



Central Assistance to Manage Pilgrims

Why in News?

The **Uttarakhand government will seek help from the Centre** through [Niti Aayog](#) to **manage the large number of tourists**.

Key Points

- Uttarakhand, known for [spiritual tourism](#), is facing a significant challenge with its **annual floating population increasing eight-fold**.
- The Uttarakhand government requested the Centre to include **compensation for damages** caused by [forest fires](#) and **high-voltage transmission line losses** in the [State Disaster Response Fund \(SDRF\)](#) norms **in the Union Budget**.
 - The state has **not received any allocation for green bonus or floating population**, despite being **one of the 147 most landslide-prone districts** in the country.
 - Districts like Rudraprayag and Tehri had hoped for relief, such as the **establishment of glacier or landslide research centers**, but the **budget did not address these concerns**.

State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF)

- SDRF has been constituted under **Section 48 (1) (a)** of the [Disaster Management Act, 2005](#).
- It was constituted based on the recommendations of the [13th Finance Commission](#).
- It is the **primary fund available with the State governments** for responses to notified disasters to meet expenditure for providing immediate relief.
- It is audited by the [Comptroller and Auditor General of India \(CAG\)](#) every year.

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