



Impact of Landslides in Uttarakhand | Uttarakhand | 28 Sep 2024

Why in News?

The **Badrinath National Highway (NH-7)** in **Chamoli district** has been repeatedly blocked due to **heavy rainfall**, causing [landslides](#) and **debris accumulation**.

Key Points

- The **India Meteorological Department (IMD)** has predicted more **isolated heavy rainfall** in **Uttarakhand** which could potentially cause further disruptions.
- **Landslide:**
 - A **landslide** is a geological phenomenon involving the downward movement of a mass of rock, soil, and debris on a slope.
 - Landslides can occur on both **natural and man-made slopes**, and they are often triggered by a combination of factors such as **heavy rainfall, earthquakes, volcanic activity, human activities** (such as construction or mining), and **changes in groundwater levels**.
 - Landslides are classified into several types based on their movement characteristics:
 - **Slides:** These are movements of soil or rock along a rupture surface or a zone of weakness. They can be further divided into rotational slides, where the rupture surface is curved, and translational slides, where the rupture surface is planar.
 - **Flows:** These are movements of soil or rock that contain a large amount of water, which makes the mass flow like a fluid. They can be further divided into earth flows, debris flows, mudflows, and creep, depending on the material and the rate of movement.
 - **Spreads:** These are movements of soil or rock that involve lateral extension and cracking of the mass. They are usually caused by liquefaction or plastic deformation of the material.
 - **Topples:** These are movements of soil or rock that involve forward rotation and free-fall of the mass from a vertical or near-vertical cliff or slope.
 - **Falls:** These are movements of soil or rock that detach from a steep slope or cliff and descend by free-fall, bouncing, or rolling.

Jaipur Monuments and World Tourism Day 2024 | Rajasthan | 28 Sep 2024

Why in News?

In celebration of **World Tourism Day (September 27, 2024)**, the **Rajasthan government** has announced **free entry to several of Jaipur's most iconic monuments**, including **Jantar Mantar** and **Hawa Mahal**.

Key Points

- This initiative aims to **promote tourism** and provide an opportunity for both **locals** and **tourists** to explore the **rich cultural heritage** of the region without any cost.
- **Free Entry to Major Attractions:**
 - Tourists can enjoy free access to **Jantar Mantar, Hawa Mahal, Amer Fort, Nahargarh Fort, Jaigarh Fort, Sisodia Rani Garden, Vidhyadhar Garden, and Albert Hall Museum.**
- **Theme for 2024:**
 - The theme for this year's World Tourism Day is "**Tourism and Peace,**" emphasizing the role of tourism in **fostering peace** and understanding among different cultures.
- **Historical Significance:**
 - **Jantar Mantar:** Known for its **architectural** and **astronomical significance**, **Jantar Mantar** houses the world's largest stone sundial and is a [UNESCO World Heritage site](#).
 - **Hawa Mahal:** Also known as the "**Palace of Winds,**" this five-story structure is renowned for its unique architecture and historical importance.

Mukhyamantri Bal Ashirwad Yojana | Madhya Pradesh | 28 Sep 2024

Why in News?

In the wake of the [Covid-19 pandemic](#), thousands of children in Madhya Pradesh faced the devastating loss of their parents.

- The state government promised **financial aid** and **free education** for **Madhya Pradesh's Covid orphans**, but many of these commitments remain unfulfilled, leaving the children in distress.

Key Points

- In May 2021, the then-Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan announced that children who lost their family's sole earning member to **Covid-19** would receive **Rs.5,000 per month** and **free education**.
- This initiative aimed to provide some relief to the affected families and ensure that the children could continue their education without financial burdens.
 - Despite these promises, many beneficiaries have not received financial assistance for over a year.
- The government had introduced two schemes for these children: the **Sponsorship Scheme** and the **Mukhyamantri Bal Ashirwad Yojana**. Under these schemes, each child was entitled to **Rs. 5,000 per month**.
 - However, the disbursement of funds has been inconsistent, with many children not receiving any money since January 2023.
- The children were also promised [Ayushman Bharat cards](#) to cover their healthcare costs.
 - However, many of these cards have not been activated, leaving the children without the promised medical support.