

Uttarakhand

Uttarakhand the 27th state of Republic of India. Uttarakhand, located in the northern part of India, is a state known for its breathtaking natural beauty and spiritual significance. It was carved out of UP on 9th November 2000. Uttarakhand is often referred to as the "Land of the Gods" due to its numerous temples and pilgrimage sites nestled in the Himalayan foothills. Uttarakhand's name is derived from the Sanskrit words *uttara* meaning 'north', and *khaṇḍa* meaning 'land', altogether simply meaning 'Northern Land'.



Geography

Uttarakhand shares its borders with China to the north, Nepal to the east, Uttar Pradesh to the south and Himachal Pradesh to the west and north-west.

The total area of the state is 53483 square kilometers.

The state is renowned for its picturesque landscapes, including snow-capped mountains, dense forests, and pristine rivers. Popular tourist destinations in Uttarakhand include Rishikesh and Haridwar, known for their spiritual significance and as hubs for yoga and meditation. The majestic hill stations of Nainital, Mussoorie, and Almora attract visitors seeking respite from the heat and hustle of city life.

Uttarakhand is also home to national parks and wildlife sanctuaries, such as Jim Corbett National Park, providing opportunities for wildlife enthusiasts to observe diverse flora and fauna.

Uttarakhand plays a crucial role in the water supply of northern India, as it is the source of major rivers like the Ganges and Yamuna.

Climate

The Terai region, which lies in the southern part of the state, experiences a sub-tropical climate.

The mid-altitude regions, including places like Dehradun and Nainital, have a temperate climate.

The higher reaches of Uttarakhand, especially in the Himalayan region, have an alpine or tundra climate. These areas experience cool to cold temperatures throughout the year, with snowfall during winters.

Uttarakhand State's Symbols

State Tree

Buransh also known as Rhododendron is the state tree of Uttarakhand.



State Flower

Brahma Kamal is the state flower of Uttarakhand.



State Animal

Alpine Musk deer is the state animal of Uttarakhand.



State Bird

Himalayan Monal is the state bird of Uttarakhand.



Natural Resources

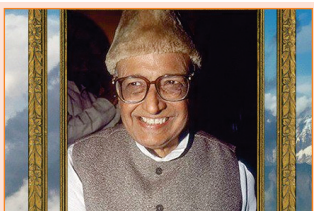
The state is rich in mineral resources such as limestone, gypsum, dolomite, and magnesite. The Kumaon and Garhwal regions are known for their limestone deposits, which are used in cement manufacturing.

Chief Ministers of Uttarakhand

A Chief Minister is the elected head of the government in a state within a federal system of government.



Pushkar Singh Dhami
(2021-Present)



Nityanand Swami
(2000-2001)



Bhagat Singh Koshiyari
(2001-2002)



N. D. Tiwari
(2002-2007)



B. C. Khanduri
(2007-2009, 2011-2012)



Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'
(2009-2011)



Vijay Bahuguna
(2012-2014)



Harish Rawat
(2014-2016, 2016-2017)



Trivendra Singh Rawat
(2017-2021)

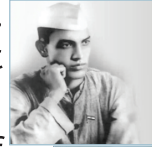


Tirath Singh Rawat
(2021-2021)

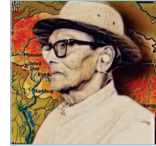
Freedom Fighters of Uttarakhand

Uttarakhand, like the rest of India, has a history of individuals who actively participated in the country's struggle for independence from British rule.

Sridev Suman was a freedom fighter from the Tehri region. He actively participated in the independence movement and was known for his dedication to the cause.



Veer Chandra Singh Garhwali, Known as the "Hero of Garhwal," was a prominent freedom fighter from Uttarakhand. He led various movements against the British Raj and fought for the rights of the local communities.



Kalu Singh Mahara was a Kumauni leader during Indian Rebellion of 1857. He is known as the first freedom fighter from Kumaun, then in the United Province. Kalu Mahara was the leader of the Vishung Patti of Kumaun.



Sharmada Tyagi led a campaign in her hometown of Dehradun. Sharmada Tyagi is credited for spearheading the Salt Satyagraha movement among women in Dehradun.



Bishni Devi Shah was the first woman from Uttarakhand to be imprisoned during the Indian Independence Movement. Many people in Uttarakhand were motivated by her to join the independence movement.



Educational Institutes in Uttarakhand

Uttarakhand is home to several prominent educational institutions, that contribute to the academic growth of the state.

