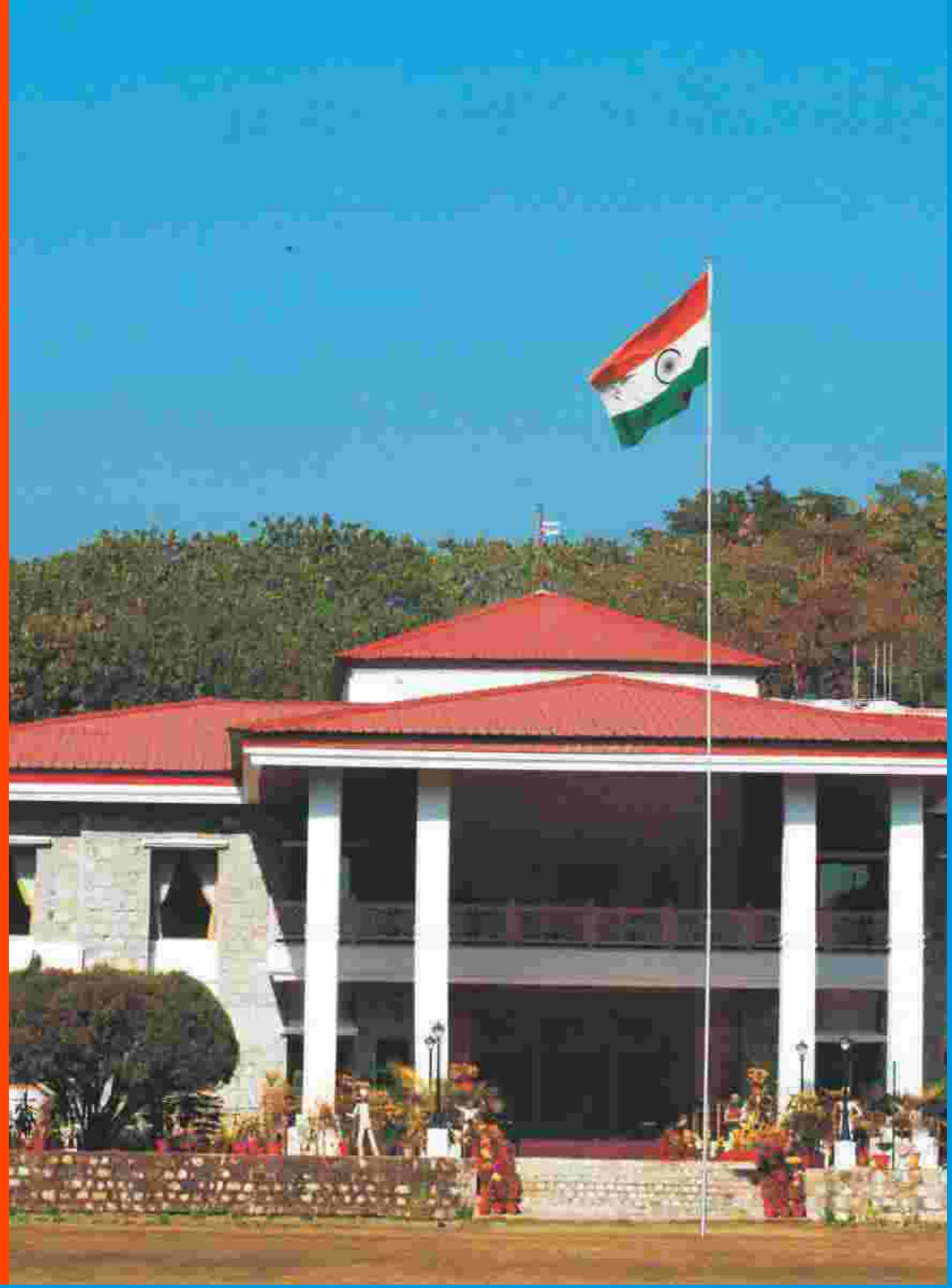




UTTARAKHAND: INSPIRING INITIATIVES





Uttarakhand: Inspiring Initiatives

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Uttarakhand: Inspiring Initiatives

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Text : Dr. Jaskiran Chopra

Editing : Sudhir K Arora

Concept and Design : Sudhir K Arora

Layout : Prem Bandana (Rai) Limbu

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Dr. Bhupinder Kaur Aulakh

Former Secretary to Hon'ble Governor

Mr. Ravi Bijarniya

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Ms. Archana

Former Information Officer, Raj Bhawan

Mrs. Hansi Brijwasi

Former O.S.D. (Information), Raj Bhawan

Mr. Praveen Painuly

Photographer (Information), Raj Bhawan

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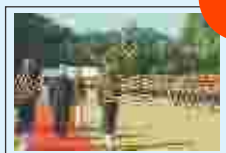
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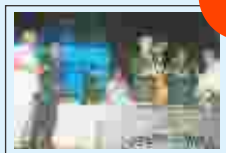
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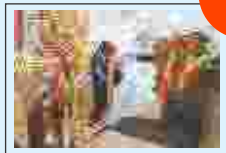
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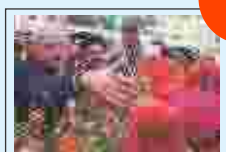
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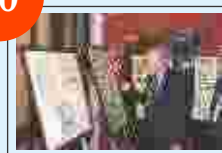


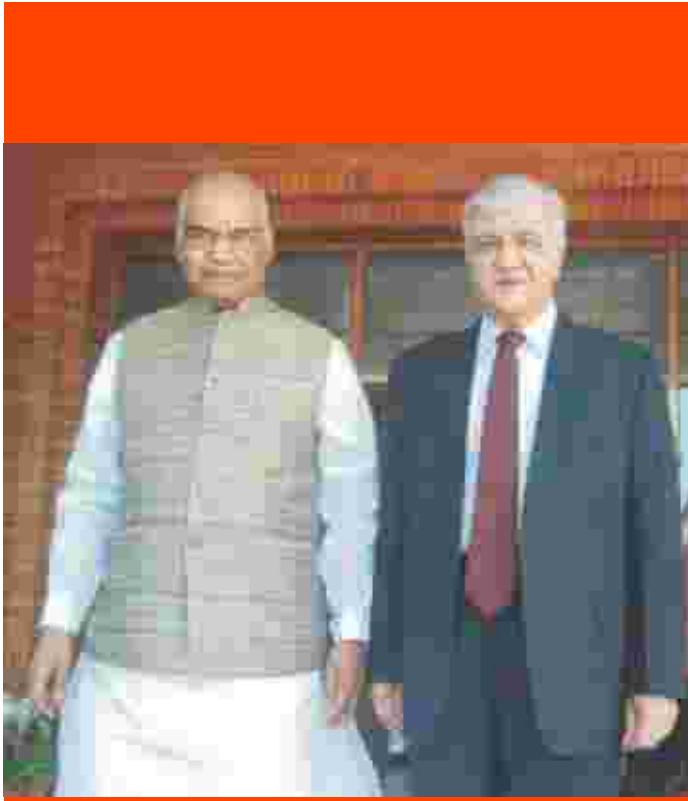
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A Multi-faceted Personality

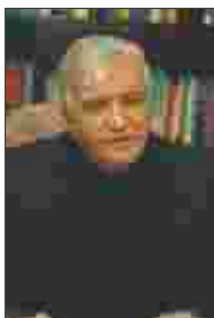
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Foreword



One of the youngest states in the country, Uttarakhand came into being in the new millennium on November 9, 2000. Ever since its inception, the state has been able to make phenomenal progress with an annual growth rate of more than 9 per cent of GDP and a per capita income of over Rs. 1.5 Lakhs, both being way above the national average. Having already visited this region on a number of occasions as a tourist, I was quite excited to come here as the Governor. Within a few days after taking over, I realized that while the state had problems of variable growth, at the same time it also had an immense potential which was lying untapped particularly in the areas of tourism, medicinal and aromatic plants besides floriculture and horticulture. Accordingly, I began working towards ensuring that these opportunities were highlighted and the challenges were overcome. Within the initial one month or so, a vision was developed for taking the state forward on an accelerated growth trajectory.

Uttarakhand: Inspiring Initiatives is a pictorial account depicting the steps taken for the forward growth of this upcoming hill state that has a wealth of biodiversity and a wonderful workforce, besides a treasure of natural splendour. The author has captured in it, my journey so far, in the context of developmental aspects of the state while aiming to stress upon the spheres that could make Uttarakhand a model state worth emulating.

My keen interest in developing the state as a hub of excellence in higher education is quite visible and has been discussed at length in this work. Despite having eleven state universities, problems existed in the sphere of higher education in the state. This propelled me as Chancellor of these universities to motivate the Vice Chancellors, the teaching staff, research scholars and students. A number of competitions and awards were instituted and duly publicized to encourage students, teachers and research scholars to do their best. Filing of patents was also encouraged through applied research.

The work done, under my directions, to enhance and enrich the Raj Bhawans at Dehra Dun and Nainital, also finds place in the book. Stress has been laid upon promoting Uttarakhand as a “Flower State” and a destination for medical, spiritual and adventure tourism. The importance of Yoga for our state and its role in making Uttarakhand a destination for people from all over the world has also been emphasized.

My purpose has been to take the people along in my endeavours to ensure all-round progress of this beautiful and unique Himalayan state. These initiatives have been highlighted in this book as a large number of works have been undertaken for the first time in the state. It has been my wish that these endeavours be taken to all, through *Uttarakhand: Inspiring Initiatives*.

The book is dedicated to the people of Uttarakhand.

Dr. K.K. Paul

The Beginning

Dr. Krishan Kant Paul, the sixth Governor of the state of Uttarakhand, completed two years in office earlier this year. During these two years, he has undertaken several significant initiatives towards the development and progress of the nascent state, focussing on primary, secondary and higher education, agriculture, horticulture, floriculture, cultural heritage of the state, pilgrim tourism, adventure tourism, aquatic sports, employment generation and other vital areas.

Governors are not known to make speeches at the oath taking ceremonies, but Dr. Paul broke this tradition. On the occasion of his oath taking, Dr. Paul, while greeting the people of the state, said that he felt great pride in entering this sacred land formally.

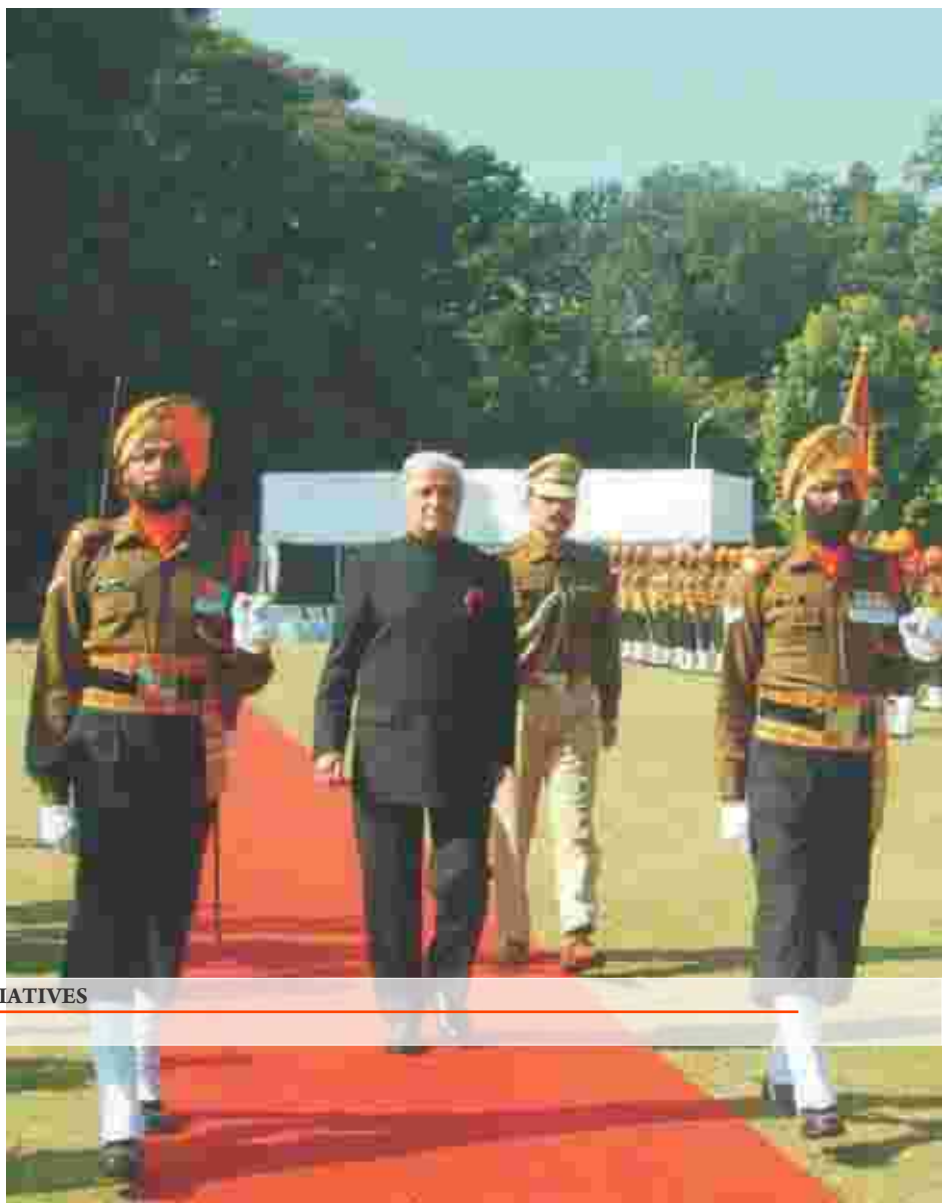
Dr. Paul said Uttarakhand is a beautiful state with talented people and its rich cultural traditions give a unique colour to the beauty of India. He said that he felt greatly honoured on being the first citizen of the state.

Uttarakhand has vast possibilities for development. Forests, water resources, mineral wealth along with the people's capacity to work and the conducive environment could create an economically sound and knowledge-based society which could inspire the country. "Welfare of people, especially of the poor, needs to be our priority."

"Uttarakhand being prone to natural disasters, we need to be extremely cautious and careful about these challenges", he said. "There should be a balance between environment and local needs."

He called upon people to work unitedly for this "sacred land of gods" and take it to new heights of development. "We must prove that this land is not only beautiful but also progressive."

Amongst the first orders issued by Dr. Paul, as the Governor, was the dropping of the honorific 'His Excellency'.





Governor Dr. Krishan Kant Paul being administered the Oath of Office by the Acting Chief Justice of the Uttarakhand High Court, Justice V.K. Bisht



Inspecting the Guard of Honour after being sworn in.

Seeking the blessings of Ma Ganga
The Governor and the First Lady of Uttarakhand at
the fabled Ganga Aarti at Har-ki-Pairi, Haridwar 08 Jan 2015





Unswerving Commitment

The Governor visits Kedarnath shrine at the height of winter, days after assuming office, to assess progress of reconstruction and rehabilitation.



