

**RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND  
MIGRTATION COMMISSION,**

**UTTARAKHAND, PAURI**

**PITHORAGARH DISTRICT**

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STRENGTHENING SOCIO-ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT IN RURAL AREAS OF PITHORAGARH DISTRICT FOR  
MITIGATING OUT-MIGRATION

OCTOBER 2019

## **PREFACE**

Pithoragarh is the eastern most district of the state Uttarakhand. It forms about 13.29% of the state's geographical area, has 4.80% of the state's total population, and the eighth most populated district of the state. The total population of the district as per 2011 census is 4,83,439 of which the total rural population is around 85.69%. The population density is around 58 persons per sq.km. for 2011 census, making it the third most sparsely populated district of Uttarakhand after Uttarkashi and Chamoli and has a sex ratio of 1020. Pithoragarh is by far the largest town of the district.

In the last 10 years, a total of 31,789 persons from 589 gram panchayats have migrated on a semi-permanent basis, though they come to their homes in the villages from time to time and have not migrated permanently. During this period there are 9,883 permanent migrants from 384 gram panchayats. Data indicates that there are more semi-permanent migrants than permanent migrants in all districts of the state. Recent trends show that people are migrating from villages to small towns within the district and also to other parts of the state. Better livelihood opportunities, medical and educational facilities are the main causes for this migration.

The problem of migration from the rural areas of the district is posing multiple challenges due to economic disparities; declining agriculture; low rural incomes and a stressed rural economy. It is this context that the commission carried out a detailed socio-economic analysis of each block of Pithoragarh district. This report examines the socio-economic parameters of the district in detail, particularly with reference to those which have a bearing on out migration. Recommendations for strengthening the rural socio-economy of the district have been presented, which would arrest the migration of people from these areas. Consultations with various stakeholders including state and district officials and local people were also done before arriving at recommendations.

The commission gratefully acknowledges the guidance and encouragement given by its Chairman, Shri Trivendra Singh Rawat, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Uttarakhand; for suggestions and support to Mrs Manisha Pawar, Principal Secretary, Rural Development, Uttarakhand Government; District Magistrate Pithoragarh and his team of officials; officials and staff of various line departments; all public representatives of the district; all senior officers of the district; NGO's and villagers .Dr R S Pokhariya, Member Secretary; Shri G B Chandani, Research Officer; Ms Divya Pandey and Shri Govind Singh Dhimi, Young Professionals of the commission for their untiring efforts in preparing this report.

October 2019

**Dr. Sharad Singh Negi**  
Vice Chairman

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# Chapter I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 District Profile

Carved out from district Almora in 1960, district Pithoragarh is the eastern most district of the state Uttarakhand. Situated at an elevation of 1650 m above the mean sea level, the district headquarter is a beautiful valley known as *Soar* valley. Due to this beautiful valley, picturesque landscapes and splendid weather the district is also known as Mini Kashmir. The district's eastern border touches the Nepal, with river *Kali* making a natural border between the two nations, and share the northern border with Tibet (China). South to the district there are districts Champawat and Almora, and on west there are districts Chamoli and Bageshwar. With a total geographical area of 7,090 sq. km, Pithoragarh is the third largest district in the state after Uttarkashi and Chamoli. Pithoragarh is known for its beautiful landscapes, meadows and passes, flora and fauna, temples, and snow covered peaks. Some of the major rivers flowing through the district are Sharda, Dhauliganga, Saryu, Ramganga etc.



Figure 1, Source: <https://pithoragarh.nic.in/map-of-district/>

## 1.2 Population

The district has a total population of 4,83,439 of which 2,39,306 is male and 2,44,133 is female population, according to 2011 census. The decadal population growth for 2011 is 4.58% and there has been a declining trend over last four censuses in this growth, for 2001 census it was nearly 11%.

## 1.3 Topography

Pithoragarh is a hilly district surrounded by the snow clad Himaylayas and valleys in between. The altitude of the district ranges from 2,000 ft. to 20,000 ft. The high mountain peaks, meadows, and the passes are present in the Northern and Eastern part of the district.

## 1.4 Administrative Set-up

The district has been divided into 11 Tehsils and 8 Development Blocks. Further, there are 64 Nyay Panchayats, 690 Gram Panchayats, and 1657 villages. Thal, Ganai Gangoli, Kanalichina, Bangapani, and Devalthal are four newly created Tehsils.

S.No.	Name of Tehsil	Name of Blocks
1	Munsyari	Munsyari
2	Dharchula	Dharchula
3	Didihat	Didihat
4	Gangolihat	Gangolihat
5	Pithoragarh	Bin
6	Berinag	Berinag
7	GanaiGangoli	Munakote
8	Bangapani	Kanalichina
9	Thal	
10	Kanalichina	
11	Devalthal	

Source: <https://pithoragarh.nic.in/>

## 1.5 Urban Centres

The district headquarter Pithoragarh is the largest urban centre with a population of nearly 1,66,801(2011 census), which is almost 35% of the district's population. It has several cantonment areas belonging to Army, ITPB, and SSB. Other than this there are four municipalities in the district viz. Didihat, Berinag, Dharchula, and Gangolihat.

## **1.6 Climate**

The entire district is mountainous and has a range of climate from mild hot in summers to extreme cold in winters. The upper regions of the district bordering Tibet/China are snow covered all round the year and the meadows are snow covered for six months in a year. Most part of the district receives snowfall during the winters and rainfall in monsoon.

## **1.7 Process and Methodology**

This report examines the socio-economic parameters of the district in detail, particularly with reference to those which have a bearing on out migration. The secondary information has been obtained from district offices of line departments and published and unpublished reports. Primary information has been collected on the basis of field visits by the team of the commission; Block Development Officers and Village Development Officers. The Data from every Block has been collected and analysed. The Data and the information is based on the primary survey done for the Commission on a specific questionnaire format at the Village and Block level by Village Development Officers (VDOs) and Block Development Officers (BDOs) and also on the basis of extensive interactions with field staff, local residents, NGOs, and CBOs.

Recommendations for strengthening the rural socio-economy of the district have been presented. These recommendations will boost the rural socio-economy, particularly of those villages where there has been considerable out-migration, thus helping to mitigate the problem and reduce migration.

## **References**

- <https://pithoragarh.nic.in>
- Census 2011- Uttarakhand, Office of the Registrar General & Census Commissioner, India
- Department of Economics & Statistics, Uttarakhand
- PithoragarhStatistical Magazines

## Chapter II

# BLOCK-WISE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DATA, ANALYSIS AND TRENDS

### 2.1. Demography

District Pithoragarh is a hill district of Kumaun division of the state. It forms about 13.29% of the state's geographical area, has 4.80% of the state's total population, and the eighth most populated district of the state. It shares international borders with Tibet (China) in the North and Nepal in the East, and has a strategic importance. Several passes in the district open out in Tibet. The total population of the district as per 2011 census is 4,83,439 of which the total rural population is around 85.69%. The population density is around 58 persons per sq.km. for 2011 census, making it the third most sparsely populated district of Uttarakhand after Uttarkashi and Chamoli and has a sex ratio of 1020. According to Uttarakhand HDR report 2018, district Pithoragarh has state's highest life expectancy of 72.1 years, while state's average is 71.5 years.

### 2.2. Population

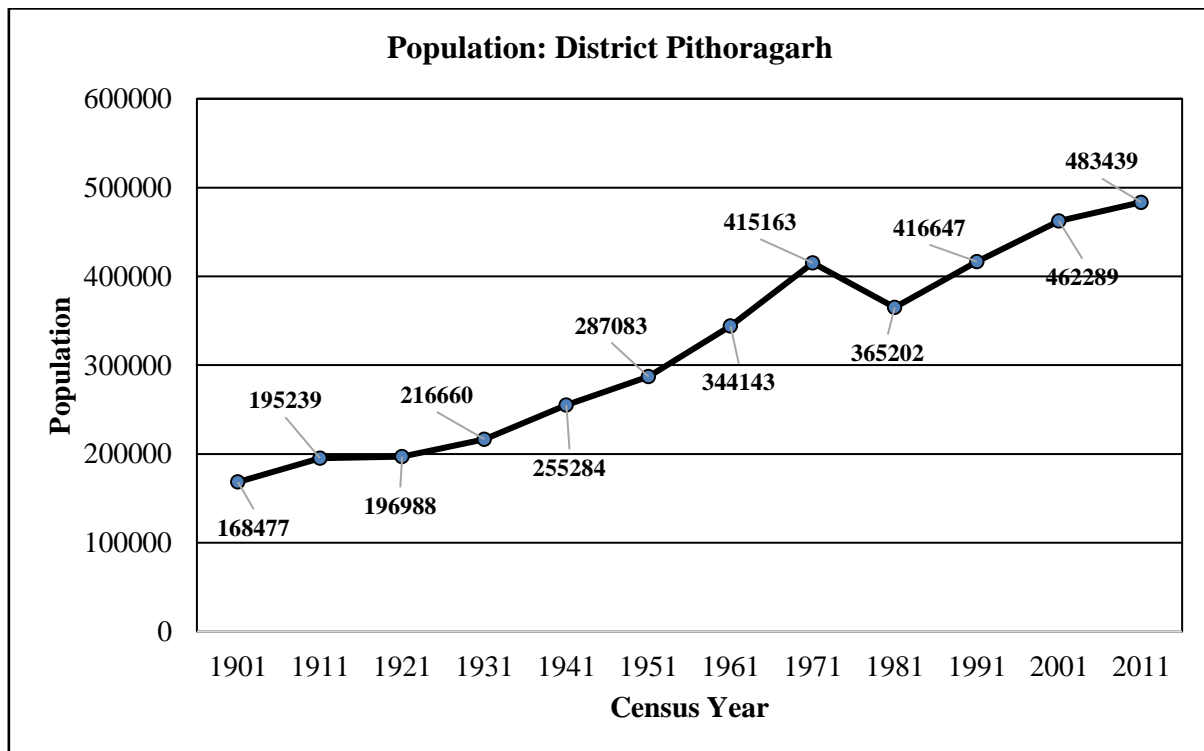


Figure 1, Source: DES, Pithoragarh



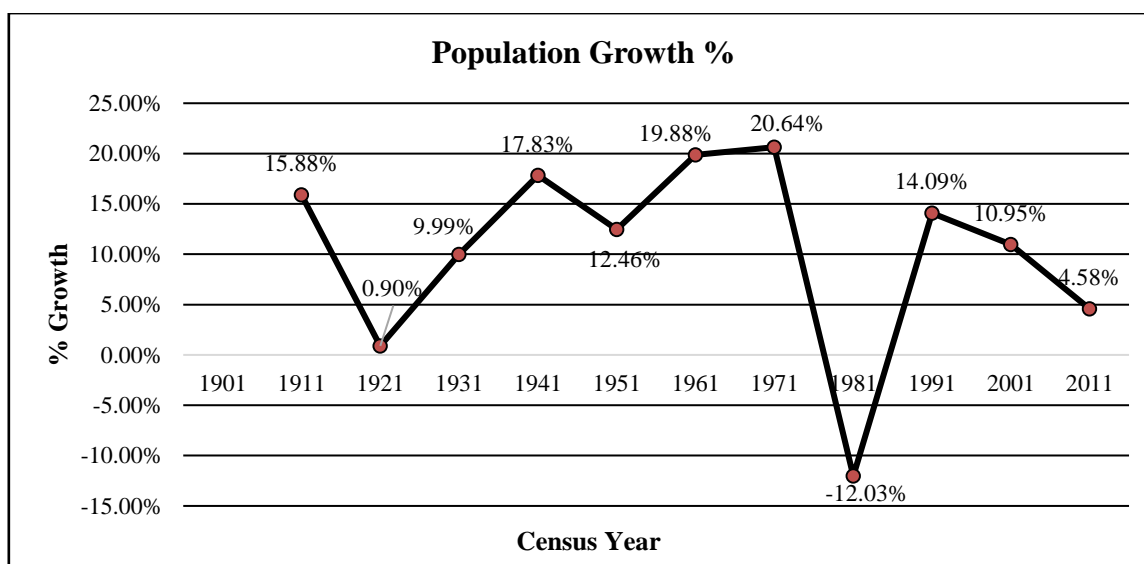


Figure 2, Source: DES, Pithoragarh

The graph above shows that the population of the district has been in a declining trend since 1991 census. In 2011 the district's total population growth is 4.58% whereas the rural population grew at the rate of -2.07%, shown is table below.

Year/ Block	Area (Sq.Km)	Population Density	Total Population	Rural Population			% Change in Rural Population
				Total	Male	Female	
1991	7217.7	--	416647	380950	189216	191734	11.25%
2001	7090	--	462289	402456	194810	207646	5.65%
2011	7090	--	483439	394359	193002	201357	-2.01%
<b>Block Wise (2011)</b>							
Munsiyari	2617	18	41412	41412	20237	21175	-11.03%
Dharchula	2884	20	58413	58413	29320	29093	14.48%
Berinag	193	225	43502	43502	20792	22710	-13.71%
Didihat	209	160	33505	33505	16741	16764	-5.97%
Kanalichina	352	118	41652	41652	20143	21509	-7.77%
Gangolihat	307	211	64808	64808	30815	33993	-7.90%
Pithoragarh	169	380	64200	64200	31836	32364	12.21%
Munakot	198	235	46557	46557	22949	23608	1.14%
<b>Total Block</b>	<b>6929</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>394049</b>	<b>394049</b>	<b>192833</b>	<b>201216</b>	<b>-2.07</b>
Forest	114	--	310	310	169	141	362.69%
<b>Rural Area</b>	<b>7043</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>394359</b>	<b>394359</b>	<b>193002</b>	<b>201357</b>	<b>-2.01%</b>
<b>Urban Area</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>89080</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>
<b>Total District</b>	<b>7090</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>483439</b>	<b>394359</b>	<b>193002</b>	<b>201357</b>	<b>--</b>

Source: DES, Pithoragarh

The table above shows the block wise population figures, with Gangolihat having the maximum population whereas Didihat having the lowest population. There are about 41,669 people from 973 villages/tok who have migrated permanently or semi-permanently to other places. Most of the migrants, nearly 34.33% have migrated to other districts of the state, 33.07% to the district headquarter. About 40.78% of the population's is engaged in agriculture, 38.67% as daily wage labourer, 15.13% in government services, and very small proportion of the population is engaged in other sectors like Horticulture, Dairy, etc.

