Recommendation
for
Locating Permanent Capital
of State of Uttarakhand

August, 2008

Justice Birendra Dikshit (Retd.)
Chairman

Uttarakhand Rajdhani
Sthal Chayan Aayog
Dehradun
Just a Few Words

The struggle of separate State by Uttarakhand people was long lasting. The State is full of natural resources, but the economic condition of its people is not so good. People of this area could not get the benefit of their own natural resources and perhaps that was the reason of demanding a separate State. After long struggle and sacrifice of its people the State was carved out from territory of Uttar Pradesh in November, 2000 as Uttaranchal, now known as Uttarakhand.

After coming into existence as a separate State, it needed a suitable place for its Capital. Accordingly, the Government of Uttarakhand set up a Commission naming it Uttarakhand Rajdhani Sthal Chyan Ayog and the responsibility was entrusted to me as Chairman of the Commission. As a Chairman of the Commission, I tried my best to value the sentiments of people as well as to judge the location, feasibility, geology, water, environment and other important factors needed for a State Capital. For this I visited places from time to time, discussed with local people, administration, intellectuals and took the help of other agencies such as Geological Survey of India, School of Planning and Architecture, and other departments of the State Government, which was necessary. After studying and considering the opinion of experts and feasibility study report of specific sites and considering the other factors, this report has been prepared.

Due to reasons set out in report it took some time to express my opinion finally. The reason is already in the report. Such cases generally take long time. It reminds me of famous saying that ‘Rome was not built in a day’. People of Uttarakhand will have to keep patience for having a Capital City where people will not face all those problems, which is being faced by those who are living in unplanned cities. My thanks to all the
people who sent their opinions/suggestions for setting up state capital. This also helped me to take the decision.

I would like to thank Ex-Chief Minister Sri Nitya Nand Swami and Ex-Chief Minister, Sri Narayan Datt Tiwari who entrusted me such a sensitive issue and expected that I will do well. I thank Chief Minister Major General B.C. Khanduri (Retd.) for taking keen interest due to which feasibility report could be completed.

I thank Mr. B.B. Ratan, Chief Town & Country Planner who has always been with me advising, explaining principles of planning and while I visited places or wherever I asked him to accompany, he accompanied me. I have observed Sri Ratan’s working for last five and half years and in my opinion he is an asset for the State. I also thank Officers and staff of Survey of India, School of Planning and Architecture and other departments of Uttarakhand Government who helped me for finalising a suitable place for the State capital. I thank Dr. Mahavir, Professor at Physical Planning Department, School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi who assisted commission by study of feasibility for locating the Capital. I also wish to express my gratitude to all the staff involved in typing and writing of this report, especially Mr. Mohan Prasad Khansali, Mr. P.C. Upadhyay, Dr. P.C. Bhatt and Dr. D.C. Purohit, Private Secretaries of Uttarakhand Secretariat, attached with the Commission, who were very generous in translating and typing all the public opinions/suggestions received by this Commission and included in this report, from Hindi to English. I thanks to Mr. Bhuwan Chandra Tiwari who has been working under an agreement with this Commission from its inception to the last date. He happens to be a hard worker having good knowledge of preparing inspection reports, notes as well as good knowledge of Computer. I thank him for the sincerity with which he cooperated with me.
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Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 A capital of state is its spirit from where capital core functions of the state are discharged. The work of expressing opinion for selecting or determining a suitable site for Capital of State of Uttarakhand (in short ‘State’) is technical in nature. In locating a capital city public opinion also carries weight but there cannot be any compromise in respect of technical opinion in bringing up of a town in modern times. The capital city has to be planned. It is to be anticipated that the town has to be in accordance with Town Planning Act of the State and there will be a Master Plan for Capital City. Preparation of existing land-use map, projecting future population, economic activities, transport infrastructure and reservation for public facilities is rule of the day. We are in new era of globalization and economic liberalization. These are times of new skills and approach in respect of economic activities of the State. The capital city of State of Uttarakhand will have to play a significant role to attract investments in these times of competition. Such a capital city has to be built by keeping in view technical aspect while selecting site. The Commission expects that while finally selecting the site for capital, peoples of Uttarakhand will take care that emotional considerations are not allowed to prevail over technical aspects. Those who are going to take final decision will also keep this aspect in mind before deciding the place for capital city. The best example of going for a capital, not following technical aspects
about requirements of township, is in that part of history where a King, Mohammad Bin Tuglak decided to shift his capital from Delhi to Daultabad ignoring one of the technical aspect for setting-up of town and he failed so badly by his that decision that he had to bring back the Capital of his kingdom to Delhi.

1.2 In modern times selection of site for bringing up any new town or extension of existing town is a technical matter. We do not have to go far back to know the problems faced by state functionaries due to haphazard growth of cities in unplanned manner which adversely affects health and life style of populations of cities. The endeavor of Commission has been to have such a site for capital city where sufficient land be available for a modern township, those who are going to live lead a healthy life, the economy of the town flourishes to the best of resources maintaining natural environment and that they are not faced with all those hazard of pollution of air and water, bad road transport or bad drainage and sewage system or unplanned industrialization, which have become a problem for urban populations in modern time. To have capital city with all these aspects, the Commission required opinion of experts who could suggest site keeping in view various technical factors e.g. Geo-technical, availability of potable water in the area, availability of place for disposal of sewage, accessibility of place by various mode of transport etc. While considering land requirement for a capital city it has also to be considered that population has tendency to migrate towards capital city and therefore, the city must be able to absorb that population. This involved feasibility study keeping in view technical aspects. A town planner alone is best person to advice and after examining in right perspective, suggest suitable place for Capital City by considering in the light of required parameters and preferring a particular site by comparing it with others.
Chapter 2

HOW AND WHY THE COMMISSION WAS CONSTITUTED

2.1 After a long struggle by people of hill area of State of Uttar Pradesh to have a separate state of hill districts, the Parliament of India by enacting Uttar Pradesh Reorganization Act of 2000 (Act No. 26 of 2000) carved out a new State of hill districts naming it as State of Uttarakhand, presently known as State of Uttarakhand. The new State came into existence on 09.11.2001. The State of Uttarakhand has been formed on the basis of report prepared by a Committee of State Assembly of Uttar Pradesh, popularly known as ‘Kaushik Committee’. The State has been carved out by taking out an area of 53483 Sq. km. from North-Eastern part of Uttar Pradesh, the area constituting hill districts. The population of area included in new State was 84.89 lakh out of which 43.26 lakh were males and 41.63 lakh females. The State is between latitude 28° 43'N to 31° 27'N and longitude 77° 34'E to 81° 02'E. It borders State of Himachal Pradesh on west and North-West, State of Uttar Pradesh on south beside international boundary with China in North and Nepal in East. It covers two regions geographically known as Garhwal and Kumaon.

2.2 Commission was initially constituted on 11.01.2001, the purpose being to have the report from Commission about its opinion in respect of a suitable place for permanent capital for State of Uttarakhand. The
necessity for determining place for permanent capital has arisen as formerly the whole territory of Uttarakhand was part of Uttar Pradesh having capital at Lucknow. The city of Lucknow remains with State of Uttar Pradesh as its capital and therefore, Uttarakhand requires a permanent capital at some place within its territorial limits. It is well known that in federal system of governance, a capital is essential for the state. Even at the time of notifying the date for coming into existence of Uttarakhand as a new State of Union of India, the Central Government was conscious that on coming into existence of new State, there has to be a capital of the State. As stated earlier, the capital of a state is its spirit from where capital core functions of the State are discharged.

2.3 To overcome this requirement of capital for the State of Uttarakhand to be formed, the Central Government made a temporary arrangement by notifying Dehradun as provisional capital from the date on which the state of Uttarakhand was to come into existence. The decision about provisional capital at Dehradun was taken by Central Government before formation of new State, which was communicated to the Chief Secretary of Government of Uttar Pradesh by Ministry of Home Affairs vide D.O. No. 12012/22/2000-SRdated 5th October, 2000. It is relevant to mention here that the ‘Kaushik Committee’, which was a committee of State Assembly of Uttar Pradesh, in its report recommended Gaursain (District Chamoli) to be the capital of new State to be formed. Accordingly, the State Government of Uttar Pradesh recommended to Central Government for making Gaursain as Capital of new State of Uttarakhand. But, when the Central Government considered the recommendation, it accepted only that part of the report of ‘Kaushik Committee’ where the recommendation was for formation of State of Uttarakhand. The Central Government instead of approving
recommendation for State Capital at Gairsain left the decision of permanent capital for determination by Government of Uttaranchal.

2.4 On formation of State of Uttaranchal, an interim government was formed to run the administration of State. As the determination of permanent capital was kept open by the Central Government, soon after formation of the State, the interim government was faced with the demand of peoples of State for declaring permanent capital for the State. This demand created a piquant situation for the State Government as several persons, individually and collectively, started suggesting different places for permanent capital. One section pressed that town of Gairsain (District Chamoli) has already been recommended by ‘Kaushik Committee’ for capital and therefore Gairsain be declared as permanent capital. To resolve this situation arising out of difference in suggestions, the interim government decided to have the matter looked into by a Commission. Thus, this Commission, as single member commission was constituted by the then interim government of the State by Office Memorandum No. 162/1-4/2001 dated 4th January 2001(Schedule 1), which is in Hindi.

2.5 Although Commission was constituted by notification dated 11.01.2001 but before place even for office of Commission could be mad available by government, several objections were taken before Chairman of Commission (in short ‘Chairman’) orally by different groups/sections of people against the Government decision constituting the Commission for determining permanent capital. The objections were taken when neither office staff of Commission was appointed nor normal functioning of Commission could begin. One of the objection taken before the Chairman requires mention. It was that the interim government was a care
taker government to look after the affairs of State pending election to Vidhan Sabha and it could neither appoint Commission nor it can take decision about place for permanent capital. Their stand was that it is not such an urgent matter which cannot wait till Vidhan Sabha election, when elected government will take over the administration and can take decision in this respect. The objection found favour with Commission and therefore, by letter dated 19.04.2001, the Commission advised interim government as under:

"that the State Government may consider suspending the functioning of the Commission till after the Vidhan Sabha elections and formation of a Government. At that stage, the then Government could also think of re-constituting the Commission".

The suggestion found favour with the government and the government suspended the Commission.

2.6 After holding of Vidhan Sabha election and formation of elected government, the demand to determine place of permanent capital again came up before the government. The newly elected government also had to face same situation where different sets of persons started suggesting different places for permanent capital. Considering the demand for one place or the other for being declared as Capital of the State, the newly elected government of the State decided to revive the Commission giving rise to notification No. 3389/EK-4/2003 dated 28th November 2002, calling upon the Commission to express its opinion on reference within six months from the date of notification. Original notification of reviving the Commission is in Hindi (Schedule 2). For convenience, it is being translated in English as under:
“Uttaranchal Government
General Administration
Number No. 3380/EK-4/2002
Dehradun: Dated: 28 November, 2002

Notification

In connection with selecting appropriate place for the capital of State by office order No.-162/EK-4/2002, dated 11.01.2001 “ekal sadasy chayan ayog” (a single member selection commission - translated) has been constituted and Justice Birendra Dikshit was appointed as Chairman of the said Commission. For certain reasons the Commission was suspended. After passage of time Hon’ble Rajyapal approves the revival of Single Member Commission.

2. Mr. Justice Birendra Dikshit (Retired) of Allahbad High Court will be member of this Commission.

3. The above Commission will submit its report to the Government within six months from the date of its constitution by notification.

4. The Commission will definitely incorporate in report its opinion on following points:

(a) Opinion of parties in respect of proposed site of capital,
(b) Distance from different areas/places of Uttaranchal State from proposed site of capital and the facility of transport and communication convenience.
(c) In case capital is established at proposed place then likely financial burden.
(d) Geological structure, suitability from environmental angle, continuous and sufficiency of availability of water.
sufficiency of land available and other suggestions about setting up.

5. For above work the Commission can have assistance of specialists (for instance – environment, urban planning, finance, geology etc.) of the subjects.

6. Beside aforesaid points, the Commission can express opinion on other points which it considers proper.

7. Separate orders will be passed for office of Commission, assistance of Secretariat, conditions for assistance of subject experts and on other miscellaneous matters”.

2.7 The functioning of Commission started with joining of the Chairman on 01.02.2003. As the notification provided for period of six month which was to be computed from the date of issue of notification therefore, the Government by notification No. 96/Sa.Prasa/2003 dated 26.02.2003 made an amendment to the affect that opinion be expressed on reference within six months from the date of joining of the Chairman. Considering the nature of work, which required opinion of experts, the State Government had to extend the term of Commission from time to time. The reference required that Commissions in its report will definitely incorporate its opinion in respect of geological structure, suitability according to environmental angle, continuous and sufficient availably of water, sufficiency of land available and other suggestions about setting up of Capital in respect of proposed site. All these aspects were technical for which a Consultant was required to assist Commission and submit a feasibility study report. The Consultant required satilite images of specific sites without which the final feasibility report in right perspective was not possible. The availabilty of satilite images was delayed by concerned Ramote Sensing Agency. It is only after receipt of technical
opinion in the form of feasibility study report from Consultant that the Commission is proceeding to express its opinion on points mentioned in reference. The Commission has been granted eleven extensions for expressing its opinion, which became necessary under aforesaid circumstances. The extensions granted are as under:

(i) extension of six months w.e.f. 01.08.2003 by office order No. 444/Sa.Pra./2003 dated 31.07.2003.

(ii) extension of six months w.e.f. 01.02.2004 by office order No. 56/Sa.Prasha./2004 dated 04.02.2004.

(iii) extension of six months from 01.05.2004 to 31.10.2004 by office order No. 244/Sa.Prasha./2004 dated 22.04.2004.

(iv) extension of six months from 1.11.2004 to 30.04.2005 by office order No.762/xxxi(2)(G)/Sa.Prasha./2004 dated 30.11.2004

(v) extension of six months from 01.05.2005 to 30.04.2006 by office order No.149/xxxi(13)-2(1)/2005 dated 07.03.2005

(vi) extension of six months from 01.05.2006 to 31.12.2006 by office order No.176/xxxi(13)-2(1)/2005 dated 25.02.2006

(vii) extension of three months from 31.12.2006 to 31.03.2007 by office order No.32/xxxi(13)G--2(1)/2006 dated 10.01.2007

(viii) extension of six months from 01.04.2007 to 31.10.2007 by office order No.364/xxxi(13)G-2(3)/2007 dated 22.05.2007

(ix) extension of six months from 1.11.2007 to 30.04.2008 by office order No.858/xxxi(13)G-2(1)/06 dated 01.11.2007

(x) extension of three months from 01.05.2008 to 31.07.2008 by office order No. 78/xxxi(13)G/05-2(1)/2005 dated 28.04.2008.
2.8 There have been objections from time to time against grant of extension by State Government. This Commission has taken about five years six and half months. But, time has been taken in providing opportunity to everyone to express his opinion and collecting those opinions of parties in respect of sites proposed by them. After that, getting parameters determined tentatively and holding meetings with public, hearing them and inspecting various sites at places short listed. The Commission examined sites at all the four short listed places for feasibility study report. On the advice of Commission, the Government entered into a consultancy agreement with the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi, (in short ‘SPA’) for feasibility study of sites of all the four areas. The Consultant could not submit the feasibility report in time. It depended on Remote Sensing Agency Hyderabad which submitted images to Consultant in different lots and took too much time. It is after examining and studying the satellite images, Consultant could complete the feasibility study and submit the report to Commission. The Government has always been anxious to have the report at its earliest The Government was constrained from time to time to extend the time under above circumstances.
CHAPTER 3

INVITING PUBLIC OPINIONS & SHORT LISTING OF PLACES

3.1 The interim Government of State being conscious about the fact that different places are being suggested by different persons for permanent capital of the State, it preferred to appoint a Commission for opinion on various points essential to have a modern township, which may keep pace with times. The elected government also considered it necessary to have the matter examined by a Commission and preferred to revive the Commission constituted by interim government. It appears from reference that State Government required due weight to be given to public opinion keeping in view the technical aspects. This appears from the fact that while making reference, it has asked the Commission that it will definitely incorporate in its report, opinion of parties in respect of proposed site for capital. To have the view point of all those, who wanted to express their opinion about place of capital, the Commission decided to adopt procedure of inviting opinions through advertisement so that everyone gets opportunity to express his opinion, whether he lived within the State or outside. This necessitated issue of an advertisement by Commission inviting opinions in writing from individuals / societies / organizations, persons doing social services and intellectuals of the state as well as those who were living outside the state.
3.2 The notice inviting opinions for proposed capital site was issued on 26.04.2003. It was stated in notice that if anyone wants to express opinion in respect of suitable place for permanent capital then the opinion be submitted before Commission in writing on any working day between 10 AM and 5 PM by 27.05.2003. For giving wide publicity to notice, it was got advertised by publication in daily newspapers having wide circulation in different districts of Uttaranchal. The notice was so published in newspaper that everyone had about four weeks to express opinion. The newspapers in which advertisement appeared are Amar Ujala (Dehradun), Jagran (Meerut & Dehradun), Doon Darpan (Dehradun), Himanchal Times (Dehradun), Uttar Ujala (Nainital), Badrivishal (Haridwar), Shah Times (Dehradun), Seemant Varta (Pauri), Jaiant (Kothdwar-Pauri) and Sandhya dainik Udhamisinghnagar ka darpan (Udhamisinghnagar). Beside publication in newspapers, other precautions were also taken to give it wide publicity. Thus, the copies of advertisement were sent to all Members of Lok Sabha from Uttaranchal, all Members of Rajya Sabha from Uttaranchal, Members of Uttaranchal Vidhan Sabha, all the Vice-chancellors of Universities and Principals of Degree Colleges & Engineering Colleges of Uttaranchal asking them to put on notice board and to supply one copy each to Professors/Head of the Departments and other officers. Simultaneously, the notices were also sent to Presidents, General Secretaries/Secretaries and District Presidents of all the recognized political parties of Uttaranchal, all the Mayors and Chairmans and District Presidents of Nagar Nigams, Chairman Lok Sewa Ayog, Chairman Uttaranchal Pradushan Niyantran Board, Chairman Rajya Yojna Ayog, Chairmans of Garhwal Mandal Vikas Nigam and Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam, District Information Officer for Uttaranchal, Presidents of all the District Bar Associations, Teachers Associations, Presidents of Student Unions of Degree Colleges, Director
Govind Ballabh Pant Himalaya Pariyavadin Sansthan at Kosi (Almora), Director Zadi Buti Shod Sansthan at Gopeshwar (Chamoli), Director Vivekanand Christian Anusandhan Shakha Almora, and to Editors of all newspapers of Uttaranchal approved by State Government. The advertisement was also sent to all the Block Development Officers of Uttaranchal for putting up on their notice boards and to send copies to each member of the Kshettra Panchayats and Khettra Samitis. They were also asked to give wide publicity to the notice.

3.3 During the time granted for submitting opinions, panchayat elections were going on. When the time was going to expire for expressing opinions, several persons associated with political parties approached Commission to extend the time. Shri Harish Rawat M.P. and President of Congress party brought to the notice of Commission that Congress Party wants extension of time as political parties could not consider about the matter due to panchayat elections. Leader of opposition in Legislative Assembly, Shri Bhagat Singh Koshiari, by letter dated 23.05.2003 asked for extension of time till 30.06.2003. He pointed out that residents of Uttaranchal and those who have interest in Uttaranchal, will stand deprived of opportunity in absence of publication of advertisement in national newspapers and internet In view of representations, the Commission extended time till 30.06.2003 for expressing opinion. Beside publication in 8 newspapers of Uttaranchal, all other simalar modes were adopted which were adopted in respect of notice dated 26.04.2003 while extending the time for expressing the opinion. To avoid objections about want of publication in national dailies, the advertisement was also got published in two daily newspapers of Delhi namely, Times of India and Navbhart Times on 31.05.2003.
3.4 In response to advertisements, the Commission received 221 opinions in writing till 30.6.2003. Another 17 opinions were received after the date fixed were also considered. There are some persons who expressed their opinion twice or thrice. All the suggestions are on the record. These opinions contain relevant as well as irrelevant matters. They are on the record.

3.5 According to opinions expressed, the places suggested are: Gairsain (Chamoli), Ramnagar (Nainital), Kalagarh (Pauri Garhwal), Dehradun, between Ramnagar (Nainital) and Kaladhungi (Nainital), between Ramnagar (Nainital) and Kalagarh (Pauri Garhwal), Chaukhutiya (Almora), Hempur (situated between Ramnagar (Nainital) and Kashipur (Udham Singh Nagar), Bhimtal (Nainital), Srinagar (Pauri Garhwal), Shyampur (Haridwar), Central point of Garhwal and Kumaon, IDPL, Rishkesh (Dehradun), Kashipur (Udham Singh Nagar), between Kashipur (Udham Singh Nagar) and Ramnagar (Nainital), at central point of Kotdwar (Pauri Garhwal) and Kashipur (Udham Singh Nagar), Central area between Kotdwar (Pauri Garhwal) and Ramnagar (Nainital), Bazpur (Udham Singh Nagar), Rudrapur (Udham Sing Nagar), Ramganga project (around Kalagarh-Pauri Garhwal), Ranikhet (Almora), Landsdowne (Pauri Garhwal), Gauchar (Chamoli), Nagchula khal (between Gairsain-Chamoli and Chaukhutiya-Almora), Chaukhutiya (Almora), Nainidada (Pauri Garhwal) Satpuli (Pauri Garhwal), Jolly Grant (Dehradun), any place between Gairsain (Chamoli) and Kalagarh (Pauri Garhwal), Jim Corbett Park, Simli (Chamoli), Bharatnagar, Gadh Kumaon), proposal for shifting capital from Dehradun, Rudrapur (Udham Singh Nagar) and there is one proposal with suggestion to shift the capital from Dehradun without specifying any place. For convenience, chart has been prepared.
by Commission in respect of number of opinions received for each place. The chart is **Schedule 3**.

3.6 The opinions are in Hindi language while this report is being submitted in English language. The opinions expressed contain several irrelevant matters. The Chairman considered that to get the irrelevant part of opinions translated and reproduced will be futile exercise. Therefore, the Chairman decided to place the gist (translated) of each written opinion. The gist of contents of every letter and representation in respect of opinions expressed about places/sites for permanent capital are being placed in the form of schedules. So far schedules are concerned they are being placed as under:

(i) The gist with names and addresses of persons/parties opinions proposing Capital in **Garisain** area is shown in **Schedule-4**.

(ii) The gist with names and addresses of persons/parties' opinions proposing Capital in **Ranipagar-Kashipur-Kalagarh** as one area is shown in **Schedule-5**.

(iii) The gist with names and addresses of persons/parties opinions proposing Capital in **Dehradun** area is shown in **Schedule-6**.

(iv) The gist with names of persons/parties opinions proposing Capital at **IDPL Factory** is shown in **Schedule-7**.

(v) The gist names and addresses of persons/parties opinions proposing Capital at different places are shown in **Schedule-8**.

(The schedule 8 is of places for which not more than 4 persons/parties opinioned were received as first choice)

Several persons expressed opinion without mentioning their name and address. As it was not possible to have identity of these persons therefore, there opinions have been excluded from consideration.
3.7 In response to advertisement inviting opinions too many places were suggested. This is apparent from Para 3.5 where places for which opinions were received are mentioned. Considering large number of opinions for different places, it was not possible to have feasibility study of each and every place. The Commission considered that it is necessary to short list some places feasibility study for capital within a reasonable limit. The procedure adopted for short listing sites has been that first four places for which Commission received maximum number of opinions were preferred and short listed for feasibility study. The Commission after examining all opinion short listed four places namely, Gairsain area of Chamoli district, for which maximum opinions have been received, followed by Ramnagar-Kashipur-Kalagarh area having second highest opinions, Dehradun area with third highest and IDPL Rishikesh with fourth highest opinions.
CHAPTER 4

CONSIDERATION OF KAUSHIK COMMITTEE REPORT

4.1 After receipt of public opinions in response to advertisements, in several opinions it was expressed that location of capital city stand determined by a committee of State Assembly of Uttar Pradesh known as ‘Kaushik Committee’. It was also pressed before Commission during meetings at Gairsain and Chaukhutiya also. The stand taken has been that Gairsain stands decided as State Capital.

4.2 This demand started as soon as Commission started functioning. A section of public and politicians came forward claiming that the question of permanent capital stands already determined by ‘Kaushik Committee’. Their stand has been that the Legislature of Uttar Pradesh accepted Gairsain as Capital while recommending to the Central Government for separate State of hill areas. Before Commission they even stated that the capital of new State has to be at Gairsain and Commission is having futile exercise which is not going to serve any purpose.

4.3 They were explained by the Chairman of the Commission that the State Government has constituted Commission which is just to submit a report expressing its opinion on points referred. The objection is not
within the purview of Commission. It is within the perview of power of Government of Uttarakhand to look into this objection. If the State of Government is seeking technical opinion as to geological structure, suitability according to environmental angle, continuous and sufficiency water availability, sufficiency of land availability and other suggestions on matter about setting-up of the Capital then there could be no possible objection. All these are technical matters and no town whatsoever can be established without technical opinions in these modern times. It will not be correct to say that the capital be determined at Gairsain without going into technical aspects. Those who are pressing that Gairsain be declared as Capital should have got these aspects examined through experts before pressing it to be declared Capital of the State. The Commission is of opinion that there cannot be any compromise in respect of these technical aspects which are essential to safeguard against all those hazard of life which an unplanned town faces. The peoples who collected at meetings at Gairsain and Chaukhudiya when informed about availability of land at Bharisain suggested Nagchula Khal also. The feasibility study of these two places has been done and the opinion of Consultant is in negative in respect of site suggested by officials as well as peoples at Gairsain and Chaukhutiya meetings.

4.4 As it has been objected before Commission that Capital at Gairsain stands determined, the Commission has gone through the ‘Kaushik Committee’ report. It was constituted when need for a separate State of Uttarakhand came-up for consideration before State of Uttar Pradesh. The Cabinet of Uttar Pradesh on 04.01.1994 resolved that in next session of Vidhan Sabha, a resolution be passed for separate State of Uttarakhand. It further resolved that full details be forwarded with resolution to Government of India in respect of proposed state. For
preparing outline (in Hindi - roop/rekha), the Cabinet of Uttar Pradesh constituted a Committee commonly known as ‘Kaushik Committee’ headed by Sri Rama Shanker Kaushik, the then Urban Development Minister of Government of Uttar Pradesh.

4.5 To have opinion of public in respect of formation of new State for hilly area, the ‘Kaushik Committee’ issued a questioner. In questioner, question No.2.7 was about capital of Uttarakhand. The question was as to where should be the capital of Uttarakhand, whether in an existing city or at a new place. It required naming of the place for Capital and reasons in support of the opinion were also to be expressed. ‘Kaushik Committee’ recommending new State of Uttarakhand also recommended Gairsain to be its capital. The Central Government considered Committee’s report and accepted only one part where formation of new State of Uttaranchal was recommended. In respect of capital of the State at Gairsain, instead of accepting the recommendation, it left the question open for decision by Uttaranchal Government. This is apparent from communication dated 05.10. 2000 of Government of India whereby the Chief Secretary of Uttar Pradesh Government was informed the decision of Central Government. The relevant part of communication in respect of Capital is that, “It has been decided to locate the provisional capital of Uttaranchal in Dehradun. The decision regarding the permanent capital will be taken by the Government of Uttaranchal”.

4.6 The Commission would like to point out that the objection that Gairsain stands declared as Capital should not have been taken up before Commission. It was between the State Government and objectors. The Commission is supposed to express its opinion on points referred. But, when it has been taken up to the extent that the Chairman of Commission
was gheraoed twice, the Chairman would like to advise objectors to examine their stand in following light.

4.7 When the recommendation of Capital was before Central Government together with that of formation of State of Uttarakhand and Central Government was seized of the whole matter then why the recommendation was accepted only partly about formation of new State but not about Capital. Will it be not be possible answer that it did not agree with that part of recommendation where Gairsain was proposed as Capital? Another aspect is that when Central Government did not accept that part of recommendation about Capital, then was it not proper for those who were aggrieved, to place their grievance before Central Government? Are they justified in taking the stand that Capital at Gairsain stand decided? Will it be not correct to say that the Central Government did not accept the recommendation and wants to get the question examined by State Government?

4.8 In respect of ‘Kaushik Committee’, the State Government has taken up consideration of permanent capital in view of Central Government decision. It is just following what Central Government expressed after going through report of ‘Kaushik Committee’. The State Government now wants to finalise permanent Capital by taking into consideration public opinion and examining technical factors. Those who are objecting must see with open mind if there is anything wrong in the approach of State Government? Ask peoples of Gairsain who are having land in the valley as to why they did not agree to part with the land for Capital in valley when Chairman of Commission said to them that they will get market value if the land in valley is made available and on examination of feasibility it is found suitable? Why they did not accept
and instead insisted for having Capital City at Bhararisain and ‘Videshi Pashu Palan Kendra’ area with second choice for Nagchula Khal area? They must consider with open mind that it is the responsibility of State to safeguard against all those problems which have arisen in urban towns before finalizing the place for Capital.