The Governor's Vision for the State

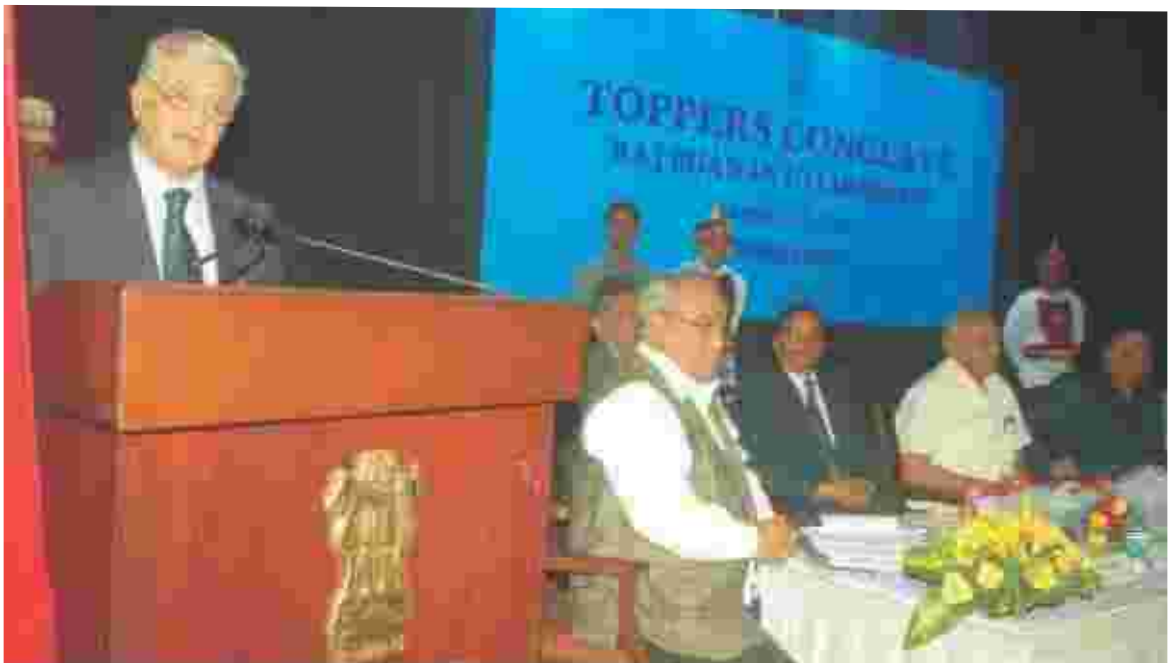


The Governor's Vision for the State

The Governor has brought with him to Uttarakhand vast experience of public service, a quiet discipline, resolute decisiveness, great organisational ability and total dedication to the state and its people. His vision for the state envisages a great potential in multiple spheres.

Being the Chancellor of the State Universities, he has been making tireless efforts since his arrival in the state to create awareness of the need to enhance the level of higher education in Uttarakhand. He has initiated the 'Toppers' Conclave at Raj Bhawan for university toppers, and instituted the Governor's Teachers and Students awards for government schools, and the awards for best research work and innovation in universities. It is due to his efforts that annual convocations are now being held in state universities on a regular basis. Universities are being transformed into smart campuses. Universities have also adopted a village each and are taking measures to develop them. An inter-University competition for ratings has also been introduced. The Governor has been stressing the need for raising the overall level of education in universities of Uttarakhand in most of his speeches. An inter University sports meet is also on the anvil.

Dr. Paul has visited the remote, border areas of the state like Munsiyari, Ghansali and Malari. Looking at the problems of the tribals and other people there, he has suggested to the government that power looms should be provided to all people, including tribals, who work at handlooms. "The products will get a better finish with powerlooms. Also, marketing facilities are needed greatly there to promote these products of border areas."





The Governor's Teachers Awards function 2015



Discussing the problems faced by tribal weavers of remote Munsiyari



With Jawans braving the winter at Kedarnath



He believes that the state has immense potential in horticulture and floriculture. Exotic flowers like tulips have been grown at Raj Bhawan and these have given a new dimension to the annual Spring Festival (*Vasantotsav*) held every year at Raj Bhawan. These flowers from Uttarakhand could find a ready market in New Delhi, if flower growers have proper tie-ups and transportation.



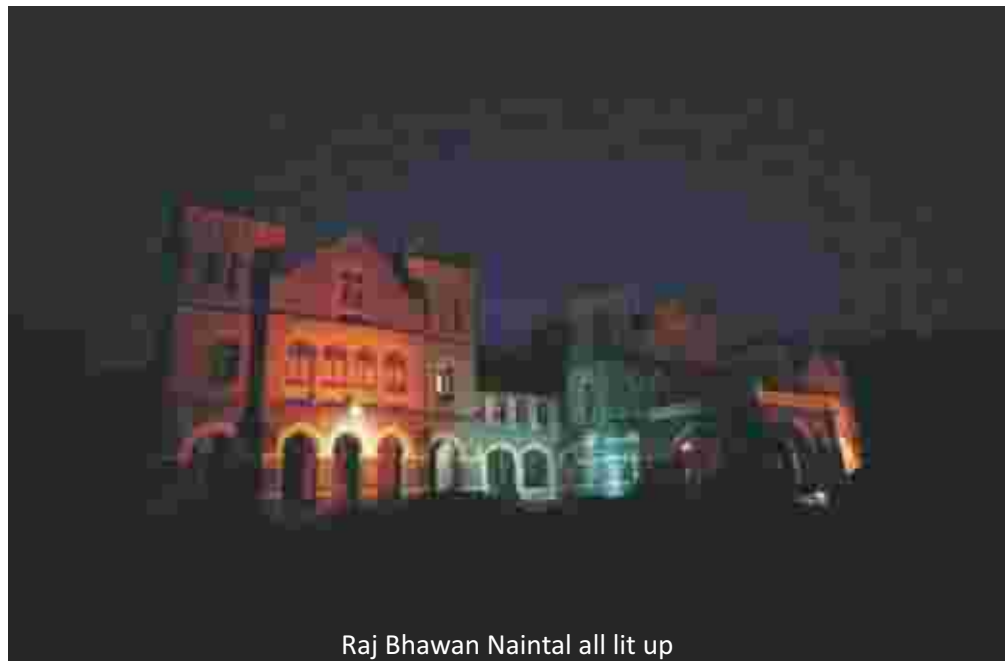
He has keen interest in the medicinal and aromatic plants. He has visited the Herbal Research and Development Institute, Mandal (Gopeshwar) and also the Centre for Aromatic Plants, Selaqui, and has given concrete suggestions for commercial exploitation of these plants and developing perfume-based products.



With Scientists at Centre for Aromatic Plants, Selaqui

The Governor has addressed many seminars over two years on food processing. He has highlighted the need for food processing units in the state to ensure that the fruits grown in the state are commercially utilized.

Dr. Paul has made concerted efforts to highlight the vast potential of tourism in the state. At Nainital, golf and yachting events have been regularly held (Governor's Cup Golf Tournament, Governor's Cup Sailing Regatta and Governor's Cup Inter School Golf Tournament). Free of cost training in golf has been initiated for school students at the Golf Club, Raj Bhawan, Nainital. The Raj Bhawan at Nainital required a lot of restoration and renovation work. This has been completed under his personal supervision. A film on Raj Bhawan, Nainital was also made at his initiative.



Raj Bhawan Nainital all lit up

At the Tehri Dam Reservoir



At the awe-inspiring Jageshwar Dham



Work is being done on the Tehri Reservoir (lake) based on suggestions for promoting tourism he had made in 2015. He feels that the Jageshwar temple complex is a beautiful heritage of Uttarakhand and it should be better publicized to attract visitors. Also, the Governor has regularly stressed upon creating a proper Vivekananda Tourist Circuit covering the various sites in this region which were visited by Swamiji.

The Governor has been addressing various forums, organizations and institutions to catalyse the intellectual thought process and creativity in the state.



Towards Excellence in Education



Towards Excellence in Education

Dr. K.K. Paul has made significant efforts over the last two years to provide inspiration and encouragement to teachers, students and researchers to attain high standards in education and research. He has instituted the awards for the toppers of Class Ten and Twelve in the Uttarakhand Board examinations, awards for excellent teachers in government schools and awards for best researchers in universities in 2015.

Three boys and three girls who have stood first, second and third in the state from amongst the Science, Arts and Commerce streams in the Class 12 examination conducted by Uttarakhand Board in all government and non-government schools are awarded. Six students from Class 12 are honoured. Three toppers from Class Ten (High School) exam are also honoured with this award.





In this initiative the Governor also honours three schools that achieve the best results. These three are given Rs. 50,000, Rs. 30,000 and Rs. 20,000 respectively, to buy books for their libraries. Provision of this amount every year from the Governor's discretionary fund has been approved.

Speaking at the very first award function held at Raj Bhawan, Dehra Dun on June 6, 2015, the Governor said, “Honouring these students is honouring their dedication and hard work. I congratulate these children and their parents, and wish them all the best for the future. I am happy that the Governor's Award has been instituted to recognize the efforts of these students. However, here I would like to say that merely getting good marks in a subject is not enough. An in-depth knowledge and understanding of the subject is essential. In these days of unending options, students have the chance to take up various professional courses that would help them follow the career of their choice. Acquiring professional skills is a must in this era of close competition. Our Hon'ble Prime Minister is also stressing on skill development in the country. Nation building today is not possible without a young, skilled population. In this context, I would like to highlight the need to link school education with vocational training.”





*“Honouring these students is honouring their dedication and hard work.
I congratulate these children and their parents, and wish them all the best for the future.
I am happy that the Governor's Award has been instituted to recognize
the efforts of these students.”*



He has been stressing the need for raising the standard of education in government schools. “The government schools can also aspire to provide quality education as all children cannot find their way to expensive public schools. A child who is keen to learn can excel in any school, be it a private/public school or a government institution. Teachers must receive constant training and their skills should be upgraded.”

Congratulating the award winners, their parents and teachers, the Governor said that good education was that which imparted values. Culture and ethics in students would contribute in building their character and also the state and the nation.

In the context of character building of students, he quoted from Swami Vivekananda's Chicago visit where he said, “In India, a person's character made him special, not his dress”. The Governor emphasised the role which teachers can play in the character building of students.

Students who got the first, second and third positions in Intermediate were given bank drafts of Rs. 5,000/-, 3,000/- and 2,000/-, respectively and a certificate of Governor's Award.

The second Governor's Awards Function was held at Raj Bhawan, Dehradun on 10th June, 2016.

Dr. K.K. Paul honoured 22 meritorious students and the principals of three schools (which had one hundred per cent results) with the Governor's Award. Of the students honoured were 19 toppers (in Arts, Science and Commerce streams) of Class 12 exam of Uttarakhand Secondary Education Board and three students who topped in the High School exam of the Board.

He said that in today's world, there were many changes taking place every day in all spheres of society. There was, naturally, an increasing pressure on students to get good grades. However, he said only getting good marks was not enough. More important was that a student should know his capabilities, try to sharpen them and move forward in the right direction.

In his address, the Governor said that it was important to be in touch with sources of energy and enthusiasm, whether these were people or books. The reading habit, he said, increased knowledge, enhanced focus, gave positivity and helped a person in his personal as well as social life, enriching his or her life and helping in character building. Studying good books and biographies/autobiographies of great people helped improve one's personality and develop one's character. “All of you should, with full confidence, face every challenge in the present and prepare to make your future bright, ensuring your contribution in nation building”, said the Governor. He called upon the students to get associated with works of social welfare and utility. “You all should be associated in the Swachh Bharat Mission and also make people aware about using water properly and wisely.”

He said that learning English, computers, shorthand and typing would help the students greatly as upgrading skills in this competitive era was extremely important. The Governor said that students who could not do very well in the exams should not feel disheartened. They should re-assess themselves and plan for doing better in the future. Teachers and parents had the responsibility of identifying the interests of the students and help them develop these interests and strengths. Students who are not academically inclined may be better in sports, in fine arts or in leadership skills. Teachers and parents should guide them in the right direction.

Governor's Teachers Awards

These awards were also instituted by the Governor in 2015. Teachers of government schools in the state were honoured for excellence in September 2015 as well as 2016. In his address on the occasion, the Governor said that by shaping the children and youth, teachers play an important role in nation building without which the progress of the nation was not possible.

Greeting the teachers on the occasion of Teachers, Day, the Governor said that this was an occasion for thanking all the teachers of the country whose consistent efforts have placed the country on the path of progress. He said holding teachers/gurus in the highest esteem was an ancient tradition of our country which should be maintained by society. Schools and other educational institutions were places of social learning more than just academic learning. He called upon teachers to keep updating their knowledge and skills by reading good books and also inspire their students to read. Good books help greatly in building character and personality, he said.



The Governor said teachers must receive training to keep upgrading their knowledge and skills. Teachers must know that technology will help them teach and help their students learn. Teachers can systematically adopt technology at the classroom levels.

He said that these days when parents are mostly working and children get less time to interact with them, teachers have assumed a role perhaps even more important than parents. “They must create an atmosphere in their schools where children can imbibe Indian values and culture to keep our heritage alive. Education without values has no meaning. A person should not be merely a good student. He should be a good human being and a good citizen.”

“It is said that a good teacher teaches from the heart, not just from the book. Our former president, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam believed that a teacher is a beacon that acts as a lighthouse to guide the stranded students in the sea of life. And he was so right. Mere bookish knowledge cannot equip students with the qualities needed to have a successful and happy existence in the world.”



“Teachers must ensure that the youth power was channelized in the right direction to help in nation building. I am very happy at the improvement in the exam results since 2015 and am confident that the support of teachers will bring about further improvement in the standard of education in the state.”



Toppers' Conclave

The Governor hosted the first toppers' conclave at Raj Bhawan in 2015 in which toppers from state universities participated. The conclave was also held in 2016 and 2017.

Opening the five-day conclave, the Governor called upon the young achievers to preserve their success carefully and work harder to sustain it. He said that the world today offered enormous possibilities and opportunities, which they needed to seize while widening the horizons of their imagination.

Congratulating the toppers, he said the conclave was aimed at giving the state's university toppers exposure to catalyse their thoughts, developing interactive skills in them, giving them self-confidence and inspiring other students to do better by looking at role models from among them. He said the toppers would soon realize that topping their institutions was not an end but the beginning of their journey towards success. "You are the best amongst the best – the chosen few, and as such you have a greater responsibility towards the society, the State and the nation. In your careers and your lives, you will be faced with great challenges for which you will need patience and maturity", he said.

He gave a SMART GOAL MANTRA to the students which should ensure that their goals are "Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Testable" (SMART). The Governor stressed the need for students to cultivate the habit of reading. He said reading good books would help them build their character and sharpen their intellect. "Reading will enlighten you, shape your thoughts and words and ultimately become a habit that will shape your destiny", he said.



He said universities also must be the torchbearers of socio-economic development. They must contribute to Government initiatives aimed at faster economic development, namely Swachh Bharat, Adarsh Gram, Digital India and Make-in-India. The Governor reminded the toppers that they were the best among the best and the state and country had great expectations from them. He said that there was a lot of talk about 'smart cities' these days but before creating smart cities, it was important to create 'smart persons' who could build a balance between the environment and the new technology. He expressed the hope that the conclave would provide the chance for the toppers to develop leadership qualities in them.

The Governor said the Conclave was started to give the students an opportunity to fine-tune their speaking and communication skills and allow them to ask questions from their VCs and other experts of various subjects. Besides the toppers, who participated in the proceedings, about 150 select students from various universities were present daily, in the audience.



