



## Char Dham Yatra 2024 | Uttarakhand | 11 May 2024

Why in News?

Recently, The ritualistic commencement of the [Gangotri shrine](#) began, as the idol of [goddess Ganga](#) was transported from her winter abode in **Mukhba village to Gangotri**.

### Key Points

- As per tradition, the ceremony began with prayers of goddess Ganga before placing her on a palanquin and parading her out of the temple.
- The initial group of pilgrims departed from Rishikesh. Various groups were also sent off from different places by religious figures and political leaders.
- The gates of [Kedarnath](#), [Gangotri](#), and [Yamunotri](#) will open on Akshay Tritiya (10<sup>th</sup> May, 2024) , with the **Badrinath Dham** set to open on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2024.



### Char Dham

- **Yamunotri Dham:**
  - **Location:** Uttarkashi district.
  - **Dedicated to:** Goddess Yamuna.
  - River Yamuna is the second-most sacred river in India after River Ganga.
- **Gangotri Dham:**
  - **Location:** Uttarkashi district.
  - **Dedicated to:** Goddess Ganga.
  - Considered the most sacred of all Indian rivers.
- **Kedarnath Dham:**
  - **Location:** Rudraprayag district.
  - **Dedicated to:** Lord Shiva.
  - Situated on the bank of the **Mandakini River**.
  - One of the **12 Jyotirlingas** (divine representations of Lord Shiva) in India.

