

Reviewer 2:

The brief communication on the NW Himalayan towns; slipping towards potential disaster addresses two towns of the Uttarakhand in the NW Himalaya (India), with similar litho-tectonic conditions and precipitation regimes, where past and recent evidence of slope instability can be found. The topic fits the scope of the journal and the study area is of high interest since it is frequently affected by disastrous landslides. The manuscript is clear and well written, and the results obtained highlight the importance of further in-depth study. Therefore, I highly recommend the acceptance of this brief communication. Nevertheless, I recommend some minor corrections according to the following:

1. Despite the manuscript is clear and well written it would benefit if the various sections were identified according to the typical structure (e.g. Introduction, study area, etc...).

Response: We agree with the suggestion that the typical structure might be simpler for readers to differentiate between different sections of study. The purpose to make the structure of this study as continuous was decided for comparative representation of both the hilly towns having similar problems. Keeping the entire study ‘brief in nature’ was another objective that was targeted while writing the MS. We are hopeful that the reviewer will get convinced with our justification and support our way of presentation in this study.

2. Page 1, line 13 and page 3, lines 7-8 : “In the last 1-2 weeks...”: please, be more specific for future reading (e.g. provide the month/year);

Response: As suggested, the MS has been revised accordingly.

3. Page 3, line 24: please replace 1.025 % with 1 %;

Response: As suggested, the MS has been revised accordingly.

4. Page 4, line 4: the authors mentioned Fig. 2i-j, but I think the “j” is missing;

Response: As suggested, the MS has been revised accordingly.

5. Page 4, line 4: please delete “of these”;

Response: As suggested, the MS has been revised accordingly.

6. Page 5, line 20: please replace “in shown” with “is shown”;

Response: As suggested, the MS has been revised accordingly.

7. Page 6, line 1: please replace Meunier et al. (2008) with (Meunier et al. 2008)

Response: As suggested, the MS has been revised accordingly.