SMART GOAL MANTRA

Ensure that your goals are

Specific,
Measurable,
Achievable,
Realistic
and
Testable
(SMART)



*“You are the best amongst the best—the chosen few,
and as such you have a greater responsibility towards the society,
the State and the Nation.”*

Governor's Award for Best Research

The Governor also decided to institute the Governor's award for best research done in state universities in Uttarakhand.

Three excellent researchers were given this award. A committee of Vice Chancellors had assessed research papers published in 2014 and chosen the awardees. Mohd S. Anwar from G.B. Pant University was selected as the best researcher. His work is about conservation of biodiversity. On 16th June, 2015, he obtained an American patent for his work. On September 24, he was honoured with an award of Rs. 20,000/- at the Vice-Chancellors meeting held at Raj Bhavan.

The second and third positions were accorded to Dr. Uma Singh of G.B. Pant University and Dr. Vinod Kumar of Kumaon University, respectively. They were awarded Rs. 15,000/- and Rs.10,000/-, respectively.

The Governor's initiative in this direction will encourage original research and educational development in the state, and new dimensions will open up in the field of teaching and research standards.

The Governor instituted the "Governor's Best University Award" based on the performance of the state universities in Uttarakhand. He announced that for the year 2015, the award /running trophy was being given to G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar. The Governor presented the University's VC, Dr. Mangla Rai, with the running trophy, appreciation letter and an amount of Rs. One lakh for the university's library. As part of his initiative to improve the quality of higher education in the state, the Governor had honoured VCs of four universities at the Raj Bhawan.

The second place went to Kumaon University, Nainital with the VC getting a letter of appreciation and Rs. 75,000 for the university's library. Doon University bagged the third position and was given a letter of appreciation and Rs. 50,000/- for the library. The fourth position went to Uttarakhand Technical University which received a letter of appreciation and Rs. 25,000/- for the library.

The Governor expressed happiness and said he hoped that this competitive initiative would help improve the standard of education and research in the state universities.





Encouraging Research
Visit to Waste polythene/plastic recycling project
at Nanoscience and Nanotechnology Centre, Kumaun University



Presenting Governor's Awards for Best Research at the Raj Bhawan



Promoting Excellence in State Universities

Over the last two years, Dr. K.K. Paul has been holding regular three-monthly meetings of the Vice Chancellors of the state universities at Raj Bhavan with the aim of raising the standard of higher education in the state and creating an academic atmosphere of excellence. In these meetings, strengthening of basic infrastructure in the universities, efforts to improve/upgrade the existing systems, and removing hurdles in efforts to develop the universities on the lines of national and international universities have been discussed. Directions are then given on the basis of the important decisions taken by the Governor and action is expected on the part of the VCs.

The first such meeting was held on March 3, 2015. The Governor has been emphasizing that the VCs should exercise greater supervision over the affiliated colleges and also the quality of teaching and research at their Campuses. “Without any original research either by the faculty or the students, the Universities tend to lose their character of higher learning, and are merely reduced to the level of small colleges”, he said.

Further, the Governor emphasised the need for interface between the academia and industry, introducing job-oriented changes in the curriculum and also laying emphasis on skill development. He said that even the Sanskrit University which teaches astrology should take up research and find out the basis for this ancient Indian science and its scientific principles.

He stressed that each VC should think in terms of mentoring the youth so that the State and the Country can get the benefit of the youth power, and the demographic dividend. “Youth energy needs to be channelised in a positive direction so that they do not go astray and help in the development of the State and the nation”. The Governor said there was need to conform to global trends in higher education.



Meetings with Vice-Chancellors of State Universities

The Governor focusing on improving quality of higher education in Uttarakhand

Governor's Trophy for Best University 2015-16



Presenting Trophy and Certificate of Appreciation
for winning 1st Position
to VC G.B. Pant University of
Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar



Presenting Trophy and Certificate of Appreciation
for winning 2nd Position
to VC Kumaun University, Nainital



Presenting Trophy and Certificate of Appreciation
for winning 3rd Position
to VC Doon University, Dehradun



Presenting Trophy and Certificate of Appreciation
for winning 4th Position
to VC Uttarakhand Technical University, Dehradun

Governor's Trophy for Best University 2016-17



Presenting Trophy and Certificate of Appreciation
for winning 1st Position
to VC G.B. Pant University of
Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar



Presenting Trophy and Certificate of Appreciation
for winning 2nd Position
to VC Kumaun University, Nainital



Presenting Trophy and Certificate of Appreciation
for winning 3rd Position
to VC Doon University, Dehradun



Presenting Trophy and Certificate of Appreciation
for winning 4th Position to VC Uttarakhand Technical
University, Dehradun

He said corporate investment in the education sector should be sought not with the intention of commercialising education but guided by the principle of philanthropy. He said that the best ranking Universities overseas were private institutions that had a strong philanthropic base. He suggested that as part of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) industrial houses should establish Chairs/Professorships in universities.

The Governor stressed the need for linking industry and developing skills of students to ensure accelerated employability. “As a growing economy, India needs to club skill training and higher education for the creation of a dynamic human resource base”, he said.

He said academic excellence could be achieved only in an environment where quality was pervasive and enduring. As part of this effort, academic monitoring was necessary. “Continuous monitoring is necessary so that quality once gained is not taken away”. He urged the VCs to fix the teaching hours and regularise the academic session. He said that the output of faculty members should also be seen to and assessed.

He also directed that universities should hold convocations regularly and award degrees to the students in time. He said matters of affiliations of colleges should also be resolved soon. Capable people should be given place in the affiliation committee. He said more and more courses should be run by universities so that opportunities of self-employment also increased for the students.



Receiving the Hon. President at
Pantnagar, Nov. 17, 2015



XXIX Convocation GB Pant University of Agriculture & Technology

**1st Convocation
Swami Ram Himalayan University 2016**

Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Hon'ble President of India and the Governor Dr. K.K. Paul
presenting awards of excellence to toppers



University Convocations



Patanjali University



XII Convocation Kumaun University



IIInd Convocation ICFAI University, Dehradun

University Convocations



Uttarakhand Open University



Convocation 2016 University of Petroleum & Energy Studies (UPES)



Vlth Convocation Uttarakhand Sanskrit University



Nurturing Dev Bhumi





Shri Kedarnath Dham

The Governor Dr. K.K. Paul and Smt. Omita Paul after attending the ritual re-opening of the Kedarnath Temple.



Badrinath Dham
Paying obeisance to Lord Badrinath



The Prime Minister launching the ambitious 'Char Dham Rajmarg Pariyojana' for ensuring safer and faster travel to the sacred Dhams - 27 Dec. 2016



A safer Char Dham Yatra

The Char Dham Rajmarg Pariyojana is a welcome Central Government initiative to upgrade 889 km of highways linking the sacred dhams to make access easier and safer. The entire project is expected to cost Rs. 12,000 Crores



Inaugurating the newly built steel bridge on the Soneganga at Soneprayag on the Kedarnath Dham route - 9 May 2016



Adding Green cover to the Gangotri Conservation project area



Visit to Gangotri Dham - 6th June 2016



The divine Aarti at Parmarth Niketan, Rishikesh



Conserving Nature and Ecology



Enrichment of Raj Bhawan's Annual Vasantotsav

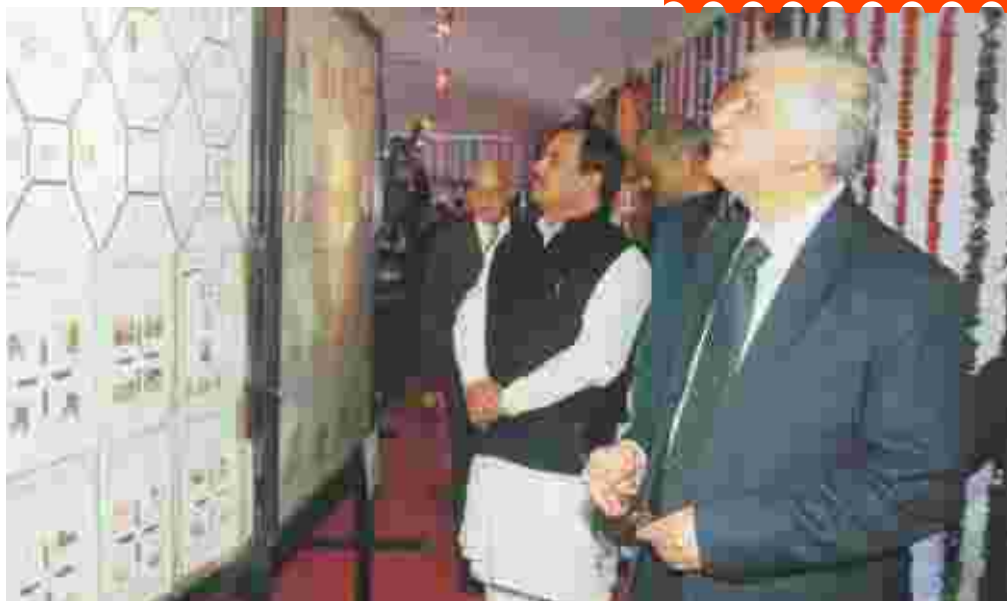
The annual Vasantotsav (Spring Festival) held by the Horticulture and Food Processing Department in February-March at Raj Bhawan, Dehra Dun, has acquired several new dimensions after Dr. Paul took over as the Governor of the state. “The focus of the event will now be to highlight that Uttarakhand, specially Dehra Dun is the hub of floriculture. Exotic flowers used for decoration and commercial purposes will be on display. We aim to propagate floriculture and give impetus to the quality of floriculture in the state,” said the Governor.

Giving the example of Arunachal Pradesh, the Governor said that farming of exotic flowers should be encouraged in Uttarakhand on the same lines by providing facilities like refrigerated vehicles to carry flowers to the airport in order to reach them to large markets, both domestic and foreign.





In 2015, for the first time, an exhibition of philately was put up at Vasantotsav by the Indian Postal Department in which stamps on flowers, trees and herbs of Uttarakhand were exhibited. The Governor's personal collection of stamps has also been exhibited at the Vasantotsav since 2015.





Presenting Jute bags to physically and mentally challenged children at 'Vasantotsav 2016'



Bamboo and Rattan handicrafts display at 'Vasantotsav 2016'



Promoting non-conventional floriculture
Planting Tulip bulbs at Raj Bhawan - December 2016

The spring festival gives an opportunity to flower growers to showcase the varieties grown by them. “This encourages other people to grow better varieties”, he said. He also said that participants would get new ideas from the expert flower growers. “Growers and enthusiasts can meet each other and exchange ideas and information at the event”, he said.

The Horticulture Department's initiative in familiarising people with the medicinal qualities of various herbs grown in the state is worth appreciation and makes the Vasantotsav not only an occasion for appreciating the beauty of nature but also an opportunity for getting information on various issues related to horticulture and floriculture.

Under the Governor's directions, Tulips were grown at Raj Bhawan and were displayed at the Vasantotsav. Mushrooms have also been successfully grown at Raj Bhawan.



Indian Military Academy - winners of the Running Trophy for best display at the Flower Show, Vasantotsav 2017



Art and Painting exhibition at Vasantotsav 2017



Encouraging Talent

Special Category participants of the Children's Painting Competition, Vasantotsav 2017

Medicinal and Aromatic Plants

The Governor is of the view that focus is required for strengthening the extension infrastructure for cultivation of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (MAPs) in the state. Cultivation of appropriate species should be encouraged especially in those villages in hill areas where lack of livelihood opportunities leads to increased migration towards the plains.

Medicinal and Aromatic Plants cultivation could prove to be a good source of income for farmers in the state. The emerging industry which uses aromatic plants has infinite possibilities for boosting the economy of the state. Speaking at Selaqui while on a visit to the Centre for Aromatic Plants (CAP) in the Selaqui Industrial Area, the Governor directed officials concerned to ensure widespread publicity to encourage cultivation of aromatic plants in the hill region. He directed that exhibitions be put up in rural areas, farmers provided with quality seeds and saplings of aromatic plants and with information about the



The Governor being briefed about the activities of the 'Indoor Training Centre' at the Centre for Aromatic Plants (CAP), Selaqui



At the 'Aroma Bank' of the CAP, Selaqui

methods of growing the right species. They should be inspired to take up such cultivation by letting them know the economic benefits they could reap.

The Governor visited the nursery, demonstration farm, indoor training centre, aroma processing centre, aroma gallery, instrumentation lab, aroma bank and library at CAP.

Dr. Paul also visited the Herbal Research and Development Institute (HRDI), a nodal agency of Uttarakhand Medicinal Plants Board, set up at Gopeshwar in 1989 for conservation, development and sustainable utilization of the valuable Medicinal and Aromatic Plant resources of Uttarakhand.

The Governor Dr. K.K. Paul at the Herbal Research and Development Institute,
Gopeshwar - 04 September 2015

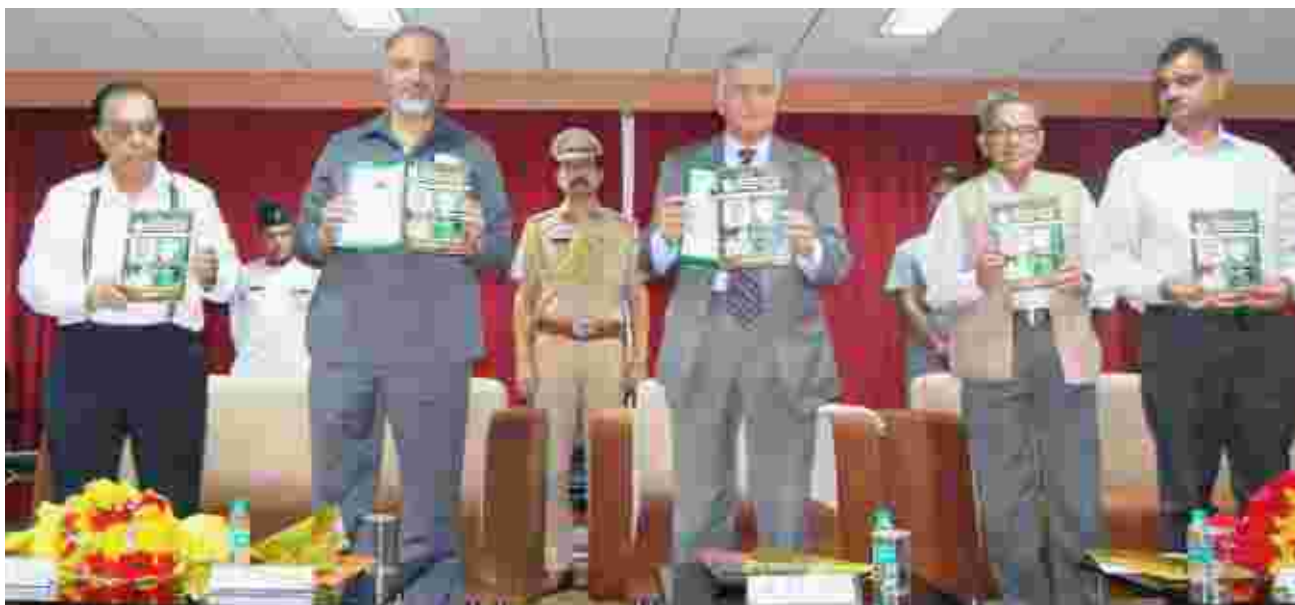


The Governor Dr. K.K. Paul addressing the Conference-cum-Awareness Program on "Quality Management in Pharmaceuticals Manufacturing GMP to Drive Future Growth" organized by Deptt. of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, GoI and ASSOCHAM





