

**PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

Union Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah conducted an aerial survey to review situation in Uttarakhand following rains, floods and landslides

The Union Home Minister reviewed the latest situation by holding a meeting with the officials of the Central and State Governments

In this hour of crisis, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has spoken to the Uttarakhand Chief Minister many times since the very first day and the Government of India has put in all its strength to help this Devbhoomi

Timely warning by the Central Government helped in minimizing loss of lives

After the Central government issued a warning 24 hours in advance, a large amount of damage was prevented due to alerts sent by the State Government and local administration to SDRF, NDRF, ITBP, Army, Air Force etc.

Traffic has started on most of the roads and relief has started arriving wherever needed, Nainital, Haldwani and Almoraroads have also been opened to traffic

Coordination between Central Water Commission and Irrigation Department was very good, due to which it became easy to manage the water level

More than 60 per cent electricity has been restored, people have started receiving pure drinking water and health facilities have not been disrupted

More than 3,500 people were rescued and more than sixteen thousand persons were evacuated to safer places as a precaution, no loss of life of any tourist has been reported so far

17 teams of NDRF and 60 teams of SDRF, 15 companies of PAC and more than 5,000 police and fire brigade personnel are still engaged in the entire operation and in helping people

As soon as situation becomes normal in a couple of days, survey teams of the Ministry of Home Affairs will visit the state to take stock of the damage and help will accordingly be provided

Central Government has already released an assistance of Rs. 749.60 crore as the Central share under the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF)

I assure the people of Uttarakhand that in this hour of crisis, the Government of India is fully with you

October 21, 2021

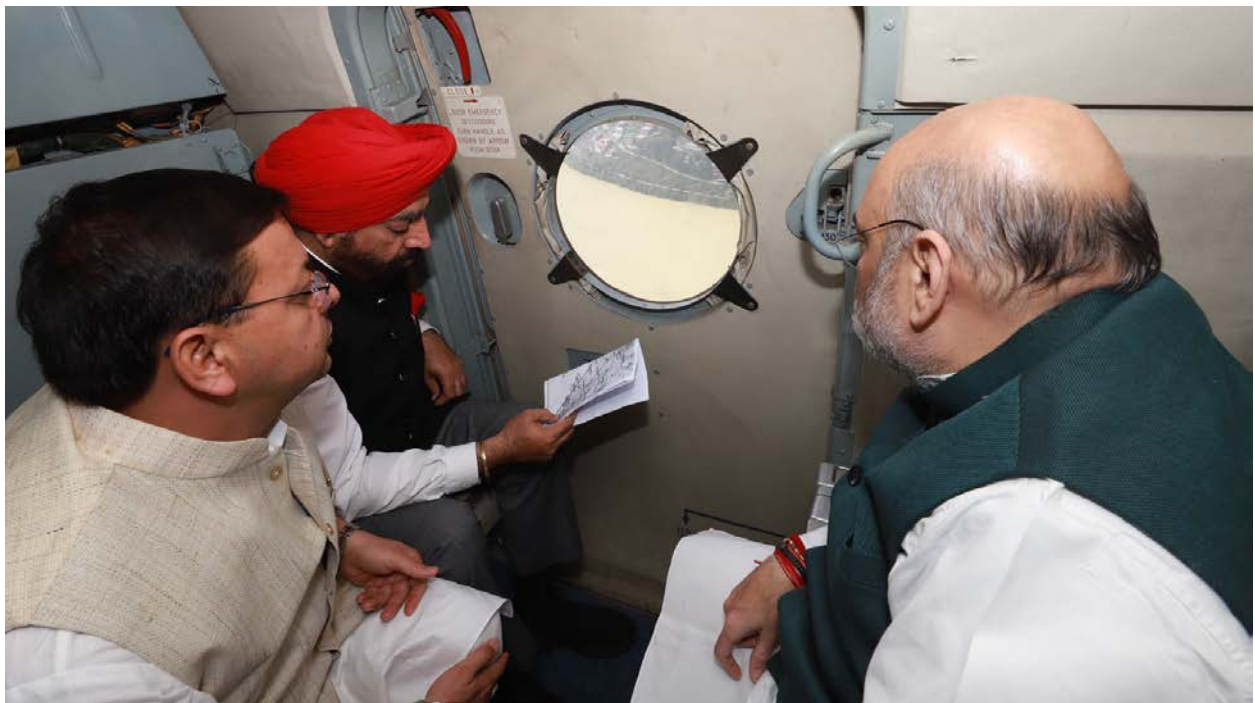
Union Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah along with the Governor of Uttarakhand, Lt Gen Gurmeet Singh, Chief Minister, Shri Pushkar Singh Dhami, Disaster Management Minister of Uttarakhand, Shri DS Rawat and MP Shri Anil Baluni conducted an aerial survey of rain, flood and landslide affected areas of Devprayag, Ramnagar, Ramgarh, Gaulaparand and Rudrapur and took stock of the damage caused by the natural calamity. After the aerial survey, the Union Home Minister reviewed the latest situation in a meeting with officials of the Centre and the State Governments.



