

**February 2023**  
**Uttarakhand Disaster & Accident Synopsis (UDAS)**  
**Monthly Reports**

**Social Development for Communities (SDC) Foundation**  
**Dehradun, Uttarakhand**

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**About UDAS Monthly Reports:**

Uttarakhand Disaster & Accident Synopsis (UDAS) is a monthly initiative by Dehradun-based environmental action and advocacy group, Social Development for Communities (SDC) Foundation. The goal of the UDAS reports is to document disasters and accidents in Uttarakhand, leading to human and ecological casualties. UDAS is based on media reports in respectable publications in English and Hindi newspapers, as well as news portals. UDAS 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 UDAS 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 UDAS will spur political leadership, policy makers, bureaucracy, research and academic institutions, businesses, civil society organizations, 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. February 2023 : Joshimath “sinking” update**

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami instructs officials to identify agencies that can conduct carrying capacity analysis for towns in the hill areas of Uttarakhand. Meanwhile residents of Joshimath raise concerns regarding the three proposals submitted by the Chamoli DM for the rehabilitation and resettlement of the affected people. They claim that the three options lack clarity. Authorities clarify that the Char Dham Yatra of 2023 will follow the usual Joshimath route as the alternate, Helang bypass road is still in its initial stages.

# 'Lacks clarity': Affected families on proposals for rehabilitation

HT Correspondent

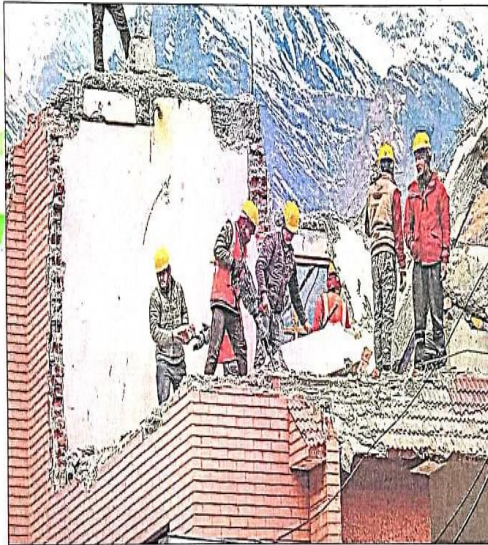
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**DEHRADUN:** The land crisis-hit Joshimath residents have raised concerns regarding the three proposals submitted by the Chamoli district magistrate for the rehabilitation and resettlement of the affected people, as they said the options "lacked clarity".

An affected resident Jagdish Negi said, "We are okay with the one-time settlement but they should clarify the rate of compensation. It should be adequate. In the hills, building a house is an uphill task and requires a lot of money."

Digambar Rawat, who has been living in a relief camp since January 3 at Nagar Palika Parishad building after their house developed cracks, said, "First they should make it clear that they will allot us land. How will they decide? If somebody lived in a good locality close to Badrinath highway, will they be paid better? Even in the one-time settlement option, they have not cleared at which rate they will pay".

Chamoli district magistrate Himanshu Khurana on Monday proposed three options for the rehabilitation and resettlement of the affected families in Joshi-



SDRF personnel demolish a hotel, in Joshimath.

math town. The information was shared during the meeting of the high-powered committee on the Joshimath crisis which was presided over by additional chief secretary Anand Vardhan.

As per the first option, one-time settlement will be done by providing financial assistance to the affected landowners. The compensation for the damage to the affected land/building, payment will be made as per the

prescribed standards. Before making the full payment, the land/building of the affected person will have to be registered in favour of the state government.

Under the second option, land up to a maximum area of 100 square metres will be provided to the affected land-building owners for house construction relative to the affected land, and compensation will be given

for the affected structure. In case of more than 100 square metres of land, the affected landowners will be paid for the rest of the land according to the norms.

Before making the full payment to the affected land/building owners and before allotting land up to a maximum area of 100 square metres for house construction, the registry of the land/building of the disaster-af-

ected person will have to be done in favour of the state government.

Under the third option, a building will be constructed on the land up to the maximum area of 75 square meters at the identified place for the rehabilitation of the affected. If the valuation of the affected residential building/land is more than the land/accommodation being provided, then the remaining amount will be paid to the affected.