The Governor Dr. K.K. Paul addressing participants of the Seminar on 'Herbal Research: Opportunities, Challenges and Beyond' at Vigyan Dham, Jhajhra, Dehra Dun – 4th June 2016



Releasing the 20th issue of 'Universities Journal of Phytochemistry and Ayurvedic Heights' at the 'Herbal Research: Opportunities, Challenges and Beyond' Seminar



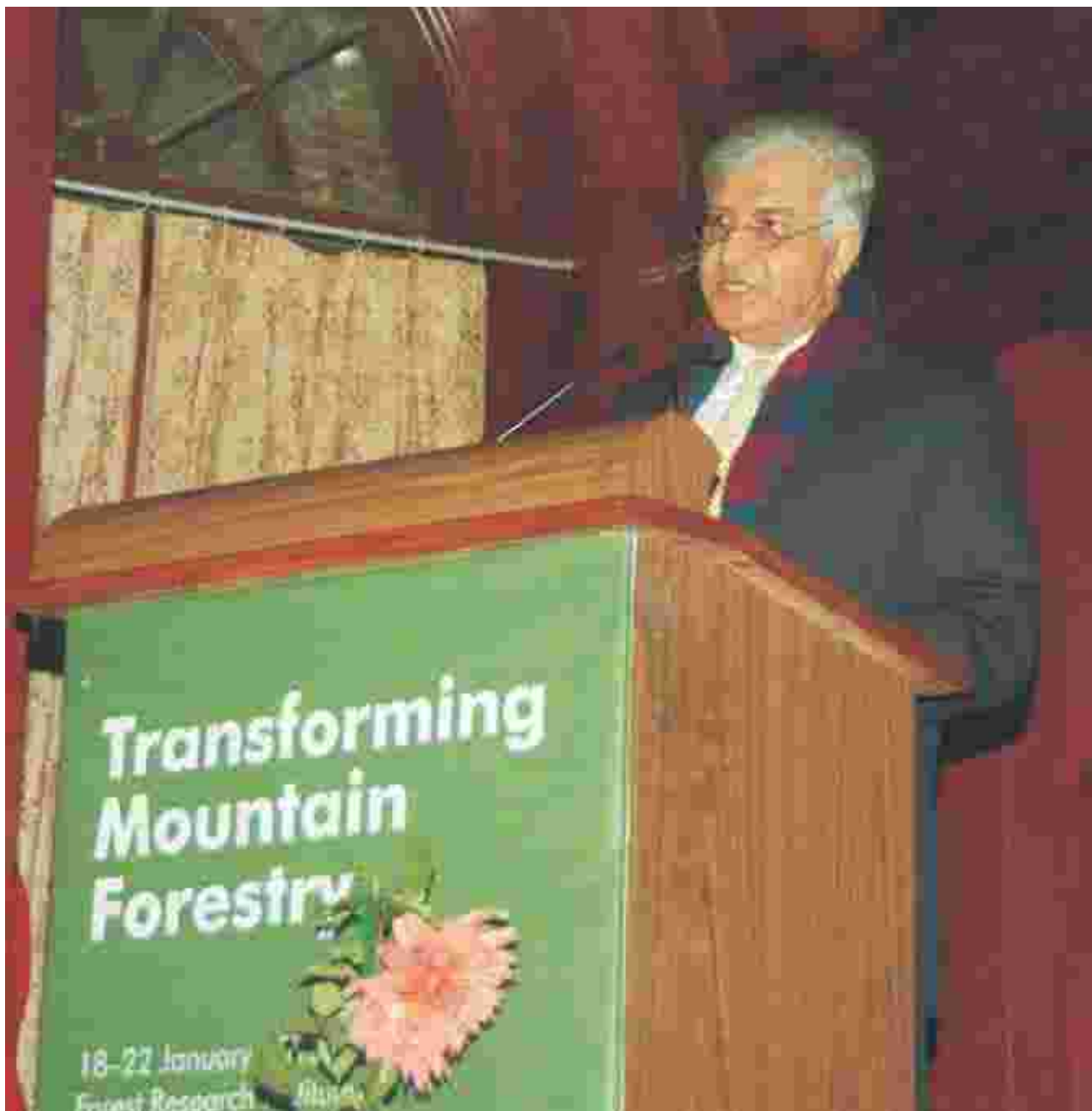
Viewing exhibits at Vigyan Dham, Jhajhra, Dehra Dun – 4th June 2016

Hill Agriculture and Horticulture

Innovation in agriculture/horticulture in the hills is another sphere in which the Governor has shown great interest. At several seminars and convocations, he has stressed the need to develop agriculture in the hills in such a manner that people there find it economically viable and beneficial and do not migrate to the plains. Fruits such as apples, oranges, pears, grapes, peaches, plums, apricots, litchis, mangoes and guavas are widely grown in Uttarakhand and therefore there is an immense potential for development of horticultural crops and processing units. The State Government is assisting in establishing small and medium sized Agro Parks and Food Parks, which will provide common infrastructure facilities for storage, processing, grading and marketing, thus ensuring that surplus fruits and vegetables do not go waste as is happening at present. The Governor has been highlighting the need for an integrated approach to facilitate development of a vibrant agriculture and food processing industry in the state. “The unique strength of hill agriculture lies in the natural characteristics of the hills, namely an extreme degree of biodiversity. It is due to this that in the Himalayas we can produce a variety of foods including all major cereals, minor millets, pseudo cereals, all pulses, condiments, all vegetables, and all fruits. Due to unique ecological niches, we can produce in the hills what are called off-season vegetables, yak milk cheese, and so many other food items that cannot be produced in the plains. A variety of condiments and medicinal and aromatic varieties can be cultivated exclusively in the hills. There are numerous uncultivated fruits, like 'kaphal' (Myrica fruit), apricot, chestnut and walnut obtainable from natural forests that have very high nutritive and market values. Vegetable seeds produced in the hills are a lucrative source of income. These opportunities are worth harnessing for the benefit of hill farmers”, said the Governor at the Agri & Food Processors Conclave held on December 2, 2016 in Dehradun by ASSOCHAM.

At the 24th Meeting of the ICAR Regional Committee No. I at Pantnagar on May 30, 2016, the Governor said, “Though, farming is the mainstay of the people in the mountains, yet food self sufficiency is a far-off dream. There is serious food and economic insecurity in the region. The agriculture practices in the region, especially in the inaccessible and marginal lands, are of a subsistence nature, with low input usage and low productivity. Land, the major source of livelihood as well as environmental security, has a highly skewed distribution towards smaller size holdings as about 88 to 95 per cent farmers in the north-western Himalayan region own less than 2 hectare area, but operate only on 54 to 73 per cent of the cultivated land. Though the Himalayas are one of the world's largest drainage systems due to many rivers originating from this region (for example the Ganga and Yamuna from the state of Uttarakhand), only 11 per cent of the state's net cropped area is irrigated, as against 45 per cent in India as a whole. Food and livelihood security are of major concern with population growing at the rate of 1.7 to 2.5 per cent”.

“This region has been recognized as rich in biodiversity and genetic resources of economic interest in India as well as in the world and, therefore, conservation of germplasm and the protection of wild lands in the Himalayan region are of paramount importance. The agro-climatic conditions of the hills vary from sub-tropical to humid temperate, making the region suitable for growing temperate to sub-tropical high value, export-oriented fruits, vegetables and flowers under both open and controlled conditions.



Governor Dr. K.K. Paul addressing the five day international seminar on Transforming Mountain Forestry at the Forest Research Institute, Dehradun - 18-22 January 2015

Horticulture has the potential to become a profitable profession for mitigating the inherent hill problems like a low land-to-man ratio, undulating topography, excessive soil erosion, uncertain rains and low cereal crop productivity”.

“Animal husbandry is an essential component of mountain agriculture. Dairy animals along with other livestock supply manure, which is perhaps the most important input in mountain farming and vital for the

Addressing the ASSOCHAM Agri & Food Processors Conclave held on December 2, 2016 in Dehradun



24th Meeting of the ICAR Regional Committee No. I at Pantnagar on May 30, 2016



sustainability of the farming system. The sizeable livestock population conversely places tremendous pressure on the natural resources, particularly the shrinking fodder resources. Mountain agriculture witnesses women playing a dominant role often bearing the major brunt of the drudgery.”

“The increasing anthropogenic pressure on the natural resources to meet the ever-increasing demands of human and livestock population is causing widespread degradation of natural resources. The natural disaster of 2013 that Uttarakhand experienced is a warning in this direction. The signs of degradation are apparent in terms of declining land productivity, loss of bio-diversity, increased sedimentation of rivers and reservoirs, drying up of water resources, recurring droughts and floods and poor chilling conditions essential for temperate fruit crops.”

“In order to get more from the existing system in the niche mountain systems, a proper understanding of the composition of agri-horti-silvipastoral farming systems and livestock-based farming system seems to be essential.”

The Governor has also frequently stressed the need for markets for local produce. Speaking at the University of Horticulture & Forestry, Bharsar campus, on 20 November 2015, the Governor said, “Horticulture can be the best option for diversification of agriculture, generation of more employment opportunities and higher returns per unit of land, especially in a state like ours where the majority of holdings are small to marginal as well as scattered. Over the last decade, the productivity and availability of horticulture produce have increased significantly due to the investments made in the country. Horticulture also ensures nutritional security with competitive advantage. It can reduce malnutrition and empower women in a way that traditional agriculture cannot.”

He said, “Horticulture has been declared by the state government as a thrust area in Uttarakhand. This University of Horticulture & Forestry has been set up with a primary mandate to focus on Horticulture and Forestry sectors. I call upon the University to not only develop best packages of horticulture practices particularly suitable for Uttarakhand but also develop post-harvest technologies and food processing technologies for value addition to horticulture produce. Adoption of such technologies will also result in minimising of wastage in respect of horticulture crops which is currently estimated to be up to roughly 40 per cent of the total production.”

The Governor has said that “our priority is to restore the confidence of the people in the Himalayan heritage and its traditional and cultural values imbibed in AYUSH, by reinforcing the scientific sanctity of the traditional Indian health system. All the components of AYUSH are a rich, traditional heritage of the world. The prestigious institutions in the state like IIT Roorkee along with Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences, in Yoga & Naturopathy, Public Health Foundation of India, Pharmacopoeial Laboratory for Indian Medicine, Central Council for Indian Medicine & IMPCL are creating an enabling environment to rejuvenate the traditional health system which is holistic in its essence. The Uttarakhand Ayurveda University along with UCOST need to play an important role to promote this sector in the state. Also, more Ayurvedic centres are required that suit the budget of the middle-class Indian tourist and also provide the treatment in comfortable environs. With this, the growing trend of 'wellness tourism' in Uttarakhand will gather momentum and take it towards truly becoming an 'Ayush Pradesh'.”

The Governor Dr. K.K. Paul taking a keen interest in the research and extension projects of Vir Chandra Singh Garhwali Uttarakhand University of Horticulture and Forestry, Bharsar (Pauri Garhwal)





The Governor Dr. K.K. Paul visiting the Central Institute of Temperate Horticulture, Research Centre, Mukteshwar



The Governor inquiring about the facilities in the laboratories of CITH Mukteshwar



The Governor being briefed about improved varieties developed at CITH Mukteshwar



Sustainable Development of Uttarakhand



Sustainable Development of Uttarakhand

At an event organised by CII, Uttarakhand, the Governor spoke about the ways and means of achieving sustainable economic development of the hill state. He said, “This is a land blessed with natural resources, a dedicated workforce, favourable climate and an able administration. A beginning in the right direction in Industrial Development has already been made with a proper Industrial Policy in place. The New Industrial Policy of Uttarakhand should seek to facilitate achievement of self-sufficiency of the State in the next ten years, a positive and constructive attitude and approach of the Government towards Industry, based on mutual trust, inclusive growth, increase in employment in industrial and allied sectors, upgrading skills-enhancing employability. Better road linkage to all parts of Uttarakhand will help in all development activities.”

“A new policy which recognizes the changing dynamics of economic activity while accounting for the limitations of Uttarakhand in terms of space and resource constraints is hence, a necessity. The State should actively promote the participation of the Private Sector in the industrial and economic growth of the State. The State should accept its role in nurturing private activity and entrepreneurship. It should, therefore, endeavour to forge a meaningful partnership with industry in policy formulation and its actual execution and implementation. Small and Cottage Sectors play an important role in creating large number of employment





opportunities and provide a wide range of goods and services. Therefore, the State should create conditions for a balanced and harmonious growth of all segments of the Industrial Sector - Heavy, Medium, Small and micro sectors.”

“The unique social ethos, environment and agro-climatic conditions of Uttarakhand demand a different approach from the rest of the country. Conventional type of industries promoted in the rest of the country will have a limited scope in this area. It is necessary to identify and exploit the unique endowments of the region, in order to foster sustainable economic development. A variety of seeds of flowers and vegetables, fruits, herbs and spices can only be grown in the hills. These seeds are very expensive and have high value. Their cultivation can bring much better earnings to the cultivator.”

“Efforts are already underway but there needs to be a focus on herbs and medicinal plants, food processing, cottage industries, tourism and IT, as these are extremely suited to the environment of this hill state”, said the Governor. He said that the event should gather suggestions from various participants from industry, academia and the government as these would help in the future development and growth of the state. The deliberations, he said, must focus on challenges, prospects and opportunities for the state's sustainable development. He said traditional industries and crafts should be supported and strengthened by provision of inputs to enhance their viability and competitiveness.

