

Kedarnath Cloudburst

Why in News?

Recently, A <u>cloudburst</u> in <u>Kedarnath</u> caused significant damage, leading to a **sharp rise in the** <u>Mandakini</u> <u>River's</u> **water level in Sonprayag.**

Emergency services have been placed on high alert as authorities are concerned that between
150 to 200 pilgrims may be stranded in Kedarnath.

Key Points

- The cloudburst triggered a **landslide along the Kedarnath walking path,** damaging about 30 meters of the route, leading to its temporary closure for safety reasons.
 - Heavy rainfall in Haridwar caused widespread flooding. Areas like Bhupatwala, Haridwar, Naya Haridwar, Kankhal, and Jwalapur have been severely affected.
- The <u>Regional Meteorological Center</u> has issued a red alert for heavy to very heavy rainfall across seven districts in Uttarakhand.

The Mandakini River

- It is a tributary of the Alaknanda River in Uttarakhand.
- The river runs for approximately 81 kilometers between the <u>Rudraprayag</u> and <u>Sonprayag</u> areas and emerges from the <u>Chorabari Glacier</u>.
- The Mandakini merges with river Songanga at Sonprayag and flows past the Madhyamaheshwar temple at Ukhimath.
- At the end of its course it drains into the Alaknanda, which flows into the Ganges.

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