Like two other options, the registry of the concerned disaster-affected land/building will have to be done in favour of the state government before proceedings.

The three options suggested for the rehabilitation of the affected people will come up during the cabinet meeting.

However, disaster management department secretary Dr Ranjit Kumar Sinha said: "It will only be clear if rehabilitation is required from the affected areas after the final reports of the technical agencies studying the situation are submitted".

A consensus would be built with the affected families if the reports suggest rehabilitation, he said. Only after receiving the final report of the technical institutes, a decision will also be

taken regarding the works related to mitigation of disaster/stabilization of the area, toe erosion, drainage plan etc, Sinha said.

Nain Singh Bhandari, president of Joshimath Vyapar Mandal. "The area that they have proposed to allot to the affected families is not adequate. Secondly, the options lack clarity on how much percent above the market rate we will be paid. Thirdly, the proposals say nothing about the business activities affected here and there is also ambiguity about how they would pay for the commercial structures."

Atul Sati, convener of Joshimath Bachao Sangharsh Samiti, said, "It is just a proposal. That too lacks clarity. The government's policy framework for the rehabilitation of affected people is yet to come. These are just pieces of information."

"They have not made it clear at which rate will they pay the compensation. We had asked them to consider the Centre's Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, 2007, which covers every section of society, including businessmen. The proposals will now go to the state cabinet. Let's see in which form the proposals are passed by the cabinet," he said.

1 FEBRUARY, 2023  
HINDUSTAN TIMES

01/02/23

With the completion of one month after the land crisis aggravated right in the beginning of January 2023, local residents are still waiting for the transit shelters or prefabricated homes as promised by the Chamoli district administration on January 5, 2023. Within one month, a steady exodus has been happening in Joshimath with almost 400 families migrating to other places like Dehradun and Gopeshwar.



# आपदा के एक माह हुए पूरे, बदल गई जोशीमठ के लोगों की दुनिया

दो जनवरी की रात मकानों में आई थीं दरारें, कई लोगों ने छोड़ दिए थे घर

जोशीमठ। जोशीमठ में आई आपदा दो फरवरी को एक माह पूरा हो गया। इस आपदा ने जहां कई लोगों को बेघर कर दिया वहीं कई लोगों को अपनी जमापूंजी की कमाई में खड़ा घर खाली करना पड़ा। इस आपदा ने प्रभावितों को पूरी जिंदगी बदल दी।

रहने का ठिकाना बदल गया तो दिनचर्या भी बदल गई। मगर अब लोग अपने इस दुख को भुलाकर नई जिंदगी शुरू करने में लगे हैं। अब इंतजार है तो पुनर्वास और मुआवजे का। नगर में भू-धंसाव और मकानों में दरारें आने का मिलसिला काफी पहने शुरू हो गया था लेकिन दो जनवरी की रात को मनोहर बाग, सिंहधर और सुनल वाई के कई मकानों में अचानक बड़ी-बड़ी दरारें आ गई थीं। कुछ लोगों ने रात में ही घर छोड़ दिए थे। दो जनवरी की रात को ही मारवाड़ी वाई के जेपी कालोनी में पाने का रिमाव शुरू हुआ और यहां भी कई आवासीय भवनों की जमीन फट गई और दीवारें चटक गईं जिससे कई भवन रहने लायक नहीं रहे। संवाद



आपदा के बाद खतरे की जद में आए मकान। - संवाद



एक महीना बीत गया, सरकार पुनर्वास पर कोई ठोस निर्णय नहीं ले पाई है। शिविरों में रहने वाले प्रभावितों के सब्र का बंध टूट रहा है। अब जिंदगी से समझौता करने के लिए तैयार हैं बस एक रहने का ठिकाना मिल जाए। - गीता परमार, मनोहर बाग वाई।



हम जोशीमठ में लंबे समय से रह रहे हैं। सरकार को यहाँ पर सुरक्षित जगह देखकर शीघ्र ही हमारा पुनर्वास करना चाहिए। - विजय सती, मनोहर बाग वाई।