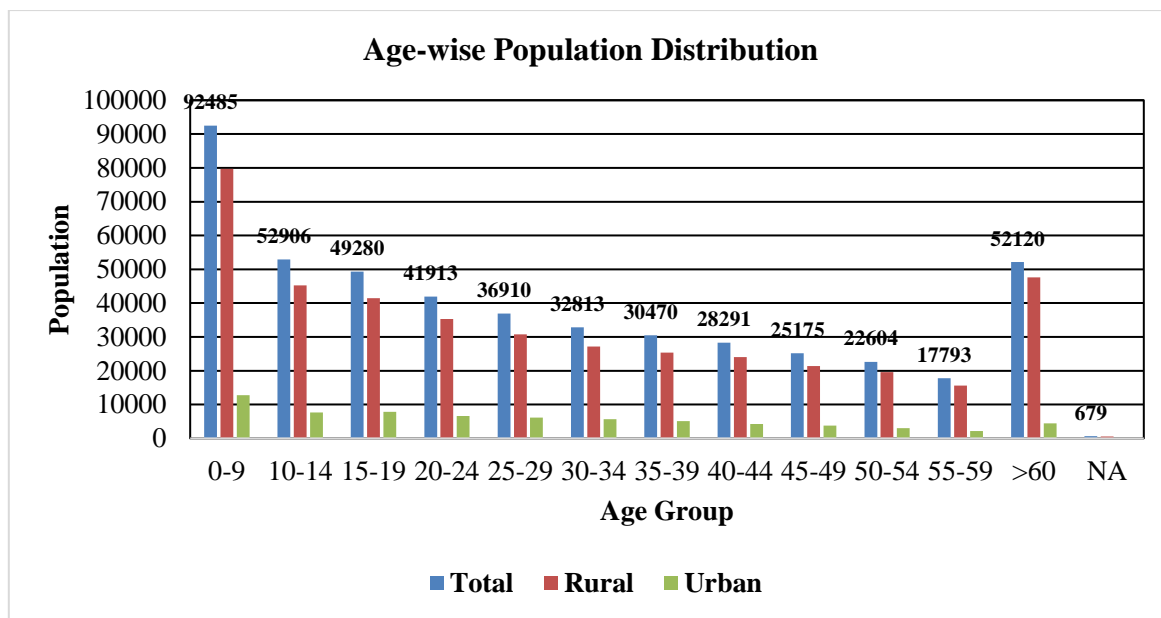


Figure 3, Source: DES, Pithoragarh

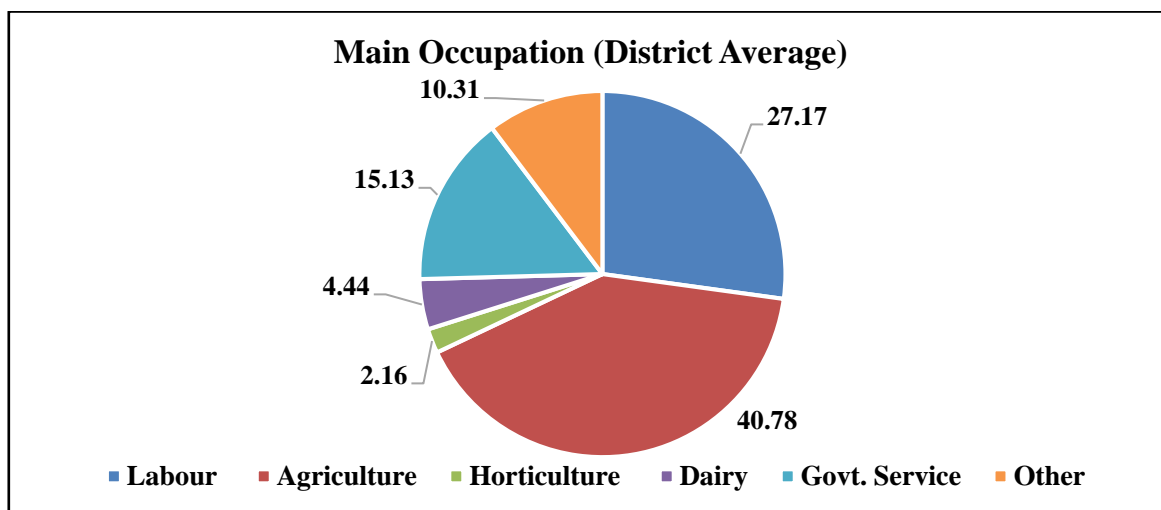


Figure 4, Source: Uttarakhand Migration Commission Report, 2018

Looking into the age-wise population classification, nearly 51% of the population living in the district is either less than 20 years or more than 60 years i.e. the maximum to the population is either school going children or old age people. The youth of the district is educated

and on completing the school education they move to cities for better higher education and employment thereon.

### 2.3. Education and Literacy

District Pithoragarh has an Adult Literacy Rate of 89.54%, with Male literacy at 96.95% and Female literacy at 82.09%, which is highest in the state and the Youth Literacy nearly at 100%. According to HDR 2018 report on Uttarakhand, the district has the Mean Years of Schooling (MYS) of 8 years, Mean years of schooling is a calculation of the average number of years of education received by people ages 25 and older in their lifetime, which is higher than the state average of 7.5 years. Also, Pithoragarh has highest Expected Years of Schooling (EYS) at 12.5 years, the EYS is a measure of the number of years of schooling a child at the start of his or her education is expected to receive if the current rate of enrolments is maintained throughout the child's life, while the state average is 11.2 years. The dropout rate at the secondary level is highest in the Pithoragarh district at 78.67%.

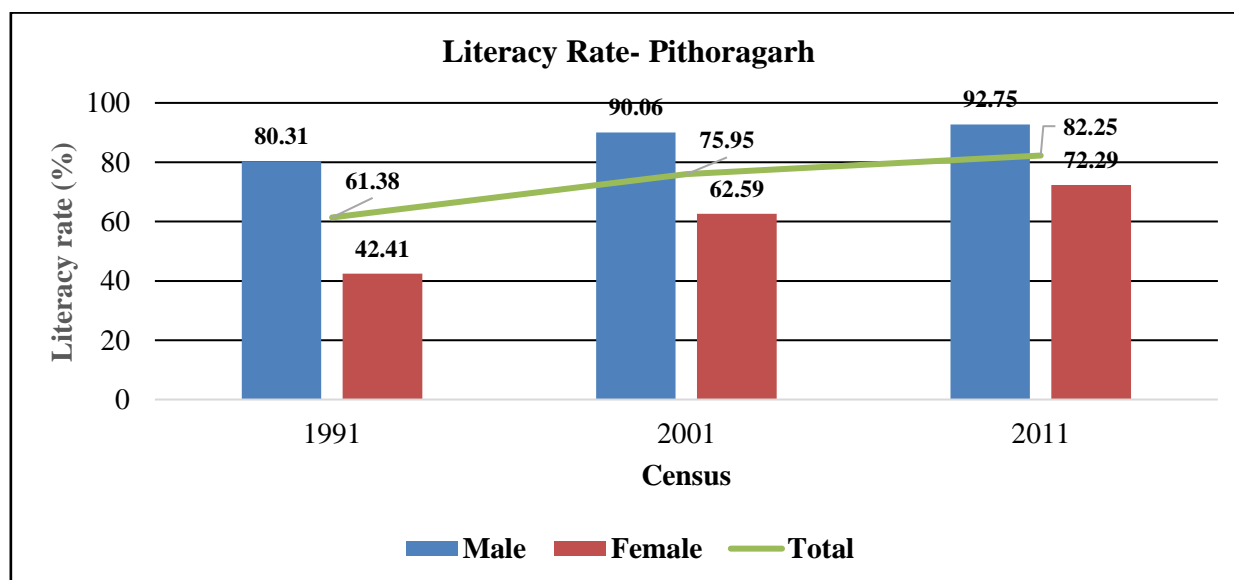


Figure 5, Source: DES, Pithoragarh

Year/ Block	Junior Basic School	Senior Basic School		Higher Secondary School		Degree College		PG College	
		Total	Girls	Total	Girls	Total	Girls	Total	Girls
2015-16	1491	391	69	243	20	3	0	4	0
2016-17	1380	350	69	267	20	3	0	4	0
2017-18	1380	350	69	267	20	3	0	4	0

<b>Block Wise 2017-18</b>									
Munsiyari	172	40	7	26	1	0	0	1	0
Dharchula	184	40	8	29	1	1	0	0	0
Berinag	153	32	8	26	2	0	0	1	0
Didihat	131	27	8	20	1	1	0	0	0
Kanalichina	151	37	8	28	2	0	0	1	0
Gangolihat	197	52	6	38	4	1	0	0	0
Pithoragarh	161	40	8	32	2	0	0	0	0
Munakot	146	31	12	35	1	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Rural</b>	<b>1295</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Urban</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Total District</b>	<b>1380</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>

Source: DES, Pithoragarh

<b>Table 2.3: Block wise Training Institutes in Pithoragarh</b>									
<b>Year/ Block</b>	<b>Polytechnic Institutes</b>			<b>Industrial Training Institutes</b>			<b>Teacher Training Institutes</b>		
	<b>No.</b>	<b>No. of Seats</b>	<b>Intake</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>No. of Seats</b>	<b>Intake</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>No. of Seats</b>	<b>Intake</b>
2014-15	8	715	494	16	864	734	1	50	43
2015-16	8	715	523	16	864	749	1	50	41
2016-17	8	884	376	18	1152	727	1	50	39
<b>Block Wise 2017-18</b>									
Munsiyari	1	78	14	2	36	31	0	0	0
Dharchula	1	78	12	1	56	46	0	0	0
Berinag	1	78	5	3	144	49	0	0	0
Didihat	1	80	7	2	260	248	1	50	43
Kanalichina	1	128	102	2	96	0	0	0	0
Gangolihat	1	244	118	2	40	21	0	0	0
Pithoragarh	1	78	20	3	96	26	0	0	0
Munakot	1	120	98	2	96	31	0	0	0
<b>Total Rural</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>884</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>824</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>Total Urban</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total District</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>884</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1152</b>	<b>727</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>43</b>

Source: DES, Pithoragarh

Every block has Polytechnic Institute and ITIs but only 42.53% seats in Polytechnic and 63.11% of seats in ITIs are occupied. ITI in block Kanalichina is non-functional, as there is no intake for year 2016-17, some are functioning far below its capacity.

## 2.4. Health

Pithoragarh has the highest life expectancy at birth i.e. 72.1 years, for Male 69.5 and Female 74.9 years. The percentage of households having no access to institutional delivery is 32.4% for Pithoragarh. Both the rural and the urban population of the district incur higher medical expenses as compared to the other districts. This is largely due to non-accessibility and lack of infrastructure. The table below shows the data on allopathic health services in the district.

<b>Table 2.4: Block wise Hospitals and Health Centres in District Pithoragarh</b>						
<b>Year/Block</b>	<b>Allopathic Hospital/ Dispensary (No.)</b>	<b>Primary Health Centre (No.)</b>	<b>Total No. of Beds</b>	<b>Total Staff</b>		
				<b>Doctor</b>	<b>Para-Medical</b>	<b>Others</b>
<b>2015-16</b>	59	13	612	74	393	241
<b>2016-17</b>	59	13	612	71	415	206
<b>2017-18</b>	55	17	612	111	405	223
<b>Block Wise 2017-18</b>						
Munsiyari	4	0	66	5	35	14
Dharchula	5	2	82	17	48	18
Berinag	5	1	34	6	35	18
Didihat	5	1	54	10	48	22
Kanalichina	5	4	40	10	44	22
Gangolihat	4	3	64	10	40	24
Pithoragarh	3	2	20	8	42	18
Munakot	2	4	24	11	40	18
<b>Total Rural</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>154</b>
<b>Total Urban</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>Total District</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>612</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>223</b>

Source: DES, Pithoragarh

The data shows that there are 1 doctors for nearly 5000 population or 22 doctors per lakh population. The national average for per lakh population is 80 doctors.

## 2.5. Economy

The size of the economy i.e. GDDP at current prices is estimated as Rs.3,61,053 lakh in year 2011-12, Rs.4,11,412 lakh in year 2012-13, Rs.5,00,499 lakh in year 2013-14, Rs.5,07,004 lakh in year 2014-15, Rs.5,44,556 lakh for year 2015-16 and Rs.6,03,799 lakh for the year 2016-17. In terms of percentage growth the size of the economy increases by 13.95% in year 2012-13, 21.65% in 2013-14, 1.30% in year 2014-15, 7.41% in year 2015-16, and 10.88% in the year 2016-17 with respect to previous year respectively.

Per capita income is estimated Rs.66,606 in year 2011-12, Rs.74,656 in year 2012-13, Rs.87,001 in year 2013-14, Rs.87,835 in year 2014-15, Rs.93,070 for year 2015-16, and Rs.101734 for the year 2016-17. In terms of percentage growth, per capita NSDP at current prices or per capita income increases by 12.09% in year 2012-13, 16.54% in year 2013-14, 0.96% in year 2014-15, 5.96% in year 2015-16, and 9.31% in year 2016-17 with respect to previous year respectively.

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Pithoragarh	361053	411412	500499	507004	544556	603799
DDP Growth %		13.95%	21.65%	1.30%	7.41%	10.88%
Uttarakhand	115328	131613	149074	161439	176171	195192
Uttarakhand Growth %		14.12%	13.27%	8.29%	9.13%	10.80%

Source: DES, Pithoragarh

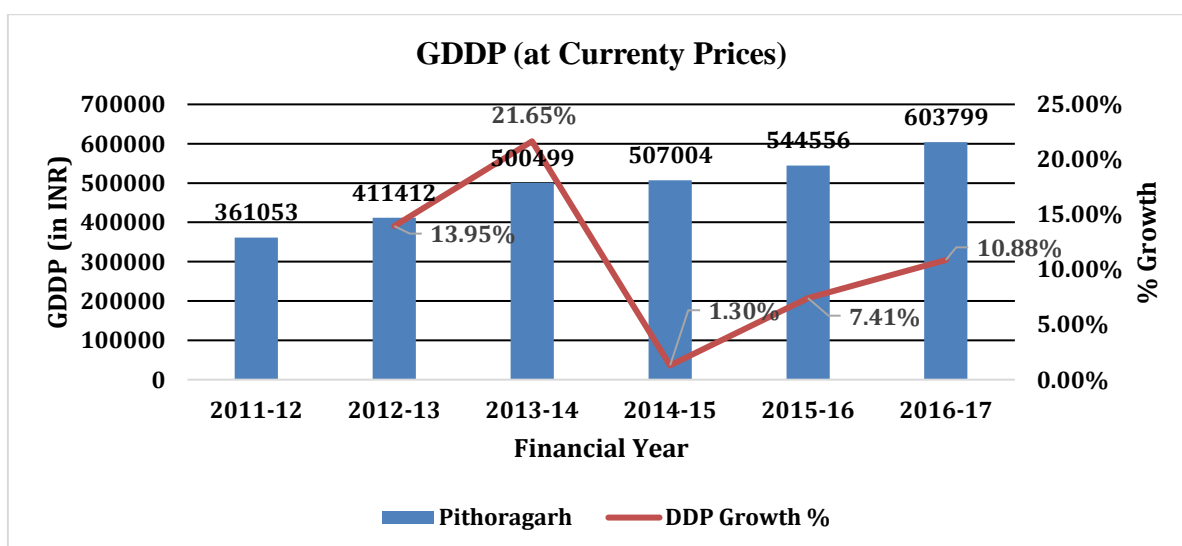


Figure 6, Source: DES, Pithoragarh

**Primary Sector:** Nearly 41% of the district’s population is engaged in agriculture as its main occupation. Since the agriculture in the district is subsistence and does not add much to the economy. The contribution of this sector towards GDDP has decreased from 25% in 2012-13 to 17.34% in 2016-17. District’s major crops are Paddy, Wheat, Maize, Mandua, Soyabean, Lentil, etc.

**Secondary Sector:** Pithoragarh is a hilly district and no major industrial area is present and it’s difficult to develop this sector due to the geographical terrain and because of this it is one of the less developed districts. District has only one acre of industrial area mostly allotted to Iron works and flour chakki. This sector has contributed around 33% to the GDDP in FY 2016-17.

**Tertiary Sector:** This sector has contributed around 49.01% to GDDP in FY 2016-17 and this is mainly due to growth in tourism in the district. Pithoragarh is rich in natural beauty, religious places and this needs to be pushed towards growth.

According to HDR 2017 report, two third of the populace of the district is self-employed and this self-employment is shifting from Primary sector to Tertiary sector, but women majorly engaged in farming. The amount of remittance into the district, more than Rs.1,00,000/-, is 36.7% and it is highest in the state. The poverty rate of the district is 13%. The table below shows the monthly income of a rural family.