4.9 It is relevant to mention that on bare reading of report of ‘Kaushik Committee’, it is apparent that it is based on public opinion. The capital of a State is its spirit which has to be developed keeping in view technical aspects in modern times. It requires examination of geology of land, availability of land, sufficiency of water for the capital city, environmental aspects, etc. Consideration of these aspects have not been taken care by ‘Kaushik Committee’. Certainly, maximum public opinions before Commission is for Gairsain and Commission is conscious about it while writing this report. But, it must be remembered that even at the meeting at Gairsain as well as Chaukhtiya the Chairman of Commission made it clear to everyone that if there is not much difference in respect of technical aspect and public opinion, then the public opinion is to prevail. At the same time it was also made clear that if there is much difference there cannot be any compromise which may hinder the development of the State. The Chairman of Commission hopes that peoples of Uttarakhand will appreciate this principle of town planning while taking decision they will with broader outlook devoid of emotions and regionalism over technical aspects. They will not allow them to prevail. They will not compromise with technical aspects. It is thereafter that the Commission proceeded further in examining the matter referred.
Chapter 5

INVITING PUBLIC OPINIONS & SHORT LISTING PLACES

5.1 Before proceeding to examine sites at places short listed, Commission had to find out, for considering the sufficiency of site, as to how much land will be required and what parameters are to be adopted for capital core functions. The Commission had to seek assistance of Officer-in-charge, Urban and Village Development of Uttarakhan at Dehradun, Shri Brij Bhushan Ratan (in short ‘Officer-in-charge’) to ascertain how much land is required keeping in view population likely to be there and what parameters are to be adopted for capital core functions. It was tentative for examining the sites and knowing area required for capital core functions. Before finalizaing the land requirement and parameters provided by Officer-in-charge, the Commission decided to provide opportunity to everyone to have his say against them. This opportunity was only for the purpose that if anyone was not satified with them then he may seek modification by producing opinion of experts. The Commission is considering these aspects under following three heads in detail:
1. Land Requirement.
2. Parameters for capital core functions
3. Opportunity to object against estimate of land requirement and Parameter of capital core function.

5.2 Land Requirement: Sufficient land is required for capital city. It has to be considered with a vision that capital of the state is not to be only for present but it will require “developments that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”. The capital city will require sustainable development, in other words it means “what type or extent of development can take place which can be sustained by nature/ecology with or without mitigation”. It was necessary to ascertain sufficiency of land as it is based on factors on which town planner alone could advice. The town planner has to perceive how much land will be required where citizens can lead a healthy life, the economy of the capital city/area may flourish to the best of resources, natural environment is maintained so that they who are going to live are not faced with all those hazard and pollution of air and water, which have become problem for urban population. For providing such a life, the estimate of land requirement can be determined by estimating the population of capital. This estimate of population depended not only on those who will be living at Capital City but the estimate of those also who will be coming to Capital City for their work, staying for a short while and then going back.

5.4 When the Commission wanted to know the land requirement from Officer-in-charge, the Officer-charge informed that he examined land requirement earlier, before revival of Commission, while considering development of Dehradun as capital. He made a report
available to Commission containing the study he made about Dehradun as Capital. The estimate given in report is of population of 2.00 – 2.50 lakh. The land requirement given is of 360 ha for capital core functions and 960 – 1160 ha for capital @ 130 persons per ha. Subsequently, the Officer-incharge modified land requirement as 1500 ha. The earlier requirement mentioned appears to be for the reason that it was for development of Dehradun, a well developed town while the Commission was to consider other sites also in the State. As said earlier, the figure on were only tentative for Commission for considering sufficiency of land for Capital City during visit to sites leaving. Exact requirement was to be examined by expert during final feasibility study. Even Consultant considered the figure of 1,500 ha proper while examining land requirement and proceeded for study of feasibility taking it in account. However, considering the land available at the site recommended the Consultant has considered that 2,500 ha land required is available. The report of Officer-incharge and Consultant indicate that they considered land requirement for Capital of Uttarakhand with full knowledge of parameters laid down by Ministry of Urban Development.

5.5 Parameters for capital core functions: The estimated 360 ha land for capital core function was advised necessary at one place for efficient and convenient working of state administration. The Officer-incharge gave this figure of 360 ha by scaling down the standard requirement laid by Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India which is 500 ha. The scaling down to 360 ha appears to have been done considering that Uttarakhand is a hilly state and it is difficult to find 500.00 ha of land at one place in hills due to limited availability of land in Uttarakhand. Finally, even the Consultant during feasibility study has considered scaling down necessary, though the Consultant finally
considered requirement of 339 ha for capital core functions. The required land under Urban Development Ministry of Government of India with that of Consultant’s opinion for the comparision of various functions is being given here under in the form of a chart:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Urban Development Ministry Central Govt. Area (in ha)</th>
<th>Consultant Opinion Area (in ha)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Government House</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Executive functions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a) Secretariat complex</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b) Directorates</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>c) Corporations</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>d) Residential</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- CM</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Ministers</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- CS</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Secretaries</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Directors</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- DGP/ADGP</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Officers</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Staff</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Legislative functions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a) Assembly</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b) Secretariat</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>c) Speaker residence</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>d) Secretary</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>e) Officers</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>f) Staff</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>g) MLA housing</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Common facilities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a) State guest house</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b) Convention centre</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>c) Hospital</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>d) Stadium</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>e) Railway station expansion</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>f) Circulation, recreation, cultural, hotel facilities and commercial</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>339</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Consultant opinion values are provided for each function.*
5.6 Opportunity to object against estimate of land requirement and Parameter of capital core function: The opinion of land requirement and norms being technical, the Commission considered it necessary to provide opportunity to every one to have his say. At the same time the Commission wanted that if anyone wants to oppose land requirement or norms then it should be opposed by placing technical opinion of experts/s to the contrary. The reason for this being that opinion of an expert can be dislodged only by an expert opinion to the contrary. Therefore, it was made clear to each and everyone that for opposing town planner opinion in respect of land required for capital core function, the technical opinion of expert to the contrary be produced. Efforts were made from time to time by different persons individually as well as jointly at meetings in its opposition but none produced any technical opinion of expert to the contrary at any stage of consideration or at any meetings. Even when orally objections were being taken at meetings at Garhson, Chaukhutiy, Ramnagar, Kashipur, Kalagarh, Dehradun and Rishkesh on the visit of Commission, there also it was made clear and that if anyone produces contrary opinion of experts then that will be duly considered. Despite full opportunity being provided, none produced any contrary opinion of expert to dislodge the technical opinion of Officer-in-charge. Therefore, accepting the opinion of Officer-in-charge, the Commission proceeded to visit sites for examining sites at short listed places. It is relevant to mention here that as feasibility study was required to be done of sites and it has been duly done by Consultant, the question about opinion of Officer-in-charge in respect of land requirement and norms is not of significance. They have been mentioned to place the procedure adopted in respect of land requirement and norms by the Commission.
Chapter 6

INSPECTION OF SITES

6.1 The Commission has been inspecting sites at short listed places and hearing the public by holding meetings during inspections. The sites which have been subject matter of these inspections were firstly, those sites which were suggested by Officials i.e. the District Administration of each District. There the District Administrations were asked by Commission to propose sites at short listed places. The sites inspected are those sites which were either suggested by persons expressing opinions in writing in response to advertisements or those who met in small groups at the Office of Commission or at inspection houses without expressing opinion at initial stage in writing. The Commission has visited all those sites which were suggested by Officials as well as persons showing interest at the spot and suggesting particular land.

6.2 The Commission prepared inspection reports in Hindi language. As this report is in English language, the substance of relevant parts of the reports are being placed in the form of Schedules. The substance is for all the visit to each short listed place at in one Schedule for convenience. The schedules of short listed places are as under:

(i) Dehradun area, the substance of inspections are being filed as Schedule 9.
(ii) Gairsain area, the substance of inspections are being filed as Schedule 10.

(iii) IDPL’s, the substance of inspections is being filed as Schedule 11.

(iv) Kalagarh-Kashipur-Ramnagar area, the substance of inspections are being filed as Schedule 12.

6.3 After inspection of sites of all the short listed places, the Chairman decided to have feasibility study of sites of all the four areas. The sites which were finally decided for feasibility study are as under:

(i) Dehradun area, the sites at Archedia Tea gardens, Harbanswala Tea Gardens and East Hope Town Tea gardens and at villages Nathluwala-Balawala.

(ii) At Gairsain area, the sites short listed are at Bharaisain-Videshi Pashupalan Kendra area and Nagchula Khal.

(iii) The factory premises of IDPL (Rishikesh-District Dehradun).

(iv) At Kashipur-Ramnagar-Kalagarh area, one site short listed is that where factory of NEPA Mill was to be established (between Ramnagar and Kashipur). Another site is at village Chhoi of District Ramnagar and the third site covers all the land between Tumaria Dam and River Kosi (District Ramnagar and Kashipur area of Udham Singh Nagar). So far Kalagarh town is concerned, no site could be approved for feasibility study as the town is about 4 km long and 500km wide being surrounded by forest and tiger project on northern, eastern and western side while in south, it is bounded by boundary of State of Uttar Pradesh.
6.4 At this place it is necessary to mention that some persons met the Chairman at office before sites could be inspected. Each of them pressed that place and site suggested by them may not be dropped merely because it will involve more expenditure in establishing Capital City at that place. It was made clear to them that the Commission is not going to exclude any suggested site at short listed places merely because it will involve more expenditure. One of the principle of town planning certainly is that an expensive site could be recommended only if spending more would have brought more benefit as compared to investment made. If a site is not that worth, it may not be recommended on this principle. However, it was to be considered during feasibility study when final decision was to be taken while deciding the place where capital was to be established. So far the Commission is concerned, whatever sites it intended to recommend for feasibility study from amongst short listed sites, it did not overlook any place merely because bringing up a capital at that particular place will bring more financial burden. It was neither the stage nor Commission disapproved any site on that score nor any site was excluded for inspection on said ground from visit and for feasibility study. The process of short listing of places has already been mentioned earlier. So far exclusion of any site on the ground of likelihood of more expensive is concerned.
Chapter 7

APPOINTMENT OF CONSULTANT

7.1 The Chairman of Commission being of opinion that selection of site for capital is technical matter, decided to have feasibility study of all the sites at short listed places. The Chairman initially wanted study to be done by Uttarakhand Unit of Geological Survey of India (in short ‘GSI’). The Chairman approached Director of GSI namely, Shri P.C. Navani, but he expressed his inability by letter dated 03.03.2005 to undertake geological investigation of Ramnagar-Kalagarh, Dehradun and IDPL (Rishikesh) due to pressure of work. The Chairman then approached Professor R. Shanker, Head of the Department of Architecture & Planning, Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, District Haridwar for feasibility study of all the sites at short listed places. During discussion Professor R. Shanker, expressed that he will collect all necessary data but he will neither express final opinion nor make recommendation in respect of site to be selected. He was of the opinion that after collection of data, a committee of experts be formed for recommending the site for capital city. The Chairman of Commission did not agree, the reason being that it did not appear proper that the data collection be done by one agency and final feasibility report be submitted by another agency. It could have involved repetition of some items of the proceedings such as visit to sites etc. Even if a committee was formed of
experts to take final decision on the basis of data already collected. There could be delay in finalizing the feasibility on the basis of data collected.

7.2 After receiving negative replies from two experts, the Chairman approached Director of School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi for feasibility study report. The Director agreed that SPA will act as Consultant and entrusted its discussion and other conditions etc. for said study to Dr. Mahavir, Professor of Physical Planning Department at SPA, as a project with SPA. Being satisfied with the discussion with Dr. Mahavir, the Chairman advised the State Government to appoint SPA as Consultant for feasibility report together with opinion in respect of suitability of sites at places short listed. The State Government agreed to appoint SPA as Consultant. After receipt of draft agreement from SPA, which was made available to Government with certain modifications proposed by Chairman, the State Government approved its modified form. The SPA approved it in its modified form and thereafter agreement was entered into by Government with SPA on 30.11.2005 to examine and submit report to Commission in respect of four short listed places.

7.3 The agreement provided for feasibility study to be done in three stages, third stage being the final one. After completing study of first two stages and getting the approval of Chairman, the Consultant submitted the feasibility study report of third and final stage. The report has been prepared by Dr. Mahavir who took keen interest in inspecting the sites, collecting the material and completing the work at earliest. Dr. Mahavir has examined various aspects and has assigned reasons to support his opinion with all the plus and minus points in respect of sites available at short listed places.
Chapter 8

FEASIBILITY STUDY REPORT

8.1 THEORETICAL BACKGROUND OF NATURE AND FUNCTION: The Consultant in this respect has specified that capital cities are expected to have following characteristics:

- Seat of power reflected in terms of judiciary, executive and legislative.
  
  (Commission note: Here judiciary to be excluded which stand settled. The High Court stands established at Nainital by order of Central Government).

- Efficient transport networks and infrastructure along with other functional requirements.

- The city helps in creating growth impetus all around by creating new economic impulses in the area.

- Environment of the city is safe and every citizen is a stakeholder in terms of accessing various facilities.

8.2 These characteristics are to be taken care for selecting the site for bringing up any township in modern times. Actually, a capital city is ‘human settlement with maximum concentration of power and culture, having medium density of people, socially heterogeneous’. It requires process of land acquisition, study of topography, climate, geology, soil, water table etc. They are needed before embarking upon the development
of the area as State Capital. They are necessary factors for taking decision about selection of site for locating the capital city. The Commission is considering the public opinions in light of above factors advised by Consultant. Only Consultant could perceive if land available will be sufficient for Capital or water will be sufficient for those who are going to live there or the environment will be maintained for healthy living etc. There is important justification to consider and follow the technical factors advised by expert, which are being given due weight by Commission in expressing its opinion.

8.3 The said factors have been dealt with in feasibility report. The Consultant has opined that major criteria for the location of state capital have been divided into Macro Criteria (meaning situation factors) and Micro Criteria (meaning site factors). They are as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Macro Criteria (Situation Factors)</th>
<th>Micro Criteria (Site Factors)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Centrality</strong></td>
<td>Sources of water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Geographical location</td>
<td>Land availability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Population distribution</td>
<td>Land values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Accessibility</strong></td>
<td>Topography and climate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Physical feasibility</strong></td>
<td>Supply of electricity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Seismic zones</td>
<td>Natural drainage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Faults and thrusts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Environmental concerns</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Topography</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Transport modes</strong></td>
<td>Availability of construction materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Acceptability</strong></td>
<td>Community considerations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Security</strong></td>
<td>Scope for future expansion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Investments</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
8.4 The Consultant made broad analysis of potential sites for State capital. The key activities likely to be housed at the new capital city have also been identified. The above criteria have been analyzed by Consultant while considering the sites under study. They have been duly dealt with in the three reports of feasibility study. They are the basis of conclusion derived by Consultant and therefore each criterion is being dealt with separately. There are two sites at Dehradun, two sites at Gairsain, two sites at Ramnagar-Kashipur-Kalagarh and one at IDPL. For analysis, the Consultant has taken into consideration data collected by it and the satellite images of Remote Sensing Agency, Hyderabad beside available with Commission.

8.5 CRITERIA FOR LOCATING THE CAPITAL: For expressing its opinion, the Commission has taken guidance about criteria from the feasibility study by consultaqnt, the opinion of experts. It is not necessary to repeat all those details which are elaborately dealt with in the Consultant’s reports. They are being considered in brief, keeping in view the necessary factors in their applicability to places under consideration.

8.6 Land Requirement: The total land requirement has been considered in detail in para 5.5 of this report. It is not necessary to repeat same fact again as nothing further can be said. Under this test:

(i) Adequate land for present and future development available at Dehradun (both sites), Kashipur and Ramnagar. (ii) Adequate land for present and future not available at Gairsain (both sites) and IDPL.

8.7 Centrality: One of the reason assigned for pressing Gairsain for capital is its central location. It is quite significant aspect as maximum
public opinions before Commission are to have the Capital at Gairsain. It is also said to be an important factor in determining the site for capital city. Centrality has reference to central point. According to Consultant, there are two kind of centrality namely, geographical centrality and population centrality. The geographical centrality has been indicated as centre of the state in actual physical terms while population centrality has been indicated as central location by population concentration or population density.

(i) Geographical centrality at both sites of Gairsain favoured. (ii) Dehradun (both sites), Kashipur, Ramnagar and IDPL laci Geographical centrality (iii) Population centrality favours Dehradun (both sites) and IDPL. (iv) Population centrality not favoured at Gairsain, Kashipur and Ramnagar.

8.8 Geographical centrality requires central point of the State. The benefit of it is that geographical central location renders administrative control easier from capital and is easily accessible to the people on least distance principle from all parts of the State. It is based on physical boundaries of the State. How it can be worked out has been given in feasibility report of second stage. This centrality is most favourable for Gairsain. The central point of Uttarakhand under geographical centrality is about 20 km from Gairsain therefore, Gairsain is to be considered at centre. But, as per feasibility study report, the geographical centrality is not a very suitable criterion in hilly areas. It has been justified by observing that geographical criterion was more important in times when movements were restricted and expensive but with advancement of technological developments, which ensures less expenses and faster movement, geographical centrality, has lost some of its sheen. Its basis has been said to be increased accessibility. Introduction of new modes of
transportation and communication with less expense. This criterion is considered still significant. However, the Consultant concluded that “this is not a very suitable criterion in hilly areas”.

8.9 Considering population centrality, the Consultant reported that this essentially means the central location to the population distribution in the State. It is central location and population concentration or population density as it ensures that the capital is within the reach of majority of people of the State. The population centrality is described as centre of gravity (centre of mass) calculated by assuming the thirteen district of the State as mass. For that reason it is said that as capital is for peoples, it should be within their reach and it may not be considered with geographical centre of the State. This has been justified as more important than geographical centrality for the reason that it affects productions as well as consumption. This is also a technical matter but there appears substance in what has been said by Consultant for taking into consideration population centrality, while studying feasibility.

8.10 Uttarakhand population (Census 2001) distribution is as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Almora</td>
<td>8,36,617</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bageishwar</td>
<td>2,24,172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Champawat</td>
<td>1,97,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chamoli</td>
<td>4,54,871</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dehradun</td>
<td>10,25,679</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haridwar</td>
<td>11,24,488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nainital</td>
<td>15,40,174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pauri Garhwal</td>
<td>6,82,535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pithoragarh</td>
<td>5,66,407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rudra Prayag</td>
<td>2,00,451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tehri Garhwal</td>
<td>5,80,513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Udham Singh Nagar</td>
<td>9,14,861</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uttarkashi</td>
<td>2,39,709</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
8.11 The point of centre of gravity of population of Uttarakhand as per census of 2001 has been calculated by Consultant. The central point lies somewhere in the district Pauri Garhwal, near Kotdwara, far away from Gairsain.

Physical Feasibility

8.12 The factors under this head stand divided into: (i) Seismic Zones; (ii) Environmental Concerns and; (iii) Topography and Climate. Uttarakhand being a hill state is mainly prone to two types of disaster i.e. earthquakes and landslides, which could have catastrophic consequences for all settlements including the proposed State Capital. The observation in respect of said two factors has been made here under.

8.13 Earthquakes: The whole state stands described as vulnerable to earthquakes being in seismic zone IV and V, zone V being more prone to earthquakes. Pithoragarh, Chamoli, Rudra Prayag, Bageshwar and Almora are in zone V. They are the districts which have seen some of the devastating earthquakes in past at a frequency of once in 9 years of magnitude M6.0-6.6. For districts in zone V, it is said that they are not suitable for intense development activities and therefore, not favorable for proposed capital location. Even Northern part of the State in zone IV is considered vulnerable to earthquakes, primarily the district of Uttarkashi where earthquakes have disturbed life in recent years.

8.14 The location of capital is to be in a hazard free zone. The reason assigned being is that it involves investment of a permanent nature; that safety of people and sustained protection of assets ought to be the prime concern; that place should be less prone to geological disturbances like
earthquakes, land slides and floods and seismic factors should be strictly looked into before finalizing the site.

(i) Places away from faults and seismic zones are favoured. They are Dehradun (both sites), Kashipur, Ramnagar, IDPL. (ii) Unfavourable are not away from faults and seismic zones as Gairsain(both sites). (iii) Favourable, away from earthquakes are Kashipur, Ramnagar and IDPL. (iv) Unfavourable not being away from earthquakes area are Dehradun (both sites) and Gairsain (both sites).

8.15 Landslides: Uttarakhand being a hill state, the local faults have played important role. In considering location of capital it has been pointed out that they are sometimes responsible for seismic activities, which may cause damage to the capital. The State of Uttarakhand has been taken to be lying in a very high/critical zone of landslides and therefore, it has been said that safety from landslide hazard is essential.

Two major thrusts have been referred, which cut across the State of Uttarakhand. They are described as Main Boundary Thrusts and Main Central Thrusts. The areas in proximity to these thrusts are prone to landslides more than any other part of the state. Hence, it has been observed that “the development of activities and the Capital is to be avoided in a belt of 4-5 km to the north and south of these thrusts”. For locating the capital the Consultant opined that “Almora, Bageshwar, Champawat, Chamoli, Dehradun, Haridwar, Nainital, Pauri Garhwal, Pithoragarh, Uttarkashi are the areas in proximity to landslides and to be avoided”.

- For favourable and unfavourable Faults and Seismic in respect of places and sites, see para 8.13

38
8.16 These two factors of natural hazards i.e. earthquakes and landslides, have been taken to be very important and as decisive factors for location of the proposed capital city.

**Physical Environment: Natural and Built Environment**

8.17 The power of society to destroy environment has reached a scale unprecedented in the history of humanity and this power is being used, almost systematically to work an insensate havoc upon the entire world of life and its material bases. With the population explosion, the carcinoma of plan less urbanism, the new geological deposits of sewage and garbage which have taken place, it can be said that no creature other than man has ever managed to foul its nest in such short order. Striking a balance between protection of environment and sustainable development is an onerous and delicate task which the town planner will have to discharge while planning the capital city and therefore, it is essential to take care right from the time when selection of site is taking place. This process brings into sharp focus the conflict of interest between environment and development. We should not forget that further generation will judge how we acted when we had that knowledge in hand. We must remember that if we do not take action to maintain natural and build environment then our children will suffer.

(i) Favourable presence of higher order facilities of Health, Education and Recreation are at Dehradun (both sites), Kashipur and IDPL. (ii) These higher order facilities of Health, Education and Recreation are not present at Gairsain (both sites) and Ramnagar.

8.18 Another test considered for capital city is that the districts with a cover of reserved and protected forests cannot be considered for location
of capital to minimize disturbance in ecologically sensitive zones. Districts with more forest covers are to be left undisturbed. The following information from Forest Department showing percentage of reserved and protected forests in each district of Uttarakhand are as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Districts</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE RF&amp;PF</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Almora</td>
<td>25.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bageshwar</td>
<td>33.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chamoli</td>
<td>35.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Champawat</td>
<td>43.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dehradun</td>
<td>47.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haridwar</td>
<td>28.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nainital</td>
<td>63.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pauri Garhwal</td>
<td>43.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pithoragarh</td>
<td>11.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rudra Prayag</td>
<td>66.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tehri Garhwal</td>
<td>63.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Udham Singh Nagar</td>
<td>36.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uttarkashi</td>
<td>86.80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source Forest Department, Dehradun (2006)

Keeping in view environmental concern in deciding the location of site for capital city, another factor to be taken into consideration is that “Reserved and protected forest areas are environmentally sensitive zones especially in case of hill areas and hence, to be protected at all costs. Even the areas adjacent to these forest areas are not suitable for the location of capital due to the expansion possibilities and spill over of activities”.

40
(i) Favourable sites for having minimum effect on forest and agriculture are Dehradun (both sites) and IDPL. (ii) Unfavorable for effect on forest and agriculture are Gairsain (both sites), Kashipur and Ramnagar.

8.19 Further, the environmentally sensitive areas should be avoided as far as possible; that in case of hilly regions, environmental factors become extremely important; that reserve and protected forests and ecologically fragile areas and heritage conservation zones must be preserved at all cost and; that state capital must be avoided even in the area adjacent to such zones due to the likelihood of future expansion of the capital city. It is for that reason that environment dimensions have been categorized in two categories namely, physical environment or natural and built environment, and social environment. The affect on forests and agriculture is available in para 8.16 of this report can be seen.

8.20 While studying feasibility the Consultant has given detail account with discussion on the physical environment or natural and built environment. The aspects taken into consideration for locating the capital city in feasibility report are: (i) Land and Climate under which soil, topography, subsurface conditions, climatic conditions, special conditions such as flood etc.; (ii) Vegetation, Wildlife and natural area; (iii) surrounding land uses and physical character of the area; (iv) infrastructure and public services; (v) air pollution levels; (vi) noise levels and; (vii) water pollution levels. It is not necessary to place detail accounts of these item as they are available in feasibility study report. Thus, it is not being considered necessary to repeat the details in this
report (see Feasibility Report– stage I pages 5 & 6). Beside aforesaid factors, the report speaks about the requirement of physiographic aspect namely, slopes, altitudes and related other aspects which require careful analysis. Referring to slopes it has been observed that they be of buildable gradients to minimize cutting and filling. The flatter area has been mentioned as better suited but it has also been pointed out that at the same time such site may suffer from poor drainage. Salubrious climate has been said to be attractive and brings efficiency in people. The feasibility study reports says that very high hills may suffer from fog during summer while well distributed rainfall is an additional advantage.

(i) Dehradun,Kashipur and IDPL- the favourable factors for selection as capital are that there is soil bearing capacity; that climatic conditions are favourable; that sites are away from Conserved Forest or Wild Life Sactuary; Land productivity and settlemt pattern and slopes (except slope at Kashipur) are favourable beside availability of congtinuous land. (ii) Gairsain- the soil bearing capacity is unfavourable for Physical Development i.e. Land productivity, climatic conditions (Rainfall, snowfall, Hail). It is unfavourable being not away from Conserved Forest or Wild Life Santuary and settlement pattern.

(iii) Ramnagar- its soil bearing capacity for Physical Development, slopes, Climatic Conditions (Rainfall, Snowfall, Hail), away from any Conserved Forest or Wild Life Sanctuary and Settlement Patter are favourable, while Land Productivity is unfavourable,

8.21 For the social environment, the factors mentioned for being taken into consideration are following: (i) Communities facilities and
services; (ii) Employment centre and commercial facilities; (iii) Character of community; (iv) Aesthetics and Environment and; (v) Economic Environment.

Acceptability by Peoples

8.22 The location of capital city should be acceptable to peoples of the state. Therefore, considering the location of capital, it is important factor to be seen that the location of capital city must cater to psychological needs of people; that it should be politically and socially acceptable; that a capital located in a corner or in a far away part of the state is likely to create a feeling of distance and estrangement; that a capital chosen with the consensus of the people is more likely to be identified as their own and; that such an identity is essential for the development of the state. The Commission would like to point out that it is also to be seen that technical opinion is important in taking a decision in locating a capital. It is also true that public opinion is also important. Public opinion is to be preferred if the difference between technical opinion and public opinion is not much. But, at the same time there cannot be any compromise in respect of technical opinion while taking into consideration public opinion. The technical opinion cannot be ignored if the people expect a flourishing city where peoples live away from hazards of urban problems. In present case public opinion has been overshadowed by other factors for not accepting place with highest public opinion.

(i) The maximum opinions being received for Gairsain, its acceptability is maximum to peoples. (ii) Kashipur-Ramnagar and Kalagarh area next highest it. (iii) The third highest acceptability is of Dehradun area and (iv) IDPL is fourth highest. (see Schedule 3)
Security

8.23 Another consideration which weights is that the site selected for capital must have secure location. It requires internal as well as external security. Uttarakhand is a border state having international border with China in North and Nepal in East. The areas with boundaries touching international borders are prone to security problems and therefore they are not appropriate for the location of State capital. This factor is extremely important in case of Uttarakhand as state is sharing a large part of territorial boundary in north and east with other countries namely, China and Nepal. The consideration mentioned for locating a township from point of security in the feasibility study report is that the new development should be well away from the international borders. Preferably, in the proximity of cantonment, yet away from it to prevent the danger of attack. However, in respect of border area clearances from the respective ministries of External Affairs, Defence and Home are not likely to come through. The districts of Dehradun, Pauri Garhwal and Almora being away from international border having cantonment areas are thus favourable under this test for location of capital city.

(i) Dehradun (both sites), Ramnagar and IDPL are favourable sites for security from internation border. (ii) Gairsain (both sites) and Kashipur are unfavourable sites from interation security point of view.

8.24 From point of view of internal security, the capital city has to be located at such a place that responsible officers and sufficient
reinforcements could reach as quickly as possible to any part of state at the time of internal conflicts disturbances as well during unforeseen natural calamites. Those places which have good accessibility and are well connected having better communication links needs to be advanced.

- It is not in analysis of feasibility study which can mean that there is no such problem in respect of site recommended by expert i.e Consultant.

