

PRAGATI monitoring 42 projects worth Rs 3.50 lakh crore in U'khand: CM

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Dehradun

Chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami has said Uttarakhand is receiving very good support from the central government in execution of major infrastructure and other projects. He said that at present 42 projects worth Rs 3.50 lakh crore are being monitored under the PRAGATI mechanism.

Addressing a press conference on PRAGATI portal organised by the PIB at his camp office on Friday, the CM said the portal was created in 2015 for the quick review and resolution of projects, schemes and to address public grievances under the digital India mission. The PRAGATI portal monitors the flagship programmes of the Government of India and also resolves the



problems encountered. This ensures that development schemes are implemented rapidly on the ground, he added.

The CM said that out of 42, ten projects have been successfully completed so far. The CM added that out of the 32 projects under implementation, 12 are being monitored under the PRAGATI portal.

Dhami said that the work on major projects like the Char Dham road project has progressed rapidly and a significant portion of the Rishikesh-Karnaprayag railway line has been completed. Expressing gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the Delhi-Dehradun Expressway project, the CM said this project will benefit all the tourists from India and abroad visiting

Rishikesh, Haridwar, Mussoorie, Dhanaulti and Dehradun.

The CM informed that the Ministry of Finance, government of India, has sanctioned an additional loan amount of Rs 734 crore for Uttarakhand under the 'Special Assistance Scheme to States for Capital Investment (SACSI) 2025-26' and Rs 25 crore for land reforms in the urban areas. The union government has provided an assistance of Rs 1,806.49 crore to Uttarakhand under the SACSI scheme in the current financial year. He said that the financial assistance will help in fulfilling the 'Viksit Uttarakhand' vision of PM Modi.

Making effort to get clearance for hydropower projects: CM

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Dehradun

In response to a question on the obstacles faced by Uttarakhand in the clearance of hydropower projects due to the Bhagirathi Eco-Sensitive Zone, the CM said that the State and Central governments are working together to overcome this challenging problem. He said that efforts are being made to get the clearance for the power proj-

ects involving no major environmental concerns. The CM said that the government is working on the plan to make Uttarakhand, a power surplus State. On ever rising vehicular pressure on the roads of major cities of the State, the CM said that projects such as construction of by-passes, elevated road, ring road and alternate roads are on the anvil

Complete river protection & desilting works before monsoon, says CM

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Dehradun

Chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami instructed officials to ensure that all works related to river protection and desilting are completed before the advent of the monsoon to minimise the risk of flooding. The CM issued these directions while

(CAMP), officials said. Dhami directed the Forest department to ensure full preparations for the prevention of forest fires. He said that the availability of necessary equipment along with human resources should be ensured for forest fire prevention. The CM

Government teachers threaten boycott of Uttarakhand Board exams

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Dehradun

The Rajkeeya Shikshak Sangh (RSS), the powerful organisation of government school lecturers, has threatened to boycott the class X and XII examinations of Uttarakhand Vidyayali Shiksha Parishad (UVSP) board. In a letter to the director of Secondary Education, the RSS has said that if the proposed meeting to address their long-standing demands is not held with the officials concerned or if no action is taken regarding their requests, they will boycott the Board examination duties, including the evaluation of answer sheets. The president of

the RSS, Ram Singh Chauhan said that the association has been advocating for its demands for a considerable time with the authorities. Their requests include promotion, cancellation and transfer of the departmental direct recruitment examination of Principals and among others. However, he said that the government has failed to acknowledge their concerns. He also said that two to three meetings have been held with chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami regarding this matter. In response, the CM has instructed the officers to meet

UJS to install 15,000 water meters at commercial places in U'khand

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Dehradun

In an effort to improve water conservation, Uttarakhand Jal Sansthan has decided to install 15,000 water meters at commercial locations throughout the State. Recently, the UJS submitted a proposal to the State administration regarding this initiative. UJS officials stated that to combat water wastage in the region, they plan to implement these water meters at commercial sites during the financial year 2026-2027. They said that for the said initiative, a budget of Rs 20 crore requested for this project. Additionally, the UJS has indicated that, in the project's initial phase, they will install 7,390 water metres at commercial establishments in Uttarakhand. The officials have reported that, from the Rs 20 crore budget requested for this initiative, Rs nine crore has been approved for the installation of 7,390 water meters. They added that out of the approved amount, the UJS has received the initial

instalment of Rs 3.62 crore for the installation of these water meters. Additionally, the officials stated that the UJS aims to install a total of 15,000 water meters at commercial locations throughout the state during the financial year 2026-2027. The primary goal of installing the water meters is to encourage water conservation. This will enable consumers to pay for the amount of water they actually use, motivating them to utilise only what they need and reducing water wastage. Thus, water meters play a crucial role in promoting water conservation, they added. Officials further informed that they previously installed AMR water meters in four districts, namely Dehradun, Pauri, Nainital and Pithoragarh. These meters were set up at both residential and commercial locations, with a total of approximately 60,500 water meters installed across the mentioned districts, they informed.