<b>Table 2.6: Monthly Income of a Rural Family (%)</b>			
	Less than 5000	Rs.5000 to Rs.10,000	More than Rs.10,000
Pithoragarh	62.83	19.78	17.39

Source: Economic Survey 2018

## 2.6. Agriculture

Majority of the population of the district is agriculture dependent, nearly 41%. The contribution of this sector has shown a declining trend and this is mainly due to the subsistence nature of farming, shrinking interest of the farmers and the returns. Further, the land holding are small, the methods of farming are still traditional, and the total agriculture is rainfed. Nearly 73% is the forest cover and less than 6% of the total geographical area is sown under agriculture. HDR 2018 report has identified the district Pithoragarh as the highest vulnerable district to Climate Change and this will have a long term effects on crop production. The following table shows the land use pattern and the major crops taken in the district.

**Table 2.7: Land use (Area in Hectare)**

Year/ Block	Total Reported Area	Forest	Cultivable Wasteland	Current Fallow	Other Fallow	Usar& Land unsuitable for Agriculture	Land use other than Agriculture	Pasture Land	Area covered by Orchards, Gardens, Trees and shrubs	Net Sown Area	Area Sown More than Once	Gross Sown Area			
												Total	Rabi	Kharif	Zaid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<b>2014-15</b>	<b>746734</b>	<b>540150</b>	<b>35085</b>	<b>4069</b>	<b>6306</b>	<b>20810</b>	<b>11459</b>	<b>45981</b>	<b>42579</b>	<b>40295</b>	<b>30970</b>	<b>71265</b>	<b>32073</b>	<b>39192</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>2015-16</b>	<b>746734</b>	<b>540150</b>	<b>35092</b>	<b>2915</b>	<b>5852</b>	<b>20810</b>	<b>11464</b>	<b>45981</b>	<b>42579</b>	<b>41891</b>	<b>29477</b>	<b>71368</b>	<b>32058</b>	<b>39310</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>2016-17</b>	<b>746734</b>	<b>540150</b>	<b>35204</b>	<b>3065</b>	<b>5890</b>	<b>20810</b>	<b>11469</b>	<b>45981</b>	<b>42574</b>	<b>41591</b>	<b>28489</b>	<b>70080</b>	<b>32026</b>	<b>38054</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Block Wise (2016-17)</b>															
Munsiyari	184105	121708	11197	820	2076	8352	1002	17571	13903	7476	3896	11372	4014	7358	0
Dharchula	105036	75145	4604	105	1766	3281	1240	8526	6805	3564	1675	5239	2555	2684	0
Berinag	64961	45236	1282	217	773	956	1552	2750	6688	5507	3656	9163	4583	4580	0
Didihat	61413	41385	2283	54	582	700	1091	7290	3641	4387	2779	7166	2184	4982	0
Kanalichina	62878	41274	2879	183	650	2702	260	6731	2522	5677	3009	8686	4821	3865	0
Gangolihat	68068	46571	8385	863	43	3045	938	1021	1905	5297	4061	9358	4166	5192	0
Pithoragarh	55612	43533	1217	282	0	758	988	470	3903	4461	4563	9024	4371	4653	0
Munakot	62646	45545	3357	541	0	1016	2133	1622	3207	5222	4850	10072	5332	4740	0
<b>Total Rural</b>	<b>664719</b>	<b>460397</b>	<b>35204</b>	<b>3065</b>	<b>5890</b>	<b>20810</b>	<b>9204</b>	<b>45981</b>	<b>42574</b>	<b>41591</b>	<b>28489</b>	<b>70080</b>	<b>32026</b>	<b>38054</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Forest</b>	<b>79753</b>	<b>79753</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Urban</b>	<b>2262</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2265</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total District</b>	<b>746734</b>	<b>540150</b>	<b>35204</b>	<b>3065</b>	<b>5890</b>	<b>20810</b>	<b>11469</b>	<b>45981</b>	<b>42574</b>	<b>41591</b>	<b>28489</b>	<b>70080</b>	<b>32026</b>	<b>38054</b>	<b>0</b>

Source:DES, Pithoragarh



**Table 2.8: Area Under Major Crops in Pithoragarh (Area in Hectares)**

Year/ Block	Paddy	Wheat	Barley	Maize	Mandua (Ragi)	Sawaan	Total Pulses	Soybean	Total Oilseeds	Potato
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
2014-15	20131	21796	3416	3079	7227	1280	4924	709	1582	1129
2015-16	20538	22551	3129	3490	6687	1021	4727	1023	1705	1016
2016-17	21309	22219	3027	2552	6142	992	7548	1032	1855	748
<b>Block Wise (2015-16)</b>										
Munsiyari	2224	2915	618	386	536	75	979	133	199	139
Dharchula	2497	2644	493	386	541	72	1066	132	206	120
Berinag	2536	2690	336	526	917	169	817	135	218	160
Didihat	1994	2730	317	391	681	87	928	141	206	51
Kanalichina	4335	2600	243	202	701	96	1019	133	244	56
Gangolihat	2120	2688	272	210	1191	168	1077	97	211	64
Pithoragarh	3820	3394	323	225	795	159	821	93	234	98
Munakot	1783	2558	425	226	780	166	841	168	337	60
<b>Total Rural</b>	<b>21309</b>	<b>22219</b>	<b>3027</b>	<b>2552</b>	<b>6142</b>	<b>992</b>	<b>7548</b>	<b>1032</b>	<b>1855</b>	<b>748</b>
<b>Total Urban</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total District</b>	<b>21309</b>	<b>22219</b>	<b>3027</b>	<b>2552</b>	<b>6142</b>	<b>992</b>	<b>7548</b>	<b>1032</b>	<b>1855</b>	<b>748</b>

Source:DES, Pithoragarh

**Table 2.9: Production and Productivity of Major Crops**

Crops	Production: metric ton			Productivity: Q/Ha		
	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
<b>Paddy</b>	25550	26720	28107	12.69	13.01	13.19
<b>Wheat</b>	30989	24469	35407	14.22	10.85	15.94
<b>Mandua</b>	10270	10683	9470	14.21	15.98	15.42
<b>Maize</b>	6370	4527	3404	20.69	12.97	13.34
<b>Pulses</b>	6152	7274	6119	7.68	9.43	8.82
<b>Oilseeds</b>	1361	1517	2074	8.6	8.9	15.49

Source:DES, Pithoragarh

## 2.7. Land Holding Pattern

Year	<0.5 Ha	0.5-1 Ha	1-2 Ha	2-4 Ha	4-10 Ha	>10 Ha	Total
2000-01	53974	21282	9663	1898	164	14	86995
2005-06	48040	22400	8381	1410	102	7	80340
2010-11	45971	24603	7881	1335	55	1	79846

Source:DES, Pithoragarh

## 2.8. Horticulture

Year	Total Orchards	Area under Horticulture crops (Ha.)	No. of Horticulture Care Centres	No. of Fruit Processing Units	No. of Nurseries
2015-16	15	115.82	24	3	8
2016-17	15	115.82	24	3	8
2017-18	15	115.82	24	3	10
Block-Wise (2017-18)					
Munsiyari	3	50.00	3	0	1
Dharchula	2	25.30	3	1	3
Berinag	1	2.25	3	0	0
Didihat	3	13.25	3	1	3
Kanalichina	1	2.00	3	0	2
Gangolihat	1	2.50	3	0	0
Pithoragarh	2	15.67	3	1	1
Munakot	2	4.85	3	0	0
<b>Total District</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>115.82</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>

Source:DES, Pithoragarh

The table above shows the total area under horticulture crops is just 115.82 hectares, maximum being in Block Munsiyari followed by Dharchula. Having maximum area, Munsiyari has a single nursery and does not have a single processing unit. Block Munakot, Kanalichina, Gangolihat, and Berinag also does not have a single processing unit. Further, Berinag, Gangolihat, and Munakot does not have single nursery.

Table 2.12: Area and Production of Major Fruits in Pithoragarh (Area in Hectare and Production in metric tons)																		
Year/ Block	Apple		Pear		Peach		Plum		Apricot		Walnut		Citrus		Mango		Litchi	
	Area	Prod.	Area	Prod.	Area	Prod.	Area	Prod.	Area	Prod.	Area	Prod.	Area	Prod.	Area	Prod.	Area	Prod.
2015-16	1600	1815	1247	7489	996	1399	918	935	757	600	1905	382	3351	11054	2872	1777	527	370
2016-17	118.6 4	114.6	385	2499	286	915	172	310	80	255	261	1255	1206	18325	729	3128	220	310
2017-18	1610	2550	1252	12200	1012	3025	920	1350	760	1020	1924	1485	3355	17500	2875	2520	526	610
<b>Block Wise (2015-16)</b>																		
Munsiyari	750	1025	150	1345	125	415	120	183	101	110	261	197	226	1260	271	255	110	130
Dharchula	675	725	233	2425	110	385	105	169	81	120	138	115	563	2940	410	365	63	76
Berinag	30	145	70	696	82	380	120	155	83	120	211	169	360	1870	312	260	35	58
Didihat	20	145	139	1296	105	390	110	193	91	125	293	194	260	1320	287	245	59	70
Kanalichina	25	105	275	2675	135	205	120	139	103	135	371	295	656	3450	512	415	79	80
Gangolihat	40	160	110	1092	115	360	130	130	86	125	226	170	410	2035	440	395	65	81
Pithoragarh	20	135	135	1296	175	525	125	185	110	145	191	160	428	2250	261	220	45	50
Munakot	50	110	140	1375	165	365	90	196	105	140	233	185	452	2375	382	365	70	65
<b>Total District</b>	<b>1610</b>	<b>2550</b>	<b>1252</b>	<b>12200</b>	<b>1012</b>	<b>3025</b>	<b>920</b>	<b>1350</b>	<b>760</b>	<b>1020</b>	<b>1924</b>	<b>1485</b>	<b>3355</b>	<b>17500</b>	<b>2875</b>	<b>2520</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>610</b>

Source: DES, Pithoragarh

## 2.9. Animal Husbandry

Table 2.13: Livestock Population in the District							
Year/Block	Cow	Buffalo	Sheep	Goat	Horse/ Pony	Pig	Poultry
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	9
<b>2003</b>	<b>240748</b>	<b>86877</b>	<b>32804</b>	<b>145173</b>	<b>1043</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>50506</b>
<b>2007</b>	<b>227047</b>	<b>77688</b>	<b>39043</b>	<b>177529</b>	<b>2978</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>72640</b>
<b>2012</b>	<b>202104</b>	<b>50996</b>	<b>47336</b>	<b>201240</b>	<b>4219</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>40798</b>
Block Wise (2012)							
Munsiyari	36363	4289	22052	28256	736	0	1151
Dharchula	39577	6048	25277	28810	1326	88	4570
Berinag	21381	7631	0	21475	389	0	2189
Didihat	14043	5730	1	17257	306	4	2062
Kanalichina	17572	7164	0	21572	328	5	2581
Gangolihat	22557	12545	0	40011	308	3	9168
Pithoragarh	22820	3716	3	21039	342	24	8915
Munakot	24939	3867	2	21897	452	25	9280
Urban	2852	6	1	923	32	81	882
<b>Total District</b>	<b>202104</b>	<b>50996</b>	<b>47336</b>	<b>201240</b>	<b>4219</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>40798</b>

Source:DES, Pithoragarh

In the district, there has been a decline in the number of milch animals, both Cow and Buffalo, over the past years. However, the population of goat is increasing significantly in the rural areas of the district. Since 2017, ILSP has established a poultry federation in the district with both backward and forward linkages provided to the poultry owners and due to this the numbers of poultry birds has increased to a great extent.

## 2.10. Tourism

District Pithoragarh, also known as “Mini-Kashmir” is endowed with great beauty. Situated in Soar valley with Nepal in the east and Tibet in the north, Pithoragarh is a tourists’ paradise. The river Kali moving through the town which is pleasantly decorated with quiet sanctuaries, towns, fortress, lavish green backwoods and regular assets, this place is a surprisingly beneficial development for travel lovers. The famous tourist attractions of the district are-Munsiyari, Pithoragarh Fort, Kapileshwar Mahadev, Dhvaj Temple, Nakuleshwar, Askot Sanctuary, Chaukori, Jhula Ghat, Narayan Ashram, Patal Bhauvneswar to name the few.

- a. **Patal Buvanaeshwar-** Patal Bhubaneshwar, which literally means the sub-terranean shrine of Lord Shiva is a cave temple located about 91 kms from Pithoragarh and 14 kms north of Gangolihat. The way to the temple is through a tunnel which leads into a cave and through a narrow dark passage of water.
- b. **Munsyari-**Munsyari acts as the base camp for treks to Milam, Ralam and Namik Glacier. It stands at an altitude of 2,135 metres above sea level and the entire region is known as Johar Valley. Situated around Munsyari are alpine lakes of Maheshwari Kund and Thamri Kund.
- c. **Dharchula-**Situated on the banks of river Mahakali, Dharchula is the remotest block of the district bordering Nepal in the east and Tibet in the North. It has been a seat of trade between India-China-Nepal. Dharchula is on the route of Kailash Mansarovar and is visited by numerous visitors every year. Also, it is on the route of Panchachulitrek and Om Parvat.
- d. **Narayan Ashram-** The ashram was established by Narayan Swami in 1936, about 136 kms north of Pithoragarh and 14 kms from Tawaghat. This spiritual cum socio educational centre is set at an altitude of 2,734 metres amidst scenic surroundings. It has a school for local children and imparts training to local youth. There is also a library, meditation room and samadhisthal.
- e. **Askot Sanctuary-**This beautiful sanctuary which is located about 54 kms from Pithoragarh nestles at a height of 5,412 feet above sea level. It is very popular among wildlife enthusiasts and nature lovers. It is a haven for snow leopards, Himalayan black bears, musk deer, snowcocks, tahra, bharals, chirs, koklas, pheasants and chukors. The lush sanctuary area dotted with temples is also a fine place to view the beauty of the Himalayas
- f. **Dhwaj Temple-**Dhwaj temple is a very famous shrine dedicated to Lord Shiva and Maa Jayanti and is about 10 kms by road and 4 kms on foot from Pithoragarh. It also provides a breath-taking view of the snow-capped peaks that surround it.
- g. **Chaukori-**The small hill town of Chaukori provides a great weather and majestic views of snow-capped peaks. The entire area is filled with tea gardens and orchards. It is located about 112 kms from Pithoragarh in Gangolihat.
- h. **Thal Kedar-** A pilgrim spot, the Thal Kedar is nestled at an elevation of 880 meters above sea level. The place is famous for its ancient temple dedicated to Lord Shiva and is mentioned in the ancient text of the Skanda Purana. The location also offers some really amazing views of the valley and is attracts several tourist during the festival of Shivratri every year.
- i. **Mahakali Temple-**Block Gangolihat is at a distance of 77 Km. from Pithoragarh. It is rich in folk culture, music and religious traditions and had been chosen by Sankaracharya for the installation of Mahakalishaktipith. Amidst the cluster of pine trees is situated the shakti

temple. In the direction opposite of the Kali temple about 2 Km. away is situated the Chamunda temple which is believed to be in the centre of an area of wilderness exclusively possessed by spirits and demons conquered by the Goddess in her fierce aspect. The temple has an aura of mystery and weird charm and during the dark hours of night the spirits are believed to have a free sway outside the temple premises.

**Fairs and Festivals-** Pithoragarh is known for distinct culture and traditions. We can see a mixed culture of Uttarakhand, Tibet, and Nepal among the fairs, festival, dialects, food, art, etc.

