

Deccan Chronicle 08-February-2021

150+ feared dead in glacier burst

7 bodies found, 16 rescued, 125 missing after floods in Uttarakhand

DC CORRESPONDENTS
NEW DELHI, FEB. 7

About 150 labourers working at a power project in Tapovan-Reni in Uttarakhand are feared dead while several people are missing after a glacier burst in Chamoli region triggered flash floods downstream.

Uttarakhand chief minister Trivendra Singh Rawat said the bodies of seven persons have been recovered while 125 are missing. The ITBP personnel have so far managed to rescue 16 persons trapped in a tunnel while efforts are on to rescue others trapped in another tunnel.

The flash floods have also caused damage to livestock and properties, the exact assessment of which is yet to be made. Uttarakhand DGP Ashok Kumar said the glacier burst took place at about 10.45 am on Sunday, causing flash floods in the upper regions. He said downstream areas were alerted immediately and villages along the river vacated in time to save life. He added the water



Avalanche after a glacier broke off in Joshimath in Uttarakhand's Chamoli district causing a massive flood in the Dhauliganga river on Sunday.

— PTI

has now reached Srinagar (in Uttarakhand) dam, where it is stable now. The state has in 2013 witnessed a similar disaster leading to the loss of several lives.

Expressing grief over the loss of life, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the Centre had approved ex-

gratia relief of Rs 2 lakhs each from PMNRF for the next of kin of those who lost their lives and Rs 50,000 would be given to those seriously injured. Earlier in the day, he tweeted: "(I) Am constantly monitoring the unfortunate situation in

Uttarakhand. India stands with Uttarakhand and the nation prays for everyone's safety there. Have been continuously speaking to senior authorities and getting updates on NDRF deployment, rescue work and relief operations."

The glacial burst led to the rise of water levels in river Rishiganga, which washed away the Rishiganga small hydro project of 13.2 MW near Raini village.

■ Page 2: No danger of flooding: Officials

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No danger of downstream flooding, officials say

From Page 1

The flash flood also affected the downstream hydro project of NTPC at Tapovan on the river Dhauliganga, which is a tributary of the river Alaknanda.

Union home ministry officials said there was no danger of downstream flooding and the rise in water levels has been contained. "There is also no threat to the neighbouring villages. At the same time, the concerned agencies of the Centre and the state were asked to keep a strict vigil on the situation, and a team from DRDO, which monitors avalanches, is being flown in for surveillance and reconnaissance. NTPC MD has been asked to reach the affected site immediately," officials said.

The home ministry has rushed five teams each of the ITBP and NDRF to Uttarakhand to assist in the relief and rescue operations. Till late Sunday evening, the ITBP had managed to rescue 16 peo-

ple. According to ITBP sources, more than 150 people, most of them labourers working at the site of a power project, are said to be missing.

Home minister Amit Shah spoke to Uttarakhand Chief Minister Tivendra Singh Rawat and relief teams of the ITBP, NDRF and the Indian Army were immediately rushed to the affected areas. Navy divers were also flown in and aircraft and all resources of the Indian Air Force and Indian Army have been pressed in for rescue and relief.

Field hospitals have also been set up to receive casualties. According to the IMD, no rainfall is expected in the region for the next two days.

He also assured full support to the state government, and said that if required, additional reinforcements will also be sent.

The home ministry is coordinating closely with the Indian Air Force so that emergency equipment

and personnel can be airlifted, following which helicopters will be used to search for missing persons.

"A special control room was set up at the home ministry to coordinate relief and rescue operations with the Uttarakhand government, the Air Force, ITBP and NDRF. So far the relief work is going on smoothly and the exact extent of damage and loss of life and property would be known," a source said.

The Home Minister said the Narendra Modi government was standing shoulder to shoulder with the people of Uttarakhand. Speaking to the media in Maharashtra, Mr Shah said rescue and relief operations by the Centre and the state government were on in full swing. Efforts were being made to restore normal life at the earliest.

Mr Shah said Prime Minister Narendra Modi had personally called up the NDRF team and guided them.

Asian Age 08-February-2021

U'khand fears 2013 repeat; 7 bodies found, 16 rescued; ITBP, NDRF rushed 150 feared dead, many missing after Chamoli glacier burst leads to floods

AGE CORRESPONDENTS
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The flash floods have also caused damage to livestock and properties, the exact assessment of which is yet to be made. Uttarakhand DGP Ashok Kumar said the glacier burst took place at about 10.45 am on Sunday, causing flash floods in the upper regions. He said downstream areas were alerted immediately and villages along the river vacated in time to save life. He added the water has now reached Srinagar (in Uttarakhand) dam, where it is stable now. The state has in 2013 witnessed a similar disaster leading to the loss of several lives.

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— PTI

river Rishiganga, which washed away the Rishiganga small hydro project of 13.2 MW near Raini village. The flash flood also affected the downstream hydro project of NTPC at Tapovan on the river Dhauliganga, which is a tributary of the river Alaknanda.

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Uttarakhand CM Trivendra Singh Rawat inspects flood-hit areas after a glacier broke off in Joshimath in Chamoli district.