**Water**

8.25 The next test which was to be taken into consideration and has been taken into consideration in final feasibility study is about water. Water has been mentioned as another important factor for location of a settlement. Adequate assured sources of water close to the settlement has to be there and it must be perennial source having the scope for augmentation. The type of sources must be detailed out i.e. whether they are rivers or/and seasonal streams or ground water. It is also to be seen if these are permanent natural sources of water. Alternate water sources are also to be found out. These sources should also be judged for their capacity to supply water for the population at a minimum rate. The distance from these natural sources be also found out as well as kind of distribution system required for transporting the water to people. The gravity flow from the source of water to the site of the town would be convenient and economical but this may not always be possible. As long as water sources can be tapped and water is taken to an elevation from where it can be distributed by gravity flow to the entire settlement, the system would be considered satisfactory.

(i) The sites at Dehradun (both sites), Kashipur and IDPL are favourable for adequate water supply. (ii) The sites at Gairsain (both sites) and Ramnagar are unfavourable in respect of adequate water supply.
Non-Capital Functions

8.26 Under this aspect, the technical opinion advanced is in respect of infrastructure. Its requirement has to be considered while bringing up a new township. As the infrastructure involves huge expenditure, the existing infrastructures at site may help in reducing the cost of development of capital. The idea is that if the site selected possesses some infrastructure, either it has to be augmented to suit the population pressure or it has to be provided afresh to meet the requirement of the population. The existing health and educational facilities by number and order of facilities are to be examined. These facilities do not become decisive factors. However, electricity is a major component that cannot be overlooked for which distribution grid is to be taken into consideration with respect to consumption in the area selected. Important hydro electricity projects located in the area must be examined for possible use as these projects are important and sustainable source of energy. In respect of distribution of transmission lines and sub stations if found inadequate can be provided as part of the capital project. This aspect has been taken into consideration by consultant while preferring the recommended site for capital. See Page 70 chart showing weightage of it.

Drainage

8.27 The significance of this factor as part of physical infrastructure, which is designed to remove access of rainfall water from the settlement, its base being nature of soil and on technical, economic and environmental factors. This factor is said to be not of much importance in hilly areas but it poses threat to flat sites in plain area. The site chosen must drain in valleys and the drainage and sewerage channels
should not pollute water supply sources. Topography and hydrology must be taken into account while selecting the site. The drainage channels must be well below the downstream side of sources of water supply.

(i) Dehradun (both sites), Kashipur and IDPL have higher facilities of Sewage and favourable slope for drainage. (ii) Gairsain (both sites) and Ramngar do not have higher facilities of Sewage.

8.28 These above principles referred in feasibility study report of Consultant appear to be the basis of feasibility reports. They appear to have been taken into consideration and given due weight.

8.29 These aspects in respect of their applicability can be better understood with reference to short listed places and the sites in question as follow:

| SUMMARY OF MAJOR CONSIDERATIONS FAVOURING SELECTION/REJECTION OF VARIOUS SITES |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| SITE (District) | Considerations Favouring the Selection | Consideration Favouring Rejection |
| Dehradun Site I – Tea Garden (Dehradun District) | • Proximity to Transportation Nodes (Rly. Station, Bus Terminal, Airport)  
• Connection through Rail Road & Air  
• Accessibility within the District  
• Proximity to National Capital  
• Adequate Land for Present and Future Development  
• Adequate Land for Present and Future Development  
• Adequate Water Supply  
• Soil Bearing Capacity for Physical Development  
• Favourable General Slope  
• Away from faults and Seismic Zone | • Good Land Productivity (Tea Gardens)  
• People’s opinion (as obtained by Rajdhani Ayog)  
• Not Centrally (Geographical) located  
• Presence of Tea Gardens  
• Proximity to Defense Establishments, therefore restricted access  
• Non availability of continuous patch of land |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dehradun Site II ; Nathuwalla-Balawala (Dehradun District)</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>. Favourable Climatic Conditions (Rainfall, Snowfall, Hail)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>. Presence of higher order facilities in the vicinity (Power, Road, Water supply, Sewage, Health, Education, Recreation)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>. Minimum relocation of local Residents</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>. People's opinion (as obtained by Arjita Bansal)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>. Minimum effect on Forest and Agricultural land</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>. Away from any Conserved Forest or Wild Life Sanctuary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>. Centrality (Population)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>. Security from International Border</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>. Settlement Pattern</td>
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<p>| | |</p>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>. Proximity to Transportation Nodes (Rly. Station, Bus Terminal, Airport)</td>
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<tr>
<td>. Connection through Rail, Road &amp; Air</td>
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<tr>
<td>. Accessibility within the District</td>
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<tr>
<td>. Proximity to National Capital</td>
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<tr>
<td>. Adequate Land for Present and Future Development</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>. Soil Bearing Capacity for Physical Development</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>. Favourable General Slope</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>. Away from Faults and Seismic Zone</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>. Climatic Conditions (Rainfall, Snowfall, Hail)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>. Presence of higher order facilities in the vicinity (Power, Road, Water supply, Sewage, Health, Education, Recreation)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>. Minimum relocation of local Residents</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>. People's opinion (as obtained by Arjita Bansal)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>. Minimum effect on Forest</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<p>| People's opinion (as obtained by Rajdhani Chayan Ayog) | Not Centrally (Geographical) located |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gairsain Site I – Nagchuhal Khal- (District Chamoli) including Chaukhiyia area</th>
<th>Accessibility within District</th>
<th>Very poor proximity to Transportation Nodes (Rly. Station, Bus Terminal, Aerodrome)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>. Away from any Conserved Forest or Wild Life Sanctuary Centrally (Population)</td>
<td>. Minimum Relocation of local Residents</td>
<td>. Very poor connection through Rail, Road &amp; Air</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>. Security from International Border</td>
<td>. People’s opinion (as obtained by Rajdhani Chayan Ayog)</td>
<td>. Poor proximity to National Capital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>. Settlement Pattern</td>
<td>. Centrally (Geographical) located</td>
<td>. Inadequate Land for Present and Future Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>. Land Productivity</td>
<td></td>
<td>. Inadequate Water Supply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>. Cost of Land Acquisition and Development</td>
<td></td>
<td>. Unfavourable Soil Bearing Capacity for Physical Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>. Favourable Master Plan proposals of 2005-2025</td>
<td></td>
<td>. Unfavourable and excessive Slopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>. Availability of continuous patch of Land</td>
<td></td>
<td>. Proximity to Flood and Earthquake prone area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>. Extreme Climatic Conditions (Rainfall, Snowfall, Hail)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>. Absence of higher order facilities (Power, Road, Water supply, Sewage, Health, Education, Recreation) in vicinity</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>. People’s opinion (as obtained by Arjita Bansal)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>. Severe negative effect and fragile ecological system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>. Proximity to Conserved Forest or Wild Life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gairsain Site II – Maror (Chamoli District)</td>
<td>Sanctuary</td>
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<td>------------------------------------------</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accessibility within the District</td>
<td>Not Centrally located (Population)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimal Relocation of local Residents</td>
<td>Too close to international border from security point of view</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People’s opinion (as obtained by Rajdhani Chayan Ayog)</td>
<td>Unfavourable Settlement Pattern</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centrally (Geographical) located</td>
<td>Very poor proximity to Transport Nodes (Rly. Station, Bus Terminal, Aerodrome)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Very poor connection through Rail, Road &amp; Air</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Poor proximity to National Capital</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Inadequate Land for Present and Future Development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Inadequate Water Supply</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unfavourable Soil Bearing Capacity for Physical Development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unfavourable and Excessive Slopes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Proximity to Faults and Seismic Zone</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Proximity to Flood and Earthquakes prone area</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Extreme Climatic Conditions (Rainfall, Snowfall, Hail)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Absence of higher order facilities (Power, Road, Water supply, Sewage, Health, Education, Recreation) in vicinity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>According to Consultant People’s opinion (as obtained by Arjita Bansal). However, the people did support before Commission therefore Arjita Bansal opinion cannot be accepted by Commission.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Severe negative effect and fragile ecological system</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Proximity to Conserved Forest or Wild Life</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kashipur (Udham Singh Nagar District)</strong></td>
<td>Sanctuary</td>
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<tr>
<td>. Proximity to Transportation Node (Rly. Station, Bus Terminal, Airport)</td>
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<tr>
<td>. Well connected through Rail &amp; Road</td>
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<tr>
<td>. Accessibility within the District</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>. Proximity to National Capital</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>. Adequate Land for Present and Future Development</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>. Adequate Water Supply</td>
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<tr>
<td>. Soil Bearing Capacity for Physical Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>. Favourable General Slope</td>
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<td>. Away from Faults and Seismic Zone</td>
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<td>. Away from Flood and Earthquakes prone area</td>
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<tr>
<td>. Favourable Climatic Conditions (Rainfall, Snowfall, Hail)</td>
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<tr>
<td>. Minimum relocation of local Residents</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>. Settlement Pattern</td>
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<tr>
<td>. Good land Productivity</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>. Unfavourable People’s opinion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>. Severe negative effect and fragile ecological system</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>. Proximity to Conserved Forest or Wild Life Sanctuary</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Ramnagar (Nainital District)</strong></th>
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<tbody>
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<td>. Proximity to Transportation Node (Rly. Station, Bus Terminal, Aerodrome)</td>
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<tr>
<td>. Proximity to National Capital</td>
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<td>. Favourable General Slope</td>
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<td>. Away from Faults and Seismic Zone</td>
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<tr>
<td>. Away from Flood and Earthquake prone area</td>
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<tr>
<td>. Favourable Climatic Conditions (Rainfall, Snowfall, Hail)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>. Minimum relocation of local Residents</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>. Away from any Conserved</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>. Poor connection through Rail, Road &amp; Air</td>
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<tr>
<td>. Poor Accessibility within the District</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>. Inadequate Water Supply</td>
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<tr>
<td>. Rich fertile Land</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>. Absence of higher order facilities (Power, Road, Water supply, Sewage, Health, Education, Recreation)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>. People’s opinion (as obtained by Rajdhani Chayan Ayog)</td>
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<tr>
<td>. People’s opinion (as</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDPL Rishikesh (Dehradun District)</td>
<td>Forest or Wild Life Sanctuary</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Security from International Border</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Proximity to Transportation Node (Rly. Station, Bus Terminal, Aerodrome)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Good Connection through Rail Road &amp; Air</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Accessibility within the District</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Proximity to National Capital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adequate Water Supply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Soil Bearing Capacity for Physical Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Low Fertile land</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Favourable General Slope</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Away from Faults and Seismic Zone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Away from Flood and Earthquake prone area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Climatic Conditions (Rainfall, Snowfall, Hail)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Presence of facilities like (Power, Road, Water supply, Sewage, Health, Education, Recreation) in vicinity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>People opinion (as provided by Arjita Bansal)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Minimum effect on Forest and Agricultural land</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Away from any Conserved Forest or Wild Life Sanctuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Centrally (Population) located</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Security from International Border</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Settlement Pattern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cost of Land Acquisition and Development</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 9

OPINION ON POINTS REFERED

9.1 The relevant notification referring the suitability of site for Capital City of Uttarakhand to Commission is in Hindi i.e in ‘devnagri’ script (schedule 2) and its English translation is given in para 2.6. The reference is such that it was not possible for Commission to express opinion on technical aspects without having assistance of experts, which was made clear to State Government at an early stage. The assistance has been sought of departmental persons as well as Geological Survey of India for a limited time but as stated earlier finally, the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi was entrusted for study on technical aspects as Consultant. The Commission is expressing opinion in respect of technical part of reference in the light of opinion expressed by Consultant in the form of reports in three stages naming them as “FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR SELECTION OF SITE FOR LOCATING THE PERMANENT CAPITAL OF UTTARAKHAND”. The report of Consultant, which is in English language, being the basis of taking up technical aspect, it is to be considered part of this report.

9.2 Paragraph 4 of notification requires Commission to definitely incorporate in report with its opinion on four points mentioned therein. The points are mentioned in 4 sub-paragraphs. The report of Consultant is in English, the opinion by Commission is also being submitted in English
9.3 **Paragraph No. 4(a):** This sub-paragraph requires that Commission will definitely incorporate in report with its opinion, the opinion of parties in respect of proposed site of capital.

9.4 **Commission’s Opinion On Paragraph No. 4(a):** Opinions in writing were invited by Commission after duly advertising. The last date 30.06.2005 for submitting opinions was an extended date. The opinions received by Commission by last date were 221 opinions for sites proposed. The opinions received after last date were also included and considered. They were 37 making the total opinions as 368. The opinions proposing different sites for capital city were received by Commission. Almost all opinions submitted to Commission are in Hindi. While submitting opinions for proposed sites it requires mention that the written opinions contained even irrelevant matters. The Commission did not consider it necessary to get irrelevant part translated. The substance of each and every opinion proposing site with reason assigned therein, if any, together with name and address are being Schedule 9 to 12. The opinions have been divided in 5 categories on the basis of places proposed for capital. The selection for short listing of proposed places was keeping in view that four highest demand areas be taken up. As the proposed sight is near Dehradun city while the opinions for Dehradun area are third highest, the Commission being of opinion that all the opinions be placed before the Government while expressing opinion under paragraph 4 (a) of notification of reference. Thus, the public opinions for all the places are given in said schedule. The opinions received of less than 5 places are being filed in consolidated form are shown in schedule 8.
9.5 Maximum opinions expressed for capital city are for Gairsain area shown in **schedule 4**. Similarly, second highest number opined for Kashipur-Ramnagar-Kalagarh area shown in **schedule 5**, the third highest opined for Dehradun are shown in **schedule 6** and minimum number being for IDPL amongst first four are shown in **schedule 7**. In **schedule 8** is about all those persons who asked for different places but there are lesser persons for same place. All written opinions are on record and can be perused if any necessity arises at the time of taking decision determining, place for capital.

9.6 **Paragraph No. 4(b):** This sub-paragraph requires that Commission will definitely incorporate in report with its opinion, the distance from different areas/places of Uttaranchal State from proposed site of capital and the facility of transport and communication from it.

**Commission’s Opinion On Paragraph No. 4(b):**

Dehradun

9.7 Facility of Transport to different areas of Uttaranchal (now Uttarakhand) from proposed site is available. Dehradun site are virtually part of Dehradun city. The site is referred in report of feasibility study as Natthuwa – Balawala. The Uttaranchal is a hill state and major mean of transport is by road therefore, the road distances are being placed in the form of chart. The distances from different areas/places of Uttaranchal from site, which is virtually part of Dehradun City are as under:
CHART OF ROAD DISTANCES FROM DEHRADUN SITE TO HEADQUARTERS OF OTHER DISTRICTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Serial No.</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>District Headquarter</th>
<th>Distances from Atlas</th>
<th>Distances According to P.W.D. in km</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Dehradun</td>
<td>Almora</td>
<td>439</td>
<td>371</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Dehradun</td>
<td>Bageshwar</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Dehradun</td>
<td>Champawat</td>
<td>446</td>
<td>435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Dehradun</td>
<td>Dehradun</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Dehradun</td>
<td>Gopeshwar (Chamoli)</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Dehradun</td>
<td>Haridwar</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Dehradun</td>
<td>Nainital</td>
<td>363</td>
<td>293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Dehradun</td>
<td>New Tehri</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Dehradun</td>
<td>Pauri</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Dehradun</td>
<td>Pithoragarh</td>
<td>468</td>
<td>429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Dehradun</td>
<td>Rudraprayag</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Dehradun</td>
<td>Rudrapur</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(UdhamSingh Nagar)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Dehradun</td>
<td>Uttarkashi</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>215</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Source of information of distances shown in above table are:

(bb) Distances of column No.5 have been provided by Senior Staff Officer at the office of Chief Engineer, Public Works Department of Government of Uttarakhand at Dehradun].

Communication Facilities: The site possesses good linkages with outside areas. It has a good connectivity which can act as major potential according to feasibility report of Consultant. It is apparent from the fact that State Highway No. 49 passes through the site while Harrawala railway station is about 8 km from Dehradun Dehradun railway station which is on Haridwar-Dehradun Branch line of Northern Railway. Beside road and railway facility, it also has facility of air as aerodrome is hardly 5 km from site. Dehradun is a well developed town with all the modern facilities of communication.

KASHIPUR

9.8 The site possesses good linkages with outside areas. It is well connected by Road and railways. National Highway 121 passes through the site. Kashipur Ramnagar Branch line of railway is connecting main city of Kashipur with Moradabad. It is also well connected by railway with Ramnagar and Dehradun of Uttarakhand and cities of Bareili, Lcknow, Rampur of Uttar Pradesh. Kashipur railway station is about 1 km from the site. A small railway halt namely, Gaushala lies within the site near Hempur Daya. As the site is divided in two parts by River Dhela, the eastern side with an area of 1,260 ha has been advised by Consultant to be preferred due to highway and railway line passing through it. Uttarakhand is a hilly state and major mean of transport is by
road therefore, the road distances from Kashipur are being placed in form of chart hereunder:

**CHART OF ROAD DISTANCES FROM KASHIPUR SITE TO HEADQUARTERS OF OTHER DISTRICTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S No</th>
<th>Kashipur Serial No.</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>District Headquarter</th>
<th>Distance according to PWD in km</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Kashipur</td>
<td>Almora</td>
<td>165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Kashipur</td>
<td>Bageshwar</td>
<td>237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Kashipur</td>
<td>Champawat</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Kashipur</td>
<td>Dehradun</td>
<td>215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Kashipur</td>
<td>Gopeshwer (District Chamoli)</td>
<td>279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Kashipur</td>
<td>Haridwar</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Kashipur</td>
<td>Nainital</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Kashipur</td>
<td>New Tehri</td>
<td>270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Kashipur</td>
<td>Pauri</td>
<td>226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Kashipur</td>
<td>Pithoragarh</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Kashipur</td>
<td>Rudraprayag (Udham Singh Nagar)</td>
<td>276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Kashipur</td>
<td>Rudrapur</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Kashipur</td>
<td>Uttarkashi</td>
<td>373</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Distances provided by Executive Engineer Construction Division, Public Works Department, Kashipur, District Udham Singh Nagar.

**9.9 Commission's Opinion On Paragraph No. 4(c):** This sub-paragraph provides that opinion is to be expressed in respect of financial burden if the capital is set-up at proposed site.
9.10 **Commission's Opinion On Paragraph No. 4(c):** The cost of financial burden has been worked out by Consultant in its feasibility study report. The financial burden of proposed capital being cost, it being technical aspect had to be worked out by Consultant and therefore the opinion of Commission is based on the report of feasibility study for capital by Consultant. The principal cost for setting up of a capital city mainly depends upon three factors. They are land rate/value, land development cost and construction costs. At discussion between Chairman and Dr. Mahavir, the latter informed that while considering feasibility the cost of building constructions can be estimated per meter only. As knowing of nature of construction was not possible at this stage, Dr. Mahavir’s suggestion had to be followed.

**Proposed Dehradun Site (Natthuwala-Balawal)**

9.11 The Consultant considered only existing agriculture land on an area around 2,330 ha considering it to be most suitable for the capital functions. This land consists of six villages/settlements of this particular area having population of 21,000 persons, which means density of 9 persons per hectare. The six villages are Natthuwala, Balawala, Miyanwala, Harrawala, Narkaund and Kuwanwala. The Consultant suggests that it is better to acquire all the concentrated agriculture land keeping in view the future expansion of the capital city. Consultant has considered here that Dehradun City is already performing all kind of city functions, the Consultant is of the opinion that only estimated 500 ha is required for core capital functions for which most favorable site out of above area can be selected. The Consultant has marked 1,270 hectares in
map showing feasible area for capital city (see Fig.9 page 59 of the feasible study of stage-III) and selected best 500 hectares land from it. This will involve shifting roughly a population of 5,000 persons depending upon the future requirements. The approach of Consultant appears to be in right perspective in the opinion of Commission’s Chairman.

9.12 The cost worked out by Consultant as expert, and that being only opinion before Commission, it has been accepted by Commission. The cost stands shown in the form in a chart as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Costs* For Dehradun Site II (Natthuwala-Balawal)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rate (Rs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Development Costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bldg. Construction Costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Costs*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note*: Cost only for the purpose of comparison between two sites and may not necessarily indicate the actual costs that might be incurred.

9.13 The Consultant has said that from various independent private sources, the current rate of construction at Dehradun is estimated at Rs 7, 500 – 8,000/sqm. It has been further reported on assumption that 65% of area being under plots and on an average 40% of that land being built up i.e. total covered area is to be 25% of 500 ha. The construction cost estimate has been for area of 125 ha. On this, cost of construction cost for the site has been worked out roughly around Rs.1,000 crores. The total cost for developing this site as a Capital works out around Rs. 1,325.
Kashipur Site (Second Proposal of Consultant)

9.14 The Commission is proposing only Dehradun site at Natthuwala-Balawala. The School of Planning & Architecture has indicated Kashipur site also as possible site but has indicated the problems due to which lacks behind. The details of this site are also being given only as alternative. It is not being proposed as only one site can be proposed under reference. The Consultant has considered only the existing agricultural land of an area of around 2,330 ha, which has been marked as Fig.11 of feasibility study stage-III on page 63.

9.15 **Paragraph No.4 (d):** The sub-paragraph requires that Commission will definitely incorporate in report its opinion on Geological structure, suitability from environmental angle, continuous and sufficiency of availability of water, sufficiency of land available and other suggestion about setting up of capital.

9.16 **Commission’s Opinion On Paragraph No. 4 (d):** As ready stated, Commission is expressing its opinion on technical aspects on the basis of feasibility study report of Consultant. The factors considered for setting up of Capital city appears to have been taken into consideration and opinion of all the site for the reason assigned in Summary of Major Considerations favouring (see para 8.28) particular site. It incorporates all the favourable and unfavourable factors relied up.
Sites at Dehradun

9.17 The Commission approved two sites for consideration near Dehradun City. These sites were also approved for feasibility study. They are:

(i) Tea Gardens
(ii) Natthuwala-Balawala

9.18 Considering the opinion of Consultant, the Commission is of opinion that the site at Natthuwala-Balawala (Dehradun) appears as best site. On examining the features, the factors which make it more preferred site will be apparent from its comparison. But, before comparing with other sites, it is necessary to place its location and other available factors at site in brief. Thus the most preferred site is near Dehradun City at Natthuwala-Balabala. It has following features:

9.19 Availability of Land: The site is situated between 78°10'-78° 15'E longitude and 30°10'-30°20'N latitude near Dehradun City at Natthuwala-Balabala. This site is surrounded by Lachhiwala reserved forest on South-West, Thano reserved forest on South-East, Palad reserved forest on East, Dwara reserved forest on North-East, Dehradun city in North and Nehrigram on West. The area is around River Song.

The land consists of forests around 36% of total site, the forests being highly dense (Crown density is more than 40%), which is mainly covered by Sal (timber species) and Pipal (medicinal species). The site is divided into two parts by River Song, the major part being west of the river. The site is having in all 4,800 ha. After excluding an area of 700, ha, which is of river and other water bodies, the gross area available is 4,720 ha.
Therefore, despite forest and river, sufficient land is available as the site has 2,500 ha of agricultural land. The land requirement for core capital function of 500 ha as laid down by Ministry of Urban Development of Government of India also stands fulfilled. The land at site has capacity to accommodate future growth of population that would be coming up for the capital functions. Thus, the land available is sufficient for capital city.

9.20 Population over land area: The population density of settlements lying in agricultural land is around 12% per ha which is considered very low dense area and permits the relocation of existing population without much hassle and allows future growth of capital for allied functions.

9.21 Geological Structure of land: The site has Bhabar soil (Entisols) formed by accumulation of gravel, boulders and alluvium washed down from the foot hills. This kind of soil has thin surface horizons with some accumulation of organic matters. Presence of gravel and boulders make the soil unfavourable for agriculture. This kind of soil makes it stable for construction of large buildings. The terrain of site is plain due to which construction activity will be easier. The site is in seismic zone IV but relatively low earthquake prone compared to other places.

9.22 Availability of Water: Water is an essential item for those who are going to live at Capital. It must be available in sufficient quantity during all season. The site being on the bank of River Song, which is a perennial river, can be a major source of supply. At the same time, site
being on bank of River Song and the slope being towards the river, the drainage system could be easily planned.

9.23 Connectivity: The site has good linkages. It is accessible by road through State Highway 49. Railway station Harrawala is in vicinity which falls on Haridwar-Dehradun Branch line of railways. Harrawala is 8 km from Dehradun railway station. Jolly Grant aerodrome is 5 km from the site.

9.24 Environmental angle: There is no major environmental issue involved at this site. It is most suitable being at foothill and on the bank of River Song.

9.25 Other beneficial facilities: The site being in proximity of Dehradun City, it will be getting higher order of facilities automatically which Dehradun city is possesses. It will have benefit of city facilities of Power, Road, Water Supply, Sewerage, Health Education, Recreation etc. If this site is finally selected then recommendation for future court of action on page 69 of feasibility study-stage III are required to be followed.

Sites at Kashipur - Ramnagar

9.26 Kashipur-Ramnagar (in short ‘Kashipur site’): It lies between 29°15'-29°25’N latitude and 78°50’- 79°0’E. It comprises of roughly 4,460 ha of gross area excluding an area of 120 ha of river and water bodies. It is in Terai belt. The land is mostly plain. The land use distribution is 82% land is under agriculture use, 3% under town/village settlements and 15% under reserve forest (see Figure 3 and Image 3 in Feasibility Study – stageIII). It is accessible by road through National Highway 121 and by rail. It demonstrates vast agriculture land with
generally of flat character. It is bounded by Ampani Reserved Forest on East, Kashipur main city in South and Jaspur Reserved Forest on West. The site with 1,260 ha is better due to presence of National Highway. It has better linkage. Kashipur railway station is nearest to the site at 1 km. It is connected with Moradabad City of Uttar Pradesh.

9.27 The soil is Mollisols type which has deep, high organic matter, nutrient-enriched surface soil, mainly of about 60-70 cm thickness. They have soft, granular, soil structure. This soil is best suited for agricultural activities. The area around the site is relatively flat i.e. ranging upto 20 mt per km, general elevation being 20mt. above sea level. The site lies in the seismic zone IV and therefore relatively less prone to Earthquakes. The site is also far away from known landslide thrust area and thus safe from landslides.

9.28 Tumaria Dam can be a good source of water supply. Dhela River, which is perennial in nature and availability of ground water act as good sources of water supply for Capital City. The ground water contour of this area rises from 230m to 240m above mean sea level.

9.29 The short coming of this site can be said to be that it is divided into two by Dhela River which may create problems of assessiblility within the site itself. Land being low lying adjacent to Perrineal River Dhela, problem of flooding can arise in season. Tumaria Dam is in vicinity. It may be threat for accidental burst. The slope of 20m is negligible slope of 20m. It makes it unviable for natural drainage and sewers on principle of gravity.

9.30 The State of Uttarakhand has lack of agricultural land due to unavailability of flat fertile land and presence of thick reserve forests
throughout the State. Udham Singh Nagar contributes about 25% of agricultural products to State, which is major activity of district. The identified site covers about 80% of agricultural land. As such, any large urban activity here will be at the cost of sacrificing rich fertile agricultural land. This may also result in payment of enhanced compensation as compared to other sites under consideration.

9.31 Although the population density is very low in this area, there is some resistance from the residents to move out of area. It is an area scantily inhabited and dominated by clusters of migrant Sikh population, who have shown reluctance to move away in favour of a Capital being located. The area being of loose soil and high ground water table, also increases cost per unit, of the land development and construction.

Garisain

9.32 At Gairsain two sites were examined by Commission and Consultant. The first site lies between 29°50'-30°0' N latitude and 79°15'-79°25'E longitude is generally an undulating and steep sloppy land with total gross area about 3,950 ha. The shape of site is 3 km East-West and 18 km North-South which may hamper any kind of facility distribution and development. The identified site covers 20 villages accommodated a population of around 6,600 persons. Land use distribution is, 76% land comes under Forests, 23% under open scrub and about 1% under village and settlements. The existing forests are medium dense (crown density between 10% and 40%). The site is connected with NH 87 and SH 12 while nearest rail head is roughly 90-100 km which translate to 6 hours by road. Winters are cold with temperature varying from 13.3°C to 6°C experiencing heavy snowfall, particularly between December and January. Summer season mean temperature varies from 29°C to 13.9°C.
marked by hail and storm and area experiences heavy rainfall. Although Ramganga is present in vicinity of site, but still the water condition is scarce and the main reason may be the presence of country bed rock type of soil. The soil is Alfisols which has a clay and nutrient enriched subsoil. Such soils are mainly used in agriculture and easier to keep fertile. Moreover, about 76% area being forest does not leave much land to be developed as Capital. The land is in scattered pieces. Approximately, 200 ha is at ‘Videshi Pashu Palan Kendra’ and another 100 ha of Van Panchayat. The area is highly ecologically sensitive. Making arrangements for water supply will require about 150 mm dia, at a height of about 2,650m. The line will have to pass through difficult forests and mountains. Provision of sewerage will not only be difficult, it is liable to contaminate the fragile eco system.

