

May 2025

**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. May 9, 2025 :Helicopter en route to Gangotri Dham crashes near Gangnani, 6 dead including 5 women

A helicopter heading towards Gangotri Dham crashed near Gangnani. In this tragic incident, six people, including five women, died on the spot. One person was seriously injured and has been airlifted to AIIMS Rishikesh via heli-ambulance.

On Thursday morning, a private company's helicopter carrying seven people, including the pilot, took off from Sahastradhara to Kharsali, and then from Kharsali to Harsil. From there, the devotees were to proceed to Gangotri. Around 8:45 AM, the helicopter plunged into a 200-meter-deep gorge near Gangnani.

Upon receiving the information, teams from the administration, police, SDRF, paramilitary forces, and the health and forest departments reached the site. Five people died on the spot. Two were seriously injured — one of them died during

May 2025 - UDAAI Report by SDC Foundation, Uttarakhand

rescue, while the other was flown to AIIMS via the Sanjeevani heli-service from the Natin helipad.

SP Sarita Dobal said that the cause of the accident will be known only after a thorough investigation.

M Vedavathi (48 years), a resident of Andhra Pradesh and sister of TDP MP Laxminarayana, also died in the accident. Her husband Makhtoor Bhaskar (51), who was critically injured, is admitted to AIIMS.

Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama has ordered a high-level investigation into the accident. He instructed officials to ensure a transparent probe and submit a report to the government to ascertain the cause of the accident.

Expressing grief over the tragedy, the CM said that proper strategies and robust technical measures must be implemented to prevent such helicopter accidents in the future. He directed that the safety standards in helicopter operations be reviewed and all necessary improvements be implemented promptly.

गंगोत्री जा रहा हेलिकॉप्टर दुर्घटनाग्रस्त, छह की मौत

एक जखमी : गंगनानी के समीप अनियंत्रित होकर खाई में गिरा

संवाद न्यूज एजेंसी

उत्तरकाशी। गंगोत्री धाम जा रहा एक हेलिकॉप्टर गंगनानी के समीप दुर्घटनाग्रस्त हो गया। इस घटना में 5 महिलाओं समेत 6 लोगों ने मौके पर ही दम तोड़ दिया। वहीं एक व्यक्ति गंभीर रूप से घायल हो गया। उसे हेली एंबुलेंस से एम्स ऋषिकेश भेजा गया है।

बृहस्पतिवार सुबह निजी कंपनी के हेलिकॉप्टर में पायलट सहित सात लोगों ने सहस्रधारा से खरसाली फिर खरसाली से हर्षिल के लिए उड़ान भरी थी। वहां से श्रद्धालुओं को गंगोत्री जाना था। गंगनानी के पास 8:45 बजे हेलिकॉप्टर करीब 200 मीटर गहरी खाई में जा गिरा।

सूचना मिलते ही प्रशासन, पुलिस, एसडीआरएफ और पैरामिलिट्री के साथ स्वास्थ्य, वन विभाग की टीम ने मौके पर पहुंची। पांच लोगों ने मौके पर ही दम तोड़ दिया था। दो लोग गंभीर घायल थे, इनमें से एक ने रेस्क्यू के दौरान दम तोड़ दिया, जबकि दूसरे को नटीण स्थित हेलिपैड से संजीवनी हेली सेवा से एम्स भेजा गया। एसपी सरिता डोवाल ने बताया कि दुर्घटना की वजह जांच से ही मालूम हो सकेगी। >> संबंधित 05 पर



मृतकों में 3 मुंबई, 2 यूपी, 1 आंध्र प्रदेश, 1 गुजरात से

दुर्घटनाग्रस्त हेलिकॉप्टर

मृतकों में सांसद की बहन भी
हादसे में मरी गई आंध्र प्रदेश की एम वेदावथी (48 वर्ष), टीडीपी सांसद लक्ष्मीनारायण की बहन थीं। हादसे में गंभीर घायल हुए वेदावथी के पति मख्तूर भास्कर (51) एम्स में भर्ती हैं।

