, civil society organisations, media and the citizenry at large to initiate inclusive, regular and action-oriented conversations on the subjects of resilience, mitigation and adaptation in Uttarakhand. With mainstreaming and a greater focus on the issue, there is likely to be an improvement in the process of planning of climate actions and disaster management in Uttarakhand.

1. November 3, 2024 : U'khand lacks expertise, infra to tackle forest fires, Amicus curiae tells NGT

Dehradun: The National Green Tribunal (NGT), in response to a report filed by amicus curiae Gaurav Bansal in the matter of forest fires in Uttarakhand, has directed that "the Union ministry of environment, forest and climate change (MoEFFCC) be impleaded through the principal secretary of environment, principal chief conservator of forest, chief wildlife warden, divisional forest officer of Dehradun and Forest Survey of India (FSI), Dehradun", and instructed them to submit their comprehensive reply within three weeks.

While submitting his report, advocate Bansal emphasised that Uttarakhand suffers from a "glaring lack of essential infrastructure required for efficient forest fire management.". The report highlighted that the forest department was facing

infrastructure challenges, including a shortage of new structures to meet increasing demands. The forest guard or forester chowkis being situated in remote areas, devoid of basic amenities, also poses a critical hurdle.

The report said that for every 2,448 hectares (ha) of forest, there was only one forest guard, who is also responsible for controlling illicit tree felling, mining, wildlife poaching, and other forest and wildlife-related offences. "What exacerbates the situation is that in Uttarakhand, there is a system of recovery for loss of revenue due to illicit felling from the salary of forest guards or foresters. Safe-guarding by the sole forest guard is nothing but an unattainable task," it stated.

It added that daily wage workers and non-permanent staff of the forest department lacked insurance coverage. The report recommended that the nodal office dealing with forest fires should not be assigned any extra charge by the state govt. Regarding the infrastructure deficit, the report recommended directing the MOEFCC to allocate sufficient funds to the state forest department. Notably, this year, the state recorded a significant number of forest fires, with 1,276 cases reported impacting a total area of 1,771.6 ha, as per govt data.

U'khand lacks expertise, infra to tackle forest fires, Amicus curiae tells NGT

Pankul Sharma
@timesofindia.com

Dehradun: The National Green Tribunal (NGT), in response to a report filed by amicus curiae Gaurav Bansal in the matter of forest fires in Uttarakhand, has directed that "the Union ministry of environment, forest and climate change (MoEFCC) be impleaded through the principal secretary of environment, principal chief conservator of forest, chief wildlife warden, divisional forest officer of Dehradun and Forest Survey of India (FSI), Dehradun", and instructed them to submit their comprehensive reply within three weeks.

NGT had appointed advocate Bansal as the amicus curiae in April to assist with the proceedings regarding

IN THE COURTS

- > U'khand HC directs state authorities to ensure swift road construction to connect remote Chamoli village | P 2
- > Paper mill in Roorkee accused of polluting air, water, NGT seeks response from state | P 2
- > HC orders news channel to delete debate posts 'defaming' Cong spokesperson | P 11

leaf burning in the Badkot forest range along the Rishikesh-Dehradun road.

While submitting his report, advocate Bansal emphasised that Uttarakhand suffers from a "glaring lack of essential infrastructure required for efficient forest fire management."

► Continued on P 2

2. November 5, 2024: 36 killed, 27 injured as bus falls into gorge in Almora

Almora/Dehradun: In one of the worst road accidents in Uttarakhand in recent times, 36 people died and 27 were injured when a bus operated by Garhwal Motor Owners Union (GMOU) and going from Naini Danda in Pauri Garhwal district to Ramna-gar in Nainital fell into a 200 metre deep gorge near Mar-chula in Almora district around 7am on Monday.

The overloaded 37-seater bus, which was carrying 63 people, lost control near Sarad Bend and fell along the Geet Jagir river, 35 km from Ramnagar, officials said. On July 1, 2018, another overcrowded bus had plunged into a gorge in Pauri Garhwal

in the Dhumakot area, not very far from the spot where Monday's accident happened. It had led to 48 deaths, the highest in years.

Soon after the accident, chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami suspended the assistant regional transport officer (enforcement) of Pauri and Almora districts for permitting the bus to operate despite its allegedly dilapidated state. He also ordered Kumaon commissioner Deepak Rawat to initiate a magisterial inquiry into the incident. The Almora district administration said 28 people including the bus driver died at the spot, while eight others succumbed to injuries at the Ramdutt Joshi community health centre in Ramnagar.

36 killed, 27 injured as bus falls into gorge in Almora

Vehicle Meant For 37 Carried 63; CM Suspends Two Transport Officials
Yogesh Nagarkoti & Gaurav Talwar | TNN

Almora/Dehradun: In one of the worst road accidents in Uttarakhand in recent times, 36 people died and 27 were injured when a bus operated by Garhwal Motor Owners Union (GMOU) and going from Naini Danda in Pauri Garhwal district to Ramnagar in Nainital fell into a 200-

CHILD BATTLES FOR LIFE AFTER MIRACLE SURVIVAL

- > 3-year-old Shivani lost both her parents and was airlifted to AIIMS Rishikesh with critical injuries. They were returning home from her grandparents' house after Diwali holidays
- > Likely reasons: Overloading, poor vehicle condition, and lack of parapets, road safety barriers
- > Worst crash since July 1, 2018, when another overcrowded bus plunged into a Pauri gorge, not far from where Monday's accident occurred, resulting in 48 deaths
- > CM Dhami has ordered Kumaon commissioner Deepak Rawat to initiate a magisterial inquiry into the incident



rad Bend and fell along the Geet Jagir river, 35km from Ramnagar, officials said. On July 1, 2018, another overcrowded bus had plunged into a gorge in Pauri Garhwal in the Dhumakot area, not very far from the spot where Monday's accident happened. It had led to 48 deaths, the highest in years.

