

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, PRINCIPAL BENCH
NEW DELHI

OA NO 1122/2024

IN THE MATTER OF:

News Item titled "Dehradun: Uttarakhand ke 104 square kilometre jungle par kabza saikaro ped kate van vibhag kee bhumika sawalo mei" appearing in Amar Ujala dated 22.08.2024

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Date: 02.09.2025



Adv Anjali Rajput

Counsel for state of Uttarakhand

कार्यालय: प्रमुख वन संरक्षक, वन पंचायत, उत्तराखण्ड।

85, राजपुर रोड, देहरादून 248001, फोन नं 0135-2740926, Email: pccfv-forest-uk@nic.in

पत्रांक-J/194906/29-3(3) देहरादून, दिनांक 24.07.2025।

सेवा में

प्रमुख वन संरक्षक, पर्यावरण
उत्तराखण्ड, देहरादून।

विषय-

माननीय राष्ट्रीय हरित अधिकरण में योजित वाद संख्या 1122/2024 News Item tilted
देहरादून: उत्तराखण्ड के 104 वर्ग किलोमीटर जंगल पर कब्जा.....सैकड़ों पेड़ काटे, वन
विभाग की भूमिका सवालों में appearing in Amar Ujala dated 22-08-2024 के सम्बन्ध
में।

सन्दर्भ-

आपके कार्यालय की पत्र संख्या-पर्या-16-101/3/2025-APCCFENV- FOREST DEPT
I/190210/2025

महोदय,

उपरोक्त विषयक सन्दर्भित पत्र के क्रम में माननीय अधिकरण द्वारा उठाए गए विशेष विंदुओं के आलोक
में निम्नलिखित जानकारी अद्यतन रूप से प्रस्तुत की जा रही है-

1. वर्ष 2023-2024 में अतिक्रमण का विवरण- पृष्ठ 21 पर सारणी के कॉलम 4 में प्रस्तुत आँकड़े वन भूमि पर अतिक्रमण से संबंधित जनपद एवं प्रभागवार वर्तमान तिथि तक के कुल संकलित आँकड़े हैं। ये विशेष रूप से केवल वर्ष 2023-2024 की अवधि के अतिक्रमणों को नहीं दर्शाते। **Annexure-1**
2. लंबित मामलों से संबंधित जानकारी- वन विभाग, उत्तराखण्ड के अधीन वृत्तवार विभिन्न न्यायालयों में लंबित मामलों की जानकारी प्रभागवार रूप में **Annexure-2** में संकलित की गई है।
3. समयबद्ध कार्य योजना-वन भूमि पर अधिकांश अतिक्रमण संबंधी मामले विभिन्न न्यायालयों में लंबित होने के कारण, अतिक्रमण निवारण हेतु निश्चित समयसीमा वाली कार्ययोजना बनाना वर्तमान में चुनौतिपूर्ण है। ऐसी योजना केवल तभी संभव है जब-
 - लंबित मामलों में न्यायालयों का अंतिम निर्णय प्राप्त हो जाए, अथवा
 - अस्थायी कानूनी प्रक्रिया (जैसे- स्थगन आदेश की अनुपस्थिति में अग्रिम कार्यवाही) के माध्यम से निष्कासन किया जा सके।
4. तदनुसार, माननीय राष्ट्रीय हरित अधिकरण (एनजीटी) के निर्देशों का अनुपालन करते हुए, वन भूमि अतिक्रमण निवारण हेतु एक प्रस्तावित समयबद्ध कार्ययोजना **Annexure-3** में प्रस्तुत की जा रही है। यह योजना न्यायिक प्रक्रियाओं की प्रगति पर सशर्त रूप से निर्भर करती है।

सलग्नक-यथोपरि

Digitally signed by
Parag Madhukar Dhakate

Date: 24-07-2025

14:22:19

भवदीय,

(डॉ० पराग मधुकर धकाते),
मुख्य वन संरक्षक/नोडल अधिकारी,
अतिक्रमण हटाओ अभियान,
उत्तराखण्ड।

पत्रांक J/194906/29-3(3) तददिनांकित।

प्रतिलिपि समस्त सम्बन्धित वन संरक्षकों को इस आशय के साथ प्रेषित कि उक्त वृत्तवार वर्गीकृत आँकड़ों के सम्बन्ध में इस कार्यालय द्वारा समय-समय पर जारी विभिन्न पत्रों/प्रपत्रों तथा दूरभाष के माध्यम से आपके कार्यालयों तथा सम्बन्धित प्रभागीय वनाधिकारियों को बिन्दु संख्या-2 से सम्बन्धित सूचना प्राप्त किये जाने के सम्बन्ध में अवगत कराया जा रहा है किंतु प्रत्येक बार भिन्न-भिन्न एवं परस्पर विरोधी सूचनाएं इस कार्यालय को प्राप्त हो रही हैं, जिससे आँकड़ों के संकलन में कठिनाई उत्पन्न हो रही है। अतः आपसे अनुरोध है कि प्रभागवार रूप से लंबित अतिक्रमण संबंधी प्रत्येक प्रकरण की अद्यतन, स्पष्ट एवं समग्र सूचना का सम्यक परीक्षण कराते हुए सूचना दिनांक 31 जुलाई 2025 तक अनिवार्य रूप से (सॉफ्ट कापी सहित) इस कार्यालय को उपलब्ध कराने का कष्ट करें जिससे।

सलग्नक-यथोपरि

(डॉ० पराग मधुकर धकाते),
मुख्य वन संरक्षक/नोडल अधिकारी,
अतिक्रमण हटाओ अभियान,
उत्तराखण्ड।