- a. **Mostamanu Fair-** Devotees of God Mosta travel far and away while worshipping the deity and receive blessings in the form of prosperity and welfare. In order to celebrate the divine presence, a local fair is also organized in the month of August-September, which includes a large number of devotees, travellers, tourists etc.
- b. **ChhiplaJaat-**The principal yatra starts from village Khela near Tawaghat. It goes through thick forests, rocky lands and Bugyals. With folk drums, bhankaras (metallic pipe instrument) and neja (the flag of red cloth pieces collected from all the families of the villages) the jaat goes to Barmano, which is 6 Km from Khela. On the second day the devotees go through a thick oak forest. After crossing Bunga,Garapani, Mangthilgwar, Ganbhujdhura (the blooming bugyal) comes Brahmkund (18 Km).
- c. **Kandali festival-** Kandali (*Strobilenteswallichii*)-Blooms once every 12 years and next in 2011) and the people celebrate Kandali festival between the months of August and October. In the week-long festival the local people, Shaukas or the Rangs, participate with gaiety enthusiasm in different villages of the region.
- d. **Hilljatra-** A festival of pastoralists and agriculturist hilljatra came to Pithoragarh valley from West Nepal and at once found fervour in Kumaur and Bajethi and in its modified form as Hiranchital at Kanalichina and Askot. It is associated with ropai (paddy transplantation) and allied agricultural activities of rainy season.

Other than these festivals there are several local fairs like Jauljibi and Thalmela, which are primarily trade fairs, Navaratri mela at Hat Kalika temple, Kapileshwar fair during Shivratri, Nanda Devi fair in Milam and Johar region of Munsiyari. Pithoragarh is a remote hills district with only road connectivity. Due to its remoteness and inaccessibility during rainy season, the number of tourists are limited. Though the district has an airport but the flights are not operational.

Table 2.14: No. of Homestays in Pithoragarh							
S.No.	Category	Urban Area			Rural Area		
		Units	Total Rooms	Total Beds	Units	Total Rooms	Total Beds
1	Gold	0	0	0	2	3	6

2	<b>Silver</b>	0	0	0	15	41	82
3	<b>Bronze</b>	0	0	0	124	327	685
<b>Total</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>773</b>

Source: <https://uttarakhandtourism.gov.in/>

A total of 773 units are registered under Home Stay scheme. The maximum numbers of Home Stays are in Block Dharchula and Munsiyari. In the year 2018, 1,53,729 Indian, 656 foreigners and a total of 1,54,385 tourists visited Pithoragarh. These numbers can be increased significantly provided the all-round connectivity to the district.

<b>Table 2.15: Tourism Facilities in the District</b>	
Major Tourist Destinations	24
Tourist Rest House	21
Night Shelters	1
No. of beds in Tourist Rest House	473
No. of beds in Night Shelters	30
Hotels & Paying Guest house	120
No. of Dharamshala	1

Source: DES, Pithoragarh

## 2.11. Industry

<b>Table 2.16: Industrial Units in Pithoragarh</b>						
S.No.	Name of Agency	By Panchayat	By Industrial Co-operative Society	By Registered Agency	Individual Businessmen	Total
1.	Khadi Udhog	0	2	0	0	2
2.	Promoted by Khadi Gram Udhog	0	0	0	2699	2699
3.	Small Scale Industries					
3.1	Engineering	0	0	0	288	288
3.2	Chemical	0	0	0	38	38
3.3	Processing	0	0	0	857	857
3.4	Handloom	0	0	0	430	430
3.5	Silk	0	0	0	0	0
3.6	Coir	0	0	0	0	0

3.7	Handicraft	0	0	0	148	148
3.8	Others	0	0	0	494	494
4.	<b>Persons Employed in Small Scale Industries</b>	0	30	0	12,095	12,125

Source: DES, Pithoragarh

Table2.17: Industrial Units in Pithoragarh						
Year/ Block	Registered Industries		Small Industrial Units		Khadi GramUdhyog Units	
	Units	Persons Employed	Units	Persons Employed	Units	Persons Employed
2015-16	3	400	1920	5302	2601	5732
2016-17	3	400	2080	5647	2651	5904
2017-18	3	400	2255	6075	2701	6050
Block Wise (2017-18)						
Munsiyari	0	0	194	438	338	790
Dharchula	0	0	238	534	312	608
Berinag	0	0	245	634	307	708
Didihat	0	0	241	583	167	495
Kanalichina	0	0	159	391	317	719
Gangolihat	0	0	169	431	295	606
Pithoragarh	3	400	290	939	655	1540
Munakot	0	0	234	563	298	555
Urban	0	0	485	1562	12	29
<b>Total District</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>2255</b>	<b>6075</b>	<b>2701</b>	<b>6050</b>

Source:DES, Pithoragarh

Table2.18: Data on MSME, Pithoragarh				
	Industry Type	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
<b>Total Industries</b>	Micro	157	175	123
	Small	2	2	0
	Medium	1	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>123</b>



<b>Total Investment (in lakh)</b>	Micro	833	790.41	979.43
	Small	89	58	0
	Medium	275	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1197</b>	<b>848.41</b>	<b>979.43</b>
<b>Total Employment</b>	Micro	330	420	414
	Small	5	16	0
	Medium	8	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>414</b>

Source: <https://www.doiuk.org/>

The table above shows that the district has mainly Micro enterprises and also has the largest investment and provided maximum employment. Since the district is hilly and the geographical terrain is unsuitable for large industries, these Micro enterprises will help in developing the economy. Further, several mineral like copper, limestone, dolomite, soapstone and magnesite are found in the district.

**Table 2.19: List of Minerals available in Pithoragarh**

S.No.	Mineral	Area	Estimated (in lakh tons)	Actual (in lakh tons)	Usage
1.	Limestone	Gangolihat, Chonala area	600	160	Cement
2.	Magnesite	Chandak, Puneri, Pandeygaon, Tandi- gaon, Kanalichina	200	92	Steel Factory
3.	Soapstone	Devathal, Bhurmoni, Raiagar	60	35	Cosmetics, Paint, Lubricants, Soap
4.	Copper, Zinc and Graphite	Askote, Raigar	13	13	

Source: District Skill Gap for the State of Uttarakhand, NSDC

#### 4.12. Employment and Skill Development

The table below is an estimate of workforce distribution in the district. The youths are moving out of the district for better higher education, employment and other services and due to this there is a serious gaps in demand and supply of skilled manpower. The incremental demand for human resource by 2022 for top five sector would be in Education and Skill Development (0.18 lakh), Tourism, travel, hospitality & trade (0.14 lakh), Food Processing (0.10 lakh), Manufacturing (0.074 lakh), and Building, Construction & Real Estate services (0.067 lakh). The majority of the

youth is unskilled, the training programs like computer, English speaking, etc. are generally conducted but not the sectoral trainings like hospitality, food processing, packaging, marketing, etc. This sector of skilling the youth must be focused and worked upon seriously.

<b>Table 2.20: Estimated Workforce Distribution in Pithoragarh</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2022</b>
Total Population	4,88,429	5,00,795	5,13,474
Working Age Population	3,01,849	3,24,964	3,49,848
Labour Force	1,86,915	2,45,749	2,32,530
Work Force	1,82,865	2,40,583	3,16,519
<b>Incremental Manpower Supply</b>		<b>58,834</b>	<b>1,36,614</b>

Source: District Skill Gap for the State of Uttarakhand, NSDC

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## CHAPTER 3

### STATUS OF MIGRATION

In this chapter, analysis of the data collected on the basis of the survey conducted by the commission in January 2018 in different gram panchayats of the state has been presented to bring out various aspects of migration in the district.

#### 3.1. Main Occupation

Analysis of the data shows that the main occupation of people living in different villages of the state is Agriculture, followed by labor and government service. The district and state average of the gram panchayat level data is presented in the tables below:

Table 3.1: Gram panchayat level main occupation (Pithoragarh)							
District Name	Main occupation (in %)						
	Labor	Agriculture	Horticulture	Dairy	Govt. Service	Other	Total
Pithoragarh	27.17	40.78	2.16	4.44	15.13	10.31	100.00

Table 3.2: Gram panchayat level main occupation (State average)							
State Name	Main occupation (in %)						
	Labor	Agriculture	Horticulture	Dairy	Govt. Service	Other	Total
Uttarakhand	32.22	43.59	2.11	2.64	10.82	8.63	100.00

#### 3.2. Semi-Permanent and Permanent Migrants

In this section, the information on semi-permanent and permanent migrants has been analyzed. In the last 10 years, a total of 31,789 persons from 589 gram panchayats have migrated on a semi-permanent basis, though they come to their homes in the villages from time to time and have not migrated permanently.

In the last 10 years, there are 9,883 permanent migrants from 384 gram panchayats. Data indicates that there are more semi-permanent migrants than permanent migrants in all districts of the state.

<b>Table 3.3: District and Block wise migrants in last 10 years from gram panchayats</b>					
<b>District Name</b>	<b>Block Name</b>	<b>No. of GPs (with semi-permanent migration) / Short term migration for livelihood</b>	<b>No. of migrant over last 10 yrs (semi-permanent migration)/ Short term migration for livelihood</b>	<b>No. of GPs (with permanent migration/ sold their lands, abandoned houses and seldom visit village)</b>	<b>No. of migrant over last 10 yrs (permanent migration/ sold their lands, abandoned houses and seldom visit village)</b>
Pithoragarh	Berinag	77	4,307	68	2,248
Pithoragarh	Dharchula	57	6,330	8	465
Pithoragarh	Didihat	69	2,210	60	1,394
Pithoragarh	Gangolihat	58	1,713	27	443
Pithoragarh	Kanalichina	91	3,779	90	2,660
Pithoragarh	Munakot	75	5,801	44	1,052
Pithoragarh	Munsyari	77	4,822	38	566
Pithoragarh	Pithoragarh (Vin)	85	2,824	49	1,055
<b>Total</b>		<b>589</b>	<b>31,789</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>9,883</b>

<b>Table 3.4: State wise migrants in last 10 years from gram panchayats</b>				
<b>State Name</b>	<b>No. of GPs (with semi-permanent migration) / Short term migration for livelihood</b>	<b>No. of migrant over last 10 yrs (semi-permanent migration)/ Short term migration for livelihood</b>	<b>No. of GPs (with permanent migration/ sold their lands, abandoned houses and seldom visit village)</b>	<b>No. of migrant over last 10 yrs (permanent migration/ sold their lands, abandoned houses and seldom visit village)</b>
<b>Uttarakhand</b>	6,338	383,726	3,946	118,981

### 3.3. Main Reasons For Migration

The main reason for migration is the problem of livelihood/ employment followed by dearth of education; health and infrastructure. The detailed data has been provided in the tables below.

Table 3.5: District and Block wise main reasons for migration from gram panchayats										Total
District Name	Block Name	Main reason for migration from Gram panchayats (%)								
		Lack or livelihood/ employment (%)	Lack of medical facilities (%)	Lack of Education facilities (%)	Lack of Infrastructure (Roads, Electricity, Water, etc.) (%)	Low Farm Production and Productivity (%)	Emulating family, Relative etc. for migration (%)	Loss of Farming caused by wild animals (%)	Any other reason (%)	
Pithoragarh	Berinag	47.99	12.21	13.62	7.06	6.60	2.35	6.57	3.61	100.00
Pithoragarh	Dharchula	33.59	5.88	25.96	3.21	7.89	2.64	2.64	18.18	100.00
Pithoragarh	Didihat	31.78	9.54	16.09	3.30	1.64	0.88	3.36	33.42	100.00
Pithoragarh	Gangolihat	32.91	13.00	18.84	6.64	5.36	3.13	3.55	16.58	100.00
Pithoragarh	Kanalichina	40.34	13.40	21.96	5.09	5.46	3.09	3.93	6.73	100.00
Pithoragarh	Munakot	47.23	8.19	20.49	4.42	3.76	2.96	7.03	5.93	100.00
Pithoragarh	Munsyari	48.12	12.30	26.36	4.41	2.34	0.86	1.55	4.05	100.00
Pithoragarh	Pithoragarh (Vin)	56.28	6.18	15.01	5.39	4.21	2.59	2.96	7.37	100.00
Total		42.81	10.13	19.52	4.97	4.66	2.36	4.08	11.48	100.00

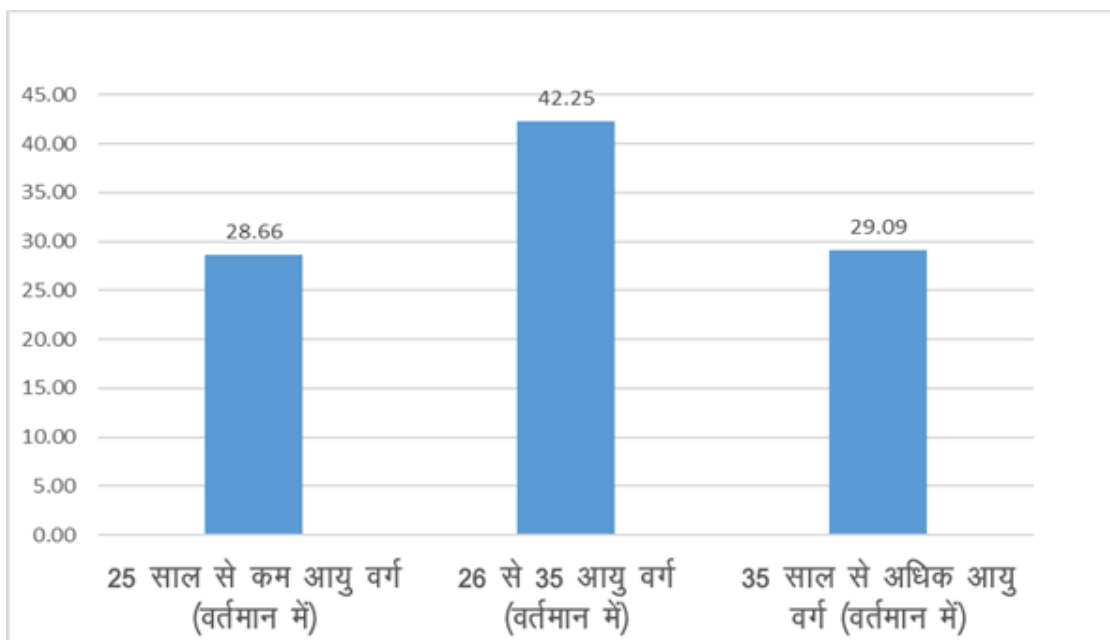
Table 3.6: State wise main reasons for migration from gram panchayats									
State Name	Main reason for migration from Gram panchayats (%)								Total
	Lack or livelihood/ employment (%)	Lack of medical facilities (%)	Lack of Education facilities (%)	Lack of Infrastructure (Roads, Electricity, Water, etc.) (%)	Low Farm Production and Productivity (%)	Emulating family, Relative etc. for migration (%)	Loss of Farming caused by wild animals (%)	Any other reason (%)	
Uttarakhand	50.16	8.83	15.21	3.74	5.44	2.52	5.61	8.48	100.00

### 3.4. Age of Migrants

This section analyses the age of the migrants from the gram panchayats. More than 42% of the migrants are between the age of 26 to 35 years. Detailed information of different blocks and districts is given in the tables below:

Table 3.7: District and Block wise age of migrants from gram panchayats					Total
District Name	Block Name	Block wise age of migrants from gram panchayats (%)			
		Block wise age of migrants from gram panchayats (%)	Block wise age of migrants from gram panchayats (%)	Block wise age of migrants from gram panchayats (%)	
Pithoragarh	Berinag	29.26	43.51	27.23	100.00
Pithoragarh	Dharchula	30.25	42.39	27.36	100.00
Pithoragarh	Didihat	40.80	34.62	24.58	100.00
Pithoragarh	Gangolihat	25.00	35.00	40.00	100.00
Pithoragarh	Kanalichina	26.23	45.24	28.53	100.00
Pithoragarh	Munakot	32.52	39.53	27.95	100.00
Pithoragarh	Munsyari	25.28	48.36	26.36	100.00
Pithoragarh	Pithoragarh (Vin)	20.92	43.68	35.39	100.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>28.32</b>	<b>42.58</b>	<b>29.10</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Table 3.8: State and Age wise Migration Status from gram panchayats				Total
State Name	Age wise Migration Status from gram panchayats (%)			
	Age<25 years (at present)	Age 26-35 years (at present)	Age >35 (at present)	
Uttarakhand	28.66	42.25	29.09	100.00