Soon after the accident, chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami suspended the assistant regional transport officer (enforcement) of Pauri and Almora districts for permitting the bus to operate despite its allegedly dilapidated state. He also ordered Kumaon commissioner Deepak Rawat to initiate a magisterial inquiry into the incident.

The Almora district administration said 28 people including the bus driver died at the spot, while eight others succumbed to injuries at the Ramdutt Joshi community health centre in Ramnagar.

FULL COVERAGE: P 2

metre-deep gorge near Marchula in Almora district around 7am on Monday. The overloaded 37-seater bus, which was carrying 63 people, lost control near Sa- **Continued on P 2**

TIMES OF INDIA
NOVEMBER 5, 2024

3. November 13, 2024 : 6 youngsters die in high-speed crash with truck in Dehradun, one critical

Dehradun: Six youngsters, including three women, died and one was critically injured after their speeding multi-utility vehicle collided with a container truck near ONGC Chowk in Dehradun around 1.30am on Monday night. Guneet Singh, 19, Kamakshi Singhal, 20, Navya Goyal, 23, Rishabh Jain, 24, and Atul Agrawal, 24—all residents of Dehradun—and Kunal Kukreja, 23, from Himachal's Chamba, died on the spot.

A police officer privy to the investigation told TOI that CCTV footage and statements of passersby suggest that the MUV was at a speed of over 100kmph. The officer said the impact of the accident was so severe that the roof of the MUV was ripped off the vehicle, decapitating two passengers.

Referring to findings from the initial investigation, he said, "The MUV which in all likelihood was new and did not have number plates - was travelling towards Garhi

Cantt from Ballupur Chowk when a luxury overtook them at high speed. The MUV driver then tried to accelerate to catch up with the car, as a container truck was crossing the intersection at a normal pace," the officer said.

He added, "The MUV driver misjudged the timing, thinking he could also cross the intersection before the truck, which was heading towards Kaulagarh from Kishangarh Chowk, had passed. As a result, the MUV collided with the truck's left side from behind."

13-11-24

6 youngsters die in high-speed crash with truck in Dehradun, one critical

Kalyan.Das@timesofindia.com

Dehradun: Six youngsters, including three women, died and one was critically injured after their speeding multi-utility vehicle collided with a container truck near ONGC Chowk in Dehradun around 1.30am on Monday night. Guneet Singh, 19, Kamakshi Singh, 20, Navya Govil, 23, Rishabh Jain, 24, and Atul Agrawal, 24 — all residents of Dehradun — and Kunal Kukreja, 23, from Himachal's Chamba, died on the spot. The injured driver, Siddhesh Agrawal, 25, also from Dehradun, is battling for life in hospital.

A police officer privy to the

Continued on P 3

Biker-vlogger dies in reckless riding crash in Rishikesh

A 22-year-old man died and his friend sustained critical injuries after his speeding motorbike collided with a car near Rama Palace in Rishikesh around 12.30am on Tuesday. Yash Prajapati, a resident of Rishikesh, ran a YouTube channel with 4,500-odd subscribers, regularly uploading videos of his high-speed bike rides with live commentary. His last video, posted a week ago, was titled 'Live Bike Crash'. P 3

'Roof of car ripped off, decapitated 2 on impact'

Continued from P 1

The officer said the impact of the accident was so severe that the roof of the MUV was ripped off the vehicle, decapitating two passengers. The MUV has turned into mangled metal junk. The youngsters were returning from a party hosted by Siddhesh. The truck driver, who fled from the scene abandoning his vehicle, seems to be at no fault," he said.

Referring to findings from the initial investigation, he said, "The MUV — which in all likelihood was new and did not have number plates — was travelling towards Garhi Cantt from Ballupur Chowk when "a luxury overtook them at high speed. The MUV driver then tried to accelerate to catch up with the car, as a container truck was crossing the intersection at a normal pace," the officer said.

He added, "The MUV driver misjudged the timing, thinking he could also cross the intersection before the truck, which was heading towards Kaulagarh from Kishangarh Chowk, had passed. As a result, the MUV collided with the truck's left side from behind."

He added that five of the deceased residents residing from Dehradun belonged to well-to-do business families. Three of them, including two women aged 19 and 20, were students at a private university in the city, while one was an alumnus of an engineering institute. Siddhesh Agrawal, who was driving the car, owns a showroom of home interior items in the Rajpur Road area.

Meanwhile, a city-based

Biker-vlogger dies in reckless riding crash

Kalyan.Das@timesofindia.com

Dehradun: A 22-year-old man died and his friend sustained critical injuries after his speeding motorbike collided with a car near Rama Palace in Rishikesh around 12.30am on Tuesday. Yash Prajapati, a resident of Rishikesh, ran a YouTube channel with 4,500-odd subscribers, regularly uploading videos of his high-speed bike rides with live commentary.

Prajapati's last video, posted a week ago and titled 'Live Bike Crash', showed him hitting a car from behind in a minor accident, after which he said, "bike to aise hi chalegi, kuchh bhi ho jaye" (the bike will keep running this way, no matter what).

restaurant owner told TOI he believes he saw the MUV speeding on the wrong side of the road on Rajpur Road near Pacific Mall at around 1am when he was returning home with his family from an event. "It was coming towards us at high speed. I managed to manoeuvre my car to avoid a head-on crash. I immediately drove towards the police personnel at the barricade near the Mussoorie diversion on Rajpur Road and asked them to stop the car. However, they did not take any action."

He added, "Concerned for the safety of commuters, I called the police on their

TIMES
OF
INDIA
NIV B,
2024

4. November 14, 2024 : Early warning systems for glacial lake outbursts vital

Dehradun: Experts have stressed the urgent need for an early warning system (EWS) for Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOF) to protect hydropower projects and communities downstream from potential disasters. A GLOF is caused by the sudden and rapid release of water from a lake which was fed by glacier melt.