Annexure-1

District wise Details of encroachments of Forest (in Hectares) in Kumaon Zone

Sl. No.	Name of district	Total Forest Cover (in Hectares)	Total Encroachment upto March 2024 Districtwise (in Hectares)	Forest Division	Action taken for Removal of Encroachment Yearwise Districtwise	Percentage loss of forest as on March 2024 District wise
1	Almora	171980	4.491123	Almora Forest Division	The <u>Almora Forest Division</u> have effectively acted to prevent encroachments on forest land, successfully evicting 0.003 hectares of encroachments. Currently, actions are underway to identify and remove encroachments on forest land in accordance with regulations.	0.00261%
			0	Bageshwar Forest Division	Parts of <u>Bageshwar Forest Division</u> also falls with in jurisdiction of Almora District, with no reported encroachment on forest land in these areas.	0.00000%
			0.744338	Civil Soyam Almora Forest Division	The <u>Civil Soyam Almora Forest Division</u> have effectively acted to prevent encroachments on forest land, successfully evicting 0.013320 hectares of encroachments. Currently, actions are underway to identify and remove encroachments on forest land in accordance with regulations. A portion of the <u>Binsar Wildlife Sanctuary</u> falls under the territorial jurisdiction of the Civil Soyam Almora Forest Division in Almora District, with no reported encroachments on forest	0.00043%
			0.00	Binsar Wildlife Sanctuary	Parts of <u>Champawat Forest Division</u> also falls with in jurisdiction of Almora district, with no reported encroachment on forest land in these areas.	0.00000%
			0	Nainital Forest Division	Parts of <u>Nainital Forest Division</u> also falls with in jurisdiction of Almora district, with no reported encroachment on forest land in these areas.	0.00000%
Total			5.235461			
2	Bageshwar	126267	147.86	Bageshwar Forest Division:	<u>Bageshwar Forest Division:</u> According to Uttarakhand Forest Statistics 2007-08, the total encroached area of the division was 153.1552 hectares, and during that year, the division evicted 0.0990 hectares of encroachment. According to Uttarakhand Forest Stastics 2017-18, the division evicted 5.43 hectares of encroachment. Forest officials have periodically removed encroachments while fulfilling their legal responsibilities. Currently, there are 147.86 hectares of encroachments on forest land, which are being identified and removed in accordance with	0.11710%
			0	Civil Soyam Almora Forest Division	Parts of <u>Civil Soyam Almora Forest Division</u> also falls with in jurisdiction of Bageshwar district, with no reported encroachment on forest land in these areas. A portion of the Binsar Wildlife Sanctuary falls under the territorial jurisdiction of the Civil Soyam Almora Forest Division in Bageshwar District, with no reported encroachments on	0.00000%
Total			147.86			
			2.034	Champawat Forest Division	<u>Champawat Forest Division</u> have periodically removed encroachments from forest land while fulfilling their legal responsibilities. As of now, a total of 2.24 hectares have been cleared of	0.00166%

Sl. No.	Name of district	Total Forest Cover (in Hectares)	Total Encroachment upto March 2024 Districtwise (in Hectares)	Forest Division	Action taken for Removal of Encroachment Yearwise Districtwise	Percentage loss of forest as on March 2024 District wise
3	Champawat	122416	68.00	Tarai East Forest Division	<u>Tarai East Forest Division</u> has actively identified and removed encroachments from forest land from time to time while fulfilling their legal responsibilities. Currently, there are 68.00 hectares of forest land encroached. The encroachment cases are under judicial process with proceeding ongoing in multiple courts.	0.05555%
			0	Haldwani Forest Division	Parts of <u>Haldwani Forest Division</u> also falls with in jurisdiction of Champawat district, with no reported encroachment on forest land in these areas.	0.00000%
Total			70.034			
			0	Almora Forest Division	Parts of <u>Almora Forest Division</u> also falls with in jurisdiction of Nainital district, with no reported encroachment on forest land in these areas.	0.00000%
			82.22	Haldwani Forest Division	<u>Haldwani Forest Division</u> has periodically removed encroachments from forest land while fulfilling their legal responsibilities, issuing eviction notices to those illegally occupying forest land. The encroachment cases are under judicial process with proceedings ongoing in multiple courts. In recent years, the division has effectively acted to prevent encroachments on forest land, successfully evicted 30.33 hectares of encroachments during the anti-encroachment drive initiated in June 2023. Currently, there are 82.22 hectares of encroachments on forest land, which are being identified and removed in accordance with regulations. Portion of <u>Nandhaur Wildlife Sanctuary</u> is also part of the territorial jurisdiction of the Haldwani Forest Division, with no reported encroachments on forest land.	0.02701%

Sl. No.	Name of district	Total Forest Cover (in Hectares)	Total Encroachment upto March 2024 Districtwise (in Hectares)	Forest Division	Action taken for Removal of Encroachment Yearwise Districtwise	Percentage loss of forest as on March 2024 District wise
4	Nainital	304449	16.8272	Nainital Forest Division	In Nainital Forest Division , a total reported encroachment in 2007 was 59.9335 hectares, and in that year, a total of 0.0025 hectares was evicted from encroachment by the division. In 2009, 0.3755 hectares was freed from a total encroached area of 59.9310 hectares. In 2017, out of a total encroached area of 33.4865 hectares, 1.8823 hectares was freed from encroachment(Source: Uttarakhand Forest Statistics Reports 2007-08: 2009-10: 2017-18). Effective actions have been taken to prevent encroachment on forest land, resulting in the eviction of 5.00 hectares of forest land from encroachment during the anti-encroachment drive initiated in June 2023. Currently, there are 16.82723 hectares of encroachments on forest land, which are being identified and removed in accordance with regulations. Naina Devi Conservation Reserve is also part of the territorial jurisdiction of the Nainital Forest Division, with no reported encroachments on forest land.	0.00553%
			284.6294	Ramnagar Forest Division	Ramnagar Forest Division: The division has periodically removed encroachments from forest land while fulfilling its legal responsibilities and has issued eviction notices to those occupying forest land. In recent years, effective actions have been taken by the division to prevent encroachment on forest land, resulting in the freeing of 1.50 hectares of forest land from encroachment during the anti-encroachment drive initiated in June 2023. Currently, the total area of encroachment in the division is 284.6294 hectares. Sitabani Conservation Reserve is also part of the territorial jurisdiction of the Ramnagar Forest Division, with no reported encroachments on forest land.	0.09349%
			51.7532	Tarai Central Forest Division	Tarai Central Forest Division has periodically removed encroachments from forest land while fulfilling their legal responsibilities, issuing eviction notices to those illegally occupying forest land. The encroachment cases are under judicial process with proceedings ongoing in multiple courts, including authorized court/DFO court, the appellate court/CF court and Hon'ble Uttarakhand High Court. In recent years, the division has effectively acted to prevent encroachments on forest land, successfully clearing 46.7418 hectares of encroachments during the anti-encroachment drive initiated in June 2023.. Currently, there are 51.7532 hectares of encroachments on forest land, which are being identified and removed in accordance with laws.	0.01700%

