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## Omar Abdullah to Take Oath as J&K CM | Jammu & Kashmir | 15 Oct 2024

### Why in News?

Recently, elections were concluded in the [Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir](#), and a new [Chief Minister](#) is to be appointed along with the revocation of [President's Rule](#).

### Key Points

- **President's Rule Revoked:**
  - Following the election results, [President's Rule](#) was revoked in J&K.
  - The revocation process involves the President issuing a proclamation based on a report from the [Governor or Lieutenant Governor \(LG\)](#), citing that conditions for forming a government are favorable after elections.
  - **President's Rule:**
    - **Article 356** of the Indian Constitution allows the President to impose direct **governance (President's Rule) in a state** when the state government is unable to function as per constitutional provisions.
- **Governor's Role (Now LG):**
  - Under **Article 164**, the **LG (previously Governor)** plays a key role in inviting the leader of the majority party or coalition to form the government.
  - The LG ensures the formation of a government that enjoys majority support in the legislature.
- **Oath of Office:**
  - As per **Article 164(3)**, the CM and other ministers are administered the **oath of office by the Governor (or LG in Union Territories)**.
  - The oath signifies allegiance to the Constitution and the discharge of duties in accordance with the law.
- **Legislative Assembly's Role:**
  - The newly formed [Legislative Assembly in J&K](#), reinstated post-elections, will have the authority to enact laws, approve budgets, and represent the people of the **Union Territory**.
  - The CM will head the executive arm of the government, accountable to the **Legislative Assembly**.

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# PRESIDENT'S RULE

## WHAT IT MEANS

### HOW CAN IT BE IMPOSED IN A STATE

- 1 On recommendation of Governor in case of failure of constitutional machinery
- 2 If a state legislature is unable to function according to constitutional provisions



### EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY

Exercised through the centrally appointed Governor



### PARLIAMENT'S ROLE

Every such proclamation must get Parliament's approval within two months from date of issue

**Article 356** of the Indian Constitution has the provision of President's Rule



### DURATION

6 months



A maximum of 3 years by approval of Parliament after every 6 months



### TERMINATION

By President, any time (s)he deems fit; does not need Parliament's approval

### A NEW PROVISION

The 44th Constitutional Amendment 1978 states that the President's Rule can't be imposed in any state beyond 1 year unless

- 1 A Proclamation of National Emergency is in operation
- 2 The Election Commission certifies that the continuance of President Rule is necessary to hold Assembly elections

## Roopkund Lake: In Peril Due to Climate Change | Uttarakhand | 15 Oct 2024

### Why in News?

Recently, the famous [Roopkund Lake in Uttarakhand](#), known for its centuries-old human skeletons, is shrinking as [climate change](#) affects its size and [ecosystem](#).

## Key Points

- **Roopkund Lake:**
  - The **skeletons found in Roopkund** are believed to date back to the **9th century**.
  - **Genetic studies** indicate that these individuals came from diverse groups, including a **Mediterranean lineage**.
  - Theories suggest they were either pilgrims or traders who perished during a sudden **hailstorm**, with massive hailstones being the possible cause of death.
- **Scientific Studies on Roopkund's Skeletons:**
  - Modern research has uncovered **DNA** traces from multiple ethnicities, some as recent as the **19th century**, suggesting Roopkund may have been visited over a prolonged period.
  - Researchers believe that **Roopkund** was once a sacred site, and the pilgrims likely traveled long distances before meeting their demise in this isolated, **high-altitude lake**.
- **Environmental Impact of Climate Change:**
  - The decline in glacier size, altered **monsoon patterns**, and **erratic snowfall** have caused a reduction in water levels at **Roopkund**.
  - Changes in temperature and weather are affecting the **region's flora and fauna**, contributing to the ecological imbalance around the lake.
- **Tourism and Conservation Challenges:**
  - Roopkund's reduced size and environmental degradation are making it harder to preserve the lake's unique history and ecological significance.
  - There are growing concerns that unchecked tourism and insufficient conservation efforts may exacerbate the damage caused by climate change.