"In Uttarakhand, micro hydropower projects in the hilly regions, especially in the narrow valleys, face heightened threats of GLOFS and landslide-dam risks. Installing an EWS to monitor these lakes will help alert us before a GLOF event," said BD Patni, former chief (Geotech) of National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) while speaking to TOI on the sidelines of the National Conference on Mountain Hazards Assessment in Dehradun on Tuesday.

Accidents on Dehradun roads continue unabated. After ONGC Chowk, Asharodi, another accident occurred near Rispana Pul. A collision between a truck and an auto resulted in the auto driver's tragic death. The police have kept the body of the driver in the mortuary and detained the truck driver.

From Monday to Thursday, this is the third major accident on Dehradun roads. After 10 pm, a truck was heading towards Rispana Pul from the city. Meanwhile, an auto was reversing in the opposite direction. They collided head-on near a private hospital. The crash was so severe that the auto was completely damaged. The auto driver died from the impact. The police have arrested the truck driver and are investigating the cause of the accident.

सड़क हादसों में पांच लोगों ने जान गंवाई मंगलौर में कार डिवाइडर से टकराई, चार की मौत देहरादून में ट्रक की टक्कर से ऑटो ड्राइवर की जान गई

हादसा 1

रुड़की/मंगलौर। देर रात दिल्ली-हरिद्वार हाईवे पर तेज रफ्तार स्कोर्पियो कार डिवाइडर से टक्करने के बाद अनिर्वाचित होकर पलट गई। हादसे में चार लोगों की मौत पर ही मौत हो गई। जबकि कार में सवार चार लोग गंभीर रूप से घायल हैं। ये सभी मरुट से रुड़की स्थित चंद्रपुरी में एक शायी में शामिल होने के लिए जा रहे थे।

एसपी देहात स्वप्न किशोर सिंह ने बताया कि देर रात एक स्कोर्पियो मरुट की ओर से रुड़की की तरफ आ रही थी। इसमें आठ लोग सवार थे। मंगलौर क्षेत्र में गुड़ मंडी के पास कार डिवाइडर से टकराकर पलट गई। कार सवार तीन-दुबकी की मौत पर ही मौत हो गई। पुलिस ने घायलों को अस्पताल में भर्ती कराया। एक घायल ने अस्पताल में दम तोड़ दिया।



मंगलौर में गुरुवार रात हादसे में क्षतिग्रस्त हुई कार। • हिन्दुस्तान

हादसे के बाद हाईवे पर काफी देर जाम लगा रहा। एसपी देहात ने बताया कि हादसे के कारण की पांच मंगलौर पुलिस कर रही है। परिजनों के आने के बाद शुकुरवार को शवों का पोस्टमार्टम करवाया जाएगा। मृतकों की पहचान सोनू, सुजल और 17 वर्षीय यश पुत्र अमित निवासी मरुट के रूप में हुई है। एक की शिनाख्त नहीं हो पाई है।

देहरादून, वरिष्ठ संवाददाता। दून की सड़क पर हादसे रुकने का नाम नहीं ले रहे हैं। पहले ओएनजीसी चौक, उसके बाद आशाराड़ी और अब रिस्पनापुल पर हादसा हो गया। इसमें ट्रक और ऑटो की भिड़त में ऑटो चालक की दर्दनाक मौत हो गई। पुलिस ने चालक के शव को मोर्चरी में रखवा दिया है। वहीं, पुलिस ने मीके से ट्रक चालक को भी पकड़ लिया है।

सोमवार से गुरुवार तक दून की सड़क पर तीसरा बड़ा हादसा हुआ। रात को 10 बजे के बाद एक ट्रक शहर से रिस्पना पुल की ओर जा रहा था। तभी एक ऑटो बैक होकर अपनी दिशा में जा रहा था। इसी दौरान एक निजी अस्पताल के बाहर ट्रक व ऑटो की आमने-सामने से जोरदार भिड़त हो गई। टक्कर इतनी जोरदार थी कि ऑटो पूरी तरह से क्षतिग्रस्त हो गया। वहीं, टक्कर से ऑटो चालक की मौत हो गई। पुलिस ने मीके से ट्रक चालक को हिरासत में ले लिया है। प्रभारी निरीक्षक नेहरू कालोनी मोहन सिंह ने बताया कि देर रात ट्रक और ऑटो की आमने सामने से भिड़त हुई। हादसे में ऑटो चालक की मौत हुई है। हादसे की कारण की जांच की जा रही है।



देहरादून में गुरुवार देर रात हादसे के बाद सड़क पर खड़े वाहन। • हिन्दुस्तान

संबंधित खबर P03

HINDUSTAN
NOVEMBER 15, 2024

6. November 15, 2024 : Many Hydroelectric Projects in Climate Change High-Risk Areas

New Delhi : The construction of hydroelectric projects in the Indian Himalayan region has always been controversial. A report by Climate Risk Horizons, titled Navigating Climate-Related Financial Risks: Assessing the Vulnerability of Hydroelectric Power Plants in Uttarakhand, states that extreme weather events have the potential to completely destroy power projects. In Uttarakhand, 25 projects (6 medium and 19 small) with a total capacity of 2378 MW are under construction, and 197 hydroelectric projects with a total capacity of 21,213 MW are proposed across various valleys. These projects are being established in high-risk areas. At least 15 such projects, with a combined investment of approximately ₹70,000 crores, are in high-risk zones of Uttarakhand.

The International Energy Agency (IEA) has also mentioned in one of its reports that there are growing concerns in the United States and around the world about the adverse impact of climate change on our energy supply, including hydroelectric projects.