Sl. No.	Name of district	Total Forest Cover (in Hectares)	Total Encroachment upto March 2024 Districtwise (in Hectares)	Forest Division	Action taken for Removal of Encroachment Yearwise Districtwise	Percentage loss of forest as on March 2024 District wise
			2265.18	Tarai East Forest Division	<u>Tarai East Forest Division</u> has periodically removed encroachments from forest land while fulfilling their legal responsibilities, issuing eviction notices to those illegally occupying forest land. The encroachment cases are under judicial process with proceedings ongoing in multiple courts. In recent years, the division has effectively acted to prevent encroachments on forest land, successfully clearing 37.62 hectares of encroachments during the anti-encroachment drive initiated in June 2023. Currently, there are 2265.18 hectares of encroachments on forest land, which are being identified and removed in accordance with regulations.	0.74403%
			1971.86	Tarai West Forest Division	<u>Tarai West Forest Division</u> has periodically removed encroachments from forest land while fulfilling their legal responsibilities, issuing eviction notices to those illegally occupying forest land. The encroachment cases are under judicial process with proceedings ongoing in multiple courts, including authorized court/DFO court, the appellate court/CF court and Hon'ble Uttarakhand High Court. In recent years, the division has effectively acted to prevent encroachments on forest land, successfully evicting 486.1846 hectares of encroachments during the anti-encroachment drive initiated in June 2023. Currently, there are 1971.86 hectares of encroachments on forest land, which are being identified and removed in accordance with regulations. Portion of Sitabani Conservation Reserve is also part of the territorial jurisdiction of the Tarai West Forest Division with no reported encroachment on forest land.	0.64768%
			0.00	Champawat Forest Division	Parts of <u>Champawat Forest Division</u> also falls with in jurisdiction of Nainital district, with no reported encroachment on forest land in these areas.	0.00000%
Total			4672.4698			
			0	Bageshwar Forest Division	Parts of <u>Bageshwar Forest Division</u> also falls with in jurisdiction of Pithoragarh District, with no reported encroachment on forest land in these areas.	0.00000%
			0	Civil Soyam Almora Forest Division	Parts of <u>Civil Soyam Almora Forest Division</u> also falls with in jurisdiction of Pithoragarh district, with no reported encroachment on forest land in these areas.	0.00000%

Sl. No.	Name of district	Total Forest Cover (in Hectares)	Total Encroachment upto March 2024 Districtwise (in Hectares)	Forest Division	Action taken for Removal of Encroachment Yearwise Districtwise	Percentage loss of forest as on March 2024 District wise
5	Pithoragarh	208075	1.980398	Pithoragarh Forest Division	<p>Pithoragarh Forest Division: An encroachment of 1.681 hectares has existed since 1940. According to government order number 203/V.I.P/2001 dated 04.08.2001, proposals for the transfer of forest land under the Forest Conservation Act 1980 were formulated to regulate the aforementioned encroachment and sent to the circle office of the Conservator of the forest North Kumaon Circle Almora vide DFO Pithoragarh Letter No. 1371/28-2 dated 21.11.2002. These were forwarded to the office of the APCCF/Nodal Officer (FC), Dehradun, Uttarakhand. An encroachment of 0.02 hectares has existed since 1990. A case was filed in the court to evict the encroachment. On 17.06.2000, the honorable Uttarakhand High court passed a judgment against the Forest Department. A case was again filed in court for review and a decision in favor of Forest Department was issued by the Judicial Magistrate Didihat vide Letter Number 20/2001-02 dated 07.05.2008. Action is being taken to vacate the encroached area. An encroachment of 0.0075 hectares has existed since 1991. Regarding this, the honorable Uttarakhand High Court issued orders on 14.06.2007 to vacate the encroached area. In addition to the above, the 28 roadside encroachments are identified and efforts are underway to reclaim these land as per law. As of now a total of 0.5 hectares of area has been evicted in district of illegal encroachments during the anti-encroachment drive initiated in June 2023 and the efforts are ongoing to reclaim encroached forest land as per forest laws.</p> <p>The Askot Wildlife Sanctuary is also part of the territorial jurisdiction of the Pithoragarh Forest Division, with no reported encroachments on forest land.</p>	0.00095%
Total			1.980398			
			0	Haldwani Forest Division	Parts of Haldwani Forest Division also falls within jurisdiction of Udham Singh nagar district, with no reported encroachment on forest land in these areas.	0.00000%

