



Border Tourism will Populate Border Villages in Uttarakhand | Uttarakhand | 06 Jan 2023

Why In News?

On January 5, 2023, Dr. S.S Negi, Vice-Chairman of Uttarakhand's Rural Development and Migration Prevention Commission, told that the Uttarakhand government is going to take initiative to start '**Border Tourism' scheme to populate the border villages** of the state.

Key Points

- For this, the details of the scheme have been submitted by the state to the Secretariat of the National Security Council. After getting the green signal from the Centre, Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama has instructed the Rural Development and Migration Prevention Commission to prepare the blueprint of the scheme.
- Dr. S.S. Negi told that in order to populate the border villages of the state, the state government has selected four blocks of Uttarakhand namely Bhatwadi in Uttarkashi, Joshimath in Chamoli and Munsiyari and Dharchula in Pithoragarh for border tourism. The Rural Development and Migration Prevention Commission is preparing a detailed report in this regard.
- It is known that till now tourists are given inner line permits by the district magistrate to go to the border areas. Nelang and Jadung, two villages in the Ganga valley of Uttarkashi district, have been deserted for 60 years. It is also part of Gangotri national park. To go to this area, separate permission has to be taken from the Forest Department. The possibility of further simplifying this process of permission is being explored.
- According to an official of the Rural Development and Migration Prevention Commission, most of the border villages are covered with snow for six months. Home stays will be prepared along with promoting agricultural products here. New tourist destinations will be identified. Local people will be encouraged in every work related to tourism.
- Dr. S.S. Negi said that on the instructions of the Chief Minister, a report is being prepared to promote border tourism. The government wants the border villages to be revived, but before that, resources will have to be mobilized to meet the needs of the people there. Border tourism can be an effective policy in this direction.
- It is noteworthy that 345 km between India and China is located in Uttarakhand. There is a long border. In the Indo-China war of 1962, many villages of Uttarkashi, Chamoli and Pithoragarh were evacuated. Many of these villages are still deserted today. These villages bordering the country worked like a watchdog.
- Military experts believe that settlement close to the border is important from the security point of view. In view of this, the possibilities of border tourism in the border areas are being explored. Experts believe that tourism activities can be promoted until it is possible to settle people there.

Champawat's Banbasa Police Station is Among the Top Three Police

Stations in the Country | Uttarakhand | 06 Jan 2023

Why In News?

On January 5, 2023, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami shared this information on Twitter and said that the Union Home Ministry has made **Banbasa police station in Champawat district of Uttarakhand bordering Nepal among the top three police stations in the country.**

Key Points

- Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said that this is a big achievement for Uttarakhand Police, as Banbasa police station of Champawat district has been selected from about 16 thousand police stations in the country. At present, 160 police stations are operational in the state.
- Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami is also an MLA from Champawat.
- According to sources in the police department, Banbasa police station has been included in the list of best due to better law and order, speedy disposal of cases, computerization and other parameters.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah will present the award to Station House Officer (SHO) Laxman Singh Jagwan at the DGP conference on January 20. Which ranking will be given in the first three will be announced on the same day.
- Champawat District SP Devendra Pincha confirmed the award. In the year 2022 also, Banbasa police station got the seventh rank in the country.
- It is noteworthy that the Union Home Ministry determines the top police stations on parameters such as crime control and treatment of common citizens.
- SP Devendra Pincha told that there is legal movement from Banbasa to Nepal. On an average, there is movement of more than three thousand domestic and foreign people daily. This police station and the Banbasa Sharda Barrage police outpost, built three decades ago, have played a great role in curbing human trafficking and drug trafficking from the Banbasa border.