कई जलविद्युत परियोजनाएं जलवायु परिवर्तन के उच्च जोखिम वाले

चरम मौसमी घटनाओं में इन्हें पूरी तरह नष्ट करने की क्षमता, 15 उच्च जोखिम वाले क्षेत्रों में

असम उजाला नेटवर्क

नई दिल्ली। भारतीय हिमालयी क्षेत्र में जल विद्युत परियोजनाओं का निर्माण हमेशा से विवादास्पद रहा है।

क्लाइमेट रिस्क होराइजंस को रिपोर्ट 'नेविगेशन' क्लाइमेट रिस्केड फ्रेमवर्क रिस्क : असमिता ट क्लाइमेटिटी ऑफ हाइड्रो इलेक्ट्रिक पवर प्लान्स इन उत्तराखण्ड में कहा गया है कि चरम मौसमी घटनाओं में जलविद्युत परियोजनाओं को पूर्ण

भूस्खलन के खतरों से प्रभावित होने वाले इलाकों की पहचान



उत्तराखण्ड राज्य आपदा प्रबंधन प्राधिकरण की डिजास्टर रिस्क असेसमेंट रिपोर्ट 2019 के आधार पर भविष्य में भूकंप, बाढ़ और भूस्खलन के खतरों से प्रभावित होने वाले इलाकों को बताया गया है। हिमालय में भूस्खलन से जुड़े जोखिम बढ़ रहे हैं, जिससे जल विद्युत परियोजनाएं ज्यादा खतनाक और अस्थिर हो रही हैं।

तक नष्ट करने की क्षमता है। उत्तराखण्ड में 25 परियोजना (6 मध्यम एवं 19 लघु) 2378 मेगावाट क्षमता के साथ निर्माणाधीन हैं

वाले क्षेत्रों में स्थापित हो रही हैं। करीब 70 हजार करोड़ के निवेश वाली कम से कम ऐसी 15 परियोजनाएं उत्तराखण्ड के उच्च जोखिम वाले क्षेत्रों में हैं।

अंतरराष्ट्रीय ऊर्जा एजेंसी ने भी अपनी एक रिपोर्ट में कहा है कि संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका और दुनिया भर में इस बात को लेकर सवाल उठ रहे हैं कि जलवायु परिवर्तन के कारण हमारी ऊर्जा आपूर्ति पर बहुत विपरीत असर पड़ेगा। इसमें जलविद्युत परियोजनाएं भी शामिल हैं।

हरिद्वार और ऋषिकेश सर्वाधिक जोखिम वाले

राज्य की अर्थव्यवस्था में अहम योगदान देने वाले हरिद्वार और ऋषिकेश को सर्वाधिक जोखिम वाले क्षेत्रों में माना गया है। मालदेर और हरिद्वार-रुड़की बेसिन पर चरम मौसम का सबसे अधिक खतरा है। इसके बाद पौढ़-विकासगर जोखिम का स्थान है। भूस्खलन के जोखिम वाले बेसिनों में पिथौरागढ़ बागेश्वर पहले स्थान पर है। जल विद्युत परियोजनाओं के पुष्टिकरण से उत्तराखण्ड के अठार प्रमुख नदी बेसिनों में जोशामेट श्रीनगर नदी बेसिन सबसे संवेदनशील है। टिहरी उत्तरकाशी और पिथौरागढ़-बागेश्वर बेसिन को पहचान और संवेदनशील के रूप में जोड़ है।

भारी विनाश को देखते हुए सम-चमाली में 2021 और तीस्ता में 2023 में भी जलवायु जनित घटनाओं ने परियोजनाओं को नुकसान पहुंचाया है। चमाली में अनुमानों में रूप आका गया है। मात्र मलका हटाने में अनुमान है। एक अनुमान के अनुसार चमाली क्यूबिक मीटर मलका आया था जो 4,30,53 मलका को नष्ट करने के लिए डिजाइन किए गए थे। भी हटाया जाए तो 48,415 दिन बर्बाद करती

उच्च जोखिम वाले क्षेत्रों में नई परियोजनाओं में उच्च जोखिम वाले क्षेत्रों में नई जलविद्युत परियोजनाएं नहीं दी जायें। साथ ही मलका हैबिडॉ अर्ली वर्किंग सिस्टम से एक बा एक से ज्यादा तरह के खतरों

ANNE WJAL

NOVEMBER 15, 2024

7. November 21, 2024 : Supreme Court summons report on increasing accidents in Uttarakhand

Dehradun: Taking suo motu cognizance of the increasing road accidents in Uttarakhand, the Supreme Court has summoned a detailed investigation report on the reasons from the government. Secretary of the Supreme Court Committee on Road Safety, Sanjay Mittal has sent a letter to Chief Secretary Radha Raturi asking her to provide a detailed report of all the causes of accidents and steps taken to control accidents by December 15.

The committee has taken cognizance of the death of six youth in the Innova car accident at ONGC Chowk, Dehradun and the death of 38 passengers in the bus accident in Almora. The committee has also expressed concern over the accidents taking place in the state due to unbridled speed of vehicles, overloading and negligence in checking by enforcement agencies.

In the letter of Sanjay Mittal, Secretary, Supreme Court Committee on Road Safety, headed by Justice Abhay Manohar Sapre, the committee also cited the negligence of the enforcement agencies in night checking as the main reason for the accident that took place at ONGC Chowk in Dehradun at 2 am on November 11. Expressing concern, the committee has sought answers as to what action was taken by the government on this negligence.