Sl. No.	Name of district	Total Forest Cover (in Hectares)	Total Encroachment upto March 2024 Districtwise (in Hectares)	Forest Division	Action taken for Removal of Encroachment Yearwise Districtwise	Percentage loss of forest as on March 2024 District wise
6	Udhamsingh Nagar	42808	284.84	Tarai Central Forest Division	<u>Tarai Central Forest Division</u> has periodically removed encroachments from forest land while fulfilling their legal responsibilities, issuing eviction notices to those illegally occupying forest land. The encroachment cases are under judicial process with proceedings ongoing in multiple courts, including authorized court/DFO court, the appellate court/CF court and Hon'ble Uttarakhand High Court. In recent years, the division has effectively acted to prevent encroachments on forest land, successfully clearing 59.017 hectares of encroachments during the anti-encroachment drive initiated in June 2023. Currently, there are 284.84 hectares of encroachments on forest land, which are being identified and removed in accordance with regulations.	0.66539%
			3648.90	Tarai East Forest Division	<u>Tarai East Forest Division</u> has periodically removed encroachments from forest land while fulfilling their legal responsibilities, issuing eviction notices to those illegally occupying forest land. The encroachment cases are under judicial process with proceedings ongoing in multiple courts, including authorized court/DFO court, the appellate court/CF court and Hon'ble Uttarakhand High Court. In recent years, the division has effectively acted to prevent encroachments on forest land, successfully clearing 176.40 hectares of encroachments during the anti-encroachment drive initiated in June 2023. Currently, there are 3648.90 hectares of encroachments on forest land, which are being identified and removed in accordance with regulations.	8.52387%
			657.29	Tarai West Forest Division	<u>Tarai West Forest Division</u> has periodically removed encroachments from forest land while fulfilling their legal responsibilities, issuing eviction notices to those illegally occupying forest land. The encroachment cases are under judicial process with proceedings ongoing in multiple courts, including authorized court/DFO court, the appellate court/CF court and Hon'ble Uttarakhand High Court. In recent years, the division has effectively acted to prevent encroachments on forest land, successfully clearing 46.7840 hectares of encroachments during the anti-encroachment drive initiated in June 2023. Currently, there are 657.29 hectares of encroachments on forest land, which are being identified and removed in accordance with regulations.	1.53544%
District Total			4591.03			
Kumaun Zone Total			9488.609659			

District wise Details of encroachments of Forest (in Hectares) in Garhwal Zone					
Sl. No.	Name of district	Total Forest Cover (in Hectares)	Total Encroachment upto March 2024 Districtwise (in Hectares)	Action taken for Removal of Encroachment Yearwise Districtwise	Percentage loss of forest as on March 2024 District wise
1	Chamoli	271011	937	Badrinath Forest Division have periodically removed encroachments from forest land while fulfilling their legal responsibilities. As of march 31, 2007 the total forest land encroached was 421.1902 hectares. Continuous efforts were made to evict encroached forest land from illegal occupation, as a result 7.8070 hectares, 22.0012 hectares, 0.86 hectares, 0.7550 hectares, 2.3417 hectares, and 1.1661 hectares, forest land was reclaimed from illegal occupation in year 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2016 and 2017 respectively (Source: Uttarakhand Forest Statistics). Furthermore, Eviction notices has been issued to those illegally occupying forest land. Currently, all cases covering 937 hectares of encroached forest area are under proceedings in the multiple courts including authorized court/DFO court and appellate court/CF court. Effective actions have been taken to prevent encroachment on forest land.	0.34574%
Total			937		
			0	Portion of Tons Forest Division also falls with in jurisdiction of Dehradun District, with no reported encroachment on forest land in these areas. Effective actions have been taken to prevent encroachment on forest land.	0.00000%
			0.64327	Chakrata Forest Division has periodically removed encroachments. In the Year 2017-18 the division has evicted 0.0065 hectares of illegal encroachment on forest land. In 2022-23, a total of 2.66 hectares of encroachment on forest land was evicted by the division. In recent years, the division has effectively acted to prevent encroachments on forest land, successfully clearing 0.01 hectares of encroachments during the anti-encroachment drive initiated in June 2023. Currently, a total area of 0.64327 hectares of forest land has been identified as encroached, and actions to remove these encroachments are in progress according to forest regulations	0.00040%

Sl. No.	Name of district	Total Forest Cover (in Hectares)	Total Encroachment upto March 2024 Districtwise (in Hectares)	Action taken for Removal of Encroachment Yearwise Districtwise	Percentage loss of forest as on March 2024 District wise
2	Dehradun	161158	579.80	Dehradun Forest Division: Ongoing efforts to remove illegally occupied forest land resulted in the eviction of 0.3264 hectares in 2009 and 17.566 hectares in 2010, respectively (Source: Uttarakhand Forest Statistics Reports 2009-10 and 2010-11). The encroachment cases are under judicial process with proceedings ongoing in multiple courts. In recent years, the division has effectively acted to prevent encroachments on forest land, successfully clearing 5.72 hectares of encroachments during the anti-encroachment drive initiated in June 2023. Currently, there are 579.80 hectares of encroachments on forest land, which are being identified and removed in accordance with forest regulations.	0.35977%
			0	Parts of Haridwar Forest Division also falls with in jurisdiction of Dehradun District, with no reported encroachment on forest land in these areas. Effective actions have been taken to prevent encroachment on forest land.	0.00000%
			0	Parts of Narendranagar Forest Division also falls with in jurisdiction of Dehradun District, with no reported encroachment on forest land in these areas. Effective actions have been taken to prevent encroachment on forest land.	0.00000%
			25.9729	Soil Conservation Forest Division Kalsi has been consistently identifying and removing encroachments while fulfilling its legal responsibilities. The Forest Division has effectively acted to prevent encroachments on forest land, successfully evicting 48.29 hectares of encroachments during the anti-encroachment drive initiated in June 2023. Currently, there are 25.9729 hectares of encroachments on forest land, which are being identified and removed in accordance with regulations.	0.01612%
			0.26350	Mussoorie Forest Division has been consistently identifying and removing encroachments while fulfilling its legal responsibilities. Currently, there are 0.2635 hectares of encroachments on forest land, which are being identified and removed in accordance with regulations. Effective actions have been taken to prevent encroachment on forest land.	0.00016%
Total			606.67967		