Tourism

Spiritual Tourism

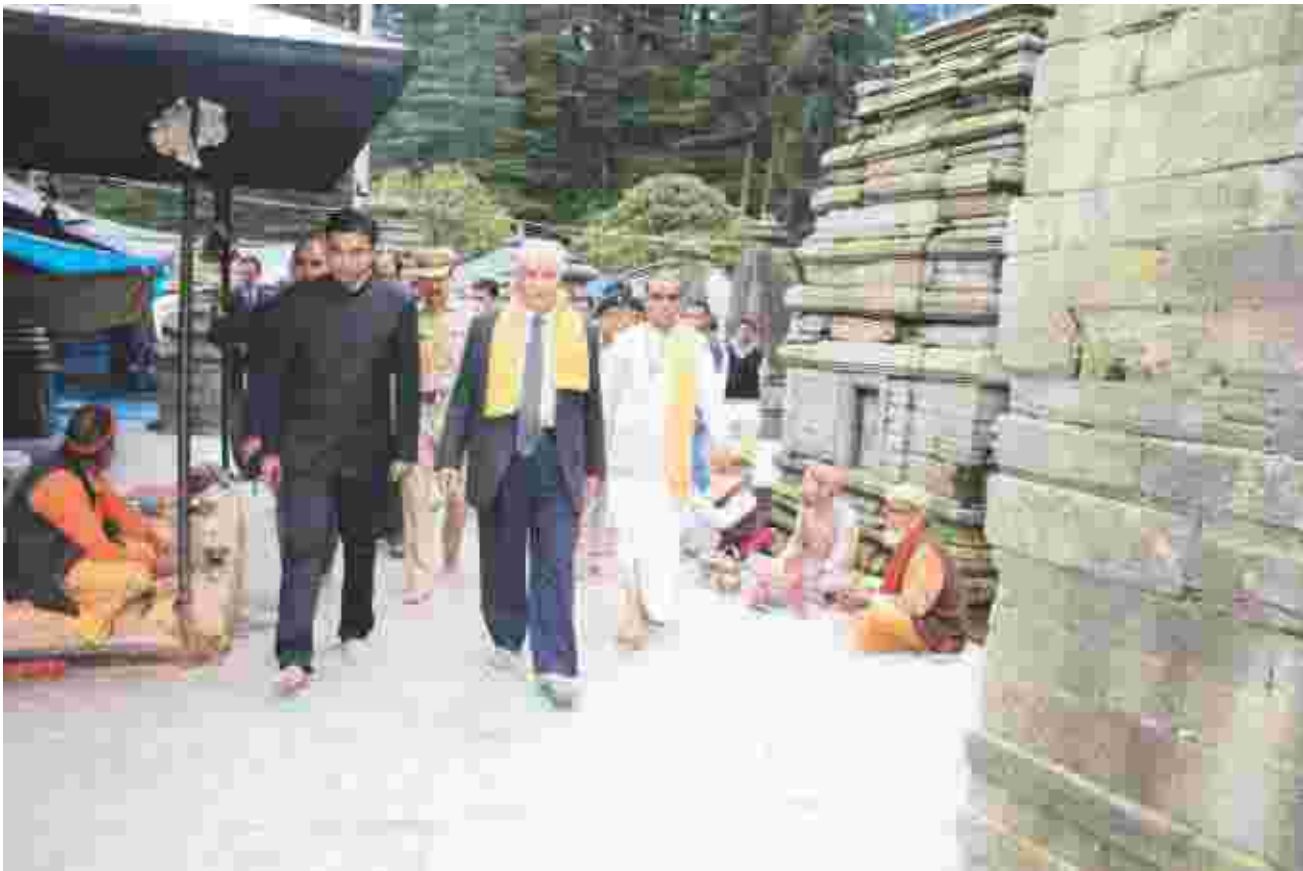
The governor has also taken up the matter of promoting in a better manner the unique, ancient Jageshwar Dham temple complex in Almora district in Kumaon. He said that though ambitious plans were being implemented around this region, more was needed to be done here with a view to developing pilgrim tourism. There are immense possibilities.

He said that arrangements and facilities at this ancient temple complex must be improved so that devotees could make use of better facilities. Local administration will have to support this. He saw the entire campus of Jageshwar Dham in August 2016 and sought detailed information about Jageshwar Jyotirling, Mrityunjay Mandir, Pushti Mata Mandir, Ganesh Mandir, Kedar Mandir, Batuk Bhairav Mandir, Hanuman Mandir and other shrines in the complex.

He has also been stressing the need for creating a 'Vivekananda Tourist Circuit', covering a large number of sites in this region, which were visited by Swamiji.



The ancient Jageshwar Dham Temple Complex



The governor, who has deep interest in Yoga, has attended several Yoga events including the International Yoga Festival held every March at Parmarth Niketan, Rishikesh. The Parmarth Niketan has been holding many events, training courses and festivals that have gone a long way in promoting Yoga all over the world. “The science of Yoga and meditation has been practiced since time immemorial in India. In ancient times, sages controlled their breathing. The science of yoga and meditation goes deeper than just a few *asans*. It is 'Ayush', a complete wellness regime which, if followed, ensures a life blessed with health. People have observed complete changes in themselves after practising these. India, home to the science of Yoga, has preserved and propagated this wonderful heritage to the world as a gift. And it is due to this reason it is reaping a very rich return and reputation in the whole world today.”

“The celebration of Yoga and spirituality is symbolic of the importance that the state of Uttarakhand enjoys as a destination for peace and spiritual solace. The 'Devbhumi' has, since ancient times, been the land of Gods and sages. It has been home to legendary sages like Ved Vyas and Raibhya Rishi. This land of the gods has several sites that link it to the Ramayana and the Mahabharata,” said the governor at Parmarth Niketan.

He said more such events can be organised in the state to strengthen the image of Uttarakhand as an international tourist destination. “Spiritual and wellness tourism is now growing in popularity and there cannot be a better place than our state to develop this and realise the potential to give a boost to our tourism. Spiritual, mental and physical well-being can be promoted through the propagation of Yoga,” he said.

Jageshwar Mahadev

At the ancient Jageshwar Temple Complex, amidst stately Deodars







International Yoga Day 2015 - Raj Bhawan, Dehra Dun

The governor said that the fact that hundreds of people participated in the week-long International Yoga Festival was a good sign for tourism in the state. He said that the growing popularity of Yoga globally could make Uttarakhand the most important and leading place for Yoga in the world. The governor said this festival was a good opportunity for enhancing harmony among people from various countries who gathered here every year.



International Yoga Festival 2017 - Parmarth Niketan, Rishikesh

Health & Wellness Tourism

The Governor has also been highlighting that Uttarakhand is endowed with a great wealth of medicinal plants and traditional medicinal knowledge. In the hills of Uttarakhand, medicinal plants have long been used for treatment of various diseases and there is a need to preserve these traditions. “Uttarakhand has, since its creation, expressed the resolve to become an 'Ayush State' where Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy would be given prominence and provide tourists with an opportunity to avail of these treatments. Besides those who undertake the 'Char Dham' yatra every year to Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri and Yamunotri, the four famous Himalayan shrines in Uttarakhand, there are those who want to rejuvenate mind and body, their very souls, who wish to take time off from the daily grind and look within themselves. To these visitors, Uttarakhand has a lot to offer,” said the governor at a conference on 'Ayush Uttarakhand' organised by PHD Chamber on June 17, 2016.

“The potential for Health and Wellness tourism in the state is overwhelming and it has begun to be realized by the state government. Since ancient times, the Himalayas have been known the world over as the storehouse of wondrous herbs, medicinal and aromatic plant species, the basis of the indigenous healing system of Ayurveda. The Uttarakhand Himalayan region is rich in herbs that grow naturally in its forests which constitute 65 per cent of the state's total area,” he said.



The Governor Dr. K.K. Paul addressing the Conference on Ayush Uttarakhand '*Ayush in the lap of Himalayas: Towards Holistic Resurrection of Healthy Society*' organised by the Uttarakhand Chapter of PHD Chamber – 17th June 2016

Sports Tourism

Golf

Uttarakhand has always been a popular destination and yet its potential as a tourist destination has not been fully realised. The Governor Dr. K.K. Paul has been laying stress on the need to develop adventure tourism, spiritual tourism (Yoga and Wellness) and heritage tourism in the state. He has made several suggestions to develop the Tehri reservoir as a tourist attraction with water sports of various kinds. At Nainital, the governor ensured that the significance of golf and the Raj Bhawan Golf Course was highlighted and given its due. On May 29, 2015, he inaugurated the 13th edition of the three-day Governor's Cup Golf Tournament at Raj Bhawan Golf Course, Nainital.

After opening the tournament, the governor said holding this annual event in Nainital would go a long way in establishing the lake city as a world class golf destination. It would also boost tourism in the hill state. Direct and indirect employment would be generated and the economy would be strengthened. He said that organising an international golf tournament was being considered in order to popularise the Raj Bhawan Golf Course (RBGC).

The Governor has been instrumental in efforts to create interest towards the game among youngsters/schoolchildren and give them an opportunity to show their talent. A six-weeks training programme is now being organised at the RBGC prior to the tournament to hone golf skills of youngsters.



Youthful Veterans at the RBGC



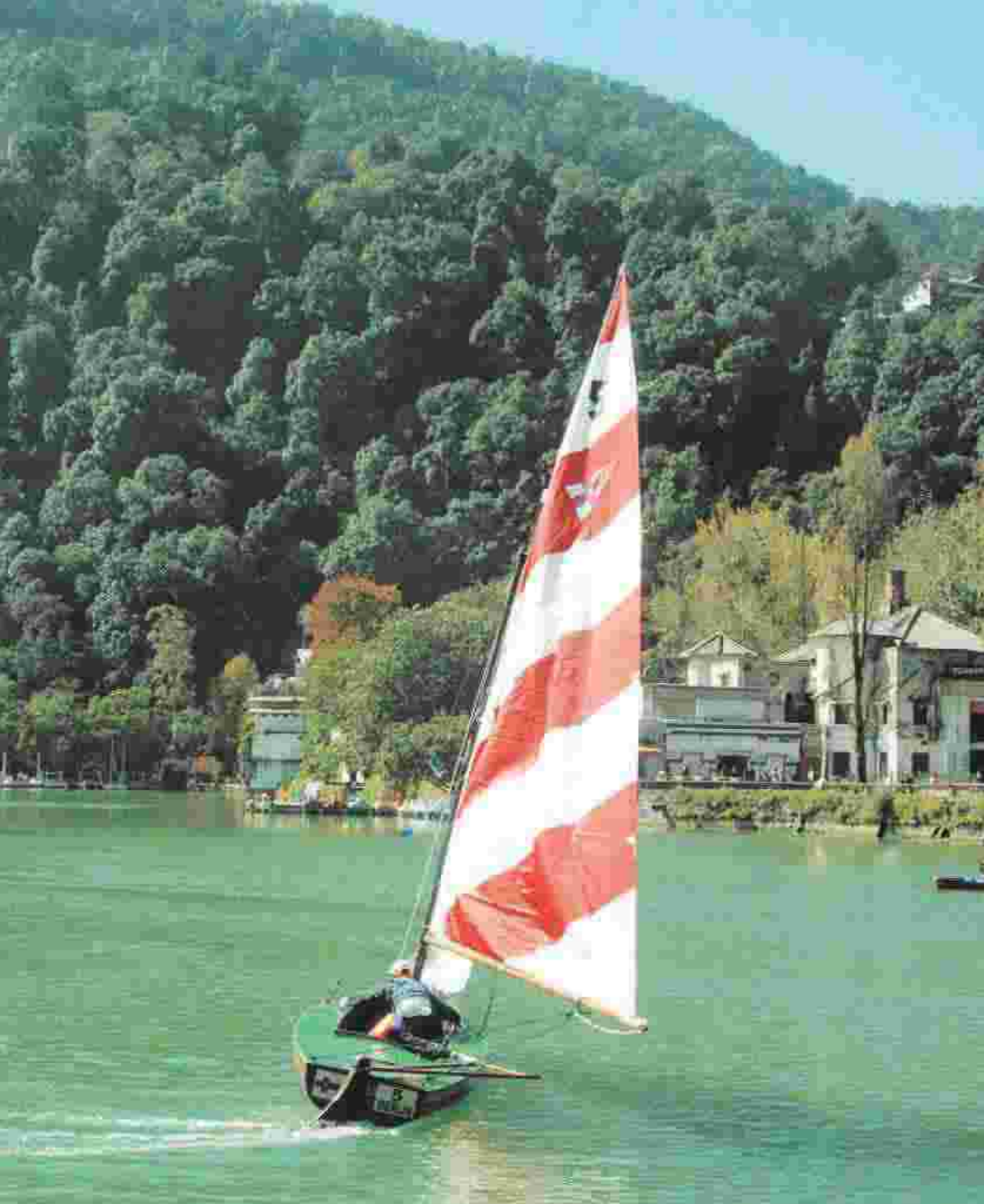
Sailing

The Governor has been actively encouraging the Sailing Regatta at Nainital which has always been known for its yachts on the lake with their multicoloured sails. “It is a matter of great satisfaction that the practice of yachting in Nainital has been revived last year by the Nainital Yacht Club with strong support from the Uttarakhand government and sponsors like the ‘Times of India’”, he said while inaugurating the three-day Governor's Gold Cup Sailing Regatta on the scenic Nainital Lake.

Speaking at the event in 2016, the governor said, “Golf and sailing can place Nainital on the global sports tourism map. All efforts must be made to ensure that Nainital becomes an international destination for adventure and water sports. Over the last two years, the regatta has given a much-needed boost to the sports loving fraternity of Uttarakhand and attracted larger number of tourists to the lake city and its surrounding areas. It has enhanced and will further enhance the popularity of other water sports in the hill state.”



Governor's Gold Cup Sailing Regatta 2015





Landmark Visits



The President Shri Pranab Mukherjee at the Raj Bhawan Secretariat, Dehra Dun - 18 May 2015



“I visited the beautiful state of Arunachal Pradesh in November 2013 and I was told that leaders of traditional tribal councils of the state called *Kebang* and *Buliang* recite a passage at the beginning of their meeting -

'Villagers and brethren, let us strengthen our custom and our council, let us improve our relations, let us make the laws straight and equal for all, let our laws be uniform, let our customs be the same for all, let us be guided by reason and see that justice is done and compromise reached that is acceptable to both parties. Let us decide while the dispute is fresh, lest the small disputes grow big and continue for a long time. We have come together for a council meeting and let us speak in one voice and decide our verdict. So let us decide and mete out justice.'

Modern day legislators would be well to heed this sage advice of the tribal elders.”

Excerpt from the President's Address to the Vidhan Sabha



President at Raj Bhawan - 19 May 2015



Presenting Mementoes

The President Shri Pranab Mukherjee planting a Rudraksh sapling in the Raj Bhawan estate





'Ashiana' – the Presidential Retreat





Arriving at the newly renovated 'Ashiana'



Secretary to the President Smt. Omita Paul detailing aspects of the renovation of 'Ashiana' to the President and Governor



The President Shri Pranab Mukherjee unveiling the Foundation Stone of Technology Demonstration Project for construction of 12 Dwelling Units in the 'Ashiana' Presidential Estate, accompanied by the Governor Dr. K.K. Paul



The President Shri Pranab Mukherjee planting a Rudraksh sapling in the 'Ashiana' estate

The Governor Dr. K.K. Paul planting a Him Champa sapling in the 'Ashiana' estate

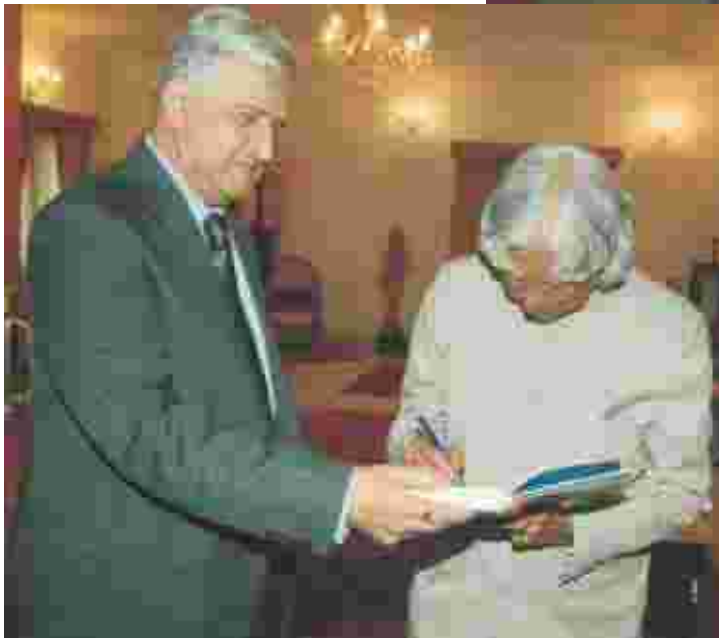


Visit of Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam - 29 April 2015



Governor Dr. K.K. Paul welcoming past President Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam at Raj Bhawan

The Governor presenting a Memento to Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam



Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam personally signing a copy of his book 'Beyond 2020' before presenting it to the Governor Dr. K.K. Paul



Governor Dr. K.K. Paul welcoming Shri Ramnath Kovind then Governor of Bihar on his arrival at Raj Bhawan – 12 Apr. 2016



Lt Gen (Retd) Nirbhay Sharma, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, VSM,
Governor of Mizoram at Raj Bhawan



46th Governors Conference - 11 Feb. 2015



47th Governors Conference - 2016



Meeting the President Shri Pranab Mukherjee at Rashtrapati Bhawan - 27 Jan. 2017



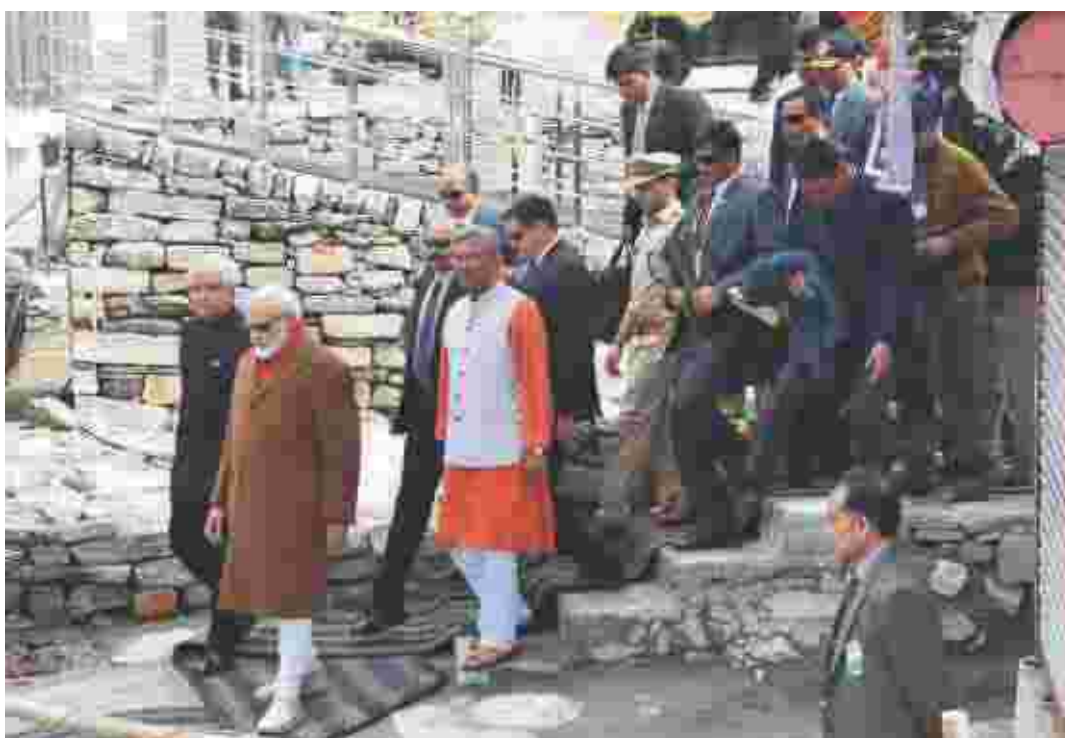
Governor Dr. K.K. Paul welcoming Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at the I.D.P.L. Rishikesh helipad on his arrival in Uttarakhand – 11 Sept. 2015



The Governor with the Prime Minister on his visit to Dayanand Ashram, Rishikesh – 11 Sept. 2015



Governor Dr. K.K. Paul receiving Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at Jolly Grant Airport en route to Kedarnath



Approaching Kedarnath Temple



Governor Dr. K.K. Paul presenting a memento to Hon'ble Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh
at Raj Bhawan, Dehra Dun



Welcoming Hon'ble Union Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley on his visit
to the Raj Bhawan



With Hon'ble Union Minister for Water Resources, River Development and
Ganga Rejuvenation Sushri Uma Bharti at Raj Bhawan

Ambassador of Austria Mr. Bernhard Wrabetz calling on
the Governor Dr. K.K. Paul at Raj Bhawan





The Governor Dr. K.K. Paul with the Indian Ambassadors to Nepal, Thailand and Madagascar at Raj Bhawan



With Shri Ranjit Ray, Indian Ambassador to Nepal



With Shri Bhagwant Singh Vishnoi,
Indian Ambassador to Thailand



With Shri Chandra Vallabh Thapliyal,
Indian Ambassador to Madagascar



The Raj Bhawans



Raj Bhawan Dehra Dun

Uttarakhand is one of the few States in the country which can boast of two Raj Bhawans. The first Raj Bhawan is at Dehra Dun while the second one is at Nainital.

The state of Uttarakhand came into existence on 9th November, 2000 and the Raj Bhawan was temporarily set up at Bijapur House located on New Cantonment Road, Dehra Dun. Subsequently, the Circuit House, Dehra Dun, was re-designated as Raj Bhawan and Uttarakhand's first Governor, H.E. Shri Surjit Singh Barnala, shifted there in December 2000.

Dehra Dun's historic Circuit House was built in the year 1902 (it was then called Court House) where the then British Governor of the United Provinces (now Uttar Pradesh) often used to stay while on tours. In the post-Independence period, India's first Prime Minister, Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, who had a deep love for Dehra Dun, stayed here at Circuit House whenever he visited the Doon valley. A number of high dignitaries from Delhi have stayed in this historic building before it became the Raj Bhawan in the year 2000.

While the Raj Bhawan moved to Circuit House, the Governor's Secretariat continued at Bijapur House till July 27, 2009 when the new Raj Bhawan Secretariat and Auditorium buildings were inaugurated by H.E. Shri B.L. Joshi, the third Governor of Uttarakhand.





Later, a separate official Governor's Residence was built in this estate which was inaugurated by H.E. Smt. Margaret Alva (the fourth Governor of Uttarakhand) on April 14, 2010. The old building, previously known as Circuit House, is now being used as the Raj Bhawan Guest House.

The Raj Bhawan estate is an island of calm, verdant greenery, meticulously maintained. It not only retains its old world charm, but the present Governor Dr. K.K. Paul pays minute attention to further enhance its 'green' ambience. The multi-hued floral beds, stately trees, sprawling lawns, Bonsai garden and rich bird life add to the charm of the Raj Bhawan Campus. The annual Vasantotsav (Spring Festival) has evolved greatly over the past few years and becomes an occasion for the people of the state as well as tourists to witness and enjoy the natural beauty of the Raj Bhawan lawns which is at its peak in spring time. It is now one of the most awaited events in the cultural calendar of Uttarakhand. Folk artistes of the state add to the attraction of the two-day Vasantotsav.

The Auditorium of Raj Bhawan is an impressive venue where several important events like oath taking ceremonies, seminars, book release functions and cultural programmes are held.



A view of the new from the old – preserving the ambience



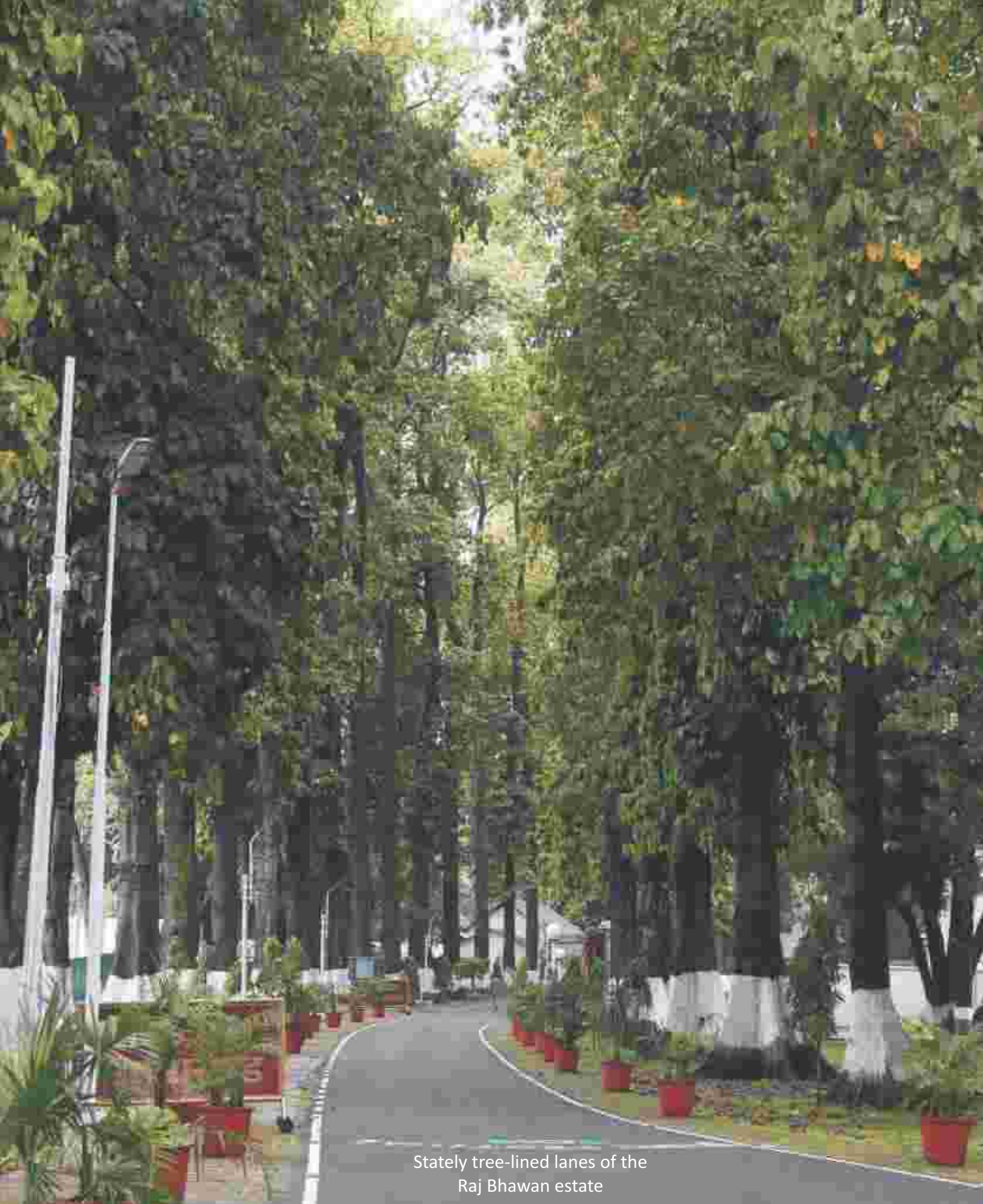
Old Raj Bhawan dating back to 1902 - now the Raj Bhawan Guest House

Graceful, imposing interiors of Raj Bhawan, Dehra Dun









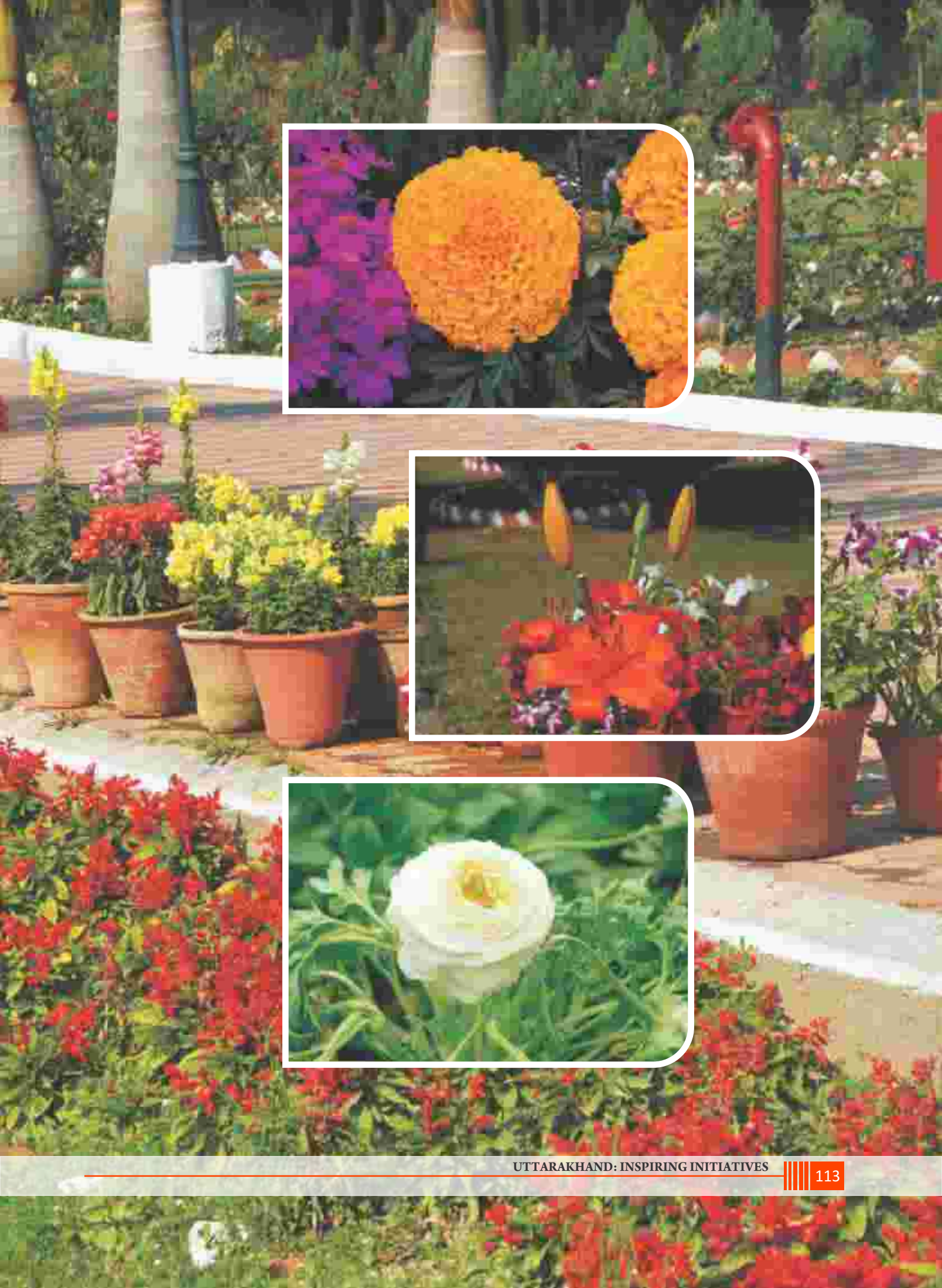
Stately tree-lined lanes of the
Raj Bhawan estate



Floral diversity of Raj Bhawan estate -
nature in all it's myriad stunning hues









Caring for bird life the eco-friendly way



Murals beautifying the Raj Bhawan Estate



Energy conservation measures in Raj Bhawan Estate

Raj Bhawan Nainital

In the pre-Independence era, Nainital served as the summer capital of the United Provinces (now Uttar Pradesh) and this beautiful building, built like a Scottish castle was christened as the 'Government House'. A large estate was acquired by government, stretching from top of Ayarpatha to the crest of the southern spur overlooking the plains; the construction of the present building was begun in 1896 and completed in 1900. Everything about this house speaks of solidity and continuity and tells a tale of more than a century of its occupation by successive governors. It was constructed under the close supervision of its first occupant Sir Antony MacDonnell, a dynamic Lieutenant Governor. Mr. F.W. Stevens, an eminent architect of Bombay, who had also designed the Victoria Terminus Railway Station of Bombay, was engaged. The foundation stone was laid on 27th April 1897 and the construction took two years to be completed. It is built on the European pattern and based on Gothic Architecture. Burma teak has been used in conjunction with other varieties. The dark teak and oak paneled interiors, the ballroom, the central hall, drawing rooms, conservatories, billiards room, study and furniture together create an eternal magic.

