



सत्यमेव जयते

UTTARAKHAND COURT NEWS
(A Quarterly Court Magazine)

Vol.-XVI Issue No.-I (January to March, 2025)



EDITORIAL BOARD

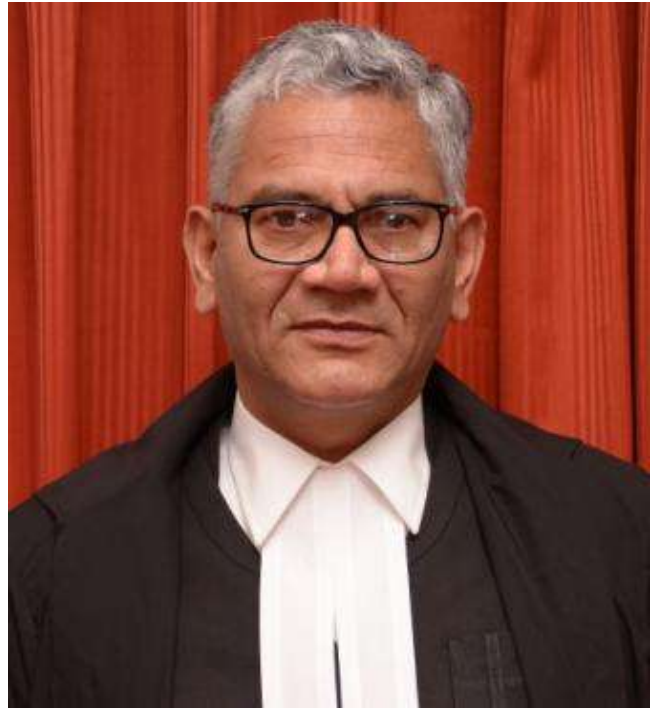
Hon'ble Shri Justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari
Hon'ble Shri Justice Pankaj Purohit

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Hon'ble Mr. Justice Guhanathan Narendar
(Chief Justice)



Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari



Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ravindra Maithani



Hon'ble Mr. Justice Alok Kumar Verma



Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rakesh Thapliyal



Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pankaj Purohit



Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vivek Bharti Sharma



Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashish Naithani



Hon'ble Mr. Justice Alok Mahra

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HIGH COURT OF UTTARAKHAND

LIST OF JUDGES (AS ON 31st MARCH, 2025)

Sl. No.	Name of the Hon'ble Judges	Date of Appointment
1.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Guhanathan Narendar (Chief Justice)	26.12.2024
2.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari	19.05.2017
3.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ravindra Maithani	03.12.2018
4.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Alok Kumar Verma	27.05.2019
5.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rakesh Thapliyal	28.04.2023
6.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pankaj Purohit	28.04.2023
7.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vivek Bharti Sharma	28.04.2023
8.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashish Naithani	09.01.2025
9.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Alok Mahra	14.02.2025

MAJOR EVENTS AND INITIATIVES

Republic Day Celebration : On 26th January, 2025



On 26th January, 2025, Republic Day was celebrated in the High Court premises with Great enthusiasm. On this occasion, National Flag was hoisted by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari, Senior Judge, High Court of Uttarakhand. Officers and Officials of the Registry and members of the Bar were also present.



Oath Ceremony of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashish Naithani, Judge, High Court of Uttarakhand held on
09.01.2025 at Nainital

**HON'BLE JUDGES OF THE HIGH COURT ON THE OATH CEREMONY OF
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ASHISH NAITHANI ON 09.01.2025**



(Sitting L-R)

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vivek Bharti Sharma, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Alok Kumar Verma, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Guhanathan Narender (the Chief Justice), Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ravindra Maithani, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rakesh Thapliyal, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pankaj Purohit and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashish Naithani



Oath Ceremony of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Alok Mahra, Judge, High Court of Uttarakhand held on 14.02.2025 at Nainital

**HON'BLE JUDGES OF THE HIGH COURT ON THE OATH CEREMONY OF
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ALOK MAHRA ON 14.02.2025**



(Sitting L-R)

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pankaj Purohit, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Alok Kumar Verma, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Guhanathan Narendar (the Chief Justice), Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ravindra Maithani, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rakesh Thapliyal and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Alok Mahra

PROGRAMMES ATTENDED BY HON'BLE JUDGES

(FROM JANUARY 2025 TO MARCH 2025)

1. Hon'ble Mr. Justice G. Narendra, the Chief Justice attended the South Zone-II Regional Conference on "*Court Dockets: Explosion and Exclusion*" at Vishakapatnam, Andhra Pradesh from 18.01.2025 to 19.01.2025.
2. Hon'ble Mr. Justice G. Narendra, the Chief Justice attended "*National Conference on Addressing the issues faced by the District Judiciary*" at Delhi, conducted by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on 01.02.2025.
3. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari, attended "*National Conference on addressing the issues faced by the District Judiciary*" at Delhi, conducted by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on 01.02.2025.
4. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ravindra Maithani, participated as a Resource person to guide the participants at the National Judicial Academy on "*National Seminar on Court Administration*" from 01.03.2025 to 02.03.2025.
5. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashish Naithani, attended "*National Conference for High Court Justices on Prevention of Money Laundering and Financial Fraud*" at National Judicial Academy, Bhopal from 15.02.2025 to 16.02.2025.

❖ Data has been provided by Administrative-A Section of the Court.

MAJOR ACTIVITIES OF STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY
FROM
JANUARY 2025 TO MARCH 2025

➤ **COMPREHENSIVE REPORT OF EXCLUSIVE CAMPAIGN ON “VOTERS DAY” ORGANIZED ON 25th JANUARY, 2025**

Article 326 of the Constitution of India states that the elections to the House of the People and to the Legislative Assembly in every State shall be on the basis of adult suffrage. Article 21 of the Constitution of India speaks that right to vote is a fundamental right.

National Voters' Day is celebrated annually in India on 25th January to mark the foundation day of the Election Commission of India (ECI). Established by the Government of India in 2011, this day aims to encourage greater participation of young and first-time voters in the electoral process. Through various awareness campaigns, voter registration drives, and educational programs, National Voters' Day reinforces the importance of voting in a democracy, empowering citizens to exercise their right to vote and contribute to nation-building.

In view of the aforesaid and as per directions of the Hon'ble Executive Chairman, Uttarakhand SLISA, Nainital, exclusive underlined programmes under the National Voters' Day were organized by the Legal Services Institutions across the State of Uttarakhand to aware the people at large in an effective manner, specially to encourage the youth to participate in the vote in the electoral process.

Such awareness campaign for National Voters' Day aims to educate and encourage the general public, especially first-time voters and marginalized communities, to actively participate in the electoral process. By organizing street plays, awareness rallies and educational workshops, the campaign highlights the significance of voting in shaping a democratic future. Engaging schools, colleges, local leaders, and influencers helps amplify the message, ensuring that every eligible voter understands their rights and responsibilities.

As per directions of the Hon'ble Executive Chairman, UKSLSA, Nainital, all the District Legal Services Authorities in the State have organized legal awareness camps/ programmes under the observation of National Voters' Day on 25.01.2025.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT ON OBSERVATION OF “VOTERS’ DAY”
ORGANIZED ON 25th JANUARY, 2025

S.N.	TOPIC	RESULT
1.	Total No. of awareness programmes, camps, etc. organized.	451
2.	Total No. of persons attended these programmes, camps etc.	61347
3.	Awareness Rallies organized.	05
4.	Total No. of Nukkad Natak organized.	03
5.	Total No. of persons benefitted by this Campaign.	309
6.	Brief summary about the awareness campaign.	Across the campaign drive the attendees were sensitized about the importance of voting by emphasizing the message that "Every Vote Counts" & sensitized students about their rights and responsibilities, electoral system, cultivating a future generation that is more engaged and committed to strengthening democracy.

By organizing total 451 camps/programmes under the campaign “National Voters’ Day” approx. 61347 persons have attended the said campaign including men, women, girls, old persons, girls/boys students, adults and children and were sensitized about the importance of voting by emphasizing the message that "Every Vote Counts" & sensitized students about their rights and responsibilities, electoral system, cultivating a future generation. In order to boost the “National Voters’ Day” campaign 05 Awareness Rallies and 03 Nukkad Nataks were also conducted during the campaign to aware the common mass about the importance of casting their vote. Total 309 persons were benefited in the campaign by addressing their relating problems.

➤ **COUNSELLING**

As per directions of the Hon'ble Patron-in-Chief and Hon'ble Executive Chairman, Uttarakhand SLISA, Nainital, 01 General Counselor and 01 Child Counselor have been appointed in the Crèche at UKSLISA, Nainital to cater to the psychological needs of people, especially with respect to marital and family counseling. Our institution takes immense pride in providing comprehensive psychological support for individuals dealing with marital and family issues. They use wellness model that focuses on a client's needs and strengths.

UKSLISA Counseling Centre cater the diverse range of cases, including :-

- Psychological disturbances
- Marital disputes, Family issues
- Child custody matters, shared and co- parenting plans
- Emotional outbursts, Overwhelmed thinking

The counselors observed that people are suffering from mood swings, as well as observed mild, moderate to severe levels, anxiety, depression, loneliness, hopelessness, confused, aggressive tendencies, agitation, unhappiness or stress, psychological disturbances, substance abuse, parental pressure and even suicidal thoughts.

Key Achievements

1. Comprehensive Counseling Services: Between January 2025 – March 2025 delivered personalized guidance and support to over 52 cases, demonstrating exceptional expertise.
2. Group Counseling Sessions: Presently, counselors have led around 19 sessions, with 20 people in attendance for each. The counselors addressed all personnel with respect to the following areas and identified these issues –

- How to keep our self mentally, physically, emotionally and socially healthy.
 - Effect of workplace stress on job performances, physical and mental health
 - Issues causing work-related stress with respect to management
3. Voluntary cases- 26 clients voluntarily approached for counseling who were in need for help and guidance.

The efforts of the counselors have led to positive outcomes in many cases, and we look forward to their continued contribution.



In a heartening example of mutual understanding and emotional growth, a young couple who had entered into an arranged marriage—with the blessings and consent of both families despite belonging to different communities—faced a difficult phase in their marital life due to misunderstandings and external influences.

Over time, minor disagreements escalated under the excessive and negative interference of friends, relatives, and societal pressures. The strain led to their separation and initiation of legal proceedings against each other. Unfortunately, these steps were taken in haste and under emotional distress, leaving both partners burdened with regret and remorse.

Through sincere introspection and a spirit of reconciliation, the couple gradually acknowledged their own shortcomings and accepted each other's feelings and perspectives. With the assistance and encouragement of well-wishers and legal facilitation, they decided to step away from conflict and move towards healing.

They have now withdrawn all court cases filed against one another and committed themselves to a fresh start. Their resolve not to repeat past mistakes, along with a renewed sense of respect and affection, marks the beginning of a new chapter in their lives.

➤ **COMPREHENSIVE REPORT ON THE CAMPAIGN ORGANIZED ON THE OCCASION OF “NATIONAL CLEANLINESS DAY” ORGANIZED ON 30TH JANUARY, 2025**

Article 21 of the Constitution of India, provides that “no person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to the procedure established by law”. The Hon’ble Supreme Court in MC Mehta vs. Union of India, AIR 1987 SC 1086, has held that right to live in pollution free environment is a fundamental right.

A clean environment enhances the quality of life and promotes overall well-being. It is the responsibility of every individual to keep their surroundings clean and healthy. In India, this commitment to cleanliness is emphasized through the observation of National Cleanliness Day on January 30th. The day serves as a reminder to maintain high standards of hygiene in our homes, workplaces, streets, and public spaces. By adopting sustainable practices like waste management, recycling and reducing pollution, we can contribute to a cleaner and healthier environment for present and future generations. Cleanliness is essential for maintaining a healthy and hygienic environment, promoting overall well-being, and preventing diseases.

Keeping in view of the aforesaid, Hon’ble the Executive Chairman has been pleased to direct the Legal Services Institutions to observe the National Cleanliness Day on 30.01.2025 and conduct cleanliness drive to commemorate Mahatma Gandhi vision of cleanliness with the aim of promoting cleanliness and sanitation as a way of life.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT ON CELEBRATION OF “NATIONAL CLEANLINESS DAY” ORGANIZED ON 30th JANUARY, 2025

S.N.	PARTICULARS	REPORT
1.	Total No. of awareness programmes,	201

	camps, etc. organized.	
2.	No. of Cleanliness Drive Organized.	32
3.	Total No. of persons attended these programmes, camps and Cleanliness Drive etc.	55347
4.	Awareness Rallies organized.	07
5.	Total No. of Nukkad Natak organized.	05
6.	Total No. of persons benefitted by this Campaign.	13079
7.	Brief summary about the awareness campaign.	<p>The Legal Services Institutions and Para-Legal Volunteers (PLVs) organized awareness camps and cleanliness rallies across rural and urban areas of the state. These initiatives aimed to educate people about the crucial role cleanliness plays in their daily lives.</p> <p>During the camps, attendees were encouraged to adopt cleanliness as a habit, starting with their homes. They were reminded that if every individual maintains cleanliness in their surroundings, the entire village will remain clean. This collective effort fosters a healthier and more hygienic environment for all.</p> <p>A clean environment is essential for a healthy life, as "a healthy mindset develops in a healthy body." To support this vision, individuals and communities were urged to actively participate in the cleanliness movement, beginning with homes, schools, colleges, offices, and public spaces. The goal is to create a nationwide Clean India revolution.</p> <p>Additionally, participants were informed about the toll-free number 15100, released by NALSA, for legal aid and assistance.</p>

During the Cleanliness Drive, awareness was successfully raised among the common masses and attendees by the Legal Services Institutions emphasizing a range of critical topics. They were educated on Personal Hygiene and Health with the message "Clean hands, healthy you-stop germs in their tracks" highlighting the power of simple habits to prevent illness. Waste Management and Recycling was underscored with "Trash in its place keeps our world safe" promoting responsible disposal and sustainability. The importance of Clean Public Spaces resonated through "A clean town is everyone's crown-don't litter, make it better" inspiring civic pride. Water Sanitation focused on

keeping water sources clean and avoiding contamination, while Household Cleanliness reinforced "A clean home is a happy home" for family well-being.

The said cleanliness drive has come to an end by spreading message to all participants and local people/common mass "Cleanliness is next to godliness, and it starts with you! Join a cleanliness drive, start one in your community, or simply stop littering. As Mahatma Gandhi dreamed, let's make Swachh Bharat a reality by 2025. And by taking the pledge: "Na Gandagi Kareng, Na Karne Denge" (We won't litter, nor let others litter). Together, let's clean Uttarakhand, one street at a time.

➤ **COMPREHENSIVE REPORT ON CELEBRATION/OBSERVATION OF**
"INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY" ORGANIZED ON 08th March, 2025

On 08th March, 2025 "International Women's Day" was celebrated/Observed in the periphery of the State of Uttarakhand by all the Legal Services Institutions in cooperation with Schools & Colleges, concerned NGOs, District Administrative and concerned Government Departments.

In order to celebrate/observe the International Women's Day, Uttarakhand SLSA, Nainital has organized a Seminar on 08.03.2025 at Conference Hall, ADR Building, High Court Campus, Nainital. The Member Secretary and Officer on Special Duty, UKSLSA, Nainital aware the attended people & Women about legal rights of women alongwith other special rights meant for women empowerment. The said programme was attended by approx 35 people/women.