धरने पर डटे हैं आपदा प्रभावित : जोशीमठ बचाओ संघर्ष समिति का धरना बृहस्पतिवार को 33वें दिन भी जारी रहा। तहसील परिसर में बैठे आपदा प्रभावितों ने जल्द पुनर्वास कर मुआवजा देने, एनटीपीसी की परियोजना और हेलिंग मारवाड़ी बाईपास निर्माण बंद करने की मांग की।

## ध्वस्तीकरण कार्य जारी

नगर के दो होटल मार्जेंट व्यू और मलारी इन को तोड़ने का काम अभी भी जारी है। इसके साथ ही एक माह में दो आवासीय भवन और लोक निर्माण विभाग का गेस्ट हाउस ध्वस्त किया गया है। वहीं, जेपी कालोनी में भी 15 आवासीय भवनों को तोड़ा जा रहा है।

## सीबीआरआई की टीम लौटी

नगर में भू धंसाव के कारणों और उसकी वास्तविक स्थिति को जांच के लिए पहुंची सीबीआरआई रुड़की की टीम भी नगर से लौट चुकी है। बुधवार को टीम के सभी सदस्य चले गए। टीम ने यहां पूरे नगर का गहनता से निरीक्षण किया है। भवनों की स्थिति को देखकर लाल, पीले निशान और ध्वस्तीकरण के स्टीकर लगाए। वैज्ञानिकों ने बताया कि यहां से मिली रिपोर्ट को वह जल्द शासन को सौंप देंगे।

3 FEBRUARY, 2023

ANAM UTALA


The Central government told the Parliament on February 5, 2023 that many parts of the Himalayas have unstable and dynamic geology which may lead to land subsidence and landslides. It also said that the region has been witnessing gradual subsidence. Residents took out a protest march on February 10, 2023 under the banner of the citizen group, Joshimath Bachao Sangharsh Samiti.



FEB 6, 2023

## Many parts of Himalayas have 'unstable & dynamic geology': Govt tells Parl

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**Fresh cracks appear in many houses: Locals**

Residents of Joshimath said the existing fissures in their houses have widened and fresh cracks have surfaced in several other dwellings in Upper Bazaar, Marwari ward and Singhdhar area, reports Gaurav Talwar. They said that the "ground reality is contrary to what the government claims".

**Continued on P 4**

## Joshimath situation being monitored 24x7

Continued from P 1

Though the ministry of earth sciences (MoES) in its written reply, remained silent on the details of heavy construction works carried out in the region and violations, if any, of the extant parameters, it said "geology of many locations in Himalayan region is unstable and dynamic, and environment clearance is mandatory before any major construction project is taken up". It also said there was no blanket ban on residential or commercial construction, but the local administration can take a decision on imposing restrictions, based on hazard risks. "As per information provided by the state government of Uttarakhand, Joshimath is located on a thick cover of very old landslides material. Large boulders of gneiss and fragments of basic schist rocks are observed to be embedded in grey-coloured silty sandy matrix. The region has been witnessing gradual subsidence. This was also reported by a committee set up under Mahesh Chandra Mishra in 1976," said minister of earth sciences Jitendra Singh in his written response. He noted that the report of the Mishra committee suggested that "heavy construction should be allowed only after examining the load-bearing capacity of the ground condition".

The minister, however, remained silent on specific questions asked by AAP member Sanjay Singh on the steps taken by the government to implement the recommendations of the Mishra committee and year-wise details on it. He merely said that all construction activities have been stopped by the state government in the entire Joshimath area. "The situation is continuously monitored on a 24x7 basis at various levels in the state and central governments," said the minister.

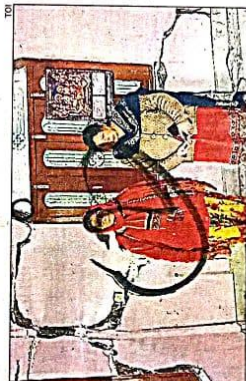
## Fresh cracks appear in many houses in Joshimath, say locals

**'Ground Reality Is Contrary To Govt Claims'**

Gaurav Talwar@timesgroup.com

Joshimath: Residents of subsidence-hit Joshimath on Sunday said the existing fissures in their houses have widened and fresh cracks have surfaced in several other dwellings in Upper Bazaar, Marwari ward and Singhdhar area. They said that the "ground reality is contrary to what the government claims".