Local stone has been used in its construction, with Ashler finishing. The Nainital Raj Bhawan looks like a Scottish castle with an imposing entrance, it's beautiful fireplace and majestic staircase form the backdrop of the ball room. Nestled in the lap of the picturesque Kumaon Himalayas, which have a colourful and rich culture, there is a definite a sense of history about the edifice built by hundreds of masons, carpenters and workers toiling round the clock. There have been many people who have cared and





A piece of Scotland in Uttarakhand

preserved it down the years. It is not an ordinary government house. It has a unique character and is a national heritage.

In the post-Independence period, Smt. Sarojini Naidu, the first Governor of Uttar Pradesh, was the first occupant of this historic monument. She was followed by some great names like Sir Homi Mody, Dr. K.M. Munshi, Shri V.V. Giri besides others.

The Raj Bhawan at Nainital required a lot of restoration and renovation work. This was initiated by the then Governor Smt. Margaret Alva, but soon thereafter she moved to Jaipur. The work was picked up again and speeded up and completed under the personal supervision of the Governor, Dr. K.K. Paul. A film was made on the governor's initiative, titled “Raj Bhawan, Nainital: A Legacy of Excellence”. The Governor's personal interest in the film gave it a special touch and enabled it to express fully the process of restoration and renovation of this grand heritage building. Each minute detail of the restoration has been narrated in the twenty minute long film. The imposing chandeliers, the wall paper, roofs, stones and furniture and the stately interiors have been restored carefully, retaining the historic grandeur of the imposing edifice, thus preserving an invaluable heritage.







Lovingly restored interiors of Raj Bhawan, Nainital



The imposing hall of public audience



The graceful Raj Bhawan Dining Room with warm-coloured teak wood floor and ceiling



Governor's private Study : An epitome of elegance and dignity



This recently restored German piano evokes the grand past



Picture perfect: The parlour with its impressive painting and chandeliers



The greenhouse in full bloom

Artifacts and trophies of the days past

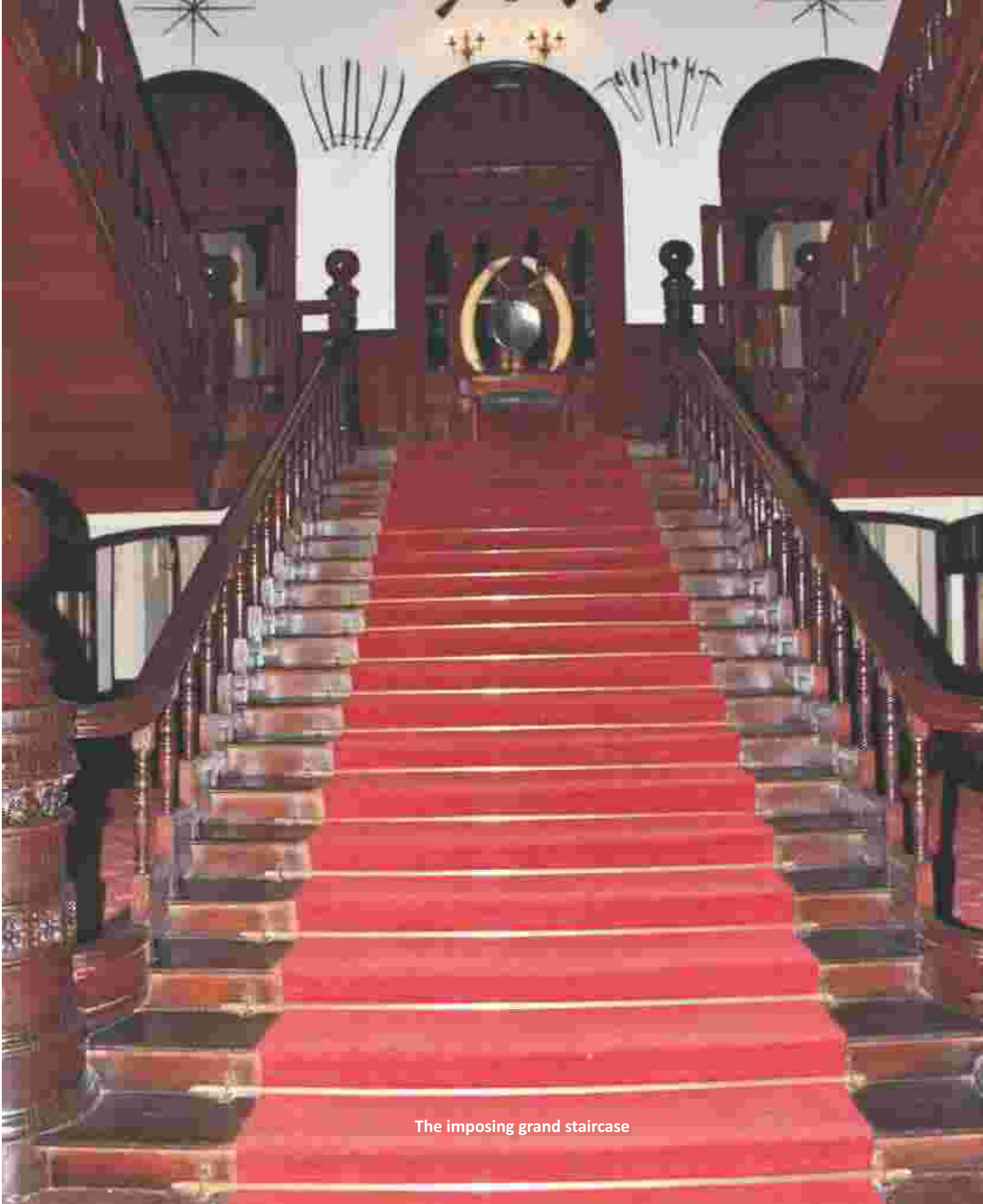




The beautifully panelled, wooden floor Billiards Room



The Table Tennis room - 'A room with a view'!



The imposing grand staircase



The first 'Vanmahotsav' tree planted by Shri K.M. Munshi, then Governor of U.P. on 1st July 1950. This practice went on to become a national 'mahotsav'



Adding to the lush green surroundings



Raj Bhawan Golf Course Nainital

The Raj Bhawan Golf Course Nainital, situated in the midst of the Reserve Forest of the Raj Bhawan estate, dates back to the 1920s. A breathtaking hill station course, this is an 18-hole layout with Browns and Greens that plays to a Par of 61. The course is at an altitude of about 2,000 metres above sea level.

The existing Fairways are carpeted and landscaped with the available local grass which merges itself into the overall surroundings. Greens are also cured by selective soft local grass which is manicured by hand driven green cutters to ensure some canny and effective Putting. A well thought out water harvesting network of pits and catchment drains ensures sustainability of the Greens and Fairways at all times. This environmental adaptability of the Courses enables intermingling with naturally available resources which blend to create an eco-friendly atmosphere in and around.

The changes in elevation, verdant surroundings and the rarity of the high mountain air, makes the ball travel longer on the fairways, or, if conditions are humid, the ball travels shorter than the desired stroke play, thus making a round of golf at this course a very unique experience.



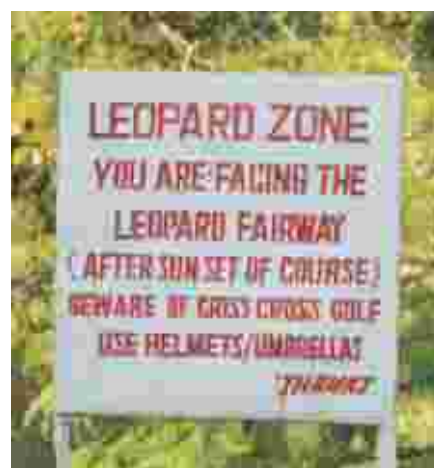
Tee-off - Governor's Golf Cup Tournament 2016



Raj Bhawan Golf Course- A Golfer's Paradise

Set amongst the hilly terrain with thick abundant forests around, this is a marvellous course for any golfer to experience. The only sound one can hear is the breeze filtering through high Cedar, Pine and the knotted Oak trees, some of them about 400 years old. Also one could hear the Himalayan Pied Rufus woodpeckers' knock-knock, in it's search for food. The course is a challenge to even the most accomplished golfers. A visiting golfer has rightly written in the Visitors Book that “it is my dream to play at this course without losing a ball”.

This Golf course is a nature lover's delight with many rare and endangered species of flora and fauna in residence. Sightings of rare birds like Asiatic eagles, Giant wood owls, singing Thrushes, Finches, Nut thatch, the local Kaleech pheasants, Fly catchers and animals like the Himalayan Ghoral, rabbits, black bear, Magpie robin, enchant nature lovers. In August 2016 the course had to be closed for a week to accommodate an anxious leopard mother who gave birth to two cubs somewhere on the Fairways. The Leopard Fairway is prominently marked by a warning signpost “Leopard Zone. Give pass to Leopards”. This is a genuine hazard a Golfer will not come across most golf courses in the world.



उत्तराखण्ड के मनोनीत मंत्रिमंडल का शपथ

दिनांक 18



A Kaleidoscope of Events





Governor Dr. K.K. Paul receiving the Official Notification of results of the State Assembly Election 2017 from the Secretary to the Election Commission Shri Rahul Sharma – 14 March 2017



Arriving with the
Hon'ble Prime Minister
Shri Narendra Modi
for the swearing in of the
new State Cabinet –
18 March 2017





Governor Dr. K.K. Paul
administering oath of office
and secrecy to the
incoming Chief Minister
Shri Trivendra Singh Rawat

The Governor Dr. K.K. Paul
administering oath of office of
Pro-tem Speaker to Hon'ble
Shri Harbans Kapoor, MLA
– 20 March 2017



Arriving at Vidhan Sabha to
address the First Session of
the newly elected Fourth
Uttarakhand Vidhan Sabha
– 24 March 2017





Governor Dr. K.K. Paul with Lt Gen Manvendra Singh Commandant Indian Military Academy
14 March 2015



In the Historic Chetwode Hall of the Indian Military Academy, Dehradun



Inaugurating the All India Kisan Mela and Agri Industry Exhibition 2016 organised by the G.B. Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar



The Governor Dr. K.K. Paul addressing the participants

The Governor Dr. K.K. Paul taking a keen interest in the exhibits at the All India Kisan Mela and Agri Tech Exhibition





At the 3-day Seminar organised by the Central Govt. Library Association at
Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy, Dehra Dun – 21 Feb. 2017



Inaugurating the 60th National Public Health Conference at
Swami Ram Himalayan University, Swami Ram Nagar



Addressing the 12th Annual State Conference of Uttarakhand Chapter of the Indian Academy of Pediatrics at Dehra Dun – 19 Apr. 2015



Seminar on 'Human Rights and Good Governance' organised under the joint aegis of Govt. of Uttarakhand and Uttarakhand Human Rights Commission on the occasion of International Human Rights Day - 2015. Justice Vijendra Jain, Chairman Uttarakhand Human Rights Commission presenting a memento to Governor Dr. K.K. Paul.



2-day International Seminar on 'Disaster Management and the role of Health/Nursing Professionals' organised by Uttarakhand State College of Nursing at Town Hall, Dehra Dun – 28 Apr. 2015





'Jyotish Mahakumbh' – 2-day programme organised at Graphic Era University, Dehra Dun – 13 March 2016



Governor Dr. K.K. Paul addressing the gathering at the 'National Youth Day 2017' – on the occasion of the 154th Birth Anniversary of Swami Vivekananda.



Governor Dr. K.K. Paul presiding over the 30th All India Postal Department Cultural Programme at Dehra Dun – 19 Nov. 2015



Navy Day 2015 – Meeting Indian Navy Officers at the 'At Home'
at Naval Hydrographic Office, Dehra Dun



State Day Celebrations



The Governor Dr. K.K. Paul at the 2-day exhibition on 'Holy Quran in the Mirror of Calligraphic Art' organised by Tasmia All-India Education and Welfare Society, Dehra Dun



At Educational Institutions



All India Principals and Teachers Conference 2015
organized by Progressive Schools Association, Uttarakhand



Inaugurating the 4-day Seminar of the
Association of Anglo-Indian Schools 2015



Vignettes of the 4-day Seminar of the Association of Anglo-Indian Schools 2015



At Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee 2015



Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan Raising Day 2015



2-day International Seminar at Graphic Era University 2017

Sports events



Annual Sports at Sainik School, Ghorakhal



Presenting the RIMC Soccer Cup, 2016 to the winning team – RIMC 'A'



Flagging off the Cantonment Board
Mini-Marathon on the occasion of Republic Day



Meeting the Senior Citizen participants



A word of encouragement for physically
challenged children participants



Inaugurating the 36th National Rowing Championships, Roorkee – 7th Oct 2015



Inaugurating the Times of India Cyclothon 2015



Uttarakhand's pride – Olympian Manish Rawat who finished 13th in the 20 km Racewalking event at the Rio Olympics 2016 being felicitated by the Governor



Presenting trophies to the Best Shooters at the 15th Uttarakhand State Shooting Championships, 2016

Encouraging Children



Indian Army National Integration Tour - With the visiting children from government schools of the Ladakh region at Raj Bhawan, Dehra Dun



Giving prizes to the winners of the Essay and General Knowledge competition at the State-level Camp organised by the Uttarakhand Bal Kalyan Parishad – 'Milkar Rehna Seekho'



Well done! May you achieve greater heights! The Governor Dr. K.K. Paul at the 'Toppers Awards Function 2016' to recognise achievements of toppers of Class X and XII Board Exams organised by the Principals Progressive Schools Association

Governor Dr. K.K. Paul with visually handicapped children from the National Association for the Blind at Raj Bhawan, Nainital - 24 October 2015



Governor Dr. K.K. Paul at the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie
6 April 2015



प्रशासनिक अकादमी, मसूरी में श्रद्धावधि सेवा प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम के उद्घाटन अवसर पर संस्थान के
पर से विशेष समीति चिन्ह भेंट करती हुए मुख्य अतिथि उत्तराखण्ड के राज्यपाल डा० कृष्ण कान्त पात।
रिजलमपन 06.04.2015

Civic duties



The Governor at the 'Digi-Dhan Mela-2016'
at the IRDT Auditorium





Safeguarding Children's Health

Inaugurating the 'Inactivated Polio Virus Vaccine' campaign held under the aegis of the World Health Organisation/National Health Mission – April 2016



Presenting Awards/Mementoes to participants of various activities to promote road safety awareness organised as part of the Police Department's 'Road Safety Week – 2016'



Addressing the participants of the State-level Declamation/Painting Competitions organised as part of the 'Uttarakhand Tobacco Free Initiative' by the National Lung Foundation at the Rajiv Gandhi Navodaya Vidyalaya



