

UTTARAKHAND

Businessman dies by
suicide in Chorgalia

HT Correspondent

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HALDWANI: A 42-year-old mining businessman allegedly died by suicide at his home in Nainital's Chorgalia on Monday night, police said on Tuesday.

They added that family members heard a gunshot from his room and rushed him to a private hospital in Mukhani, where doctors declared him dead.

Superintendent of police (City) Manoj Kumar Katyal said, "It has come to light that he had a dispute with his wife over some issue. After that, he went to his room and shot himself. On hearing the gunshot, family members reached the spot and took him to the hospital. How-

ever, the exact cause behind the incident will be ascertained only after a detailed investigation."

Police said the body has been sent for post-mortem examination. Statements of family members and acquaintances are being recorded, and call detail records of the deceased are also being examined. "No written complaint has been received so far in connection with the incident," the SP said, adding that the deceased owned a license for the weapon used, which was recovered by police.

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{ REFUSES TO STAY BANBHULPURA EVICTION DRIVE }

Facilitate PMAY housing
to occupants: SC to state

HTC and Agencies

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Tuesday directed the state government to facilitate the rehabilitation of over 27,000 occupants residing in Banbhulpura near the Haldwani Railway Station by enabling them to apply for housing under the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana (PMAY).

The occupants are alleged to have encroached upon railway land, and eviction proceedings are underway.

A bench comprising of Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant and justice Joymalya Bagchi refused to stay the eviction but acknowledged that thousands of families are likely to be uprooted. The Court, therefore, directed the state to verify their eligibility under PMAY and submit a detailed status report before the next hearing.

Clarifying its stance, the bench orally observed, "We are not calling them 'encroachers', we have called them 'occupants'. When they are being rehabilitated, they can't be called encroachers." The court underscored that determining eligibility under the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana was



Banbhulpura saw heavy police deployment during the Supreme Court hearing on Tuesday. HT PHOTO

"highly desirable" to mitigate the impact of displacement.

In its order, the apex court directed the collector and revenue authorities of Nainital and Haldwani districts to supply PMAY application forms to affected families to facilitate their enrolment under the scheme. It further instructed the Uttarakhand State Legal Services Authority (SLSA) to organise rehabilitation camps at the site beginning March 18. The member secretary of the SLSA has been directed to remain present at the location after the commencement of the camp.

The court expressed hope that the exercise would be completed by March 31 and noted that multiple camps could be organised if necessary. It permitted the SLSA to involve counsellors, social activists, and conduct door-to-door outreach campaigns to maximise awareness and participation.

Meanwhile, Banbhulpura residents expressed mixed reactions to the order.

Uwais Raza, petitioner in the case and convener of the Banbhulpura Sangharsh Samiti, alleged that the state government was misrepresenting

facts before the court.

"This area belongs to the state government, and the state government knows this. But it is misleading the court on this matter," Raza said.

"The people of Banbhulpura have been and are still being sacrificed for political gain. Where will the thousands of families who have lived here since before Independence go?" he added.

He added that despite the setback, residents continued to repose faith in the judiciary. "I have full faith in the country's highest court. Whatever decision it makes, it will be in favour of the poor," he said.

Sumit Hridayesh, Congress MLA from Haldwani and one of the petitioners in the case, said around 50,000 people are affected by the dispute.

He added that the survey to find residents from economically weaker sections who qualified for housing under PMAY is scheduled to begin on March 19.

Banbhulpura witnessed heavy deployment of police in view of the hearing. SSP Nainital TC Manjunath urged everyone to maintain peace, respect the Supreme Court's decision, and cooperate with the police.



Officials said that helicopter services often emerged as the best means of rapid emergency services on difficult terrain. HT PHOTO

UCADA plans
helipads next
to road tunnels

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DEHRADUN: The Uttarakhand Civil Aviation Department (UCADA) plans to build helipads at portals of key mountain tunnels across the state to strengthen disaster management infrastructure, officials said on Tuesday.

UCADA CEO Ashish Chauhan said aerial services played a crucial role in disaster management. "Road routes in mountainous areas are often blocked or time-consuming. In such situations, helicopter services can be a most effective means of delivering rapid relief. With this in mind, the department plans to develop helipads at the tunnel portals," he said.