— PTI

evening, the ITBP had managed to rescue 16 people. According to ITBP sources, more than 150 people, most of them labourers working at the site of a power project, are said to be missing.

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were also flown in and aircraft and all resources of the Indian Air Force and Indian Army have been pressed in for rescue and relief. Field hospitals have also been set up to receive casualties. According to the IMD, no rainfall is expected in the region for the next two days.

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■ More reports on Page 3

2019 warning on glaciers melting faster

New Delhi: As a part of the Nanda Devi glacier broke off in Uttarakhand's Chamoli district on Sunday, leading to massive floods, a study published in 2019 had warned that Himalayan glaciers have been melting twice as fast since the start of this century due to climate change.

The glacier collapse at Joshimath on Sunday led to a massive flood in the Dhauliganga river and caused large-scale devastation in the upper reaches of the ecologically fragile Himalayas.

The 2019 study, spanning 40 years of satellite observations across India, China, Nepal and Bhutan, indicates that climate change is eating the Himalayas' glaciers, the researchers said.

— PTI

■ More on Page 3

Asian Age 08-February-2021



ITBP personnel carry out search and rescue operation at Tapovan Tunnel on Sunday.



Locals inspect site near damaged Dhauliganga hydropower project at Reni village on Sunday.

Tranquil morning turns tragic for villagers

Horrific memories of 2013 Kedarnath deluge that killed thousands returns to haunt locals

Raini (U'khand), Feb. 7: It was a tranquil winter morning in Raini village until the residents were jolted at around 10 am on Sunday by a loud sound and the sight of huge torrents of water and sludge in the Rishi Ganga river hurtling towards them.

"Before we could make out what was happening, the raging muddy waters of Rishi Ganga had devastated the landscape," says 50-year-old Dharam Singh, a resident of the village.

The scenes brought back to the people horrifying memories of the 2013 Kedarnath deluge that killed thousands.

Many were feared swept away in the sudden floods on Sunday including those who were working near the river.

Three residents of the village including a 75-year-old woman identified as Amrita Devi who had gone out to work in her field close to the bridge on Rishi Ganga are missing since the avalanche struck after the Nanda Devi glacier burst. Others missing include Yashpal Singh of Valli Raini who had gone to the fields to graze his livestock and disappeared along with them.

Ranjit Singh, 25, of the village who worked in the Rishi Ganga hydel project is also missing after the avalanche.

The avalanche destroyed the project commissioned in 2020. A major motorable bridge on the main border road was also washed away.

Pradeep Rana of Juwa Gwan village said Sanjay Singh, a resident of the



Rescue operations underway near Dhauliganga hydropower project on Sunday.



Damaged dam of the Rishi Ganga Power Project, after a glacier broke off in Joshimath in Chamoli district.

same village who had gone out to the fields to graze his goats, is also missing.

Some ancient temples built about 20 metres above the confluence of Rishi Ganga and Dhauliganga rivers have also been swept away by the violent avalanche.

Umeli Devi, 34, who had come from Nepal to work in the Rishi Ganga hydel project said ten of her colleagues had been swept away in the avalanche.

She said male members of her family who worked as labourers in the power project are all missing.

Dharam Singh of Raini said as the deluge came gurgling loudly it sent a chill down the spine of people living in the area who find it hard to forget the 2013 tragedy.

The forest area of Nanda Devi National Park has

also suffered great devastation due to the avalanche, he said.

Meanwhile, the MeT department on Sunday said no adverse weather events are expected over Chamoli, Tapovan and Joshimath in Uttarakhand on February 7 and 8, in a relief for the area hit by a major glacier burst.

India Meteorological Department (IMD) Additional Director General Anand Sharma said Chamoli, Tapovan and Joshimath are likely to witness dry weather during the two days.

"No snowfall/rainfall is likely on February 7-8," the IMD said in its special weather advisory for the state. However, light rainfall/snowfall is likely in the northern parts of the Chamoli district on February 9-10, the advisory added.

Himalayan glaciers melting twice as fast, finds 2019 study

New Delhi, Feb. 7: Melting of Himalayan glaciers has doubled since the start of the 21st century due to rising temperatures, losing over a vertical foot and half of ice each year and potentially threatening water supply for hundreds of millions of people in countries, including India, according to a study published in 2019.

The analysis, spanning 40 years of satellite observations across India, China, Nepal and Bhutan, indicates that climate change is eating the Himalayan glaciers, researchers said.

The study, published in the journal Science Advances in June 2019, shows that glaciers have been losing the equivalent of more than a vertical foot and half of ice each year since 2000 — double the amount of melting that took place from 1975 to 2000.

"This is the clearest picture yet of how fast Himalayan glaciers are melting over this time interval, and why," said Joshua Maurer, a PhD candidate at Columbia University in the US.

While not specifically calculated in the study, the glaciers may have lost as

much as a quarter of their enormous mass over the last four decades, said Maurer, lead author of the study. The study synthesised data from across the region, stretching from early satellite observations to the present.

