40 trekkers evacuated from snow-bound camps

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

DEHRADUN: A total of 40 stranded trekkers— 29 from the Auden's Col Pass base camp and 11 from the Kalindi Pass base camp— were evacuated to safer locations by choppers on Monday amid adverse weather and heavy snowfall in the Himalayas, officials said. The trekkers were reportedly in good health.

Uttarkashi district officials said a total of 136 people composed of mountaineers, trekkers and support staff were present in high-altitude areas in the district. Out of these, 89 were part of mountaineering expeditions, and the remaining were high-altitude trekkers.

Other well-known trek routes in the affected area include Mount Bhagirathi-2, Shrikhnath Peak, Mount Satopanth, Mt Shivlinga, Mount Jogin-1 and Mount Sudarshan.

"Rescue and relief teams are working at various trekking routes and base camps to bring people to safer locations," said Uttarkashi district magistrate Prashant Arya, who reviewed relief operations at the Harsil helipad. He also met relief teams composed of personnel from the Army, Air Force, NDRF, SDRF, police and disaster management officials for updates on the operations.

Chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami on Monday spoke to secretary (disaster management) Vinod Kumar Suman over the phone to take stock of the relief operations. He ordered that all stranded tourists were rescued and provided medical assistance, food and other essential supplies. Dhami said the safety of every pilgrim and tourist was among the state government's top priorities. He also directed departments concerned to remain alert and coordinate among themselves amid adverse weather conditions.

Officials said adequate supplies of ration, packed food and drinking water were also being arranged for trekkers and mountaineers. Medical teams, essential medicines and ambulances were stationed at nearby locations for immediate medical assistance, they said.





Stranded trekkers at Kalindi Pass base camp in Uttarkashi district before their evacuation on Monday; (inset) Police and district officials with trekkers rescued earlier in the day. HT PHOTO

Suman told reporters that out of a total of 136 people, 40 have been evacuated and 20 are scheduled to trek back on their own on Tuesday.

A group of around 40 people want to continue their expeditions with the weather expected to improve in the coming days, he said. The remaining 36 people will be evacuated on Tuesday, he said.

The district emergency operations centre is maintaining regular contact with expedition guides through satellite communication and monitoring the condition of people on trekking routes, officials added.

Landslide blocks Kedarnath pedestrian route again

The Kedarnath pedestrian route was blocked again near Chirbasa on Monday after fresh rainfall triggered a landslide, sending debris and large boulders onto the track and forcing a halt on the upward movement of pilgrims from Sonprayag and Gaurikund, officials aware of the matter said.

"Devotees currently descending from the Himalayan shrine are being temporarily halted at intermediate safe camps along the route to ensure their security," said NS Rajwar, district disaster management officer.

{ INTERVIEW } PUSHKAR SINGH DHAMI, CHIEF MINISTER

'In exercise as big as SIR, there is always scope to improve'

Chetan Chauhan
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Uttarakhand chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami on Monday laid out the government's approach towards ecologically sound development suited for the fragile Himalayan state. Speaking to HT, he also countered opposition pushback on the SIR and the Ramlila Maidan "purification ritual" controversy. Edited excerpts:

Elections are around the corner. How is the party and government gearing for it?

Since Narendra Modi *ji* became PM, a lot of developmental works have taken place in Uttarakhand — developing all weather Char Dham road and Delhi-Dehradun expressway; setting up several medical colleges including the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS); the Rishikesh Karanprayag railway line; and improvement in air services including expanded Dehradun airport. The PM has also inaugurated winter pilgrimage in 2025 and is the first Prime Minister to visit the last Indian village, Mana, in Chamoli; he said it was India's first village. The PM has visited Uttarakhand 28 times, which no other PM has done.

Experts believe lot of ecological damage has happened because of infrastructure works such as the Char Dham road. What is the government doing about it?

