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## Road Leading to China Border Washed Away | Uttarakhand | 26 Jul 2024

### Why in News?

Recently, The **national highway linking [Joshimath](#) to the border villages of Malari and Niti** along the [Indo-China frontier](#) was destroyed at Miram.

### Key Points

- The blockade entirely stopped the movement of vehicles, especially **impacting Army and [Indo Tibetan Border Police \(ITBP\)](#)** convoys traveling towards the border.
- Over **100 roads, including many national highways, remain blocked** in the state due to **continuous rainfall** and frequent landslides, particularly in hilly areas.

### The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)

- The ITBP is a specialized mountain force of India, which was established on **24<sup>th</sup> October 1962**, soon after the India-China war which was initially meant for deployment **along the [India-China border](#)**.
- ITBP was initially raised under the [Central Reserve Police Force \(CRPF\) Act, 1949](#). However, in **1992**, parliament enacted the [ITBP Act](#) and the rules were framed in 1994.
- However, over the years, ITBP has **also been deployed for various internal security duties, including [anti-Naxal operations](#)**. The force is known for its expertise in **high-altitude rescue and mountaineering operations**.

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## Central Assistance to Manage Pilgrims | Uttarakhand | 26 Jul 2024

### Why in News?

The **Uttarakhand government will seek help from the Centre** through [Niti Aayog](#) to **manage the large number of tourists**.

### Key Points

- Uttarakhand, known for [spiritual tourism](#), is facing a significant challenge with its **annual floating population increasing eight-fold**.
- The Uttarakhand government requested the Centre to include **compensation for damages** caused by [forest fires](#) and **high-voltage transmission line losses** in the [State Disaster Response Fund \(SDRF\)](#) norms in the [Union Budget](#).

- The state has **not received any allocation for green bonus or floating population**, despite being **one of the 147 most landslide-prone districts** in the country.
- Districts like Rudraprayag and Tehri had hoped for relief, such as the **establishment of glacier or landslide research centers**, but the **budget did not address these concerns**.

## State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF)

- SDRF has been constituted under **Section 48 (1) (a)** of the [Disaster Management Act, 2005](#).
- It was constituted based on the recommendations of the [13th Finance Commission](#).
- It is the **primary fund available with the State governments** for responses to notified disasters to meet expenditure for providing immediate relief.
- It is audited by the [Comptroller and Auditor General of India \(CAG\)](#) every year.

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PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtiias.com/statepcs/28-07-2024/uttarakhand/print>

