

Uttarakhand adopts Uniform Civil Code

Online registration of marriages, divorce and live-in relationships mandatory; govt launches new portal; people can also upload their will

Updated - January 27, 2025 11:36 pm IST - New Delhi



ISHITA MISHRA



Uttarakhand CM Pushkar Singh Dhami during the event for implementation of Uniform Civil Code (UCC), in Dehradun, on January 27, 2025. | Photo Credit: PTI

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami on Monday (January 27, 2025)

officially rolled out the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) for all residents of the State, except the Scheduled Tribes and natives who have migrated out of the State. With this, Uttarakhand has become the first Indian State to implement the UCC post Independence.

The UCC Bill, passed by the State Assembly last year in February, bans practices such as *halala*, *iddat*, and *talaq* (customs related to marriage and divorce in the Muslim Personal

Law). It also ensures that women are given equal rights in matters related to property and inheritance rights.

The UCC mandates online registration of marriages, divorce and live-in relationships. A government portal – ucc.uk.gov.in – has been formed for the purpose. People can access records, register complaints and also upload their will on the portal. Mr. Dhama also registered his marriage on the portal.

“Under the able leadership of the respected Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah, our government has today implemented the UCC in Uttarakhand. Today is a special day for the people of this State as well as for all the countrymen. I am confident that this stream of equality emanating from Uttarakhand will irrigate the entire country in the near future,” Mr. Dhama said during the launch of the UCC portal.

Terming the UCC the “beginning of a new era of equality and harmony”, Mr. Dhama added that his government had promised the “god-like” people that every citizen of the State would have equal rights, and the implementation of UCC was a reflection of the BJP’s commitment to achieve the resolution taken before the public.

Also Read | Uttarakhand UCC nothing but kickstarting a pilot project without proper consensus: Congress

According to a communique from the State government, the online portal created for the UCC registration has Aadhaar-based verification. An AI-based translation service will translate the content into 22 languages, including English. The portal has integrated data from across more than 13 government departments, including civic bodies, police and courts. The State has also put up a ‘tatkal’ facility in cases of emergency for which a ‘nominal’ fee will be charged.

In view of the UCC roll-out, the marriages that have taken place in Uttarakhand since March 26, 2010, will have to be registered in the government portal within the next six months. Marriages that have taken place after the implementation of the law should be registered within 60 days from the date of marriage.

LIVE: देहरादून में UCC समरसता और समानता के नवयुग का शुभारम्भ कार्यक्रम

#UCCInUttarakhand

<https://t.co/IlGmM3KkMf>

— Pushkar Singh Dhama (@pushkardhama) January 27, 2025

Live-in relationships established before or after the implementation of the UCC will have to be registered within one month from the date of implementation of the code. One or both partners can end the live-in relationship online or offline. If only one partner applies, the registrar will accept it only on the basis of confirmation from the other. If the woman becomes pregnant during the live-in, then it is mandatory to inform the government within 30 days of the birth of the child. The UCC also mandates that a landlord cannot deny house to any couple whose live-in registration is done.

While registering divorce or marriage annulment, people should enter details of marriage registration, decree of divorce or marriage annulment, court case number, date of final order, details of children, and copy of final order of the court.

Will can be uploaded

The UCC portal allows people to register their will in three ways – by filling the form on the portal, by uploading handwritten or typed will, or by recording it in a three-minute video and uploading it.

Under the UCC, sub-registrars, registrars and registrar-general will be nominated in both urban and rural areas who will mostly be sub-divisional magistrates(SDM), municipal commissioners, CEOs of cantonment boards and secretaries of departments, respectively.

The sub-registrar will examine all the documents and information in 15 days in general, and within three days in case of emergency, and will take a decision after seeking clarification from the applicant. If the sub-registrar rejects any application, residents can appeal against the order before the registrar within 30 days of the rejection order. The registrar will take a decision on such appeals within 60 days. Appeals can also be made to the registrar-general within 30 days against the rejection order of the registrar.

The violators will be issued warnings in the first instance, followed by fines in case of further complaints.

Published - January 27, 2025 02:01 pm IST