On the occasion of International Women's Day celebrated on 8th March 2025, District Legal Services Authorities, Tehsil Legal Services Committees, Panel Lawyers, Para-Legal Volunteers (PLVs) organized various Legal Awareness Camps, Seminars, Workshops and Rallies in rural, urban, market & community areas. The event was led by District Judge/Chairman & Secretaries, DLSAs, TLSCs, Chairman & Secretary & PLVs and aimed at raising awareness about the significance of International Women's Day and promoting gender equality. Participants were sensitized on the importance of women's rights, empowerment, and the historical and social relevance of the day.

**CONSOLIDATED STATISTICAL REPORT ON CELEBRATION OF
“INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY” ORGANIZED ON 08th March, 2025**

S.N.	PARTICULARS	REPORT
1	Total No. of awareness programmes, camps, etc., organized in the District.	619
2	Total No. of persons attended these programmes, camps, etc.	14481
3	Total No. of Awareness Rallies organized in the District.	49
4	Total No. of persons attended Awareness Rally.	4031
5	Brief summary about the awareness campaign.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PoSH (Prevention of Sexual Harassment) workshop was also organized including awareness and training session aimed at educating women, employees and stakeholders about the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013. These workshops were conducted by Legal Services Institutions to foster a safe, respectful, and inclusive work environment. • Rural and urban areas including market places were converged during the campaign. • Different awareness programmes/seminars/ rallies were also organized at Tehsil & Community Levels.

To commemorate International Women’s Day, UKSLSA-Nainital, District Legal Services Authorities & TLSCs organized 619 legal literacy camps throughout the State of Uttarakhand including far-flung and interior areas on March 08, 2025 as part of a special outreach initiative. These camps aimed at spreading legal awareness and empowering marginalized communities, particularly women, through information about their rights and available legal remedies.

During the camps, 14481 participants/women/common mass were sensitized on a wide array of crucial legal and constitutional issues. These included:

- NALSA (Victims of Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation) Scheme, 2015
- Women Compensation Scheme, 2020

- Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act (PC and PNDT Act)
- Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act (NDPS Act)
- Child Marriage and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act
- Cybercrime and Cyber security
- NALSA Helpline Number – 15100
- Rights and Duties of Citizens under the Constitution
- Fundamental Rights and Duties
- Flag Code of India, 2002 (as amended in 2021 & 2022)
- Role of Adhikar Mitra
- LGBTQIA+ Persons' Rights and Challenges
- Objectives and Benefits of Permanent Lok Adalats
- Functions of NALSA, SLISA, DLSA, TLSC, HCLSC, and SCLSC
- Availability of Free Legal Aid
- Women Empowerment and Gender Equality

During celebration of International Women's Day 49 Rallies were also organized and through banners, posters and 4031 persons have attended these rallies and aware the locality about gender inequalities and advocate for women's rights. Also that the day reminds society of the critical role women play in shaping communities and nations, while also emphasizing the need to accelerate gender parity. Celebrating this day fosters respect, empowerment and inclusion, especially in rural and marginalized areas where awareness is often limited.

➤ **COMPREHENSIVE REPORT ON CELEBRATION/OBSERVATION OF**
"WORLD WATER DAY" ORGANIZED ON 22nd March, 2025

Article 21 of the Indian Constitution guarantees the fundamental right to protection of life which includes Fresh water and Fresh Environment for every individual. Further, Right to Health is a part and parcel of Right to Life and therefore

right to health is a fundamental right guaranteed to every citizen of India under Article 21 of the Constitution of India.

Keeping in view the importance of water conservation and sustainable management in compliance of the approval dated 08.03.2025 of the Hon'ble Executive Chairman, Uttarakhand SLSA, Nainital, Awareness Programme, Rallies, Essay/Drawing/Painting/ Slogan/Debate Competitions were conducted across the State of Uttarakhand on the occasion of "World Water Day" on 22nd March, 2025, focusing on raising awareness, promoting water conservation techniques, and ensuring community participation in protecting water resources, cleaning drives for water bodies, workshops on rainwater harvesting and sustainable water use can be organized. Additionally, schools, colleges, local communities, and government departments can collaborate to implement water-saving initiatives and pledge towards responsible water usage. Given Uttarakhand's ecological significance as a Himalayan state, such a campaign can play a crucial role in safeguarding its rivers, springs, and groundwater resources for present and future generations.

CONSOLIDATED STATISTICAL REPORT ON CELEBRATION OF "WORLD WATER DAY" ORGANIZED ON 22nd MARCH, 2025

S.N.	PARTICULARS	REPORT
1	Total No. of awareness programmes, camps, etc., organized in the District.	243
2	Total No. of persons attended these programmes, camps, etc.	11018
3	Total No. of Awareness Rallies organized in the District.	68
4	Total No. of persons attended Awareness Rally.	3284
5	Details of the awareness materials distributed.	2496 Pamphlets, Brochures, Hand bills, Posters, Banners etc.
6	Brief summary about the awareness campaign	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seminars were organized with the concerned departments and stakeholders under the chairmanship of Secretary, DLSAs within their District.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under the special campaign on "World Water Day" by PLV / Adhikar Mitra organized different awareness camps and Rallies with pamphlets and banners in the rural areas, municipalities, municipal councils, schools and colleges of all Tehsils within their District and the people present were given information related to the importance of water. • TLSCs organized camps & programmes with Tehsil Bar Associations including common mass, students, girls, women, children. • Door to Door campaign were also organized to aware the common mass that 'Water is Life - Preserve Every Drop'. • Awareness was done with regard to the World Water Day on the theme for the year i.e. Preserve the Glaciers. Public was made aware about importance of sustainable development, and also with regard to means of preventing wastage of water. The awareness was conducted through Rallies, Nukkad Nataks, Camps and distribution of pamphlets. • Corresponded with the concerned departments and district administration and Taluka Legal Services Committees etc. to organize awareness programs on the occasion of World Water Day on 22 March 2025, thereafter all the PLVs were directed to organize various activities like awareness camps, rallies, cleanliness campaigns etc. within their respective areas on the occasion of World Water Day on 22 March 2025. • World Water Day Campaign was attended by Secretary DLSA, LADCs, Panel Lawyers, Retainer Lawyers, PLVs/Adhikarmitra, concerned Department & NGOs, District Administration, Police Department, District Health Department etc.
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Across the said campaign, total 243 Legal Awareness Camps were organized and 11018 people have participated in the said campaign and were informed and sensitized that Water is Life – Preserve Every Drop and Water is essential for all forms of life. Only 3% of the Earth's water is freshwater, and just 0.5% is accessible for human use. Water scarcity affects over 2 billion people globally. Why Water is Important- Human Survival, we need water for drinking, cooking, hygiene, and sanitation, Agriculture, Irrigation is vital for food production, 70% of global freshwater is used for

agriculture, Industry, used in manufacturing, cooling systems, and cleaning processes, water is essential for economic development, Environment, Supports ecosystems and biodiversity, Rivers, lakes, and wetlands are crucial habitats.

➤ **“SAFE DRUGS; SAFE LIFE” CAMAPIGN**

Article 21 of the Constitution of India, guarantees the fundamental right to life and personal liberty. Over the years the Hon’ble Supreme Court has interpreted this Article to encompass the *right to health*, making it an essential part of a dignified life. Through various landmark judgments Hon’ble Apex Court has expanded the scope of Article 21 to include access to timely and affordable healthcare, essential medicines, and a clean and safe environment.

- Parmanand Katara vs. Union of India (1989) The Supreme Court held that the right to emergency medical aid is a fundamental right under Article 21.
- State of Punjab vs. Mohinder Singh Chawla (1997) It was held that the right to health is a fundamental right and the government must provide necessary health services.
- K.S. Puttaswamy vs. Union of India (2017) Right to privacy was recognized as a fundamental right, further strengthening the rights of individuals in medical treatment and healthcare.

In this context, a focused campaign has been initiated through the District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs) to systematically address the growing concern over counterfeit and substandard medicines. This initiative envisions the constitution of dedicated task forces comprising legal experts, healthcare professionals, and representatives from enforcement agencies to ensure coordinated and timely interventions. Help desks are proposed to be established in government hospitals and Primary Health Centers (PHCs) to educate citizens about their rights under Article 21 of the Constitution, with a particular emphasis on the right to safe and quality healthcare. Legal awareness camps and capacity-building workshops—targeted at both rural and urban populations—form an essential part of this outreach strategy.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT ON THE EXCLUSIVE CAMPAIGN
SAFE DRUGS: SAFE LIFE CARRIED OUT DURING MARCH, 2025

S.N.	PARTICULARS	REPORT
1	Total No. of awareness programmes, camps, workshops etc. organized in the District	501
2	Total No. of persons attended these programmes camps	17370
3	Total No. of Joint Visit of factories/medical stores in coordination with the stakeholders	118
4	No. of Banners prepared	71
5	No. of Pamphlets/Brochures distributed	18400
6	Any other relevant point	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 04 Rallies on "Safe Drugs; Safe Life" were organized as an awareness initiative to educate the public about the responsible use of medicines and the dangers of self-medication and counterfeit drugs. Participants carry banners and raise slogans such as <i>"Right Medicine, Right Dose – A Step to Safe Life"</i> and <i>"Medicine is Cure, Not a Risk – Use it Wisely"</i>, emphasizing the importance of using only doctor-prescribed medicines and purchasing from authorized sources. By spreading this crucial message, the rally aims to build a healthier, more informed society where safe medicine practices lead to a safe and quality life.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stalls were established by PLVs under "Safe Drugs; Safe Life" & people were sensitized about their rights relating to health services and medicine, precautions to be taken while buying medicine, side effects of expired medicine.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Radio Show organized by Jail PLVs to sensitized inmates about "Safe Drugs; Safe Life" campaign.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educational Videos were prepared under "Safe Drugs; Safe Life" by jail PLVs to sensitize mass about safe drug-safe life.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 09 Meetings were convened with Drug Inspector and Food Safety Officer & other stakeholders for wide publicity of the campaign.

During the campaign “Safe Drugs; Safe Life” a total number of 501 awareness programmes, camps, workshops were organized and these programmes were attended by 17370 people, health department officials, medical practitioners, pharmacists, and representatives from the Food and Drug Administration, local community members, Accredited Social Health Activists shopkeeper, school children etc. Further, 118 Joint Visit of factories/medical stores have also been conducted in coordination with the stakeholders. Total 71 Banners/Posters have also been prepared for the said campaign. In order to implement and to make more successful the said campaign total 18400 pamphlets and brochures were also distributed amongst the common mass and participants.

➤ **LEGAL AWARENESS AND OUTREACH PROGRAMMES: COMMUNITY LEVEL**

During January to March, 2025 in order to aware the public at large total 21412 Legal Awareness Camps, Workshops, Seminars, Meetings and Rallies were organized in rural and urban areas, Market Places and at Tehsil & Community levels in cooperation with Gram Panchayats, District Administration, Government Departments, NGOs, Para-Legal Volunteers and other stakeholders.

These camps/programmes/activities were organized with an objective of empowering citizens with knowledge about their legal rights and available remedies under the law. The camps focused on simplifying important legal provisions related to everyday issues such as domestic violence, consumer rights, property disputes, free legal aid, and government welfare schemes. Through interactive sessions, real-life case examples, and distribution of easy-to-understand pamphlets in the local language, the camp aimed to bridge the gap between law and the layperson, fostering legal literacy and encouraging proactive engagement with the justice delivery system.

These programmes/camps were attended by approx. 469116 people throughout the State of Uttarakhand and they were sensitized about NALSA (Victims of Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation) Scheme, 2015, International Women’s Day, Rights and Duties of citizens, Constitutional Rights, Fundamental Rights and Duties, Rights of

Laborers, good touch, bad touch, POCSO Act, Flag Code of India, 2002 (as amended in 2021 & 2022), Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act 1971, NALSA, SLISA, DLSA, TLSC, HCLSC, SCLSC, Free Legal Aid, Motor Vehicle Amendment Act and Rules, Social Welfare Department, "The provision of Sexual Harassment of women at workplace (prevention, prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013, benefits of Lok Adalat, Digital Arrest/Cyber Crime, Welfare Scheme of Govt. Traffic Rules and NALSA Helpline 15100", "Child Marriage", "Drug Abuse", "Domestic Violence", JJ Act, etc.

➤ **LEGAL AWARENESS OUTREACH PROGRAMMES: SCHOOLS/COLLEGES**

The objective of Legal Awareness Camps & Programmes in Schools and Colleges is to cultivate legal literacy and constitutional values among youth by educating students about their rights, duties, and the justice delivery system, to sensitize students about crucial legal safeguards and promote a culture of legality and justice.

During the campaign in Schools and Colleges following key objectives have been included-

- Dissemination of knowledge on child rights and related protective laws.
- Spreading awareness about the Right to Education (RTE) as a fundamental entitlement.
- Educating youth on the perils and illegality of child marriage.
- Enhancing understanding of the Constitution of India, especially fundamental rights and duties.
- Providing insights into child-specific legislations like the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 and the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.

During January to March, 2025 approx. 1710 Legal Awareness Camps and Programmes were organized in schools and colleges and total 120265 Girl and Boy

Students including teaching & non-teaching staff, parents and local peoples were sensitized about the aforesaid.

➤ **ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES FOR PRISONERS:**

In order to uphold the rights of prisoners and support their reformation, rehabilitation, and reintegration into society through legal aid, education, skill development, and mental wellness programmes.

Key Programmes and Initiatives followed by the Legal Services Institutions to Protect Rights of Prisoners and to provide them effective & Competent Free Legal Aid Services & Advice:

1. Legal Aid Clinics in Jails:

- Regular functioning of legal aid clinics with the presence of empanelled lawyers and Para-Legal Volunteers (PLVs).
- Facilitation of bail applications, appeals, and legal counseling.
- Awareness sessions on legal rights of under trial and convicted prisoners.

2. Legal Literacy and Awareness Camps:

- Periodic sessions on basic laws, rights of prisoners, parole, furlough, and remission policies.
- Special focus on vulnerable inmates, including women, juveniles, and mentally ill prisoners.

3. Lok Adalats for Prisoners:

- Special Jail Lok Adalats are being organized to dispose of compoundable cases, traffic challans, petty offences, and family matters.
- Speedy disposal reduces overcrowding and pendency.

4. Skill Development and Vocational Training:

- Tailored training programmes in trades such as carpentry, tailoring, handicrafts, computer literacy, agriculture, bakery and plumbing.
- Collaboration with ITIs, NGOs, and government training agencies.

5. In the span of time from January to March-2025 total 138 Legal Awareness camps, 141 Visits/Inspections and 12 Jail Lok Adalats, 11 Vocational Training Programmes and 13 Medical/Health Check-up Camps were organized in District and Sub-Jails including Judicial Lock-ups were organized for Under Trial and Convicted Prisoners.