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## Chardham Project in Uttarakhand | Uttarakhand | 15 Oct 2024

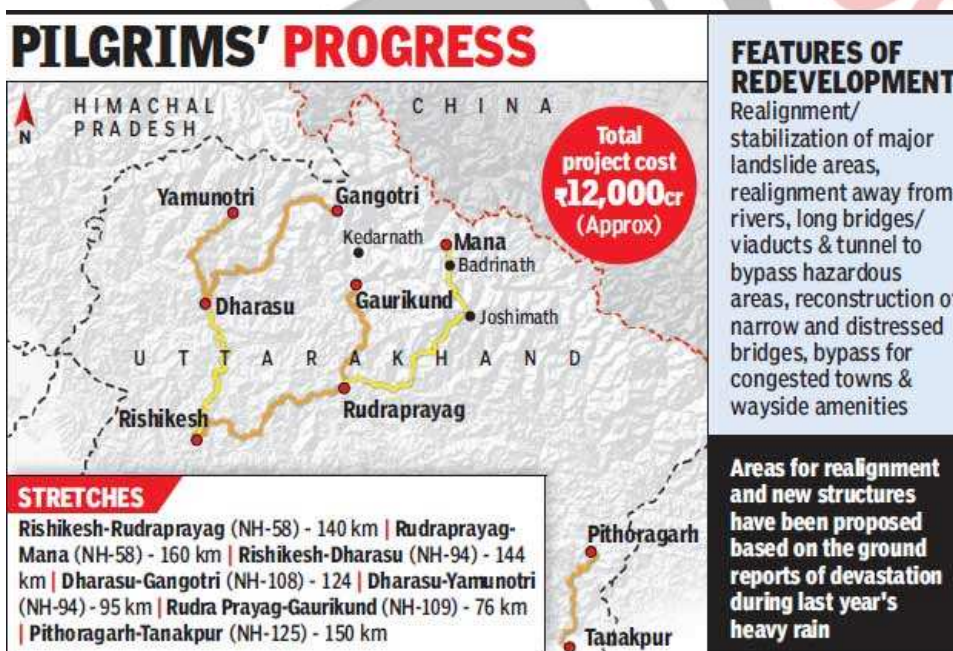
### Why in News?

Recently, the Centre informed the **Supreme Court** that **75%** of the work on the **Chardham Project**, designed to improve connectivity to four major pilgrimage sites in Uttarakhand, has been completed.



## Key Points

- **Chardham Project:**
  - The project involves the construction of a **900-kilometer all-weather road** to provide better connectivity to [Yamunotri, Gangotri, Kedarnath, and Badrinath](#).
  - The project is strategically important as it extends to regions near the China border.
  - The new highways will make travel easier and safer, especially **during monsoons and winter**, when the existing roads become prone to landslides and blockages.
- **Oversight Committee:**
  - The Supreme Court had previously formed an **oversight committee** headed by retired Supreme Court judge **Justice A.K. Sikri** to address environmental concerns.
  - The committee has submitted **two reports** to the Supreme Court, one in April 2024 and another on **27th August, 2024**, assessing the project's progress and compliance with guidelines.
- **Environmental Concerns and Court Orders:**
  - The project faced opposition due to environmental concerns related to the sensitive [Himalayan ecosystem](#).
  - In **December 2021**, the Supreme Court allowed **double-lane widening** of the Chardham Highway but placed oversight responsibilities on the Sikri-led committee to mitigate environmental damage.
  - The oversight committee **does not have the mandate to conduct a fresh [environmental impact assessment](#)** but monitors the execution of the project.
- **Support from Government Ministries:**
  - The committee has the complete backing of the Ministries of **Defence, Road Transport, and Environment**.
  - The **Uttarakhand Government** and local district magistrates are also cooperating with the committee.
  - Representatives from the [National Environmental Research Institute](#) and the [Forest Research Institute \(Dehradun\)](#) are part of the environmental oversight mechanism.



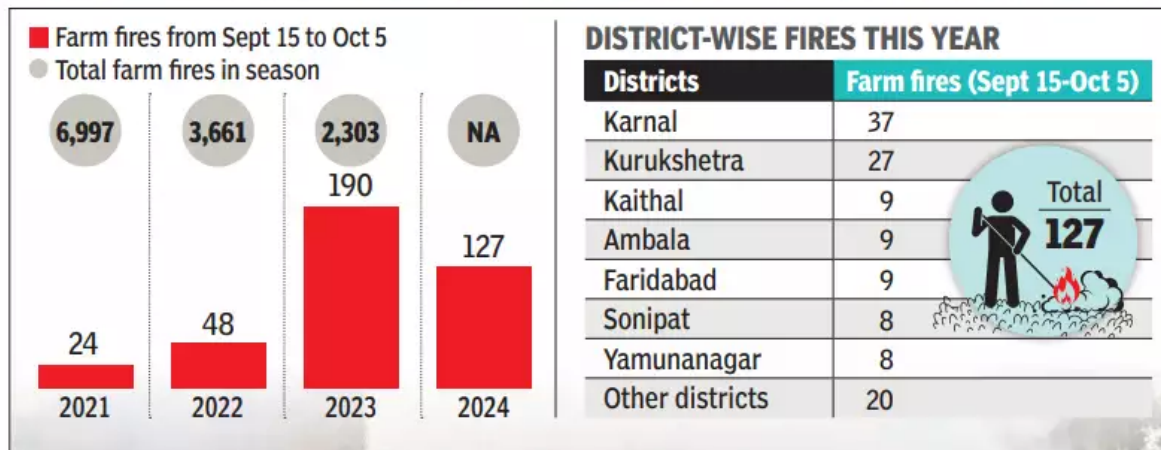
## Why in News?