9.33 The second site is between 29°0‘-30°0‘N latitude and 79°15‘-79°20‘E also has undulating slopes with altitudes ranging from 1,500 to 2,000 meter above mean sea level. The total gross identified site is 2,100 ha. It spreads over 33 villages with population around 9,300 persons. It is surrounded by forests. The land use distribution is such 67% land comes under Forests, 32% under open scrub and about 1% under village and settlements. The existing forests are medium dense (crown density between 10% and 40%). NH 87 passes through site and SH 11 is about 15 km away connecting with Bageshwar. The nearest rail head is about 100 km Rishkesh and Kathgodam requiring 6 hours road journey. Climatic, geological conditions are same as of site No1. Ramganga, a perennial is present in vicinity of site, but still the water condition is scarce and the main reason may be the presence of country bed rock type of soil. As in the case of site No.1, the land available is limited i.e. only about 150 ha scattered at different locations.
Site at IDPL

9.34 The site is between 30°0'-30°10' latitude and 78°10'-78°20'. It is surrounded by reserved forest. They are medium dense forests (crown density between 10% and 40%). It is bounded by River Ganga, a perennial, is on one side and Rishkesh Branch on other. The total gross area of identified site is about 2,150 ha. The land use distribution is such that 45% land is under villages and settlements, 37% under agriculture, 12% under forest and about 6% under industries. It has good connectivity as NH 58 and Railhead Rishkesh and Veerbhadra is there. IDPL part of site is 0.2 ha. It is not acceptable to non-availability of sufficient land and being in proximity to major religious activities like 'Yatra', 'Kumbh Mela' and movement of 'Kanwarias' attracting devotees from all over the country, the site is virtually inaccessible in some parts of the year.

9.35 Comparative Table for proposed sites: Although the reference is to propose site for capital city which requires details of one place but for the purpose of convenience a table specifying comparative analysis of various sites on page 69 and 70 makes clear favourable and unfavourable factors.

9.36 Criteria Weighting of the District of Uttarakhand: The Chairman being of the view that in the end the weightage allotted to criteria adopted in respect of all the District of Uttarakhand is necessary for completing the report. The the weightage allotted to each criteria is being attached is being given on Page 71.

(Birendra Dikshit)
## COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF VARIOUS SITES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Criteria</th>
<th>Dehradun</th>
<th>Gairsain</th>
<th>Kashipur</th>
<th>Ramnagar</th>
<th>IDPL Rishikesh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Topography and climate</td>
<td>Relatively flat Area; moderate Climate</td>
<td>Gentle to moderately steep, undulating topography; extreme climate</td>
<td>Part of Terai belt and similar to plains; moderate climate</td>
<td>Lies in the Terai belt and is similar to plains; moderate climate</td>
<td>Relatively flat area; moderate climate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sources of Water</td>
<td>Available</td>
<td>Absence of water source. Water can be supplied from lifting which is costly proposition.</td>
<td>Available</td>
<td>Inadequacy and insufficiency in Surface water during summer season</td>
<td>Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Availability</td>
<td>Available for Capital functioning only; not required for other purposes</td>
<td>Desirable land is not viable for Capital functions; not available for other functions.</td>
<td>Available for Capital functions, available for other functions</td>
<td>Available for Capital functions, available for other functions</td>
<td>Not sufficient for Capital functions; not required for other functions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Criteria</td>
<td>Dehradun</td>
<td>Gairsai</td>
<td>Kashipur</td>
<td>Ramnagar</td>
<td>IDPL Rishikesh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Natural Drainage</td>
<td>Reasonably possible</td>
<td>Possible</td>
<td>Difficult</td>
<td>Difficult</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scope for urban expansion</td>
<td>Possible</td>
<td>Not possible</td>
<td>Possible</td>
<td>Not possible</td>
<td>Not possible</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment</td>
<td>Low, due to easy terrain, availability of rail, airlines, existing town level functions</td>
<td>Exorbitantly high due to excessive slopes, non-availability of water supply, linkage, town level functions</td>
<td>Low, due to easy terrain, availability of rail, airlines, existing town level functions</td>
<td>High due to non-availability of town level functions</td>
<td>High due to non-availability of town level functions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remarks</td>
<td>Promise for development on a twin-city basis, no major environmental issues involved</td>
<td>Danger to fragile eco-system, Danger from natural disasters</td>
<td>Environmental issues relate to Ganga catchment, Potential danger from Dam, Sacrifice of fertile agricultural land</td>
<td>Consolidated land not available, Environmental issues related to Ganga catchment</td>
<td>Environmental issues related to Ganga, inaccessibility due to religious activities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## CRITERIA WEIGHTING OF THE DISTRICTS IN UTTARAKHAND

| Criteria                     | District | I  | II | III | IV | V  | VI | VII | VIII | IX | X | XI | XII | XIII |
|------------------------------|----------|----|----|-----|----|----|----|-----|------|----|___|____|-----|------|
| Geographic Centrality       |          | 1  | 1  | 2   | 0  | 1  | 1  | 1   | 2    | 0  | 2 | 2  | 0   | 1    |
| Population Centrality       |          | 1  | 0  | 0   | 0  | 2  | 2  | 2   | 1    | 0  | 0 | 0  | 0   | 1    |
| Accessibility by Road       |          | 1  | 0  | 0   | 1  | 2  | 2  | 1   | 0    | 0  | 1 | 1  | 2   | 1    |
| Transport Modes             |          | 0  | 0  | 0   | 0  | 2  | 1  | 0   | 1    | 0  | 0 | 0  | 2   | 0    |
| Forest Zones                |          | 0  | 1  | 1   | 0  | 1  | 2  | 0   | 0    | 2 | 0 | 0  | 2   | 0    |
| Topography                  |          | 1  | 0  | 0   | 1  | 2  | 2  | 1   | 2    | 0 | 1 | 1  | 1   | 0    |
| Seismic zone*               |          | 1  | 0  | 0   | 1  | 2  | 2  | 1   | 1    | 0 | 0 | 1  | 2   | 0    |
| Acceptability               |          | 0  | 0  | 2   | 0  | 2  | 0  | 1   | 1    | 0 | 0 | 0  | 0   | 0    |
| Security                    |          | 2  | 2  | 0   | 0  | 2  | 2  | 2   | 2    | 0 | 2 | 2  | 0   | 0    |
| Settlement Pattern          |          | 1  | 0  | 0   | 1  | 2  | 2  | 1   | 0    | 0 | 0 | 0  | 1   | 0    |
| TOTAL                       |          | 8  | 4  | 5   | 4  | 18 | 16 | 10  | 10   | 2 | 6 | 7  | 11  | 2    |

I: Almora  II: Bageshwar  III: Chamoli  IV: Champawat  V: Dehradun  
XI: Tehri Garhwal  XII: Udham Singh Nagar  XIII: Uttarkashi
उत्तराखण्ड शासन
सागर्य प्रशासन
सं/162/1-04/2001

देवरायवाड़ : दिनांक 11 जनवरी, 2001

कार्यालय शासन

विषय: उत्तराखण्ड राज्य की राजधानी स्थल का चयन: आयोग का गठन।

1. उत्तराखण्ड राज्य की राजधानी के लिए एक उपयुक्त स्थल का चयन का प्रक्रिया शासन के विचारालय है। इस समय में संपूर्ण करने के लिए महामहिम श्री राज्यपाल एकल सदस्यीय आयोग के गठन की सहायता रजीकृत प्रस्तुत करते हैं।

2. न्यायमूर्ति श्री वीरेंद्र दीक्षित (सेनियर), इलाहाबाद उच्च न्यायालय, इस आयोग के सदस्य होंगे।

3. उक्त आयोग द्वारा अपना प्रतिवेदन आयोग के गठन की अवधियुक्त के 06 माह के अंदर शासन को प्रस्तुत किया जायेगा।

4. आयोग के द्वारा अपने प्रतिवेदन में निरन्तर विचारवर्धन के प्रति आयोग का आभार का समावेश किया जायेगा।

4.1 राजधानी के प्रस्तावित स्थल से सम्बंधित पक्षों का आभार,

4.2 राजधानी के प्रस्तावित स्थल की उत्तराखण्ड राज्य के विभिन्न क्षेत्रों/स्थलों से दूरी तथा पंचायत व यातायात सुगमता,

4.3 प्रस्तावित स्थल पर राजधानी निर्माण किये जाने की दशा में आपने वात संगठित वित्तीय मार,

4.4 प्रस्तावित राज्य की मूं-गर्भिण संरचना, पर्यावरणीय दृष्टिकोण से उपयुक्तता, सत्ता एवं पर्यावरण वाल उपलब्ध, उपलब्ध व्यवस्थापन की पर्याप्तता तथा अन्य अवस्थानार्थ जंगली जीविकाओं की उपलब्धता।

5. आयोग उपस्थित कार्यों के लिए समन्वयित विवेचन को विवेचनों (स्थान- पर्यावरण, नगर नियोजन, बिजली, भू-गर्भ, आदि) की सहायता कर सकता है।

6. आयोग मुख्य उपाध्याक्ष प्रति में इंगित विवेचनों के अन्तर्गत अन्य युक्तिसंगत विवेचन, जिन्हें यह उल्लिखित समझते हैं, तथा अन्य प्रतिवेदन में भी आयोग आयोग की आमतौर आयोग के अन्दर आयोग की जारी किये जा रहे हैं।

आयोग को,
हाँ/-
(अध्यक्ष विराम सिंह)
गृह सचिव।
उत्तराखंड शासन
सामान्य प्रशासन विभाग,
संख्या: 3380/ एक-4/2002
दूरदर्शन: दिनांक: 28 नवंबर, 2002

विशेषता

उत्तराखंड राज्य की साजीधी हेतु उपयुक्त स्थान के चयन के संबंध में संज्ञान देने हेतु कार्यालय-शास्त्र संख्या-162/एक-4/2002, दिनांक 11-1-2001 द्वारा एकल सदस्यीय चयन आयोग का गठन किया गया है और उक्त आयोग के अध्यक्ष के पद पर शासन द्वारा न्यायपरीति श्री बीनेन्द्र दीक्षित को नियुक्त किया गया था। कलिपय देवक्षा शासन द्वारा उक्त आयोग को स्थापित कर दिया गया था। सम्पूर्ण विचारपत्र पात्र श्री राज्यपाल महोदय एकल सदस्यीय चयन आयोग को पुनर्जीवित किया जाने की सहर्ष स्वीकृति प्रदान करते हैं।

2- न्यायपूर्ति श्री बीनेन्द्र दीक्षित (प्रयागनिवृत्त) हालांकि उच्च न्यायालय इस आयोग के सदस्य होंगे।

3- उक्त आयोग के द्वारा अपना प्रतिवेदन आयोग के गठन के अवसरों में क्ष: माह के अंतर शासन को प्रस्तुत किया जाएगा।

4- आयोग के द्वारा अपने प्रतिवेदन में निम्नलिखित बिन्दुओं पर अनिवार्यतया अपने अभिमत का समावेश किया जाएगा।

(क) राज्यवासी के प्रस्तावित स्थल से संबंधित पक्षों का अभिमत,
(ख) राज्यवासी के प्रस्तावित स्थल की उत्तराखंड राज्य के विभिन्न क्षेत्रों/ स्थानों से दूरी तथा संचार व यातायात शुरुआत,
(ग) प्रस्तावित स्थल पर राज्यवासी निर्भर किए जाने की दशा में अपने वाला समावेश निर्माण भार,
(घ) प्रस्तावित स्थल की भू-भागीदार संरचना, पर्यावरणीय दृष्टिकोण से उपयुक्तता, सत्ता एवं पर्यावरणीय जल उपलब्धता, उपलब्ध क्षेत्रपत्र की पर्याप्तता तथा अन्य अवस्थापन संबंधी सुझावों की उपलब्धता।

5- आयोग उपरोक्त कार्यों के लिए संबंधित विषयों के विषयों (व्यवस्था-विभाग, नागरिकीय नियोजन, वित्त, भू-भाग, आदि) की सहायता ले सकता है।

6- आयोग पूर्ववर्ती प्रस्ताव में इंगित किन्तु को अतिरिक्त अन्य युक्तिसंगत बिन्दु, जिन्हें वह उल्लिखित समयों पर नी अभिमत लेकर कर सकेगा।

7- आयोग के कार्यालय, सचिवालय सहायता, विषय विषयों की शातिर तथा अन्य प्रकार के विषयों पर आदेश पूर्वक से जारी किए जायेंगे।

हृदय
(कृपया गुप्ता)
सुधार सहित!
सं-3380(1)/एक-4/2002, तद्दिनांक।

प्रतिलिपि निम्नलिखित को सूचनार्थ एवं आवश्यक कार्यवाही हेतु अभिप्रेरित—

(1) सचिव, श्री राज्यपाल उत्तराखंड।
(2) प्रमुख सचिव, माद मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तराखंड।
(3) समस्त नगरिकों के लिए सचिव, उत्तराखंड।
(4) समस्त प्रमुख सचिव/सचिव, उत्तराखंड शासन।
(5) महानेत्राकार, उत्तराखंड प्रखोज, इलाहाबाद।
(6) सचिव, गृह मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार, नई दिल्ली।
(7) मूल निदेशक, उत्तराखंड।
(8) केंद्रीय कार्यालय, नई दिल्ली।
(9) माद न्यायमूर्ति श्री बैरन चन्द्र शर्मा, उपाध्यक्ष, केंद्रीय प्रशासनिक अधिकारी, गुम्बई, फ्लोट नं-20 बलाधन्दर बिल्डिंग, बीच कॉन्नाड मुम्बई।
(10) संगठन निदेशक, राज्यसभा मुद्रणालय, लीडेस प्रेस रूडर्ड को इस निदेश के साथ अभिप्रेरित कि वह उक्त सरकार ने अगली राजस्थान के उसकी 100 प्रतिशत शासन को उपलब्ध करा दें।
(11) गार्ड फाइल।

आप्पा से,

है
(सचिवालय)
अपर सचिव।

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Schedule 3

Abstract of Suggestions received from various organization, intellectuals, NGOs and other persons in response to the notification issued by Rajdhani Sthal Chayan Ayog in connection with proposing permanent State Capital of Uttarakhand.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Proposed Location</th>
<th>Total Suggestions Received</th>
<th>Individual</th>
<th>Institutional / NGO</th>
<th>Organizational/Party Based</th>
<th>Collective</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Gairsain</td>
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<td>86</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>06</td>
<td>02</td>
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<td>2.</td>
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<td>04</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>01</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Gairsain or Kalagarh</td>
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<td>Dehradun</td>
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<td>04</td>
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<td>Kalagarh</td>
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<td>Kalagarh or Ramnagar</td>
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<td>Central Place of Garhwal &amp; Kumaon</td>
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<td>28.</td>
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<td>30.</td>
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<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31.</td>
<td>Jollygrant or Kalagarh</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32.</td>
<td>Anywhere from Gairsain to Kalagarh</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33.</td>
<td>Jim Corbett Park</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34.</td>
<td>Simali</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35.</td>
<td>Gairsain, Bharatnagar, Kalagarh or Garh Kumaon</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36.</td>
<td>Proposal to Shift from Dehradun</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37.</td>
<td>Demand for Extension of Time</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38.</td>
<td>Submitted Suggestions with no place indicated</td>
<td>08</td>
<td>06</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39.</td>
<td>Rudrapur, suitable centre place from Pantnagar to Kotdwar</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>268</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Analysis of Abstract:

1. The Commission has received total 236 proposals up to 15-7-2003, out of which 176 proposals have been submitted by individuals, 36 by institutions/NGOs, 15 from organizations/Parties and 11 proposals are received collectively.

2. Out of proposals received 221 proposals were received up to 30 June, 2003 (last date prescribed for receipt of proposals) up to 5 pm.

3. As many as 110 proposals have been received to locate capital at Gairsain, out of which 76 proposals by individuals, 26 by institutions/NGOs, 06 from organizations/Parties and 02 proposals are received collectively.

4. For Dehradun the Commission received 24 proposals, out of which 15 proposals have been submitted by individuals, 03 by institutions, 02 from organizations/Parties and 04 proposals are received collectively.

5. For Kalagarh 22 proposals were received, out of which 17 proposals by individuals, 01 by institutions, 03 from organizations/Parties and 01 proposal are received collectively.
6. For IDPL (Rishikesh) 08 proposals were received, out of which 04 proposals by individuals, 03 by institutions, and 01 proposal are received collectively.

7. 5 Proposals have been received for locating the capital at a central place between both the Commissionaires.

8. Rest of the proposals have been received for locating the capital at various places namely Kaladhungi, Hempur, Srinagar, Shyampur, Kashipur, Kotdwar, Bajpur, Rudrapur, Ranikhet, Lansdowne, Gauchar, Nagchulakhal, Chaukhutia, Nainidanda, Satpuli, Jollygrant, Jim Corbett Park and Simli.

9. In addition to these no specific place has been mentioned in 8 proposals which contained some suggestions for selecting the permanent state capital.

10. A demand has been made to extend the time in 02 proposals. The others also made request to the Chairman orally.
Public Opinions

In response to the advertisements issued by the Commission inviting suggestions from various organizations, intellectuals, NGOs and other persons the Commission has received proposals from persons in respect of Gairsain. They are as under together with mention of dates (in bracket) of receipt of representations at the office of Commission and justification as well as alternative choice/choices, if any:

Gairsain Area

1. Lalit Mohan Singh Jeena, Tagore Colony, Paulliseat, Kathgodam, Haldwani (5.5.2003): In his representation Sri Jeena vehemently criticized the mentality of political leaders and bureaucrats who were in favour of state capital in plain areas. This mentality has hampered developmental activities and remote hill areas and has lead to migration of local people. By having capital at Gairsain, development of hill districts will take place and will stop the migration. Sufficient land, water is available. Most of the people support setting-up of capital at this place. Being in centre of hill districts, all the districts will be equidistance from capital and all the district will develop. He
has also pointed out that Kaushik Committee and Barthwal Committee constituted by Govt. of Uttar Pradesh have also recommended Gairsain to be developed as state capital.

2. Madhwanand Mainali, Madhupriya Cottage, Raj Mal Hotel Premises, Nainital (13.5.2003): Suggested Gairsain. He has pointed out that Gairsain had been related to a number of administrators / kingdoms like Dwarahat and Chandpur. He has also referred to a few eminent personalities of Uttarakhand namely, Dr. Satyendra Rawat, Late Beer Chandra Singh Garhwali and Dr. Shiv Prasad Dabral who favoured Gairsain or some central place of Uttarakhand to be developed as capital city of the State. He also suggested that it will be proper and just to take into consideration Kaushik Committee report before taking a decision about capital. About 80 per cent people of Uttarakhand want to establish capital at Gairsain. By having capital in the centre of hill state, development of the entire region will get momentum, migration will stop and beautification of hill regions will take place. Sufficient land, place for airport and water is available that is to say that from all angles the capital at Gairsain is justified.

3. Hayat Singh Negi, Ranibagrah (Tharali), Post Office Tharali, District Chamoli (19.5.2003): He has expressed anguish over formation of the
Commission for selection of state capital in view of the fact that the people of Uttarakhand have already passed a resolution for having Gairsain as capital city of the State. According to him the atmosphere of this place is best in the country. Here, sufficient land for developmental activities and water is available. Arrangement of Railway can be made. Establishment of State capital at Gairsain will give momentum to the developmental activities of the entire hill region.

4. Mahesh Kumar Ubhan, 7 Dispensary Road, Dehradun (19.5.2003): Suggested Gairsain for capital. He has stated that Gairsain being situated at the centre of Kumaon Division & Garhwal Division, the development of both the division will take place. Establishment of state capital at Gairsain will create employment for the people of hill regions. It will stop migration. This place has sufficient land and water and unemployed will be getting employment.

5. Shashidhar Bhatt, Chairman Nagrik Manch, Kotdwar, Garhwal, Uttarakhand (19.5.2003): Suggested Gairsain for capital. Environmentally Gairsain is best place and it will definitely give rise to beatification and development of hill area. He has also referred to the survey conducted by
Kaushik Committee and Barthwal Committee according to which 60% of public opinion favoured Gairsain for state capital.

6. Purshottam Asanoda, Journalist / Vice-Chairman Parvatiya Patrakar Association, Gairsain (Chamoli) (20.5.2003): He has suggested Gairsain (Chandranagar) as state capital which is located at an altitude of 1500 to 2200 mtr and having minimum and maximum temperatures 0° and 26° respectively. About 61% to 80% of public opinion is in favour of Gairsain. The movement for separate state of Uttarakhand was also in favour of Gairsain as its capital. He has suggested that from the angle of public feelings and for development of hills, Gairsain is suitable.

7. Uttarakhand Mahila Manch Nainital (20.5.2003): The Manch has proposed Gairsain to be capital of the state. It has mentioned that public opinion has always been in favour of Gairsain, Office of Additional Director, Education was established at Gairsain which was indicative of the fact that on creation of Uttarakhand, that capital will be at Gairsain. Ramashankar Kaushik Committee also recommended Gairsain the capital of state at Gairsain. The Munch has suggested that the area from Caukhatua to Karnprayag, which includes Chaukhotia, Panduwhakhal, Nagchulakhal, Mehalchauri, Bachhuwavan, Diwalikhal, Shimli etc., should be developed as
state capital region. The opinion advanced is that it will stop the migration from hills and from the angle of development of hills, beautification and convenience, it will be proper to have capital at Gairsain. The Mahila Manch Nainital by representation dated 24.5.2003 again repeated its stand with same reasoning.

8. Vipin Chandra Tripathi, Kendriya Adhyaksh U.K.D. (K), Post Office Dwarahaat, Almora (21.5.2003): Suggested Gairsain for capital. He has pressed that Kaushik Committee has recommended Gairsain-Chandranagar as capital of the state and public referendum has revealed 76% public opinion in favour of Gairsain as the capital of the state. The expert Committee constituted by the then HE Governor Sri Moti Lal Bora has, after detailed survey, found Gairsain area most suitable for locating state capital. The Commissioner headquarters located at Pauri and Nainital are at equal distance from Gairsain. The area is well connected by roads to various places of state. He has further claimed that there are about 5000 villages in the neighborhood of Gairsain, the development of which will take place directly. He opined that keeping in view geological features, beautification, transport, being equidistant from each district, availability of sufficient land and less financial burden makes Gairsain most suitable place.

10. Rajiv Lochan Shah, Uttarakhand Lok Vahini, Nainital (23.5.2003): Sri Rajiv Lochan Shah, on behalf of Uttarakhand Lok Vahini, Nainital has suggested Gairsain to be state capital. He has pressed that Uttarakhand is mainly a hill state and its capital should also be located in hilly region. Kaushik Committee has recommended Gairsain to be the state capital. Locating office of Additional Director, Education at Gairsain was also a gesture of the fact that after creation of separate state its capital would be located at Gairsain. He has also suggested development of the area from Diwalikhal to Panduwakhal as state capital. He has also pointed out that SSB has selected plain areas of Painsair, Bhararisain, Panjyana, Benital, Reethia, Diwalikhal, Nagaarjun, Kodiyyabagar for Helipad, landing zone and dropping zone etc. The land in these areas belongs to the state government and hence no financial burden will be incurred in acquisition of land. He has also desired that the state capital should be named as Chandranagar in the name of famous freedom fighter and hero of Peshawar episode, Sri Chandra Singh Garhwali. It has been also pointed out that Gairsain being situated in the
centre of State, the distance for transport is equal for all the districts. Keeping in view the requirement of development of hills and public feelings, Gairsain is proper place for state capital.

11. Dr. Amar Singh Negi, District Council of Bhartiya Communist Party, District Haridwar (23.5.2003): Suggesting Gairsain for permanent capital, Dr. Negi said in his representation that a team of some members of his party inspected Gairsain and found it to be proper place for capital.

12. Uttarkhand Mahila Manch, Haldwani, (23.5.2003): The Manch has proposed Gairsain to be capital of the state. It has mentioned that public opinion has always seen in favour of Gairsain. Office of Additional Director, Education was established at Gairsain which was indicative of the fact that on creation of Uttarakhand it will have its capital at Gairsain. Ramashankar Kaushik Committee also recommended Gairsain as the capital of state. The Munch has suggested that the area from Cahukhutia to Karnprayag which includes Chaukhutia, Panduwakhal, Nagchulakhal, Mehalchauri, Bachhuwavan, Diwalikhal, Shimli etc. should be developed as state capital region. The opinion advanced is that it will stop the migration from hills and from the angle of development of hills, beautification and convenience, it
will be proper to have capital at Gairsain. The Mahila Manch, Haldwani by representation dated 24.5.2003 again repeated its stand with same reasoning.

13. Yashoda Butola, Village Baudi, Post Office Simlag Nagnath, Pokhri (23.5.2003): Suggestion is that Gairsain be made permanent capital. The only reason assigned is that Gairsain being centre point of the State, it is proper to make it permanent capital of the State.

14. Hayat Singh Shah, Uttarakhand Kranti Dal Block Chairman, (23.5.2003) : Suggestion is that Gairsain be made permanent capital. The only reason assigned is that Gairsain being centre point of the State, it is proper to make it permanent capital of the State.

15. Nagrik Sangharsh Samiti, Nainital (23.5.2003) : Dr. G.P. Shah on behalf of Nainital Nagrik Sangharsh Samiti has proposed Gairsain to be state capital. He has argued that Uttarakhand is mainly a hill state and its capital should also be located in hilly region. Kaushik Committee has recommended Gairsain to be the state capital. Locating office of Additional Director, Education at Gairsain was also a gesture of the fact that after creation of separate state, its capital would be located at Gairsain. He has also suggested development of the area from Diwalikhal to Panduwakhal as state capital. He has also pointed out that SSB has selected plain areas of Painsair,
Bhararisain, Panjyana, Benital, Reethia, Diwalikhal, Nagaarjun, Kodiyanabagar for Helipad, landing zone, dropping zone etc. The land in these areas belongs to the state government and hence no financial burden will be incurred in acquisition of land. He has also desired that the state capital should be named as Chandranagar in the name of famous freedom fighter and hero of Peshawar episode, Sri Chandra Singh Garhwali. It has been also pointed out that Gairsain being situated in the centre of State, the distance for transport is equal for all the districts. Keeping in view the requirement of development of hills and public feelings, Gairsain is proper place for state capital.

16. Mohan Singh Rajwar, 203 Chakkuwala, Dehradun (24.5.2003): He has suggested Gairsain as suitable place for locating state capital in view of the fact that Kaushik Committe has recommended it and natural resources are adequately available near Gairsain and the place is centrally located.

17. Secretary, Government Pensioner Welfare Organization, Nainital (24.5.2003): The Organization has proposed Gairsain for locating state capital for the reason that adequate facilities of communication, transport are available and sufficient land, water are also available. This will also lead to all-round development of the hill regions. The organization has also
referred to the recommendation of Kaushik Committee for locating state capital at Gairsain.

18. Surendra Singh Nagar Koti. Village Gaind, Gairsain, Post Office Gairsain (Chamoli): Sri Negi has suggested Gairsain to be developed as State Capital keeping in view the fact that adequate land, water is available in the area and the place is centrally located.

19. Kishori Nand Dobhal, Founder (Sansthapak) Secretary Himalaya Development Institution, Post Office Maee-ki-mandi, Rudraprayag (26.5.2003): Sri Dobhal has highlighted the background behind the demand of separate Uttarakhand State. He suggested that the capital should be located in hill region but there should be guarantee for development of plain areas of the State. He has pressed that the development of hills should be based on requirements of hills and that of plains based on requirements of plains. He has concluded that Gairsain should be selected as capital of the state.

20. Vipin Chandra Uniyal, Parvatiya Sanskrit Yuwa Manch (26.5.2003): Without disclosing his full identity (the address), Sri Uniyal has favaourd Gairsain to be selected as state capital. According to him 62% public opinion is in favour of Gairsain whereas 15% public opinion is in favour of
Dehradun and 20% in favour of Ramnagar- Kotdwar. He has worked out a financial burden about Rs. 8000 crores for development of capital in Gairsain which can met with by selling Govt. buildings at Dehradun. By setting up of capital at Gairsain migration of hill peoples will stop and keeping in view sufficiency of water, land and being equidistant from each district, it is appropriate to have permanent capital at Gairsain.

21. Dhani Ram Dheeman, Village Salimanda, Gairsain (26.5.2003) : He has suggested Gairsain to be developed as state capital for the reason that It has adequate transport facilities, environmentally rich and ample land is available.

Birendra Lal Verma, Village Moosau, Post Office Panchali, Chamoli, Uttarakhand (26.5.2003): Referring to Kaushik Committee report, he represented that in accordance with survey report of District Magistrate Chamoli, the capital at Gairsain will be appropriate.

23. S.N. Basaliyal, Senior Vice-Chairman, U.Kha. Jan Morcha, 63 Basant Lok, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi (26.5.2003): Sri Basaliyal has advocated in favour of Gairsain as state capital. The reason assigned is that it is central point of the state, the distance from all the districts is equal. Keeping in view
geological structure environment, availability of water and public feelings, the permanent capital be established at Gairsain.

