



India's First Helicopter Emergency Medical Service to Start in Uttarakhand

Why in News?

India is set to witness its first [Helicopter Emergency Medical Service \(HEMS\)](#) which will operate from **All India Institute for Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in Rishikesh**.

Key Points

- The new HEMS would operate under **project 'Sanjeevani'** with a coverage radius of 150 kilometers.
 - This will ensure timely transportation of accident victims and patients from hilly terrain to AIIMS.
- The emergency helicopter services will be indispensable for saving patients during the critical **'golden hour,'** soon after an accident, when expert medical care is vital.
 - This initiative will be a boon for Uttarakhand, a state that attracts tourists, pilgrims, and adventure enthusiasts annually, while also contending with [natural disasters](#).
- The commencement of another project was also announced, responding to the state government's request for air connectivity from **Hindon Air Base to Pithoragarh**.

Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (HEMS)

- It is called Project Sanjeevani; a helicopter will be deployed to provide emergency medical services at AIIMS Rishikesh.
 - It **encompasses multiple initiatives** targeting various sectors such as education, environment, agriculture, and livestock healthcare.
- The helicopter will be based at the **hospital at 20-minute notice** and will have a service covering an area of 150 km radius.

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