Recently, a report highlights that 84% of [Haryana's stubble burning](#) cases are concentrated in just seven districts, exacerbating [air pollution](#) and [environmental concerns](#).

## Key Points

- **Stubble Burning:**
  - **84%** of Haryana's stubble burning incidents come from **seven districts**.
  - The highest contributors are **Fatehabad, Kaithal, Karnal, Jind, Kurukshetra, Ambala, and Yamunanagar**.
  - These seven districts account for **1,343 of the total 1,595 farm fire incidents** recorded in the current season.
- **Environmental Impact:**
  - Stubble burning is a significant contributor to [air pollution](#) in Haryana and the [Delhi-NCR region](#).
  - The smoke from these fires exacerbates health issues and worsens the already deteriorating air quality during the winter months.
- **Government Efforts:**
  - The Haryana government has introduced various initiatives to discourage stubble burning, including promoting alternatives like [crop residue management equipment](#).
  - **Fines and incentives** have been implemented to motivate farmers to adopt eco-friendly methods of disposing of crop stubble.
- **Challenges Faced by Farmers:**
  - Many farmers continue to burn stubble due to the **high costs** associated with alternative methods and the **limited availability** of machinery.
  - The short window between harvesting and sowing the next crop puts pressure on farmers, leading them to opt for the quickest solution, i.e., burning the stubble.
- **Policy and Enforcement:**
  - Enforcement of anti-burning laws remains a challenge, despite penalties being in place for violators.
  - The government has encouraged the use of [Happy Seeder machines](#), but their adoption has been slow.

## 190 FIRES RECORDED IN SAME PERIOD LAST YR



# Saras Aajeevika Mela 2024 | Haryana | 15 Oct 2024

Why in News?

- Recently, the [Saras Aajeevika Mela 2024](#) began in Gurugram, showcasing rural products and promoting women empowerment through [self-help groups \(SHGs\)](#) from across India.

## Key Points

- **Saras Aajeevika Mela:**
  - Its aim is to provide a platform for rural artisans and [SHG women](#) to showcase and sell their products, including handicrafts, handlooms, organic products, and traditional foods.
  - The fair is organized by the [National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj](#).
  - The mela acts as a marketing channel where rural producers can connect directly with urban consumers, helping them increase their income and expand market reach.
  - The event significantly contributes to [women empowerment](#) by providing opportunities to rural women entrepreneurs to exhibit their craftsmanship on a larger scale.
  - Initiatives like the Saras Mela are aligned with the government's broader objectives of strengthening rural economies and promoting [vocal for local](#) under the vision of [Atmanirbhar Bharat](#).
  - The initiative is part of the [Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihood Mission \(DAY-NRLM\)](#).

## Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihood Mission

- **About:**
  - It is a [Centrally Sponsored Programme](#), launched by the Ministry of Rural Development in 2011.
  - It aims to eliminate rural poverty through the promotion of multiple livelihoods and improved access to financial services for the rural poor households across the country.
- **Functioning:**
  - It involves working with community institutions through community professionals in the spirit of self-help which is a unique proposition of DAY-NRLM.
  - It impacts livelihoods by
    - Mobilizing rural households into SHGs.
    - Organizing one-woman member from each rural poor household into SHGs
    - Providing training and capacity building to SHG members
    - Providing access to financial resources from their own institutions and banks.
- **Sub Programs:**
  - [Mahila Kisan Shashaktikaran Pariyojana \(MKSP\)](#): It aims to promote agro-ecological practices that increase women farmers' income and reduce their input costs and risks.
  - [Start-Up Village Entrepreneurship Programme \(SVEP\)](#): It aims to support entrepreneurs in rural areas to set up local enterprises.
  - [Aajeevika Grameen Express Yojana \(AGEY\)](#): It was launched in August 2017, to provide safe, affordable and community monitored rural transport services to connect remote rural villages.
  - [Deendayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana \(DDUGKY\)](#): It aims at building placement-linked skills of the rural youth and placing them in relatively higher wage employment sectors of the economy.
  - [Rural Self Employment Institutes \(RSETIs\)](#): DAY-NRLM, in partnership with 31 Banks and State Governments, is supporting Rural Self Employment Institutes (RSETIs) for skilling rural youth to take up gainful self-employment.