➤ **PREVENTION OF SALES OF EXPIRY ITEMS:**

To ensure consumer safety and public health, the campaign prevention of sale of expired items is a crucial area of legal and social concern. As per direction of Hon'ble Executive Chairman, UKSLSA, Nainital, the Legal Services Authorities regularly conduct awareness programmes to educate people at large, shopkeepers and vendors about the legal provisions prohibiting the sale of expired goods, especially food, medicines, packaged foods & beverages and consumables. Under laws such as the Legal Metrology Act, 2009, the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, and the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, selling expired products is punishable with fines and imprisonment. These awareness drives focus on encouraging consumers to check manufacturing and expiry dates, report violations, and demand proper bills. Through street plays, distribution of pamphlets, and workshops in markets and schools, these programmes aim to promote ethical trade practices and protect consumers from health hazards and economic loss.

During the quarter spanning January to March, 2025, a robust inter-departmental enforcement initiative was undertaken to curb the sale of expired, substandard, and unlicensed consumable goods and drugs, in alignment with public health and consumer protection objectives. A total of 106 strategic coordination meetings were held with key stakeholders, including the Food Safety Officer, Drug Inspector, and members of the Anti-Drug Enforcement Teams, to streamline inspection protocols, share intelligence inputs, and review compliance mechanisms.

Pursuant to these deliberations, a series of 360 surprise inspections were conducted across a wide range of commercial establishments, including retail shops,

departmental stores, medical outlets, wholesale markets and shopping malls. These inspections were strategically planned to ensure unannounced scrutiny and comprehensive coverage of high-footfall and sensitive locations. The joint inspection teams focused on identifying expired food and drug products, improper labeling, unauthorized drug sales, absence of batch-wise records, and violations of cold storage and hygiene norms. It is pertinent to mention here that during the said inspections 277 samples were also collected and the same were sent to laboratory for test and concerned officers ensured that action will be taken based on the results.

➤ **CAPACITY BUILDING / TRAINING PROGRAMMES:**

- The DLSA, Almora organized an orientation session under the UTRC-2025 Campaign for Jail Visitors and Jail Visiting PLVs. The session aimed to familiarize the participants with the objectives and functioning of Under Trial Review Committees, emphasizing their role in identifying eligible under trial prisoners for release and ensuring effective coordination between legal aid providers and prison authorities. A total of 4 participants attended the session, which focused on strengthening jail visits, case follow-ups, and timely legal interventions for under trials.
- On 06.01.2025, the DLSA, Chamoli organized a Training Programme on the topic “*NALSA Portal (LSMS and LAIS) and NALSA Scheme*” at the auditorium of the District Court Campus, Gopeshwar. The programme aimed to enhance the digital and functional capacity of legal aid providers by imparting practical training on the Legal Services Management System, Legal Aid Information System, and key provisions of various NALSA Schemes. A total of 48 PLVs and 10 Panel Lawyers attended the training, which focused on effective documentation, case tracking, beneficiary mapping, and the proper implementation of legal aid schemes to ensure access to justice for all.
- On 26th March, 2025, a workshop was organized in the auditorium of the District Court, Dehradun, for all police station heads of Dehradun district under the supervision

of the Secretary, District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Dehradun, in compliance with the instructions issued by the Corporation. The workshop focused on enhancing the understanding and implementation of the provisions related to the Motor Accident Claims Tribunal (MACT) and the Motor Vehicles (MV) Act. Detailed legal and procedural insights were provided to the attending police officials to ensure more effective handling of motor accident cases. The session was attended by Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel, Mr. Ajay Kumar Badoni, along with Assistant Legal Aid Defense Counsel(s), who contributed valuable legal guidance and practical inputs.

- The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Pithoragarh conducted a Training-cum-Sensitization Session for *New Selected PLVs* from 24.03.2025 to 26.03.2025 at the Meeting Hall. The session aimed to equip newly inducted Para-Legal Volunteers (PLVs) with essential knowledge regarding the functions and mandate of the DLSA, methods of delivering legal services to the marginalized and helpless, and also included an organic awareness programme to promote sustainable living. A total of 60 participants attended the event, actively engaging in the interactive training modules designed to strengthen grassroots legal outreach.
- A training program on Food Safety for the Common Mass was organized by DLSA Nainital during January, 2025 aims to raise awareness about hygienic food practices to prevent food borne illnesses and promote healthier communities. It focuses on essential topics such as personal hygiene, safe food handling, proper storage, detection of food adulteration, and identifying unhygienic practices in street food and eateries. Through simple demonstrations, role-plays, and use of visual aids in local languages, the program empowers individuals—especially homemakers, vendors, and schoolchildren—to adopt safe food habits in their daily lives. It also highlights the role of FSSAI and encourages the public to report unsafe food, reinforcing the idea that food safety is a shared responsibility.

NATIONAL LOK ADALAT ORGANIZED
ON 08.03.2025
AT HON'BLE HIGH COURT OF UTTARAKHAND



STATISTICAL INFORMATION

DETAILS OF DISPOSAL OF CASES IN THE NATIONAL LOK ADALAT

HELD ON 08.03.2025

IN THE STATE OF UTTARAKHAND

S.N.	Name of the Courts	No. of cases referred	No. of cases settled	Settlement Amount (Rs.)
1	High Court of Uttarakhand	21	20	3,65,12,987
2	Almora	100	100	74,67,346
3	Bageshwar	108	107	1,55,01,806
4	Chamoli	54	54	1,23,09,367
5	Champawat	231	231	52,86,744
6	Dehradun	6576	6574	18,73,82,406
7	Haridwar	8067	8065	10,03,02,323
8	Nainital	1708	1708	4,07,09,125
9	Pauri Garhwal	703	702	2,52,71,694
10	Pithoragarh	273	273	85,63,666
11	Rudraprayag	52	52	48,54,000
12	Tehri Garhwal	387	384	2,07,63,568
13	Udham Singh Nagar	3892	3890	16,78,54,187
14	Uttarkashi	57	57	85,86,794
	TOTAL(A):-	22229	22217	64,13,66,013
15	Pre-Litigation Cases(District Courts	7306	7298	16,86,77,860
16	Consumer Courts	32	32	76,03,316
17	TOTAL(B):-	7338	7330	17,62,81,176
	GRAND TOTAL (A+B) :-	29567	29547	81,76,47,189

**STATUS OF FULL TIME SECRETARIES/TLSC/PLVS/PANEL LAWYERS/ RETAINER
LAWYERS/MEDIATORS/LEGAL AID CLINICS/FRONT OFFICE/MEDIATION
CENTERS AS ON 31.03.2025**

NAME of DLSA /HCLSC	No. of Full Time Secretary	No. of TLSCs Constituted	No. of Panel Lawyers	No. of Retainer Lawyers	No. of trained PLVs	No. of Legal Aid Clinics	No. of Front Offices	No. of Mediation Centers	No. of Mediators	No. of Pro-Bono Lawyers	No. of Pro-Bono PLVs
ALMORA	01	03	15	01	100	47	01	01	03	07	2118
BAGESHWAR	01	01	07	01	95	20	01	01	03	02	414
CHAMOLI	01	05	12	01	84	31	01	01	01	10	736
CHAMPAWAT	01	01	11	01	99	21	01	01	03	03	31
DEHRADUN	01	04	49	01	81	62	01	02	25	31	47
HARIDWAR	01	02	34	01	134	34	01	03	22	12	285
NAINITAL	01	02	37	01	60	10	01	03	14	04	23
PAURI GARHWAL	01	04	25	01	86	22	01	02	04	04	12
PITHORAGARH	01	04	10	01	96	14	01	01	04	02	21
RUDRAPRAYAG	01	01	06	01	89	43	01	01	01	05	104
TEHRI GARHWAL	01	02	31	01	75	23	01	01	03	04	1063
U. S. NAGAR	01	05	64	01	58	24	01	03	11	35	
UTTARKASHI	01	02	17	01	33	19	01	01	08	08	
HCLSC	01	-	25	01	-	-	01	01	25	Nil	
TOTAL	14	36	337	14	1123	385	14	22	127	127	4854

STATEMENT SHOWING THE PROGRESS OF LOK ADALATS HELD IN THE
STATE OF UTTARAKHAND
FROM JANUARY 2025 TO MARCH 2025

S. No.	Name of District	Total No. of Lok Adalats Held	Total No. of Cases Taken up	Total No. of Cases Disposed off	Compensation/ Settlement Amount (Rs.)	Realized As Fine (in Rs.)	Total No. of Persons Benefited in Lok Adalat
1	ALMORA	01	100	100	74,67,346	-	100
2	BAGESHWAR	03	122	112	1,55,36,306	-	112
3	CHAMOLI	04	76	56	1,23,09,367	-	56
4	CHAMPAWAT	03	249	241	52,86,744	15,000	241
5	DEHRADUN	04	8889	7804	19,24,12,792	8,70,600	7804
6	HARIDWAR	01	8067	8065	10,03,02,323	-	8065
7	NAINITAL	04	1984	1976	4,07,32,725	19,000	1976
8	PAURI GARHWAL	02	745	744	2,52,71,694	7,000	744
9	PITHORAGARH	04	498	292	85,63,666	41,300	292
10	RUDRAPRAYAG	04	62	62	48,54,000	26,500	62
11	TEHRI GARHWAL	01	387	384	2,07,63,568	-	384
12	UDHAM SINGH NAGAR	03	4029	4025	16,78,65,687	-	4025
13	UTTARKASHI	01	57	57	85,86,794	-	57
14	HCSLC, NAINITAL	01	21	20	3,65,12,987	-	-
15	UKSLSA,NTL	-	-	-	-	-	-
	TOTAL :-	36	25286	23938	64,64,65,999	9,79,400	23918
16	CONSUMER COURTS	01	32	32	76,03,316	-	32
	TOTAL	01	32	32	76,03,316	-	32
	GRAND TOTAL	37	25318	23970	65,40,69,315	9,79,400	23950

STATEMENT SHOWING THE PROGRESS OF CAMPS ORGANIZED IN THE
STATE OF UTTARAKHAND
FROM JANUARY 2025 TO MARCH 2025

S. No.	Name of District	No. of Camps/Sensitization Programmes Organized	Total No. of Persons Benefited in Camps
1	ALMORA	1744	100710
2	BAGESHWAR	1551	41057
3	CHAMOLI	1352	26326
4	CHAMPAWAT	3889	147199
5	DEHRADUN	597	40241
6	HARIDWAR	1624	55561
7	NAINITAL	685	27812
8	PAURI GARHWAL	391	15278
9	PITHORAGARH	177	12661
10	RUDRAPRAYAG	56	7253
11	TEHRI GARHWAL	1585	34321
12	UDHAM SINGH NAGAR	307	16021
13	UTTARKASHI	164	10484
14	HCLSC, NAINITAL	-	-
15	UKSLSA, NAINITAL	-	-
	TOTAL	14122	534924
16	CONSUMER COURTS	-	-
	TOTAL	14122	534924

STATEMENT SHOWING THE PROGRESS OF LEGAL AID AND
ADVICE/COUNSELING PROVIDED IN THE STATE OF UTTARAKHAND
FROM JANUARY 2025 TO MARCH 2025

S. No.	Name of District	No. of Persons Benefited through Legal Aid & Advice	
		Legal Aid	Advice/ Other Services
1	ALMORA	33	627
2	BAGESHWAR	13	201
3	CHAMOLI	14	141
4	CHAMPAWAT	46	-
5	DEHRADUN	368	3327
6	HARIDWAR	218	2045
7	NAINITAL	134	1435
8	PAURI GARHWAL	61	2084
9	PITHORAGARH	32	23
10	RUDRAPRAYAG	39	09
11	TEHRI GARHWAL	62	11
12	UDHAM SINGH NAGAR	257	05
13	UTTARKASHI	35	-
14	HCLSC, NAINITAL	80	-
15	U.K. S.L.S.A., N.T.L.	-	110
	TOTAL	1392	10018
16	CONSUMER COURTS	-	-
	Total	1392	10018

PROGRAMMES/ACTIVITIES INSIDE JAIL CAMPUS
DURING THE PERIOD FROM JANUARY 2025 TO MARCH 2025

S.N.	Name of District	Lok Adalat's organized in Jails		Legal Literacy Camps organized in Jails		Legal Aid provided to under trial prisoners	Jail visit
		No. of organized Lok Adalats	No. of cases disposed off	Camps organized	Benefitted persons	Number of Benefitted under trial prisoners	Total Number Jail visit
1	ALMORA	-	-	09	1700	18	04
2	BAGESHWAR	-	-	01	53	06	10
3	CHAMOLI	-	-	02	173	02	08
4	CHAMPAWAT	02	09	08	294	21	08
5	DEHRADUN	03	47	04	3100	248	06
6	HARIDWAR	03	24	02	370	95	05
7	NAINITAL	02	17	06	495	93	01
8	PAURI GARHWAL	-	-	04	634	39	07
9	PITHORAGARH	-	-	42	1553	11	02
10	RUDRAPRAYAG	-	-	09	281	10	-
11	TEHRI GARHWAL	-	-	08	946	36	04
12	U.S. NAGAR	02	28	07	905	221	07
13	UTTARKASHI	-	-	10	649	26	-
14	H.C.L.S.C. NTL	-	-	-	-	65	-
	TOTAL :-	12	125	112	11153	891	62

STATISTICAL INFORMATION IN RESPECT OF PERMANENT LOK ADALATS
(Established U/S 22B of Legal Services Authority Act)

(STATISTICAL INFORMATION FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2025 TO MARCH 2025)

- (i) No. of PLAs existing :- 07 (Almora, Dehradun, Haridwar, Nainital, Pauri Garhwal, Tehri Garhwal and U.S. Nagar)
- (ii) Total No. of PLAs functioning :- 04 (Dehradun, Haridwar, Nainital and U.S. Nagar)

S. No.	Permanent Lok Adalats	Number of Sitzings	No. of cases pending as on 31.12.2024	No. of cases received during the Period	No. of cases settled during the Period	Total Value/Amount of Settlement (₹)	No. of cases pending as on 31.03.2025
1	Dehradun	55	295	269	55	46,42,506	509
2	Haridwar	33	140	14	22	91,31,927	132
3	Nainital	28	122	07	09	15,66,995	120
4	Udham Singh Nagar	66	50	78	81	3,12,46,662	47
	Total	182	607	368	167	4,65,88,090	808

STATISTICAL INFORMATION IN RESPECT OF VICTIM COMPENSATION **SCHEME U/S 357 A Cr. PC**

(STATISTICAL INFORMATION FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2025 TO MARCH 2025)

No. of applications received directly by Legal Services Institutions (A)	No. of applications/orders marked/directed by any Court (B)	Total No. of applications received including Court orders (A+B)	No. of applications decided	No. of applications pending	Total Value/Settlement Amount (₹)
43	35	78	122	190	2,03,45,000

STATISTICAL INFORMATION IN RESPECT OF CASES SETTLED **THROUGH MEDIATION**

(STATISTICAL INFORMATION FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2025 TO MARCH 2025)

(A)	Total Number of ADR Centers	:	05
(B)	Total No of Existing Mediation Centers other than ADR Centers	:	17
(C)	Number of Mediators (Total of both in ADR Centers and Mediation Centers)	:	127

DISPOSAL

S.N.		Total of all Mediation/ADR Centre's
A	Number of cases pending in the beginning of the months	241
B	No. of cases received during the months	201
C	Cases settled through Mediation	34
D	Cases returned as not settled	174
E	Non-starter cases which were returned as mediation could not commenced	03
F	No. of Connected cases	-
G	No. of Cases pending at the end of the month	231

DAILY LOK ADALAT AT ADR CENTRE HIGH COURT OF UTTARAKHAND **PREMISES**

From 1st January 2025 to 31st March 2025, total 19 cases have been decided in Daily Lok Adalat.