Officials said that helicopter services often emerge as the most effective and time-sensitive means of delivering emergency aid, evacuating stranded residents and pilgrims, transporting medical teams, and ensuring rapid deployment of disaster response forces.

They added that the construction of the 125-kilometre Rishikesh-Karnaprayag Railway Project, 80% of whose alignment passes through underground tunnels in fragile, mountainous terrain, was a major impetus for the project. They also cited other projects, such as the Silkyara tunnel project in Uttarkashi, a portion of which collapsed and trapped 41 workers for 17 days in November 2023.

"These tunnel entrances are typically situated at accessible

OFFICIALS SAID THAT HELICOPTER SERVICES OFTEN EMERGE AS THE MOST EFFECTIVE AND TIME-SENSITIVE MEANS OF DELIVERING EMERGENCY AID

yet secure points along the alignment, making them ideal nodes for coordinated disaster response operations," said a senior official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The proposal aligns with the government's larger emphasis of improving connectivity and disaster preparedness.

Chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhama had in July 2025 urged civil aviation minister Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu to formulate a separate aviation policy for hill states. "The policy should include provisions for special financial assistance, operational subsidies, suitable ATC (Air Traffic Control) networks for hill regions, accurate weather forecasting systems, dedicated flight slotting, and proactive disaster preparedness," he had said.

Earlier, in 2023, the government approved a helipad and heliport policy which allowed helipads and heliports to be built on private land.

Officials said that currently, 18 heliports were under development in the state, with 12 out of these already operational.

BJP CRITICISES
CONGRESS OVER
RAHUL MEETING
'MOHD DEEPAK'

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DEHRADUN: The ruling Bharatiya Janata Party has criticised the Congress over Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi's meeting with Kotdwar-based gym owner Deepak Kumar, who defended a Muslim shopkeeper from alleged harassment by Bajrang Dal workers on January 26.

Gandhi met Kumar at Sonia Gandhi's residence in New Delhi on Monday.

Termining the meeting as an act of "appeasement politics", BJP MLA and state spokesperson Vinod Chamoli alleged that the Congress "glorifies anyone who transforms from Deepak to Mohammad Deepak."

He claimed that several senior leaders waited years for an audience with Rahul Gandhi, and some even leave the party out of frustration. "In such a situation, Rahul Gandhi's meeting and embrace with Mohammad Deepak after a brief discussion, and the manner in which it has been projected, reflects appeasement politics in Uttarakhand."

"If the sanctity of Uttarakhand is to be preserved, the Congress must be completely removed. The people of the state will not tolerate appeasement politics or any attempt to alter the state's demographic balance," he said, criticising what he termed as Congress leaders' "exaggerated activism" over the alleged mob harassment incident.

Meanwhile, senior state Congress leader Harish Rawat defended the meeting. "Deepak Kumar fulfilled his duty as an ideal citizen. Why does the BJP have a problem with his meeting Rahul Gandhi? If Rahul Gandhi patted him on the back, what is wrong with that?" he said.

3 booked for gang
rape of woman in
US Nagar district

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HALDWANI: Three men were booked for the alleged gang rape of a 25-year-old woman in Udhham Singh Nagar's Rudrapur, police said on Tuesday.

Police said that only one of the three accused, Raja, was identified so far.

The incident occurred on Sunday near the Saras Mela venue at Gandhi Park when the survivor and her brother-in-law were walking back home from the Mela, they said, citing a complaint by her brother-in-law, which said that the accused allegedly intercepted them on motorbikes and threatened them at gunpoint before abducting the woman and taking her to a secluded stretch on Thandi road, where they raped her repeatedly.

The accused also allegedly recorded the crime on a mobile phone before fleeing the spot, police said.

"Based on the complaint lodged by the woman's brother-in-law, an FIR has been registered against Raja, a resident

THE INCIDENT OCCURRED ON SUNDAY WHEN THE SURVIVOR AND HER BROTHER-IN-LAW WERE WALKING BACK HOME FROM THE SARAS MELA

of Khera, and two unidentified individuals under relevant sections of BNS. The brother-in-law has also been detained and is being questioned," said Rudrapur circle officer Prashant Kumar.