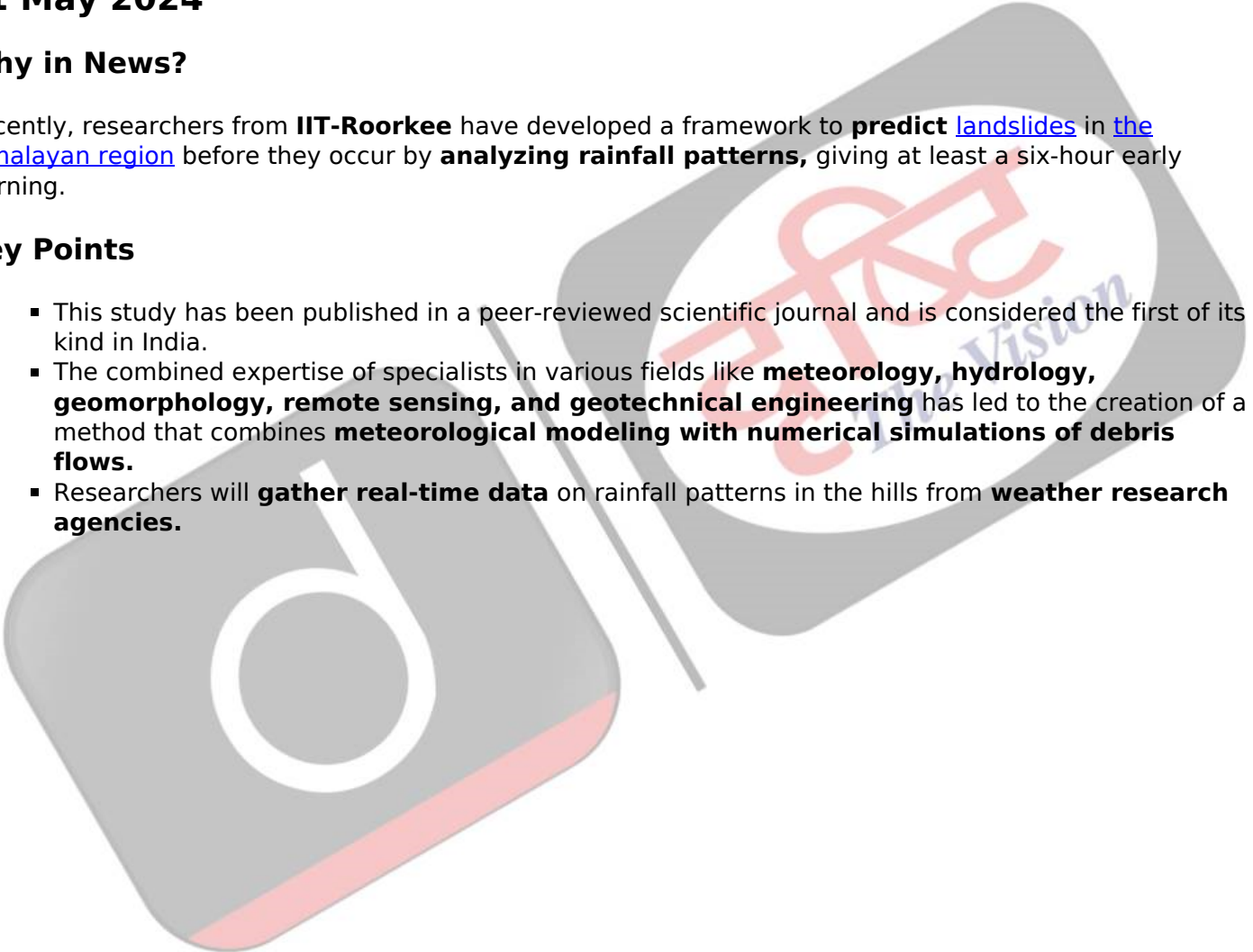
- **Badrinath Dham:**
    - **Location:** Chamoli district.
    - Home to the sacred **Badrinarayan Temple**.
    - **Dedicated to:** Lord Vishnu.
    - One of the holy shrines for **Vaishnavites** .
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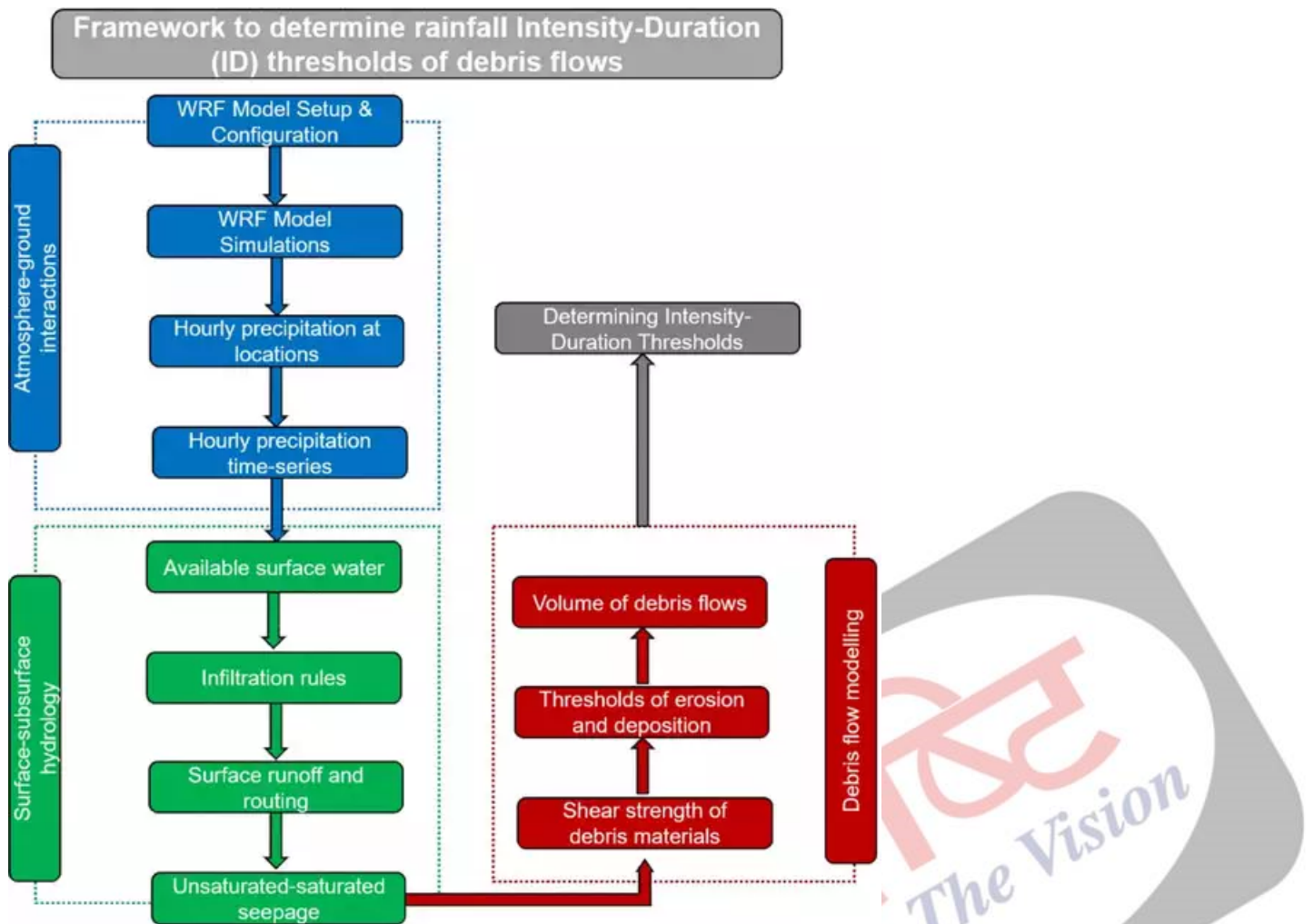
## Early Warning System by IIT-Roorkee Researchers | Uttarakhand | 11 May 2024