We have tried to strike a balance between economy and protecting ecology. People of Uttarakhand are not responsible for cloudburst or flash floods because nowhere in the state has haphazard construction happened. Such events took place even at remote places in Uttarakhand where no development work was carried out.

It could be because of the trees been cut in large numbers over several decades impacting local weather patterns?

Uttarakhand, because of its 71% forest cover, provides ecological protection and its glaciers stabilise temperature. We have not contributed to climate change induced disasters but have to bear maximum brunt. One cannot blame development for disasters caused by rising global temperature.

A few months ago, we saw a protest by the Cockroach Janata Party in Delhi; youth have been protesting in Uttarakhand too over unemployment. What you have done to deal with this issue?

In five years, we have provided jobs to more than 35,000 youth in a transparent and corruption free manner. There were no complaints of malpractices or cheating during recruitment. We introduced a stringent law against examination malpractices and sent 100 people of cheating mafia to jail.



Special Intensive Review (SIR), also happening in Uttarakhand, has become a national issue. Do you think that concerns raised are genuine or political?

The Election Commission is doing its work as per Constitutional mandate. SIR is not happening for the first time. Before this, SIR has happened several times. This time, SIR is happening in a better way. Names of those who have died, shifted or are bogus have been removed. If electoral rolls are being cleaned, why are some people so upset?

In Bengal, the EC introduced a filter called logical discrepancy to remove voters, causing a lot of inconvenience to voters.

The EC has now clarified that the Booth Level Officers will visit homes to collect documents from those who have got notices. In such a big exercise, there is always a scope for improvement, which EC is doing. Some people are criticising SIR to justify their electoral loss. Sometimes, they blame the EC and sometimes the Electronic Voting Machine for their electoral loss.

Uttarakhand became the first state to implement the Uniform Civil Code. What has been the state's experience so far?

In the last general election, we promised UCC, and I am happy to say that we fulfilled the promise. UCC implementation has been smooth without any protest and lakhs of people have benefitted. The law is for betterment and empowerment of women and it also provides protection to the elderly. It is law to protect everyone as per the Constitution.

The Ankita Bandhari (the hotel receptionist who was murdered) case has been going on a long time. Despite CBI inquiry, the name of the VIP mentioned in the case has not been revealed. And the Congress is trying to make it an election issue.

The Congress does not have any election issue in Uttarakhand and has no political strength left. The Congress is trying to build a fake narrative. A fact check of Rahul Gandhi's Chhatron Ki Goonj programme in Pune revealed 13 lies. When he came to Uttarakhand, he said no action has been taken against examination malpractices. I want to tell him that over 100 persons have been arrested.

The Congress tried to build a fake Dalit narrative in Haldwani, where during a rally by their national president (Mallikarjun Kharge) *jihadi* slogans were raised. The national president said in Rajya Sabha that because he was a Dalit, purification was done on the site later. This is not true. The cleaning was done by people including Dalits of the huge garbage left behind and for raising jihadi slogans at sacred Ramlila Grounds.

In Ankita Bhandari case, the Congress was again exposed for a fixed audio clip on the alleged VIP connection. We formed a Special Investigating Team (SIT), which submitted a 1,000 page charge-sheet. The three accused were sentenced for life in jail and we have referred the case to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) as per request of the family. Now, CBI will reveal the truth.

Last week, controversy broke over playing of loud music at Badrinath Dham. You also participated at the event.

In Badrinath ashram, there is belief that God is meditating and therefore, there should not be any noise. It was an Army function and I had also gone for its conclusion. No music was played when I was there. We will prepare a SOP so that something similar does not happen in future.

SIT arrests 2 more in fake papers for MBBS case

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

DEHRADUN: The Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing allegations of submission of fake freedom fighter and domicile certificates to secure MBBS admissions in Uttarakhand on Monday made two fresh arrests, police said.

Currently, five people are in custody in connection with the case.

Those arrested on Monday were identified as 30-year-old Sanjay Kumar from UP's Varanasi and 33-year-old Girish Singh from Pithoragarh.