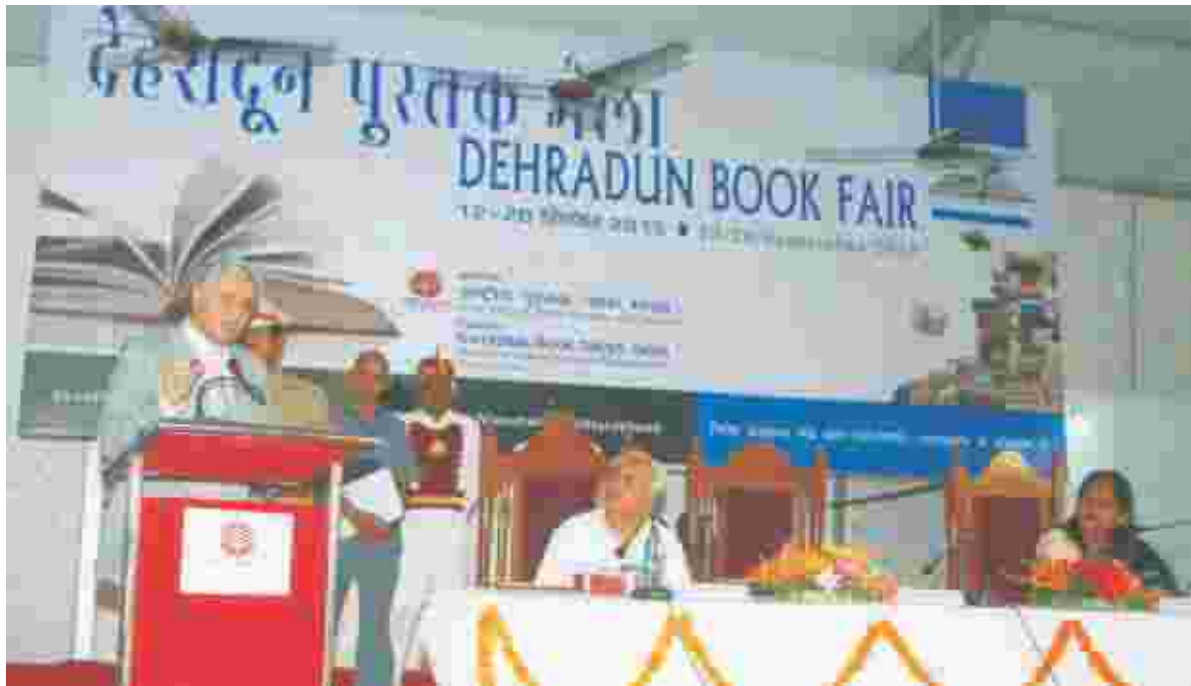
Improving Infrastructure
Inspecting progress of the under-construction Ballupur Flyover at Dehra Dun



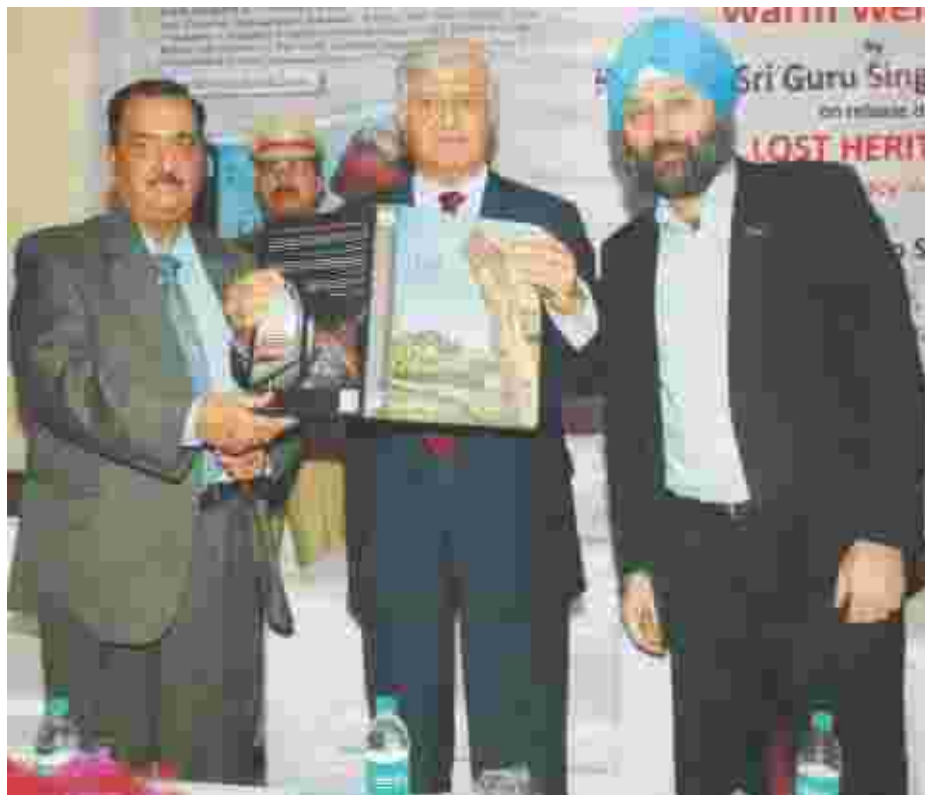
Inaugurating a 'Study Centre' for children of Raj Bhawan staff at the Raj Bhawan staff residential colony to provide a more conducive environment for studies – another welfare initiative by the Governor Dr. K.K. Paul



Celebrating Holi at Raj Bhawan with local Media persons



Inaugurating the 9-day 'Dehradun Book Fair 2015' organised by the National Book Trust at the Parade Ground



Releasing Amardeep Singh's book 'Lost Heritage: The Sikh Legacy in Pakistan'



Vignettes of the Kumaon Literary Festival at Nainital



Book release of Dr. Jaskiran Chopra's 'Memories of Another Day' by the Governor Dr. K.K. Paul at the Raj Bhawan



Releasing the National Institute for the Visually Handicapped's 'Visual Disability: A Resource Book for Teachers' at Raj Bhawan Auditorium



Unique Initiative :

The Governor Dr. K.K. Paul presiding over the First National Science Day Lecture at Raj Bhawan Auditorium – 28 Feb. 2017. The lecture was delivered by renowned scientist Padma Vibhushan Prof. Raghunath Anant Mashelkar, FRS



Distinguished Visitors



Welcoming visiting Indologists at Raj Bhawan on their tour of Uttarakhand



Prof. Anil Gupta (of Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad), Vice President of the National Innovation Foundation, calling on Governor Dr. K.K. Paul – Aug. 2016





Study tour on 'Indian Culture and Yoga' under the aegis of the British Council by students of various United Kingdom universities calling on the Governor Dr. K.K. Paul



ONGC Diamond Jubilee Celebrations – the Governor Dr. K.K. Paul at the ONGC Museum

Special Postage Stamps

As a special tribute to the famous Hindi poet Sumitranandan Pant, who belonged to Almora, Dr. K.K. Paul released a memorial postage stamp at Raj Bhawan on December 23, 2015. This was the first time that a stamp was issued in memory of any literary personality of Uttarakhand.

Impressed greatly by the writings of Pant, his love for nature, his descriptions of beauty and his humanistic and philosophical approach, the Governor had sent a proposal to the Central Government in June 2015 regarding the memorial stamp in order to keep his memory alive in official records too. The stamp as well as the first day cover were personally designed by Dr. Paul. Earlier he was instrumented in getting a postage stamp released in memory of Sahir Ludhianvi. That stamp as well as the first day cover were also designed by him personally.

Sumitranandan Pant was born on May 20, 1900 in Kausani in Kumaon. He was a leading name among the 'Chhayawadi' poets. He has more than 24 works to his credit including poetry collections, verse dramas and essays. *Childambara*, *Veena*, *Pallav*, *Gunjan*, *Gramya*, *Yugant*, *Yugvani*, *Lokayatan*, *Kala aur Boodha Chaand* are among his well known works. He was awarded the Padma Bhushan, and the Jnanapeeth, Sahitya Akademi and Soviet Land Nehru awards for his contribution to Hindi literature.



A special tribute by the Governor to renowned Hindi Poet Sumitranandan Pant



The Governor Dr. K.K. Paul releasing a special commemorative postage stamp in memory of Swami Chidananda of Divine Life Society, at Sivananda Ashram, Rishikesh - 21 May 2016

Ecology & Environment



'Clean Dehra Dun and Haridwar' Initiative : Governor Dr. K.K. Paul chairing a meeting with office bearers of public and citizens' bodies to discuss measures to make Dehra Dun and Haridwar clean cities



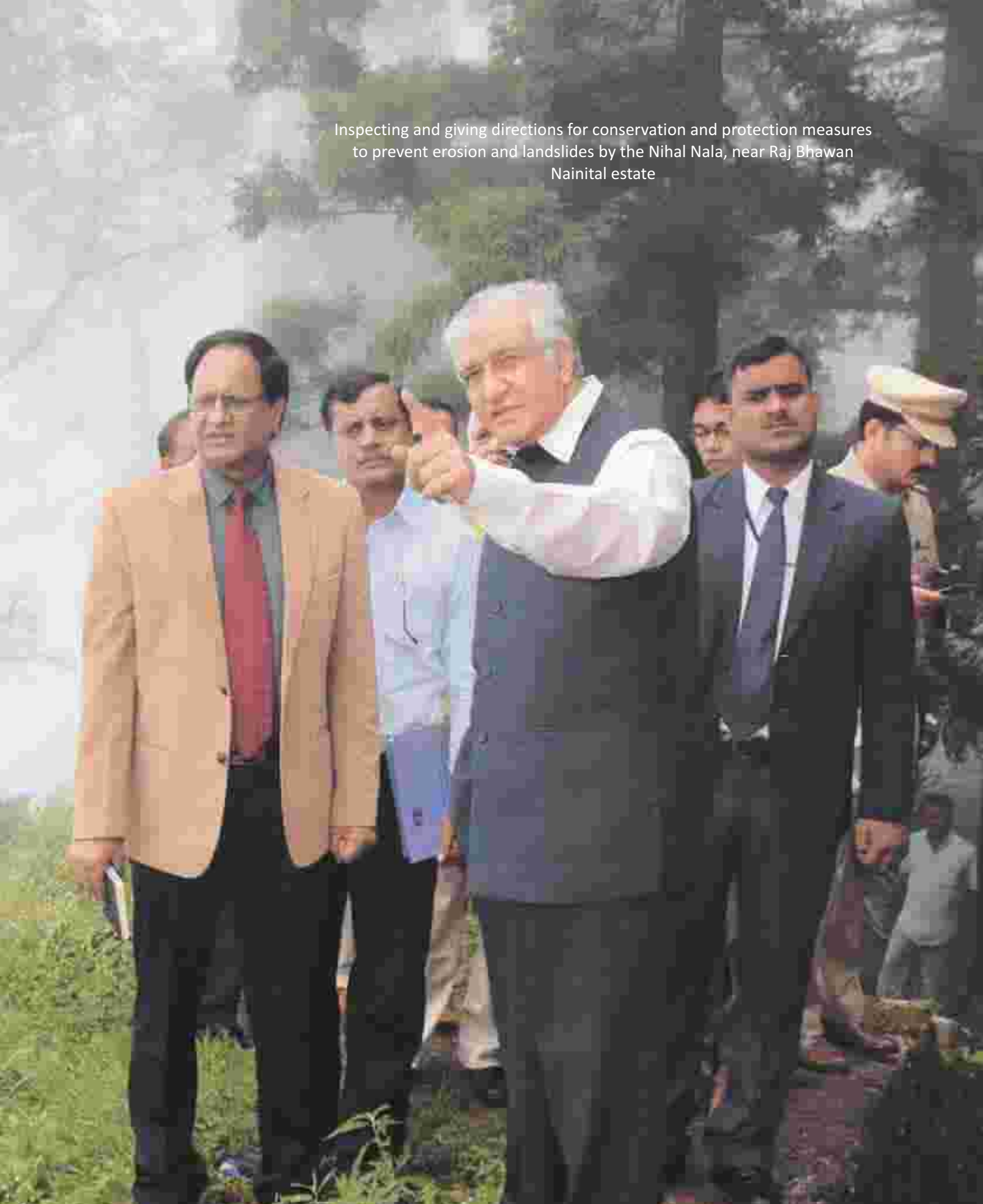
Viewing photographs displayed at the exhibition to mark 'Wildlife Week 2015' at Raj Bhawan, Dehra Dun



Planting trees in the Raj Bhawan,
Nainital estate on the occasion of 66th
Vanmahotsav – 2015



Inspecting and giving directions for conservation and protection measures to prevent erosion and landslides by the Nihal Nala, near Raj Bhawan Nainital estate





Dr. K.K. Paul:
A Multi-faceted Personality



Dr. K.K. Paul: A Multi-faceted Personality

Dr. Krishan Kant Paul has brought with him to Uttarakhand vast experience of public service, quiet discipline, resolute decisiveness, great organisational ability and a dedication to work which has already spelt wonders for the hill state.

The aura of goodness, calm and grace that surrounds him emanates from the simplicity and modesty that are his inherent qualities. It is obvious that he is a man of few words and extremely soft-spoken. But the strength and determination in his words is far from soft.

“Uttarakhand is a very progressive state with immense possibilities and potential for growth in almost all sectors of economy. As it is surrounded by developed areas, this further increases its potential”, the Governor believes.

The Governor is passionate about the cause of education and believes that a lot needs to be done in the sphere of higher education in the state. “Universities have to be definitely different from colleges and one of the things that makes them different is original research. This has been missing. However, the Vice Chancellors have shown great enthusiasm. There is steady progress and we are setting up centres of excellence at all state universities”.



Meeting Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee at the Annual DGPs Conference
as Head of Arunachal Police - Nov. 1998

At Munsyari in the backdrop of
Panchachuli peaks





The Philatelist



A major hobby of Dr. Paul is philately. He has an amazing collection of thousands of stamps collected over a period of more than sixty years. "Some very rare stamps are part of my collection, especially those of the pre-independence era. Sadly, there are few stamp collectors now. Philately is a dying art", says the Governor.



Literary Musings



A prolific columnist

Another area which he has been focussing upon is the facilities that can be provided to film makers, both from India and abroad, to shoot at the numerous picturesque locations of Uttarakhand. “Places like Corbett Tiger Reserve and Terai landscapes have great potential in this regard which is yet to be explored.” The Governor feels that provision of requisite infrastructure for film units and with comfortable places of stay, can make things move in the right direction. “Foreign film makers are extremely fond of such locations, especially wilderness”, he says. Of course the wild life and reserve forest regulations would have to be complied with.

Dr. Paul is a prolific writer. He used to write 'Brass Tacks', a fortnightly column in *The Tribune* and contributes 'middles' for *The Statesman* and other newspapers, giving full expression to his creativity. His columns and middles span a variety of subjects – from cricket, movies, film songs, science to astrology. Dr. Paul is a qualified astrologer too. (He did Jyotish Alankar from Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan).

With a Ph.D. in Chemistry and a long and a distinguished police career, Dr. Paul has retained his deep love for his varied hobbies and interests. Philately is one such hobby he has pursued with passion and his stamp collection is a treat to behold. He is indeed a multi-faceted personality, each dimension being rich and wonderful.

It has been a fruitful journey since he took charge of this gubernatorial appointment, as he has taken great care in ensuring development of the state on various fronts and suggesting new possibilities to be explored for the growth and development of the hill state.



The Governor's extended family – Three generations !