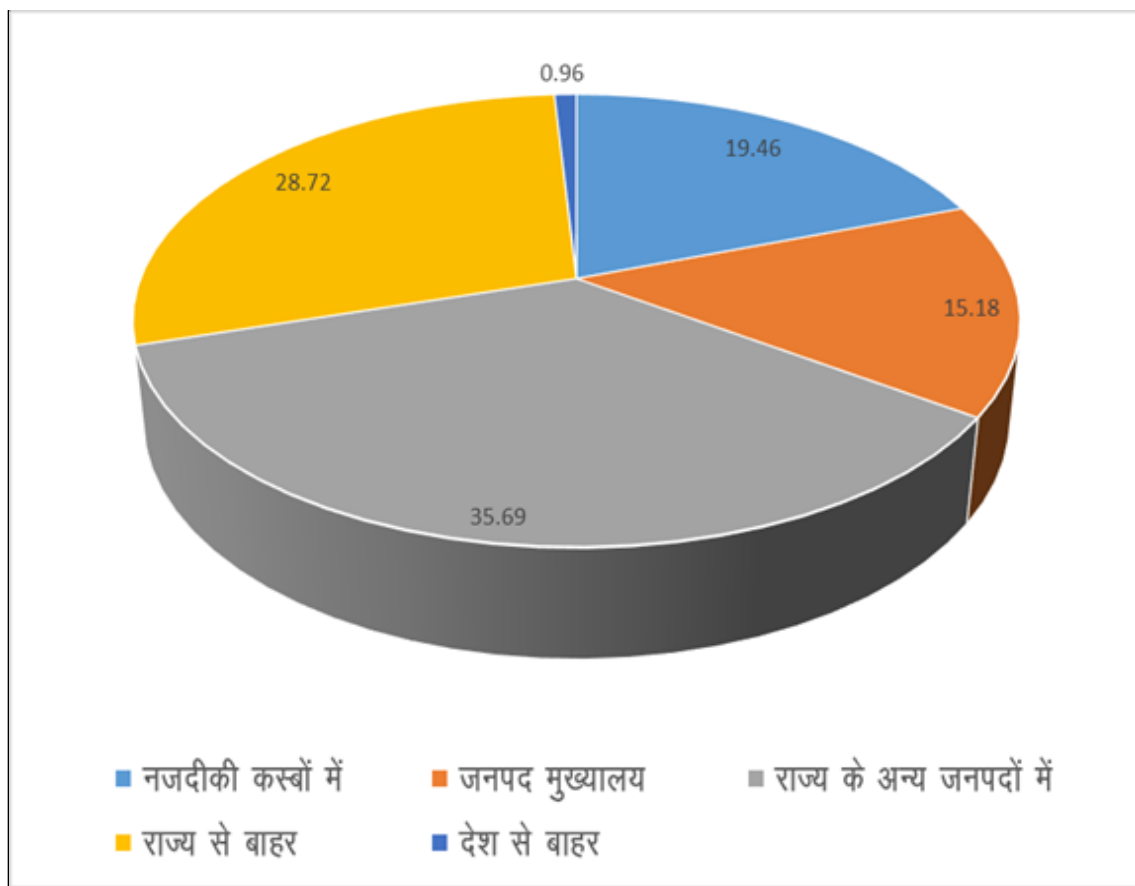


### 3.5. Destination of Migrants

This section presents the results of the analysis of the destination of migrants from gram panchayats. About 35 % of migrants have gone to other districts of the state while 28% have migrated outside the state.

District Name	Block Name	Destination of migrants (%)					Total
		Nearby Town	District Headquarter	Other Districts of the State	Outside the state	Outside the country	
Pithoragarh	Berinag	31.13	16.35	37.87	14.58	0.07	100.00
Pithoragarh	Dharchula	19.83	27.74	40.07	12.15	0.20	100.00
Pithoragarh	Didihat	37.59	32.93	19.14	10.34	0.00	100.00
Pithoragarh	Gangolihat	7.14	17.86	37.86	34.29	2.86	100.00
Pithoragarh	Kanalichina	11.43	43.51	31.92	12.83	0.30	100.00
Pithoragarh	Munakot	8.83	42.64	27.98	20.23	0.32	100.00
Pithoragarh	Munsyari	24.09	31.89	23.81	20.21	0.00	100.00
Pithoragarh	Vin	0.61	31.99	46.68	20.54	0.18	100.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>15.70</b>	<b>33.07</b>	<b>34.33</b>	<b>16.67</b>	<b>0.23</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Table 3.10: State wise destination of migrants from Gram Panchayats						Total
State Name	Destination of migrants (%)					
	Nearby Town	District Headquarter	Other Districts of the State	Outside the state	Outside the country	
Uttarakhand	19.46	15.18	35.69	28.72	0.96	100



### 3.6. Uninhabited Villages De-Populated After 2011

This section presents details of district and block wise summary of number of revenue villages/ toks which have become de-populated after 2011; number not connected by roads; number of villages where electricity is not available; drinking water not within 1 km; PHC not available and number of such villages within 5 km of aerial distance from international border.



<b>Table 3.11: District and Block wise Number of uninhabited revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (De-populated After 2011)</b>		
<b>District Name</b>	<b>Block Name</b>	<b>Total Revenue Villages/ Toks/Majra (at present)</b>
Pithoragarh	Berinag	1
Pithoragarh	Dharchula	3
Pithoragarh	Gangolihat	55
Pithoragarh	Kanalichina	2
Pithoragarh	Munakot	5
Pithoragarh	Munsyari	6
Pithoragarh	Pithoragarh (Vin)	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>75</b>
<b>Uttarakhand</b>		<b>734</b>

<b>Table 3.12: District and Block wise Number of uninhabited revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (Not Connected by Road)</b>		
<b>District Name</b>	<b>Block Name</b>	<b>Total Revenue Villages/Toks / Majra (at present)</b>
Pithoragarh	Berinag	1
Pithoragarh	Dharchula	1
Pithoragarh	Gangolihat	30
Pithoragarh	Kanalichina	2
Pithoragarh	Munakot	5
Pithoragarh	Munsyari	4
Pithoragarh	Vin	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>44</b>
<b>Uttarakhand</b>		<b>482</b>

<b>Table 3.13: District and Block wise Number of uninhabited revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (Drinking water not within 1Km)</b>		
<b>District Name</b>	<b>Block Name</b>	<b>Total Revenue Villages/Toks /Majra (at present)</b>
Pithoragarh	Berinag	1
Pithoragarh	Dharchula	2
Pithoragarh	Gangolihat	35
Pithoragarh	Munakot	4
Pithoragarh	Munsyari	1
Pithoragarh	Vin	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>45</b>
<b>Uttarakhand</b>		<b>399</b>

<b>Table 3.14: District and Block wise Number of uninhabited revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (PHC not available)</b>		
<b>District Name</b>	<b>Block Name</b>	<b>Total Revenue Villages/Toks /Majra (at present)</b>
Pithoragarh	Berinag	1
Pithoragarh	Dharchula	3
Pithoragarh	Gangolihat	55
Pithoragarh	Kanalichina	2
Pithoragarh	Munakot	5
Pithoragarh	Munsyari	5
Pithoragarh	Vin	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>74</b>
<b>Uttarakhand</b>		<b>660</b>

<b>Table 3.15: District and Block wise Number of uninhabited revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (within 5 Km from International Border)</b>		
<b>District Name</b>	<b>Block Name</b>	<b>Total Revenue Villages/Toks /Majra (at present)</b>
Pithoragarh	Kanalichina	1

Pithoragarh	Munakot	3
Pithoragarh	Munsyari	4
<b>Total</b>		<b>8</b>
<b>Uttarakhand</b>		<b>14</b>

### 3.7. Villages where people have migrated to during the last 10 years from other villages/ towns and hamlets

This section presents details of district and block wise number of villages where people from other villages/ towns and hamlets have migrated and settled

<b>Table 3.16: District and Block wise Number of villages where people have in-migrated and settled in last 10 years from other villages/ towns or small towns</b>		
<b>District Name</b>	<b>Block Name</b>	<b>Number of villages where people have in-migrated and settled in last 10 years from other villages/ towns or small towns</b>
Pithoragarh	Berinag	4
Pithoragarh	Dharchula	6
Pithoragarh	Didihat	1
Pithoragarh	Gangolihat	4
Pithoragarh	Kanalichina	6
Pithoragarh	Munakot	10
Pithoragarh	Munsyari	15
Pithoragarh	Pithoragarh (Vin)	13
<b>Total</b>		<b>69</b>
<b>Uttarakhand</b>		<b>850</b>

### 3.8. Villages where population has declined by 50% after 2011

This section presents details of district and block wise summary of number of revenue villages/ toks whose population has reduced by 50% after 2011; number not connected by roads; number of villages where electricity is not available; drinking water not within 1 km; PHC not available and number within 5 km of aerial distance from international border.

<b>Table 3.17: District and Block wise Number of revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (Population reduced by 50% After 2011)</b>		
<b>District Name</b>	<b>Block Name</b>	<b>Total Revenue Villages/Toks/Majra (at present)</b>
Pithoragarh	Berinag	12
Pithoragarh	Gangolihat	28
Pithoragarh	Kanalichina	2
Pithoragarh	Munakot	2
Pithoragarh	Munsyari	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>45</b>
<b>Uttarakhand</b>		<b>565</b>

<b>Table 3.18: District and Block wise Number of revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (Population reduced by 50% After 2011) (Not Connected by Road)</b>		
<b>District Name</b>	<b>Block Name</b>	<b>Total Revenue Villages/ Toks/Majra (at present)</b>
Pithoragarh	Berinag	12
Pithoragarh	Gangolihat	6
Pithoragarh	Kanalichina	2
Pithoragarh	Munakot	2
Pithoragarh	Munsyari	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>23</b>
<b>Uttarakhand</b>		<b>367</b>

<b>Table 3.19: District and Block wise Number of revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (Population reduced by 50% After 2011) (Drinking water not within 1Km)</b>		
<b>District Name</b>	<b>Block Name</b>	<b>Total Revenue Villages/Toks/Majra (at present)</b>
Pithoragarh	Gangolihat	24
Pithoragarh	Munakot	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>25</b>
<b>Uttarakhand</b>		<b>203</b>

<b>Table 3.20: District and Block wise Number of revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (Population reduced by 50% After 2011) (PHC not available)</b>		
<b>District Name</b>	<b>Block Name</b>	<b>Total Revenue Villages/Toks/Majra (at present)</b>
Pithoragarh	Berinag	10
Pithoragarh	Gangolihat	28
Pithoragarh	Kanalichina	2
Pithoragarh	Munakot	2
Pithoragarh	Munsyari	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>43</b>
<b>Uttarakhand</b>		<b>510</b>

<b>Table 3.21: District and Block wise Number of revenue villages/toks at Gram Panchayat Level (Population reduced by 50% After 2011) (within 5 Km from International Border)</b>		
<b>District Name</b>	<b>Block Name</b>	<b>Total Revenue Villages/Toks/Majra (at present)</b>
Pithoragarh	Kanalichina	1
Pithoragarh	Munakot	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>2</b>
<b>Uttarakhand</b>		<b>8</b>

## Chapter IV

# CURRENT RURAL SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

This chapter presents a summary of the ongoing Socio-Economic Programmes currently undertaken by different government departments in Pithoragarh district.

### 4.1. Rural Development

The table 4.1 shows the different schemes and programmes undertaken by the Department of Rural Development.

Table 4.1: Rural Development Schemes in Pithoragarh District (Amount in lakh)											
S.No.	Name of Scheme	Amount Remaining as on 01.04.2016	Amount spent as compared to (3)	Budget for FY2016-17	Amount released in FY2016-17	Amount spent as compared to released	Total Amount available	Cumulative Expenditure	Target	Unit	Achieved
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	MGNREGA	7.77	0.00	6180.20	4797.57	4797.57	4827.76	4797.57	13.01	Lakh man days	17.07
2	PMAY/IAY	0	0	552.50	202.80	202.80	202.80	202.80	425	No.	293
3	Indra Awas Aapda Package	0.08	0	--	32.17	32.17	32.25	32.17	144	No.	140
4	DUGAY	0	0	41.25	0	0	0	0	55	No.	0
<b>Hon'ble Chief Minister Scheme</b>											
A	Block Munsiyari	81.60	36.43	0	0	0	81.60	36.43	200	No.	31
B	Block Dharchula	103.01	87	0	0	0	103.01	87	200	No.	28
5	CCS	0	0	18.5	0	0	0	0	185	No.	0

6	Bio-gas	0	0	1.32	0	0	0	0	12	No.	12
7	DPAP	6.89	6.89	0	0	0	6.89	6.89	375	Ha.	115
8	BADP	1191.22	985.38	1421.03	1421.03	0	2612.25	985.38	0	No.	0
9	Vidhayak Nidhi	1840.52	736.55	1500	1500	299.64	3340.52	1036.19	--	No.	--
12	Uttarakhand Border and Backward Area Development	80.96	9.23	0	0	0	80.96	9.23	--	--	--

Source: Department of Rural Development, Uttarakhand

The table 4.2 shows the types and numbers of SHGs formed under NRLM in different blocks of Pithoragarh District.

Table 4.2: SHGs Group Social Category Wise (Block Level)											
		CategoryWise SHG			Minority CategoryWise Member						
S.No	Block Name	New	Revived	Pre-NRLM	Sub Total	SC	ST	Minority	Others	Sub Total	PWD
1	Berinag	230	32	0	262	802	8	2	774	1586	3
2	Dharchula	550	10	0	560	1001	773	12	1916	3702	3
3	Didihat	83	11	3	97	230	0	0	342	572	2
4	Gangolihat	271	5	8	284	1054	1	0	818	1873	112
5	Kanalichina	14	0	0	14	74	0	0	13	87	68
6	Munakot	10	3	0	13	18	0	1	62	81	1
7	Munsyari	208	19	0	227	522	396	0	640	1558	6
8	Pithoragarh	11	0	0	11	34	0	0	34	68	30
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1377</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1468</b>	<b>3735</b>	<b>1178</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>4599</b>	<b>9527</b>	<b>225</b>

Data Source: [www.nrlm.gov.in](http://www.nrlm.gov.in)

Blocks like Vin (Pithoragarh), Munakot, and Kanalichilaare in the vicinity of the District headquarters still have very less number of SHGs as compared to other blocks.

**4.1.1. Aajivika:** Uttarakhand State Rural Livelihood Mission has an ongoing program called ILSP (Integrated Livelihood Support Program) in collaboration with IFAD (International Fund for Agriculture Development). This program is focused on the Food Security and Livelihood Enhancement, Watershed Development, Livelihood Financing, and Project Monitoring components

thorough various activities like formation of Producers' groups, support in crop and livestock production, backward and forward linkages, collection centres, and training. Several resource centers and farm machinery banks have been set up under this program at the block level and operated and managed by the community. Under this program, to facilitate the mechanization in agriculture, multiple farm machinery banks are established at the block level. Local agencies, working in particular area/block, are roped in for providing technical expertise in different fields like agriculture, forest produce, skill building etc.

ILSP has been functional in Pithoragarh, Kanalichina, and Munakot Block. The following table shows the coverage of this program in district Pithoragarh.

