



IAF Continues to Douse Forest Fire in Uttarakhand

Why in News?

Recently, The Uttarakhand government informed [the Supreme Court](#) that the [forest fire](#) emergency is no longer present, with only 15 small to intermediate fires reported.

Key Points

- The Chief Minister emphasized the need for an **efficient strategy to gather 'Pirul' (pine leaves) from the forests.**
 - He **urged all residents** of the State to **participate in a widespread campaign** to collect Pirul and safeguard the surrounding forests.
- Additionally, he mentioned that the government is implementing the '**Pirul Lao-Paise Pao**' initiative **to incentivize the collection of pine leaves** and prevent forest fires.
 - Under this mission, **Pirul will be purchased at the collection centre at the rate of ₹50/kg** with the aim of reducing forest fire.
- Meanwhile, the [Indian Air Force \(IAF\)](#) continues to help the State in dousing forest fires. It has taken **23 sorties, for 11 and half hours and used 44,600 litres of water** to douse the raging forest flames in the mountain.
 - In response to the **raging forest fires at the Pauri Garhwal** sector in Uttarakhand, the IAF provided much-needed relief by undertaking [Bambi Bucket operations](#) by its **Mi17 V5 helicopters.**

Bambi Bucket operation

- The Bambi Bucket, also called a helicopter bucket or a heli bucket, is a specialised container that is suspended by cable under a chopper, and which can be filled by lowering into a river or pond before being flown **above a fire and discharged aurally by opening a valve at the bottom of the bucket.**
- The Bambi Bucket is especially helpful in fighting wildfires that are difficult or impossible to reach from the ground. Around the world, helicopters are frequently commissioned to fight forest fires.