

UTTRAKHAND GLACIAL DISASTER – A WAKE UP CALL

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Abstract

Climatic changes are occurring all over the world, especially developing countries. Frequency and Intensity of disasters are increasing because of such changes. Uttarakhand state of India, which lies in the hilly regions of Himalayas, has seen many climatic natural disasters in the recent past. The region is prone to and very sensitive to occurrence of natural disasters, as it lies in ecologically fragile and geologically sensitive area. The glacial disaster which occurred in February 2021, has caused loss of lives of people, besides damaging under construction mini hydel projects, due to flash floods. Construction activities due to 816 km char Dham highway in the state is playing havoc with the ecosystem there. Suitable actions need to be taken at the earliest to prevent such type of disasters in the future.

Key words

Himalayas; Glacial burst; Flash floods; Disasters.

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