24. Nainital Samachar Parivar, Nainital (27.2.2003): Nainital Samachar is a fortnightly paper. With the letter, a copy of Nainital Samachar of the date 15th May 2003 and 14 June 2003 has been furnished and justified Gairsain for capital for being made capital for the reasons assigned therein. In short, the reasons appearing therein can be said to be that local intellectuals, organization associated with movement and peoples attached to political parties suggest Gairsain for permanent capital. Further, for making it capital, important incidents have been mentioned with date and year wise. Referring to Kaushik Committee report in detail, the capital at Gairsain has been justified on the basis of public feelings. The basis of public feelings is the matter therein about important incidents and dates. For said reasons the Gairsain was said as appropriate place for capital.

25. D.S. Pundir, District Information Officer, Haridwar (28.5.2003): Sri Pundir has opinioned in favour of Gairsain as state capital. The reasons assigned is that by having capital at Gairsain, the development of hills will get momentum. He has pressed that keeping in view the fact that sufficient water and land is available in the area, geological structure is competent, the
place has equal distance from each district and as capital Gairsain will help stopping migration, it would be appropriate to have the capital at Gairsain. Further, he said in connection with selecting the place for capital, the Hon’ble Governor of Uttar Pradesh constituted a survey committee under S.S. Pangtey, I.A.S. and that survey committee also submitted its report in favour of having capital in neighborhood of Gairsain.

26. Secretary, Ex-soldiers Environment Protection and Conservation Welfare Committee, Pindar Ghati, Tharali (28-05-2003): The Committee has proposed Gairsain to be developed as state capital for the reasons that it is centrally located, well connected by roads to all district headquarters, infrastructural facilities like telephone, electricity etc. could be amply available, financial burden will be the same as at any other place like Dehradun and geological features are competent for development of capital city.

27. Prem Singh Sangola, Pressman / Journalist, Mehalchauri, Chamoli (Uttarakhand) 29.5.2003): He has given description of all the approach roads for Gairsain. He has also pointed out that land is conveniently available for air field and financial burden can be reduced. In respect of geological structure, he says it is non-landslide area. Pollution is zero so far
environment is concerned. Sufficient water and land is available. Keeping these aspects in view, Gairsain is appropriate place for having capital.

28. Ganesh Prasad Gondial, Member Legislative Assembly, Thalisain, District Pauri-Garhwal (30.5.2003): He has pointed out that Uttaranchal State has been carved with the concept of having a separate hill state. Justifying capital at Gairsain he has opined that sufficient water can be available, sufficient land is already available for development of capital city, all basic amenities can be provided and development can be undertaken. Sri Godiyal, as the MLA of the Thalisain Constituency, has recommended Gairsain to be developed as capital city of the State.

29. Ripudan Singh Rawat, District President, Bharti Janta Party, Chamoli (20.5.2003): Proposing Gairsain as the State Capital, Sri Rawat has pressed that distance from each district of the state is more or less equal from Gairsain, sufficient land will be available for setting-up of capital at less price, geologically no earthquake has been experienced in the area and sufficient sources of water are available. Keeping these aspects in view the capital of state should be established at Gairsain.

30. A. S. Bhist, 293 / II Vasant Vihar, Dehradun (30.5.2003): Sri Bisht has argued in favour of Gairsain as state capital. The reasons assigned are
that Gairsain is centre place of Uttarakhand state, that the distance of all the
districts of the state is equal from there and the arrangement of transport and
communication can be developed easily. It has been further stated that from
financial burden point of view the expenditure is likely to be heavy but
keeping in view the fact that development is a regular process this burden
can be divided into various years. However, from the continuous process of
public benefit, development, geological structure, environment and
availability of sufficient land, the setting-up of state capital at Gairsain will
be proper.

31. Durg Singh Manral, 302-B, Jhelum, Sector-9, Basan Nagri, Basai
(East), District Thana, (Maharshtra) (31.5.2003): He submitted his opinion
to the Chief Minister of Uttaranchal forwarded to Commission. He has
justified his opinion by stating that capital city of the sate at Gairsain will
give momentum to the developmental activities in the remote hill areas and
the people of this area will get enormous employment opportunities.

32. Shekhar Pathak, Pahar Himalaya Samaj, Sanskrit, Itihas aur
Pariyavaran par Kendrit, Parikrima Talla Danda, Nainital (31.5.2003): Prof.
Shekhar Pathak, and eminent scholar of Uttarakhand has strongly favoured
Gairsain to be developed as capital city of the state. He has pointed out that
at public agitation which took place for having separate state of Uttarakhand, it was pressed that capital be located at Gairsain. Gairsain is centre point of the state. Kaushik Committee also recommended it to be most suitable place for capital. Establishing state capital at Gairsain will boost up developmental activities in remote hill areas and will create enormous employment opportunities which will lead to stoppage of migration. Here adequate land is available for capital city, construction of aerodrome and other infrastructures. The rail route can be developed. Sufficient water can be obtained with convenience. Respect to public sentiments is equally important. Considering all these aspects he opined that the establishment of capital at Gairsain is quite justified.

33. Jaikrit Singh Bisht, Veena Mall, Development Block Pokhra, Pauri-Garhwal (2-6-2003): Favouring Gairsain as State capital, Sri Bisht has pointed out that Gairsain is a central place of the State and Kaushik Committee also recommended Gairsain to be developed at capital city of the State.

34. Shri Darshan Mahavidyala Society, Rishikesh, Tehri-Garhwal (3.6.2003): It has been argued that in view of the public sentiments of both
the divisions of Uttarakhand i.e. Garhwal and Kumaun, the state capital should be located at Gairsain since it is centrally located.

35. Dashrat Singh Bisht, Village Bausali, Patti Jaitlasiyu, Post Office Peethasain, District Pauri-Garhwal (3.6.2003): Sri Bisht has pointed out that the concept of a separate hill state was put forward before the then Prime Minister Sri Nehru by the famous freedom fighter Veer Chandra Singh Garhwal and he had opined Gairsain to be developed as capital city of the separate hill state. Locating Gairsain as capital of the State would mean development of remote backward areas of the hills. According to him, no political leader has opposed this proposal.

36. Smt. Godavari Devi, wife of Shyam Singh Dhami, Village Madh, Post Office Madmanley, District Pithoragarh (3.6.2003): She has informed that the demand for separate Uttaranchal state was due to backwardness of the hills and state capital should be located keeping in view this fact. She has suggested Gairsain to be developed as capital of the state since it is centrally located and sufficient water is available there. Air route, beautification etc. can be conveniently developed.

37. Smt. Bimla Aswal, Kshitij, (28-05-2003), Smt. Aswal, under the banner of Uttarakhand Mahila Manch, has proposed Gairsain to be capital of
the state. It has been mentioned that public opinion has always been in favour of Gairsain. Office of Additional Director, Education was established at Gairsain which indicated that on creation of Uttarakhand it will have its capital at Gairsain. Ramashankar Kaushik Committee also recommended the capital of state at Gairsain. The Munch has suggested that the area from Cahukhutia to Karnprayag which includes Chaukhotia, Panduwalkhal, Nagchulakhal, Mehalchauri, Bachhuwavan, Diwalikhal, Shimli etc. should be developed as state capital region. The opinion advanced is with the reason that it will stop migration from hills as well as from the angle of development of hills, beautification and convenience, it will be proper to have capital at Gairsain. The Mahila Manch Nainital by representation dated 24.5.2003 again repeated its stand with same reasoning.

38. A.R. Ghildiyal, Vivekanand Colony, Gopeshwar, District Chamoli (5.6.2003): Sri Ghildiyal has pleaded that state capital at Dehradun is far away from almost all the hilly districts, that place is already developed and it is leading to migration from hill areas. A hill state should have its capital in hill area. According to him, Gairsain is acceptable to public which will boost up developmental activities in hill areas.
39. Manwar Singh Pawar, Village Dagidhar, Post Office Gairsain, District Chamoli (5.6.2003): He has opined in favour of Gairsain. In support his opinion, he has referred to Kaushik Committee report. He has also pointed out that Gairsain is centrally located, has sufficient facility of transport, geology of the area is good, sufficient water is available and keeping in view beauty and environment of the area, Gairsain is proper place for capital. According to him, the financial burden will be of about Rs.500 Crores.

40. M.N. Banduni, General Secretary, Uttarakhand Ex-soldiers / Semi-soldiers Sangthan, Dehradun (6.6.2003): Describing the background of Uttarakhand movement, the organization has proposed Gairsain to be developed as state capital. The reasons assigned are that it is birth place of a revolutionary soldier Veer Chandra Singh Garhwali and emotionally the peoples are connected with this place; that Gairsain is in the middle of both the divisions; that there is full consent of peoples of both the divisions; that in 1992 the Kaushik Ayog after having public opinion, recommended Gairsain for the capital; that this place is connected with both the divisions by road; that there is sufficient water; that the run by road of proposed aerodrome being developed at Gauchar is about one and a half to two hours run; that the construction can be conveniently undertaken on the land of this
place and that the rocks are not uneven. By having capital at Gairsain, it will be good to an undeveloped region and will stop the migration from hills.

41. D.S. Pawar, Lecturer, Government Intermediate College, Gairsain (11.6.2003): He has suggested Gairsain to be the state capital. He has argued that establishment of capital in hill region at Gairsain will help a lot in doing away with the problem of anti-social elements. He has further pressed that Gairsain is connected by road to almost all places of the state. The roads will have to be widened and strengthened in accordance with the requirements of the state capital. The construction work should be taken up gradually which will not lead to heavy financial burden. At initial stage tin sheds can be erected to start the function of state capital. The area is quite competent from geological point of view as the articles published in newspapers and magazine from time to time have proved. The geological structure will be least affected by earthquakes and the area is situated on sloppy hills and broad valley.

42. Colonel Inder Singh Rawat (Retd.), 4/2 Race Course, Dehradun (11.6.2003): Col. Rawat has favoured Gairsain to be developed as state capital keeping in view the fact that the place is centrally located, it is surrounded by about 10 to 15 villages from where land as per requirement
could be available on payment of proper compensation, adequate land is available at Gairsain-Nagchulakhal for planned development of secretariat, MLAs residences, hospital, colleges, university, markets, hotels etc. It should be developed in accordance with the plan of Chandigarh. He expept the central government to provide adequate financial and technical support for development of state capital at Gairsain.

43. B.S. Fonia, Block Development Officer Ghat (12.6.2003): Sri Fonia has favoured Gairsain to be developed as state capital for the reason that it is centrally located. The social workers and intellectuals have supported this fact, geological structure and environment of the area is quite favourable and adequate land and water is available.

44. Satyendra Negi, Village and Post Office Padampur Sukro, Kotdwar and his Associates (12.6.2003): Sri Negi and his associates have demanded that the capital be established at Gairsain for the reasons that Gairsain is centrally located, it has sufficient land and potable water, it will lead to facilitation of problems, employment opportunities will be available and tourism in the state will get boost. He has concluded that 80% population of the states habitats in hills as such state capital should also be located in hill area.
45. Hayat Singh Shah, President Uttarakhand Kranti Dal, Tehsil Gairsain, Chamoli (16.6.2003): Sri Shah has proposed Gairsain to be state capital for the reason that as per survey conducted by Kaushik Committee, Gairsain is acceptable to 67 per cent people of the state and that it is centrally located.

46. S.N. Lakhera, Chairman, Uttarakhand Rajya Nirman Samiti, Nasvilla Road, Dehradun (16.6.2003): He has argued Gairsain to be state capital on the basis of the fact that during movement for separate state, Gairsain was proposed to be the state capital. 80% population of the state is in favour of Gairsain as state capital. It is centrally located. From the geological point of view, it is safest place and the place being situated in the bank of river Ramganga, there will be no shortage of drinking water.

47. Kailash Joshi, Nainital (16.6.2003): He has justified Gairsain to be capital of the state on the basis of public sentiments. According to him, capital at Dehraun only favours to the Ministers and Bureaucrats.

48. Prem Singh Gosain, Village Shibbu Nagar, Devi Road, Kotdwar (17.6.2003): Sri Gusain has pressed that nominal development of hill areas has led to demand of state capital to be located at Gairsain. He has further stated that Gairsain is centrally located. There appears to be no problem in making the present transport system better and systematic. In order to do
away with financial burden, a long term plan be made and construction work
be undertaken on priority basis. He has suggested for expert opinions in
respect of geological structure, environment, water, land etc.

Khantwal has suggested Gairsain to be developed as state capital keeping in
view the sentiments of the public of Uttarakhand expressed during
Uttarakhand agitation and also for preservation sacred social religious and
political customs.

50. Santosh Singh, C-31 Jal Nigam Colony, Indranagar, Dehradun
(18.6.2003): While favouring Gairsain as state capital, he has said that the
capital should be selected keeping in view the fact that 87% of population of
the state is residing in hills and only 13% is residing in plains; that the
capital place should be acceptable to all in view of social and cultural aspect;
that it should have adequate scope for development of communication and
transportation facilities and that it should be free from pollution. According
to him, Gairsain is most suitable from all these aspects.

51. Dr. Ansuiya Prasad Maikhuri, Member Legislative Assembly,
Badrinath Vidhan Sabha Segment (18.6.2003): Dr. Maikhuri has supported
the state capital to be located at Gairsain-Dudhatoli-Chandranagar in view of
the fact that during Uttarakhand agitation there was agreement in respect of having capital at Gairsain (Chandra Nagar); that at Gairsain (Chandranagar) Uttarakhand Kranti Dal has already laid foundation stone for capital; that the proposed area of Gairsain is situated in centre of the state; that the concept behind creation of separate Uttarakhand state was development which can be materialized only if the capital is located at some place in hill region; that 60.21% of parties to the representation of Ministerial committee of Uttarakhand in 1994 have favoured Gairsain as state capital; that from beautification and tourism point of view a new hill station has to be developed and; that Chandranagar-Gairsain is most suitable in view of its charming geomorphology. He further said that government land is available in proposed capital region near Gairsain-Dudhatoli-Koriabagad for development of state capital and various places like Nazimabad, Kotdwar, Ramnagar, Ranikhet, Karnprayag, Srinagar etc. can be well connected from this place. In addition adequate suitable land is available for developing airstrip. Ropeways in line with that of Switzerland can also be erected to facilitate transportation in hills. He has further considered financial burden on locating state capital and concluded that this burden will have to be borne at any place to be developed as state capital. Centre will have to be persuaded for assistance for this purpose. Considering availability of water,
he has stated that perennial rivers like Purvi Nayar, Paschhimi Nayar and Ramganga can meet the requirement of drinking water. The availability of water can be augmented in river Ramganga by constructing a tunnel between rivers Pindar and Ramganga.

52. M.N.Mainali, Convener Nainital Nagrik Sangharsh Samiti, Nainital (18.6.2003 and 18.6.2003): Sri Mainali, on behalf of Nainital Nagrik Sangharsh Samiti, has set certain parameters for locating state capital of Uttarakhand and having on these parameters suggested Gairsain to be developed as capital city of the State. He has further added that as per report of Kaushik committee, 80% population of Uttarakhand has favoured Gairsain as capital. Capital at Gairsain will give momentum to the development of hill regions and will create employment opportunities thereby hampering the migration from hill areas. Sufficient natural resources like land and water is available in Gairsain area. He has also stated that 80% of expenditure to be incurred on development of capital city should be shared by the Central Government. In his opinion, in the present age of Information Technology, heavy construction will not be required in the state capital and various services can be outsourced.
53. Bhagwati Prasad Bhatt, District President, Uttarakhand Samyukt Sangharsh Samiti, District Chamoli (19.6.2003): He has opined in favour of Gairsain as state capital and stated that this place has central location and adequate transport facilities are available. This place can not be ignored from capital-hood merely on the basis of non-availability of rail/air facilities. The Gairsain area is quite plane and most of the land pertains to Government. Kaushik Committee has also recommended Gairsain to be state capital in view of 60.8% public opinion. The area is free from natural calamities such as floods, landslides, earthquakes etc. He has quoted certain important personalities who have voiced in favour of Gairsain as state capital such as Sri Kedar Singh Fonia, Sri Puran Chand Sharma, Dr. Harak Singh Rawat, Sri Moti Lal Bora, Sri Bhagat Singh Koshyari etc. This area is also quite suitable from atmospheric point of view. He has concluded that the selection of Gairsain as state capital would be in accordance with the dreams of martyred.

54. Rakesh Chandra Bhatt, Sudhowala, Post Office Jhhajhara, Dehradun (26.6.2003): While favouring Gairsain to be developed as state capital Sri Bhatt has argued that this place is centrally located, that it will be give boost to development of nearby areas; that the condition of roads will improve,
that employment opportunities will increase and tourists to this area will be attracted.

55. Santosh Saklani, Room No. 79 Gautam Hostel, B.R.D. Medical College, Gorakhpur (U.P.) (26.6.2003): He opined that by having capital at Gairsain, it will be convenient for public of both the regions to easily access the capital for their various works and the governance of entire state will be easy from Gairsain. Adequate land and basic facilities are already available for state capital. According to him, a airstrip already exists at Gairsain which can be easily extended. Almost all the political parties like BJP, Congress, UKD etc. has consented in favour of Gairsain. Kaushik Committee has also recommended Gairsain to be state capital. He has added that during the movements for separate hill state, Gairsain was proposed and accepted as state capital. He has also suggested that the capital can be developed in phased manner.

56. Kamal Singh Chauhan, Seemant Yatra Sanchalak, Shri Gandhi Vichar Manch, Village & Post Office Talwadi, Chamoli (26.6.2003): He together with his colleagues have suggested Gairsain for capital for the reason that the Uttarakhand agitation was only for having capital at Gairsain. Details about distances of Gairsain from various places of Uttarakhand have been
given with the opinion together with suggestions for transport arrangement etc.

57. Kheem Singh Rauthan, Social Worker, B-4/31/2 Safdarganj Enclave, New Delhi (26.6.2003): He has favoured Gairsain as state capital and justified his opinion by mentioning that in view of earlier survey and in accordance with emotional feelings of peoples of Uttarakhand and those of young peoples and women who sacrificed themselves, the capital be located at the centre place of state which is Gairsain (Chandranagar).

58. Bhuwan Cahandra Joshi, Kendriya Upadhayksh, Uttarakahnd Student Federation, Haldwani, Nainital (26.6.2003): Sri Joshi, while favouring Gairsain as the state capital has argued that 75% population of Uttarakhand has consented for Gairsain as state capital. No political party has opposed this proposal; Gairsain is located at the central point of Uttarakhand. Both Commissioner offices are located at equal distance. Far away places like Uttarkashi, Dharchula, Munsiyari are located at equal distance. All the district headquarters are well connected to Gairsain by road.

59. Prem Ballabh Bhatt, Advocate, Ex-Chairman Nagar Palika Parishad, Chamoli, Gopeshwar (26.6.2003): He has advocated in favour of Gairsain as state capital and stated that in view of the Commission’s seeking opinion
about location of capital, a seminar was organized on 10.6.2003 at 11 o’clock at hall of Nagar Palika Gopeshwar which concluded with unanimous recommendation, that the state capital should be located at Gairsain in view of its location at the centre of state and other basic amenities available there. He has also communicated names and addresses of public representatives and representatives of organizations participating in the seminar together with cuttings of newspapers reports about the conclusion of seminar.

60. Awtar Singh Rana, President, Uttarakhand Kranti Dal, District Rudraprayag (26.6.2003): Sri Rana has proposed Gairsain as the best place for state capital in view of the fact that the place is well connected to all places by road, adequate land is available for airstrip and the basic facilities like communication, transportation, education and health are already available. The place is geologically competent and free from natural hazard like land slides, earthquake etc.

61. Leeladhar Kala, B-4/D-2 I.I.T. Campus, Hauz Khas, New Delhi (26.6.2003): Sri Kala has stated that a new capital city is essential to trigger the development of newly created state for which about Rs. 3000 to 4000 crors will be required. By locating state capital at Gairsain, employment opportunities will get boost.
62. Rudra Dutt Lakhera, Chairman, Khansar Vikas Samiti, Bachhuwawan (Maithan), Chamoli (27.6.2003): Sri Rudra Dutt Lakhera and his companions have opined in favour of Gairsain as state capital and stated that this place is centrally located and adequate transport facilities are available. This place can not be ignored from capital-hood merely on the basis of non-availability of rail/air facilities. The Gairsain area is quite plane and most of the land pertains to the Government. Kaushik Committee has also recommended Gairsain to be state capital in view of 60.8% public opinion. The area is free from natural calamities such flood, landslides, earthquake etc. He has quoted certain important personalities who have voiced in favour of Gairsain as state capital such as Sri Kedar Singh Fonia, Sri Puran Chand Sharmal, Dr. Harak Singh Rawatl, Sri Moti Lal Bora, Sri Bhagat Singh Koshyari etc. This area is also quite suitable from environment point of view. He has concluded that the selection of Gairsain as state capital would be in accordance with the dreams of martyred.

63. Major Mehrban Singh Negi, President, Garhwali Swajan Sewa Samiti, Dehradun (28.6.2003, 28.6.2003 and 4.9.2003 ) : He submitted copy of unanimous resolution of Garhwali Swajan Sewa Samiti expressing its opinion that the state capital should be developed at Gairsain which is centrally located. The distances of various places of the state have been
given in the resolution with availability of communication. It also speaks about its usefulness from environmental point of view, continuous availability of water and sufficiency of land. It also speaks that earlier, Kaushik Committee, considering the suitability, recommended Gairsain for state capital. The representation dated 4.9.2003 was received from the office of Chief Minister with forward of Shri Bachchi Singh Rawat, State Minister of Government of India, New Delhi.

64. Prem Singh Rawat, President Parwatiya Samaj Kalyan Shiksha evam Audhyogic Vikas Sansthan, Dehradun (28.6.2003): He has annexed a resolution passed unanimously by the Sansthan in a meeting held on 8.6.2003 to locate state capital at Gairsain.

65. T.R. Gaidi, 35, Nirman Apartment, Mayur Vihar, Phase-1, Delhi-110091 (28.8.2003): He has suggested that Gairsain should be the state capital for the reason that Kaushik Committee, after due consideration, has already recommended Gairsain as state capital of Uttarakhand; that distance of district headquarters like Pithoragarh and Uttarkashi from this place is about 208 kms. whereas other districts are located at lesser distance.

Sabra has mentioned that the public has already decided Gairsain to be the state capital. He felt that proper weightage should be given to public sentiments and not the technical consideration. He has suggested Gairsain or its neighboring area located between Garhwal and Kumaon Divisions to be developed as state capital keeping in view the fact that geologically and environmentally the area is suitable while sufficient water is also available there.

67. Sunderlal Semwal, Shri R.C.Rawat Gadhwal Bharati Mandal Sabha Clement Town, Dehradun (30.6.2003): . The representation dated 4.9.2003 was received from the office of Chief Minister which was forwarded by Shri Bachchi Singh Rawat, State Minister of Government of India, New Delhi. They submitted a copy of unanimous resolution of Garhwali Bharati Mandal Sabha expressing its opinion that the state capital should be developed at Gairsain, which is centrally located. Various distances of places within the state have been given in the resolution with availability of communication. It also speaks about usefulness from environmental point of view, continuous availability of water and sufficiency of land. It also speaks that earlier, Kaushik Committee, considering the suitability, recommended Gairsain for state capital.
68. Pushpa Chandra Ramola, ¾-A Araghar, Dehradun (30.6.2003): Sri Ramola has set out certain parameters for selection of capital city of the state. According to which the capital should be located at a central place, it should have the capability to develop communication and transportation facilities and easily accessible to the local people. Based on these parameters he has suggested that Gairsain is suitable place for state capital of Uttarakhand where communication and transportation facilities can be developed. It has also been opined that financial burden can be shared by the central government.

69. Subodh Kansal, Kansal Book Depot, Nainital (30.6.2003): While favouring Gairsain to be developed as state capital, Sri Kansal has represented that the Committee constituted by Cabinet under Chairmanship of Rama Shanker Kaushik found Gairsain suitable for capital and the then Uttar Pradesh Government also accepted it. He opined Gairsain is central point of present 13 districts and the pre-requisite that the capital of hill state should be in hills, is also fulfilled. According to him, the people of Kumaon and Garhwal are unanimous for capital at Gairsain. There is sufficient water and land available for capital.
70. Sher Singh Khati, Long View Cottage, Nainital (30.6.2003): He has advocated in favour of Gairsain. The reason given is that Gairsain is located at centre of both the Divisions. He has also referred the recommendation of Gairsain by Kaushik Committee. The justification is it will ease the problems of hill people and reduce the crime in the state. Justifying on the ground of sufficient clean water, sufficient land and clean atmosphere.

71. Kishan Singh Negi, President Vyapar Mandal, Mallital, Nainital (30.6.2003): Sri Negi, while suggesting Gairsain to be developed as State capital, has stated that establishment of state capital will facilitate momentum of developmental activities in the hill areas. He opined during the 1994 movement for a separate hill state, Gairsain was accepted as state capital. He further justified with reason that Gairsain is centrally located where there is sufficient water and land and it is suitable from geological and environmental angles.

72. Ruchi Awasthi, A-12, Kateti Devi, Uttarkashi (2.7.2003): Ms Awasthi has advocated for Gairsain as state capital considering the fact that the place is centrally located and easily accessible from all parts of the State. According to her this will give momentum to a planned development of the State.
73. Himanshu Awasthi, A-12, Kateti Devi, Uttarkashi (2.7.2003): Sri Awasthi has suggested that the capital of the state should be located at Gairsain where only State Assembly and Secretariat be constructed. Other offices should be established in various parts of the State which will reduce requirement of funds for development of the capital.

74. Shakuntala Negi, 90-D Sheikh Sarai-2, New Delhi (7.7.2003): She suggests state capital at Gairsain by opining that before formation of state, all the National and Regional political parties proposed Gairsain to be the capital. She further stated that the state capital should be located at a central place and Gairsain is most appropriate from this point of view. In Gairsain area plenty of water resources are available and adequate land between the altitudes 3000 to 7000 ft. is available. This place is also suitable from environmental point of view which could attract tourists in the state.

75. Nandan Singh Singela, Pramukh Kshetra Panchayat, Chaukutiya (Almora) (25.7.2003): Sri Nandean Singh Sangelia together with few other members of Kshetra Panchayat has suggested that Gairsain is most suitable place for locating the capital, in view of the fact that it is centrally located; that it has clean atmosphere, plenty of water is available in River Ramganga;
that 65% of people have expressed their opinion in favour of Gairsain and Kaushik Committee has also recommended it to be the state capital.

76. D.N. Pant, A-19 Dainik Janyug Apartment Vasundhara Enclave, Delhi-110096 (25.7.2003): Sri Pant has expressed his views that it is in overall interest of the state capital should be located at Gairsain.

77. Jeevan Singh Mehta, Honorary Secretary, Harit Himalaya Club, Almora (11.8.2003): Sri Mehta while favouring Gairsain as state capital, has reiterated that the far away places like Kalsi, Arakot, Netwar, Tawaghan, Rameshwar, Tanakpur, Kashipur, Roorkee are located at a equal distance from Gairsain; that the hill state should have its capital in hill region; that Kaushik Committee recommended Gairsain as the state capital and that railway station is not essentially required in a state capital.

78. I.S. Sanwal, Central President, Justensified Democracy, Devar, Gopeshwar (Chamoli) (1.9.2003): Sri Sanwal has suggested Gairsain to be developed as state capital in view of the fact that it is centrally located. In long run the administrative expenses will be reduced and administration from Gairsain will provide easy access to the people of hilly region to the administrators.
79. Uttarakhand Sanyukta Sangharsha Morcha, Uttarakhand (01.09.2004) : A memorandum which is addressed to the H.E. Governor of Uttarakhand and Hon'ble Chief Minister of Uttarakhand received to the Commission in which the morcha gave their several demands including demands of permanent state capital at Gairsain.

80. Rajdhani Nirman Sangharsha Samiti, Bainital, Chamoli (Undated) : The Samiti's memorandum addressed to H.E. Governor of Uttarakhand received to the Commission, suggesting the state capital at Chandranagar, Gairsain. They added that Baba Mohan Uttarakhandi staged a hunger strike unto death for having state capital at Gairsain. It is a matter of public sentiments and therefore the state capital must be at Gairsain.

81. Shri R.C. Chandola, Senior State Vice Chairman, Pradesh Janta Dal (Secular), Indira Nagar, Dehradun (02.09.2004) : Shri Chandola gave a memorandum to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Utraranchal, giving several demands, suggesting the state capital at Gairsain.

82. Shri Arvind Kumar Gupta, President, Netaji Sangharsha Samiti (Bharat), Babuganj Bazar, Dehradun (02.09.2004) : Shri Gupta gave a memorandum, which is signed by various members of the above samiti, to
the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Uttarakhand stating his Samiti's demands, Gairsain as a state capital.

83. Smt. Kamla Pant, Uttarakhand Mahila Munch, Inder Road, Dehradun (21.09.2004) & Smt. Nirmala Bisht, District Coordinator, Uttarakhand Mahila Munch, Inder Road, Dehradun (04.10.2004): Demands in the both letters are the same. This munch has suggested state capital at Gairsain. They added that before formation of state the public made various struggles for formation the state capital at Gairsain. Even than Baba Uttarakhandi has sacrificed his life for formation of the capital at Gairsain. They said that Geological Survey of India has also given their geological report in favour of Gairsain.