Sl. No.	Name of district	Total Forest Cover (in Hectares)	Total Encroachment upto March 2024 Districtwise (in Hectares)	Action taken for Removal of Encroachment Yearwise Districtwise	Percentage loss of forest as on March 2024 District wise
3	Haridwar	58394	49.816	<u>Haridwar Forest Division</u> has periodically removed encroachments from forest land while fulfilling their legal responsibilities, issuing eviction notices to those illegally occupying forest land. The encroachment cases are under judicial process with proceedings ongoing in multiple courts. In recent years, the division has effectively acted to prevent encroachments on forest land, successfully clearing 27.271 hectares of encroachments during the anti-encroachment drive initiated in June 2023. Currently, there are 49.816 hectares of encroachments on forest land, which are being identified and removed in accordance with regulations.	0.08531%
Total			49.816		
4	Pauri	339671	0.00	Parts of <u>Rudraprayag Forest Division</u> also falls with in jurisdiction of Pauri District, with no reported encroachment on forest land in these areas. The division has periodically removed encroachments while fulfilling its legal responsibilities. Effective actions have been taken to prevent encroachment on forest land.	0.00000%
			5.6121	<u>Garhwal Forest Division</u> – Forest Department officials have periodically removed encroachments while fulfilling their legal responsibilities. In recent years, the division has effectively acted to stop encroachments on forest land, evicting 0.21 hectares of encroachments on forest land during the anti-encroachment drive initiated in June 2023. Currently, the total area of encroachment in the division is 5.6121 hectares. The division has periodically removed encroachments while fulfilling its legal responsibilities. Effective actions have been taken to prevent encroachment on forest land.	0.00165%
			1.2414	Currently, the total area of encroachment in the division is 1.2414 hectares. Currently, actions are underway to identify and remove encroachments on forest land in accordance with regulations. <u>Lansdowne Forest Division</u> has effectively acted to prevent encroachments on forest land, successfully clearing 0.20975 hectares of encroachments during the anti-encroachment drive initiated in June 2023.	0.00037%
	Almora	171980	0	Parts of <u>Garhwal Forest Division</u> also falls with in jurisdiction of Almora district, with no reported encroachment on forest land in these areas. The division has periodically removed encroachments while fulfilling its legal responsibilities. Effective actions have been taken to prevent encroachment on forest land.	0.00000%
Total			6.8535		

Sl. No.	Name of district	Total Forest Cover (in Hectares)	Total Encroachment upto March 2024 Districtwise (in Hectares)	Action taken for Removal of Encroachment Yearwise Districtwise	Percentage loss of forest as on March 2024 District wise
5	Rudraprayag	114230	44.86999	Rudraprayag Forest Division have periodically removed encroachments from forest land while fulfilling their legal responsibilities, and eviction notices have been issued to those illegally occupying forest land. In the year 2019-20 total forest land under encroachment was 307.3683 ha., Rudraprayag forest division successfully removed encroachments from 25.2032 ha. of forest land. The inclusion of pending court cases in various courts in the 2020 report has led to discrepancies in the data. At Present, 8 cases are pending in the Hon'ble Uttarakhand High Court, covering a total area of 0.061758 hectares. There are encroachments of 44.86999 hectares on forest land at present, which are being identified and removed in accordance with law.	0.03928%
Total			44.86999		
			0.00	Parts of Dehradun Forest Division also falls with in jurisdiction of Tehri District, with no reported encroachment on forest land in these areas. The division has periodically removed encroachments while fulfilling its legal responsibilities. Effective actions have been taken to prevent encroachment on forest land.	0.00000%
			26.2828	Tehri Forest Division: According to Uttarakhand Forest Statistics Reports, a total of 0.9852 hectares and 0.107 hectares of forest land were evicted from illegal encroachment on forest land during the years 2008-09 and 2009-10 respectively (Source: Uttarakhand Forest Statistics 2008-09; 2009-10). In the year 2016-17, Tehri Forest Division has removed encroachments on forest land to the extent of 3.4870 hectares (Uttarakhand Forest Statistics 2016-17). The APCCF (PFM) collected data on forest land encroachments in the year 2019-20, as per their data, 1.0031 hectares of encroached forest land was freed from illegal occupation in the year 2019. The division has effectively acted to prevent encroachments on forest land, successfully evicting 11.84 hectares of encroachments on forest land during the anti-encroachment drive initiated in June 2023. Currently, the total area of encroachment in the division is 26.2828 hectares and efforts are being made to identify and remove encroachments on forest land in accordance with regulations.	0.01273%

Sl. No.	Name of district	Total Forest Cover (in Hectares)	Total Encroachment upto March 2024 Districtwise (in Hectares)	Action taken for Removal of Encroachment Yearwise Districtwise	Percentage loss of forest as on March 2024 District wise
6	Tehri	206439	49.07890	Mussoorie Forest Division: A total of 8.8782 hectares, 8.7152 hectares and 0.0072 hectares of forest land were evicted from encroachment during the years 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 respectively. The APCCF (PFM) gathered data on forest land encroachments for the year 2019-20. According to their records, 1.6172 hectares of encroached forest land was freed from illegal occupation during that year. The Forest Division has effectively acted to prevent encroachments on forest land, successfully evicting 39.3981 hectares of encroachments during the anti-encroachment drive initiated in June 2023. Currently, there are 49.0789 hectares of encroachments on forest land, which are being identified and removed in accordance with regulations.	0.02377%
			3.65237	Narendernagar Forest Division: According to Uttarakhand Forest Statistics Reports, a total of 0.2184 hectares and 0.0180 hectares of forest land were evicted from illegal encroachment on forest land during the years 2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively (Source: Uttarakhand Forest Statistics 2007-08 and 2008-09). The division has effectively acted to prevent encroachments on forest land, successfully evicting 0.68 hectares of encroachments on forest land during the anti-encroachment drive initiated in June 2023. Currently, the total area of encroachment in the division is 3.65237 hectares and efforts are being made to identify and remove encroachments on forest land in accordance with regulations.	0.00177%
			0.00	Parts of Rudrapravag Forest Division also falls with in jurisdiction of Tehri District, with no reported encroachment on forest land in these areas. The division has periodically removed encroachments while fulfilling its legal responsibilities. Effective actions have been taken to prevent encroachment on forest land.	0.00000%
			0	Parts of Uttarkashi Forest Division also falls with in jurisdiction of Tehri District, with no reported encroachment on forest land in these areas. Effective actions have been taken to prevent encroachment on forest land.	0.00000%
		206439	79		
			0.00000	Parts of Mussoorie Forest Division also falls with in jurisdiction of Uttarkashi District, with no reported encroachment on forest land in these areas. Effective actions have been taken to prevent encroachment on forest land.	0.00000%