Sanjay Uniyal, treasurer of Joshimath (JSSB), a citizens' collectives, which is spearheading the movement in support of the residents, said, "We are receiving regular reports of fresh cracks in houses. Government's claim that no fresh cracks have occurred is untrue. We are receiving nearly half-a-dozen complaints daily. According to the Channol district administration, houses which have reported cracks still stand at 863, and 181 of them have been declared 'unsafe'." "The administration's data has not changed over the past 10 days, which is far away from reality on the ground," the JSSB member pointed out. Banke Lal, 70, currently living in a sheher-hone, said,



Cracks have grown wider in houses in Joshimath

## Fraudsters in call cent

On the basis of the preliminary report of eight top institutes and organizations, the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) made a presentation to the Prime Ministers Office (PMO) on the present scenario at Joshimath and the efforts required to improve the situation on February 10, 2023.

The Uttarakhand Cabinet on February 15, 2023 approved a policy for compensation and permanent rehabilitation, providing three options to residents affected by the Joshimaath



crisis. The policy for Joshimath has been divided into three parts - rates, alternatives and conditions. As far as the rates for the houses are concerned, it has been decided to give compensation in accordance with the rates decided by CPWD and also add the cost index to it. For load bearing houses, the amount is Rs 31,000 per square meter and for RCC houses, it is Rs 36,000 per square meter. For commercial buildings made with a load bearing structure, the rate is Rs 39,000 per square meter and it is Rs 45,000 for RCC structures.

# क्षतिग्रस्त भवनों का 31 से 45 हजार प्रति वर्गमीटर तक मिलेगा मुआवजा

पुनर्वास के विकल्प भी सुझाए, भूमि पर अगली कैबिनेट में होगा फैसला

अमर उजाला ब्यूरो

देहरादून। जोशीमठ में आपदा प्रभावित परिवारों के क्षतिग्रस्त भवनों का मुआवजा 31 से 45 हजार रुपये प्रति वर्ग मीटर की दर से मिलेगा। यह फैसला बुधवार को हुई कैबिनेट की बैठक में लिया गया। बैठक में स्थायी पुनर्वास के लिए भी तीन विकल्प दिए गए हैं। भूमि का मुआवजा तकनीकी संस्थाओं की रिपोर्ट आने के बाद तय किया जाएगा। इसे अगली कैबिनेट बैठक में रखा जाएगा।

कैबिनेट के फैसलों की जानकारी देते हुए मुख्य सचिव डॉ.एसएस संधु ने बताया कि जोशीमठ में आपदा प्रभावितों की भूमि, भवनों के मुआवजे और स्थायी विस्थापन नीति के प्रस्ताव पर चर्चा के बाद भवनों के मुआवजे की दरों को स्वीकृति प्रदान की गई है। इसके अनुसार, आवासीय भवनों की लागत सीपीडब्ल्यूडी की प्लेन एरिया दरों में लागत सूचकांक जोड़कर निकाली जाएगी। भवन की लागत में से प्रभावित भवन के मूल्यहास (डेप्रिसिएशन) को धनराशि घटाने के बाद शेष धनराशि का मुआवजा दिया जाएगा। इसके अलावा दुकान और अन्य व्यावसायिक प्रतिष्ठानों (होटल, ढाबे आदि) के मुआवजे के लिए पांच क्षति स्तर तय किए गए हैं।

## कैबिनेट का फैसला

सीपीडब्ल्यूडी की दरों में लागत सूचकांक लगाकर दिया जाएगा मुआवजा

## 05 स्लैब तय किए व्यावसायिक भवनों के मुआवजे के लिए

ये तय की गई क्षतिग्रस्त भवनों की मुआवजा दरें

- ईट वाले आवासीय भवनों के लिए 31 हजार रुपये प्रति वर्ग मीटर
- आरसीसी वाले आवासीय भवनों के लिए 36 हजार रुपये प्रति वर्ग मीटर
- व्यावसायिक ईट वाले भवनों के लिए 39 हजार रुपये प्रति वर्ग मीटर
- व्यावसायिक आरसीसी भवनों के लिए 45 हजार रुपये प्रति वर्ग मीटर
- दुकान मालिकों को 15 वर्ग मीटर की दुकान या एकमुस्त मुआवजा
- एक वर्ष से अधिक समय से जोशीमठ में किरायेदार दुकानदारों को एकमुस्त दो लाख रुपये की राशि और भविष्य में स्थायी पुनर्वास वाली जगह पर दुकान के लिए प्राथमिकता