Those arrested earlier include Rupesh Pandit, owner of an educational consultancy firm based in Meerut, Arvind Kumar, father of a NEET aspirant and Dheeraj Kumar Srivastava, who also ran an educational consultancy business in Bhopal.

Police said Sanjay Kumar and Girish Singh allegedly helped three out of four candidates whose fraudulent submissions spurred the probe to obtain forged documents, including Aadhaar cards, domicile certificates and freedom fighter dependant certificates, to facilitate their admission to a medical college. "The SIT is conducting a detailed investigation into all aspects of the case and further action will be taken against those found involved," said SSP Pramendra Dobhal.

Congress stages protests in every district demanding CEC's removal

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

DEHRADUN: The state Congress unit on Monday took out protests at district headquarters across the state to demand the resignation of chief election commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar over allegations surrounding the conduct of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) and irregularities in the decision-making process within the top levels of the Election Commission of India (ECI).

State party chief Ganesh Godiyal's call for action spurred the demonstrations, wherein delegations in each district submitted to local administration a memorandum on the matter addressed to President Droupadi Murmu. Effigies of Kumar were also torched in many places.

In Dehradun, Mahanagar Congress workers took out a symbolic funeral procession with an effigy of Kumar from the party headquarters. Police briefly clashed with protesters after they stopped the procession soon after it began. The protesters proceeded till Clock Tower, where they burnt Kumar's effigy and held a demonstration.



Congress workers burn an effigy of CEC Gyanesh Kumar in Dehradun on Monday. HT

State Congress vice president Suryakant Dhasmana referred to the recent Indian Express investigative report that said election commissioners Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Vivek Joshi had objected on record to decisions and orders they said were taken without their knowledge, at least 14 times over 10 months

"The media report said the SIR exercise had struck more than 13 crore names off draft electoral rolls across 30 states and Union territories. It also reported that the two Election Commissioners had raised objections over several aspects of the exercise," he said.

Dhasmana alleged that ECI was acting at the BJP's behest and demanded a probe into the role of the PM and Union home minister Amit Shah. BJP state chief and Rajya Sabha MP Mahendra Bhatt dismissed Congress' allegations as "fabricated lies" to create confusion.

"Congress leaders know that they cannot regain people's confidence through the constitutional and democratic process. That is why they are spreading confusion and lies about the democratic system and attempting to weaken constitutional institutions," Bhatt said.

Kichha civic poll candidate booked over Sept 22 row

HALDWANI: Kiccha municipal chairperson Congress candidate Rajesh Pratap Singh and his associate Vivek Vikram Singh were on Monday booked over their alleged role in the dispute outside the strong room at Naveen Mandi, on the day of voting on September 22, police said. Udham Singh Nagar SSP Ajay Ganpati said the complaint alleging that Kichha MLA Tilak Raj Behar and the two accused's presence with their supporters had spurred the incident.

Biker absconding after molesting varsity student

RUDRAPUR: Police are searching for a biker accused of molesting a student of Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture and Technology in Pantnagar on Saturday, officers said on Monday, adding that the victim jumped from the moving motorcycle to escape and sustained injuries, police said. "We scanned CCTV footage and the accused, who was wearing a helmet, was captured at three locations," said Ravindra Mishra, assistant security officer at Pantnagar University.

Turn manholes into 'machine holes': NCSK chief

DEHRADUN: National Commission for Safai Karamcharis (NCSK) chairman Bhagwat Prasad Makwana on Monday directed officials to work towards converting manholes into "machine holes" and increase the use of mechanised and robotic technology for sewer and manhole cleaning to prevent sanitation workers from entering sewers manually. Chairing a review meeting in Dehradun on the rights and welfare of sanitation workers, Makwana directed officials to increase the use of robotic technology and other mechanised equipment.