Shri Amit Shah said that timely warnings by the Central Government helped in minimizing the loss of lives. He said that after the Central government issued a warning 24 hours in advance on 16th October, a great amount of damage could be prevented due to the sending of alerts by the State Government and local administration to SDRF, NDRF, ITBP, Army, Air Force etc. Advance alerts were sent to all mobile consumers on

their mobile phones, so that unnecessary movement could be avoided. The pilgrims of Char Dham were also stopped where they were, before rains started and due to this there is no news of any casualty of any of the pilgrims of Char Dham and the yatra has now been started. NDRF, Army, ITBP, SDRF, State Response Teams, Fire Brigade were on the spot as they were on alert before the rains started. Helicopters were also available and they were also alerted before the rains.

Shri Amit Shah said that the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi had also informed everyone about the mobilization of the Army and the NDRF. Coordination between the Central Water Commission and Irrigation Department was very good, due to which it was easy to manage the water level. He said that except three roads, traffic movement has started on most of the roads and relief has also started arriving wherever needed. Nainital, Haldwani and Almorara roads have also been opened to traffic. Railway tracks have suffered heavy damage at one place and repair work has also begun. More than 60 percent electricity supply has been restored, people have started receiving pure drinking water and health facilities have not been disrupted.



The Union Home Minister said that the State Government carried out the rescue operation in a very good and successful manner. About 80 percent of the telephone network has been restored. More than 3,500 people were rescued and more than sixteen thousand persons have been evacuated to safer places as a precaution, and there are no reports of loss of life of any tourist so far. 17 teams of the NDRF and

60 teams of the SDRF, 15 companies of the PAC and more than 5,000 police and fire brigade personnel are still engaged in the entire operation and helping people. Health facilities and food arrangements have been made in relief camps by the state government and the situation will return to normal very soon. Shri Shah said that in this hour of crisis, from the very first day, Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has spoken to the Chief Minister of the state many times and the Government of India has put in all its strength in helping this Devbhoomi. As soon as the situation becomes normal in a couple of days, survey teams of the Ministry of Home Affairs will make a visit here to take stock of the damage and accordingly help will also be provided. Shri Shah said that since Uttarakhand is prone to natural calamities, therefore, an amount of Rs. 250 crore has been issued by the Center to the state a few months ago by the Disaster Management Department, due to which relief work has been started here. He said that the Central Government has already released the assistance of Rs. 749.60 crore as the Central share under the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF).



The Union Home Minister assured the people of Uttarakhand that in this hour of crisis, the Government of India is standing by your side and the Chief Minister of the state has responded to the disaster in a very good way and we came out of it with very little loss of life.

The Chief Minister of Uttarakhand Shri Pushkar Singh Dhami thanked the Central Government for deploying well equipped 17 teams of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), three helicopters of the Indian Air Force and adequate resources of the Army and other Central agencies, at short notice, for assisting the state administration in search and rescue operations and distribution of relief material to affected persons.

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