❖ Data w.r.t. UKSLSA & DLSA has been provided by Member Secretary, UKSLSA Mr. Pradeep Mani Tripathi. And for Daily Lok Adalat by office of Daily Lok Adalat.

TRAINING PROGRAMMES HELD IN THE PERIOD OF
JANUARY 2025 TO MARCH 2025
AT
UTTARAKHAND JUDICIAL AND LEGAL ACADEMY,
BHOWALI, NAINITAL

S. No.	Name of Training Programmes/ Workshops	Duration
1.	Study Tour/Training Programme of Newly Appointed Civil Judges (Junior Division)-2022 Batch of Uttar Pradesh Judicial Service	03.01.2025 to 05.01.2025
2.	Refresher Programme for Court Staffs (ECT_9_2024)	05.01.2025 (Almora)
3.	Computer Skill Enhancement Programme Level I & II (ECT_13_2024)	05.01.2025 (Dehradun)
4.	Training Programme on Appreciation Of Circumstantial Evidence in Sessions Trial Cases (Virtual mode)	06.01.2025
5.	Training Programme on Declaratory Suit (Virtual Mode)	09.01.2025
6.	Training Programme on Suit for Specific Performance (Virtual mode)	15.01.2025
7.	Refresher Programme for Court Staffs (ECT_9_2024)	19.01.2025 (Chamoli)
8.	Workshop on 'Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881' (Ist phase) (Virtual mode)	27.01.2025
9.	Training Programme on Maintenance (Virtual mode)	29.01.2025
10.	Cyber laws & Appreciation & Handling of Digital Evidence (ECT_14_2024)	03.02.2025
11.	Refresher Programme on Three New Criminal Laws, 2023 (Ist Phase) (Virtual mode)	04.02.2025 to 06.02.2025
12.	Workshop on issues relating to Juvenile Justice under the Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act, 2015 & Rules (Virtual mode)	06.02.2025

13.	Training Programme on Inspection of Courts & Officers of Executive Magistrate (Virtual mode)	11.02.2025
14.	Training Program on Capacity Building of Officers working in Uttarakhand Forest Department	10.02.2025 to 12.02.2025
15.	Computer Skill Enhancement Programme Level I & II (ECT_12_2024)	16.02.2025 (Roorkee, Distt. Haridwar)
16.	Refresher Programme for Court staffs (ECT_9_2024)	16.02.2025 (Champawat)
17.	Training Programme on Offences & Procedure under GST & Tax Laws (Virtual Mode)	21.02.2025
18.	Refresher Training Programme on Rent Laws (Virtual mode)	22.02.2025
19.	Training Programme on Stress Management and Time Management Techniques (Virtual Mode)	25.02.2025
20.	Training Programme for Judicial Officers working as DDOs & HODs on Financial Rules, Procurement Rules and Tax Deduction (Ist phase) (Virtual mode)	27.02.2025
21.	Cyber Laws & Appreciation & Handling of Digital Evidence-Refresher Programme (ECT_14_2024)	01.03.2025 to 02.03.2025
22.	Computer Skill Enhancement Programme Level I & II (ECT_13_2024)	02.03.2025
23.	Training Programme on MACT for ADJs & Dy SPs (Virtual mode)	03.03.2025
24	Computer Skill Enhancement Programme Level I & II (ECT_13_2024)	04.03.2025
25	Training Programme on New Criminal Laws, 2023 (Ist phase)	05.03.2025 to 07.03.2025
26	Joint Workshop on NDPS for Judges who are working as NDPS Judges, Drug law enforcement officers of NCB, Special Public Prosecutors & Dy SPs	10.03.2025 to 11.03.2025
27	Comprehensive Training and Capacity-Building programme for PLVs & Staff of PLAs	19.03.2025
28	Refresher Programme for Registry Staff of Hon'ble High Court (ECT_15_2024)	22.03.2025 (at UJALA)

29	Training Programme on New Criminal Laws, 2023 (IInd phase)	21.03.2025 to 23.03.2025
30	Computer Skill Enhancement Programme Level I & II (ECT_13_2024)	23.03.2025
31	Refresher Programme on Three New Criminal Laws, 2023 (IInd Phase)(Virtual mode)	24.03.2025 to 26.03.2025
32	Workshop for Civil Law relating to Appeals, Revision & Review for ADJs (Virtual mode)	27.03.2025
33	Comprehensive Training and Capacity-Building programme for PLAs Judges (Virtual mode)	28.03.2025



Training programme on Capacity Building of Officers working in Uttarakhand Forest Department during the period from 10.02.2025 to 12.02.2025



Study Tour/Training Programme of Newly Appointed Civil Judges (Junior Division)-2022 Batch of Uttar Pradesh Judicial Service during the period from 03.01.2025 to 05.01.2025

INSTITUTION, DISPOSAL AND PENDENCY OF CASES

HIGH COURT OF UTTARAKHAND

(From 01.01.2025 to 31.03.2025)

						Pendency (As on 01.01.2025)		
						Civil Cases	Criminal Cases	Total Pendency
						30301	25022	55323
Institution (01.01.2025 to 31.03.2025)			Disposal (01.01.2025 to 31.03.2025)			Pendency (As on 31.03.2025)		
Civil Cases	Criminal Cases	Total Institution	Civil Cases	Criminal Cases	Total Disposal	Civil Cases	Criminal Cases	Total Pendency at the end of 31.03.2025
2320	2263	4583	1440	2180	3620	31181	25105	56286

DISTRICT COURTS

(From 01.01.2025 to 31.03.2025)

SL. No	Name of the District	Civil Cases				Criminal Cases				Total Pendency at the end of 31.03.25
		Opening Balance as on 01.01.25	Institution from 01.01.25 to 31.03.25	Disposal from 01.01.25 to 31.03.25	Pendency at the end of 31.03.25	Opening Balance as on 01.01.25	Institution from 01.01.25 to 31.03.25	Disposal from 01.01.25 to 31.03.25	Pendency at the end of 31.03.25	
1.	Almora	439	57	59	437	1407	651	623	1435	1872
2.	Bageshwar	117	23	37	103	336	197	213	320	423
3.	Chamoli	202	27	46	183	825	347	295	877	1060
4.	Champawat	229	35	51	213	2460	746	972	2234	2447
5.	Dehradun	11711	2584	2556	11739	102444	16535	19226	99753	111492
6.	Haridwar	12250	1079	1084	12245	85049	9219	16996	77272	89517
7.	Nainital	3498	512	481	3529	22900	3031	3986	21945	25474
8.	Pauri Garhwal	1230	181	145	1266	9547	2159	2208	9498	10764
9.	Pithoragarh	193	49	46	196	2232	1435	1433	2234	2430
10.	Rudraprayag	96	19	35	80	338	273	284	327	407
11.	Tehri Garhwal	485	81	88	478	2982	980	1232	2730	3208
12.	Udham Singh Nagar	6694	887	826	6755	59883	7187	9258	57812	64567
13.	Uttarkashi	420	59	153	326	944	379	362	961	1287
	Total	37564	5593	5607	37550	291347	43139	57088	277398	314948

FAMILY COURTS
(From 01.01.2025 to 31.03.2025)

SL No	Name of the Family Court	Civil Cases				Criminal Cases				Total Pendency at the end of 31.03.25
		Opening Balance as on 01.01.25	Institution from 01.01.25 to 31.03.25	Disposal from 01.01.25 to 31.03.25	Pendency at the end of 31.03.25	Opening Balance as on 01.01.25	Institution from 01.01.25 to 31.03.25	Disposal from 01.01.25 to 31.03.25	Pendency at the end of 31.03.25	
1.	Almora (01 Family Court)	167	21	27	161	172	26	23	175	336
2.	Bageshwar (01 Family Court)	39	15	10	44	49	10	16	43	87
3.	Chamoli (01 Family Court)	85	21	15	91	93	30	18	105	196
4.	Champawat (01 Family Court)	61	15	19	57	94	18	41	71	128
5.	Dehradun (6 Family Courts)	2339	731	743	2327	1989	490	492	1987	4314
6.	Haridwar (5 Family Courts)	1958	458	455	1961	2626	346	477	2495	4456
7.	Nainital (2 Family Courts)	751	172	143	780	1356	193	156	1393	2173
8.	Pauri Garhwal (2 Family Courts)	328	75	73	330	496	75	66	505	835
9.	Pithoragarh (01 Family Court)	148	21	29	140	143	12	12	143	283
10	Rudraprayag (01 Family Court)	47	16	11	52	43	20	22	41	93
11	Tehri Garhwal	76	34	49	61	61	28	21	68	129
12	U.S. Nagar (4 Family Courts)	1488	320	324	1484	1832	283	248	1867	3351
13	Uttarkashi (01 Family Court)	81	10	16	75	114	22	54	82	157
	Total	7568	1909	1914	7563	9068	1553	1646	8975	16538

❖ Data of pendency and disposal of cases has been provided by Inspection Section of the Court.

NOTIFICATIONS AND CIRCULARS OF HIGH COURT OF
UTTARAKHAND
FROM JANUARY 2025 TO MARCH 2025

- No. 01/UHC/Admin. A/2025 Dated : Nainital : January 09th, 2025 ([Click to open](#))
- No. 03/UHC/Admin. B/v-a-2/2025 Dated: 10th February, 2025 ([Click to open](#))
- No. 04/UHC/Admin. A/2025 Dated : Nainital : February 14th, 2025 ([Click to open](#))
- No. 14/UHC/Stationery/2025 Dated : February 17th, 2025 ([Click to open](#))
- No. 15-17/UHC/Admin.A-2/2025 Dated : Nainital : February 19th, 2025 ([Click to open](#))
- No. 47/UHC/Admin. B/v-a-2/2024 Dated: 10th March, 2025 ([Click to open](#))
- No. 54/UHC/Stationery/2025 Dated: 12th March, 2025 ([Click to open](#))
- No. 63/UHC/Admin.(A)/2025 Dated: March 29, 2025 ([Click to open](#))

CIRCULAR

- C. L. No. 01/UHC/Admin. B/2025 dated 06.01.2025 (Transmission of Trial Court Record) ([Click to open](#))
- C. L. No. 02/UHC/Admin. A/A.J./2025 dated 17.02.2025 (Nomination of Administrative Judge(s)) ([Click to open](#))
- C.L. No. 03/UHC/Admin. B/2025 dated 24.03.2025 (Repair, maintenance, petty and minor construction work in District Courts) ([Click to open](#))

❖ *Data has been provided by Administrative-A/B/Insp. Section of the Court.*

**CIRCULATION OF JUDGEMENT OF HON'BLE SUPREME COURT OF
INDIA TO ALL HIGH COURTS AND TRIAL COURTS OF INDIA**

1. Vide letter dated 28.02.2025, Assistant Registrar, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India requested to circulate the copy of the order passed in **M.A. Diary No. 347 of 2025 arising out of M.A. Diary No. 2400 of 2024 in Civil Appeal No. 3933 of 2023 arising out of Special Leave Petition (Civil) No. 4722 of 2021, Union of India and another vs. M. Siddaraj**. Hon'ble Supreme Court's vide order dated February 20, 2025, addressing Miscellaneous Application Diary Nos. 2400/2024, 35783/2024, 35785/2024, 35786/2024, and related contempt petitions in Civil Appeal No. 3933/2023 (Union of India & Anr. v. M. Siddaraj), the court finalized directions from its interim order of September 6, 2024. The court held that: (a) the judgment of April 11, 2023, granting enhanced pension with one increment, applies to third parties from May 1, 2023, with no arrears for prior periods; (b) for petitioners who succeeded in writ petitions, the enhanced pension is payable as res-judicata; (c) this does not apply where judgments lack finality or appeals are pending; and (d) retired employees who filed applications for intervention, writ petitions, or original applications are entitled to enhanced pension for three years prior to the filing month. Clause (d) excludes applications filed post the May 19, 2023, judgment, where clause (a) applies. Excess payments made will not be recovered. Contempt petitions were disposed of, with liberty to seek remedies if directions are not followed. The court dismissed related special leave petitions, clarifying no interpretation of LIC rules was made, and directed LIC to comply with impugned orders. All pending applications were disposed of accordingly.
[\(Click to open\)](#)

2. Vide letter dated 11.02.2025, Assistant Registrar, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India requested to circulate the copy of the reportable **judgment dated 17.01.2025 passed in Criminal Appeal No. 2248 of 2025 @ SLP (C) No. 21328 of 2023, Bhudev Mallick alias Bhudeb Mallick and another vs. Ranajit Ghoshal and others to all the High Court with a request that each of the High Court shall circulate one copy of this judgment in their respective District Courts.** The Court allowed the appeal by judgment debtors challenging a Calcutta High Court order dated September 23, 2019, which had affirmed an executing court's order dated September 4, 2019. The case stemmed from a 1965 title suit, where a decree of permanent injunction was granted in 1976, restraining the appellants from disturbing the respondents' possession of the suit property. In 2017, the respondents filed an execution case, alleging breach of the injunction, leading to the executing court ordering the appellants' arrest, 30-day detention, and property attachment. The Supreme Court held that the executing court committed a jurisdictional error by ordering detention and attachment without evidence of willful disobedience, as required under Order XXI Rule 32 of the CPC, and without affording the appellants an opportunity to file objections. The High Court erred in overlooking this procedural lapse. Both orders were set aside, with liberty to the respondents to file a fresh application if further interference occurs, to be decided per the court's observations. The court emphasized that decrees for permanent injunction are not subject to limitation under Article 136 of the Limitation Act and clarified the scope of jurisdictional error, directing circulation of the judgment to High Courts and District Courts. ([Click to open](#))
3. Vide letter dated 16.01.2025, Branch Officer Section-III-A, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India requested to circulate the copy of the reportable **judgment dated 17.12.2024 passed in Civil Appeal No. 14604 of 2024, Rajendra Kumar**

Barjatya and another vs. UP Avas Evam Vikas Parishad and others with connected matter Civil Appeal No. 14605 of 2024, Rajeev Gupta and others vs. UP Avas Vikas Parishad and others to the Registrar General of all the High Court, so as to enable the High Courts to refer it, while considering the disputes relating to un-authorized construction, deviation / violation of building permission, plan, etc. and also directed to circulate a copy of this Judgment to the Chief Secretaries of all the States / Union Territories. All the State/UT Governments shall issue circulars to all the local authorities/Corporations, intimating them about the directions issued by this Court and for strict compliance. The Supreme Court, in its judgment dated December 17, 2024, in Civil Appeal Nos. 14604 and 14605 of 2024, dismissed the appeals by third-party appellants challenging the Allahabad High Court's order dated December 5, 2014, which directed the demolition of unauthorized commercial constructions on a residential plot (No. 661/6, Shastri Nagar, Meerut) allotted to Respondent No. 5 by U.P. Avas Evam Vikas Parishad. The Court held that the constructions, made without sanctioned plans and in violation of the residential use condition, were illegal and could not be legitimized by delay, investment, or administrative inaction. It rejected claims of estoppels and laches, emphasizing that unauthorized constructions must be demolished to ensure compliance with planning laws. The Court found no violation of natural justice, as notices were issued to the original allottee, and appellants, as buyers, failed to verify the property's legal status. The High Court's order was upheld, with directions to vacate within three months, demolish within two weeks thereafter, and initiate action against erring officials. The Court issued broader guidelines to prevent unauthorized constructions, including mandatory notices, hearings, and strict adherence to planning permissions, with accountability for officials. The deposited amount by appellants was ordered refunded with interest. ([Click to open](#))

