



Hydel Project at Joshimath

Why in News?

Recently, The [National Disaster Management Authority \(NDMA\)](#) stated that it has no objection allowing [NTPC \(National Thermal Power Corporation\)](#) to resume construction work at the [Tapovan-Vishnugad hydroelectric project site](#).

Key Points

- On 5th January, 2023 the state government had issued an order, **halting all works at the NTPC's Tapovan-Vishnugad project after the issue of land subsidence** worsened in [Joshimath](#).
 - NDMA formed a group of multi-institutional expert organizations, including the **Central Building Research Institute**, [National Geophysical Research Institute](#), [Geological Survey of India](#), [Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology](#), and [IIT-Roorkee](#), among others.
- In its report to the High Court, NDMA also stated that experts have listed many reasons for the land subsidence, the most common being that the **natural water flowing from Auli to Joshimath was interrupted due to unregulated construction in Joshimath town**.

National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC)

- It is a **central Public Sector Undertaking (PSU)** under the Ministry of Power.
- It is **India's largest energy conglomerate** with roots planted way back in **1975 to accelerate power development in India**.
- It aims to **provide reliable power and related solutions in an economical, efficient and environment-friendly manner**, driven by innovation and agility.
- It became a **Maharatna company in May 2010**.

The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)

- It is India's **apex statutory body for disaster management**.
- It was **formally constituted on 27th September 2006**, by the [Disaster Management Act, 2005](#).
 - The **Prime Minister is its chairperson** and it has nine other members. One of the **nine members is designated as Vice-Chairperson**.
- The primary responsibility for the management of disaster rests with the State Government concerned.
 - However, the National Policy on Disaster Management puts in place an enabling environment for all i.e., the Centre, state and district.