He added that CCTV footage from cameras installed near the incident site and within the Gandhi Park mela complex was being collected and examined to verify the movements of the accused.

"Three police teams have been deployed to arrest the accused named and identify the other two individuals. Further investigation is underway," the officer said.

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The Chief Engineer (P&C), Procurement & Contracts Dept., WBSEDDL invites e-Tender from original manufacturers for Additional empanelment of Vendors as per the Technical Specifications of the NIT in continuation of the existing list of Empanelled Vendors as notified on the website of WBSEDDL vide Memo No.: P&C/PC-II/DTR/61 Dated: 07.06.2024 for manufacture, testing, supply and delivery of the following items:

Tender Notice No. & Description of Items
NIT No.: P-60/25-26/PC-II/Addl. Emp/DTR

3 Phase, 50Hz, Dyn11, ONAN, 11/0.433 KV, BIS Level-II (As per amendment No.4 of IS-1180 (part-1):2014) compliant

(i) 25 KVA Distribution Transformer
(ii) 63 KVA Distribution Transformer
(iii) 100 KVA Distribution Transformer
(iv) 160 KVA Distribution Transformer
(v) 250 KVA Distribution Transformer
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THE KURMANCHAL NAGAR SAHKARI BANK LTD.
Branch : Veer Hakikat Rai Marg, Rudrapur, Distt.- Udhamsingh Nagar (Uttarakhand)-263153
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SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES 'APPENDIX- IV-A [See proviso to Rule 8 and 9]
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the borrower (s), Mortgagee(s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorised officer of THE KURMANCHAL NAGAR SAHKARI BANK LTD. Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis for recovery of dues in below mentioned accounts/s. The details of Borrower/s/Mortgagor/s/Guarantor/s/Secured Asset/s/Dues/Reserve Price/e-Auction date & Time, EMD and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below:-