84. Uttarakhand ke Sabhi Jan Sangathan, Nainital (20.10.2004): A memorandum addressed to H.E. Governor of Uttarakhand received to this Commission in the letter head of above Sangthan suggesting Gairsain as a state capital.

85. Shri Veer Chand Ramola, President. Uttarakhand Kranti Dal, Tehri (04.10.2004) & Shri Tej Singh Rawat, Kendriya Prachar Sachiv. Uttarakhand Kranti Dal, Haridwar (15.10.2004): Both the memorandums of
the UKD office bearers were addressed to H.E. Governor Uttarakhand giving various demands, suggesting state capital at Gairsain.

86. The District Magistrate, Chamoli send several letters to the government i.e. dated 15.10.2004, 26.10.2004, 27.10.2004, 28.10.2004, 29.10.2004, 30.10.2004 & 02.11.2004, which were received to the Commission, stating that the Uttarakhand Mahila Munch has staged a hunger strike unto death for formation of state capital at Garisain.

87. Shri Hayat Singh, Coordinator, Uttarakhand Shodh Sansthan, Lohaghat Unit, Village- Kolitak, P.O. Lohaghat, District- Champawat (18.10.2004) : He is of the opinion that if the area of Haridwar is included in Uttarakhal Samajwadi Party would not like state capital as Gairsain. He added that the permanent state capital should be in Kalagarh for summer season and should be shifted to Gairsain in winter season as it was in the British period, when the national capital was shifted from Delhi to Shimla in winter season.

88. Representatives of Bhartiya Janta Party, Blok- Kama Prayag, District Chamoli (27.07.2004) : Various representatives of Bhartiya Janta Party sent a joint Memorandum to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Uttarakhal which
was received to the Commission. Among the several demands they also suggested Gairsain as a state capital.

89. Shri Manish Sundariyal, Coordinator, Yuva Berojgar Sangthan, Village & P.O. Dungari, Patti- Gujru, Pauri Garhwal (11.08.2004) : A Memorandum addressed to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Uttarakhand received to the Commission, signed by the various members of the above Sangathan. They also suggested Gairsain as the state Capital and also added that Baba Mohan Uttarakhandi has sacrificed his life after 38 day hunger strike in demand of Gairsain as a state capital.

90. Letters of District Magistrate, Almora and S.D.M., Ranikhet have also been received to the Commission in which they stated that Vikram Singh Brahmchari, Village- Silanga, District, Chamoli has staged a hunger strike unto death in Bhairavgarhi temple, demanding the Gairsain as a state capital.

91. Shri Rampal Singh, District President, Uttarakhand Kranti Dal (Democratic), Dakra, Dehradun (25.08.2004) : A memorandum received to the Commission from the District President and other members of the above organization demanding Gairsain (Chandranagar) as a state capital.

92. Uttarakhand Kaushalya Dabral Vahini, Dehradun: A memorandum written on about 3 meter long cloth signed by 151 members, out of which
109 has given their consent in favour of Gairsain and 42 members in favour of Dehradun as a permanent state capital.

93. Nandi Nainwal, Uttarakhand Mahila Manch (18-10-2004): In her letter Nandi Nailwal stated that seeing the geological point of view and public sentiments Gairsain is suitable place for state capital.

94. Mr. Bhaskar Upereit, Pragatisheel Chhatra Manch, PSF, Nainital (18-10-2004): Sri Upereti suggested that capital of the hilly state should be in a hilly area, so that development of the state may be possible.

95. Mr. Umesh Tiwari ‘Vishwas’, Independent Journalist, Nainital (18-10-2004): Sri Tiwari suggested Gairsain as state capital. He stated that people of Uttarakhand have accepted Gairsain as its capital, therefore, public opinion should be respected.

96. Mr. Harendra Singh Aswal, Pilgrim Lodge Compound, Mallital, Nainital (3-10-2004): Sri Aswal stated that Geological Survey of India have found Gairsain is suitable place for state capital from the point of Geology. He further added that it is a matter of public sentiments who wants Gairsain as a state capital.
97. Mr. Amar Singh Negi, Member Working Committee, Bhartiya Communist party, Haridwar (6-10-2004): Sri Negi stated that before deciding a suitable place for state capital Geology, Topography and other conditions of the area such as electricity, water, road, sanitation, cost of construction material should also be taken into consideration. He further added that opinions of intellectuals should also be taken before deciding a place for state capital.

98. Leela Bisht, Uttarakhand Mahila Manch, Tallital, Nainital (2-8-2004): She stated that Geological Survey of India has found Gairsain is suitable for state capital. Therefore, Gairsain should be a state capital.

There are certain other opinions which Commission has decided to ignore for the reason that they have not assigned any reason to substantiate their opinion. After all, reasons are the link for arriving at any conclusion otherwise it is not possible to examine it judiciously. The Commission has to consider reasons as to why a particular place be preferred for location of capital of the state. In absence of reasons, it is not possible for Commission to examine their suggestion for recording its conclusion. The date of representation is mentioned after name and address in each case. They are as under:
   (12.5.2003)

2. Uma Bhatt, Reader Kumaon University, Nainital. (19.5.2003)


4. H.S. Parmar, ‘Kshittij’, Pilgram Lodge Compound, Spring Field Road,  
   Mallital, Nainital. (19.5.2003)

5. D.S. Parmar, Oak Lodge, Mallital, Nainital. (19.5.2003)

6. R.C.Joshi, 7, Number, Nainital. (22.5.2003)


8. Ambika Pant, Jauhar Bhawan, Mallital, Nainital. (24.5.2003)


10. Tapan Joshi, near Ramlila Stage, Tallital, Nainital. (31.5.2003)

11. Rinku, near Harbans Petrol Pump, Tankpur Road, Pithoragarh.  
    (31.5.2003)


15. Anita Joshi, resident No.- 4 ( C), Canton Lodge, Forest Colony, Mallital, Nainital. (06.6.2003)


23. Saraswati Mehra, Nainital (2-10-2004)
Another set of persons is also being left out from consideration are those who have either not given their name or address or reasons in support of their opinion. Their date of representation is being mentioned in bracket after their names. They are being mentioned hereunder with the reasons for being left out from consideration:

1. Mamta Joshi, Nainital. (31.5.2003) - Neither full address has been given nor reasons assigned in support of opinion.

2. Khela Talluki, Bageshwar (31.5.2003) - Neither full address has been given nor reasons assigned in support of opinion.

3. Uttarakhandi, Indranagar, Dehradun (9.6.2003) – For want of identity as full name and address has not been disclosed.

4. Lok Pati Pant (16.6.2003) - Neither full address has been given nor reasons assigned in support of opinion.

5. Lata, Uttarkashi – For want of identity as address has not been disclosed.
1. Shri Vinod Tirpathi and colleagues 26/3 Ramje Road, Tallital, Nainital; (17.11.2003) Sri Shri Vinod Tirpathi and his colleagues sent a letter jointly signed by them, suggested Ram Nagar as state capital. In their opinion, people of Uttarakhand are innocent and they are fed up by the temporary capital situated at Dehradun. They said that people of Uttrakhand wants their capital in the hilly area of Uttarakhand. They further added that Ramnagar/Kalagarh is a central place of the State from where most of the villages, cities, towns of the state including National Capital is easily approachable; that this place is connected with roads, railways and can easily be connected with airways. Sufficient land, water is available with healthy climate and pollution free atmosphere, as the area is on the foot hills near the forests.

2. Shri D.D. Dani, Evergreen Farm Chhoi, Ramnagar, Distt. Nainital (04.11.2003): Shri Dani suggested Ramnagar as state capital. He stated that after seeing the geographical condition of the state its capital should be in a
hilly area which could fulfill the standards lay down for formation of state capital. In his opinion Ramnagar fulfills all the standards which are necessary for state capital. Nainital is closed to Ramnagar where Old Governor House and Club are already existing which can be used as Governor House and VIP Guest House. Kalagarh which is about 30 Km. from Ramnagar has so many buildings of Irrigation Department. These buildings can be used for state capital after renovating them. He further added that natural water resources are available here and if more water is needed it can be available from Kosi river and Kalagarh Dam. Thousands Acre of land is available near Hempur, Gausala which can be used for Aerodrome. All the facilities like roads, railway are available. Ramnagar is also safe from land slides, seismological point of view. Kalagarh Dam which was built earlier is in the same seismic zone. He also suggested Chaukhutia Masi (district Almora) as an alternative site for state capital.

3. Prof. D. S. Jalal, Principal, Department Geography, (Retd.) & President, Teachers Association, Kumaon University, Nainital (24.10.2003) He suggested Ramnagar as state capital. He further stated among the 13 districts of Uttarakhand, 7 districts are situated in the east of Ramnagar and rest 6 districts are situated in the west of Ramnagar. Headquarters of 7
districts are less than 200 km. distant from Ramnagar. National capital Delhi is 239 km. from Ramnagar and is connected with national highway.

4. Shri Nadim Uddin, Advocate, Chairman, Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad Apl Sankhyak Kalyan Samiti, Kohinur Press Building, Ali Khan, Post Kashipur. This Samiti has also suggested Ramnagar as state capital. Samiti stated that near about 2800 acre of land is needed for formation of state. In Ramnagar 800 acre of land which was acquired for Nepa Paper Mill is not in use. 800 acre of land have been released from Corbett National Park, 800 acre of land is given to the National Seeds Corporation. Thus 2500 acre of land can be acquired for state capital. Therefore, there is no problem of land. The Samiti further added that Ramnagar is also suitable from the geographical, physical structure, economical, social and environmental point of view.

5. Shri Ganshyam Lal Verma, Village & Post Ghatti, Bhatraukhan, Almora (15.3.2001): Shri Verma has suggested Ramnagar. Further said that it has equidistance from far of places both the Garhwal and Kumaon Division; that a situation between Ramganga and Kosi river, where sufficient water is available. Being hilly area the climate is temperate. It is
well connected with Delhi, Mumbai and Howrah. Sufficient land is available.

6. Sri Shiv Dayal, C/o Shri Harikrishna Clinic, Bzpur Road, Near Fire Station, Village- Kharakpur, Devipur (H.D.C., Kashipur), District-Udhamsinghnagar (30.4.2003): He suggested Ramnagar/Kashipur area. It has all the facilities of transport and railways and close to Garhwal and Kumaon where transport and railways facilities are already available, the financial burden is less for construction of capital city area is pollution free and having best educational health facilities and nearby National Park area. He has referred the agriculture products and best for agriculture farming.

7. Shri Kailash Pant, Readymade Complex, Matraujakhan, Nainital (2.5.2003): He suggested Ramnagar for capital city. Reasion assigned most convenient for public as the place is situated between Ramganga and Kosi rivers. It is commercial centre both for Kumaon and Garhwal having all the facilities for transport, bus stand and Broad railway line connecting with all the places. There is sufficient line for Aerodrome and equidistance from Uttarkashi and Dharchula.

8. Shri Harbhajan Singh Chima, Member of Legislative Assembly (Kashipur) (2.2.2005): In his opinion, the capital city should be in Hempur
area which is adjacent to Tahsil Ramnagar. The reasons assigned by him is that it is centre point of both divisions having different people of different casts, religions, having different culture, sufficient communications with places which are more or less distant from the district head quarters and therefore it will be convenient for citizen for coming to capital without loss of time and money; that it is connector with different areas by bus and railway line; that it connects plain area with hill area. He has further opined that there is suitable land with area of 4000 acre which has been made available by the Government of India from NEPA Ltd. Geographically this place is in plains, therefore less money is to be spent on transport, communications. Portable water is available in Kashipur and Ramnagar several buildings would be available for residential and government offices. It will save much money though being in plain, this place is close to hills and it is full for good climate; that sufficient water is available in this area as water level is at 30-40 ft.

9. Shri Shekhar Joshi, Jawahar Lal Nehru District Hospital, Rudrapaur (Udhapsinghnagar) (12.5.2003): He has suggested two places namely Kalagarh and Bazpur-Rudrapur area for capital city. For Kalagrah area he said that it is a developed area which is in tarai bhabar area and is close to river. There will be no shortage of water, sufficient land is available for
capital city and Garhwal area is close due to which people of Garhwal area will have no objection. He also mentioned about the buildings of irrigation department available there. For Bazpur and Rudrapur area there are roads all around it and there is Aerodrome at Pantnagar and railway stations at Lalkuwm, Pantnagar, Rudrapur, etc. and University at Pantnagar for higher education. There is no huge construction around and ample portable water could be available at all places by boring, tube wells. He also opined that geological point of view the land is quite strong and no problem by earthquake, land slides and floods etc. is likely to be encountered. He stated that the proposed site is surrounded by forest land.

10. Sri Sundar Lal Sakma, Village Nai Basti Shivnathpur post Bhalhanchaur, District Nainital (12-05-2003). Sri Sakma has suggested Ramnagar as a state capital. Further said that Ramnagar has all the facilities of road transport for Garhwal and Kumaon division; that Ramnagar is a tourist place having road and aerodrome for all places. Water and electric facility is also easily available.

11. Smt. Kheema Bisht, Uttarakhand Mahila Sanghars Samiti, Kalawati Colony Chauraha, Nabavi Road, Haldwani (12-05-2003). Smt. Bisht suggested Ramnagar area and stated that this place is in the middle of
Kumaon and Garhwal division. It is easily reachable from Pithoragarh, Munsiyari, Dharchula and Tehri, Pauri, Uttarkashi. Ramnagar has all the facilities of transportation.

12. Sri Khushiram Ghildwari, Retd. SDM, Arynagar, Kashipur (12-05-2003). He has suggested Kashipur (Manpur) as a state capital. He stated that 50% population of the state will be agreed to form capital of the state at Kashipur. This area is pollution free and surrounding by the Forest.

13. Sri D.S. Jalal, 335/3 Bara Bazzar, Mallital, Nainital (14-05-2003). He suggested Ramnagar for state capital and stated that Ramnagar is a centre place for 90% population of the state. Delhi is 248 kms. from Ramnagar and is connected by the National Highway. It is a commercial centre both of Kumaon and Garhwal region. Sufficient water is available.

14. Sri Dayakrishna Lohini, New colony Ranjhawala, Dehradun (14-03-2003) suggested Hempur which is situated between Ramnagar & Kashipur. He stated that Rmount depot of Indian Army is established there and there is hundreds acre of land is available for formation state capital. It is in the middle of Kumaon & Garhwal region. Underground water is easily available here.
15. Sri Vyas, Village Maldeveta, Dehradun (18-05-2003) suggested Ramnagar as state capital and stated that for deciding the permanent state capital we have to think over the geographical, physical conditions of the area as well as public sentiments.

16. Shri Damodar Joshi, Pashchimi Khera, Kathgodarm, Nainital (19.5.2003): Shri Joshi suggested Ramnagar/Kotabagh for permanent capital of the state. He agreed that Dehradun is a modern city but the state capital must be located at a centre place. He disfavoured Gairsain at state capital in view of the fact that no communication facilities could be developed, the area is snow prone and in rainy season the roads are often blocked. The place such as Ramnagar and Kotabagh are located at equal distance from Uttarkashi and Pithoragarh.

17. Shri Ram Prasad Tamta, Diploma Engineer (Civil), Village Kathyatbara, Distreict Bageshwar : Sri Tamta has suggested Kashipur as state capital. He viewed that Uttaranchal is constitute of 13 districts and out of which Dehradun, Haridwar and part of Nainital are in plains. Almost all the areas are earthquake prone. An Aerodrome can be developed near Kashipur-Ramnagar. For construction of buildings at this location lesser
financial burden will incur. Communication facilities can be developed in the area.

18. Shri Kedar Singh Paharia, Village- Bhonrsa, Post- Amritpur (Nainital) (25.5.2003) : In view of the facts that Ramnagar is located at centre of Kumaon and Garhwal regions, Shri Paharia suggested Ramnagar as state capital. According to him all places from this location are at equal distance and railway and air services could be managed from this site. Raw material for construction work would be easily available and sufficient drinking water from the nearby rivers would be available.

19. Shri Govind Sing Kunjwal, Minister, Horticulture, Micro Industries Khadi Gramodyog, Uttarakhand (26.5.2003) : Shri Kunjwal has advocated Ramnagar and Gairsain or any other centre place for permanent capital of the state. In his view the temporary capital at Dehradun is located at a corner of the state, due to which it is difficult to reach Dehradun easily for the people from Munsiyari, Ranakpur, Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gopeshwar, Barkote etc. In view of over all interest of the public the capital has to be located at a centre place, which will lead to over all development of the state.
20. Shri Alex Thomas D.S.M., Sugar Factory, Kashipur (Udhamsinghnagar) (6.6.2003) : Shri Thomas suggested Kashipur and Ramnagar as state capital in view of the infrastructure facilities available at these places. In addition a good number of industries likes, Sugar Mills, Paper Mills are also established near Kashipur.

21. Shri Hridyesh Deepali, State Incharge of Human Right Conservation Board, Dharanaula, Almora (18.6.2003) : Shri Deepali has suggested that the state capital should be located in such a place where the public from interior areas could face no problem. Keeping in view this fact he has suggested Ramnagar as state capital where infrastructure facilities are available. He desired public support for establishment of state capital so that state exchequer is not hugely burdened.

22. Shir Bhagat Singh Koshiyari, Leader of Opposition, Uttaranchal (30.6.2003) : Shri Koshiyari has proposed Ramnagar and Gairsain as permanent capital of the state. He has suggested that a place located in centre of Kumaon, Garhwal and plain should be considered for state capital.

23. Shri Nanak Chand Sharma, M.Sc.(Agri.), Kashipur (Udhamsinghnagar) (25.2.2004) : Shri Sharma has suggested Ramnagar (Hempur Goshala) as state capital. According to him approximately 1000
care of land is available in Hempur (Goshala) which is just 10 km. away from Kashipur. In addition 2000 acre ceiling land pertaining to Escort Farm is also available which is at a distance of only 6 km. from Kashipur. At Hempur there is a railway station. Educational Institutions like Degree College, Govt. Girls College, and Polytechnic are also available here. Medical and transportation facilities are also amply available in Kashipur.

24. Mohd. Furkan Safi, Village- Kanoon Moyan, Kashipur (Udhamsinghnagar) (25.2.2004) : Mohd. Safi has suggested Ramnagar-Hempur as permanent capital of the state. According to him the state capital should neither be tat far distance from a particular place nor at close location. Hempur which is located at centre of Kashipur and Ramnagar is an ideal location for capital city. Almost all infrastructure facilities are available around this place and people of every sect are living here.

25. Kashipur Bar Association, District Udhamsinghanagar (25.2.2004) : Kashipur Bar Association has suggested Kashipur (Hempur) as permanent capital of the state. According to the association, Kashipur is an ancient city. For selecting permanent capital of the state some pre-requisites are there such as adequate space, clean and sufficient drinking water, transportation facilities etc. According to association Kashipur is ideal place since
educational institutions like P.G. College, Polytechnic, ITI, Govt. Inter Colleges are already available here. In addition judicial premises are already location at Kashipur. Development of capital at Kshipur (Hempur) will also not involve much expenditure.

26. Shri Avtar Singh, District President, Samajwadi Party, Udham Singh Nagar (25.2.2004) : Shri Avtar Singh has suggested Kashipur (Hempur) as permanent state capital. According to him the state capital should be easily accessible from all parts of the state and adequate space for extension of future planning, schools, colleges, institutions, administrative premises, transportation, etc. should be available. Hempur-Kashipur is an ideal place from the point of view these facilities. In addition Jim Corbett National Part is also nearer to this location.

27. Shri Madan Lal Gupta, Lahorian, Kashipur (Udham Singh Nagar) (25.2.2004) : Shri Gupta has suggested Kashipur (Hempur) as permanent state capital. According to him the state capital should be located keeping in view the public sentiments, from where transportation is easy. Hempur which is located in between Kashipur and Ramnagar is an ideal place for state capital city since all infrastructure facilities are available around this
place. In addition agricultural and horticultural products are also easily available in near by areas of Hempur.

28. Shri Gopal Sharma (Gudden), Coordinator- Kisan Ekta Munch, Ramnagar (Nainital) (25.2.2004) : Shri Sharma has suggested that Hempur should be developed as permanent capital of the state in view of availability of land. This place is gateway to Garhwal and Kumaon regions and transportation facilities are available from here to far away places by Pauri, Tehri, Chamoli, Almora, Pithoragarh, Bageshwar, Dehradun, Haridwar and other places in plain area.

29. Shri Sanjay Chaturvedi, 160, Lahorian Gali, Kashipur (Udham Singh Nagar) (25.2.2004) : Shri Chaturvedi has proposed Kashipur-Ramnagar as permanent state capital and has suggested that about 1100 acre land is available in addition to 1200 acre land of Escort Farm. Here water is available at depth of 30 ft. Infrastructural facilities like roads, rail, airport, medical are amply available. State level games like hockey and cricket are also organised here.

30. Shri Atul Chauhan, State Correspondent, ANI TV News (Uttaranchal) (25.2.2004) : Shri Chauhan has proposed Kashipur-Ramnagar and Escort Farm ad Kundeshwari as state capital. According to him approximately 1560
acre ceiling land has been available to the state government as per orders of Hon’ble Supreme Court. According to him the state capital should located at an easily accessible place where facilities like education, health, administration, tourism, entertainment, etc. are available. He has opined that Hempur-Ramnagar is a suitable place for state capital.

31. Ms. Usha Chaudhary, Chairman, Municipal Board, Kashipur (25.2.2004): Ms. Chaudhary has proposed Kashipur-Ramnagar (Hempur) as permanent state capital. According to her some parameters should be kept in view while selecting a suitable place for establishing state capital such as easy accessibility from all parts of the state and other parts of the country. Hempur, which is located between Kashipur and Ramnagar is an ideal place for state capital city. A good number of industries like sugar mills, paper mills, bulb & tube factories, rice mills, seed plants are already available here. This place is well connected by road and rail lines with national capital and other parts of the state. Other infrastructure facilities are also adequately available.

32. Bahrtiya Janta Party, Kashipur (25.2.2004): The Bhartiya Janta Party in its joint memorandum has proposed Hempur, which is located between Kashipur and Ramnagar, as state capital. The memorandum suggests that the
state capital should be located as such a place where industrial development is encouraged and basic facilities such as rail, roads, irrigation are available. It should have easy access to other parts of the country as well as foreign countries. Since, a couple of industries are already available at Kashipur, agricultural development of the area could be initiated easily.

33. Sri Haridas Lal Mehrotra, Zila Mantri Bhartiya Communist Party (25-02-2004) Sri Mehrotra has proposed Kashipur (Hempur) as permanent state capital and has suggested that ample land for Airsick is available; about 1500 hect ceiling land pertaining to escort form is also available in Kundeshwari. A few prerequisites are essential for establishment of state capital such as availability of clean and sufficient drinking water, transportation facilities etc. At Kashipur education facilities, judicial premises etc are already available. Kashipur is also a centre of business and the expenditure in development of capital city will not comparatively be in higher side at this place.

34. Maulana Abdul Kalam Ahmad, Minority Welfare Committee, Kashipur (25-02-2004) Sri Maulana has proposed Kashipur and Ramnagar as permanent capital city and has suggested that this place is suitable in view of location, geomorphological point of view, economic social and
environmental aspects. Dehradun and Gairsain are important from tourism point of view and these areas are likely to be expected in case they are selected for state capital. In view of the all-round facilities are available, Ramnagar is suitable place for state capital.

35. Sri Ashwini Chhawara, State President, Pantiya Udhyog Vyapar Partinidhimandal, Kashipur (25-02-2004) Sri Chhawara has suggested Kashipur as state capital. According to him this place is located as equal distance from Garhwal and Kumaon regions, facilities like transportation, telecommunication, electricity etc. are available, about 1000 acre land is available in Hempur. Besides 2000 acre of ceiling land is available at escort form which is located at a distance only 2 kms from Ramnagar road. High Court of the state is located at a distance of only 70 kms where as Airport is located at a distance of 70 Kms at Pantnagar. The National capital is also at a distance of 220 kms. No other place in Uttaranchal is as suitable for state capital as Kashipur.

36. Sri Shushil Kumar Mehrotra, Chairman, Kissan Congress Committee, Kashipur Assembly Segment, Kashipur (25-02-2004) Sri Mehrotra has proposed a central place between Kashipur and Ramnagar for permanent place for the capital of the state in view of the fact that about 5000 acre land
belonging to Military farm is already in possession of the government. The land is plain and free from natural calamities like flood, land erosion etc. Transportation and communication facilities are already exists. National capital is only at a distance of 200 kms and they place is located at the centre of Kumaon and Garhwal.

37. Sri Mukesh Kumar Mehrotra, Secretary, State Congress Committee, Rajpur Road, Dehradun (25-02-2004) Sri Mehrotra has suggested Kashipur-Ramnagar for locating permanent state capital. He has suggested that this place is at a centre of Kumaon and Garhwal region and is well connected with rail line and roads. Geographically Hempur is suitable place for state capital.

38. Sri Indrabhusan Mishra, Village Indrapur, Post Pratap Pur, Kichcha, US Nagar (25-02-2004) Sri Mishra has suggested the state capital at a central place of the state. He has suggested that the capital should be located keeping in view the availability of requisite facilities.

39. Sri D.S. Jalal, Prof. Geography (12-04-2004) Sri Jalal has suggested Ramnagar to be developed as state capital. According to him geographical location of the capital is important for all-round development.
40. Parvatiya Karmachari Shikshak Sangthan, Branch US Nagar (10-10-2004): The organization has proposed Ramnagar as permanent state capital. In view of transportation facilities such as road and rails already available here.

41. Subordinate Agricultural Service Association, US Nagar (10-10-2004) The Association has proposed Ramnagar as permanent state capital. In view of transportation facilities such as road and rails already available here.

42. Sri Chanchal Kumar Gupta, President Uttaranchal Nikay Karmchari Mahasangh, US Nagar (18-11-2004) The Association has proposed Kalagarh and Ramnagar for permanent capital of the State.

43. Ms. Nashreen Qureshi, President Tarai Mahila Sangthan, Khera, Rudrapur, US Nagar (18-11-2004). Ms. Qureshi has proposed Kalagarh and Ramnagar as state capital. She has expressed the view that if Gairsain is developed as state capital it is bound to create dissatisfaction amongst the people of plain area and also it will affect the people of Munsiyari and Dharchula etc.

44. Uttarakhand Krishi Karmchari Sangh, Kumaon Mandal (General Secretary) (10-11-2004) The organization has suggested Hempur-Ramnagar
as permanent capital of the state. According to the organization major public interest should be kept in view for selection of the state capital.

45. Dr. Shiv Prasad Naithani- Sri Naithani has suggested that a committee consisting of intellectuals should consider the issue of state capital.

46. Sri Suresh Chandra Tamta, Gangolohat, Pithoragarh – Sri Tamta has proposed Kashipur and Ramnagar for permanent capital of the state and has suggested that the capital should be located at the central place of the state. Dehradun is even far than Lucknow from the border areas of Kumaon region. According to him Kashipur Ramnagar, Kalagarh etc. are ideal places for state capital; in view of infrastructure facilities are already available near these places and also ample plain area available for development of the capital.

47. Sri Shekhar Bhadrash, Social Worker – Sri Bhadrash has proposed Ramnagar for capital of the state. According to him the area being nearer to the forest is ample in drinking water and transportation facilities are also available. The place is well connected by road, rail and air to the national capital.

48. Joint Representation on behalf of public of Almora – The representation suggests Ramnagar/ Kalagarh as permanent capital of the
state. It has suggested that the capital should be located at a centre place. Ramnagar and Kalagarh are located at the centre of Kumaon and Garhwal where government land/residential accommodation is already available and these places are easily accessible from all parts of the state. Basic amenities are also available.

49. Sri J.P. Dobariyal, Sector-7, House no 1172/C, RK Puram, New Delhi – Sri Dobariyal has proposed Ramnagar and Kalachungi as permanent state capital, in view of the fact that these places are located at the centre of the state. The place is quite suitable from geomorphological and environmental aspects.

50. Sri Sachendra Singh Negi, Ajabpurkalan, Dehradun – Sri Negi has proposed Ramnagar to be developed as a state capital. According to him Ramnagar is situated at an equal distance from Dharchula, Munsiyari, Jaunpur, Chakrata and Uttarkashi and it is well connected by road to Karnprayag, Dehradun, Kotdwar etc. From Geological point of view Ramnagar is better than Dehradun. Dehradun is already facing drinking water problems whereas Ramnagar has plenty of clean and potable water. At Ramnagar there is sufficient land for development of state city whereas
Dehradun is in scarcity of land. In view of the fact that Ramnagar is located at centre of the state it should be developed as permanent state capital.

51. Shri Vinod Tirpathi and colleagues 26/3 Ramje Road, Tallital, Nainital: (17.11.2003) Sri Shri Vinod Tirpathi and his colleagues sent a letter jointly signed by them, suggested Ram Nagar as state capital. In their opinion, people of Uttarakhand are innocent and they are fed up by the temporary capital situated at Dehradun. They said that people of Uttrakhand want their capital in the hilly area of Uttarakhand. They further added that Ramnagar /Kalagarh is a central place of the State from where most of the villages, cities, towns of the state including National Capital is easily approachable; that this place is connected with roads, railways and can easily be connected with airways. Sufficient land, water is available with healthy climate and pollution free atmosphere, as the area is on the foot hills near the forests.

