

April 2025

**Uttarakhand Disaster & Accident Analysis Initiative (UDAAI)
Monthly Reports**

Social Development for Communities (SDC) Foundation

Dehradun, Uttarakhand

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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. April 13, 2025 : 5 of Hry family killed as car falls into Alaknanda

Five members of a family were killed after the four wheeler, which was carrying six passengers, plunged 200 metres off the road into the Alaknanda river near Devprayag in Tehri Garhwal district on Saturday morning, officers aware of the matter said, adding that the lone survivor is undergoing treatment in hospital and doctors stated her condition to be stable.

The accident took place at around 7am near Bagwan village on the Rishikesh-Badrinath highway. Teams from the police, local administration, and the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) rushed to the spot to carry out the rescue operations, they added.

The deceased were identified as Sunil Gusain, who was driving the vehicle, his wife, Meenu Gusain, and their children Sujal and Nukku and Aditya. The woman who

survived was identified as Anita and she is Meenu's sister. All of them were residents of Faridabad in Haryana, police sails.

"As soon as we received information about the accident, a rescue team was immediately dispatched to the spot. We faced significant challenges due to the deep and rugged terrain. The wreckage was pulled out using ropes attached to a crane, and the vehicle was then cut open with the necessary equipment to retrieve the bodies. The victims were residents of Faridabad and were on their way to attend a wedding at Gauchar in Chamoli," said Devprayag police station in-charge Mahipal Rawat.

On the possible cause of the accident, Rawat said, "The road is wide and there are no sharp turns at that spot, which suggests that the driver may have dozed off or there could have been brake failure. However, there are no brake marks on the road. They had started their journey from Faridabad on Friday evening. So, fatigue and sleep deprivation of the driver could be a possible factor."

Every year, over 1,000 road accidents are reported in the state, with the treacherous, winding and narrow roads on the mountainous terrain often exacerbating the danger. This issue is particularly acute during the monsoon and winter seasons, when poor visibility makes already challenging journeys even more hazardous.

5 of Hry family killed as car falls into Alaknanda

HT Correspondent

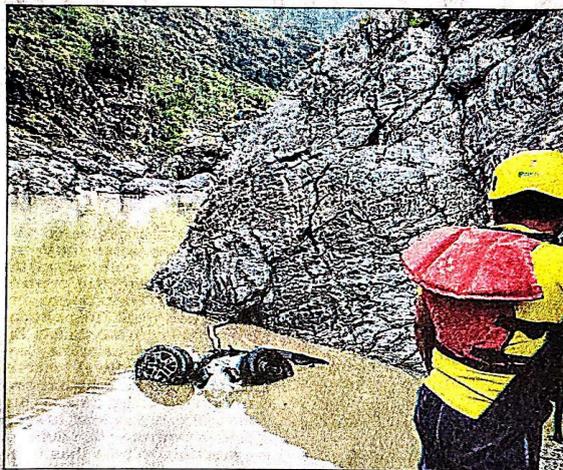
letters@hindustantimes.com

DEHRADUN: Five members of a family were killed after the four-wheeler, which was carrying six passengers, plunged 200 metres off the road into the Alaknanda river near Devprayag in Tehri Garhwal district on Saturday morning, officers aware of the matter said, adding that the lone survivor is undergoing treatment in hospital and doctors stated her condition to be stable.

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The submerged car in the Alaknanda river on Saturday. HT PHOTO

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the vehicle was then cut open with the necessary equipment to retrieve the bodies. The victims were residents of Faridabad and were on their way to attend a wedding at Gauchar in Cham-

oli," said Devprayag police station in-charge Mahipal Rawat.

"Anita survived as she was sitting just beside the car door. When the car fell into the river and became partially submerged, she managed to get out of the vehicle. She was rescued and taken to the hospital for treatment, and doctor said that her condition is currently stable," Rawat added.

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HINDUSTAN TIMES

APRIL 13, 2025

2. April 19, 2025 : Car Carrying Wedding Guests Falls into Gorge, Five Dead

An Alto car carrying wedding guests fell into a 300-meter-deep gorge amid heavy rain and hailstorm. Five people died on the spot. The accident occurred around 7 PM

on Friday near Koreldhar on the Birhi-Nijmula motor road in Chamoli district, close to Gadi village. The district administration believes the accident was caused by the vehicle's high speed and adverse weather conditions. The incident came to light only after the car was searched for, as it was part of a wedding procession. Some vehicles in the procession had moved ahead of the Alto.

