



Nazool Land

Why in News?

Recently, in **Haldwani city of Nainital District**, Uttarakhand violence erupted due to a Demolition Drive conducted by the city administration to remove **Encroachment at the site of a mosque and madrasa, allegedly on Nazool Land.**

- As per the administration, the property where the two structures are situated is registered as the **Municipal Council's Nazool land.**

Key Points

- Nazool land is owned by the government but most often not directly administered as state property.
 - The state generally allots such land to any entity **on lease for a fixed period**, generally between **15 and 99 years.**
- In case the lease term is expiring, one can approach the authority to renew the lease by submitting a **written application to the Revenue Department** of the local development authority.
 - The government is free to either **renew the lease or cancel it** — taking back Nazool land.
- The government generally uses Nazool land for public purposes like building schools, hospitals, Gram Panchayat buildings, etc.

Encroachment

- It is the unauthorised use or occupation of someone else's property.
- This can **occur on abandoned or unused spaces** if the legal owner is not actively involved in its upkeep.
- It is important for property owners to be aware of the legal steps to take and their rights in such cases.
- This could include illegal construction, squatting, or any other form of occupation without proper permission or legal rights.
- Land encroachment, as **defined by Section 441 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), 1860**, is the act of unlawfully entering someone else's property without permission to commit an offence, threaten possession of the property, or stay on the land uninvited.