विकल्पों के चयन के साथ इन शर्तों को करना होगा पूरा

■ यदि किसी प्रभावित परिवार के पास भूमि, भवन स्वामित्व के वैध अभिलेख नहीं हैं तो ऐसे परिवारों को विभागीय बिल, पानी के बिल, सीवर बिल, भवन कर आदि के साथ ही शायथयत्र के आधार पर मुआवजा दिया जाएगा। बिल दो जनवरी 2023 से पूर्व के होने चाहिए।

■ भूमि को राहत राशि के भुगतान से पूर्व यह भी सुनिश्चित किया जाएगा कि प्रभावित को और से भूमि से संबंधित सभी देयक पूर्ण कर दिए गए हों। इसके लिए संबंधित विभागों की ओर से जारी प्रमाणपत्र प्रस्तुत करना होगा।

■ प्रभावित परिवारों, व्यक्तियों को स्वीकृत धनराशि सर्वेक्षण टीम की ओर से किए गए सर्वेक्षण एवं मापन के आधार पर राहत सहायता वितरित की जाएगी।

■ पुनर्वास पैकेज, राहत सहायता के भुगतान से पूर्व प्रभावित परिवारों को पूर्व में निश्चित पैकेज की अग्रिम धनराशि एक लाख रुपये का समायोजन किया जाएगा।

■ प्रभावित हुए भूमि, भवन, दुकान स्वामी कोई भी विकल्प चुनते हैं, उसके लिए उन्हें उन जिलाधिकारी जोशीमठ की अध्यक्षता में गठित समिति के समुच्च प्रस्ताव होनी होगा।

■ मुआवजे से असंतुष्ट प्रभावित व्यक्ति और जिलाधिकारी चमोली की अध्यक्षता में गठित समिति के समुच्च अपील कर सकता है।

## भवनों के लिए दिए गए तीन विकल्प

### आवासीय

विकल्प एक: आपदा प्रभावित अपने क्षतिग्रस्त आवासीय भवन का मुआवजा निर्धारित दर पर और भूमि का मुआवजा तकनीकी संस्थाओं की रिपोर्ट के आधार पर भविष्य में निर्धारित होने वाली दरों के आधार पर ले सकते हैं।

विकल्प दो: आपदा प्रभावित भवन का मुआवजा लेने के साथ आवासीय भवन बनाने के लिए अधिकतम क्षेत्रफल 75 वर्ग मीटर (50 वर्ग मीटर भवन निर्माण और 25 वर्ग मीटर गोशाला, अन्य कार्यों के लिए) भूमि दी जाएगी।

विकल्प तीन: आपदा प्रभावित को और से अपनी भूमि एवं भवन के सापेक्ष निर्मित आवासीय भवन की मांग की जा सकती है। अधिकतम 50 वर्ग मीटर क्षेत्रफल की सीमा तक की भूमि पर राज्य सरकार की ओर से घर बनाकर दिया जाएगा। इसके अतिरिक्त भूमि होने पर उसका अलग से मुआवजा दिया जाएगा।

### व्यावसायिक

विकल्प एक: आपदा प्रभावित अपने क्षतिग्रस्त व्यावसायिक भवन, दुकान का मुआवजा निर्धारित दर पर और भूमि का मुआवजा तकनीकी संस्थाओं की रिपोर्ट के आधार पर भविष्य में निर्धारित होने वाली दरों के आधार पर ले सकते हैं।