### Why in News?

Recently, researchers from **IIT-Roorkee** have developed a framework to **predict** [landslides](#) in [the Himalayan region](#) before they occur by **analyzing rainfall patterns**, giving at least a six-hour early warning.

### Key Points

- This study has been published in a peer-reviewed scientific journal and is considered the first of its kind in India.
  - The combined expertise of specialists in various fields like **meteorology, hydrology, geomorphology, remote sensing, and geotechnical engineering** has led to the creation of a method that combines **meteorological modeling with numerical simulations of debris flows**.
  - Researchers will **gather real-time data** on rainfall patterns in the hills from **weather research agencies**.
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## Landslides

- These are **natural disasters occurring mainly in mountainous terrains** where there are conducive conditions of soil, rock, geology and slope.
- A **sudden movement of rock, boulders, earth or debris down a slope** is termed a landslide.
- **Causes:**
  - Natural causes that trigger it include **heavy rainfall, earthquakes, snow melting and undercutting of slopes** due to flooding.
  - They can also be caused by **anthropogenic activities such as excavation, cutting of hills and trees**, excessive infrastructure development, and overgrazing by cattle.
  - Some of the main factors that influence landslides are **lithology, geological structures like faults, hill slopes, drainage, geomorphology**, land use and land cover, soil texture and depth, and weathering of rocks.
  - All these are factored in when a **landslide susceptibility zone is earmarked for planning and making predictions**.

## Why in News?

Recently, a four-day group painting exhibition 'Yogasutra' was organised by the **Faculty of Visual Arts, Banaras Hindu University**.

## Key Points

- The exhibition features the artistic talents of four students from the painting department - Joydeb Das, Noddy Judith Gomes, Faraz Imran, and Niharika Ahona Barsaat, showcasing around 25 paintings.

## Banaras Hindu University

- It was founded by **Madan Mohan Malaviya in 1916** with cooperation of great personalities like Dr Annie Besant, who viewed it as the University of India.
- It is an internationally reputed temple of learning, situated in the **holy city of Varanasi**.
- It has **6 centres of Advanced Studies, 10 Departments under Special Assistance Programme** and a large number of specialized Research Centers.
- Bharat Kala Bhavan, the reputed museum of the university, is a treasure trove of rare collections.
- The **927 bed hospital** of the University is equipped with all the modern amenities.

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## Building Plans in Areas off Yamuna E-Way | Uttar Pradesh | 11 May 2024

### Why in News?

The **Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA)** has introduced a system called **Building Plan Management System (BPMS)**, enabling more than 34,000 residential plot owners to submit their building plans for approval online.

### Key Points

- According to the Authority, the **Building Permission Management System (BPMS)** aims to streamline the approval process for building maps by offering a **fast, transparent, and efficient solution for processing applications**.

### Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA)

- It has been **created under the UP Industrial Development Act, 1976** for the systematic development of their respective notified areas abutting Delhi, which if not planned, would have been prone to unauthorized urban growth.