इण्डियन ओवरसीज़ बैंक Indian Overseas Bank
Regional office: 595, Indira Nagar, Malik Chowk, Dehradun -248006

COMMERCIAL PREMISES REQUIRED

Indian Overseas Bank invites offers from owners/landlords for shifting of Branches at two districts i.e. Haridwar & Dehradun, Interested owners/landlords may submit their offers in two separate sealed covers, clearly superscribed as **"Techinical Bid"** and **"Financial Bid"** with complete address. The carpet area of the premises should be clearly mentioned. Covered parking facility is mandatory, No brokerage shall be paid. The Bank reserves the right to accept or reject any or all offers without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Important Dates

Last date for Submission:- 12.10.2026 up to 05:00 PM

(Our tender published in the Daily Newspaper dated 04.09.2026, the last date of 26.09.2026 is extended to 12.10.2026, the remaining conditions will remain unchanged.)

Opening Of Tender: Next working day subject to availability of committee.

You may log on to our website www.iob.in (Under tender section) for technical & Financial bid formats and other details can also be obtained from Regional Office Dehradun, at the above mentioned address.

Sl.No.	Branch Name	District	Desirable Carpet Area (in sqfts.) (Approx)
1.	Kankhal	Haridwar	Above 1500 to 1800 sqfts.
2.	Dehradun Main	Dehradun	Above 1500 to 1800 sqfts.
3.	Aithal	Haridwar	Above 1200 to 1500 sqfts.

Bidders to submit Rs. 590/- as application fee by means of demand draft along with Technical Bid (Part-A) in favor of Indian Overseas Bank.

Chief Regional Manager

इण्डियन ओवरसीज़ बैंक Indian Overseas Bank
Regional office: 595, Indira Nagar, Malik Chowk, Dehradun -248006

EMPANELMENT DOCUMENT FOR CONSULTANT, CONTRACTOR AND VENDORS

Indian Overseas Bank invites application and documents from various consultants, contractors and vendors towards empanelment under Dehradun region where **Indian Overseas Bank, Regional office Dehradun is managing Bank's estate at Dehradun** and various branches in Dehradun Region at present spread across Dehradun, Haridwar, Roorkee ,Udham Singh Nagar Rudraprayag, Bageshwar,,Pithoragarh and Chamoli districts.

Interested vendors, consultants and contractors may submit their documents in one sealed cover clearly superscribed as **"EMPANELMENT DOCUMENT FOR CONSULTANT, CONTRACTOR AND VENDORS"** with complete address . The bank reserves the right to accept or reject any or all offers without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Important dates:-

Tender start date-29.09.2026

Last date of submission-21.10.2026 (5:00 PM)

Opening of Tender- Next working day subject to availability of committee members

You may log on to our website www.iob.in (under Tender Section) for application and documents formats and any other details can also be obtained from regional office Dehradun at the above mentioned address

Bidders to submit Rs 590/- as application fees by means of demand draft along with sealed cover of documents in favor of **Indian Overseas Bank payable at Dehradun.**

Chief Regional Manager

यूको बैंक UCO BANK (A Govt. of India Undertaking) Honours Your Trust

Zonal Office: Plot No. 5, I.T. Park Sahastradhara Road, Dehradun, Uttarakhand- 248001, Ph. No.: 0135-2742811, 2742868

[Rule-8(6)] SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation & Reconstruction of the Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 read with provison to Ruie 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. (Sarfaesi) Notice is hereby given to the public in seral and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Gurarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, the Possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **UCO Bank** Secured Creditor, will be sold on **"As is where is Basis", "As is what is Basis" and " Whatever there** is Basis on **06.11.2026 by 1:00 p.m. to 05:00 p.m** (with unlimited auto extension of 10 minutes) for recovery of Bank's Dues as mentioned below plus interest and expenses due in the UCO Bank Secured Creditor from Following (Borrowers/Mortgagers/Guarantors) The whole schedule of Auction Proceedings is as under. **SCHEDULE OF THE SECURED ASSETS**

