



# Preparation for Casualty-Free Lok Sabha Polls in Uttarakhand

## Why in News?

According to **Uttarakhand's Additional Chief Electoral Officer**, preparations are under way for the [Lok Sabha elections](#). All five Lok Sabha seats in Uttarakhand are scheduled to take place in a single phase on **19<sup>th</sup> April 2024**.

## Key Points

- According to the officials, they have arranged **two helicopters for emergency service**, and voting will be **casualty-free and no emergency situation** will arise.
- To increase voter turnout in the hill state, more than 11,000 polling booths are being set up across the state.
  - The **counting of votes** is scheduled on **4<sup>th</sup> June 2024**.

## One Nation-One Election (ONOE)

- **About:**
  - The concept talks about a scenario where all State elections will take place simultaneously with the general elections of **Lok Sabha**, once every five years.
  - The idea is to streamline the electoral process and reduce the frequency of elections, thus saving time and resources.
- **Background:**
  - The idea has been around since 1983, when the **Election Commission** first mooted it. However, until 1967, simultaneous elections were the norm in India.
    - The first General Elections to the House of People (Lok Sabha) and all **State Legislative Assemblies** were held simultaneously in **1951-52**.
    - That practice continued in three subsequent General Elections held in the years 1957, 1962 and 1967.
  - However, due to the premature dissolution of some Legislative Assemblies in 1968 and 1969, the cycle got disrupted.
    - In 1970, the Lok Sabha was itself dissolved prematurely and fresh elections were held in 1971. Thus, till 1970, only the First, Second and Third Lok Sabha enjoyed full five-year terms.