विकल्प दो: आपदा प्रभावित भवन का मुआवजा लेने के साथ दुकान, व्यावसायिक प्रतिष्ठान के लिए भूमि की मांग करते हैं तो ऐसी स्थिति में दुकान, व्यावसायिक प्रतिष्ठान निर्माण के लिए अधिकतम क्षेत्रफल 15 वर्ग मीटर तक की भूमि दी जाएगी।

विकल्प तीन: आपदा प्रभावित दुकान, व्यावसायिक प्रतिष्ठान स्वामी की ओर से निर्मित दुकान, व्यावसायिक प्रतिष्ठान की मांग की जाती है तो ऐसी स्थिति में विन्धित स्थल पर अधिकतम 15 वर्ग मीटर क्षेत्रफल भूमि पर दुकान, व्यावसायिक प्रतिष्ठान का निर्माण राज्य सरकार करके देगी।

## स्थायी पुनर्वास के लिए भी तीन विकल्पों को कैबिनेट की मंजूरी

आपदा प्रबंधन विभाग की ओर से जोशीमठ आपदा प्रभावितों के पुनर्वास के लिए आवासीय और व्यावसायिक श्रेणी में तीन-तीन विकल्प सुझाए गए हैं। आपदा प्रभावित इनमें से किसी एक विकल्प का चयन कर सकते हैं।

16 FEBRUARY, 2023

AMAK UTALA

The winter games, scheduled to be held in Auli from February 23 to 26, 2023 are canceled due to less snowfall in the region. Auli is barely 11 Kilometer from Joshimath. In the meantime, the first prefabricated house of one BHK gets ready.

The Central Building Research Institute (CBRI), which was designated as a nodal agency among all central agencies involved in technical investigation of land subsidence in Joshimath submits an interim report on the town to National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA).

Joshimath residents continue to state that the rehabilitation policy lacks clarity and that their demands were not taken into consideration. Land subsidence continues to increase the risks on the Badrinath highway as fresh cracks (around ten) are spotted. Experts state that a full fledged Char Dham Yatra via Joshimath is risky.

A ground survey by a committee of three experts from state run Sri Dev Suman Uttarakhand University has revealed that Joshimath has cracks as long as half a kilometer and 2 feet wide. Residents claim that mild boulder displacement has started happening in the area due to land subsidence. Around a week after a team of experts from Sri Dev Suman Uttarakhand University, which is under the aegis of the state government, had revealed that the cracks in Joshimath were half a kilometer long, the University claimed that the survey was done on their college campus in Joshimath and was only intended for internal purpose.

**TIMES CITY | UTTARAKHAND** THE TIMES O

## Now, univ that measured Joshimath cracks says it was 'for internal study'


Had Earlier Revealed That The Cracks Were Half-km Long And 2 Metres Wide

**Shivani Azad**  
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**Dehradun:** Around a week after a team of experts from Sri Dev Suman Uttarakhand University, which is under the aegis of the state government, had revealed that the cracks in Joshimath were half a km long and 2 metres wide, the university claimed that the survey was done on their college campus in Joshimath and was only intended for "internal purpose".

A communique signed by the university vice-chancellor (VC) Mahabir Singh Rawat and issued on February 22, said: "The university and principal of associated colleges had formed a research committee to inspect Joshimath and collect general information. It was just a research-oriented report and not a part of the government's report on the town."

Around 300 students study at the university's Joshimath Degree College. The college building is also in the danger zone, as per the Chamoli district administration. One of the university professors, requesting anonymity, said, "The research visit was planned to see the situation of the colleges as we have one in



The land subsidence in Joshimath, called the 'gateway to Badrinath', became severe in January this year, forcing several residents to move to rented accommodation and government shelter homes

### Water flow caused erosion: Residents

Continued from P1

The water outflow from the aquifer, which peaked at over 500 litre per minute (LPM), had continued for weeks, aggravating the land subsidence in the town and forcing over 250 families to leave their houses and move to shelter homes. Meanwhile, district officials claimed that the water discharge may have been a Jal Sansthan pipe that had burst, adding that the matter is being investigated by the officials of the sansthan.

Speaking to TOI, Kum Kum Joshi, SDM Joshimath, said, "I visited the place from where the water discharge was reported. Later, it was found that the water was coming from the Jal Sansthan water tank which is situated right above it. The water flow stopped within two hours. If it was an aquifer burst, the flow would not have stopped so soon."