Name & Addresses of The Borrower/S/ Guarantor/S /Mortgagor/S	Date of Demand Notice	Date of (Symbolic) Possession	Give short Description of the Immovable Properties with known encumbrances	Reserve Price EMD Bid Increase Amount
Borrower:1 M/S R.M. Enterprises, Add.- A-345, Surya Enclave, Railway Station, Rudrapur, District Udhham Singh Nagar, Uttarakhand. Partners:- 2. Shri Alok Jain S/o Mr. Naresh Chandra Jain, R/o:- A-345, Surya Enclave, Railway Station, Rudrapur, District Udhham Singh Nagar, Uttarakhand. 3. Sh. Ashish Jain S/o Mr. Naresh Chandra Jain, R/o:- A-345, Surya Enclave, Railway Station, Rudrapur, District Udhham Singh Nagar, Uttarakhand. Mortgagor/ Guarantors:- 4. Smt. Rashmi Jain W/o Shri Alok Jain, R/o:- A-345, Surya Enclave, Railway Station, Rudrapur, District Udhham Singh Nagar, Uttarakhand. 5. Smt. Payal Jain W/o Shri Ashish Jain, R/o:- A-345, Surya Enclave, Railway Station, Rudrapur, District Udhham Singh Nagar, Uttarakhand. Guarantors:- 6. Shri Rajesh Arora S/o Shri Kishan Lal Arora, R/o:- House No. 164, Awas Vikas, Rudrapur, District Udhham Singh Nagar, Uttarakhand. 7. Shri Sanjeev Grover S/o Shri Ramlal, R/o:- Shiram Traders, House No. 12, Gram Jafferpur, District Udhham Singh Nagar, Uttarakhand.	18.01.2020	09.10.2020	Property No.5 :- All That Part & Parcel of Property Residential Flat No. C-4, Pocket III, at Second Floor, Measuring 144.981 Sq. Meter (30'52") Situated at Village Rampura Khet No. 51/1/1/2, (Residential Colony Friend Circle) Paragana Rudrapur, Tehsil Kichha, District Udhham Singh Nagar, Standing in The Name of Smt. Rashmi Jain W/o Shri Alok Jain. Bounded as Under as per title deed:- East - C-3, West - 10 feet wide Road, North - 10 feet Wide Road, South - 30 feet Wide Road. Duly registered in the office of Sub - Registrar, Kichha. (U.S. Nagar) at Book no 1 Volume: 1552, Pages 261 to 270, at Serial No.7849 on 03.07.2013.	Reserve Price Rs.31,50,000/- EMD Amount Rs.3,15,000/- Bid Increase Amount Rs.1,00,000/-
Property No.3 :- All That Part & Parcel of Property Commercial Shop No. B-8, at Ground Floor without Roof Right Measuring 26.765. Sq. Meter (12'24") Situated at Village Rampura Khet No. 34/1/1, Min (Ganpati Complex) Paragana Rudrapur Tehsil Kichha District Udhham Singh Nagar. Standing in The Name of Sh. Ashish Jain S/o Mr. Naresh Chandra Jain. Bounded as Under as per title deed:- East - Complex Road, West - Shop No. A-8, North - Shop No. B-9, South - Shop No. B-7. Duly registered in the office of Sub - Registrar, Kichha. (U.S. Nagar) at Book no 1 Volume: 1552, Pages 301 to 310, at Serial No.7853 on 03-07-2013.	18.01.2020	24.09.2021	SARFAESI Physical	Reserve Price Rs.22,00,000/- EMD Amount Rs.2,20,000/- Bid Increase Amount Rs.50,000/-
Property No.4 :- All That Part & Parcel of Property Commercial Shop No. B-9, at Ground Floor without Roof Right Measuring 26.765. Sq. Meter (12'24") Situated at Village Rampura Khet No. 34/1/1, Min (Ganpati Complex) Paragana Rudrapur Tehsil Kichha District Udhham Singh Nagar Standing in The Name of Shri Alok Jain S/o Mr. Naresh Chandra Jain. Bounded as Under as per title deed:- East - Complex Road, West - Shop No. A-9, North - Shop No. B-10, South - Shop No. B-8. Duly registered in the office of Sub - Registrar, Kichha. (U.S. Nagar) at Book no 1 Volume: 1552, Pages 349 to 358, at Serial No.7857 on 03-07-2013.	18.01.2020	24.09.2021	SARFAESI Physical	Reserve Price Rs.22,00,000/- EMD Amount Rs.2,20,000/- Bid Increase Amount Rs.50,000/-
Property No.2 :- All That Part & Parcel of Property Commercial Shop No. B-10, at Ground Floor without Roof Right Measuring 26.765. Sq. Meter (12'24") Situated at Village Rampura Khet No. 34/1/1, Min (Ganpati Complex) Paragana Rudrapur Tehsil Kichha District Udhham Singh Nagar Standing in The Name of Shri Ashish Jain S/o Mr. Naresh Chandra Jain And Shri Alok Jain S/o Mr. Naresh Chandra Jain. Bounded as Under as per title deed:- East - Complex Road, West - Shop No. A-10, North - Shop No. B-11, South - Shop No. B-9. Duly registered in the office of Sub - Registrar, Kichha. (U.S. Nagar) at Book no 1 Volume: 1552, Pages 337 to 348, at Serial No.7856 on 03-07-2013.	18.01.2020	24.09.2021	SARFAESI Physical	Reserve Price Rs.22,00,000/- EMD Amount Rs.2,20,000/- Bid Increase Amount Rs.50,000/-

DATE & TIME OF E-AUCTION : 17.03.2026, 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM

Property Inspection Date & Time :- 10.03.2026, 11:00 AM to 04:00 PM

Last Date of Submission of prescribed tender/bid forms and KYC :- 12.03.2026

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer to the link provided in <https://kurmanchalbank.bank.in> and sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net. Also, prospective bidders may contact the authorized officer on **Mobile- 8077272447** and **Email ID- rudrapur1@kurmanchalbank.bank.in, rr.tara@kurmanchalbank.bank.in**

STATUTORY 15 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002
The Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagors are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned above along with up-to-date interest and ancillary expenses before date of auction, failing which the property will be auctioned/sold and balance dues, if any, will be recovered with interest and cost.