हादसे में इनकी गई जान

1. रोबिन सिंह (60 वर्ष), गुजरात (पायलट)
2. विजयालक्ष्मी रेड्डी चिरां (57 वर्ष), मुंबई
4. कला सोनी (61 वर्ष), मुंबई, महाराष्ट्र
3. एम. वेदावथी (48 वर्ष), आंध्र प्रदेश
5. रुचि अग्रवाल (56) आलमगिरी गंज, वरेली
6. राधा (79 वर्ष), आलमगिरी गंज, वरेली
राधा रुचि की मां थीं, पति की मृत्यु के बाद से ही वह मुंबई में रुचि के साथ रह रही थीं।

मुख्यमंत्री ने दिए उच्च स्तरीय जांच के आदेश

देहरादून। मुख्यमंत्री पुष्कर सिंह धामी ने हादसे की उच्च स्तरीय जांच के आदेश दिए हैं। उन्होंने अफसरों को निर्देश दिए कि हादसे की पारदर्शी जांच कर रिपोर्ट शसन को उपलब्ध कराएं। जिससे हादसे के कारणों का पता चल सके। मुख्यमंत्री ने हादसे पर शोक व्यक्त करते हुए कहा, भविष्य में दोबारा हेलिकॉप्टर हादसा न हो, इसके लिए समुचित रणनीति और ठोस तकनीकी इंतजाम किए जाएं। निर्देश दिए कि हेलिकॉप्टर संचालन में सुरक्षा मानकों की समीक्षा कर सभी आवश्यक सुधार शीघ्र लागू किए जाएं। ब्यूरो

AMAR VJALA

MAY 9, 2025

2. May 18, 2025 : : Chopper force lands after technical snag

A helicopter ambulance met with a mishap during emergency landing near Kedarnath Dham in Rudraprayag district on Saturday, officials aware of the matter said, adding that all three people, including a doctor and a nursing staff, who were on board are safe.

The incident took place at around 11:30 AM when the chopper from All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Rishikesh, was airlifting a patient suffering from respiratory distress at the shrine, they added. Officials said that the accident was caused after the tail rotor of the chopper broke.

The incident came days after six people were killed after a helicopter en route to Gangotri Dham crashed in Gangnani area of Uttarkashi district.

"The incident took place near the Kedarnath Dham when a Sanjeevani helicopter ambulance had to make an emergency landing. It was scheduled to land at the Kedarnath helipad to airlift a patient, identified as Sri Dev, who was undergoing respiratory distress, and required immediate medical attention. As the helicopter was approaching the helipad, it developed a technical snitch. The pilot had to make an emergency landing near the helipad. All three people on board, which included a doctor, sustained no injuries," said Rahul Chaubey, Rudraprayag district tourism officer and nodal officer for helicopter services in Kedarnath.

"During the emergency landing, the helicopter's tail rotor was damaged," he said. He added that the Directorate General of Civil Aviation will carry out a thorough technical investigation to determine the precise cause of the malfunction.

{ AIR AMBULANCE IN RUDRAPRAYAG } TAIL ROTOR BREAKS

Chopper force lands after technical snag

Ajay Ramola
letters@hindustantimes.com

MUSSOORIE: A helicopter ambulance met with a mishap during emergency landing near Kedarnath Dham in Rudraprayag district on Saturday, officials aware of the matter said, adding that all the three people, including a doctor and a nursing staff, who were on board are safe.

The incident took place at around 11.30am when the chopper from All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Rishikesh, was airlifting a patient suffering from respiratory distress at the shrine, they added.

Officials said that accident was caused after the tail rotor of the chopper broke.

The incident came days after six people were killed after a helicopter crashed in Gangnani area of Uttarkashi district.

"The incident took place near the Kedarnath Dham when a Sanjeevani helicopter ambulance had to make an emergency landing. It was scheduled to land at the Kedarnath helipad to airlift a patient, identified as Sri Dev, who was undergoing respiratory distress, and requiring immediate medical attention. As the helicopter was approaching the helipad, it developed a technical snitch. The pilot had to make an emergency landing near the helipad. All three people on board, which included a doctor, sustained no injuries," said Rahul Chaubey, Rudraprayag district tourism officer and nodal officer for helicopter services in Kedarnath.

"During the emergency landing, the helicopter's tail rotor was damaged," he said. He added that the Directorate General of Civil Aviation will carry out a thorough technical investigation to determine the precise cause of the malfunction.



Officials said that accident was caused after the tail rotor of the chopper broke. HT PHOTO

HINDUSTAN TIMES
MAY 18, 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

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.