उत्तराखंड में बढ़ती दुर्घटनाओं पर सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने तलब की रिपोर्ट

सुप्रीम कोर्ट कमेटी आन रोड सेफ्टी ने **मुख्य सचिव** को पत्र भेजकर मांगी विस्तृत रिपोर्ट

अंकुर अग्रवाल • जगहन

देहरादून : उत्तराखंड में बढ़ रही सड़क दुर्घटनाओं का स्वतः संज्ञान लेते हुए सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने शासन से कारणों की विस्तृत जांच रिपोर्ट तलब की है। सुप्रीम कोर्ट कमेटी आन रोड सेफ्टी के सचिव संजय मित्तल ने मुख्य सचिव राधा रतूड़ी को पत्र भेजकर दुर्घटनाओं के सभी कारणों व दुर्घटना नियंत्रण को उठाए गए कदमों की विस्तृत रिपोर्ट 15 दिसंबर तक उपलब्ध कराने को कहा है। कमेटी ने देहरादून के ओएनजीसी चौक पर इनोवा कार दुर्घटना में छह युवाओं की मृत्यु और अल्मोड़ा में बस दुर्घटना में 38 यात्रियों की मौत का संज्ञान लिया है। प्रदेश में वाहनों की बेलगाम गति, ओवरलोडिंग व प्रवर्तन एजेंसियों की चेकिंग में लापरवाही के कारण हो रही दुर्घटनाओं पर भी कमेटी ने चिंता जताई है।

जस्टिस अमय मनोहर सप्रे की

- दून के ओएनजीसी चौक पर कार दुर्घटना में छह युवा व अल्मोड़ा बस दुर्घटना में 38 लोगों की गई थी जान
- वाहनों की बेलगाम गति व प्रवर्तन एजेंसियों की रात्रि चेकिंग में लापरवाही पर जताई नाराजगी



अध्यक्षता वाली सुप्रीम कोर्ट कमेटी आन रोड सेफ्टी के सचिव संजय मित्तल के पत्र में कमेटी ने 11 नवंबर की देर रात दो बजे देहरादून में ओएनजीसी चौक पर हुई दुर्घटना का मुख्य कारण प्रवर्तन एजेंसियों की रात्रि चेकिंग में बरती गई लापरवाही को भी माना है। कमेटी ने चिंता जताते हुए यह जवाब मांगा है कि शासन की ओर से इस लापरवाही पर क्या कार्रवाई की गई। बता दें कि, दुर्घटना वाली रात जाखन-मसुरी रोड से पाटी कर लौट रहे सात युवाओं की बिना पंजीयन नंबर की इनोवा हाइक्रास कार

बेलगाम गति से शहर में पुलिस के पांच बैरियर से गुजरती हुई 10 किमी दूर ओएनजीसी चौक तक पहुंच गई, लेकिन कहीं भी यह कार चेकिंग के लिए नहीं रोकी गई। एक बीएमडब्ल्यू कार को ओवरटेक करने के प्रयास में तकरीबन 180 किमी प्रतिघंटा की गति से दौड़ रही यह कार एक कंटेनर से टकराकर पेड़ में जा घुसी थी। इस भयावह सड़क दुर्घटना में कार सवार दो युवाओं के सिर घड़ से अलग हो गए थे, जबकि शेष के शव भी क्षत-विक्षत स्थिति में सड़क पर बिखर गए थे। सभी युवा 20 से 24 वर्ष के थे

और उनमें तीन युवतियां भी शामिल थीं। इस दुर्घटना में कार सवार एक युवक जीवित है, जिसका सिनजी अस्पताल में उपचार चल रहा है। सुप्रीम कोर्ट की कमेटी का पत्र मिलने के बाद मुख्य सचिव राधा रतूड़ी ने इस संबंध में सचिव परिवहन वृजेश संत को निर्धारित समय में विस्तृत रिपोर्ट तैयार करने के आदेश दिए हैं।

वहीं, सुप्रीम कोर्ट कमेटी आन रोड सेफ्टी ने अल्मोड़ा के मार्चुला में हुई बस दुर्घटना पर भी सरकार से रिपोर्ट मांगी है। गत चार नवंबर को सुबह ओवरलोड बस खाई में गिरने से 38 यात्रियों की मृत्यु हो गई थी। मुख्यमंत्री पुष्कर सिंह धामी ने दुर्घटना के बाद दो एआरटीओ को निलंबित कर दिया था। बता दें कि, उपरोक्त दोनों दुर्घटनाओं में शासन स्तर पर पहले से जांच चल रही है, लेकिन अब तक कोई निष्कर्ष नहीं निकला है।

मुलाए नहीं भूल सकते हैं 11 नवंबर की दो काली रातें » पेज 2

DAINIK JAGHAN
NOVEMBER 21, 2024

8. November 25, 2024 : Jyotirmath body threatens action over unmet pledges

Dehradun: The Joshimath Bachao Sangharsh Samiti (JBSS), a local advocacy group representing residents of the subsidence-hit Jyotirmath (formerly Joshimath), announced on Sunday that they will resume their agitation if the govt fails to fulfil its promise of immediate rehabilitation for the affected families who have been living in their damaged homes for the past two years.

"We held several meetings with senior govt officials regarding the matter. While the officials assured us that work would begin soon, nothing was done." said Atul Sati, convenor of JBSS.

The group also criticised the recent order by the district administration, which permitted residents in the safe zone to repair their homes, calling it 'incomplete'. Notably, the Chamoli district administration last week granted permission for residents of Jyotirmath to carry out repairs on homes categorised under green and yellow zones, ending a nearly two-year ban on construction activities in the town.

In Nov 2023, a committee led by Union home minister and minister of cooperation, Amit Shah, had approved a Recovery and Reconstruction (R&R) plan worth Rs 1658 crore for Jyotirmath. As part of the approved plan, nearly Rs 1080 crore will be provided as central assistance from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF). State govt will contribute Rs 126 crore from its State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) along with an additional Rs 451 crore from its state budget.

Jyotirmath body threatens action over unmet pledges

Gaurav Talwar
@timesofindia.com

Dehradun: The Jyotirmath Bachao Sangharsh Samiti (JBSS), a local advocacy group representing residents of the subsidence-hit Jyotirmath (formerly Joshimath), announced on Sunday that they will resume their agitation if the govt fails to fulfill its promise of immediate rehabilitation for the affected families who have been living in their damaged homes for the past two years.

"We held several meetings with senior govt officials regarding the matter. While the officials assured us that work would begin soon, nothing was done. We are being forced into a corner, leaving us no choice but to restart the agitation," said Atul Sati, convener of JBSS.