Sl. No.	Name of district	Total Forest Cover (in Hectares)	Total Encroachment upto March 2024 Districtwise (in Hectares)	Action taken for Removal of Encroachment Yearwise Districtwise	Percentage loss of forest as on March 2024 District wise
7	Uttarkashi	303615	0	Parts of Tehri Forest Division also falls with in jurisdiction of Uttarkashi District, with no reported encroachment on forest land in these areas. Effective actions have been taken to prevent encroachment on forest land.	0.00000%
			2.6049	Tons Forest Division: According to Uttarakhand Forest Statistics Reports 2007-08, the total encroached area of the division was 54.8300 hectares, and during that year, a total of 22.9943 hectares was freed from encroachment by the division. By March 31, 2008, out of a total encroached area of 33.1407 hectares, 14.3501 hectares were freed from encroachment. In 2016, the division took action to free 8.3899 hectares from a total encroached area of 17.7642 hectares (Source: Uttarakhand Forest Statistics Reports 2008-09; 2016-17). A total of 4.78 hectares, 1.20 hectares and 0.805 hectares of land were evicted during the years 2017-18, 2019-20 and 2023-24 respectively. Division has periodically removed encroachments while fulfilling their legal responsibilities and effectively acted to prevent encroachments on forest land, successfully evicting 0.50 hectares of encroachment on forest land during the anti encroachment drive initiated in June 2023. Currently, the total area of encroachment in the division is 2.6049 hectares.	0.00086%
			6.5212	Upper Yamuna Forest Division: According to Uttarakhand Forest Statistics Reports 2017-18, Upper Yamuna Forest Division evicted 28.8642 hectares of forest land from a total encroached area of 50.3552 hectares. A total of 9.2896 hectares, 1.9932 hectares, 2.1642 hectares, 0.162 hectares, 1.36345 hectares and 2.2103 hectares of forest land were evicted from encroachment during the years 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22, 2023-24, and 2024-25 respectively. Upper Yamuna Forest Division have periodically removed encroachments while fulfilling their legal responsibilities. The division has effectively acted to prevent encroachments on forest land, successfully evicting 1.36 hectares of encroachment on forest land during the anti encroachment drive initiated in June 2023. Between March and October 2024, the division successfully cleared 2.2103 hectares of encroached forest land. As of the end of October 2024, the remaining encroachment in the division stands at just 4.3109 hectares.	0.00215%

Sl. No.	Name of district	Total Forest Cover (in Hectares)	Total Encroachment upto March 2024 Districtwise (in Hectares)	Action taken for Removal of Encroachment Yearwise Districtwise	Percentage loss of forest as on March 2024 District wise
			146.441395	<p>Uttarkashi Forest Division: According to Uttarakhand Forest Statistics Reports 2016-17, a total of 119.31 hectares of encroached area was identified in the division, of which 79.7530 hectares were freed from encroachment by the division that year. In 2017, a total of 80.5680 hectares were freed from the total encroached area of 119.3150 hectares in the division. (Source: Uttarakhand Forest Statistics Reports 2017-18). In the year 2020, a total of 38.74278 hectares of encroached forest land were freed from encroachment by the division. Division has periodically removed encroachments while fulfilling their legal responsibilities and effectively acted to prevent encroachments on forest land, successfully evicting 7.74 hectares of encroachments. Currently, the total area of encroachment in the division is 146.441395 hectares. Effective actions have been taken to prevent encroachment on forest land.</p>	0.04823%
District Total			155.567495		
Garhwal Zone Total			1879.800725		

District wise Details of encroachments of Forest (in Hectares) in wildlife Zone

Sl. No.	Name of district	Total Forest Cover (in Hectares)	Total Encroachment upto March 2024 Districtwise (in Hectares)	Action taken for Removal of Encroachment Yearwise Districtwise	Percentage loss of forest as on March 2024 District wise
1	Almora	171980	0.00	Parts of Ramnagar Tiger Reserve Division (CTR) also falls with in jurisdiction of Almora district, with no reported encroachment on forest land in these areas. The division has periodically removed encroachments while fulfilling its legal responsibilities. Effective actions have been taken to prevent encroachment on forest land.	0.00000%
			0	Parts of Kalagarh Forest Division of Corbett Tiger Reserve also falls with in jurisdiction of Almora District, with no reported encroachment on forest land in these areas. The division has periodically removed encroachments while fulfilling its legal responsibilities. Effective actions have been taken to prevent encroachment on forest land.	0.00000%
			Total	0	
2	Chamoli	271011	1.956436	Kedamath Forest Division have periodically removed encroachments from forest land while fulfilling their legal responsibilities, issuing eviction notices to those illegally occupying forest land. The inclusion of pending court cases in various courts in the 2020 report has led to discrepancies in the data. Every encroachment case is under judicial process with proceeding ongoing in multiple courts, including authorized court/DFO court, the appellate court/CF court and Hon'ble Uttarakhand High Court. In recent years, the division has effectively acted to prevent encroachments on forest land, successfully clearing 1 191679 hectares of encroachments. Currently, there are 1.956436 hectares of encroachments on forest land, which are being identified and removed in accordance with regulations.	0.00072%
			2.102	Nanda Devi National Park Division – The total encroached area is 2.102 hectares, which existed prior to 31.03.2017. In compliance with the orders of the Hon'ble High Court of Uttarakhand, Nainital dated 18.06.2018, 19.06.2018, and 20.06.2018, the DFO, Nanda Devi National Park, Joshimath, issued forest offenses (H-2 cases) against 49 illegal encroachers in January 2019, and eviction orders has been issued against all the illegal encroachers in November 2019. Effective actions have been taken to prevent encroachment on forest land.	0.00078%
			Total	4.058436	
3	Dehradun	161158	0	Parts of Rajaji Tiger Reserve also falls within jurisdiction of Dehradun district, with no reported encroachment on forest land in these areas. Effective actions have been taken to prevent encroachment on forest land.	0.00000%
	Total		0		