S.No.	Project Block	No. of Villages Supported	No. of Groups Supported	No. of HHs Supported under PG/VPG (1st)	No. of HHs Supported for Seed Capital (1st)	No. of LCs (Registered)
1	Kanalichina	112	363	3031	786	6
2	Munakot	61	413	3184	606	5
3	Vin (Pithoragarh)	80	377	3026	625	5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>1153</b>	<b>9241</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>16</b>

Source: DPMU- ILSP, Pithoragarh

**4.1.2. Border Area Development Program-** Introduced in the year 1993-94, is a centrally sponsored scheme for areas along the international borders. The development programs includes socio-economic aspects such as Agriculture and allied sectors, education, health etc. These programs are participatory and implemented on decentralised basis through Panchayati Raj Institutions and local bodies. Since, the district shares its international borders with Nepal and China, this program is being implemented in 4 development blocks viz. Dharchula, Munsiyari, Kanalichina, and Munakot. The table below shows the financial status over the past 3 years under BADP scheme.

Block	2016-17			2017-18			2018-19		
	Amount Released (Rs.Lakh)	Expenditure (Rs.Lakh)	Work Done (No.)	Amount Released (Rs.Lakh)	Expenditure (Rs.Lakh)	Work Done (No.)	Amount Released (Rs.Lakh)	Expenditure (Rs.Lakh)	Work Done (No.)
Dharchula	667.17	667.17	89	651.57	651.57	87	621.29	286.79	33
Kanalichina	229.00	229.00	40	232.70	232.70	35	244.52	135.46	14
Munsiyari	462.59	462.59	61	406.85	406.85	55	394.46	158.08	2
Munakot	287.39	287.39	47	268.35	268.35	43	213.92	125.17	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>1646.15</b>	<b>1646.15</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>1559.47</b>	<b>1559.47</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>1474.19</b>	<b>705.5</b>	<b>61</b>

Source: Department of Rural Development, Pithoragarh



The amount released under this program has been decreasing over the last three years as well as the number of work done.

**4.1.3.** Table 4.5 shows the status of MGNREGA in the district Pithoragarh. Under this scheme the total expenditure for the entire district in the FY 2018-19 is Rs.5,138.34 Lakh, FY 2017-18 is Rs.4,767.08 lakh, which was Rs.5,712.27 lakh for the FY 2016-17 (inclusive of both labour and material part). This total expenditure has no significant trend in the last 3 financial years.

<b>Table 4.5: District Pithoragarh (as on 30.06.2019)</b>			
Total No. of Blocks	8		
Total No. of GPs	691		
<b>I. Job Card</b>			
Total No. of JobCards issued[In Lakhs]	0.64		
Total No. of Workers[In Lakhs]	1.13		
Total No. of Active Job Cards[In Lakhs]	0.53		
Total No. of Active Workers[In Lakhs]	0.9		
(i)SC worker against active workers[%]	21.75		
(ii)ST worker against active workers[%]	3.31		
<b>II. Progress</b>	<b>FY 2018-19</b>	<b>FY 2017-18</b>	<b>FY 2016-17</b>
Approved Labour Budget[In Lakhs]	17.38	13.01	18.05
Persondays Generated so far[In Lakhs]	19.34	17.13	18.66
% of Total LB	111.3	131.69	103.36
% as per Proportionate LB			
SC persondays % as of total persondays	21.21	21.63	22.95
ST persondays % as of total persondays	1.86	2.98	4.08
Women Persondays out of Total (%)	49.56	48.42	47.98
Average days of employment provided per Household	52.55	45.22	43.2
Average Wage rate per day per person(Rs.)	174.98	174.98	173.99
Total No of HHs completed 100 Days of Wage Employment	3,904	1,852	3,402
Total Households Worked[In Lakhs]	0.37	0.38	0.43
Total Individuals Worked[In Lakhs]	0.59	0.59	0.67
Differently abled persons worked	121	146	157
<b>III. Works</b>			
Number of GPs with NIL exp.	2	0	0
Total No. of Works Take-up (New+Spill Over)[In Lakhs]	0.17	0.21	0.21
Number of Ongoing Works[In Lakhs]	0.07	0.08	0.13
Number of Completed Works	9,884	12,390	8,070
% of NRM Expenditure (Public+Individual)	65.96	58.53	50.91

% of Category B Works	38.97	28.22	16.39
% of Expenditure on Agriculture & Agriculture Allied Works	77.92	72.42	60.61
<b>IV. Financial Progress</b>			
Total Exp.(Rs. in Lakhs.)	5,138.34	4,767.08	5,712.27
Wages(Rs. In Lakhs)	3,416.06	3,048.41	4,242.44
Material and skilled Wages(Rs. In Lakhs)	1,461.34	1,504.20	1,207.57
Material(%)	29.96	33.04	22.16
Total Adm. Expenditure (Rs. in Lakhs.)	260.94	214.47	262.26
Admin Exp. (%)	5.08	4.5	4.59
Average Cost Per Day Per Person(In Rs.)	270.98	247.66	232.69
% of Total Expenditure through EFMS	99.98	99.99	99.98
% payments generated within 15 days	99.98	96.19	89.9

Source: [http://mnregaweb4.nic.in/netnrega/all\\_lvl\\_details\\_dashboard\\_new.aspx](http://mnregaweb4.nic.in/netnrega/all_lvl_details_dashboard_new.aspx)

**4.1.4. GRAMYA:** This program is undertaken by the State Watershed Development Directorate. It works at the community level with Gram Panchayats, SHGs and Vulnerable Groups. Following table shows the funding pattern in Vulnerable Groups in the District Pithoragarh.

S.No.	Year	Activity	Number of Groups Funded	Amount Funded
1	2016-17	Carpet Making	1	1.00
		Choliya Dance	1	1.00
		Dairy	5	4.82
		Spice Mill	1	1.00
		Tent House	10	10.00
		<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>17.82</b>
2	2017-18	Candle Making	2	1.40
		Carpet Making	2	1.70
		Catering	1	1.00
		Choliya Dance	1	1.00
		Dairy	8	8.00
		Spice Mill	1	0.70
		Tent House	12	9.90
		Videography	1	0.90
		<b>Total</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>24.60</b>

3	2018-19	Choliya Dance	1	1.00
		Dairy	3	3.00
		Spice Mill	1	1.00
		Tent House	2	1.40
		<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6.40</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>53</b>	<b>48.82</b>	

Source: District Administration, Pithoragarh

Activities like Dairy and Tent House are apparently preferred options under this scheme.

## 4.2. Small & Medium Industries-

### 4.2.1. KVIB, Pithoragarh

S.No.	Block	2016-17			2017-18			2018-19		
		Units (No.)	Finance (Rs. Lakh)	Jobs (No.)	Units (No.)	Finance (Rs. Lakh)	Jobs (No.)	Units (No.)	Finance (Rs. Lakh)	Jobs (No.)
1	Munsiyari	1	6	4	4	13.8	8	11	42.23	25
2	Dharchula	6	14	8	9	28.1	17	4	12	7
3	Berinag	0	0	0	3	33	21	1	4	2
4	Didihat	4	19	13	4	12	7	0	0	0
5	Kanalichina	2	10	6	7	25.5	12	5	16.5	10
6	Gangolihat	0	0	0	10	40	21	4	16.74	10
7	Pithoragarh	4	20	12	3	8.5	5	10	42.18	25
8	Munakot	7	25	16	2	6	4	5	17.5	11
	<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>166.9</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>151.15</b>	<b>90</b>

Source: Khadi Gramodhyog, Pithoragarh

PMEGP (Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme) is a credit linked subsidy scheme under MSME ministry. KVIC (Khadi & Village Industries Commission) is the nodal agency at national level and implemented by District Industries Center within the district. The table above has not shown a specific growth trend over the past years but blocks like Dharchula, Munsiyari are having better performance than other blocks. Berinag, Gangolihat and Didihat are the worst performers in this category.

S.No.	Block	2016-17			2017-18			2018-19		
		Units (No.)	Finance (Rs. Lakh)	Jobs (No.)	Units (No.)	Finance (Rs. Lakh)	Jobs (No.)	Units (No.)	Finance (Rs. Lakh)	Jobs (No.)
1	Munsiyari	2	3.5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	Dharchula	5	15.5	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Berinag	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Didihat	2	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Kanalichina	5	19	8	2	7	5	0	0	0
6	Gangolihat	0	0	0	1	5	2	0	0	0
7	Pithoragarh	10	30.5	10	3	10	4	4	11	5
8	Munakot	1	2	1	2	8	2	1	5	3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>78.5</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>8</b>

Source: Khadi Gramodhyog, Pithoragarh

Under the individual interest subsidy scheme there are only handful of units in blocks like Vin, Kanalichina, Munakot and Gangolihat rest of the blocks have not a single unit under this scheme.

**4.3. Agriculture:** Agriculture department has several schemes currently running in the district.

#### **4.3.1. Centrally Sponsored Schemes**

- a. **Rashtriya Khadya Shuraksha Mission (National Food Security Mission)-**  
The scheme launched in year October, 2007 by Government of India aims to increase the annual production of food grains. The funding pattern between Central to State is 90:10. Under this scheme crops like Rice, Wheat, coarse cereals (maize, barley), Nutri Cereals (Mandua, Jhangora, Ramdana etc.), Pulses (Urad, Gahat, Gram, Green Gram, Lentil etc.), Oilseeds (Soybean, Mustard, Rapeseed etc.) are being promoted.
- b. **Rashtriya Samposhaniya Krishi Mission (National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture)-**National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) has been formulated for enhancing agricultural productivity especially in rain-fed areas focusing on integrated farming, water use efficiency, soil health management and synergizing resource conservation. Under this scheme the following programmes are undertaken:
  - b.1. **Rainfed Agriculture Development Scheme-** Sponsored in ratio 90:10 between Centre and State. The programme aims to promote

rain-fed agriculture through Integrated Farming System, Water Use Efficiency, Soil Health Management and Natural Resource management. Within this Programme several farming systems are adopted like Horticulture based farming system, Livestock based farming system, Dairy based farming system, Fisheries based farming system, Silvi-pastoral based farming system/NTFP poplar, Agro forestry based farming system, and Value addition and resource conservation.

- b.2. Traditional Agriculture Development Scheme**
- b.3. Soil Health Management-** the establishment of soil testing labs and providing soil health cards free of cost to farmers.
- c. National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET)**
  - c.1. Sub-Mission on Seed and Planting Material**
  - c.2. Sub-Mission on Agriculture Mechanization**
  - c.3. ATMA**
- d. National Oilseeds and Oil Palm Mission**
- e. Pradhan Mantri Fasal BimaYojana (Prime Minister Crop Insurance Scheme)-** Launched in February, 2016, the scheme provides comprehensive risk coverage from pre-sowing to post harvest losses due to non-preventable natural risks.
- f. Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)-**RKVY is a Government of India scheme launched in 2007 to ensure a holistic development of agriculture and allied sector by allowing states to choose their own agriculture and allied sector development activities as per the district/state agriculture plan. RKVY guidelines have been revamped as RKVY-RAFTAAR- (Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied sector Rejuvenation) to enhance efficiency, efficacy and inclusiveness of the programme for the remaining period of the Fourteenth Finance Commission.
  - f.1. Integrated Pest Management (IPM)**
  - f.2. Integrated Multipurpose Water Conservation Program**
  - f.3. Organic farming Program**
  - f.4. Gherbaad Yojana (Fencing Scheme)-** Started in year 2014-15 to protect farm and crops from wild animals like monkeys, wild boars etc. This includes wall fencing, barbed wire fencing, solar fencing and bio-fencing (plants used as fencing for main crop).

- f.5. Kisan Mela (Farmer Fair)-** In collaboration with several other departments like Animal Husbandry, Fisheries, Horticulture, Silk etc. farmer fairs are organised at Nyay Panchayat level. These fairs showcase different schemes for farmers.
- f.6. Farm Mechanization-** Under this programme several farm implements are being provided to farmers at subsidised rate.
- f.7. Natural Calamity**
- g. Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana-** This scheme aims to develop the irrigation structures, increase the area under irrigation, integration of water sources, judicious distribution and use of water, water conservation, and groundwater recharge.
  - g.1. More Crop Per Drop**
  - g.2. Integrated Watershed Management Program**
- h. Soil Testing Lab (Boron Analysis Program)**

#### **4.3.2. State Sponsored Schemes**

- a. Agriculture Development Programmes in SC/ST Villages-**This scheme aims to promote agriculture and allied activities in SC/ST populated villages. Several schemes like seed mini-kit distribution, distribution of farm implements, water conservation and harvesting, poultry, fisheries, poly-house and other extension services are provided to the farmers of these communities.
- b. Pump-set, Sprinkler, farm implement program**

#### **4.3.3. District Schemes**

- a. Plant Protection-** plant protection inputs like herbicides, pesticides, micro-nutrients, light and pheromone traps etc. are provided to the farmers.
- b. Seed Mini-kit Distribution-** high quality seeds of cereals, pulses, oilseeds, vegetables etc. are given to farmers.
- c. Irrigation Development program-** under this program water tanks and other irrigation structures are constructed to facilitate irrigation. Convergence with other programs like MNREGA is also done.
- d. Vermi-compost-** this program facilitates organic manure production through vermicomposting and its use in agriculture.
- e. Farm-Mechanization-** Agriculture implements like tractors, power tillers, thrashers, reapers etc. are provided at subsidised rate to the farmers. Community owned Custom Hiring centres and Farm Machinery Banks are also facilitated by the department under this program.

### **Keeda Jadi (Yarsagambu): The Economic Perspective**

*Cordyceps sinensis* Yarsagambu, locally known as KeedaJadi, is a parasitic fungus on Lepidopteran larvae and occurs at an altitude of over 4000 m. In Uttarakhand, it is mainly concentrated in District Chamoli and Pithoragarh. In District Pithoragarh Dharchula block has the maximum collection of Yarsagambu. Areas like Chipla, Malpa, Dugtu, Baling, Panchachuli, etc. in Dharchula block are the prime hotspots for collecting Yarsagambu. *Cordyceps sinensis* has been known for its medicinal values in the traditional Chinese medicine. Some scholars have also written about its anti-cancerous properties. There has been a continuous demand for this over a decade from Chinese markets but in the last 5-6 years it has been extensively traded. In the year 2003-04 per piece was traded at Rs.10-15, depending upon its size but in recent years, per piece price has reached around Rs.500. collected by the local villagers, Yarsagambu is then aggregated in Dharchula by the local traders and sold to big traders from Tibet and Nepal. This has given a major economic boost to the local communities. The collection season starts as soon as the ice melts, typically in the end of April, and extends till the month of July. An average individual makes around Rs.50,000 to Rs.100,000 in a single collection season, depending upon the collection and market price. Till last year the collection was free for everyone but due to high market value, extensive collection and harm to eco-system, the Government of Uttarakhand has come up with the Policy on collection of Yarsagambu. This policy has given rights to “Van Panchayats” to allot annual paid licences to individuals and the areas of collection have been divided based on the villages. Now, no individual from outside the village can collect Yarsagambu from the village’s designated area.

The collection and trade of Yarsagambu has recently been legalised by the state authorities. Since, it has a tremendous potential in improving the local economy, the government should promote its complete value chain under Non-Timber Forest Produce (NTFPs), from collection to processing. This will help in fetching better price to villagers, generate local employment and retaining the maximum profits within the community.