S. No.	Name of the Borrower/Guarantor	Description of Secured Assets	Reserve Price / EMD Amount	Date & Time of E-Auction	Last Date of Submission of Bid	Amount due as per Demand Notice
1.	**Borrower - Mr. Uma Shankar Kukreti S/o Mr. Tika Ram Kukreti ,** House No.147, Lane No. 7A, Krishna Vihar, Mohkampur, Dehradun, Uttarakhand-248001 **Co-obligant - Mrs. Meena Kukreti W/o Mr. Uma Shankar Kukreti** R/o House No.147, Lane No. 7A, Krishna Vihar, Mohkampur, Dehradun, Uttarakhand- 248001	All that residential property constructed over the land bearing Khata Khatauni No. 1323(1399 to 1404 Fasli) Khasra No. 1972 measuring area 104.04 Sq. Mtr. having covered area 92.93 Sq. Mtr. situated at Mauza Raipur, Pargana Parwadoon, Dehradun, Uttarakhand registered vide Bahi No. 1, Jild No. 3113, Pages 173 to 198 at Serial No. 10271 dated 25.10.2016 in the office of Sub-registrar Dehradun. **Bounded as: East-** 17 Ft. Wide Road, S.M 24.4 Ft, **West-** Land of other, S.M. 24.4 Ft. **North-** Land of Shri Badoni JI, S.M. 46 ft. **South-** Land of other, S.M 46 Ft.	**Rs. 56,55,000** / **Rs. 5,65,500** / **Bid Increment Rs. 50,000/-** / **Date of Posession 03.09.2026 (Symbolic)**	**06.11.2026** from 1:00 pm to 05:00 pm / Date & Time of Property Inspection 02.11.2026 between 11:00 AM to 04:00 PM Please Contact- **Vinod Chauhan Mobile No : 9004750398**	**06.11.2026** Till 04:50 pm	Rs. 12,33,298.01 + interest from 01.01.2026 / **Demand Notice 03.02.2026**
2.	**Borrower - Late Mr. Janeshwar Prasad S/o Ram Diya ,** House No. 87-A, Jamalpur Khurd, Bahadarbad, Jwalapur, Haridwar-249402, Uttarakhand **Co-obligant - Mrs. Kunta Devi W/o Late. Janeshwar Prasad ,** House No. 87-A, Jamalpur Khurd, Bahadarbad, Jwalapur, Haridwar-249402, Uttarakhand	All that residential property bearing Khasra No. 78 having total measuring area 99.59 Sq. Mtr. (51.50 Sq. Mtr. +48.09 Sq. Mtr). situated at Jamalpur Khurd, jwalapur, Haridwar, Uttarakhand. Deed1: Total Area-51.50 Sq. Mtr.Bahi No. 1, Jild No. 1884, Pages 313 to 326 at Serial No. 7052 registered in office of Sub-Registrar Haridwar dated 30.08.2014. Deed 2: Total Area-48.09 Sq. Mtr.Bahi No. 1, Jild No. 1986 Pages 105 to 120 at Serial No. 9584 registered in office of Sub-regsitrar Haridwar dated 06.12.2014, **Bounded as: East-** Road and other's house, **West-** Property of other's, **North-** House of other's, **South-** House of other's	**Rs. 35,80,000** / **Rs. 3,58,000** / **Bid Increment Rs. 50,000/-** / **Date of Posession 15.09.2026 (Symbolic)**	**06.11.2026** from 1:00 pm to 05:00 pm / Date & Time of Property Inspection 02.11.2026 between 11:00 AM to 04:00 PM Please Contact- **Sanjay Mehra Mobile No : 9805805621**	**06.11.2026** Till 04:50 pm	Rs. 19,11,182.57/- + interest from 01.06.2026 / **Demand Notice 10.06.2026**