RECENT APPROVED FOR REPORTING JUDGMENTS
OF THE HON'BLE COURTS

(01.01.2025 to 31.03.2025)

DIVISION BENCH JUDGMENTS

- 1. In SPA No. 81 of 2023, Harish Chandra Tiwari vs. State of Uttarakhand and others. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice G. Narendar (Chief Justice) and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Alok Mahra, Date of Judgment- 18.03.2025.** The High Court dismissed the appellant's Special Appeal. The appellant, a former employee of a Co-operative Sugar Mill, challenged the dismissal of his claim by the Uttarakhand Public Services Tribunal and a subsequent writ petition rejection by a Single Judge. The appellant had accepted a Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) in 2015, terminating his employment. After a 2016 government order revised pay scales for sugar mill employees, the appellant sought benefits, which were granted in 2021 following litigation. However, his claim for interest on the delayed payment from 2016 to 2022 was rejected. The court held that the claim for interest was barred by the principle of res-judicata, as it was not raised in the earlier litigation despite being consequential to the arrears claim. Additionally, the claim was deemed time-barred. The court found no grounds to interfere with the Single Judge's order and rejected the appeal, citing the principles of constructive res-judicata and limitation. A 74-day delay in filing the appeal was condoned. ([Click to open](#))

- 2. In Writ Petition (S/B) No. 415 of 2023, Sharan Singh Khati vs. Union of India and others. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice G. Narendar (Chief Justice) and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Alok Mahra, Date of Judgment- 19.03.2025.** The High Court allowed the petitioner's Writ Petition, quashing the order of premature retirement dated 19.07.2023 issued by the Food Corporation of India (FCI). The petitioner, a Manager (Quality Control) with over 25 years of service, challenged his compulsory retirement, arguing it was arbitrary, mala fide, and not in public interest. The court found that the Review Committee's recommendation violated Regulation 22 of the FCI Staff Regulations, 1971, by failing to consider the petitioner's entire service record, including his consistently "Very Good" and "Outstanding" gradings in Annual Performance Appraisal Reports (APARs) over the last decade and positive vigilance reports. The committee overlooked recent APARs (2019–2021) and work data, focusing only on minor penalties related to receiving Beyond Rejection Limit (BRL) stocks, which were not solely the petitioner's responsibility and caused no financial loss to FCI. The court deemed the committee's process arbitrary, lacking diligence, and non-compliant with regulatory mandates. The Representation Committee's rejection of the petitioner's representation was also found perfunctory, lacking a reasoned response. The court ordered the petitioner's reinstatement within six weeks with full service benefits, including arrears, seniority, and pays re-fixation, and imposed 18% interest on arrears, if not complied with. No costs were ordered. ([Click to open](#))
- 3. In Criminal Jail Appeal No. 38 of 2020, Chhotu vs. State of Uttarakhand. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice G. Narendar (Chief Justice) and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashish Naithani, Date of Judgment- 21.02.2025.** The High Court allowed the Criminal Jail Appeal, setting aside the trial court's judgment dated 27.03.2018, which convicted

Chhotu under Sections 302, 376/511, and 201 of the IPC and Sections 7/8 of the POCSO Act, sentencing him to life imprisonment, and Paigam Rasool under Section 201 IPC with seven years of rigorous imprisonment. The case stemmed from the murder of a seven-year-old girl, with the prosecution relying on circumstantial evidence, primarily a bloodstained shirt allegedly belonging to Chhotu, recovered from Paigam Rasool's garbage shed. The court found the forensic evidence inconclusive, as it failed to link the shirt's blood to either the deceased or Chhotu, and no DNA match was established. The prosecution's claim of attempted sexual assault lacked medical corroboration, and the missing pajama was insufficient evidence. Procedural irregularities included multiple recordings of the accused's statements under Section 313 CrPC without justification, inconsistent witness testimonies, and the trial court's failure to provide a separate sentencing hearing under Section 235(2) CrPC, violating natural justice. For Paigam Rasool, the prosecution failed to prove knowledge or intent to conceal evidence, rendering his conviction under Section 201 IPC unsustainable. The court held that the circumstantial evidence did not form a complete chain pointing unerringly to the appellants' guilt, entitling them to the benefit of doubt. Both appellants were acquitted and ordered to be released unless required in other cases. ([Click to open](#))

- 4. In Criminal Appeal No. 890 of 2023, Rohit @ Kabir vs. State of Uttarakhand. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice G. Narendar (Chief Justice) and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashish Naithani, Date of Judgment- 12.03.2025.** The High Court allowed the Criminal Appeal of the appellant, a paraplegic individual convicted of penetrative sexual assault. The Court found the allegations improbable, as the complainant claimed the appellant, who cannot stand or walk without assistance due to his condition since age five, took her upstairs and committed physical acts like

molestation. The trial court's failure to assess the appellant's visible physical disability, coupled with the absence of a mandatory potency test under Section 53-A of the CrPC, was deemed a gross miscarriage of justice. The court criticized the Investigating Officer, prosecution, and trial court for negligence bordering on inhumane conduct, noting systemic failures in not conducting a potency test and withholding Forensic Science Laboratory reports from medical experts. The court labeled the treatment of the appellant, a specially-abled person, as "extreme cruelty" and ordered his immediate release, directing his custody to his father. Additionally, the court mandated the Uttarakhand Home Department to deposit Rs. 5 lakh in a fixed deposit for the appellant's benefit as initial compensation. Notices were issued to the Investigating Officer and Additional District Government Counsel to show cause against strictures and potential liability for further compensation. The Director of Prosecution, Secretary (Home), and Director General of Police were summoned to address investigative lapses, with the case listed for further hearing on 09.04.2025. ([Click to open](#))

- 5. In Writ Petition (S/B) No. 14 of 2025, Pankaj Kumar Sharma vs. State of Uttarakhand and others. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice G. Narendar (Chief Justice) and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashish Naithani, Date of Judgment- 11.02.2025.** The High Court allowed the Writ Petition quashing the transfer order dated 26.11.2024 that promoted the petitioner to Joint Director and transferred him to the post of In-charge Chief Medical Superintendent at District Hospital, Pauri, a remote area. The petitioner, a Medical Officer with over 60% of his service in remote areas and only three years from retirement, argued that the transfer to a high-altitude location (6000 feet above mean sea level) was unsuitable due to his serious heart condition (dilated cardiomyopathy with two stents implanted post a 2019 heart attack). The court

found that the Permanent Transfer Committee failed to comply with the Uttarakhand Annual Transfer for Public Servants Act, 2017, particularly Section 7(d), which exempts senior employees (aged over 55), those with 10 years of service in remote areas, or those seriously ill with a medical certificate. The petitioner met all three criteria, supported by a Medical Board certificate confirming his coronary artery disease and need to avoid high altitudes. The court held that the transfer order was unsustainable due to the committee's failure to assess the petitioner's eligibility for exemption. The court directed the second respondent to issue a new posting order within 15 days, placing the petitioner in an accessible area with appropriate medical facilities for his condition. No costs were ordered, and the registry was instructed to email the order to the second respondent. ([Click to open](#))

- 6. In Special Appeal No. 533 of 2018, State of Uttarakhand vs. Kunwar Singh Gusain. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pankaj Purohit, Date of Judgment- 11.03.2025.** The High Court allowed the State's intra-court appeal, setting aside the Single Judge's judgment dated 09.03.2018 in WPSS No. 800 of 2009. The respondent, a Group-D Peon in the Forest Department since 1982, was deputed to the Water Shed Management Project, where he was promoted to Junior Clerk. Upon repatriation in 1993, he was required to resume duties as a Peon, which he challenged, claiming discrimination compared to three colleagues (Roop Singh Rawat, R.P. Badoni, Rakesh Upreti) allegedly allowed to retain promotional posts post-repatriation. The Single Judge had ruled in his favor, citing unfair labor practices and directing the State to treat him as a Junior Clerk since 1986 for pensionary benefits. The Division Bench found this factually incorrect, as the three colleagues, originally Class-III employees, resumed similar duties post-repatriation, with no retention of borrowed organization promotions.

Citing *D.M. Bharati vs. L.M. Sud* (1991), the court held that deputation promotions cannot be retained upon repatriation, and the respondent, a Group-D employee, had no right to a higher post. The appeal was allowed, the impugned judgment was quashed, and the respondent was permitted to make a representation for other claims, to be decided within six months. The 91-day delay in filing the appeal was condoned, and pending applications were disposed of. ([Click to open](#))

- 7. In Writ Petition (S/B) No. 309 of 2016, *Tajbir Singh vs. State of Uttarakhand and others*. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pankaj Purohit, Date of Judgment- 10.03.2025.** The High Court dismissed the Writ Petition challenging the Uttarakhand Public Services Tribunal's judgment dated 07.04.2014, which upheld the petitioner's dismissal from service as a driver with the Uttarakhand Transport Corporation (UTC) on 15.05.2008. The petitioner, charged with unauthorized absence from 15.05.2007 to 30.06.2007, argued that the dismissal was disproportionate to the misconduct. The court found that the disciplinary enquiry followed applicable rules, with the petitioner given ample opportunity to defend himself including a charge-sheet, enquiry report, show-cause notice, and a chance for a personal hearing, which he did not utilize. The court, citing *U.P. State Road Transport Corporation vs. Suresh Pal* (2006) and *Regional Manager, U.P. SRTC vs. Hoti Lal* (2003), held that courts cannot interfere with punishment quantum unless it is shockingly disproportionate, which was not the case here. The petitioner's 45-day absence without notice, especially as a driver critical to public transport services, was deemed serious misconduct impacting UTC's operations. The Tribunal's refusal to alter the punishment was upheld as consistent with legal principles, given the petitioner's habitual absenteeism and lack of response during

the enquiry. The writ petition was dismissed, finding no grounds to interfere with the Tribunal's judgment, and pending applications were disposed of. ([Click to open](#))

- 8. In Writ Petition (S/B) No. 442 of 2020, Ajay Prasad Uniyal and others vs. State of Uttarakhand and others along with connected matters. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pankaj Purohit, Date of Judgment- 11.03.2025.** The High Court dismissed the three writ petitions addressing common issues regarding the absorption of government teachers into Sri Dev Suman University's campus college at Pandit Lalit Mohan Sharma Government P.G. College, Rishikesh. The petitioners, teachers at the college when it was declared a university campus in 2019, sought exclusive absorption rights based on their 11.02.2020 options, challenging the State's decision to invite options from all government teachers and subsequent orders dated 19.02.2020 and 20.02.2020. They argued that the State lacked authority to approve absorptions after the college became a university campus. The court rejected this, holding that all government teachers form a homogeneous class, and the State, as their employer, was justified in inviting options from all to ensure fairness, applying a seniority-cum-merit criterion without allegations of bias. The petitioners' claim for preferential absorption due to their posting was deemed unfounded, as they faced no prejudice, continuing as government teachers with unchanged service conditions. The court found the State's approval for absorption valid and necessary, dismissing the petitions for lack of locus standi and merit, with no order as to costs. ([Click to open](#))

- 9. In Appeal from Order No. 35 of 2025, Hoshiyar Singh Negi vs. Garhwal Mandal Vikas Nigam Limited and others. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vivek Bharti Sharma, Date of Judgment-**

06.03.2025. The appellant challenged the rejection of his interim relief application under Section 9 of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, by the Additional District Judge (Commercial Court), Dehradun, on December 23, 2024. The Commercial Court had dismissed the application, citing the appellant's failure to express willingness or specify a timeline for approaching the Arbitral Tribunal, relying on the Supreme Court's judgment in *Firm Ashok Traders vs. Gurumukh Das Saluja* (2004). The High Court, presided over by Justices Manoj Kumar Tiwari and Vivek Bharti Sharma, allowed the appeal, finding the Commercial Court's interpretation flawed. The court noted that *Firm Ashok Traders* permits courts to inquire about the applicant's intent and timeline for arbitration, even if not disclosed, and impose conditions, without mandating denial of relief. Furthermore, post-2015 amendments to Section 9, arbitral proceedings must commence within 90 days of an interim order, clarifying the legal position. The Commercial Court's consideration of factors like prima facie case and balance of convenience was deemed irrelevant, as the rejection was based solely on non-disclosure of intent. The impugned order was set aside, and the case was remitted to the Commercial Court for a fresh decision on. ([Click to open](#))

10. In Appeal from Order No. 271 of 2024, Madhuri Joshi vs. Shashank Balooni.
By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vivek Bharti Sharma, Date of Judgment- 06.03.2025. The appellant-wife challenged the order dated June 11, 2024, by the Additional Family Court Judge, Dehradun, which rejected her application to record evidence via video-conferencing in a matrimonial suit. Residing in San Francisco, USA, and employed as a trainee teller, she cited inability to travel to India due to work constraints. The Family Court, ignoring her circumstances and the High Court of Uttarakhand Video Conferencing Rules, 2020,

directed her to appear in person and fixed an inadequate ₹10,000 for travel expenses. The High Court, presided over by Justices Vivek Bharti Sharma and Manoj Kumar Tiwari, allowed the appeal, setting aside the impugned order for disregarding the 2020 Rules and related circulars (dated January 5, 2023, July 10, 2023, and July 12, 2023), which mandate video-conferencing facilities for judicial proceedings. The court criticized the Family Court's failure to provide reasons and its unrealistic cost assessment. The appellant's application to record evidence via video-conferencing was granted, with the Indian Consulate in San Francisco designated as the coordinator. The court directed circulation of the judgment to all state courts to ensure compliance with the 2020 Rules and its inclusion in judicial training curricula within six months. ([Click to open](#))

11. In Special Appeal No. 346 of 2017, Hem Chandra Joshi vs. State of Uttarakhand and another. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vivek Bharti Sharma, Date of Judgment- 06.03.2025. The appellant challenged the dismissal of his writ petition by a Single Judge on May 17, 2017, which upheld his termination from service dated January 12, 2015. The appellant, employed as a daily-wage Group-D worker with the Nainital Lake Region Special Area Development Authority since 1997, was terminated for unauthorized absence without a regular disciplinary enquiry, only a show-cause notice. The Single Judge held that such an enquiry was unnecessary for a non-regular employee. The Division Bench, comprising Justices Manoj Kumar Tiwari and Vivek Bharti Sharma, allowed the appeal, finding the termination punitive and requiring a proper disciplinary enquiry, as established by Supreme Court precedents like Babu Lal vs. State of Haryana (1991), Jagdish Mitter vs. Union of India (1964), and Chandra Prakash Shahi vs. State of U.P. (2000). These cases affirm that even temporary

employees are entitled to Article 311(2) protections if termination is based on misconduct. The court set aside the Single Judge's judgment and the termination order, directing reinstatement within one week with continuity of service but no back salary. The Development Authority was permitted to initiate a disciplinary enquiry within four weeks, adhering to legal procedures. ([Click to open](#))

