

State disaster body, Army to bolster calamity response

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Dehradun: The Army and Uttarakhand State Disaster Management Authority (USDMA) have agreed to strengthen coordination for faster and more effective relief and rescue operations during natural disasters in the state. The decision was taken at a meeting of senior Army officers and disaster management officials at the Uttarakhand sub-area headquarters on Wednesday.

The decision was taken during a meeting between senior Army officers and disaster management officials at the Uttarakhand Sub Area headquarters, where they discussed a joint strategy for improving disaster response, particularly during the ongoing monsoon season. The meeting focused on better utilisation of available resources, enhancing inter-agency coordination and ensuring a swift response during the critical "golden hour" after a disaster.

Disaster management and rehabilitation secretary Vinod Kumar Suman said disaster-prone Uttarakhand has consistently benefited from the Army's support during emergencies. He said the force had played a crucial role in major rescue operations in the state.

Referring to the 2024 Kedar Valley disaster, Suman said the Army and Indian



Army officers, disaster officials meet at U'khand sub-area HQ

Air Force had rescued thousands of stranded pilgrims and residents despite difficult terrain. He also cited the Army's role in rescue and evacuation operations after the Dharali disaster last year.

Suman said state govt and USDMA would extend all possible support to strengthen coordination with the Army on disaster management.

Brigadier RS Thapa, deputy general officer commanding, Uttarakhand sub-area, said protecting lives was the Army's top priority during disasters. He said the Army is prepared to respond to emergencies in the state and is working to improve coordination with USDMA.

Officials also discussed uploading details of the Army's disaster-response equipment, machinery and other resources on the India Disaster Resource Network portal for faster deployment during emergencies. They discussed involving the Army in district-level QRTs and using the experience of ex-servicemen to strengthen the state's disaster management system.

Rain activity to intensify in state, will continue for next 3 days: IMD

100+ Rds Blocked
Due To Flooding,
Landslides

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Dehradun: Rainfall activity across Uttarakhand is set to intensify from Thursday, with the India Meteorological Department (IMD) issuing a warning for heavy to very heavy rain, thunderstorms and intense spells in Bageshwar, Nainital, Champawat and Pithoragarh districts.

"Rainfall activity will increase from the night of July 29 and will continue till Aug 1 morning," said Rohit Thakur.

MONSOON MAYHEM
The fresh forecast arrives as the state grapples with severe disruptions due to landslides and flooding. Over 100 roads remained blocked on Wednesday, including two national highways and six state highways, according to State Emergency Operation Centre (SEOC). Chamoli emerged as the worst-hit district with 32 road closures, followed by Pithoragarh (18), Uttarkashi (15), and 14 each in Dehradun and Bageshwar. Intermittent rain has severely hampered clearance operations.

Fresh damage was reported from Rudrapur's Agastya Nagar area, where heavy overnight downpours flooded residential pockets — including Basant Vihar, SBI Colony, and areas behind the Block Development Office — leaving several residents stranded. Landslides

Damaged foot trails leave remote Bageshwar villages isolated in rains

Yogesh Nagarkoti | TNN



Damaged foot trails leave residents without access to healthcare, markets and other essential services for days or even weeks

Bageshwar: Several remote villages in Uttarakhand's Bageshwar district are being cut off during the monsoon as landslides, flash floods and overflowing streams damage the foot trails that serve as their only link to the outside world. While the district administration maintains records of roads blocked and restored after heavy rain, it "does not maintain official records of damaged village footpaths", leaving the extent of the disruption largely undocumented, residents said.

In many of these villages, which are still not connected by motorable roads, damaged foot trails leave residents without access to healthcare, markets and other essential services for days or even weeks. With no roads, excavators cannot reach affected areas, leaving villagers to restore the pathways manually.

The issue came into focus recently in Jatali, a hamlet under Bachham gram panchayat in Kapkot block, where a 50-year-old Durga Devi fell

seriously ill. With no motorable road, no mobile network, no ambulance access and even the village footpath damaged, residents fashioned a stretcher from wooden poles, ropes and a tarpaulin. They carried her nearly 10 km over slippery trails and across swollen streams before she could receive treatment.

Naveen Singh, a resident of Kukrauli village in Bageshwar block, said the only footpath connecting the village had been washed away. "When the only route to the village disappears, how do we set out? There is no road here

and rockfalls also choked traffic on NH-119 along the Pauri-Kotdwara stretch. While district administrations monitor high-risk zones

re. Machines cannot reach. The administration will have to deploy labourers to restore the trail," he said.

District disaster management officer Praveen Goswami acknowledged that while the administration maintained detailed records of road closures and restoration, it had "no official database of damaged village footpaths".

DM Apurva Pandey said, "Proposals for repairing damaged rural routes were received. Funds will be released under disaster management norms in accordance with prescribed guidelines."

and restoration crews work to clear debris, officials advised residents and travellers to limit non-essential movement in landslide-prone areas.

Rising Ganga keeps Khadar belt on alert

Harveer Dabas | TNN

Bijnor: Fluctuating water levels in the Ganga amid incessant rain kept authorities on alert across the Khadar belt on Wednesday as discharge from the Bijnor barrage increased.

At Bhimgoda barrage in Haridwar, the water level stood at 292.5m and 99,880 cusecs was being released downstream. A junior engineer at the Bijnor Ganga barrage said the water level there was recorded at 218.90m, while discharge stood at 1.38 lakh cusecs. The increased discharge caused concern among residents in the Khadar belt extending through Bijnor, Chandpur and Haridwar.