Sl. No.	Name of district	Total Forest Cover (in Hectares)	Total Encroachment upto March 2024 Districtwise (in Hectares)	Action taken for Removal of Encroachment Yearwise Districtwise	Percentage loss of forest as on March 2024 District wise
4	Haridwar	58394	3.442604	Rajaji Tiger Reserve has periodically removed encroachments from forest land while fulfilling their legal responsibilities, issuing eviction notices to those illegally occupying forest land. The encroachment cases are under judicial process with proceedings ongoing in multiple courts. In recent years, the division has effectively acted to prevent encroachments on forest land, successfully clearing 2.93 hectares of encroachments during the anti-encroachment drive initiated in June 2023. Currently, there are 3.442604 hectares of encroachments on forest land, which are being identified and removed in accordance with regulations.	0.00596%
		Total	3.442604		
5	Nainital	304449	0.40	Parts of Ramnagar Tiger Reserve Division (Corbett National Park) of Corbett Tiger Reserve also falls within jurisdiction of Nainital district, with currently 0.40 Hectares encroached forest land in the division. The division has periodically removed encroachments while fulfilling its legal responsibilities. Effective actions have been taken to prevent encroachment on forest land, resulting in the freeing of 76.83 hectares of forest land from encroachment during the anti-encroachment drive initiated in June 2023.	0.00013%
		Total	0.40		
6	Pauri	339671	0	Parts of Rajaji Tiger Reserve also falls within jurisdiction of Pauri District, with no reported encroachment on forest land in these areas. Effective actions have been taken to prevent encroachment on forest land.	0.00000%
			0.00	Parts of Ramnagar Tiger Reserve Division (CTR) including Corbett National Park also falls within jurisdiction of Pauri district, with no reported encroachment on forest land in these areas. The division has periodically removed encroachments while fulfilling its legal responsibilities. Effective actions have been taken to prevent encroachment on forest land.	0.00000%
			0	Parts of Kalagarh Forest Division of Corbett Tiger Reserve falls within jurisdiction of Pauri District, with no reported encroachment on forest land in these areas. The division has periodically removed encroachments while fulfilling its legal responsibilities. Effective actions have been taken to prevent encroachment on forest land.	0.00000%
		Total	0		

Sl. No.	Name of district	Total Forest Cover (in Hectares)	Total Encroachment upto March 2024 Districtwise (in Hectares)	Action taken for Removal of Encroachment Yearwise Districtwise	Percentage loss of forest as on March 2024 District wise
7	Rudraprayag	114230	7.126595	Kedarnath Forest Division has actively identified and removed encroachments from forest land from time to time while fulfilling their legal responsibilities. The inclusion of pending court cases in various courts in the 2020 report has led to discrepancies in the data. In recent years, the division has effectively acted to prevent encroachments on forest land, successfully clearing 13 968321 hectares of encroachments. Currently, there are 7.126595 hectares of forest land encroached. The encroachment cases are under judicial process with proceeding ongoing in multiple courts, including authorized court/DFO court, the appellate court/CF court and Hon'ble Uttarakhand High Court.	0.00624%
Total			7.126595		
8	Uttarkashi	303615	0	Gangotri National Park falls within the jurisdiction of Uttarkashi District, with no reported encroachment on forest land in these areas. Effective actions have been taken to prevent encroachment on forest land	0.00000%
			0	Govind Wildlife Sanctuary and Govind National Park have periodically removed encroachments while fulfilling their legal responsibilities. The division has effectively acted to prevent encroachments on forest land, successfully clearing 1.58 hectares of encroachments. Currently, actions are underway to identify and remove encroachments on forest land in accordance with regulations.	0.00000%
Total			0		
Grand Total			15.027635		
Grand Total (Garhwal + Kumaun + Wildlife Zone)			11383.438019		

Note - Division-level forest cover data is not available; therefore, district forest cover data published by the Forest Survey of India (FSI) in India's State of the Forest Report 2021 has been used. Similarly, the percentage loss of forest as of March 2024 has been calculated with reference to the division.

Details of cases pending in various courts circle and Division-wise

Annexure-2

Area (in hectares)