12. In Writ Petition (S/B) No. 337 of 2021, State of Uttarakhand and another vs. Suresh Chandra. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vivek Bharti Sharma, Date of Judgment- 05.03.2025. The State challenged the Uttarakhand Public Services Tribunal's judgment dated May 29, 2020, which partially allowed the respondent's claim petition by setting aside the punishment of stoppage of two increments with cumulative effect while affirming a recovery order of ₹3,478.89. The Tribunal had found the increment stoppage excessive, citing mitigating circumstances, but did not deem it shockingly disproportionate to the charges. The High Court, presided over by Justices Manoj Kumar Tiwari and Vivek Bharti Sharma, set aside the Tribunal's judgment, holding it unsustainable. The court, relying on Supreme Court precedents like *State Bank of India vs. K.S. Vishwanath* (2022), *Lucknow Kshetriya Gramin Bank vs. Rajendra Singh* (2013), and *U.P. State Road Transport Corporation vs. Suresh Pal* (2006), emphasized that judicial review of punishment is limited to cases where the penalty is shockingly disproportionate, requiring cogent reasons for interference. The Tribunal's failure to establish this threshold and its substitution of punishment without remitting the matter to the Disciplinary Authority violated established legal principles. The claim petition was restored to the Tribunal for a fresh decision on merits, and pending applications were disposed of. ([Click to open](#))

13. In Special Appeal No. 154 of 2015, Dalbeer Singh Jayara vs. State of Uttarakhand and others. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashish Naithani, Date of Judgment- 25.03.2025. The High Court allowed the Special Appeal on 25 March 2025, setting aside a Single Judge's judgment dated 20.01.2015. The appellant, Dalbeer Singh Jayara, applied for a Lecturer (Mathematics) post under a 2014 Uttarakhand Public Service Commission (UPSC) advertisement for 1214 vacancies, governed by the Uttarakhand Special Subordinate Education (Lecturer's Grade) Service Rules, 2008. Both Jayara and respondent no. 4, Pravesh Lekhwar, scored 54 marks, but Lekhwar was waitlisted based on older age under UPSC's 2012 Procedure Rules. Jayara, holding an NCC "C" certificate (superior to the "B" certificate in Rule 9), claimed preference under Rule 9, which prioritizes candidates with NCC "B"/"C", NSS "C" certificates, or two years of territorial army service. The court ruled that recruitment rules supersede UPSC's procedural rules, entitling Jayara to priority over Lekhwar. The court directed UPSC to redraw the OBC category waiting list and recommend Jayara for appointment as Lecturer (Mathematics), if the vacancy remains available.

[\(Click to open\)](#)

14. In Special Appeal No. 400 of 2015, Garhwal Mandal Vikas Nigam Limited and others vs. Vijay Bhatt and others. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashish Naithani, Date of Judgment- 21.03.2025. The High Court on 21 March 2025 dismissed an intra-court appeal, affirming a Single Judge's judgment dated 02.12.2014. Vijay Bhatt, appointed as Catering In-charge in the tourism cadre of Garhwal Mandal Vikas Nigam in 1994, was assigned clerical duties in the ministerial cadre. A 2010 order wrongly fixed his seniority in the ministerial cadre, leading Bhatt to file Writ Petition (S/S) No. 972 of 2010. The

Single Judge quashed the order, ruling that Bhatt's appointment in the tourism cadre entitled him to seniority within that cadre, regardless of his temporary clerical role. The High Court agreed, stating that compliance with the employer's directive to perform ministerial duties did not change Bhatt's tourism cadre status. The court emphasized that an employee's original cadre rights remain intact despite assigned duties in another cadre. The appeal was disposed of, upholding Bhatt's seniority in the tourism cadre. ([Click to open](#))

15. In Writ Petition (S/B) No. 233 of 2021, Shabnam vs. Uttarakhand Public Service Commission and others. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashish Naithani, Date of Judgment- 17.03.2025. The High Court dismissed a writ petition on 17 March 2025 challenging the rejection of the petitioner's representations for non-selection as a Civil Judge (Junior Division). The petitioner, an OBC candidate, applied under a 2019 advertisement for 15 vacancies (later increased to 28), with 7 reserved for OBC. She scored 426/950 (44.8%) in the selection process, including mains (850 marks) and interview (100 marks). She contended that respondents 3 to 8, selected for OBC vacancies, should have been appointed to unreserved posts for scoring over 45%, per Clause 18(12)(ii) of the advertisement. The Commission, citing the Uttarakhand Judicial Service Rules, 2005 (amended 2011), rejected her claim, noting that respondents 3 to 8 scored below the 50% mains threshold (383–406/850) required for general category interview eligibility, qualifying only due to the 40% OBC relaxation. Referencing Supreme Court precedents, the court held that reserved category candidates availing relaxed standards cannot claim unreserved posts. The Commission's orders were upheld, and the petition was dismissed without costs. ([Click to open](#))

16. In Writ Petition (S/B) No. 269 of 2015, Sanjay Joshi vs. State of Uttarakhand and others. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashish Naithani, Date of Judgment- 19.03.2025. The High Court dismissed a writ petition on 19 March 2025, affirming the Uttarakhand Public Services Tribunal's judgment dated 11 February 2015. The petitioner, Sanjay Joshi, a police officer stationed at Someshwar Police Station, Almora, challenged a censure punishment imposed on 16 March 2012 for negligence during the 2012 assembly elections. He was accused of failing to prevent Girdhari Lal Sahu, a person with a criminal history, from influencing voters, despite enforcing an SDM's Section 144 CrPC order. Joshi's appeal and revision were rejected by higher authorities. The Tribunal, finding evidence of Sahu violating prohibitory orders, declined to re-evaluate evidence, citing its limited judicial review powers. The High Court, referencing *State Bank of India v. Samarendra Kishore Endow* and *State of Orissa v. Bidyabhushan Mohapatra*, held that tribunals cannot re-appreciate evidence or act as appellate authorities unless there is no evidence or procedural violations. With due process followed and some evidence supporting the punishment, the court upheld the Tribunal's decision and dismissed the petition without costs ([Click to open](#))

17. In Writ Petition (S/B) No. 359 of 2014, Mahendra Singh vs. Public Service Tribunal and others. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashish Naithani, Date of Judgment- 18.03.2025. The High Court upheld the dismissal of a police constable for unauthorized absence from duty between March 7, 2007, and May 17, 2007. The petitioner, Mahendra Singh, challenged the dismissal order, appellate order, revisional order, and the Public Service Tribunal's judgment dated August 4, 2014, which dismissed his claim. The court found that the charge sheet issuance by the Deputy Superintendent of Police

was valid under the U.P. Police Officers of Superintendent Ranks (Punishment and Appeal) Rules, 1991, as there was no prohibition against it. The petitioner's claim of not being given a chance to cross-examine witnesses was rejected, as he did not participate in the inquiry despite being served the charge sheet. The court also dismissed the argument that the absence was due to illness, noting the petitioner failed to report or seek medical examination as required. The punishment of dismissal was deemed proportionate, given the expectations of discipline in the police force, and the Tribunal's findings were upheld as compliant with natural justice and applicable rules. The court, however, granted liberty to the petitioner to make a representation under Regulation 353 of the Civil Service Regulations for a compassionate allowance, to be decided by the competent authority within four months. ([Click to open](#))

18. In Writ Petition (S/B) No. 416 of 2017, Ankit Shrikoti vs. State of Uttarakhand.

By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashish Naithani, Date of Judgment- 19.03.2025. The petitioners challenged the selection process for the post of Lecturer (Civil Engineering) in Government Polytechnics, conducted by the Uttarakhand Public Service Commission (UPSC). They argued that women candidates were appointed in excess of the reservation quota, violating the selection procedure outlined in the advertisement dated April 16, 2015. The court, dismissed the writ petition, upholding the selection process. The court relied on the Supreme Court's judgment in Saurav Yadav & Others vs. State of Uttar Pradesh (2021) 4 SCC 542, which clarified that horizontal reservations, such as those for women, allow candidates who excel on merit to be selected in the open category, beyond their reserved quota. In this case, eight of the 24 advertised vacancies were reserved for Uttarakhand women, but women candidates secured

higher marks, justifying their selection in the open category. The petitioners, scoring 57 and 58 marks, could not compete with the last selected woman candidate, who scored 60 marks. The court found no fault in the selection process, as unreserved vacancies are open to all based on merit, and reserved category candidates can migrate to the open category if their merit permits. Thus, the petition was dismissed, affirming the legality of the selection. ([Click to open](#))

19. In Writ Petition (S/B) No. 576 of 2019, Hari Prasad Dobhal and others vs. State of Uttarakhand and another along with connected matters. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashish Naithani, Date of Judgment- 18.03.2025. The High Court addressed challenges to Rules 6, 8, and 9 of the Uttarakhand Technical Education and Skill Development & Employment Department Absorption Rules, 2019. The petitioners, former employees of the wound-up government company HILTRON, were absorbed into the State's Technical Education Department. They contested the rules as arbitrary, claiming denial of past service benefits, seniority, and increments from their HILTRON tenure. The court upheld the rules, finding them legally valid under Article 309 of the Constitution and not violative of fundamental rights. It ruled that petitioners, having voluntarily opted for absorption, could not selectively challenge the rules, which fairly placed them at the bottom of the seniority list while protecting their pay. The court distinguished their reliance on a deputation case (Sub-Inspector Rooplal), as HILTRON's closure left no parent organization for petitioners to return to. While dismissing the challenge, the court directed the State to release retiral/terminal dues for retired or deceased absorbed employees and to review petitioners' claims for Assured Career Progression (ACP) and seniority within six months. ([Click to open](#))

20. In Criminal Appeal No. 293 of 2013, Sonu Kumar vs. State of Uttarakhand. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ravindra Maithani and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Alok Kumar Verma, Date of Judgment- 10.01.2025. The High Court partially allowed the appeals against the judgment dated 27.05.2013, convicting appellants Sonu Kumar, Sudama, and Lokendra alias Laddan under Sections 363 and 364A read with 34 IPC. The case involved the kidnapping of a five-year-old boy, Vishvajeet, on 26.07.2010 by the co-convict Surendra Kumar (the driver) and the appellants, who took him to a hotel in Nainital. The prosecution claimed ransom calls and threats were made, but the court found these unreliable, as neither the informant (PW1 Hemlata Singh) nor the victim (PW2 Vishvajeet) reported such calls or threats to the Investigating Officer (PW8 R.K. Juyal) during the investigation, only raising them in court. Citing Shaik Ahmed vs. State of Telangana (2021), the court held that the prosecution failed to prove the second condition of Section 364A IPC—threats or conduct causing reasonable apprehension of death or hurt—due to lack of corroborative evidence. The conviction under Section 364A IPC was set aside, but the conviction under Section 363 IPC (kidnapping) was upheld, as the prosecution proved the appellants kidnapped the victim and held him in Nainital until his recovery on 27.07.2010. The appellants, having served over five years, were ordered released forthwith if not needed in other cases, with the sentence of five years' rigorous imprisonment and a Rs.1,000 fine each upheld. The judgment was modified accordingly, and the lower court was directed to comply. ([Click to open](#))

SINGLE BENCH JUDGMENTS

- 1. *In Writ Petition (M/S) No. 513 of 2025, Shri Ram Nawal vs. Thakur Ram Chandra Ji Maharaj. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari, Date of Judgment- 21.03.2025.*** The petitioner, a judgment debtor, contested the impleadment of Mr. Gaurav Kumar Agarwal as the new Chairman of Thakur Ramchandra Ji Maharaj Trust, the decree holder, in Civil Execution Case No. 2 of 2019, following the death of the previous Chairman, Mr. Gopal Dass, on April 27, 2021. The trust had won an ejectment suit against the petitioner for trespassing on its property, with the decree finalized on November 16, 2013. The petitioner argued that Mr. Agarwal's election as Chairman was invalid, but the executing court allowed his impleadment, a decision upheld by the revisional court. The High Court, citing the Supreme Court's ruling in *Dashrath Rao Kate v. Brij Mohan Srivastava* (2010) 1 SCC 277, held that the impleadment did not create personal rights for Mr. Agarwal, as possession would revert to the trust, not an individual. The court further noted that disputes over the Chairman's validity must be resolved in separate proceedings, not execution, and an inquiry under Order 22 Rule 5 CPC is summary and not subject to res-judicata. Thus, finding no grounds to interfere, the writ petition was dismissed without costs. ([Click to open](#)).
- 2. *In First Bail Application No. 1760 of 2024, Banmeet Singh vs. Directorate of Enforcement. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ravindra Maithani, Date of Judgment- 07.01.2025.*** The First Bail Application was decided on January 7, 2025, by the High Court, Banmeet Singh, accused of money laundering under Sections 3 and 4 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002, sought bail. The Enforcement Directorate (ED) alleged that Singh and his brother Parvinder operated the Singh DTO, trafficking drugs via dark web markets and laundering proceeds through

cryptocurrency, with 4250 Bitcoins (BTC) reportedly transferred to Parvinder Singh, previously convicted in the US for drug trafficking and money laundering, entered a plea agreement, surrendered 3838 BTC, and was released in April 2024. The ED claimed foreign remittances to Singh's and his family's Indian accounts from 2012–2017 were proceeds of crime, lacking legitimate income sources. Singh argued double jeopardy, citing his US conviction, and claimed his statement under Section 50 of the Act was coerced and lacked corroboration. The court, referencing *Vijay Madanlal Choudhary* (2022 SCC OnLine SC 929), held that bail required assessing the case's genuineness, not a mini-trial. Noting the US conviction did not cover transferring proceeds to India and the presumption under Section 23 of the Act, the court found sufficient grounds to deny bail, rejecting the application without concluding on the merits, to be examined during trial. ([Click to open](#)).

- 3. In First Bail Application No. 2560 of 2023, Sultan Khan vs. State of Uttarakhand. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ravindra Maithani, Date of Judgment-10.01.2025.** The applicant, in judicial custody since September 22, 2023, for possessing 1.024 kg of smack under Section 8/21 of the NDPS Act, sought default bail. The court, presided over by Justice Ravindra Maithani, granted the bail, finding that the charge-sheet was filed on March 20, 2024, the 181st day after remand, beyond the 180-day limit under Section 167 CrPC, as clarified by the Supreme Court in *Enforcement Directorate vs. Kapil Wadhawan* (2024). The applicant had filed a default bail application on March 20, 2024, before the charge-sheet was submitted. The trial court had erroneously rejected the bail, considering March 20 as the 180th day. Conflicting claims arose regarding the timing of the bail application and charge-sheet filing, with the court's report suggesting the charge-sheet was filed at 12:05 PM and the bail application at 12:45 PM. However, the Case Information

System (CIS) showed the bail application (Serial No. 1064) was filed before the charge-sheet (Serial No. 1072). In the absence of precise timing records, the court accepted the CIS evidence, concluding the charge-sheet was filed after the bail application, entitling the applicant to default bail. The applicant was ordered released on furnishing a personal bond and two reliable sureties. ([Click to open](#)).