The group also criticised the recent order by the district administration, which permitted residents in the safe zone to repair their homes, calling it "incomplete". "The order is completely different from what was agreed upon in our last meeting with the officials. We had requested permission for new construction and prefabricated structures in the safe zones," Sati said.

Notably, the Chamoli district administration last week granted permission for residents of Jyotirmath to carry out repairs on homes categorised under green and



In Nov 2023, a committee led by Union minister Amit Shah, approved a recovery plan worth Rs 1,658 crore for subsidence-hit Jyotirmath

yellow zones, ending a nearly two-year ban on construction activities in the town imposed after severe land subsidence was recorded in Jan 2023. JBSS is also calling for immediate initiation of

While officials assured us that work would begin soon, nothing has been done. We have no choice but to restart the agitation

ATUL SATI
Local advocacy group convener

slope stabilisation work and other corrective measures recommended by the eight technical and scientific institutions that conducted on-site investigations of the affected areas in Jyotirmath.

TOI learnt that the Detai-

led Project Report (DPR) of sewage, drainage, and slope stabilisation works was submitted to the disaster management department by the implementing agencies.

In Nov 2023, a committee led by Union home minister and minister of cooperation, Amit Shah, had approved a Recovery and Reconstruction (R&R) plan worth Rs 1,658 crore for Jyotirmath. As part of the approved plan, nearly Rs 1,080 crore will be provided as central assistance from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF). State govt will contribute Rs 126 crore from its State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), along with an additional Rs 451 crore from its state budget. This includes Rs 91 crore for land acquisition related to resettlement. The recovery plan is set to be executed over a period of three years.

TIMES OF INDIA
NOVEMBER 25, 2024

9. November 25, 2024 : Truck ran over two people, including the UKD leader

Rishikesh - A truck ran over seven vehicles one after another on the Rishikesh-Dehradun road near Indramani Badoni Chowk late on Sunday night. The cement-laden out-of-control truck hit seven cars, resulting in the deaths of two people, including the former central president of the Uttarakhand Kranti Dal (UKD), Trivendra Singh Panwar, a resident of Rishikesh. The other deceased was identified as Gurjeet Singh, a resident of Laltappad, Rishikesh. Another person was severely injured, and many others narrowly escaped. The seriously injured individual has been admitted to a hospital.

According to the police, a wedding ceremony was being held at a wedding point near Indramani Chowk (Nataraj Chowk). A large number of people from the city and surrounding areas had arrived for the event. Around 10 PM on Sunday, a cement-laden truck came speeding and lost control, hitting seven cars one after another. During this, the truck ran over UKD senior leader Trivendra Panwar and Gurjeet. Both were rushed to AIIMS, where doctors declared them dead. Another injured person was admitted to the Rishikesh government hospital.

अधिकांश में रविवार देर रात तेज रफ्तार ट्रक का कहर

ट्रक ने यूकेडी नेता समेत दो को कुचला

अधिकांश संवाददाता। देहरादून-अधिकांश रोड स्थित इंदरमणि बडोनी चौक के पास रविवार देर रात सीमेंट से भरे बेकाबू ट्रक ने सात कारों को टक्कर मार दी। ट्रक से कुचलने पर उत्तराखंड क्रांति दल (यूकेडी) के पूर्व केंद्रीय अध्यक्ष त्रिवेन्द्र सिंह पंवार निवासी अधिकांश समेत दो लोगों की मौत हो गई। दूसरे मृतक की पहचान गुरजीत सिंह निवासी लालतपड़ अधिकांश के रूप में हुई है। हादसे में एक अन्य गंभीर रूप से जख्मी हो गया। जबकि कई लोग चाल-चाल बच गए। गंभीर रूप से घायल शख्स को अस्पताल में भर्ती कराया गया है।

पुलिस के मुताबिक, इंदरमणि चौक (नटराज चौक) के पास एक बेडिंग प्लांट में अधिकांश निवासी एक पूर्व दर्जाधारी के परिवार के सदस्य का शादी समारोह चल रहा था। आयोजन में शहर और आसपास से भारी संख्या में लोग शामिल होने के लिए पहुंचे थे। रविवार रात करीब 10 बजे आयोजन स्थल के पास सीमेंट से भरा एक ट्रक तेज रफ्तार से आया और अनियंत्रित ट्रक ने एक के बाद एक सात कारों को टक्कर मार दी। इसी दौरान ट्रक ने यूकेडी के वरिष्ठ नेता त्रिवेन्द्र पंवार और गुरजीत को कुचल दिया। दोनों घायलों को तुरंत एम्स पहुंचाया गया, जहां डॉक्टरों ने मृत घोषित कर दिया। वहीं एक अन्य घायल को अधिकांश सरकारी अस्पताल में भर्ती कराया गया है।

हादसे के तुरंत बाद आरोपी चालक ट्रक मीके पर ही छोड़कर भाग गया। सूचना के बाद पुलिस मीके पर पहुंची। बरिष्ठ उप निरीक्षक विनोद कुमार ने बताया कि ट्रक को कब्जे में ले लिया

बेकाबू ट्रक ने एक के बाद एक सात वाहन रौंदे



अधिकांश में रविवार रात को बेकाबू ट्रक ने कई वाहनों को टक्कर मार दी।

दुःखद: यूकेडी में फायर ब्रांड नेता रहे त्रिवेन्द्र पंवार



यूकेडी के पूर्व केंद्रीय अध्यक्ष त्रिवेन्द्र पंवार हमेशा पार्टी के भीतर राज्य के मुद्दों को लेकर आक्रामक भूमिका में रहे। मूल निवास और भू-कानून के मुद्दों को लेकर वह हमेशा सरकारी के खिलाफ जनता को लामबंद करने की भूमिका में रहे। हाल ही में मूल निवास-भू कानून के मुद्दे को लेकर सीएम आवास तक निकाली गई तांडव रेली के भी वे संयोजक थे। पंवार 2002 में प्रतापनगर से यूकेडी के सिबल पर विधानसभा का चुनाव लड़े थे।

उन्होंने बताया कि आरोपी चालक की पहचान के प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं। सभी पहलुओं पर जांच की जा रही है। पुलिस आरोपी की तलाश कर रही है।

HINDUSTAN

NOVEMBER 25, 2024

10. November 25, 2024 : The treatment in Kwarab can only be done after the entire mountain collapses

Almora: On the Almora-Haldwani National Highway (NH) in Kwarab, the mountain is rapidly eroding, with landslides occurring on the upper surface and water seeping from the lower surface. According to a report submitted to the administration by experts from the Geological Survey of India, the proper treatment for the landslide-affected mountain can only be carried out after the entire mountain collapses. Officials have confirmed this. If the highway is closed for an extended period, it will increase difficulties for the people of the Kumaon region. Consequently, authorities have started working on creating alternative routes and removing debris from the unstable parts of the mountain.