Inclusion of HPV vaccine in NIP to combat cervical cancer: Jain

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Dehradun

The principal of Government Doon Medical College (GDMC), Dr Geeta Jain stated that the government's inclusion of the HPV (human papillomavirus) vaccine in the National Immunisation Programme (NIP) is a historic step for women's health. This announcement follows the Central government's significant decision to add the HPV vaccine to the National Immunisation Programme (NIP) to combat cervical cancer in women. Preparations for its implementation have already begun across the country and the Health department in Uttarakhand is actively involved in this initiative. A training schedule for health workers has been released at GDMC.

Jain said that HPV is a prevalent virus that can lead to cervical cancer, which is one of the leading causes of cancer-related deaths among women in India. The HPV vaccine provides protection before the disease occurs, significantly reducing the risk of cancer. The government's HPV vaccination programme will

primarily target adolescent girls aged nine to 14. Jain emphasised that the vaccine is most effective when administered between these ages. While it can be given after marriage, earlier vaccination offers greater protection. She reassured that the vaccine is safe and has been successfully administered in many countries around the world for years. Additionally, Jain highlighted the importance of increasing public awareness about the HPV vaccination to address misconceptions and hesitations surrounding it.

According to the officials, currently, the HPV vaccine is available in the private sector, with some States and medical institutions offering it for free or at subsidised rates. However, its inclusion in the National Immunisation Programme will make the vaccine widely accessible to all. Health experts believe that if this programme is implemented effectively, there will be a significant decline in cases of cervical cancer and related mortality in the coming years.

MCD extends 20 % rebate on property tax till February 15, Rs 48 crore collected so far

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Dehradun

The Municipal Corporation of Dehradun (MCD) on Friday extended the 20 per cent rebate on property tax payments for the financial year 2025-26 in an effort to provide relief to taxpayers and improve compliance. Stating this, officials said that rebate has been extended till February 15. The decision was taken on the directions of municipal commissioner Namami Bansal, who urged residents within municipal limits to clear their dues before the new cutoff to avail the rebate. Officials said that the move is part of the civic body's broader strategy to strengthen revenue collection while easing the financial burden on property owners.

Assistant municipal commissioner Vinay Pratap Singh said that the corporation has collected Rs 48 crore in property tax so far in the current financial year. The MCD's property tax collection target for 2025-26 is Rs 75 crore, leaving a shortfall with just two months remaining in the financial year. "With limited time left, the gap is putting

pressure on the corporation's finances. However, we are optimistic that the extended rebate period will further strengthen our revenue position and increase taxpayer participation," Singh said.

To accelerate collections, the MCD has also been organising special tax collection camps across the city since January 17, officials said. These camps aim to improve accessibility for residents and reduce delays in payments. Officials clarified that the 20 per cent rebate will remain valid only until



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1. Borrower: Mr.Gaurav kaushal S/o P.K Kaushal R/o 01 ,Flat no 1 First Floor Sahasthrada road myfair apartments Dehradun Uttarakhand 248001	Rs.8,40,345/- + other charges	2019, XCENT VTVT SX Hyundai motor india ltd	18.02.2026 02.00 PM till 6.00 PM	2.Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) 3.Bid Increase Amount	Account No.9819001518169	01.02.2026 to 16.02.2026
		UK07DR0381	18.02.2026 & 06.00 PM	Reserve Price Rs. 3,55,000/- Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Rs. 35,500/- Bid Increase Amount Rs. 10,000/-	IFSC: BARB0EXTDEH	From 10.00 AM to 4.00 PM
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Rudrapur, Pithoragarh medical colleges to start this year: Rawat

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Dehradun

The Health minister Dhan Singh Rawat has issued orders for transfer of JLN Nehru district hospital Rudrapur to the Medical Education department for operation of Pandit Ramsumer Shukla, Government Medical College, Rudrapur. Similarly orders for transfer of BD Pandey district hospital and district Women hospital, Pithoragarh to the Medical Education department for operation of Government Medical College, Pithoragarh.

In another decision which will pave the way for establishment of government medical colleges in Rudrapur and Pithoragarh, the State administration has

started the process of transfer of district hospitals and district women hospitals of Rudrapur and Pithoragarh to the Medical Education department.

He said that the second phase of the BLO outreach campaign will commence on February 1. In this phase, the BLOs will focus on such women and youth voters whose names were not in the voter list of 2003. The names of such voters will be mapped as progeny voters on the basis of names of their parents and grandparents. The ACEO said that

75 % voters mapped under pre -SIR activity in Uttarakhand: ACEO

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ Dehradun

The mapping of 75 per cent of the voters of the State has been completed under the pre Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the electoral rolls activity of the Election Commission of India.

Informing about the Booth Level Officer (BLO) outreach programme being conducted in the State, the additional chief electoral officer (ACEO) Vijay Kumar Jogdande told media-persons on Friday that the objective of the commission is that the mapping of maximum number of voters is done so that the SIR work gets done in smooth manner.

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Booth Level Agents (BLA) by the political parties for SIR activities in the State is also underway. A total of 12,070 BLAs have so far been appointed by the political parties. He said that the BJP has appointed 5,900 while Congress has appointed 5,800 BLAs. He appealed to the political parties to appoint 100 per cent BLAs.

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