- 4. In First Bail Application No. 1263 of 2023, Arjun vs. State of Uttarakhand. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ravindra Maithani, Date of Judgment- 11.02.2025.** The applicant, in judicial custody since March 11, 2023, for possessing a commercial quantity of narcotic substances under Sections 8/22 of the NDPS Act, sought default bail. The court, presided over by Justice Ravindra Maithani, granted the bail, finding that the prosecution failed to file the charge-sheet within the mandatory 180-day period under Section 36-A(4) of the NDPS Act, which expired on September 6, 2023. On that date, the Investigating Officer sought a 14-day extension of judicial custody, not a proper extension of the investigation period, which requires a Public Prosecutor's report under the proviso to Section 36-A(4). The court, citing Supreme Court rulings in Sanjay Kumar Kadia vs. Intelligence Officer (2009) and Jigar alias Jimmy Pravinchandra Adatiya vs. State of Gujarat (2023), held that the custody extension was legally invalid, as it lacked the necessary prosecutorial application and justification. The applicant filed a default bail application on September 21, 2023, before the charge-sheet was submitted on February 9, 2024. As the 180-day period was not lawfully extended and the charge-sheet was filed post the bail application, the applicant was entitled to default bail. The court ordered his release on furnishing a personal bond and two reliable sureties. ([Click to open](#)).

- 5. In Criminal Misc. Application (C528) No. 80 of 2025, Suresh Sharma vs. State of Uttarakhand and another. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ravindra Maithani, Date of Judgment- 13.02.2025.** The petitioner challenged an order dated January 28, 2025, by the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Gopeshwar, rejecting his application under Section 207 of the CrPC for copies of certain documents in a trial under Section 302 IPC, pending since 1999. The petitioner, declared an absconder in 2021 and arrested in 2025, sought documents including a police wireless message, details of criminal cases against the deceased, and security proceedings under Section 107 CrPC, which were not part of the police record. The trial court dismissed the application, stating these documents were not collected during the investigation. The High Court, presided over by Justice Ravindra Maithani, upheld the trial court's decision, holding that Section 207 CrPC mandates providing only documents collected by the Investigating Officer, as per Supreme Court precedents like Criminal Trials Guidelines (2021) and Suresh Pal (2006). The court noted that while an accused may request additional documents during trial to ensure a fair trial, such requests cannot be made under Section 207 at this stage. The petition was dismissed in limine, finding no reason to interfere with the trial court's order. ([Click to open.](#))
- 6. In Criminal Revision No. 18 of 2025, Uday Raj Singh vs. State of Uttarakhand and another. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ravindra Maithani, Date of Judgment- 10.01.2025.** The revisionist challenged an order dated October 25, 2024, by the I District and Sessions Judge, Udham Singh Nagar, dismissing his application under Section 391 CrPC to admit an expert report on the signature and handwriting of a cheque in an appeal against his conviction under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881. The revisionist, convicted in Criminal Case No. 1370 of 2017, had previously denied his signature on the cheque but later expressed

uncertainty during trial. His earlier application to have the cheque examined by an expert was rejected by the trial court on June 6, 2022, and upheld by higher courts, including the High Court in Criminal Misc. Application No. 1132 of 2023, dismissed on June 13, 2023, for being a dilatory tactic. The High Court, presided over by Justice Ravindra Maithani, dismissed the revision in limine, holding that the appellate court rightly rejected the application. The court noted that the revisionist was attempting to indirectly introduce an expert opinion previously denied, and the prior rejection had attained finality. The impugned order was upheld, finding no grounds for interference under the case's facts and circumstances. ([Click to open.](#))

- 7. In Writ Petition (S/S) No. 446 of 2020, Lalit Chandra Tiwari and others vs. State of Uttarakhand and others. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ravindra Maithani, Date of Judgment- 12.02.2025.** The petitioners, primarily daily-wage employees of the Uttarakhand Forest Development Corporation regularized on December 23, 2002, challenged orders refixing their Assured Career Progression (ACP) benefits and reducing their salaries based on a special audit. The audit, prompted by the Corporation, claimed ACP benefits were wrongly granted from September 19, 1991 (date of an Allahabad High Court judgment in a prior case), instead of the regularization date, and that incorrect grade pay was applied. The court held that the petitioners were entitled to ACP benefits from September 19, 1991, as per the Allahabad High Court's orders in 1991 and 1994, which mandated increments and other benefits for daily wagers. The court also upheld the grade pay granted, citing a prior decision (WP (S/S) No. 2679 of 2015) confirming the merger of Assistant and Deputy Logging Officer posts in 2001. The impugned orders dated February 5, 2019, February 14, 2019, May 27, 2019, and related recovery notices were quashed, as the petitioners' benefits were lawfully granted, and no fraud or misrepresentation

was involved. The court directed restoration of full salaries, payment of arrears within three months, and barred recoveries, aligning with precedents like *State of Punjab v. Rafiq Masih* (2015) 4 SCC 334. Retiral dues for deceased or retired petitioners were also ordered to be paid within three months. ([Click to open](#)).

- 8. In Civil Revision No. 72 of 2022, Aminder Singh Bal vs. Ms. Amena Bal and others. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Alok Kumar Verma, Date of Judgment-06.01.2025.** A Civil Revision filed under Section 115 of the CPC, set aside the order dated July 7, 2022, passed by the Senior Civil Judge, Nainital, which dismissed the revisionist-defendant's application under Order VII Rule 11(d) CPC in Original Suit No. 89 of 2021. The suit, filed by respondent-plaintiff Ms. Amena Bal, sought partition, accounts, and an injunction regarding a property (Taradale Cottage) used as a commercial resort, despite being recorded as agricultural land. The revisionist argued that the suit was barred under Section 331 of the Uttar Pradesh Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1950, as the land was agricultural and not declared non-agricultural under Section 143. The trial court had held it had jurisdiction, claiming the land was not used for agriculture. The High Court found that the plaint did not clarify whether the appurtenant land was used commercially, and under Section 331A, the trial court could not determine the land's nature without referring the issue to the Assistant Collector. The revision was allowed, directing the trial court to frame an issue on whether the land is used for agricultural purposes and refer it to the Assistant Collector for decision, with no order on costs. ([Click to open](#)).

- 9. In Second Bail Application No. 05 of 2025, Jagjeet Singh alias Jagga vs. State of Uttarakhand. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rakesh Thapliyal, Date of Judgment-**

07.03.2025. The Court allowed the second bail application of Jagjeet Singh alias Jagga on March 7, 2025, in connection with FIR No. 160 of 2022, related to a case at P.S. Gadarpur, District Udham Singh Nagar. The first bail application was rejected on October 13, 2023, and a subsequent Special Leave Petition was dismissed by the Supreme Court on February 21, 2024. The second bail was granted based on fresh grounds, primarily the declaration of two eyewitnesses (PW2 and PW3) as hostile by the Trial Court on March 19, 2024, after the first bail rejection, which was deemed a substantial change in circumstances. The court also noted inconsistencies in the prosecution's case, such as the Investigating Officer's failure to collect blood-stained clothes from PW1 and doubts about the authenticity of a dying declaration recorded by PW4. Despite objections from the State and complainant, who argued no new circumstances existed, the court found the hostile witnesses and ongoing trial delays justified bail. Jagjeet Singh was released on bail with stringent conditions, including surrendering his passport, weekly police reporting, and not influencing witnesses, with the trial to be expedited within six months. ([Click to open](#)).

10. In Criminal Misc. Application (C482) No. 313 of 2024, Prem Rathor vs. State of Uttarakhand and another. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pankaj Purohit, Date of Judgment- 07.03.2025. The Court in a Criminal Misc. Application under Section 482 Cr.P.C., allowed Prem Rathor's challenge to orders dated 13.04.2023 by the IInd Judicial Magistrate, Haldwani, and 19.12.2023 by the Ist Additional District & Sessions Judge, Haldwani, in a case under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881. The applicant alleged manipulation in the cheque's amount and signatures and sought forensic examination, which both lower courts rejected. The High Court ruled that denying this request was a miscarriage of justice, as the

accused has a legal right to adduce evidence to rebut presumptions under the Act, citing T. Nagappa Vs. Y.R. Muralidhar (2008) 5 SCC 633. The Court set aside both orders, directing the trial court to send the cheque to a Forensic Scientific Laboratory to verify the digits and signatures and to expedite the trial upon receiving the report. ([Click to open](#)).

11. In Criminal Misc. Application (C482) No. 389 of 2022, Satnam Kaur vs. State of Uttarakhand and another. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pankaj Purohit, Date of Judgment- 06.01.2025. The Court in a Criminal Misc. Application under Section 482 Cr.P.C., allowed the applicant Satnam Kaur's challenge to a charge sheet dated 26.09.2019 and summoning order dated 10.01.2020 issued by the Ist Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate, Dehradun, in Criminal Case No. 462 of 2020 under Section 427 of IPC. The case stemmed from a non-cognizable (NC) offence reported at Patel Nagar Police Station, Dehradun, investigated after court orders under Section 155(2) Cr.P.C. The applicant argued that the police report, treated as a state case, should have been deemed a complaint per the Explanation to Section 2(d) of Cr.P.C., which states that a police report disclosing an NC offence is a complaint, with the police officer as the complainant. The High Court agreed, finding that the Magistrate erred in taking cognizance of the charge sheet as a state case. The summoning order was quashed, and the Magistrate was directed to treat the charge sheet as a complaint and proceed under Chapter XV of Cr.P.C. The C482 application was allowed to correct this procedural error. ([Click to open](#)).

12. In Criminal Misc. Application (C482) No. 461 of 2022, Nikhilesh Gharami vs. State of Uttarakhand and another. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pankaj Purohit, Date of Judgment- 06.01.2025. The Court in a Criminal Misc. Application under Section

482 Cr.P.C., allowed Nikhilesh Gharami's challenge to a charge sheet dated 22.07.2021 and summoning order dated 01.09.2021 issued by the Judicial Magistrate, Sitarganj, Udham Singh Nagar, in Criminal Case No. 1284 of 2021 under Section 323 of IPC. The case originated from a non-cognizable (NC) offence reported at Khatima Police Station, investigated after court orders under Section 155(2) Cr.P.C. The applicant argued that the police report, treated as a state case, should have been deemed a complaint under the Explanation to Section 2(d) of Cr.P.C., which specifies that a police report disclosing an NC offence is a complaint, with the police officer as the complainant. The High Court found that the Magistrate erred in taking cognizance of the charge sheet as a state case. The summoning order was quashed, and the Magistrate was directed to treat the charge sheet as a complaint and proceed under Chapter XV of Cr.P.C. The C482 application was allowed to rectify this procedural error. ([Click to open](#)).

13. In Criminal Misc. Application (C482) No. 468 of 2022, Preeti Keshwani vs. State of Uttarakhand and another. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pankaj Purohit, Date of Judgment- 26.03.2025. The Court in a Criminal Misc. Application under Section 482 Cr.P.C., allowed Preeti Keshwani's challenge to an order dated 23.03.2022 passed by the 1st Additional Sessions Judge, Haridwar, in Criminal Revision No. 549 of 2019. The case arose from a complaint under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, for a dishonoured cheque of Rs. 2.5 lakhs, filed as Complaint No. 146 of 2017. The Judicial Magistrate, Haridwar, closed the complainant's evidence due to non-appearance and rejected an application under Section 311 Cr.P.C. to recall this order on 23.08.2019. The complainant's revision was allowed by the Sessions Judge, but the applicant argued that the Magistrate's order was interlocutory, rendering the revision non-maintainable under Section 397(2) Cr.P.C.

The High Court, citing the Supreme Court's ruling in *Sethuraman vs. Rajamanickam* (2009) 5 SCC 153, confirmed that the order rejecting the Section 311 application was interlocutory and not subject to revision. The revisional order of 23.03.2022 was quashed, with liberty granted to the complainant to challenge the Magistrate's order through an appropriate forum. The C482 application was allowed, and other pending applications were disposed of. ([Click to open](#)).

14. In Criminal Misc. Application (C482) No. 478 of 2022, Yogesh Keshwani vs. State of Uttarakhand and another. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pankaj Purohit, Date of Judgment- 26.03.2025. The Court in a Criminal Misc. Application under Section 482 Cr.P.C., allowed Yogesh Keshwani's challenge to an order dated 23.03.2022 passed by the 1st Additional Sessions Judge, Haridwar, in Criminal Revision No. 548 of 2019. The case involved a complaint under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, for a dishonoured cheque of Rs. 2.5 lakhs. The Judicial Magistrate, Haridwar, had closed the complainant's evidence due to non-appearance and rejected an application under Section 311 Cr.P.C. to recall this order. The complainant's revision was allowed by the Sessions Judge, but the applicant argued that the Magistrate's order was interlocutory, making the revision non-maintainable under Section 397(2) Cr.P.C. The High Court, relying on the Supreme Court's ruling in *Sethuraman vs. Rajamanickam* (2009) 5 SCC 153, agreed that the order rejecting the Section 311 application was interlocutory and not subject to revision. Consequently, the revisional order of 23.03.2022 was quashed. The Court granted liberty to the complainant to challenge the Magistrate's order through an appropriate forum, allowing the C482 application and disposing of other pending applications. ([Click to open](#)).

15. In Criminal Misc. Application (C482) No. 496 of 2023, Pyramid Finmart Pvt. Ltd. and others vs. Prashant Gahlot. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pankaj Purohit, Date of Judgment- 28.02.2025. The Court in a Criminal Misc. Application under Section 482 Cr.P.C., dismissed the challenge by Pyramid Finmart Pvt Ltd and others against a summoning order dated 20.04.2017 and proceedings in Complaint Case No. 1652 of 2017 under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, initiated by Prashant Gahlot. The case involved a cheque for Rs. 5,32,998, dishonoured on 18.02.2017 due to a differing signature. The applicants admitted issuing the cheque but claimed a part-payment of Rs. 40,000 via NEFT, arguing the complainant failed to endorse this on the cheque and should have returned it for a fresh cheque after adjustment, per Section 56 of the Act. The complainant denied any part-payment toward the cheque, stating the Rs. 40,000 was for a separate obligation under a 2013 MOU. The High Court found that the dispute over whether the part-payment applied to the cheque constituted a factual question requiring trial court evidence, which could not be resolved under Section 482 Cr.P.C. jurisdiction. Citing the inapplicability of the applicants' relied-upon case law (Dashrathbhai Trikambhai Patel, 2022), the Court dismissed the C482 application, vacated any interim order, and allowed the trial to proceed, disposing of any pending applications. ([Click to open](#)).

16. In Criminal Misc. Application (C482) No. 643 of 2023 Reshma Bee vs. State of Uttarakhand. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pankaj Purohit, Date of Judgment- 28.02.2025. The Court in a Criminal Misc. Application under Section 482 Cr.P.C., allowed Reshma Bee's challenge to an order dated 22.11.2022 by the Special Judge (NDPS), which rejected her application for the release of her motorcycle (UK06-BC-2836) seized in an NDPS case. The vehicle was intercepted on 22.09.2022,

carrying contraband substances, leading to an FIR under Sections 8/21/29/60 of the NDPS Act, 1985, against the applicant's son, Tahseem, with the motorcycle seized at Sitarganj Police Station. The applicant, the registered owner, claimed her son used the vehicle without her knowledge and sought its release, citing deterioration due to exposure. The Special Judge rejected the release, citing the vehicle's use in the offence and liability for confiscation under Section 60 of the NDPS Act. The High Court, relying on the Supreme Court's rulings in *Sunderbhai Ambalal Desai* (2002) and *Bishwajit Dey* (2025), held that Sections 451 and 457 Cr.P.C. permit interim release of seized vehicles pending trial, as there is no specific bar under the NDPS Act. The impugned order was set aside, and the vehicle was ordered released to the applicant upon executing a personal bond and two sureties, with an undertaking not to alter ownership and to produce the vehicle as directed. The C482 application was allowed. ([Click to open](#)).