circle	fraction of a fraction	Number of cases pending in various courts	area	Other Cases No.	area	Sum of the total number of cases	Area Total	On the basis of the information received from the Divisions, the total encroached area maintained at the Headquarters has been forwarded to NGT
Western circle	Tarai Central Forest Division	3	108.03	9	228.5632	12	336.5932	336.5932
	Tarai Western Forest Division	718	1144.873719	3	17.918	721	1162.791719	2629.15
	Haldwani Forest Division	10	1.3174	0	0	10	1.3174	82.22
	Ramnagar Forest Division	29	79.312681	41	7.99	70	87.302681	284.6294
	Terai East Forest Division	1565	751.0519	6	3775.33	1571	4526.3819	5982.08
South Kumaon Circle	Nainital Forest Division	113	1.1098262	69	15.8662	182	16.9760262	16.8272
	Almora Forest Division	16	0.480807	10	4.2061	26	4.686907	4.491123
North Kumaon Circle	Civil & Soyam Forest, Almora Division	13	0.744338	0	0	13	0.744338	0.744338
	Champawat Forest Division	10	2.046	0	0	10	2.046	2.034
	Bageshwar Forest Division	1	0.23	315	147.038	316	147.268	147.86
	Pithoragarh Forest Division	25	1.885488	6	Encroachment Free	31		1.980398
Director Corbett Tiger Reserve	Corbett National Park, Ramnagar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.4
Director Raja ji	Rajaji National Park	0	0	0	0	0	0	3.442664
Director Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve	Kedamath Wildlife Division	52	1.028488			52	1.028488	9.083033
	Nanda Devi National Park	49	2.102			49	2.102	2.102
Bhagirathi Circle	Tehri Forest Division	27	0.4239	304	25.859	331	26.2829	26.2828
	Narendranagar Forest Division	31	1.9725988	16	1.35093	47	3.3235288	3.65
	Uttarkashi Forest Division	94	0.522272	765	145.92325	859	146.445522	146.441395
Garhwal Circle	Badrinath Forest Division	337	306.8662	1789	630.1338	2126	937	937
	Garhwal Forest Division	15	5.49	18	0.1221	33	5.6121	5.6121
	Rudraprayag Forest Division	0	0	500	44.86999	500	44.86999	44.86999
Yamuna Circle	Mussoorie Forest Division	9	0.09192	85	13.3381	94	13.43002	49.3424
	Upper Yamuna Forest Division	0	0	12	3.9595	12	3.9595	6.5212
	Tons Forest Division	0	0	8	2.6049	8	2.6049	2.6049
	Chakrata Forest Division	1	0.0108			1	0.0108	0.64327
Shivalik Circle	Dehradun Forest Division	54	593.407	33	592.61	87	1186.017	579.8
	Lansdowne Forest Division	8	1.0914	3	0.065	11	1.1564	1.2414
	Soil Conservation Kalsi, Forest Division	0	0	0	0	0	0	25.97
	Haridwar Forest Division	23	0.5615475	3	1.2274	26	1.7889475	49.816
Uttarakhand Total Total		3086	3004.65	3995	5658.975	7081	8663.626	11383.43275

Basis of Action Plan

The Forest Department has compiled a division-wise list of pending and non-pending encroachment cases. This comprehensive plan coordinates judicial processes, environmental conservation, and social sensitivity to address these encroachments systematically.

Stage 1: Data Analysis and Strategy Formulation (August–September 2025)

The initial stage involves detailed data analysis and planning. The Legal Cell will identify cases with active stay orders using Court Case IDs per division, creating a Stay Order Register organized by land parcel. Concurrently, a three-tier land classification system will be implemented by Forest Officers and the GIS Team: **Level A (Minor)** for personal farming ≤ 0.5 hectares; **Level B (Medium)** for illegal settlements or small businesses; and **Level C (Severe)** for commercial use or encroachments ≥ 1 hectare in protected areas, resulting in a classified digital/physical land map. Simultaneously, the District Legal Officer will develop a Legal Action Plan, establishing a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for evicting non-pending cases under Section 20(3) of the Forest Conservation Act. Finally, the Monitoring Committee will validate the encroachment list through Gram Sabha consultations and drone imagery, targeting a verification error rate below 2%.

Stage 2: Priority-Based Eviction (October–December 2025)

Eviction efforts will prioritize Level B and C areas, especially stay order-free protected zones near water sources or wildlife corridors, supported by scientific environmental damage assessments by an expert team. The pre-eviction process will involve issuing 30-day notices (under Section 4) by November 15, 2025, followed by joint meetings with local administration and public notices via panchayats, managed by patrol squads and information officers. Parallel legal work will focus on updating court documents for pending cases monthly using the latest survey data, overseen by senior advocates.

Stage 3: Judicial Process Acceleration (January–March 2026)

To expedite legal resolutions, applications for speedy disposal will be filed for over 50 high-impact cases, targeting interim orders in 30% of cases. State-level coordination will include quarterly reviews with the Law Department and sensitization workshops for district judges, aiming for a 40% increase in case disposal rates. Additionally, digitizing drone footage and land records for evidence management is expected to reduce hearing time by 50%.

Stage 4: Disposal of Complex Cases (April–June 2026)

This stage focuses on quasi-judicial eviction, ensuring 100% removal of Level B/C encroachments where court orders exist, coordinated with armed forces or anti-crime units. A concurrent Rehabilitation Plan will allocate alternate land per state policy and provide MNRGA-linked employment to affected landless individuals.

Stage 5: Sensitive Disposal (July–September 2026)

Tailored resolution mechanisms will address specific case types: mediation by Tehsildars or village heads for disputed rights; immediate afforestation with native species in ecologically damaged areas; and community-accepted solutions via NGO collaboration for residual encroachments.

Stage 6: Review and Institutionalization (October–December 2026)

Post-eviction verification will include GPS-marking vacated land and updating land records, synchronizing data with the Revenue Department. Monitoring will involve monthly drone surveys and forming village forest guard committees, enabling real-time reporting on the Chief Minister's Dashboard. Legal strengthening efforts will establish a 10-member legal cell, launch preventive awareness campaigns, and develop a mobile app for encroachment prevention.

Support System

The plan is backed by ₹3.2 crore from the State Forest Fund. Human resources include a 20-member task force (Forest + Police) per division. Technology integration involves GIS data sharing with the Forest Survey of India (FSI).

Risk Mitigation

Potential legal challenges will be addressed by appointing a permanent High Court solicitor. Social resistance will be managed through district grievance redressal centers, and re-encroachment will be prevented via bio-fencing and solar CCTV on vacated land.

Evaluation Indicators

Success will be measured by achieving 95% removal of non-pending encroachments within 18 months, a 70% court case disposal rate, and 100% rehabilitation compliance.

Implementing Officers

Execution will be led at the **State** level by the Chief Conservator of Forests (Van Panchayat/Nodal Officer for Atikraman Hatao Abhiyan); at the **Regional** level by Chief Conservators of Forests (Garhwal & Kumaon) and Conservators of Forests; and at the **District** level by Divisional Forest Officers. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF, Uttarakhand) will conduct monthly progress reviews.