पूरा पहाड़ गिराकर ही हो पाएगा क्वारब में ट्रीटमेंट

सर्वे आफ इंडिया की रिपोर्ट के बाद प्रशासन की कोशिशों को लगा झटका

संवाद न्यूज एजेंसी

अल्मोड़ा। अल्मोड़ा-हल्द्वानी राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग एनएच पर क्वारब में पहाड़ जिस तेजी से दरक रहा है और ऊपरी सतह से भूस्खलन तथा निचली सतह से पानी निकल रहा है, उसमें सही ट्रीटमेंट भूस्खलन की चपेट में आए पहाड़ को पूरा गिराने के बाद ही हो सकता है। जियोलाजिकल सर्वे आफ इंडिया के विशेषज्ञों की ओर प्रशासन को सीपी गई रिपोर्ट में इस तरह की सलाह दी गई है। अधिकारियों ने भी इस बात की पुष्टि की है। अगर हाईवे को लंबे समय के लिए बंद किया जाता है तो कुमाऊँ क्षेत्र के लोगों के लिए परेशानी बढ़ जाएगी। इसके बाद वैकल्पिक मार्गों को बनाने की



क्वारब के पास दरकी पहाड़ी। संवाद संभावनाओं के साथ-साथ पहाड़ के अस्थिर हिस्से के मलबे को हटाने पर भी अधिकारियों ने काम शुरू कर दिया है।

खतरे के बीच निकाले गए वाहन

क्वारब में राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग और लोक निर्माण विभाग के अधिकारियों की ओर से राहत, बचाव और विकास कार्य लगातार किए जा रहे हैं। रविवार को भी यातायात तो चलाया गया लेकिन भौके पर खतरा लगातार बना हुआ है। पहाड़ी से गिर रहे पत्थरों और भूस्खलन के बीच ही वाहनों को रोक-रोककर निकाला गया, जबकि काफी संख्या में वाहनों को रानीखेत की ओर से निकाला जा रहा है।



क्वारब को लेकर विशेषज्ञों की रिपोर्ट मिली है। जिसमें दरकते पहाड़ के

भूस्खलित हिस्से को हटाने के बाद ही ट्रीटमेंट की सलाह दी गई है। इस बारे में बचाव-निर्माण किया जा रहा है। वैकल्पिक मार्ग और बैली ब्रिज बनाने की संभावनाएं भी लगातार तलाशी जा रही हैं। जल्द ही समस्या का समाधान निकले, इसके लिए प्रयास जारी हैं। -आलोक कुमार पांडेय, डीएम, अल्मोड़ा।

AMAR UJALA

NOVEMBER 25, 2024

11. November 27, 2024 : Glacial lakes: NGT seeks govt's reply on flood risks

Dehradun: Taking suo motu cognisance of TOI's report on Himalayan glacial lakes expanding by 10.8% in 13 years, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has sought urgent clarification from the ministry of environment, forest and climate change (MoEFCC) and other authorities regarding the expansion of the Himalayan glacial lakes. It has directed respondents to submit affidavits one week before the next hearing, scheduled on March 10.

The report, dated Nov 4, highlighted that the rapid retreat of the glacial lakes in the Himalayas, driven by rising temperatures, has caused these lakes to hold significantly more water than before. This has heightened the risk of natural disasters like floods and landslides.

Citing a Central Water Commission (CWC) report, the NGT noted a 33.7% increase in the surface area of glacial lakes in India between 2011 and 2024. The report identified 67 glacial lakes in the country with over a 40% surface area increase, classifying them as 'high-risk' for potential Glacial Lake Outburst Floods.

Glacial lakes: NGT seeks govt's reply on flood risks

Pankul Sharma
@timesofindia.com

Dehradun: Taking suo motu cognisance of TOI's report on Himalayan glacial lakes expanding by 10.8% in 13 years, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has sought urgent clarification from the ministry of environment, forest and climate change (MoEFCC) and other authorities regarding the expansion of the Himalayan glacial lakes. It has directed respondents to submit affidavits one week before the

The NGT noted a 33.7% increase in the surface area of glacial lakes in India between 2011 and 2024

next hearing, scheduled on March 10.

The tribunal has also directed the inclusion of the GB Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment, the MoEFCC secretary, and the member secretary of the Central Pollution Control Board in the proceedings.

► Continued on P 2

Nov 27, 2024

Report: Himalayan glacial lakes expanding by 10.8% in 13 years

► Continued from P1

The report, dated Nov 4, highlighted that the rapid retreat of the glacial lakes in the Himalayas, driven by rising temperatures, has caused these lakes to hold significantly more water than before. This has heightened the risk of natural disasters like floods and landslides.

Citing a Central Water Commission (CWC) report, the NGT noted a 33.7% increase in the surface area of glacial lakes in India between 2011 and 2024. The re-

“The rapid growth of these lakes can have catastrophic consequences for downstream communities and biodiversity”

NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

port identified 67 glacial lakes in the country with over a 40% surface area increase, classifying them as 'high-risk' for potential Glacial Lake Outburst Floods.