Date: 21.02.2026 Place: Nainital Authorised Officer - The Kurmanchal Nagar Sahkari Bank Ltd.

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SALE NOTICE for Sale of Immovable Properties

E-Auction 15 days Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Proviso to Rule 8(6) & 9(1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged / charged to the Secured Creditor, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Union Bank of India (secured creditor), will be sold on below mentioned dates "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" on the date mentioned below, for recovery of dues as mentioned hereunder to Union Bank of India from the below mentioned Borrower(s) & Guarantor(s). The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit are also mentioned hereunder:

S. No.	Name & address of Borrower & Guarantor	Description of the Immovable property put for auction	Status of the possession Physical/ Constructive	Dues to be Recovered from Borrower/ Guarantor (Rs.)	Reserve Price (Rs.) EMD Bid Increment	Date and Time of Auction (with 10 min unlimited auto extensions)
1	Borrower: M/s Rohit Enterprises, Calling Prop Shri Sukumar Roy S/o Shri Bhupendra Roy, Mauja Vijay Nagar, Vill and Post Kalinagar, Tehsil Gadarpur, Udhham Singh Nagar, Pin Code - 263153 Guarantors: Shri Sukumar Roy S/o Shri Bhupendra Roy, Mauja Vijay Nagar, Vill and Post Kalinagar, Tehsil Gadarpur, Udhham Singh Nagar, Pin Code - 263153 Shri Raj Kumar S/o Shri Ravinath Roy, Mauja Vijay Nagar, Vill and Post Kalinagar, Tehsil Gadarpur, Udhham Singh Nagar, Pin Code - 263153	Land and building owned by Shri Sukumar Roy S/o Shri Bhupendra Roy at khata no 355, khasra no. 647 min, village Vijay Nagar, Post Kalinagar, Gadarpur, Rudrapur Dist, Udhham Singh Nagar, admeasuring area 83.64 Sq Mtr Boundaries: EAST : Dineshpur Road, WEST : Land Of Seller, NORTH : Badal Sarkar SOUTH : Rasta	Constructive	Rs. 25,71,679.00 /- as per demand notice dated 06.11.2019 & further interest thereon, charges and costs.	Rs. 58,00,000/- Rs. 5,80,000/- Rs. 58,000/-	13.03.2026 between 12.00 PM to 05.00 PM (with 10 min unlimited auto extensions)

Date & Time of E-Auction: 13-03-2026 at 12:00 Noon to 05:00 PM
Last date of Submission of bid: On or before the commencement of e-Auction
For All Property Sr. No. 1 : Invariably, the first bid of the property/ies will be Reserve Price + one Increment.
This amount will be the minimum bid amount to participate in bidding process
Authorized Officer - Praveen Kumar Gupta 9988712023

For detailed terms and condition of the sale, please refer to the link provided in <https://baanknet.com> and <https://www.unionbankofindia.co.in/auction-property/view-auction-property.aspx>. Further Bidder for Registration and Login and Bidding Rules visit <https://baanknet.com> only.
NOTE: Bidder are advised to register and validate KYC on the website/portal at least 2-3 days prior to auction date and EMD may be deposited 2 days before the date of auction to avoid any inconvenience.

Date: 24-02-2026 Place : Dehradun Authorised Officer, Union Bank of India

HT

Three shops gutted in huge blaze in Haridwar: Officials
HARIDWAR: Three shops were gutted in a fire on Tuesday at the Vishnu Ghat market in Haridwar, officials said, adding that the cause of the fire was still uncertain, but suspected to be a short-circuit. No casualties were reported but the fire caused substantial property damage, said officials aware of the matter. An LPG cylinder exploded while firefighting operations were still underway, they added.

Man arrested with 2.18 kg of hashish in Rishikesh: Police
DEHRADUN: The state Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF) on Monday arrested a 31-year-old alleged drug smuggler in Rishikesh and recovered 2.180 kg of hashish and 5 kg of poppy husk from him, police said on Tuesday. The accused has been identified as Bhagwat (31), a resident of Uttarkashi district, said a senior officer, adding that a case was registered under relevant sections of the NDPS Act.