Joshi added that "senior officials have been informed about the development and a thorough geological investigation has been sought to establish the real reason behind the water discharge."

Meanwhile, convenor of Joshimath Bachao Sangharsh Samiti, Atul Sati, said, "The water discharge which continued for nearly two hours has caused soil erosion in the nearby area and might pose danger to residents in the vicinity. The government must publicise the detailed study report carried out by scientific institutions in January."

**“The university and principal of associated colleges had formed a research committee to inspect Joshimath and collect general information. It was just a research-oriented report and not a part of the government's report on the town”**

A communique signed by the university vice-chancellor (VC) Mahabir Singh Rawat issued on February 22

Joshimath and another in Gopeshwar where houses are also witnessing cracks. The research work during the visit was meant for our internal purpose only.”

Meanwhile, the state government is yet to make the final report by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) public, which has findings by all eight scientific institutes mandated to ascertain the cause of land subsidence in Joshimath.

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## 2. February 12, 2023 : Avalanche hits area near Lambagad in Chamoli district

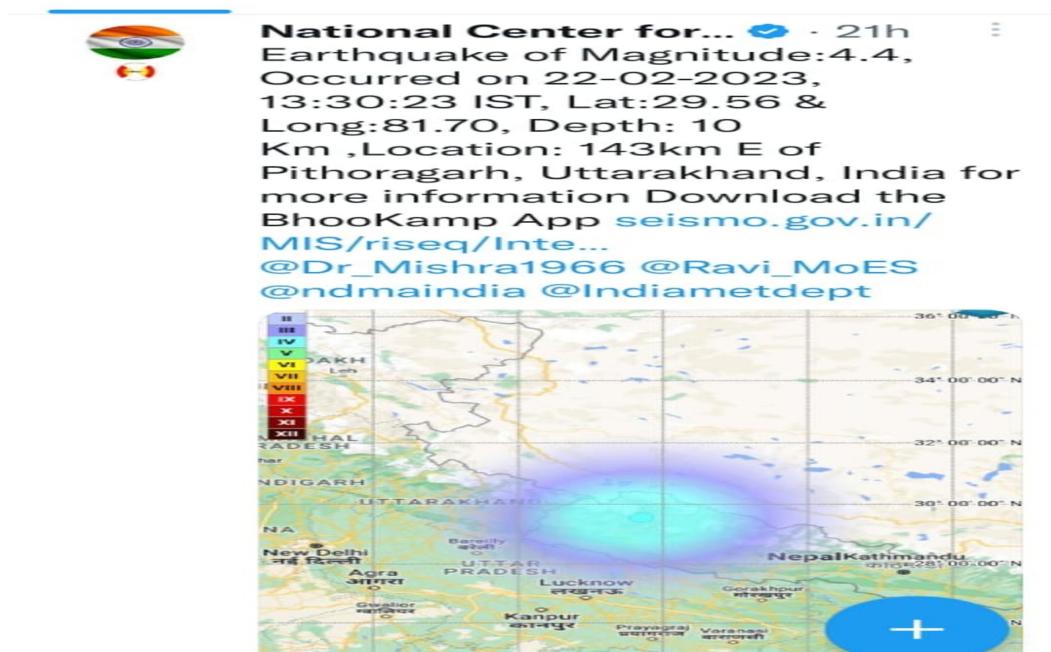
An avalanche occurred along the Badrinath national highway near the Lambagad area of Chamoli district. However, no casualty or damage to property was reported.

The avalanche, believed to have been triggered by a glacial burst, reportedly occurred behind Jaypee company's 400 MW hydroelectric project. The district administration called it a normal occurrence in high altitude areas.



### 3. February 22, 2023 : Earthquake of magnitude 4.4 hits Pithoragarh

An earthquake of magnitude 4.4 on the Richter scale hit a location 143 Kilometer East of Pithoragarh at depth of 10 Kilometer at 1.30 PM on February 22, 2023. No loss to life and property were reported.



#### 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 the 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 urbanization and a basket of sustainable development issues are key focus areas of the foundation.

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