52. Shri D.D. Dani, Evergreen Farm Chhoi, Ramnagar, District Nainital (04.11.2003): Shri Dani suggested Ramnagar as state capital. He has stated that after seeing the geographical condition of the state, its capital should be in a hilly area which could fulfill the standards laid down for formation of state capital. In his opinion Ramnagar fulfills all the standards which are
necessary for state capital. Nainital is closed to Ramnagar where Old
Governor House and Club etc. are already existing which can be used as
Governor House and VIP Guest House. Kalagarh which is about 30 Km.
from Ramnagar has so many buildings of Irrigation Department. These
buildings can be used for state capital after renovating them. He further
added that natural water resources are available here and if more water is
needed it can be available from Kosi river and Kalagarh Dam. Thousands
Acre of land is available near Hempur, Gausala which can be used for
Aerodrome. All the basic facilities like roads, railways etc. are already
available. Ramnagar is also safe from land slides, seismological point of
view. Kalagarh Dam which was built earlier is in the same seismic zone. He
also suggested Chaukhutia Masi (district Almora) as an alternative site for
state capital.

53. Prof. D. S. Jalal, Principal, Department Geography, (Retd.) &
President, Teachers Association, Kumaon University, Nainital (24.10.2003)
: He suggested Ramnagar as state capital. He further stated among the 13
districts of Uttarakhand, 7 districts are situated in the east of Ramnagar and
rest 6 districts are situated in the west of Ramnagar. Headquarters of 7
districts are less than 200 km. distant from Ramnagar. National capital Delhi
is 239 km. from Ramnagar and is connected with national highway.
54. Shri Nadim Uddin, Advocate, Chairman, Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad Apl Sankhyak Kalyan Samiti, Kohinur Press Building, Ali Khan, Post Kashipur. This Samiti has also suggested Ramnagar as state capital. Samiti stated that near about 2800 acre of land is needed for formation of state. In Ramnagar 800 acre of land which was acquired for Nepa Paper Mill is not in use. 800 acre of land have been released from Corbett National Park, 800 acre of land is given to the National Seeds Corporation. Thus 2500 acre of land can be acquired for state capital. Therefore, there is no problem of land. The Samiti further added that Ramnagar is also suitable from the geographical, physical structure, economical, social and environmental point of view.
Dehradun Areas

1. Shri B.D. Raturi, Village- Pausara, P.O.- Hidolakhal, Tehri Garhwal (16.03.2003) : Shri Raturi has suggested Dehradun as a State Capital. He stated that Dehradun is already a developed city having all facilities of transports, railways and aerodrome. All the medical facilities including office building for Vidhan Sabha, Secretariat and residential accommodation for officers, MLAs and other employees of the government are easily available here. It is also safe from the security point of view. A letter for sending detailed suggestions was sent to him on 24 Sept. 2003 but no reply has been received.

2. Shri P.D. Khantwal, Village, Bandkhani, Lannedowne, Pauri Garhwal (30.04.2003) : Shri Khantwal suggested Dehradun as state capital. He suggested that from economic point of view, Dehradun would be a suitable place for state capital. A letter dated 17.09.2003 was sent to him for giving detail reasons, but no reply has been received.

3. Dr. Sukh Lal Singh Saroha, Senior Scientist, Indian Institute of Petroleum, Dehradun (09.05.2003) : Dr. Saroha suggested that state capital
should be in the area of Dehradun, Haridwar, Rishikesh and Doiwala. He also suggested that if the state capital is formed at Dehradun, all round development of the state would be possible. He stated that all the facilities of transportation, railway, and aerodrome are already available at Dehradun; that by widening the roads to Dehradun, Roorkee, Haridwar, Rishikesh, Tehri, Chamba, Massurrie the area can be developed as a Western Corridor. In this connection a letter dated 19.9.2003 was sent to him for sending detailed reasons, but no reply has been received from him till to date.

4. Dr. B.D. Khulbe, Retd. Gazetted officer, Gaytri Nagar, R.T.O. Road, Kusumkhera, Haldwani, Nainital (16.5.2003): His first choice is Dehradun as state capital and if High Court is shifted from Nainital then he suggested Nainital as an alternative.

5. Shri Girdhari Lal Naithani, New Colony, Dang, Shrinagar, Garhwal (dated 16.5.2003): Shri Naithani has sent write-ups of various newssews papers showing that much expenditure has already been incurred on various works of temporarily capital at Dehradun. He suggested that Chief Minister should call a special session of Vidhan Sabha including meeting of intellectuals to discuss the suitable place for permanent state capital. He also said that shifting of capital from Dehradun to other place would be like as
Tuglaki decision. The Commission sent a letter dated 24.0.2003 to Shri Naithani for sending detailed reasons, but no reply has been received from him.

6. Shri Ghansyam Dutt Bahuguna, Rtdt. A.O, Revenue Deptt. Badshahithaul, Devidhar, Tehri: Sri Bahuguna has suggested Dehradun as a state capital and IDPL Rishikesh and Shrinagar Garhwal as a alternative sites. He stated that Dehradun has connectivity from all the important cities, villages of the State. More expenditure has already incurred on the temporary capital at Dehradun therefore, now from economic point of view Dehradun would be a suitable place for state capital.

7. Shri Narayan Datt Joshi, Kali Mandir Marg, Uttarakashi (23.05.2003): Shri Joshi has suggested Dehradun as state capital. He stated that many people are of the opinion that Gairsain is a centre place of the state, so Gairsain should be the state capital. But he opined that it is not true as most of the states are not having their state capital in the centre of state. For establishing state capital the geographical conditions, sufficiency of land and water, economic condition of the state should also be taken into consideration. The Commission sent a letter dated 20.09.2003 for sending detailed suggestions, but no reply has been received.
8. Shir Shoorbir Singh Panwar, General Secretary, Vilihan-Lawani, Vikas Samiti, Ramleela Committee, 170, Shiva Khand, Vishwakarma Nagar, Delhi (23.05.2003): Shri Panwar has suggested Dehradun as state capital. Further he added that it will minimise financial burden of the state and will be suitable for all round development of the state. In this connection the Commission sought more detail reasons by letter dated 22.09.2003 from Shri Panwar but no reply has been received.

9. Shri Imran Khan, Coordinator & President, Gram Vikas Sangharsa Parishad, Kedarwala, Dehradun (29.05.2003): Shri Khan's letter was received by Commission through District Magistrate, Dehradun in which he stated that there are sufficient facilities at Dehradun required for the state capital. He further added that if the state capital is not formed in Dehradun, Sangharsa Samiti would be compelled for agitation. Further a letter dated 24.09.2003 was sent to him by the Commission, but no reply has been received.

10. Smt. Gayatri Devi Bijalwan, Dhalwala, Rishikesh, Tehri Garhwal (01.06.2003): She also suggested Dehradun as a state capital and added that all the relevant facilities such as railway, transportation are available at Dehradun. She further suggested IDPL as an alternative site. The
Commission sought more information from her vide letter dated 20.09.2003. She sent a reply to the Commission vide her letter dated 16.10.2003 and suggested that Jogiwala, Balawala, Harrawala in Dehradun area is also suitable for state capital. She also suggested that a air survey and field survey must be done before deciding site for state capital.

11. Dr. M.B.S. Kandari, Physics Department, Govt. P.G. College, Agustyamuni, Rudraprayag (01.06.2003) : Dr. Kandari also suggested Dehradun. He suggested that decision of site for state capital should not be taken on the basis of creed, casts and area but site selection should be on the scientific, geographical, political, economical, social basis. Therefore, Dehradun is appropriate site for state capital. Dr. Khanduri further represented that on establishment of temporary capital at Dehradun much expenditure has already been incurred. The Commission sent a letter dated 22.09.2003 to Shri Kandari for further reasons but no reply has been received.

12. Shri Shishupal Singh Negi, Secretary, Utkrak Gramine Vikas Sanstha, Aswal Bhawan, Jaunpur, Kotdwar, Distt. Pauri (02.06.2003) : Shri Negi stated that contribution of residents of Dehradun for forming Uttarakhand state can not be forgotten. He suggested Dehradun as state capital. He
further added that much expenditure has already been incurred while establishing the temporary capital at Dehradun. Sufficient facilities of transport, railway, aerodrome etc. are available there. Dehradun is already a developed city having its own place in the national map. The Commission sent a letter dated 20.09.2003 to Shri Negi for sending more reasons. Shri Negi by his letter dated 08.10.2003 again suggested Dehradun as state capital. He added that for selecting the site of the state capital its geographical conditions, population, equidistance from all parts of the state, transportation, railway, aerodrome, physical, economical, social and environmental conditions should also be taken into consideration.

13. Dr. S. C. Hunda, Quality Improvement Programme Centre, Roorkee University, Roorkee (04.06.2003) : Dr. Hunda opined that there are sufficient land, water and all the facilities of rail head, aerodrome, residential quarters are available at Dehradun. Therefore he suggested Dehradun as state capital. The Commission again sought more reasons from Dr. Hunda vide letter dated 24.09.2003 but no reply was received from him.

14. Shri Ravindra Agrawal, 68/2 F, Race Course, Dehradun (09.06.2003) : Shri Agrawal stated that Dehradun is equidistance from all parts of the State and all requisite transportation facilities are available there. It is also
suitable from geographical, social, economical and political point of view. Therefore, he suggested Dehradun as a suitable place for state capital. The Commission vide letter dated 22.09.2003 sought more information from Shri Agrawal. In this connection he sent the reply vide his letter dated 17.01.2004, giving more reasons for supporting his point for state capital at Dehradun. He again suggested that Dehradun is easily reachable from National Capital Delhi. He said that there are already sufficient buildings and there is less land slide problem at Dehradun in comparison to the other places of the state and all relevant facilities required for the state capital are available there.

15. Shri Mukesh Bahuguna, Assistant Teacher, Primary School, Khalsi, Chiniyalisaur, Uttarakashi (15.06.2003) : Shri Bahuguna suggested Dehradun as state capital which is at equidistant from all parts of the state and facilities of transportation are there. He further stated that if the state capital is formed at Dehradun, about 75% less expenditure will be involved for construction works in comparison of other places of the state. He stated that sufficient water, land and residential buildings are available at Dehradun.
16. Dr. Rajesh Bakshi & Family, Rest Camp, Dehradun (16.06.2003) : Dr. Rajesh Bakshi & his family suggested Dehradun as state capital. He stated that there are all relevant facilities like buses, railway and airways connecting with the other cities of the country. He further said that sufficient land is available, educational centre; hospital facilities are also available at Dehradun.

17. Shri C. B. Bhatt, President, Residents Welfare Association, B 93/301, Shalimar Garden Extn.-2, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad (16.06.2003) : Shri Bhatt sent a representation jointly signed by 30 members of his association suggesting Dehradun as state capital. In the representation it is stated that all the relevant facilities required for the state capital are available at Dehradun. Further, it is also suitable from Geographical point of view and less expenditure will be involved in formation of state capital at Dehradun.

18. Shri S.B. Sharma, 158/1 IIT, Campus, Roorkee.(17.6.2003), Chaudhari Sheeshpal Singh,President, BSP., District Dehradun (17.06.2003) : Shri Shrama and Shri Chaudhari also suggested Dehradun as state capital giving the same suggestions as given by Shri C.B.Bhat (See Sl. No.17).
19. Capt. J.B. Karki (Retd.) Rastriya President, Gorkha Morcha Party, Dehradun: Capt Karki suggested Dehradun as state capital. He stated that sufficient water, land is available here and less expenditure will be involved as there are all relevant facilities required for the state capital. It is also nearer to our National Capital. He further suggested that it would be lawful and in the interest of public, if selection of the state capital will be taken through the public opinion.

20. Shri Virendra Dutt Khabduri, B.134 Sec.5 A Boradi, New Tehri and Shri Govind Singh Pundir, B-115 Sec.5 A Boradi, Tehri.: Both Shri Khabduri and Pundir sent a joint letter signed by both of them. They suggested Dehradun as state capital. They stated that Dehradun is a well known city of the country and there are relevant facilities required for the state capital. It is at equidistant with most of the cities of Uttarakhand. They further stated that some people are of the opinion that Gairsain is a central place of the state and therefore be considered for the State Capital. Both of them opined that even national capital Delhi and other state capitals are not at central place of respective states. Most of the parts of this state are in hilly areas. Dehradun is easily reachable from Delhi having all the facilities of railways, road transport and aerodrome. They also added that in last election, main manifesto of Uttarakhand Kranti Dal's was Gairsain as state capital
but, they got only 4 seats out of 70 seats and only 5.5 percent votes from public.

21. Shri Sahdev Singh Pundir, Sudhowala, Dehradun (28.06.2003) : He suggested that state capital be at Dehradun. He further stated that there are all relevant facilities available which are required for state capital.

22. Shri Fakhare Alam Khan, State General Secretary, Gramin Vikas avam Shikshya, Uttarakhand Congress Committee, R.P. Mission Compound, Civil Lines, Roorkee (19.12.2004) : Shri Khan suggested Dehradun as state capital. He added that Vidhan Sabha Secretariat, M.L.A. residences and Officers quarters have already been constructed at Dehradun. It is nearer to National Capital Delhi having all the transport, railways and airways facilities.

23. Shri K. Arya, I.A.S. (Retd. Chairman, Uttarakhal Public Service Commission, Haridwar) (20.06.2003) : Shri Arya stated that decision of state capital site is an important subject. Before deciding the state capital site we will have to consider rail head, aerodrome facilities. These facilities should be available nearer to the site so that time and money can be saved. Land for state capital should be plain so that minimum expenditure be incurred for construction works. In addition to Vidhan Sabha and Secretariat all other
important Directorates of the state and central government offices should be nearer to the state capital. In addition to that provisions of big stadium, transport nagar, national highway, bye-lanes, parks, greenery are necessary for the state capital. Thus 50,000 acres of land will have to be made available for the state capital, so that it may be used in the coming 50-100 years for further extension. In his opinion all the above requirements can be possible in the nearby area of Jollygrant and secondly at Kalagarh. In his letter he further stated that we should take an example of our national capital Delhi which has been so much extended in last 50 years which was not expected by the British Government. Therefore, before deciding the state capital site, a Rajdhani Vikas Pradhikaran having highly qualified personnel's should be set up to form a master plan for a state capital.

24. Shri Sunder Lal Mandrawal, Chairman, Anusuchit Jati, Jan Jati Vimukt Samiti, Vidhan Sabha Bhawan, Dehradun (24.01.2004): In his letter Shri Mandrawal referred discussions between him and Commission's Chairman made on 24.01.2004 in presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Uttarakhand and added that in verbal discussions he was told that letter have been issued to all the M.L.As of Uttarakhand for giving their suggestions. He suggested Dehradun as state capital and stated that seeing the economical and geographical conditions and facilities of railways, roads, aerodrome at
Jolligrant, Dehradun is the suitable place for state capital. He suggested that present Vidhan Sabha Bhawan situated near Rispna River is not quite safe. He further stated that there is 100 acres of land of Tea State on Haridwar-Dehradun road; in addition to that there is sufficient land on the nearby area of Raipur-Nehrugram which can be surveyed. He also said that he has discussed this matter with so many intellectuals, citizens and most of them were of the opinion that state capital should be at Dehradun.

25. (i) Shri Gyan Prakash Gupta, 9 Chandra Road, Dehradun (25.06.2003)
   (ii) Shri Virendra Singh, Advocate, New Basti, Dehradun (25.06.2003)
   (iii) Shri Suraj Bhatia, Prem Nagar, Dehradun (25.06.2003)
   (iv) Shri Suresh Kumar, Mehuwala Mafi, Dehradun (25.06.2003)
   (v) Shri Vinod Singh Chauhan, Mehuwala Mafi, Dehradun (25.06.2003)
   (vi) Shri Ombir Singh Raghar, 187 Chandvani, Dehradun (25.06.2003)
   (vii) Sri Ravi Verma, 81 Ghosi Gali, Dehradun (25.06.2003)
   (viii) Shri Rakesh Kumar, Chandvani, Dehradun (25.06.2003)
   (ix) Ashor Kumar, Chandvani, Dehradun (25.06.2003)
   (x) Sri Anita Kumar, Subhas Nagar, Dehradun (25.06.2003)
   (xi) Yashmod Singh, Subhas Nagar, Dehradun (25.06.2003)
   (xii) Smt Sarojani Sharma & Jagat Sharma, Dehradun (jointly signed) (25.06.2003)
   (xiii) Shri Ravi Singh & Shri Kishar Singh, Circular Road, Dehradun (jointly signed) (25.06.2003)
(xiv) Shri Ompal Singh & Shri Surendra Kumar, Mehuwala Mafi, Dehradun (jointly signed) (25.06.2003)

(xv) Shri O.P. Sharma, 15, Circular Road, Dehradun (25.06.2003)

(xvi) Shri Suraj Prakash Sanghi & Kapil Sanghi, 2 Preetam Road, Dehradun (jointly signed) (25.06.2003)

(xvii) Shri Bahar Ahmad, 5 Ghosigali, Dehradun - Shri Varun Verma, 94 Ghosigali, Dehradun - Sri Ajit Singh, 67/7 Tyagi Road, Dehradun - Sri Vijendra Singh Rana, 24 A Bakralwala, Dehradun - Shri Tej Singh Rana, 24 A Bakralwal - Shri Anoop Verma, 93 Ghosigali, Dehradun & Shri Sekhar Verma, 4 Gandhi Road, Dehradun (jointly signed) (25.06.2003)

(xviii) Shri Neeraj Thakur, Dehradun (25.06.2003):

All the above persons have signed the Photo state copies of the letter as sent by S/Shri Virendra Khanduri and Govind Singh Pundir (Sl.21) and sent it to the Commission. Therefore, their comments are the same.
1. Dr. Yashwant Singh Kathoch, Pravakta, founder member, Uttarakhand Shodh Sansthan, Dharmshala, Srinagar Road, Pauri Garhwal (20-5-2003): Dr. Kathoch has suggested that Gairsain is not suitable place for state capital, as there is no proper site, he added that if the state capital is formed in Gairsain, there will be a problem for rehabilitating the local villagers, as well as involvement of much expenditure. He opined that IDPL, Virbhadra, Rishikesh would be the most suitable place for the state capital. In addition to that he also suggested Ghara area, near Kotdwar Garhwal, which is also the birth place of Veer Chandar Singh Garhwali for state capital.

2. Shri Ram Anjor Tirpathi founder of Vasudhev Kuttabkam, a Institution of Naitik Manav Samaj Nirman Sansthan.(30-5-2003) : Sri Tirpath is of the opinion that the State Capital should be a place where transportation, road facilities may be available for twenty four hours; that where less expenditure is involved. Therefore, he suggested IDPL is a suitable place for state capital.
3. Shri Kovid Ahuja, 63 Gandhi Road, Dehradun. (16.6.2003): Suggested IDPL, Virbhadra is 15 Kms. from Rishikesh, 25 Km. from Haridwar and 25 Km. from airport; that there is an existing facility to accommodate over 500 families, to avoid wasteful expenditure IDPL Virbhadra would be the most suitable place for the State Capital.

4. Shri Rajendra Singh Bhandari, Member Zila Prachayat, Narendra Nagar, Tehri Garhwal. (17.6.2003): Shri Bhandari opined that sufficient accommodation for Vidhan Sabha Bhawan, Secretariat, Chief Minister's Office, MLA's, Secretaries and other staff of the State Capital is available at IDPL Virbhadra; that sufficient waters is available, as river Ganga is very close to this place. He suggested that more land, if required, is also available in the nearby villages i.e. Chhidarwala, Syampur and Gumaniwala. This place is also pollution free, a Tourist Rest House of Garhwal Mandal Vikas Nigam is also available here for VIP's.

5. President, Gurudwara, Sri Guru Singh Sabha, Doiwala Dehradun (26-6-2003) He suggested IDPL Rishikesh a suitable place for state capital. He stated that the IDPL colony is constructed in a planned way where sufficient roads, education centre, health centre, post office, banks etc. are already existing, accommodation for class I to class IV employees is also available.
He further suggested that only Secretariat buildings, Vidhan Sabha, Chief Minister's residence and Ministers residences will need to be constructed; that less expenditure will involved if the IDPL is selected for state capital.

6. Sri Vijay Dhasmana, Member, Presidential Committee, Himalayan Institute Hospital Trust, Doiwala, Dehradun suggested IDPL a suitable place for state capital and gave the same comments as given by the President Gurudwara Sri Guru Singh Sabha, Doiwala.

7. Sri Dinesh Chandra Mishra, Vivekanand Parvatiya Krishi Anusandhan Sansthan, Kosi, District Almora (26-06-2003) has also suggested IDPL, Veerbhadr as a state capital.

8. Maharaja Manvendra Shah, Member of Parliament, Tehri Garhwal (25-8-2003): Shri Shah sutttested that IDPL, Virbhadr, Rishkes has been closed; that sufficient land, Railway station, Airport and other facilities are available, so IDPL Virbhadr is a suitable place for the State Capital.

9. Sri Suryakant Dhasmana, State President, Nationalist Congress Party, Uttarakhand, Dehradun (29-03-2005). Sri Dhasmana wrote that his party is of the opinion that state capital of the Uttarakhand should be IDPL Rishikesh as sufficient land, ready infrastructure is available.
10. In addition to above representations of Smt. Usha Negi, Adhyaksh Akhil Bhartiya Mahila Panchayat, Dehradun, Sri Deep Sharma, Chairman, Nagar Palika Parishad, Rishikesh Dehradun, Sri Rakesh Agarwal, State General Secretary, Bhartiya Rashtriya Chhatra Sangthan, Sri Ravindra Singh Rana, State General Secretary, Panchayat Prakosth, Dehradun, have also suggested Veerbhadra, Rishikesh a suitable place for formation of state capital.
Schedule 8

Miscellaneous Areas

The Commission has also received representations from some people of the state expressing their opinion to locate capital city of the state at some other place other than the short listed locations. The substance of these opinions is as under:

1. Sri Manoj Kumar Agrawal, Ranikhet (18-05-2003): Sri Agrawal has proposed Ranikhet to be developed as state capital for the reasons that it is centrally located; that the area surrounding Ranikhet upto 8-10 kms consist of Government land; that the area up to Gagasu and Khirkhet can also be acquired for the purpose of state capital; that communication arrangement are adequately available. He has further stated that geological features are quite favourable for state capital. The area is not landslide-flood prone. Adequate water is available from river Gagas, river Kosi, Bhalu Dam, Devidhura and etc.

2. Sri Nathu Lal Tamta, Chairman, Uttarakhand Shilikar Chetana Manch (26-03-2004); Sri Tamta has suggested Srinagar (Garhwal) to be selected for establishing state capital. According to him Srinagar had been capital of
Garhwal Kings in ancient period. It is located on the bank of river Alaknanda due to which there will be no shortage of water. The Srinagar city is located in a open place and adequate land would be available for establishing state capital, due to its location on the bank of River Alaknanda. Construction material like water, sand, bajri and boulders would be sufficiently available, which will require least expenditure, Srinagar is an educational centre and educational facilities including Technical Education and University level education is already available. This place is already having medical facilities and establishing of Medical Collage would add boost to this facility. The place is centrally located and adequate transportation facilities are available from this place.

3. Sri Krishna Nanad Maithani, Chairman, Nagar Palika Parishad, Srinagar, Garhwal (26-03-2004). Sri Maithani has favoured Srinagar to be developed as capital city of Uttarakhand. He has argued that Srinagar is centrally located and one can reach Almora within 7 hours. Only Pithoragarh is at a distance place from Srinagar but it is at less distance in comparison to Dehradun. He has added that Srinagar has been capital of Parmar Kings for 25 generations and it is rich in culture and from tourism point of view. It is also centre of education. Adequate land is available on both banks of river Alaknanda, which is suitable from geological point of view.
4. Sri Arun Kumar Bhadauria, Advocate, Haridwar (13-05-2003): Sri Bhadauria has opined for Haridwar to be developed as state capital for the reasons that it is a religious centre where cheapest accommodation facilities are available; that about 400 acre land is already available near district headquarter at Roshanabad; that infrastructure facilities like water, road, electricity etc. are already available, accommodation is already available for Hon’ble Ministers, Secretaries and other staff and this place is well connected to every part of the country by road and rail.

5. Dr. Madan Chandra Bhatt, Ramashram, Pithoragarh (11-05-2003): He has considered Jim Corbett Park as most suitable place for state capital, for the reasons that it is centrally located, entire land of the park pertains to the government, sufficient water is already available, raw material like boulders, bajari, sand and wood could be locally available. This will also facilitate solving administrative problems of Tarai area.

6. Sri Anand Agrawal, Ranikhet (12-05-2003): Sri Agrawal has proposed Ranikhet to be developed as capital city, for the reasons that it is a beautiful tourism place located in central Himalaya. Railway stations at Kathgodam and Ramnagar are at a distance of 90 & 100 kms respectively. Suitable roads are already available. Adequate land near Ranikhet upto
Khirkhet Chaukuni is already available. Much expenditure is not likely to be incurred in construction of buildings. The area is quite suitable from geological point of view and sufficient water is available in the areas like Gagas, Chaubatia, Bhalu dam and Devidhunga.

7. Principal, Cantt Junior Basic School, Kalagarhi, Lansdown (04-06-2003): He has suggested Lansdowne to be considered for state capital, in view of the fact that it is surrounded by beautiful forest. It is at equal distance from various places. Many barracks pertaining to military are available. Raw material for construction could be easily available.

8. Sri Kunwar Singh Rana, Member, Ksetra Panchayat, Talanga (Okhimath) (28.05.2003) : Sri Rana has proposed Srinagar (Garhwal) to be developed as capital city of the state keeping in view the fact that it is centrally located.

9. Dr. Rajendra Prasad Kala, Tehsil Mohall, Pauri Garhwal (26.6.2003) : He has suggested that the state capital should be located at Srinagar (Garhwal) for which none would object. This place is already connected by national and state highways and transportation facilities are adequately available for all parts of the country. The area is almost plain where raw material for construction work is available in plenty, which will minimize
the construction cost. This place is most suitable from the geological and environmental point of view. Educational and medical facilities are adequately available at this place. He has pointed out that no other place in the hill areas is as convenient as Srinagar.

10. Dr. Laxmi Prasad Khanduri, Himalaya Homeo Clinic, Joshimath (Chamoli) (23.06.2003) : Dr. Khanduri has proposed Simli, near Karnprayag, district Chamoli to be developed as capital city of the State. He has stated that this place is centrally located on Karnprayag-Haldwani highway at the confluence of Pindar and Aragad rivers and also in the neighbourhood of villages. Adequate land is available on both the banks of River Pindar. Transportation facilities are also adequately available. Raw material required for the construction work is also available in plenty. The place is rich in availability of water resources and land. Also from environmental and geological point of view, it is a sound place.

11. Sri Manohar Kant Dhyani, State President, BJP (30.06.2003) : Sri Dhyani has stated that the state capital should be established at such a place, which is located at junction of both Garhwal and Kumaun areas of the State.
12. Block Development Officer, Bageshwar (1.06.2003): He has suggested Pantnagar, Srinagar and Kalagarh as state capital in line of preference.

13. Sri Vasant Tiwari, Village-Post Office- Nakot, district Pithoragarh (23.05.2003): Sri Tiwari has suggested that the location of state capital be selected at any place between Kotdwar and Kashipur keeping in view overall interest of the general public.

14. Sri Vishwa Prakash Vaidya, coordinator, Anterrashtreeya Vipakshi Sangthan, Dehradun (13.06.2003): He has not suggested any particular place for state capital but has put forth some suggestions. According to him the state capital should be located at such a place, where the construction cost may be comparatively minimum and should be safe from security point of view.

15. Sri Shashank Mishra ‘Bharti’, GIC Tubola-Rameshwar (Pithoragarh) (12-05-2003): Sri Mishra has not suggested any particular place to be developed as state capital. He has, however, indicated that the state capital should be at a place having equal distance from all places, where transportation facilities are sufficiently available, suitable land is available,
availability of water may not be at depth and the place should be free from any dispute.

16. Sri Ajendra Ajay, General Secretary, BJP Media Cell, Dehradun (30-06-2003): He has suggested that in selection of state capital the concept behind demand of separate state should be kept in mind and preference should be given to the opinion expressed by public. He has also added that financial consideration should also be kept in mind while deciding a suitable place for state capital. In case, a place other than Dehradun is selected for state capital, the development of new capital should be done in phased manner and the capital from Dehradun would be shifted at the place in a period of 10 years or so.

17. Sri Bharat Singh Rawat, Ex. V.C. State Planning Commission (28-05-2003): Sri Rawat has suggested that the state capital should be located at Satpuli, for the reasons that it is located on the confluence of River Purvi Nayar and Pashchimi Nayar which will make available adequate water. Sufficient land is available on banks of both the rivers. It is centrally located for Garhwal and Kumaon regions and it has enormous potential for development of tourism.
18. Sri Raghunath Singh Rawat, Alaknanda Vihar Colony, Srikot, Srinagar (Garhwal) (09-06-2003): Sri Rawat has expressed the view that the state capital should be located at a central place in hill regions and from this point of view Gauchar is most suitable place. According to him, adequate land is available, environment and atmosphere is quite clear, clean water is adequately available, international air service is available, sufficient possibilities for development exists.


