

# **UCC** in Uttarakhand

### Why in News?

The proposed <u>Uniform Civil Code (UCC)</u> in Uttarakhand, expected to be enacted on the <u>state's foundation</u> <u>day</u>. **9**<sup>th</sup> **November**, will introduce <u>several new legal requirements and penalties concerning</u> <u>marriage and live-in relationships</u>.

## **Key Points**

- The proposed UCC aims to modernise legal practices in Uttarakhand, addressing issues related to marriage registration, inheritance, and legal procedures while also simplifying processes through the use of technology.
- Key Aspects of the Proposed Law Include the Following:
  - Marriage and Live-in Relationship Registration:
    - It will be mandatory for married couples to register their marriages within six months of the UCC's implementation.
    - Couples in live-in relationships must register their relationship within one month of the notification.
    - Failure to comply with these requirements will result in penalties. Couples who do
      not register their marriages within the stipulated time will be ineligible for
      government welfare schemes.
    - Those who have already registered their marriage in other states must update their records in Uttarakhand.

#### Penalties for Non-Compliance:

- If couples fail to register their live-in relationship within one month, they could face imprisonment of up to three months, a fine of up to Rs 10,000, or both.
- Providing false information will result in penalties of up to three months in jail, a fine of Rs 25.000, or both.
- Complete failure to register a marriage or live-in relationship may lead to a jail term of up to six months, a fine of Rs 25,000, or both.
- Landlords who rent properties to unregistered couples and deliberately conceal information may also face legal action.

## Provisions for Children and Maintenance:

- Under the UCC, any child born out of a live-in relationship will be considered legitimate.
- In cases of desertion, the woman will be entitled to claim maintenance from her partner.
- Although the UCC ensures confidentiality for live-in couples, it requires that parents of individuals aged 18 to 21 be informed about their live-in relationship.

#### Property Rights and Inheritance:

- The UCC proposes changes to inheritance laws to address concerns raised by elderly parents, who often find themselves alone in villages after their children migrate to cities.
- The law suggests that **the deceased's movable and immovable property be divided into four parts**, with shares allocated to the wife, children, and parents, treating each as a separate unit.
- Thousands of suggestions regarding inheritance were considered, including issues where elderly parents were left without support after the death of their son.

#### Simplifying Legal Procedures:

- A new mobile app will facilitate the registration process for marriages and live-in relationships. The app will allow couples to register without needing to visit government offices.
- Additionally, the app will simplify the process of drafting and updating a will, making it possible for individuals to make changes to their will at any time.



