



UCC Rules in Uttarakhand | Uttarakhand | 22 Jan 2025

Why in News?

Recently, **the Uttarakhand government** approved the rules for [the Uniform Civil Code \(UCC\)](#) and plans to **issue a gazette notification for the legislation by the end of January 2025**, paving the way for its implementation.

Key Points

▪ Key Provisions of UCC:

- The UCC, **passed by the Uttarakhand Assembly in February 2024**, excludes tribal communities from its ambit.
- It **bans practices such as halala, iddat, and talaq**, which are customs under [Muslim Personal Law](#).
 - It ensures **women receive equal rights** in matters of property and inheritance.
- The Code mandates the **registration of marriages and divorces**, with non-compliance leading to deprivation of government benefits.
- Stringent provisions are in place for **unregistered live-in relationships**, though children born from such relationships are recognized as legitimate.

▪ Implementation Measures:

- The government has set up an **online portal to register marriages, divorces, inheritance rights, live-in relationships, and terminations of live-in relationships**.
- Citizens can access their data and application status via mobile phones or at home.
- **Common Service Centres (CSCs)** have been authorized for online registration.
 - In remote areas without internet access, CSC agents will provide **door-to-door registration services**.
- [Aadhaar-based registration](#) and tracking via email and SMS have been introduced for simplicity and convenience.
- An **online complaint registration mechanism** has also been established.

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UNIFORM CIVIL CODE

All sections of the society irrespective of their religion shall be treated equally according to a National Civil Code - the Uniform Civil Code.

THEY COVER AREAS LIKE



Marriage



Divorce



Maintenance



Inheritance



Adoption



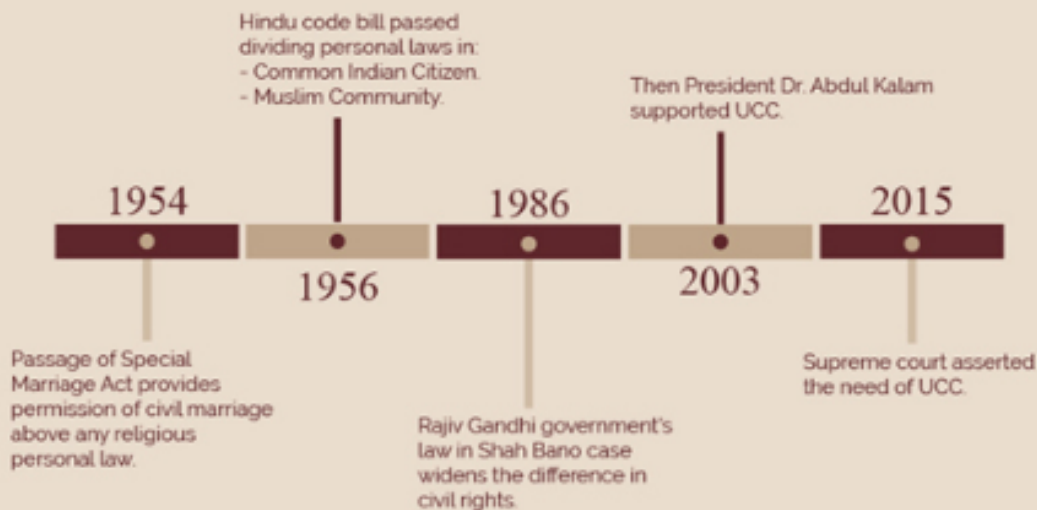
Succession of Property

It is based on the premise that there is necessarily no connection between religion and personal law in a civilized society.

"UCC refers to a common set of laws governing civil rights of every citizen."

Article 44 of Directive Principles sets duty of state for implementing UCC.

TIMELINE



The dialogue for UCC was started by the Law Commission in the year 2016

Kedarnath Wildlife Sanctuary | Uttarakhand | 22 Jan 2025

Why in News?

Recently, [the National Board for Wildlife \(NBWL\)](#) rejected the Uttarakhand government's proposal to permit [soapstone mining](#) on agricultural land at Pokhani, located near [the Kedarnath Wildlife Sanctuary \(KWLS\)](#).

Key Points

- **Wildlife Sanctuary and Endangered Species:**
 - The Kedarnath Wildlife Sanctuary is home to endangered species like the [Himalayan musk deer](#) and [Himalayan tahr](#), both listed on the [IUCN Red List](#).
- **Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) Guidelines:**
 - While the precise boundaries of the sanctuary's [eco-sensitive zone \(ESZ\)](#) have not been defined, the environment ministry's guidelines state that **an area of 10 km around protected zones is considered an ESZ in the absence of defined boundaries.**
- **Proposal for Soapstone Mining:**
 - **In 2023, the Uttarakhand authorities presented a proposal** to permit soapstone mining in Pokhani, located within the ESZ of Kedarnath Wildlife Sanctuary.
- **Environmentalists' Reaction:**
 - Environmentalists hailed the rejection as a **significant step in protecting the sanctuary and its surrounding areas.**
 - They emphasized that the decision reflected an **awareness of the risks posed by mining operations** to the region's ecology and local residents.
- **Concerns Over Unregulated Mining in Uttarakhand:**
 - Growing concerns over unregulated [mining activities](#), particularly in Bageshwar district of Kumaon, have led to a stronger stance against such operations.
 - Reports from the [Uttarakhand Disaster Management Authority](#) revealed severe damage caused by mining, including cracks in 200 houses, roads, and agricultural fields across 11 vulnerable villages.

National Board for Wildlife (NBWL)

- National Board for Wildlife is a statutory Board constituted officially in 2003 under the **Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.**
 - It replaced the Indian Board for Wildlife, established in 1952.
- The **NBWL is chaired by the Prime Minister** and is responsible for promotion of conservation and development of wildlife and forests.
- The board is **'advisory'** in nature and can only advise the Government on policy making for conservation of wildlife.
- It serves as **an apex body for the review of all wildlife-related matters** and for the approval of projects in and around national parks and sanctuaries.
- The standing committee of **NBWL is chaired by the Minister of Environment Forest and Climate Change.**
 - The standing committee approves all the projects falling within protected wildlife areas or within 10 km of them.