1. **Doon University** is a state public university located in Dehradun. It offers undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programs in various disciplines, including social sciences, natural sciences, and management.
2. **UPES** is a private university in Dehradun that specializes in programs related to energy, petroleum, engineering and law.



3. **Forest Research Institute**, located in Dehradun, is a premier institution for forestry research and education. It offers programs in forestry, environmental science, and related fields.
4. **Kumaun University** is a public university with campuses in Nainital and Almora. It offers undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programs in arts, science, commerce, and other disciplines.
5. **Gurukul Kangri Vishwavidyalaya**, located in Haridwar, is a deemed university that focuses on Vedic and modern education. It offers programs in engineering, management, humanities, and more.
6. **NIT Uttarakhand** is an engineering institute located in Srinagar, Uttarakhand. It is one of the National Institutes of Technology in India, offering undergraduate and postgraduate programs in engineering and technology.



7. **Hemwati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University**, is a public university in Srinagar, Garhwal, offers a wide range of undergraduate and postgraduate programs in arts, science, commerce, and other disciplines.
8. **National Institute for the Visually Handicapped**, is an autonomous body at Dehradun under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, focusing on education, training, and research for the visually impaired.
9. **Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee** is a technical university located in Roorkee, Uttarakhand, India. It is one of the oldest engineering institution in India.



Administrative Buildings of Uttarakhand

Uttarakhand, has several administrative buildings that house the government offices responsible for governance, administration, and public services.

1. The **Secretariat Building** in Dehradun houses the offices of various government departments and is the administrative headquarters of the state. It is where the Chief Minister's office, the Chief Secretary, and other senior bureaucrats work.
2. The **Legislative Assembly**, located in Dehradun, is where the elected representatives gather to discuss and formulate laws for the state. It is an important center for democratic governance.
3. The **High Court** of Uttarakhand is situated in Nainital. It is the highest judicial authority in the state, responsible for overseeing the legal matters and dispensing justice.
4. The **Police Headquarters** in Dehradun is where the top officials of the state police department work. It plays a key role in maintaining law and order in the state



5. **Uttarakhand Public Service Commission** building in Haridwar is where the Uttarakhand Public Service Commission operates. It is responsible for conducting various recruitment exams for state government jobs.
6. The **Forest Department** Headquarters in Dehradun is the central office for managing and overseeing forest-related activities, wildlife conservation, and environmental protection.
7. **State Disaster Management Authority** office in Dehradun is responsible for planning, coordinating, and implementing disaster management efforts in the state.
8. The **Medical Education Directorate** in Dehradun is responsible for overseeing medical education and healthcare services in the state

Important Landmarks

1. **Badrinath Temple**, Located in the town of Badrinath, this temple is dedicated to Lord Vishnu is one of the Char Dham pilgrimage sites and an important religious landmark.
2. **Kedarnath Temple**, Situated in the Garhwal Himalayas, Kedarnath Temple is another Char Dham pilgrimage site and one of the holiest shrines dedicated to Lord Shiva.
3. **Valley of Flowers National Park**, A UNESCO World Heritage Site, is known for its meadows of vibrant alpine flowers and diverse flora. It's a stunning natural landmark in the Chamoli district.



4. **Hemkund Sahib**, A Sikh pilgrimage site, is a high-altitude lake surrounded by snow-capped mountains. It holds religious importance for Sikhs.
5. **Jim Corbett National Park**, is India's oldest national park, is a significant wildlife sanctuary known for its diverse flora and fauna, including the Bengal tiger.
6. **Chopta**, Often referred to as the "Mini Switzerland of Uttarakhand," is known for its meadows and as a base for the trek to Tungnath, the highest Shiva temple in the world.
7. **Nanda Devi National Park**, another UNESCO World Heritage Site, and the Valley of Flowers National Park together form a biosphere reserve known for its biodiversity and scenic beauty.
8. A famous hill station, **Mussoorie** is known for its colonial architecture, scenic landscapes, and panoramic views of the Himalayas.



Districts of Uttar Pradesh

The Government of Uttarakhand has divided Uttarakhand state in the following 13 districts:

District	Population	Area (in km ²)
Almora	621,972	3,083
Bageshwar	259,840	2,302
Chamoli	391,114	8,030
Champawat	259,315	1,781
Dehradun	1,695,860	3,088
Haridwar	1,927,029	2,360
Nanital	955,128	3,860
Pauri Garhwal	686,572	5,399
Pithoragarh	485,993	7,100
Rudraprayag	236,857	1,890
Tehri Garhwal	616,409	4,080
Udham Singh Nagar	1,648,367	2,908
Uttarkashi	329,686	8,016

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