



Uttarakhand Lifts Restrictions on Char Dham Tourists

Why in News?

Recently, the Uttarakhand government decided that there will be no limit on the number of pilgrims visiting the [Char dhams](#), despite multiple [landslides](#) that have blocked the route for pilgrims.

- The yatra starts in May and continues till the first week of September every year.

Key Points

- The state government has set a **daily limit of 12,000 pilgrims for the dhams, but in 2018, a Supreme Court-appointed committee recommended a limit of 5,000 pilgrims per day for Kedarnath.**
- At a **2023 investor summit**, the state government reported that the **tourism sector contributes 15% to the state's [Gross Domestic Product \(GDP\)](#).**
 - They also outlined plans to attract investments totaling Rs 20,000 crore and initiate 200 projects through the [Public-Private Partnership \(PPP\) model](#) by 2030.

Char Dham Yatra

- **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.