(i) Dr. Purohit has suggested that Almora and Srinagar should be developed as state capital for 6 months each, keeping in view the historical background and geography of the area.

(ii) Dr. Bhandari, not suggesting any particular place for state capital, has opined that most important question before the youth of the state is that of employment and not the state capital.
(iii) Dr. Semwal has suggested that capital of a hill state should be located in hills.

(iv) Prof. Kunwar has favoured Gairsain to be developed as state capital.

(v) Dr. Maikhuri has favoured Dudhatoli – Gairsain to be developed as state capital.
In order to access various aspects Gairsain of short listed sites for permanent state capital, the Commission visited the sites from time to time. The details are described hereinafter:-

**Dehradun Area**

On 4-11-2004 the Commission inspected land on the bank of river Song towards Sahastradhara along with Sri B.B. Ratan, Chief Town and Country Planner, which was proposed by District Administration for locating capital city. On way to the site the land known as Golden Forest was also inspected. It was indicated that the land at the proposed site is available for locating state capital. The area is slightly hilly. Though there are not much trees but the land appeared inadequate for developing capital city. It was also informed that the land in question was under some litigation and in case the land is selected for state capital then the government will have to go through a long judicial process.

Subsequently the land which was proposed by state administration for locating capital city was inspected. The officer-in-charge accompanying informed that the road directly goes to Jollygrant aerodrome, on which vehicle for visit was moving. The land is located at a distance of about 3 to 4
kms from Raipur Primary Health Centre. In addition about 2000 hectares of land of village Soda Sarauli, Bhopalpani and Basarigrant can also be available, which is located in the North-East direction of the river Song. The inspection revealed that the site is located in plain area in foothills and the land is not productive from agricultural point of view. It was also suggested that the areas across Song River can be inter-connected by constructing three bridges. The railway station, airport and bus station are located at a distance of 18 to 25 kms. from this location. Prima-facie the land appeared suitable for development of capital city.

The area between River Song and Haridwar road consists of Miyanwala, Nathuwala, Harrawala and Nakraunda where about 2500 hect. land was reported to be available. This land is nearer to National Highway 72 and the distance of Railway station, airport and bus stand is approximately 10 kms from this site. At Harrawala the Railways has acquired 25 Acre of land for development of Harrawala Railway Station. No details of Revenue land in the area could be made available during the inspection.
Gairsain Area

The Commission inspected Gairsain area between 15-18 October, 2003. Detailed discussions were held with Sri Madan Singh, District Magistrate, Chamoli, Sri Anand Swaroop, SDM Gairsain and Shri C.K. Kavidayal, D.F.O. when requisite information with regard to availability of sites was given on the basis of maps. In addition a couple of public groups also appeared before the commission and suggested the area near Gairsain to be selected for the State Capital. The Commission inspected Videshi Pashu Prajanan Kendra Bhararisain along with SDM and Tehsildar, Gairsain, Assistant Geologist of Geology and Mining Unit, Dehradun and Patwaries of respected areas. About 300 hectare of land was inspected, which includes 200 hectare land pertaining to Vedishi Pashu Prajanan Kendra, 90 hectare of land of Sarkot and 10 hectare land of Van Panchayat.

On 17.10.2003 the area near Panduwakhal and Nagchulakhal was inspected on request of local residents and after inspection SDM Gairsain was directed to make available information regarding availability of land. The Superintending Engineer, Uttarchal Peyjal Nigam was directed to furnish detailed report on availability of potable water in these areas.

In the afternoon a Deputation of Uttarakhand Mahila Manch, Gairsain appeared before the commission. Subsequently Shri Purshottam Asnora State Vice President, PUCL, put forth his suggestions and a few write ups
published in news papers from time to time in connection with establishment of State Capital at Gairsain.

The first visit of the Commission to Gairsain has been between 15-17 December, 2003 to see the site at which capital was being suggested. This visit was after informing Sub-Divisional Officer, Gairsain that it be known to the interested person that Commission will visit the place. The inspections were made together with the Divisional Forest Officer, Tehsildar, Gairsain, Officers of Mines and Mineral Unit, Dehradun and in the presence of residents of villages and others who were interested. The site at Bhararisain was visited. Here the site was around Videshi Pashu Prajanan Kendra, Dudhatoli. The Assistant Geologist Sri Dinesh Kumar, who was present on behalf of Mines and Mineral Unit of Uttarakhand Government, Dehradun was asked to submit report in respect of geology of the area. The people of Gairsain and Mahila Manch present at site were also heard at this spot. Afterwards, when residents of Gairsain collectively met, they suggested that there is sufficient land for capital at Nagchulkhal. This suggestion necessitated visit of Commission to Nagchulakhal. Subsequently, a detailed report was prepared in respect of this visit.

As the Commission asked for a survey report in respect of said two places from Dinesh Kumar, Assistant Geologist, a survey was conducted by Dinesh Kumar, Assistant Geologist and Rajendra Shukla, Technical Assistant (Geology) under the supervision of Officer-in-charge Sri Premjit Singh. Sri Dinesh Kumar, Assistant Geologist submitted a Preliminary Inspection Report of the area around Gairsain on the basis of topo sheet numbers 53N/4 and 53N/8 of Survey of India. The area lies between Latitudes 30°00’N and
30°05'N and Longitudes 79°15'E and 79°20'E. The survey was keeping in view the particular site at Bhararisain area which was visited by Commission. The conclusion of the report is to the affect that “the proposal of establishing a large number of structures in this part of the area for the creation of Capital of Uttarakhand will obviously require huge amount of civil works for which the rocks of this area are not competent enough. Construction of roads, buildings, laying of telephone cable, sewer lines etc. would incur irreparable injuries to these incompetent rocks and will therefore, not be stable in the long run.” The further conclusion in report is that “the lithological drawbacks, the structure of the area is also not favourable.” Finally it is submitted that “the area is apparently not suitable for a heavy establishment like that of putting the requirements of the Capital of the State.” So far as civil works at this place are concerned, the recommendation was that what fraction of civil works will actually be sustainable in the area require a detailed survey.

The team also visited Nagchula Khal and submitted its survey report in respect of Latitude 79°14'E to 70°16'E and Longitude 29°27'N to 29°58'N on the basis of topo sheet No. 53 O/1 of Survey of India. The place is reported to be at a height of 6393 feet. In respect of this area, the report concludes, “although the area in question seems stable and suitable, a detailed geological investigation will be required to assess the stability, hence, suitability, of the proposed land.”

Keeping in view of the maximum public opinion in favour of Gairsain area, the Commission wanted a detailed survey by Geological Survey of India
(GSI) before taking decision about short-listing this area. With the cooperation of Director, GSI a preliminary survey was done. GSI made available the Preliminary Geotechnical Report on the preliminary geotechnical investigation of Bhararisain area, Tehsil-Gairsan, District-Chamoli. The report covers study of Diwalikhal-Bhararisain-Chororakhal section. It came to conclusion on the basis of reasons assigned that "prima-facie the major part of the proposal area (Diwalikhal-Bhararisain-Chororakhal section) has been found to be geotechnically feasible for any planned development/construction activity, barring some portions, which have been identified as unstable." While making the recommendations it was reported that the surface water resources (rivulets, springs etc.) in the area are meager; therefore, the availability of water has to be dependent on the underground resources. It recommended that the services of expert agency like Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) may be sought to identify different aquifers by detailed exploration in the area. It also observed that rain water harvesting would be very effective in this area, as the region receives heavy rainfall during monsoon and also snowfall in winter season. The conclusion and recommendations made by GSI are being annexed as Appendix-A.

The report of GSI necessitated the Commission for a ground water feasibility survey through Central Ground Water Resources, Government of India, Uttarakhand Unit under Central Ground Water Board (CGWB). The CGWB reported that no study about ground water has been done by it in respect of Gairsain-Tarakhot-Seela patti and Gairsain-Mehalchauri-Chaukhutia area. The CGWB also reported that on the basis of preliminary
survey, boring of tube well is not possible and hence it may not be possible to provide sufficient required water. The Commission wanted to have a detailed study vide letter of 02 March, 2005 and asked Regional Director (Incharge), Uttarakhand Unit namely Dr. Anita Gupta for it. The Regional Director replied that the department does not have rig machines, which are necessary to examine availability of ground water. For said reason, the Regional Director (Incharge) informed the Commission that availability of ground water can not be correctly assessed. This fact was brought to the notice of Dr. P.C. Nawani, Director, GSI who expressed the opinion that it can be done by drilling at Gairsain and therefore, there should not be any difficulty. However, as the CGWB was to deal with it, the Regional Director (Incharge) expressed inability. However, a report made available to Commission of the Central Ground Water Board of the Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India, Uttarakhand Region in respect of Gairsain–Mehalchauri – Chaukhutia area, it has been made clear in it that it is not feasible to construct ground water abstraction structures like tube wells, which may ascertain long and heavy pumping required by 1,50,000 persons at a rate of 135 lpcd initially and would increase with time.

In order to know other sources from which water could be made available, the Executive Engineer, Pay Jal Nigam, Gopeswar was asked to report. Accordingly, a report was also presented by Sri Rajeshwar Prasad, Executive Engineer, Uttarakhand Pey Jal Nigam, Gopeswar on 18.5.2004 indicating therein the position of potable water and the material. It is not necessary at this stage to go into details about cost etc. and the requirements of project, feasibility of water and material was placed before the
Commission as all the material was made available to SPA, which has done final feasibility and has dealt with the matter on the basis of material made available to it by the Commission besides its own sources.

The Commission was of the opinion that GSI being a Central Government Department, should be asked to examine the feasibility of sites for Capital of the State. The GSI vide letter dated 02 October, 2004 informed that it is competent to examine the feasibility of short-listed places, but it asked that in respect of geotechnical study of said places, the Commission must obtain from Survey of India topo sheet of 1:5000 scale with contour interval of 2.0 meters. The Survey of India was approached by the Commission to provide necessary topo sheets of 1:5000 scale with contour interval of 2.0 meters vide letter dated 17 April, 2004 and again on 13 October, 2004. The Survey of India expressed its inability to provide topo sheets with 2.00 meter interval and agreed to do it at 5.0 meter contour interval vide letter dated 01 November, 2004. The fact was brought to the notice of the Director, GSI who agreed to carry out the work of examining the feasibility on the scale of 1:500 with 5.0 meter contour interval. The Survey of India was informed accordingly. The Survey of India submitted estimate for Gairsain only and reported vide letter dated 24 January, 2005 that they will start work by April, 2005 and complete it by February, 2006. (11 months). When the director, GSI was informed about it that 11 months will be taken by Survey of India, the Director informed that they will take at least 18–24 months in respect of only Gairsain to complete the Geo-technical work. However, on 07 March, 2005, Director, GSI expressed his inability to undertake geological investigation and submit preliminary feasibility report
in respect of Ramnagar, Kalagarh, Dehradun and IDPL (Rishikesh). Commission wanted complete final feasibility work by single authority/institution.

The Commission, vide letter dated 18 March, 2005 asked to Director, GSI, Uttarakhand Unit his opinion as to which authority/institution should be asked to conduct survey in respect of geotechnical assessment of selected sites. No reply being received from GSI the only option left to Commission was to have the final feasibility in respect of selected places by some other authority/institution.

It will not be out of lace that though, as already pointed out, the maximum opinion by people of Uttarakhand has been for Gairsain area for capital city, therefore, while conducting meeting at Inspection House as well as at subsequent inspection on 25.02.2004, it was pointed out to the people present at that meeting that the decision of capital site will be taken on technical basis. It was also pointed out that if there is not much difference technically between Gairsain and other selected or recommended place, then opinion of the people will prevail and the Commission will make recommendations accordingly. But in case, there is much difference then the Commission can not go by emotions and it has to take a decision keeping in view the technical aspects. The Commission has referred to all these aspects about Gairsain area separately at this stage as there is maximum demand to have the capital there. It is not necessary for the Commission to repeat all the technical aspects which are necessary and have been taken for technical opinion by the SPA. However, the sites at Bhararisain and Nagchulakhal
were pointed out to SPA for final feasibility which has been dealt in Feasibility Study Report.

Again on 25-3-2004 when the Commission’s Chairman reached Gairsain, some of the public representatives met at Gairsain inspection house.

1. Prof. Dr. Narayan Singh Bisht submitted a representation on behalf of Uttarakhand Capital Prabudh Varg Samiti, Chamoli. In the representation has been stated that Dehradun, Kalagarh, Ramnagar, Haridwar, Rishkesh are not suitable for state capital from Geological point of view; the representatives further stated that during the British period many construction works were undertaken at Nainital, Mussoorie, Lansdowne, Shimla etc. and therefore, Gairsain is also quite suitable place for state capital. Sri C.P. Dimri, Retd. CO has also supported the statement submitted by the above samiti and added that no natural calamity was seen in this area, and therefore, Garisain is suitable place for state capital.

2. Baba Mohan Uttarakhandi has expressed his views that Tehri Dam is located in the same seismic zone as is Gairsain. If Tehri Dam can be constructed in the same zone, therefore, from geological point of view construction of state capital at Gairsain should not be a problem.

3. Smt. Geeta Bisht, Member, Zila Panchayat, Chamoli, Sri Purshottam Asnora, Journalist, Sri Yashwant Shah, Karyakari Zila Adhyaksh, Gairsain, Chamoli, Sri Kunwar Singh Karmath, Sri Madhawanand Mainali also opined that Gairsain should be the state capital of Uttarakhand.
On 26-3-2004 at Gairsain, inspection work continued along with Revenue Officers and Senior Geologist of Geological Survey of India. Following local residents appeared before the Commission and expressed their views for formation of capital city:-

1. Dr. Prem Singh Atwal, Block Pramukh, UKD Chaukhutiya stated that Gairsain should be the State Capital of Uttarakhand; that sufficient land is available there and all the land from Nagchulakhal Road to Pandwakhal is almost plain. Sri Gopal Singh Manral, Secretary, IWDP and Sri Chandan Singh Sangela, Block Pramukh Chaukhutiya also supported the views expressed by Dr. Atwal. Further they stated that most of the population of Uttarakhand is in favour of Gairsain as state capital.

2. Sri Anand Sati stated that Geological and Mining Departments report is not in favour of construction of state capital at Bhararisen.

3. Sri Bipin Tripathi, MLA, Dwarahat and President Uttarakhand Kranti Dal, Kendriya Committee, Dr. Shamsher Singh Bisht and Dr. J.C. Tripathi also expressed their views that the capital of Uttarakhand should be in the middle of Uttarakhand like Assam, Meghalaya, Himachal Pradesh. He also said that earlier Sri Motilal Bora, the then HE Governor of U.P. and Kaushik Committee constituted by Govt. of Uttar Pradesh have already submitted their report in favour of Gairsain as capital of Uttarakhand. They further said that as far as seismic zone was concerned, no such calamity has been observed in the area of Gairsain during the last one century and Tehri Dam has also been constructed in the same seismic zone. Dr. J.C. Tripathi who introduced himself as a Geologist stated that the report given by Geology and Mining Department with regard to Bhararisain is not correct.
4. In the evening of 26-3-2004 Sri Devi Prasad Kala, President, Sri Natthu Lal Tamta, In-charge, Jan Avm Sharamik Samasya Nivaran Prakosth, Distt. Pradesh Congress Committee, Pauri, Sri Krishna Nand Maithani, Chairman, Nagar Palika, Srinagar, Sri Natham Lal Tamta, Member, Uttarakhand Shilpkar Chetna Manch, Srinagar and other public representatives along with Advocates met Chairman at Srinagar. They all gave written representations. Their opinion was that Srinagar had been the capital of King of Garhwal; that it is also a centre of Kumaon and Garhwal Division. There is also educational centers and sufficient land is available.
IDPL Rishikesh Area

Commission's Chairman visited IDPL Rishikesh on 23-1-2004. During discussion SDM, Rishikesh informed that 899.5 Acre land was made available to the IDPL which includes land for Post Office and Power station. This factory was established in 833 Acre of land. The land was taken from Forest Department on 99 years lease. This area has been developed as Town Area where all the facilities like electricity, water, sewerage line, residents, schools, banks, guest houses, health centres, parks, offices and roads are already available. The factory matter is pending under B.I.F.R. Sri Kamal Raj Mehrotra, General Manager, Sri Vikram Singh Cahuhan, Personal Manager also appeared before the Commission. They also confirmed the facts given by the SDM, Rishikesh. They informed that :

1. The factory has its own drinking water arrangement, which includes 3 Tubewells having capacity of 200 cum. per hour. In addition to that they are lifting river Ganga's water from 2 kms. and clean it in their purification plant having capacity of 15000 cum.

2. There are 8 electricity point given by the electricity department by which electricity is distributed in the factory area. They also added that at present only 450 employees are working at this factory and efforts are being made by the factory administration to restart the factory.
Commission’s Chairman inspected the factory area along with SDM Rishikesh, General Manager and Personal Manager of IDPL, and found that there is Fire station, a hospital of 5 beds, class III, class IV and Type V residences, a temple, Gurudwara, 2100. ‘A’ type residences are built at one site and 700 at another site. The area was inspected from Krishna Nagar labour colony to Bapugram. SDM Rishikesh and General Manager IDPL informed that these are illegal slums in this area, which were built in D-forest land.

Commission’s Chairman again visited Rishikesh on 23-2-2004. Sri K.P Singh SDM Mussoorie, Tehsildar Sri Som Prakash Sharma, area Patwari Sri Prem Datt Nautiyal, other Revenue Employees Sri Kamal Raj Mehrotra General Manager alongwith Sri Vikram Singh Chauhan, Personal Manager, IDPL appeared before the Commission. Detailed discussions were made on the visit of Commission’s Chairman on 23-1-2004. No officers of Forest Department, MDDA, HDA were present during the discussion. Tehsildar Rishikesh told that no representative of MDDA, HDA is present despite information; therefore, no decision could be taken regarding the availability of land. Commission’s Chairman expressed his displeasure over this situation. General Manager IDPL told that Revival Plan of IDPL is the same as it was earlier.

SDM Mussoorie apprised the Commission that a proposal for locating the state capital at Dehradun was submitted through District Magistrate Dehradun. However, no such proposal was received by the Commission. It was also informed that Dehradun falls in seismic zone-4.
Commission also visited the area around the Rishikesh. The land available across barrage of River Ganga was also inspected, which appeared worth consideration. Requisite information in this regard was to be asked from District Magistrate, Pauri. Subsequently, Shri L.M. Kaul, S.D.O., Forest and Shri Rajendra Singh Arya, Range Officer, Rishikesh called on the Commission and appraised that the area adjacent to IDPL is of Reserve Forest. In this Forest area 200 Acre land is leased to Baba Kali Kamali Trust and 594 Acre leased to Bapu Gram.

In pursuance of discussions with IDPL authorities and Chairman, the Managing Director, IDPL, Gurgaon Haryana was asked to appraise latest status of revival plan of IDPL. No reply was received.

Ultimately the Commission visited Gurgaon on 7.7.2004 and a meeting was held in the Office of CMD, IDPL Shri P. Das Gupta. It was informed by Mr. Gupta during meeting that the IDPL Factory at Rishikesh is being revived and a formulation and fermentation plant is proposed to be installed, which is under consideration with the Central Government. The meeting was concluded with this information that the revival plan of the Factory is with Hon’ble Minister and the same was likely to be signed at the earliest.
Commission visited Kalagarh on 24/25 Feb.2004. Shri H.P. Sharma, Executive Engineer, Irrigation Department with some other representatives called on the Commission. The Commission was informed that forest land has been taken on lease by Irrigation Department for Ram Ganga Project. As per revenue records the project was established in 904.932 Acre land out of which 580.633 Acre land stands reverted to Forest Department after completion of the project. It was brought to the notice of the Commission that with the efforts of one NGO namely, Vishwa Prakriti Nidhi, Court has constituted a Central Empowerment Committee which is looking into the process of land to be reverted back to the Forest Department. As per Irrigation Department 864.43 Acre land has been reverted back to Forest Department and rest of the land will be transferred back to the Forest Department upon vacation of premises by the employees on their transfer/retirement.

The Kalagarh area was inspected together with Tahsildar Incharge, Executive Engineer and Forester. There was boundary wall. It was intimated that the area within the boundary wall falls in Uttarakhand and the road out of boundary is in territory of Uttar Pradesh. Various residential and non-residential buildings stand constructed within boundary wall. At dam site Sri Parshuram Yadav ex-union leader requested the Commission to select Kalagarh as state capital. In the evening Sri Gopal Ram Gwasakoti, Ranger
met the Commission and confirmed the status of land as intimated by Irrigation Department. He also informed that Kalagarh is located in a width of 500 Mtr. with 4 Km length. It was confirmed that the entire land at Kalagarh belongs to Forest department/ Corbett Tiger Reserve and in compliance of the order of Hon’ble High Court, the land is being taken over by Forest Department. In the evening Sri Athahar Mahmood Siddiqui of the Dainik Jagran and Sri Virendra Agarwal of Amar Ujala called on the Chairman and pleaded for Kalagarh to be selected as state capital. They also described some basic amenities available at Kalagarh such as Hospital, Primary School, Bus service etc. Sarv Sri Kening Kumar, President, City Congress Committee, L.N. Gaur, President, Congress Seva Dal and Sri V. Nanadan Sharma also called on the Chairman and proposed Kalagarh to be made state capital. Thereafter, Sri Arvind Singh, President and Sri Amrish Bhatnagar of Uttarakhand Kranti Dal (Diwakar Group) also met the Chairman at 11-00 P.M. and suggested that as many as 12 colonies of ex-army personnel located in the vicinity of Kalagarh. They also suggested that Gaushala located between Ramnagar be also considered to be state capital. Before departure from Kalagarh the Chairman made it clear to public persons that Kalagarh can not be considered for capital city for want of sufficient land which is not available.
Further, in pursuance of agreement signed between Government of Uttarakhand and School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi, IDPL and Pashulok in Rishikesh, Gairsain including nearby areas like Bhararisain, Sarkot and Nagchulakhal, were proposed to be inspected on 20 & 21 May, 2006 with representatives of SPA (Dr. Mahavir and Dr. Ashok Kuamr) for carrying out Feasibility study of places short listed on the basis of opinions expressed by people of Uttarakhand. The area near Rishikesh was accordingly visited on 20-6-2006 and thereafter the Commission left for Gairsain. On 21-06-2006 Sri Kulanand Joshi called on the Chairman at Karnprayag who stressed Gairsain to be announced as permanent capital of the state. The Commission, together with representatives of SPA, inspected Bhararisain area. Some Revenue officers were also present during this inspection, who intimated that about 500 acre land belonging to Animal Husbandry Department is available. The area in Sarkot and Parwarigaon was also inspected along with Revenue officers. The land belonging to Forest Panchayat and adjacent to Gairsain was also inspected in route. At this point Revenue officers pointed out that 5 hectares of private land is registered in the name of Irrigation Department. The Commission also visited Nagchulakhal where it was intimated that the area is adjacent to the boundaries of 3 districts viz Chamoli, Pauri and Almora. While on way to Nainital a team of ETV interviewed the Commission. On 22-06-2006, the Commission together with accompanying SPA representatives returned back to Dehradun via Kaladhungi-Bajpur-Kashipur.

On 30-05-2005 the area near Kashipur- Ramnagar was visited by Chairman, Commission along with Sri B.B. Ratan, Chief Town and Country Planner, Uttarakhand, representatives of SPA Dr. Mahavir and Dr. Ashok
Kumar, Sri Devanand Tehsildar, Kashipur and other Revenue officials. At the first instance Kunda area was inspected. Thereafter Maldhanchaur area via Garhinegi – Durgapur - Kilawali was inspected from Tumaria inspection house. While on inspection at Ramnagar, Sri Jeevan Singh Naghyal, Tehsildar, Ramnagar was present alongwith his team of revenue officials. At this point, Sri D.D.Dani, District President of BJP called on the Chairman of Commission. It was made clear by the Chairman that the land would be required for the capital city for accommodating a population of about 2.5 lakhs. According to the letter submitted by Sri Dani, the land in the north direction of Ramnagar-Haldwani road pertains to planted forestation which has since been cut down. Sri Dani also informed that the area consists of about 8 to 20 sq. km. In east-direction of Ramnagar villages 1 Teda, 2. Dwari Bandovasti and 3. Kyari Kham are situated, which could be acquired by rehabilitating the village population at some suitable place. Here about 30 sq.km of forest land is also available, which is a planted forest and at the time of inspection, no trees were found there. Similarly, in north of Ramnagar upto Mohan and west of Ramnagar upto Kalagarh, there is forest, agriculture and barren land. While discussing availability of water Sri Dani opined that there is sufficient water in river Kosi and from local sources as well as ground water is sufficiently available. He said that more water can be supplied from Kalagarh which is at a distance of about 30 kms. He also pressed that in case Ramganga River is connected to Kosi River at Totamdhar by a tunnel, this will ensure everlasting availability of water. At this point a good number of representatives of Print Media and Electronic Media called on the Chairman.

On 31-05-2006 the Commission inspected Escort Farm area along with Sri B.B. Ratan, Dr. Mahavir and Dr. Ashok Kumar. At site of Kundeshwari,
Sri Haritash Gulshan, Joint Magistrate also accompanied the inspecting team. It was informed that about 150 acre of land is available at Gandhi Ashram Farm which can be integrated with the land of Pachhawala village. The local administration was asked to furnish detailed report together with requisite maps of this area within 4-5 days.

In order to carry out feasibility study of the short listed places the Director, School of Planning, New Delhi was contacted over phone and subsequently the Commission intended to contact the Director, SPA personally on 19 and 20-12-2005 at Delhi.

Kashipur and Ramnagar area, short listed places, were earlier inspected on 25-02-2004. This area was again inspected on 29-11-2005. Sarv Sri Harish Chandra Semwal, ADM, Nainital, Pratap Singh Shah, SDM, Kashipur, Jeeven Singh Naganyal, SDM, Ramnagar, Harikesh Singh (Lekhpal), Ravikant (Lekhpal), Teekam Singh Chauhan, Chakbandi officer, Khushal Singh Gunjyal, Tehsildar, Ramnagar, Ram Lal, Kanungo, Guru Bhajan Singh, (Lekhpal), Raju Bisht, (Lekhpal) and Bhim Singh Kutiyal were present during this inspection. During the inspection at Kunda, it was pointed out by SDM Kashipur that the area is generally submerged under water. The Army was claiming its right over some part of this land. While inspecting the area adjacent to Maldhanchaur for permanent capital city, SDM Ramnagar pointed out that the area consists of 7 villages with 1122 families. About 1925 buildings are there. While on inspection at Tumaria the SDM Ramnagar pointed out that 6 hectare land is in possession of Forest Department. During inspection of NEPA Farm at Hempur, Sri Anil Viz, Manager-NEPA Farm pointed out that the area is being developed as Eco
Tourism centre and its Master Plan is ready. Subsequently the area in Chhoi (near Ramnagar) was inspected, which is at a distance of 8 kms from Ramnagar. There was apprehension that this area may experience shortage of water. While discussing with officers of Forest department – Sri Anusuya Prasad, SDO and Sri Jagdish Chandra Tewari, Range Officer pointed out in the presence of SDM, Ramnagar that Bagjala water supply scheme is proposed for the area near Chhoi but number of beneficiaries was not known. It was also brought to the notice of the Commission that this area is also Elephant Corridor. The SDM Ramanagar and Kashipur were directed to furnish certain information’s with regard to the locations proposed for permanent capital city.

On 30-11-2005, an inspection of Escort Farm, Tehsil Kashipur was also carried out in the presence of Sarv Sri R.C. Gautam, Tehsildar, Chiranjilal, Kanungo and Emam Baksh. The Revenue officers pointed out that about 144 acre land is available at village Dohri Vakil. In addition about 27.16 acre has also been taken into possession where as about 32 acre land in village Kharsama, 142 acre in Ramnagar- Kashipur and 309 acre in village Pachhawala is affected by ceiling.
RECOMMENDATION FOR FUTURE COURSE OF ACTION

Once State Government takes the decision then it is advised: That it has to undertake:

- Issue of Notification.
- Initiation of land acquisition process in consultation with the Town and Country Planning Department and Mussoorie Dehradun Development Authority, the State Revenue Department, the Law Department etc.
- Establishment of a government agency to see the process of land development, planning and design and acquisition etc.
- Identifying the sources of funding for the development of the capital project and institutionalizing the same.
- Preparation of a Master Plan for the Capital, either by the State Town and Country Planning Department or by the Mossoorie or through consultancy or a competition.
- Preparation of architectural and engineering drawings for the various buildings, road networks and other civil works either by the State Department of PWD or Department of Town and Country Planning or Mossoorie Dehradun Development Authority etc..
- Execution of Master Plan and detailed building construction by the established government procedures.
- Maintenance and future expansions, if when the need arises.

Sincerely,