17. In Criminal Misc. Application (C482) No. 720 of 2018, Yogeshpal vs. State of Uttarakhand and another. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pankaj Purohit, Date of Judgment- 04.03.2025. The Court in a Criminal Misc. Application under Section 482 Cr.P.C., partly allowed Yogeshpal's challenge to the charge-sheet dated 11.04.2017, summoning order dated 29.01.2018, and proceedings in Special Sessions Trial No. 04 of 2018 under Section 504 IPC and Section 3(1)(d) of the SC/ST Act, pending before the Special Judge, Haridwar. The case stemmed from an FIR lodged by respondent no. 2 on 16.02.2017, alleging that the applicant, with others, entered the complainant's house, abused his wife with caste-based remarks, and assaulted her. The applicant argued that the FIR did not establish the complainant's scheduled caste status, noted an eight-day delay in filing, and contended that the incident, occurring inside a private house, did not meet the

“public view” requirement for Section 3(1)(d) of the SC/ST Act. Citing the Supreme Court’s ruling in *Karuppudayar vs. State* (2025), the High Court agreed that the incident inside the house was not in a “public place” or “within public view,” quashing the proceedings under the SC/ST Act. However, it found prima facie evidence for Section 504 IPC (intentional insult), allowing those proceedings to continue. The C482 application was partly allowed, and the court below was directed to proceed with the Section 504 IPC trial as per law, with a copy of the order sent for compliance. [\(Click to open\)](#).

18. In Criminal Misc. Application (C482) No. 917 of 2023, Ayodhya Prasad vs. State of Uttarakhand. By Hon’ble Mr. Justice Pankaj Purohit, Date of Judgment- 28.02.2025. The Court in a Criminal Misc. Application under Section 482 Cr.P.C., allowed Ayodhya Prasad’s challenge to an order dated 21.01.2023 by the Special Judge (NDPS), which rejected his application for the release of his motorcycle (UK06-AR-1292) seized in connection with an NDPS case. The vehicle was intercepted on 14.07.2022, carrying contraband substances, leading to an FIR under Sections 8/22/29 of the NDPS Act, 1985, and a charge-sheet against the applicant and others. The applicant, the registered owner, claimed the vehicle was used by an acquaintance, Sandeep, without his knowledge and sought its release, citing deterioration due to prolonged exposure at the police station. The Special Judge rejected the release, citing the vehicle’s liability for confiscation under Section 60 of the NDPS Act. The High Court, relying on the Supreme Court’s rulings in *Sunderbhai Ambalal Desai* (2002) and *Bishwajit Dey* (2025), held that Sections 451 and 457 Cr.P.C. allow interim release of seized vehicles pending trial, as there is no specific bar under the NDPS Act. The impugned order was set aside, and the vehicle was ordered to be released to the applicant upon executing a

personal bond and two sureties, with an undertaking not to alter ownership and to produce the vehicle as directed by the court. The C482 application was allowed. [\(Click to open\)](#).

19. In Criminal Misc. Application (C482) No. 1745 of 2023, Sampurna Lal vs. State of Uttarakhand. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pankaj Purohit, Date of Judgment- 20.03.2025. The Court in a Criminal Misc. Application under Section 482 Cr.P.C., dismissed Sampurna Lal's challenge to the proceedings in Criminal Case No. 446 of 2023, involving charges under Sections 376 and 506 IPC, pending before the Judicial Magistrate, Srinagar, Pauri-Garhwal. The case arose from an FIR lodged by respondent no. 2, alleging that the applicant, after their engagement on 05.06.2022, established physical relations with her on 25-26 June 2022 but later refused to marry her despite assurances given to the Women Police Station. The applicant denied the allegations, claiming the FIR was malicious and consensual relations, but the Court found that a false promise of marriage vitiated the victim's consent, negating the applicant's defense. The Court noted that the applicant's repeated assurances and subsequent refusals to marry, even during failed mediation attempts, indicated mala fide intent. Citing the need for a thorough trial to assess evidence, the Court refused to quash the charge-sheet and summoning order dated 07.12.2023, as the veracity of the allegations required examination through prosecution and defense evidence. The C482 application was dismissed, the interim order vacated, and the trial court was directed to proceed expeditiously, with the judgment sent for compliance. [\(Click to open\)](#).

20. In Criminal Misc. Application (C528) No. 270 of 2024, Siddhartha Mohan Singhal vs. State of Uttarakhand and another. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pankaj

Purohit, Date of Judgment- 11.02.2025. The Court in a Criminal Misc. Application under Section 528 of the B.N.S.S. Act 2023, allowed Siddharth Mohan Singhal's challenge to the proceedings in Criminal Case No. 1377 of 2023, including the charge-sheet and summoning order dated 07.12.2023 issued by the Judicial Magistrate, Jaspur, Udham Singh Nagar, under Section 504 IPC. The case stemmed from a Non-Cognizable Report (NCR) filed by respondent Rahul Chauhan on 15.02.2022, alleging that the applicant and others threatened him during election campaigning on 13.02.2022, breaching peace. After investigation, a charge-sheet was submitted, but the applicant argued that, per the Explanation to Section 2(d) of the Cr.P.C., a police report for a non-cognizable offence should be treated as a complaint, with the police officer as the complainant, not a state case. The High Court agreed, finding that the Magistrate erred in taking cognizance of the charge-sheet as a state case. The summoning order was quashed, and the Magistrate was directed to treat the charge-sheet as a complaint and proceed under Chapter XV of the Cr.P.C. The C528 application was allowed, and any pending applications were disposed of. ([Click to open](#)).

21. In Criminal Appeal No. 531 of 2013, Smt. Bhawna Bisht vs. Tara Singh Bisht and another. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pankaj Purohit, Date of Judgment- 26.03.2025. The Court in Criminal Appeal No. 531 of 2013, dismissed Smt. Bhawna Bisht's challenge to the acquittal of respondents Tara Singh Bisht and another by the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Almora, on 30.09.2013, in a case under Sections 406 and 120-B IPC. The appellant, the first wife of the deceased Om Prakash Bisht, alleged that her streedhan (10 tola gold and other properties) was entrusted to her in-laws and not returned after her husband's death. The trial court acquitted the respondents, finding no evidence of entrustment or misappropriation. The High Court, relying on

the Supreme Court's rulings in Onkar Nath Mishra vs. State (2007) and Ghurey Lal vs. State of U.P. (2008), upheld the acquittal, noting that the essential ingredients of Section 406 IPC (criminal breach of trust) were not met, as there was no proof of entrustment or misappropriation by the respondents. The Court emphasized that appellate courts should be cautious in reversing acquittals unless there is patent perversity or compelling evidence, which was absent here. The trial court's judgment was found well-reasoned, with no illegality or perversity, leading to the dismissal of the appeal. The trial court record was ordered to be returned for consignment. [\(Click to open\)](#).

22. In Writ Petition Criminal No. 1308 of 2024, Sohan Singh vs. State of Uttarakhand and others. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pankaj Purohit, Date of Judgment- 11.03.2025. The Court in a Writ Petition Criminal dismissed Sohan Singh's challenge to orders dated 20.07.2024 by the Prescribed Authority/Divisional Forest Officer, Ramnagar, and 11.11.2024 by the Appellate Authority/Conservator of Forest, Haldwani, which confiscated his vehicle (Mini Tempo/Truck, UK 18 CA 0698) under Section 52-A of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 (Uttarakhand Amendment). The vehicle was seized on 08.03.2024 for illegally transporting forest wood, leading to a Forest Offence Case. The petitioner, who admitted to driving the vehicle and carrying wood, sought its release but failed to provide a defense under Section 52-A(5) that the vehicle was used without his knowledge or connivance. The Court found that the authorities followed due process, including issuing notice and adhering to confiscation procedures under Sections 52 and 52-A. After the appeal's dismissal, the vehicle vested with the State Government under Section 60(2), stripping the petitioner of ownership. The Court upheld both impugned

orders, finding no basis for interference, dismissed the writ petition, and allowed the State to deal with the confiscated vehicle as per law. ([Click to open](#)).

23. In Anticipatory Bail Application No. 1257 of 2024, Jogendra vs. State of Uttarakhand. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vivek Bharti Sharma, Date of Judgment- 22.01.2025. Jogendra sought anticipatory bail linked to FIR No. 0802 of 2024 under the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (B.N.S.S.), registered at Police Station Manglaur, Haridwar. The State argued that the applicant should have first approached the Court of Session, which has concurrent jurisdiction with the High Court under Section 482 of the B.N.S.S., noting a related issue is under Supreme Court review. The applicant's counsel asserted that prior recourse to the Session Court is not required. The court acknowledged concurrent jurisdiction but held that direct High Court applications require exceptional circumstances, citing precedents from multiple High Courts. It noted that anticipatory bail became available in Uttarakhand in 2020 via a notification extending Section 438 of the Cr.P.C. The court, citing Uttarakhand's geographical challenges and the risk of overburdening the High Court, found no exceptional circumstances and permitted the applicant to withdraw the application with liberty to approach the Court of Session. ([Click to open](#)).

24. In Appeal from Order No. 134 of 2024, M/s V Marc India Limited vs. Jaan Illahi and another. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vivek Bharti Sharma, Date of Judgment- 25.03.2025. M/s V Marc India Limited appealed against a February 1, 2024, order by the Civil Judge (Senior Division), Roorkee, in Original Suit No. 171 of 2023, granting a status quo injunction under Order 39 Rules 1 and 2 CPC to Jaan Illahi. He sought cancellation of a registered sale deed dated August 1, 2022,

executed in favor of defendant no. 1 (Pravez), alleging fraud due to his mental instability. Defendant no. 1 sold the property to the appellant (defendant no. 2) on July 26, 2023, for an industrial unit, with permission granted on July 24, 2023. The appellant, a bona fide purchaser via bank transactions, argued the trial court ignored its construction and industrial purpose. Jaan Illahi conceded the sale deed bore his signatures but alleged mental instability without detailing fraud. The court found no prima facie case, as mental instability alone cannot justify canceling a registered document. The balance of convenience favored the appellant, as the status quo caused irreparable loss to its industrial plans and public economic interests. The appeal was allowed, the impugned order set aside, the injunction rejected, and the trial court directed to expedite the suit. [\(Click to open\)](#).

25. In C-528 No. 45 of 2025, Ishwar Singh vs. State of Uttarakhand and another.

By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vivek Bharti Sharma, Date of Judgment- 17.03.2025. The High Court dismissed a petition under Section 528 of the Bhartiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita (B.N.S.S.) filed by Ishwar Singh, seeking to quash orders dated 19.01.2024 and 21.10.2024 by the Civil Judge (J.D.) and Additional Sessions Judge, Vikasnagar, Dehradun, respectively. These orders rejected the petitioner's application to summon a Handwriting Expert to examine a cheque in Complaint Case No. 20 of 2017, related to a cheque allegedly issued in 2016 but from a 2011 chequebook, raising doubts about its authenticity. The trial court dismissed the application, noting the petitioner failed to raise issues of handwriting or interpolation in his statements under Sections 251 or 313 Cr.P.C. or cross-examination, and provided no specific purpose for the expert examination. The Revisional Court upheld this, emphasizing the petitioner's failure to prove any correction or interpolation in the cheque. The High Court found the application

cursory and frivolous, aimed at delaying the trial, and deemed it an abuse of the judicial process. Citing Supreme Court rulings against frivolous litigation, the court dismissed the petition in limine with an exemplary cost of Rs. 20,000, to be paid to the complainant before the trial court on 27.03.2025. The petitioner was directed to appear in court on that date, and the judgment was ordered to be circulated to all district judiciary courts via email to deter such litigation. ([Click to open](#)).

26. In Civil Revision No. 53 of 2023, Mohd. Khalid vs. Suresh Chandra. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vivek Bharti Sharma, Date of Judgment- 07.01.2025. The High Court dismissed the Civil Revision challenging the Small Causes Court's judgment dated 04.08.2022 in SCC Case No. 11 of 2019 and order dated 25.03.2023 in Misc. SCC Case No. 06 of 2022. The 2022 judgment ordered the revisionist/tenant, Mohd. Khalid, to vacate the tenanted premises, pay Rs. 37,613 in rent arrears with 3.5% interest, and Rs. 800 monthly damages from 18.05.2019 for non-payment of rent. The 2023 order rejected the tenant's application under Order 9 Rule 13 CPC to set aside the 2022 judgment, citing it was not ex-parte, as the tenant had full opportunity to defend but failed to do so. The High Court found the revision against the 2022 judgment time-barred, filed on 11.04.2023, beyond the limitation period without a condonation application. The tenant's non-compliance with Section 17 of the Provincial Small Cause Courts Act, 1887, by not depositing the decretal amount with the Order 9 Rule 13 application, rendered it incompetent, as per *Kedarnath vs. Mohan Lal Kesarwari* (2002). The court deemed the revision frivolous, aimed at delaying eviction, and noted a third-party application claiming purchase of the premises as an attempt to obstruct proceedings. The revision was dismissed with Rs. 20,000 exemplary costs to be deposited with the High Court Legal Services Committee within 15 days, recoverable as land revenue if unpaid.

The tenant was ordered to vacate by 15.01.2025, pay Rs. 5,000 monthly damages from 04.09.2022 until handover, and Rs. 10,000 monthly thereafter if non-compliant ([Click to open](#)).

27. In Second Appeal No. 169 of 2024, Vipin Kumar Mehrotra vs. Arun Kumar Mehrotra. By Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vivek Bharti Sharma, Date of Judgment-12.02.2025. The High Court dismissed the Second Appeal filed against the judgment and decree dated 22.11.2016 by the Additional District Judge, Ramnagar, which upheld the trial court's decision dated 31.05.2014 in Original Suit No. 02 of 2010. The appeal, filed on 27.12.2024, was accompanied by a delay condonation application (IA No.01/2024) due to a 2868-day delay. The appellant cited his father's 2005 death, a 2004 Will distributing property among siblings, and failed attempts at amicable settlement with the respondent (his brother) as reasons for the delay. The court, referencing Supreme Court precedents like Esha Bhattacharjee (2013), Brijesh Kumar (2014), and Pathapati Subba Reddy (2024), emphasized that condoning delay requires genuine, sufficient cause and cannot be routine, especially for inordinate delays marked by negligence or lack of diligence. The court found the appellant's explanation—seeking settlement after litigation concluded—fanciful and concocted, lacking cogent reasoning. Noting the appellant's awareness of the judgments and absence of bona fides, the court refused to condone the delay to avoid exposing the respondent to unnecessary litigation. Consequently, the delay condonation application was dismissed, and the second appeal was rejected as time-barred, with no relief granted to the appellant. ([Click to open](#)).



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