#### 4.4. Horticulture

<b>Table 4.9: Government Nurseries in Pithoragarh</b>		
<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Area (Ha.)</b>
1.	Bishad	11.68
2.	Kanalichina	2.00
3.	Didihat	2.00
4.	Sandev	10.00
5.	Baluwakot	2.30
6.	Bhatka	23.20
7.	Balati	40.00
8.	Thal	1.35
9.	Berinag	2.20
10.	Gangolihat	2.50
11.	Tiksen	2.00
12.	Kwiti	8.00
13.	Bhatyuda	4.07
14.	Munakot	2.10
15.	Badalu	3.50
	<b>Total</b>	<b>116.90</b>

Source: Horticulture Department, Pithoragarh

<b>Table 4.10: Expenditure Details of Horticulture Schemes in Pithoragarh (2018-19)</b>						
<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Sector</b>	<b>Proposed Estimated Cost</b>	<b>Amount Released</b>	<b>Successive Expenditure</b>	<b>Expenditure in % to Amount Released</b>	<b>Amount left as on 01.04.2019</b>
1.	District Scheme	45.00	45.00	44.86	99.69	0.00
2.	State Scheme	0.00	86.99	84.84	97.53	0.00
3.	Central Sponsored (HMNEH)	112.83	102.27	94.12	92.03	0.00

Source: Horticulture Department, Pithoragarh



S.No.	State Sector Schemes (2017-18)	Exp. (in lakh)	Unit	Figures
1	Fencing of Existing Orchards	15.40	Ha.	15.40
2	Change of Sheets in Poly-houses	0.99	No.	26.00
3	Plantation of Fruit saplings	68.02	No.	135349.00
4	Off-Season Vegetable Production	3.49	Ha.	9.50
5	Grants for Spices Farming	25.09	Quintal	429.72
6	Construction of Vermicomposting units	10.00	No.	40.00
7	Mission Apple	-	Ha.	-
8	Development of Walnut and other nut fruits	3.89	Ha.	2.00
9	Fruit Nursery Development	-	No.	-
10	Renovation of Orchards	-	Ha.	-

Source: Horticulture Department, Pithoragarh

**4.5. Animal Husbandry:** The Animal Husbandry department has a number of programs running in the district. The following shows the number of beneficiaries under different schemes.

S.No.	Name of Program	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1.	Milch Animal (Cow)	44	57	28	29
2.	Goat Rearing (Units)	20	09	16	06
3.	Ahilyabai Holkar Goat Rearing (Units)	--	15	10	--
4.	Goat Rearing (for women)	--	24		--
5.	Poultry	4000	4182	1873	0

Source: Department of Animal Husbandry, Pithoragarh

Livelihood Promotion Scheme is only for two Blocks viz. Munsiyari and Dharchula. The table 4.18 below shows the details.

Block	2016-17			2017-18			2018-19		
	Dairy	Goat Rearing	Poultry	Dairy	Goat Rearing	Poultry	Dairy	Goat Rearing	Poultry
Munsiyari	62	6	0	5	2	9	5	3	9
Dharchula	62	6	0	5	2	9	5	3	9

Source: Department of Animal Husbandry, Pithoragarh

There has been a gradual increase in goat rearing in the district, farmers take this as their current asset and can sell round the year for quick income, therefore the department also encouraging this activity among the villagers.

### **Poultry Project in Pithoragarh**

This project is undertaken as a cluster approach under ILSP to bring entrepreneurship among the local youths. The Project aims to develop villages as a centre of excellence. The village Bhatedi, Block Munakot, Pithoragarh is one of the example as a centre of excellence of poultry farming and indulge in sustained capacity building of these farmers, including preparing smaller centres and organising these farmers and providing them training, technical support, strengthening backward and forward linkages in outlets like Saras Market and opening other outlets besides ensuring supply to the Army and Para-Military forces and aligning the poultry farmers with the MSME scheme of the Industry Department. This village at the Indo-Nepal border has around 27 poultry farms, with the total bird capacity of 40-45 thousand These farmers have availed bank credit worth Rs.1.52 crore under MSME and National Livestock Mission schemes. The federation has done a business of Rs.5.75 crore since 2017. The individual poultry farmer is earning around 30-35 thousand per month and several youths working in Delhi NCR, Chandigarh and other cities have returned to this village and started poultry business. Several assets created for poultry farmers like water tank, electricity connection, compost pit etc. are constructed under convergence program. It is expected that as the poultry farming touches new milestones of success, it will go a long way to hinder youths migrating out from Pithoragarh and other hill districts, a trend that is already visible.

*Source: ILSP Annual Report, 2017-18*

**Fisheries-** The Department of Fisheries has currently three schemes running in the district viz.

- Coldwater Fisheries Development Scheme
- Fisheries sub-scheme for Scheduled Castes
- Construction of Fish Ponds Scheme for hill areas

**Table 4.14: No. of Fish Ponds in Pithoragarh**

S.No.	Block	No. of Fish Ponds			
		2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1	Berinag	1	2	1	0
2	Munakot	21	7	5	6
3	Didihat	10	1	1	3

4	Bin	12	11	10	6
5	Kanalichina	9	15	4	5
6	Dharchula	15	12	10	16
7	Munsiyari	10	17	21	11
8	Gangolihat	0	2	2	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>48</b>

Source: Department of Fisheries, Pithoragarh

**4.6. Tourism:** Home-stay scheme and Veer Chandra Singh Garhwali Self-Employment Scheme are the two main schemes under the tourism department. The department of tourism has developmental projects under District Scheme, State, and centrally sponsored. These projects include construction and/or renovation of temples, connecting roads, pavements, parks & gardens, etc. The homestays run by the villagers has given them an additional source of income. The maximum numbers of the Homestays are in Block Dharchula (87), followed by Block Munsiyari (24). Dharchula has maximum homestays on Kailash Mansarovar route, Darma and Chaundas valleys, while Munsiyari has almost all of its homestays in and around Munsiyari market. The homestay activity is not the main source of income for the owners but is an additional source of income. The months of March-June are the peak months while December-February and the monsoon season is lean period. The table below gives the details of Homestays in the district. It is clear that the two blocks viz. Dharchula and Munsiyari have nearly 80% of the total Homestays and there are not even a single Homestays in blocks like Didihat and Munakot.

<b>Block</b>	<b>No. of Homestays</b>
Munsiyari	24
Dharchula	87
Berinag	23
Didihat	0
Kanalichina	1
Gangolihat	2
Pithoragarh	4
Munakot	0
<b>Total District</b>	<b>141</b>

Source: Department of Tourism, Pithoragarh

### **Homestays in Kumaon**

The Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam Ltd. (KMVN) has initiated the novel homestay project in the tourism sector to meet the demands of the rapidly growing hospitality industry. For last three years, the Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam (KMVN) has been offering home-stay services to tourists in some of the remote trekking routes of Kumaon. Some of the most charming villages in the remote valleys of Vyans, Darma and Chaundas in the Pithoragarh district of Kumaon were selected for the initial phase of the homestay scheme. The picturesque Kuti village was taken up by the KMVN as the first location for homestay. Several old houses were renovated and were handed over to the locals for this purpose. Managed by the locals, these home-stays have proved to be immensely popular among the tourists, pilgrims and trekkers. The tourists were enthralled by this new experience since it opened several new horizons to them including local cuisine and culture. The Nabi village falls adjacent to Kuti and from the year 2017, the homestay facility was started in this village too. The Nabi Home-stay scheme turned out to be a super success as the tourists unanimously rated their stay in Nabi as the best during the Adi-Kailash trek. The KMVN provided beddings, utensils, cutlery, toilets, bathrooms and other necessary items to the households taking part in the home-stay scheme. The KMVN has brought all the accessible villages of these valleys under the home-stay umbrella for a dual objective:

1. The home-stay scheme would open the doors for opening a new Tribal-circuit tourism in the Darma valley.
2. Trekking and mountaineering can be taken to a new level through this scheme by encouraging more and more trekking enthusiasts to visit the Darma valley that hosts the base-camp of the Panchchuli Glacier.

All the homestay-villages undertaken by the KMVN fall on important trekking trails.

*Source: UTDB, 2017*

- **Tourism Master Plan for Pithoragarh:** This comprehensive plan covers the entire Pithoragarh District. It is endowed with breath-taking mountains and 5 beautiful valleys and provides the ultimate trekking and mountaineering destination. Apart from that the district has been an important landmark of the so called Chand Rajas of Kumaon and thus offers a variety of historic and cultural places of interest. Visits to the area confirms that Pithoragarh

and the areas north along the Kali River and inland towards Munsiyari holds tremendous potential for all sorts of tourism.

- **Development and Functioning of Naini-Saini Airport-** Since, Pithoragarh is one of the remotest districts of the state, it is usually inaccessible to tourists via roads. The district also has an airport but at present the airport isn't functional and needs to be open so that the tourists, both nationally and internationally can visit the district.

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- District Khadi Udhdyog Department, Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand
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- Department of Fisheries, Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand

## Chapter V

### ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

With a total geographical area of 7,090 sq. km, Pithoragarh is the third largest district in the state after Uttarkashi and Chamoli. The district has a total population of 4,83,439 of which 2,39,306 is male and 2,44,133 is female population, according to 2011 census. The decadal population growth for 2011 is 4.58% and there has been a declining trend over last four censuses in this growth, for 2001 census it was nearly 11%. The district headquarter Pithoragarh is the largest urban centre with a population of nearly 1,66,801(2011 census), which is almost 35% of the district's population. The total population of the district as per 2011 census is 4,83,439 of which the total rural population is around 85.69%. The population density is around 58 persons per sq.km. for 2011 census, making it the third most sparsely populated district of Uttarakhand after Uttarkashi and Chamoli and has a sex ratio of 1020. According to Uttarakhand HDR report 2018, district Pithoragarh has state's highest life expectancy of 72.1 years, while state's average is 71.5 years. In 2011 the district's total population growth is 4.58% whereas the rural population grew at the rate of -2.07%, shown in table below. The rural population of all blocks except Dharchula and Pithoragarh show a declining trend during the previous two census.

There are about 41,669 people from 973 villages/tok who have migrated permanently or semi-permanently to other places. Most of the migrants, nearly 34.33% have migrated to other districts of the state, 33.07% to the district headquarter. About 40.78% of the population's is engaged in agriculture, 38.67% as daily wage laborers, 15.13% in government services, and very small proportion of the population is engaged in other sectors like Horticulture, Dairy, etc.

The age-wise population classification, nearly 51% of the population living in the district is either less than 20 years or more than 60 years i.e. the maximum of the population is either school going children or old age people. The youth of the district is educated and on completing the school education they move to cities for better higher education and employment thereon.

#### ECONOMY

The size of the economy i.e. GDDP at current prices is estimated as Rs.3,61,053 lakh in year 2011-12, Rs.4,11,412 lakh in year 2012-13, Rs.5,00,499 lakh in year 2013-14, Rs.5,07,004 lakh in year 2014-15, Rs.5,44,556 lakh for year 2015-16 and Rs.6,03,799 lakh for the year 2016-17. In terms of percentage growth the size of the economy increases by 13.95% in year 2012-13, 21.65% in 2013-14, 1.30% in year 2014-15, 7.41% in year 2015-16, and 10.88% in the year 2016-17 with respect to previous year respectively.

Per capita income is estimated Rs.66,606 in year 2011-12, Rs.74,656 in year 2012-13, Rs.87,001 in year 2013-14, Rs.87,835 in year 2014-15, Rs.93,070 for year 2015-16, and Rs.101734 for the year 2016-17. In terms of percentage growth, per capita NSDP at current prices or per capita income increases by 12.09% in year 2012-13, 16.54% in year 2013-14, 0.96% in year 2014-15, 5.96% in year 2015-16, and 9.31% in year 2016-17 with respect to previous year respectively.

**Primary Sector:** Nearly 41% of the district’s population is engaged in agriculture as its main occupation. Since the agriculture in the district is subsistence and does not add much to the economy. The contribution of this sector towards GDDP has decreased from 25% in 2012-13 to 17.34% in 2016-17. District’s major crops are Paddy, Wheat, Maize, Mandua, Soyabean, Lentil, etc.

**Secondary Sector:** Pithoragarh is a hilly district and no major industrial area is present and it’s difficult to develop this sector due to the geographical terrain and because of this it is one of the less developed districts. District has only one acre of industrial area mostly allotted to Iron works and flour chakki. This sector has contributed around 33% to the GDDP in FY 2016-17.

**Tertiary Sector:** This sector has contributed around 49.01% to GDDP in FY 2016-17 and this is mainly due to growth in tourism in the district. Pithoragarh is rich in natural beauty, religious places and this needs to be pushed towards growth.

According to HDR 2017 report, two third of the populace of the district is self-employed and this self-employment is shifting from Primary sector to Tertiary sector, but women are mainly engaged in farming. The amount of remittance into the district, more than Rs.1,00,000/-, is 36.7% and it is highest in the state. The poverty rate of the district is 13%. The table below shows the monthly income of a rural family.

	Less than 5000	Rs.5000 to Rs.10,000	More than Rs.10,000
Pithoragarh	62.83	19.78	17.39

## **GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Strengthening rural economy:** It is apparent that the rural economy is weak, this is a major cause for out migration from the rural areas. Village or gram panchayat specific strategies and action plans be developed for implementation over the next 5 years. The successful example of Bhateri village in Munakot block and Sarmoli village of Munsiyari block shows that strengthening the village or gram panchayat level socio-economy helps in improving incomes at the local level helps in reducing migration and even facilitates return of some people back to the villages.

Gram panchayats or villages having easy access to urban areas in the district like Pithoragarh and Dharchula have the advantage over others and can be taken up on priority basis. This is more relevant in the case of Pithoragarh town where more than 20% of the total population of the district resides. There is a large market for local produce.

**Agriculture and non-agriculture income:** There is scope for increasing income of the local population from agriculture as well as non-agriculture sectors. This could include traditional agriculture, cultivation of off-season vegetables, poultry, dairying, rearing goats, home stays etc. Often, a rural family derives its income from multiple sources including remittance from outside. These sources can be enhanced as even a marginal increase will make a significant impact on the lives of the rural population.

**Tackling water stress:** There is acute shortage of water, particularly in the summer months in many rural areas of the district e.g. Gangolihat and Berinag blocks. Augmentation of water availability needs to be a priority sector for the district as this will help in making drinking water available and provide lifesaving irrigation to the crops.

**Challenge of climate change:** Changing climatic conditions need to be taken into account while planning and implementing programmes in the district in various sectors particularly agriculture and horticulture. The State Action Plan on Climate Change is the guiding document and actions proposed in it need to be followed.

**Women centric approach:** Women are the major stakeholders in the rural areas of the district. All plans and their implementation must adopt a women centric approach for socio-economic upliftment and rural development.

**Convergence:** There are many government run programmes for boosting the rural socio-economy. They need to converge their programmes keeping in view this emergent need, which would lead to the reduction of out-migration from the rural areas.

**Skill development:** Skill development programmes should focus on improving the skills that would suit the local economic needs. These could be on improved agricultural technologies; off-season cropping; food/fruit processing; dairying; milk products processing; hospitality etc. Entrepreneurship development programmes also need to be conducted at the village or gram panchayat level.

**Growth centres:** The Uttarakhand government has launched an ambitious programme for supporting growth centres in the rural areas of the state. There should be focus on these as growth centres have the potential of transforming the rural economy and halting out migration from the rural areas of the state.

**District level plan:** The district authorities should draw up a detailed five year district level plan for boosting the rural socio-economy which must include sub-plan of all sectors. Implementation of this should be coordinated by a high powered committee headed by the District Magistrate.



## **SECTOR SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

Many schemes for rural development which also help in boosting the rural socio-economy of these areas is being implemented in the district. The Border Area Development Programme is also being implemented in the border areas. Under NRLM, Self Help Groups have been constituted in all blocks though the numbers in Blocks like Vin (Pithoragarh), Munakot, and Kanalichina in the vicinity of the District headquarters have very less as compared to other blocks. ILSP has been functional in Pithoragarh, Kanalichina, and Munakot Block.