District administration and irrigation department teams were monitoring Ganga's water level and discharge from the barrages. Officials said the situation was normal, but precautions were being taken. "Take necessary precautions and avoid venturing near water bodies," Bijnor DM Jasjit Kaur appealed to residents.

and restoration crews work to clear debris, officials advised residents and travellers to limit non-essential movement in landslide-prone areas.

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BEGUM BRIDGE ROAD
NEXT TO LABOUR COURT.

UP man shoots at 19yo woman, then kills self

Meerut: A 23-year-old man allegedly shot at a 19-year-old woman before killing himself outside Zonal Park in Defence Enclave Colony in Kankerhera on Wednesday evening, police said. The woman is undergoing treatment in critical condition at Subharti Medical College.

Aditya Kumar of Shivlokpur Colony fired at Anushka, a Gvindpur resident, after they argued for nearly 10 minutes outside the park. The two had known each other since school. "The incident appears to have stemmed from a personal dispute, though the exact motive is yet to be established," SP Vinayak Gopal Bhosale said. **Sandeep Rai**

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LAST DATE OF EMD : 30.08.2026

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(AUCTION SALE NOTICE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES UNDER RULES 8(6) & 9 OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002)

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 Read with Proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 31.08.2026 for recovery of amount, as mentioned below due to the Canara Bank Secured Creditor from below Named borrower(s), mortgagor(s) and Guarantor (s). For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or may contact Respective in during office hours on any working day.

S. No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s)	Due Amount	Description of properties	Reserve Price/EMD (Bid increment amount)	Possession Type
1.	Branch: Muzaffarnagar Borrower: 1. M/s. Friends Mobile Gallery, Prop- Aas Mohammad, 2. Mr. Aas Mohammad C/o. Anasan, 3. Mrs. Malika W/o Aas Mohammad.	Rs. 12,98,104.56 + interests and other Charges.	One residential property part of Khara no 656 measuring area 139.24 sq yards i.e. 116.41 sq mt situated at Vill Shabbudpur (Bahar Hadod), Pargana, Tehsil and Dist. Muzaffarnagar. Boundaries (As per sale deed): East - Khet of Mangta, West - Rasta 16 ft wide, North - Plot of other person, South - Plot Ansanrya Ka.	Rs. 20,30,000/- Rs. 2,03,000/- Rs. 10,000/-	Symbolic Possession

Last Date Time for receipt of Sealed Tender : 30.08.2026 till 10.00 AM. to 4.00 PM. CANARA BANK, MUZAFFARNAGAR.
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www.canarabank.com, Name of Service Provider MIS PSB Alliance (Ebkro) With unlimited extension of 5 minutes duration each)
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Date- 29.07.2026 Place - Muzaffarnagar Authorized officer, Canara Bank

U'khand plans anti-plastic campaign

Shivani Azad | timesofindia.com

Dehradun: Uttarakhand plans to mass drive for stricter enforcement of the ban on single-use plastics, with officials saying the state generates nearly 270 to 330 tonnes of plastic waste every day as part of around 3,000 tonnes of daily solid waste.

Uttarakhand Pollution Control Board (UPCB) conducted a workshop on effective implementation of the ban, during which officials said urban areas alone generate around

1,759 tonnes of solid waste daily, including 158 to 195 tonnes of plastic waste.

Authorities said enforcement of the ban would be strengthened alongside awareness campaigns and promotion of alternatives such as cloth and jute bags.

Chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said the campaign against single-use plastics should be turned into a mass movement. "I urge people to adopt cloth bags, jute products and other eco-friendly alternatives, and I appeal to

pilgrims and tourists not to leave behind plastic or other waste at natural sites," he said. He urged public to transform the single-use drives into mass campaigns.

Dhami also urged industries to reduce plastic use in packaging and adopt cleaner technologies. "Industries must adopt eco-friendly packaging and modern recycling technologies. I urge the youth to take this campaign to schools, colleges, village councils, self-help groups and social organisations," he said.

TIMES CONVERSATIONS

AI and early diagnosis transform healthcare

Times Conversations with Dr Kanupriya Agarwal and Dr Mohit Agarwal highlighted the future of healthcare, focusing on prevention, AI-powered diagnostics, precision treatment and compassionate patient care. Read on to know more...

Dr Kanupriya Agarwal highlighted that AI is transforming ophthalmology by enabling faster diagnosis, precision surgical planning and personalised treatment, while emphasising that technology can never replace the expertise and compassion of an ophthalmologist.

Dr Mohit Agarwal believes the future of medicine lies in preventing disease before symptoms appear, with the next decade shaped by preventive, personalised and technology-enabled healthcare powered by AI, advanced diagnostics and digital innovation.

Dr Kanupriya Agarwal explained that serious conditions such as glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy, keratoconus and retinal disorders often develop without early symptoms, making regular eye examinations crucial. She highlighted that Artificial Intelligence is transforming ophthalmology by enabling faster diagnosis, precision surgical planning and personalised treatment, while emphasising that technology can never replace the expertise and compassion of an ophthalmologist.

Dr Mohit Agarwal emphasised that while technology is enhancing diagnostic accuracy, improving efficiency and supporting clinical decisions, it can never replace a doctor's judgement, ethics and compassion. "Technology processes data. Doctors interpret it. Together they deliver better healthcare," he noted.

To make preventive healthcare easier to remember, Dr Agarwal recommends that couples above the age of 40 schedule their annual health check-up within a week before or after their wedding anniversary, turning a memorable personal milestone into a lifelong health habit.

Concluding the conversation, Dr Agarwal said, "A healthier India will not be built by treating more disease. It will be built by preventing more disease," reinforcing his belief that the future of healthcare lies in prevention, precision and patient-centred care.

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