

## **UTC to hire 300 new regular bus drivers**

DEHRADUN: The Uttarakhand Transport Corporation (UTC), which has long been grappling with shortage of skilled bus drivers, is going to hire 300 regular bus drivers before new vehicles join its fleet.

It is after a long gap that the state bus carrier has decided to recruit regular bus drivers as in the past UTC has only been hiring drivers on contractual basis.

Talking to TOI, Deepak Jain, general manager (operations), UTC, said, "The entire process of recruitment will be completed in the next three months and 300 new regular drivers will be ready to drive UTC buses. The drivers are expected to join before we get the delivery of new buses."

Anyone applying for the vacancy in UTC must have a five-year-old heavy vehicle driving licence, at least three years of experience of driving public service vehicle and at least a year of experience of driving in the hills.

Out of the total 300 drivers, 125 will be allotted to Dehradun depot, 100 to Nainital and remaining 75 drivers to Tanakpur depot.

Currently, the UTC has around 1,200 regular drivers and the same number of drivers on contract. "Another reason to recruit new bus drivers is to strike a balance between regular drivers and contractual drivers as the number of the latter has gone up lately," said Jain.