Since, the district shares its international borders with Nepal and China, BADP is being implemented in 4 development blocks viz. Dharchula, Munsiyari, Kanalichina, and Munakot. However, the number of works and outlay under this has been decreasing over the years.

Under MGNREGA scheme the total expenditure for the entire district in the FY 2018-19 is Rs.5,138.34 Lakh, FY 2017-18 is Rs.4,767.08 lakh, which was Rs.5,712.27 lakh for the FY 2016-17 (inclusive of both labour and material part). This total expenditure has no significant change in the last 3 financial years. GRAMYA has constituted and supported 53 groups in the last 3 years, most of whom are functional and vibrant. Activities like Dairy and Tent House are apparently preferred options under this scheme.

#### **Recommendations:**

##### **MGNREGA**

- a- Since women account for more than 50% of the beneficiaries under MGNREGA, more focus should be on works that lead to additional income for women folk. Efforts should be made to maintain the representation of women at more than 50%, ensuring equal opportunity and participation. Skill development of women be given priority so that they can benefit as skilled workers rather than as unskilled ones.
- b- There is a problem of damage to crops by animals like monkeys and wild boars. Though walls for protection against wild boars are being constructed in some blocks, this needs to be done in all districts, a scheme for creating assets for protecting crops against monkeys be devised with the help of the forest department.
- c- Water scarcity is emerging as a major problem in the rural areas of the state, both for drinking and for irrigation. Works under this scheme may converge with interventions to tackle this problem.
- d- River rejuvenation works should be taken up.

- e- Nurseries need to be raised in each gram panchayat under MGNREGA and other schemes for grasses and other planting material.

### **DAY-NRLM**

- a- Medicinal and Aromatic plants have a good potential but currently it has not emerged as a profit making activity. The efforts should be made to tap the real potential of this in the state and transform it into one of the important livelihood generation activity.
- b- SHGs provide a major boost for generating livelihoods and these should be the focus of rural development schemes in all blocks as generation of sustainable livelihood would boost the rural economy, thus helping to arrest migration. SHG federations are lacking or non-functional and these should be strengthened.

### **ILSP- IFAD**

- a. A strong supply chain is a must for any business to flourish. It should be strengthened with strategic market linkages and transportation facilities.
- b. A direct supply chain should be established for hotels, resorts, government guest houses etc. which enables them to buy from the local or nearby areas. This will reduce both transportation price and generate income locally.
- c. Monitoring is done both internally and externally by third party reviews. It can be observed that externally funded projects have a well-defined, dynamic and interactive monitoring and evaluation system. This should be adopted by all development schemes even if they are directly funded by the government.
- d. The presence of 'Hilans' brand on social media platforms can be increased. The story of the collective/village can be linked with the product. It can be both included in the packaging and used to create visibility and awareness through social media.
- e. Focus should be not only in the preparation of the agribusiness plans but also their implementation.
- f. The value chain for pulses and traditional crops can be strengthened. Value chain of traditional produce like manduwa, jhangora, red rice which are considered to have immense health benefits can be created

### **STAFF**

- In the district the number of posts vacant of Village Development Officer is high both comparative to the plain districts. The posts should be filled as soon as possible so as to ensure better and efficient implementation on ground.

- Training of staff of the Rural Development department also needs to be strengthened. The training should be done on a regular basis after a gap of 6 months. This will help in on ground productivity of the staff and better implementation.
- There is a shortage of field staff in the rural development department and some of Village Development Officers are responsible for covering more than 35 gram panchayats many of which are remote and difficult to reach. This issue needs to be addressed immediately.

## **AGRICULTURE**

Majority of the population of the district is agriculture dependent, nearly 41%. The contribution of this sector has shown a declining trend and this is mainly due to the subsistence nature of farming, shrinking interest of the farmers and the returns. Further, the land holdings are small, the methods of farming are still traditional, and the total agriculture is rainfed. Nearly 73% is the forest cover and less than 6% of the total geographical area is sown under agriculture. HDR 2018 report has identified the district Pithoragarh as the highest vulnerable district to Climate Change and this will have a long term effects on crop production.

While there has been a slight increase in the net sown area between 2014-15 and 2016-17 but the area sown more than once has decreased during this period. The area under paddy and wheat has marginally increased while the area under barely, maize and mandua has decreased while area under pulses has substantially increased. The productivity per hectare has increased in the case of paddy, wheat and mandua but has declined for maize.

### **Recommendations**

- a) Diversification of agriculture is one of the main initiatives in the Uttarakhand Vision 2030.
- b) Agro-processing facilities are lacking in numbers and there is no processing facility for pulses. Processing units for pulses and agro-products need to be encouraged. The district agriculture department needs to carry out an extensive survey of the production of agriculture crops in all blocks of the state and come up with authentic figures of production so that potential investors could know quantities of agro-products which are available.
- c) Production of quality seeds for agriculture is also a matter of concern as much of this is coming from outside the district and even the state. Hence, there is an issue of variation in the agro-climatic conditions in which the seeds have been produced and where they are being sown. There needs to be a focused effort for this by encouraging and training farmers for producing seeds of different crops.
- d) Seed production clusters have been formed in 5 blocks of Almora district and this activity has also been taken up by in Pithoragarh district. This activity has the potential for generating additional income and needs to be upscaled.

- e) FPOs (Farmer Producers' Organizations) can also be formed in the district considering the major agricultural produce of the particular area or block. This can facilitate the land pooling, farm mechanization, increased farm output and better negotiation power for farm produce to farmers.
- f) The agriculture department needs to study the existing marketing patterns in each block and come up with practical measures to strengthen it. Connecting farmers to markets has also been emphasized upon in the Uttarakhand vision 2030.

## **HORTICULTURE**

The main horticulture crops are mango, pear, peach, plum, apple and citrus fruits. The total area under fruits in the district is 115 hectares which has remained more or less constant over the years. However, the area under fruits is comparatively less in Berinag, Kanalicina, Gangolihat and Munakot blocks, which it is substantial in Munisiyari block.

### **Recommendations**

- 1- Marketing facilitation teams for horticultural produce including vegetables need to be set up at the block level.
- 2- Encouraging groups of farmers shift to growing vegetables including potatoes on a large scale in order to produce large volumes, as this will help in marketing their produce.
- 3- Even though there is production of vegetables in many pockets of the district, the quantities produced are not sufficient enough to attract buyers from markets in large towns and cities and much of it is consumed locally. This is a disincentive for farmers. Hence production in volumes large enough to attract buyers from outside the state in villages or groups of villages should be the focus.
- 4- There is scope for up scaling the area under fruits in the district. However, quality planting material needs to be used keeping in view the better market which is available for such fruits. Grafted variety of walnut can be introduced in the big way as the market for high quality walnut is increasing worldwide.
- 5- There is also scope for encouraging local entrepreneurs for establishing private nurseries for the production of quality planting material, as this will help to generate livelihoods. There are only 3 registered private nurseries each in Pithoragarh out of 10 nurseries. These need to be increased.
- 6- Abandoned agricultural fields in the district, particularly those near existing fruit plantations need to be identified for expansion of fruit production in the district.

- 7- The focus needs to be on production of the right variety in large quantities so that fruits from the district can be exported to large markets in Delhi and other big cities. However, if the quantity is substantial the new market players like Big Basket and Farm-pik can be at the farm gate for the produce.
- 8- The area under fruit crops needs to be increased as there are large patches of cultivable lands available in many blocks like Berinag, Kanalicina, Gangolihat and Munakot.
- 9- Floriculture particularly the production of marigold flowers which are used in temples across the district needs to be promoted on a large scale.
- 10- Grafted variety of walnut needs to be introduced on a large scale.

### **ANIMAL HUSBANDRY**

There has been an apparent growth in the animal husbandry sector in the district. The population of cows and buffaloes has decreased between 2003 and 2012. However, there has been a substantial increase in the population of goats. It is quite high in Munsiyari, Dharchula blocks, though Gangolihat block has the highest population of goats. The number of poultry birds is high in Gangolihat, Pithoragarh and Munakot blocks.

#### **Recommendations:**

- 1- Since the number of urban centres in the state are increasing, there is an upsurge in the demand of Milk and milk products. This can be met with by small dairies.
- 2- Quality of livestock needs to be improved so that dairying farming can become the main source of income of as many families as possible. The target should be not only to make each district self-sufficient in milk and milk production but also to market milk to other areas.
- 3- Milk producers can be given training in processing of their produce into cottage cheese and ghee for better returns.
- 4- Goat rearing is being practiced in many gram panchayats and this can be up scaled for generating additional livelihoods. The breed of goats needs to be improved across the hill district as this activity has the potential to substantially enhance incomes.
- 5- Poultry is also an important activity that is generating considerable income to the rural population in some tracts e.g. Bhatari village of Munakot block. This example can be replicated elsewhere.
- 6- The department of animal husbandry/dairying should commission a study on the present status of animal husbandry in the district; marketing; animal health; AI; etc. and then draw a plan for strengthening this sector so that it can contribute to the village economy.

- 7- There is an apparent scarcity of fodder in the district. The department needs to plan a special scheme for increasing fodder availability through grassland and fodder development.

## **TOURISM**

Pithoragarh district attracts lakhs of tourists every year who come for hiking, trekking, mountaineering and sightseeing. The annual pilgrimage to Mansorvar also passes through the district. There are also many festivals and fairs which attract people not only from the district but also from other part of Uttarakhand and elsewhere.

Lack of air connectivity is a major constraint in the development of tourism in the district as most parts of Pithoragarh district are located far away from the nearest airport at Pantnagar and rail head at Kathogdam or Tanakpur.

The number of homestays is increasing, with 141 registered units having a bed capacity of 773 beds.

### **Recommendations**

- 1- The district should endeavour to promote local handicrafts; cuisine, local culture and festivals amongst eco-tourists. Local festivals and events can be linked with development of nature based destinations. This helps in conserving the local culture as well as the tourists experiencing the local festivities.
- 2- Linkages with the hotel industry should be established enhancing demand of local produce. Maximum procurement should be done locally, thereby creating an assured market for the local farmers and also establishing a partnership between the local communities and hotel industry.
- 3- A district tourism development plan for all districts may be formulated which would identify different destinations at the block level, adding up to a broad plan for the entire district. This should also identify livelihood opportunities and converge with the capacity building programmes under different schemes.
- 4- Though the Home stay scheme comes as a welcome step in development of rural tourism in the state and a can serve as a source of livelihood development for the local communities, some gaps are evident. The current registered home stays show a skewed distribution of home stays among different districts. The distribution is highly uneven. At the same time the details of the home stays present on the website are not complete.
- 5- Linkages of home stay development with other nature based activities like nature walks, hiking, trekking and various other surrounding Nature Based activities should be established. Home stays can be developed strategically in villages enroute important trekking and mountaineering routes. This will merge adventure activities with promotion of local culture and cuisine.

Tourists generally don't prefer to walk/climb a mile to stay in Homestays, there is need of connecting villages with motorable roads for the convenience of the incoming tourists. Skill development of home stay owners is also needed

- 6- The district needs to develop a comprehensive and time bound district tourism development plan.
- 7- Efforts be made to start regular commercial flights to Pithoragarh airport for increasing tourism in the district.
- 8- The maximum number of homestays are in Dharchula and Munisiyari blocks. There is a need to facilitate setting up of more homestays in other blocks of the district, particularly in Didihat, Kanalichina, Pithoragarh and Munakot blocks.

## **INDUSTRIES**

Like other hill districts of the state, Pithoragarh too has many micro enterprises, which include hundreds of small units such as mobile repair shops, dhabas, flour units etc. which are providing livelihood for many persons. Most of these are under PMRSY, which provides for small loans to persons interested in setting up these units. However, their distribution across the district is not uniform. The number of MSME's in Pithoragarh district are maximum in Vin and Munakot blocks and minimum in blocks like Kanalichina, Gangolihat, Didihat and Munsiyari.

## **Recommendations**

- 1- The MSME sector has a high potential for transforming the socio-economy of the rural areas of the hill districts. Data suggests that there employment to about 55 persons for every Rs.1.00 crore of investment. The types of micro, small and artisan units which have come up in relatively large numbers include agro-based readymade garments/ embroidery; wood/ wood based furniture and repairing and servicing units. However, their distribution is not uniform across all the blocks. The potential for such units in each blocks can be examined and they may be promoted as this would boost the block/ gram panchayat level socio-economy.
- 2- The authorities responsible for promoting the growth of this sector need to prepare a block wise plan for the development of micro, small and artisan units considering the local conditions.
- 3- Data shows that development of MSMEs is lacking or almost negligible in some blocks of the hill districts. Special attention needs to be paid for expanding micro and small enterprises and artisan units in all blocks. .
- 4- Capacity building programmes in the district should also be in tune with the requirements of this plan for development of micro, small and artisan units in the district.

- 5- Entrepreneurship development programmes may be conducted and handholding of entrepreneurs done particularly in gram panchayats where such units are lacking.
- 6- Development of food processing, horticulture, floriculture, tourism etc are the focus sectors. A strong connectivity, Supply chain and availability of resources and marketplace is a must for the success of this. Efforts should be made to strengthen infrastructure and maintaining continuous availability of resources.
- 7- Healthcare and wellness is one of the fastest growing sector in the country. Given to the good climate and relatively less pollution the state has immense potential for Healthcare sector. With central scheme of AYUSH, the state could align with it and benefit from it in developing Healthcare and wellness in the state.
- 8- An action plan for promotion of MSMEs in the state should be prepared. This plan should identify the scope of different opportunities in different blocks. It should identify the resource availability in the area and feasible businesses that can come up in the region. The plan should be region specific, done by SWOT analysis. This will also help in even distribution of MSMEs in the district, developing enterprises which are best suited for the region.
- 9- Handholding will play an important role in development of MSME in the state. Community participation for identifying avenues should be explored. Entrepreneurship development programme should be conducted.
- 10- Training for digital literacy and soft skills can be done to open bigger markets for the artisans. Door to door hawking is a thing of past, the weavers and artisans should be able to sell their product online. They should also be up to date with the market demands and constant efforts should be made to enhance their skills.
- 11- Many Rural development schemes support enterprises both individually and through SHGs. Strong convergence is needed between the departments for shared benefits, knowledge sharing and holistic development.

## **MEDICINAL AND AROMATIC PLANTS**

Medicinal and Aromatic (MAP) are being promoted through the horticulture department, involving plantations in clusters; extraction of essential oils and training programmes in some parts of the district. The following recommendations are being made for strengthening this sector which can contribute in enhancing the rural socio-economy, thereby mitigating out-migration.

- a- The variety of MAP species can easily be increased as at present the focus is only on a few species. Diversity in species, increase in area and number of villages/clusters covered needs to be substantially increased for generating additional income for rural families.



- b- Promotion of MAP should be the focus in all the blocks .This activity would also contribute to the wellness of the community by generating raw materials for the Ayurveda industry.
- c- This activity is better done through a separate agency like the State Medicinal Plants Board rather than being with the horticulture department, where it loses focus due to the many other programmes being implemented by the department.

### **CORDYSEPS SINENSIS**

Yarchagombu or Keera Jadi is an important source of livelihood for the people of Dharchula and Munsiyari blocks. However, bulk of the collection and trade is unregistered and perhaps unsustainable. The state government has issued detailed orders for collection and trade including collection of royalty for this natural product on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2018. There is lack of awareness of these orders amongst the collectors and also amongst many officials. Efforts to be made to implement these orders in letter and spirit and the ground realities be reviewed after 2 or 3 seasons. The forest department also needs to collect data on the collection and trade of keera jadi which is lacking at present.