"The news piece highlights that the rapid growth of these lakes can have catastrophic consequences for



LOOMING RISK: A CWC report identified 67 glacial lakes in the country with over a 40% surface area increase, classifying them as 'high-risk' for potential Glacial Lake Outburst Floods

downstream communities, infrastructure, and biodiversity," NGT said, adding that the most significant expansions have been observed in regions such as Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, and Arunachal Pradesh.

"It is discussed that with many communities living near these lakes or downstream from them, the expanding size of the glacial lakes threatens their safety, infrastructure, and livelihoods. The article stresses the urgent need for en-

hanced monitoring, early warning systems, and improved flood management strategies to mitigate the potential damage," said the order, a copy of which is with TOI. NGT also expressed concern over potential violations of the Biodiversity Act, 2002, the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, and the Environment Protection Act, 1986. It stressed the need for enhanced monitoring, early warning systems, and improved flood management strategies to mitigate risks.

TIMES OF INDIA

NOVEMBER 27, 2024

12. November 29, 2024 : A case has been filed against three individuals, including the Executive Engineer (EE), following the death of bears due to electric shock

Gopeshwar : A case was registered on Thursday against the Executive Engineer (EE), Assistant Engineer, and Junior Engineer of the Jal Sansthan in connection with the deaths of a bear and its cub due to electric shock at the Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) in Vaitarni, Gopeshwar. The Kedarnath Forest Division has filed the case under the Wildlife Protection Act.

Following the report of the deaths of the bear and cub on Tuesday night, a team from the Forest Department, led by Sub-Divisional Forest Officer Juglal Kishore Chauhan, inspected the site. According to the report sent by the team to higher authorities, there were no adequate safety measures around the transformer at the STP, which led to the bears getting electrocuted. Based on this, the Forest Officials filed a case on Thursday, holding the officers of the Jal Sansthan responsible for negligence.

In this regard, the Divisional Forest Officer of Kedarnath, Tarun S., stated that the transformer was placed on the ground, and there were no safety measures in place, which could also pose a risk to people's lives. The investigation revealed gross negligence by the staff operating the STP. As a result, a case was registered against the officials of the Jal Sansthan under the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972.

भालुओं की करंट से मौत पर ईई समेत तीन के खिलाफ मुकदमा

गोपेश्वर, संवाददाता। गोपेश्वर के वैतरणी स्थित सीवरेज ट्रीटमेंट प्लांट (एसटीपी) में करंट से भालू व शावक की मौत के मामले में जल संस्थान के अधिशासी अभियंता (ईई), सहायक अभियंता व अवर अभियंता के खिलाफ गुरुवार को मुकदमा दर्ज किया गया। कैदारनाथ वन प्रभाग ने वन्यजीव सुरक्षा अधिनियम के तहत केस कराया है।

वैतरणी में मंगलवार रात भालू और शावक की मौत होने की सूचना पर वन विभाग की टीम ने उप प्रभागीय वन अधिकारी जुगल किशोर चौहान के नेतृत्व में मौका मुआयना किया था। इस संबंध में टीम द्वारा उच्चाधिकारियों को भेजी रिपोर्ट में बताया गया कि एसटीपी के ट्रांसफार्मर के आसपास सुरक्षा के पुरखा इंतजाम नहीं थे। ऐसे में भालुओं करंट की चपेट में आ गए। इस पर वन अधिकारियों ने मामले में जल संस्थान के अफसरों की लापरवाही मानते हुए गुरुवार को केस दर्ज करा दिया।

इस संबंध में प्रभागीय वन अधिकारी कैदारनाथ तुरुण प्रसा, ने बताया कि मौके पर ट्रांसफार्मर जमीन पर रखा है। यहां

दोष साबित होने पर सात साल तक की सजा संभव

विशेषज्ञ के अनुसार, वन्यजीव सुरक्षा अधिनियम 1972 की सूची एक या दो के तहत इस मामले में कम से कम तीन साल और ज्यादा से ज्यादा सात साल तक की सजा हो सकती है। साथ ही जुर्माना क्रमशः 10 हजार रुपये से लेकर 25000 रुपये तक हो सकता है।

सुरक्षा के पुरखा इंतजाम भी नहीं हैं। इससे लोगों की जान की भी खतरा हो सकता है। जांच में एसटीपी प्लांट संचालित कर रहे जल संस्थान कारमिकों की घोर लापरवाही सामने आई। ऐसे में एसटीपी संचालन कर रहे जल संस्थान के अधिकारियों के खिलाफ वन्य जीव सुरक्षा अधिनियम 1972 के तहत केस दर्ज किया है। डीएफओ ने बताया कि मामले में जल संस्थान के अधिशासी अभियंता एसके श्रीवास्तव, सहायक अभियंता अरुण गुप्ता व अवर अभियंता राहुल नेगी को आरोपी बताया है।

HINDUSTAN
NOVEMBER 29, 2024

About Social Development for Communities (SDC) Foundation

SDC Foundation is a Dehradun-based environmental action and advocacy group engaged in communication, citizen engagement and capacity building in the Himalayan state of Uttarakhand. The foundation works in partnership with institutions of Government of India, Government of Uttarakhand and other stakeholders such as research & academic institutions, community groups, civil society, media partners, NGOs, businesses & trade bodies, schools & colleges in the state.

Climate and environment conservation, waste management, sustainable urbanisation and a basket of sustainable development issues are key focus areas of the foundation.

Anoop Nautiyal

Founder

Social Development for Communities (SDC) Foundation

Dehradun, Uttarakhand

Email : contactsdcuk@gmail.com and anoop.nautiyal@gmail.com

PS : Errors or omissions in UDAAI documentation, if any, are purely unintentional. In case any errors or key omissions are detected or any fresh updates are available for events that are already documented, SDC Foundation may kindly be notified at email id contactsdcuk@gmail.com. We shall make the necessary corrections in subsequent versions of the monthly reports of UDAAI.