According to police, the wedding procession had gone to the Nijmula area on Friday. In the evening, five wedding guests were returning to Harmani village in the Dasholi development block in the Alto car. When the car did not arrive for a long time, other guests traveling ahead tried to contact them via phone, but there was no response. Suspecting something untoward, they went back to search. That's when they discovered the car had crashed. It was found overturned 300 meters below, near the banks of the Vir Ganga River. All five occupants had died on the spot, suffering severe head injuries.

Two of the deceased have been identified as Surendra and Surendra Ram from Gholim, Chamoli. The identities of the other three are yet to be confirmed. It is being reported that the accident site is currently undergoing road widening work. There are no crash barriers or parapets around, and the road is not in good condition. Several accidents have occurred in this area in the past as well.

District Magistrate Sandeep Tiwari stated that the primary cause of the accident appears to be the high speed of the vehicle. Adverse weather conditions are also considered a contributing factor. He mentioned that the poor weather also made it difficult to retrieve the bodies from the gorge.

बरातियों की कार खाई में गिरी, पांच की मौत

संवाद सहयोगी: गोपेश्वर: बरातियों की ला रही अल्टो कार भारी वर्षा और ओलावृष्टि के बीच 300 मीटर खाई में गिर गई। हादसे में पांच बरातियों की मौके पर ही मौत हो गई। हादसा शुक्रवार शाम करीब सात बजे चमोली जिले के बिरही-निजमूला मोटर मार्ग पर गाड़ी गांव के पास कोरेलधार में हुआ। जिला प्रशासन हादसे का कारण वाहन की तेज गति और मौसम प्रतिकूल होना मान रहा है। हादसे का पता तब चला जब बरात में शामिल इस वाहन की खोजबीन की गई। बरात के कुछ वाहन इससे आगे चल रहे थे। हादसे पर मुख्यमंत्री पुष्कर सिंह धामी ने शोक जताया है। साथ ही जिला प्रशासन को मृतकों के स्वजन को अनुमन्य सहायता राशि उपलब्ध कराने के निर्देश दिए हैं।

पुलिस के अनुसार शुक्रवार को निजमूला क्षेत्र में बरात गई थी। शाम को अल्टो कार से पांच बराती दशोली विकासखंड के हरमनी गांव को लौट रहे थे। काफी देर तक जब इस कार नहीं आई तो आगे चल रहे बरातियों ने फोन पर संपर्क किया लेकिन जवाब नहीं मिला। अनहोनी की आशंका पर वे वापस

● विपरीत मौसम और तेज रफ्तार को माना जा रहा हादसे का कारण

● चमोली जिले के बिरही-निजमूला मोटर मार्ग पर कोरेलधार में देरशाम हादसा



चमोली जिले के बिरही निजमूला मोटरमार्ग पर गहरी खाई में गिरकर दुर्घटनाग्रस्त कार ● सागर पुलिस

खोजबीन में निकले। तब उन्हें अल्टो के दुर्घटनाग्रस्त होने का पता चला। कार 300 मीटर नीचे वीर गंगा नदी किनारे पलटी मिली। उसमें पांच लोग सवार थे। पांचों की घटनास्थल पर ही मौत हो चुकी थी। उनके सिर पर गंभीर चोटें थीं। इनमें दो की शिनाख्त सुरेंद्र और सुरेंद्र राम निवासी गोलीम चमोली के रूप में हुई है। तीन अन्य की शिनाख्त अभी नहीं हो पाई है। बताया जा रहा है कि जिस स्थान पर हादसा हुआ वहां इन दिनों सड़क

तीन दिन यात्रा करने से बचने की सलाह

जिलाधिकारी संदीप तिवारी ने बताया कि मौसम विभाग ने अगले तीन दिन चमोली जिले में भारी वर्षा का अलर्ट जारी किया है। इसको देखते हुए लोगों से इस अवधि में यात्रा करने से बचने की अपील की गई है। यह भी सुझाव दिया गया है कि मौसम देखकर ही घरों से बाहर निकलें। उन्होंने बताया कि मौसम के अलर्ट के दृष्टिगत जिले के सभी आंगनबाड़ी केंद्रों और विद्यालयों में शनिवार को अवकाश घोषित किया गया है।

के चौड़ीकरण का काम चल रहा है। इसके आसपास क्रेश बैरियर और पैराफिट भी नहीं हैं। सड़क भी दुरुस्त नहीं है। पहले भी यहां दुर्घटनाएं हो चुकी हैं। जिलाधिकारी संदीप तिवारी ने बताया कि हादसे का प्रथम दृष्टया कारण वाहन की तेज गति होने का अनुमान है। विपरीत मौसम भी इस दुर्घटना का एक कारण माना जा रहा है। बताया कि इसकी वजह से शवों को खाई से निकालने में भी दिक्कतें पेश आईं।

DAINIK JAGWAN

APRIL 19, 2025

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

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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.