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:- 1. The sale shall be subject to the Terms & Conditions prescribed in the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002. Detailed Terms and Conditions of the sale is available/published in the following website/web portal https://baanknet.com. **2.** The properties are being sold an "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS", and without recourse **3.** The particulars of secured assets specified in the schedule herein above have been stated to the best of the information of the Authorised Officer, but the authorised Officer shall not be answerable for any emor, misstatement or omission in this proclamation. **4.** The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the website https://baanknet.com on **Dt. 06.11.2026 and starts at 1.00 PM and ends at 05.00 PM. 5.** It is open to the Bank to appoint a representative and to make self-bid and participate in the auction, 6. It shall be the responsibility of the bidders to inspect and satisfy themselves about the asset and specification before submitting the bid. The intending purchaser can inspect the property on **02.11.2026 between 11.00 AM and 04.00 PM.**

STATUTORY 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 8(6) READ WITH OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) ACT 2002

Date: 28.09.2026 **Place: Dehradun** **Authorized Officer, UCO Bank**

यूनियन बैंक ऑफ इंडिया Union Bank of India (भारत सरकार का उपक्रम / A Government of India undertaking)

RAMNAGAR BRANCH
Jodha Bhawan, Nanda Line, Ramnagar,
Email:ubin0914576@unionbankofindia.bank.in

[Rule - 8 (1)] POSSESSION NOTICE (For immovable property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorised officer of **Union Bank of India, Ramnagar Branch, Jodha Bhawan, Nanda Line, Ramnagar** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (Second) Act, 2002 (Act No. 54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated **09.02.2026** calling upon **1. the borrower: 1(a) M/s Om Sai Communication (Proprietor Shri Ravi Kumar), Village-Dulhepuri, Pargana-Bhawar Chilkiya, Post-Peerumdara, Tehsil-Ramnagar, District-Nainital, Uttarakhand-244715, 1(b) Mr. Ravi Kumar S/o Shri Jay Singh, Village- Dulhepuri, Pargana-Bhawar Chilkiya, Post-Peerumdara, Tehsil-Ramnagar, District-Nainital, Uttarakhand-244715 and 2. Guarantor: 2 (a) Mrs. Vidhya Devi W/o Shri Jay Singh, H. No. 25, Main Churaha, Village- Dulhepuri, Pargana-Bhawar Chilkiya, Post-Peerumdara, Tehsil-Ramnagar, District-Nainital, Uttarakhand-244715, 2 (b) Mr. Manoj Joshi S/o Shri Trilok Chand Joshi, H. No. 928, Main Chauraha, Village-Dulhepuri, Pargana-Bhawar Chilkiya, Post-Peerumdara, Tehsil-Ramnagar, District-Nainital, Uttarakhand-244715** to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs. 9,24,391.79 (Rs. Nine Lakhs Twenty Four Thousand Three Hundred Ninety One and paisa Seventy Nine Only) + further interest and charges thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.**

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said rules on this **23rd day of September of the year 2026.**

The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **Union Bank of India for an amount Rs. 9,24,391.79 (Rs. Nine Lakhs Twenty Four Thousand Three Hundred Ninety One and paisa Seventy Nine Only) as on 31.01.2026 and interest and charges thereon.**

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to the borrower to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the Immovable property

All that part and parcel of Residential Land & building at Khata No. 20, Khasra No. (Plot No.) 8A Min, admeasuring 725.00 Sq ft situated at Village-Dulepuri, Pargana-Bhawar Chilkiya, Tehsil-Ramnagar, District-Nainital, Uttarakhand. Boundaries: As per title deed dated 28.10.2005, Serial No. 8666, Registered at Sub Registrar, Haldwani, On the North by: Property Rajesh Kumar, On the South by: Property of Prabha Jain, On the East by: Property of Seller, On the West by: 20 ft Wide Road and Nala

Date: 23.09.2026 **AUTHORISED OFFICER**
Place: Dulepuri, Ramnagar **UNION BANK OF INDIA**