The data indicates that the melting is consistent in time and space, and that rising temperatures are to blame, the researchers said. Temperatures vary from place to place, but from 2000 to 2016 they have averaged one degree Celsius higher than those from 1975 to 2000, they said.

NTPC: TAPOVAN HYDRO PROJECT DAMAGED

New Delhi, Feb. 7: State-run power giant NTPC on Sunday said that an avalanche near Tapovan in Uttarakhand has damaged its under-construction hydropower project.

NTPC tweeted, "An avalanche near Tapovan in Uttarakhand has damaged a part of our under-construction hydropower project in the region. While rescue operation is on, situation is being monitored continuously with the help of district administration and police."

ITBP RESCUES WORKERS STUCK IN TUNNEL

Dehradun, Feb. 7: Covered in mud, several men were safely pulled out one after the other from a slush-covered tunnel by ITBP personnel in the Tapovan power project area on Sunday.

In a video of the operation shared by the border force, the rescuers can be seen raising slogans of 'dum lagakey haisha' while retrieving a couple of men through the vertical and narrow snout of the tunnel with the help of a rope line.

UP MONITORS WATER LEVEL OF RIVER GANGA

Lucknow, Feb. 7: The UP on Sunday asked authorities in all districts on the banks of river Ganga to be on high alert and continuously monitor the water level. In the disaster alert issued on Sunday, the Relief Commissioner said, "Report of breaking of a part of Nandadevi Glacier in Uttarakhand has been received. The districts on the Ganga river (banks) need to be on a high alert."

MAJOR NATURAL DISASTERS IN UTTARAKHAND

1991 UTTARKASHI EARTHQUAKE: An earthquake of 6.8 magnitude hit the undivided state of Uttar Pradesh in October 1991 in which at least 768 people were killed and thousands of homes destroyed.

1998 MALPA LANDSLIDE: The small village of Malpa in Pithoragarh district was wiped in the landslide in which about 255 people, including 55 Kailash Mansarovar pilgrims, were killed. The resulting debris partially blocked the Sharda river.

1999 CHAMOLI EARTHQUAKE: An earthquake of 6.8 magnitude hit Chamoli district killing over 100 people. The adjoining Rudrapur district was also heavily affected. Several ground deformations were reported as a result of the earthquake, and landslides and changes in water flow were also recorded. Cracks were observed in roads and on the ground.

2013 NORTH INDIA FLOODS: In June 2013, a multi-day cloud-burst centered on U'khand caused devastating floods and landslides. According to state government, more than 5,700 people were presumed dead in the disaster. As bridges and roads were destroyed more than 3 lakh people were trapped in the valleys leading to the Char Dham pilgrimage sites.

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— NARENDRA MODI, Prime Minister



Telangana Today 08-February-2021

Glacier burst: 150 feared dead

Portion of Nanda Devi glacier breaks off in Uttarakhand's Chamoli district



People inspect the site near the damaged Dhauliganga hydropower project at Reni village in Chamoli district in Uttarakhand. — Photo: AP

CHAMOLI

Nearly 150 people are missing or 'feared dead' as a sudden flood inundated a power project at Reni village in Joshimath area of Uttarakhand's Chamoli district on Sunday following a glacier burst, the ITBP, which is engaged in rescue and relief operations there, said.

Citing updated inputs received from local administration, ITBP spokesperson Vivek Pandey said at least 10 bodies have been recovered so far from the spot, and several people have been rescued, while that there is no information about other persons. In its initial information received from the spot, the ITBP had, through a statement said that "more than 100 labourers at the barrage and 50 plus in the tunnel lost their life as per the

TRAIL OF DESTRUCTION

AT LEAST 10 BODIES HAVE BEEN RECOVERED SO FAR

- Glacier break triggered massive flooding of Alaknanda and Dhauliganga rivers
- NTPC's Tapovan-Vishnugad hydel project and Rishi Ganga Hydel Project – extensively damaged



KCR expresses condolences

HYDERABAD: Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao has expressed shock over the floods in Uttarakhand. Terming it as an unfortunate incident, the Chief Minister expressed profound condolences to the families of those who lost their lives in the disaster.

incharge of Tapovan NTPC work site... As many as 150 people are missing".

Clarifying these inputs,

Pandey said: "As 150 people are still missing, it is difficult to say that all are dead. They can be said 'feared dead' or

'missing'. Missing persons cannot be declared dead till seven years." The tragedy took place after the water level in Dhauliganga river, one of the six sources of the Ganga river, suddenly surged on Sunday morning following an avalanche near the Rishi Ganga power project. The 85-km river meets the Alaknanda river at Vishnuprayag at the base of Joshimath mountain. The ITBP said that the flash flood occurred in Rishi Ganga at around 10.45 a.m. due to a glacier falling into it and exponentially increasing the volume of water. Due to this, the Rishi Ganga hydro project was completely devastated, it said. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced Rs 2 lakh ex-gratia for next of the kin of all those who have lost their lives. (SEE PAGES 2,7)

The Statesman 08-February-2021

2019 study had warned Himalayan glaciers were melting at alarming pace



The damaged site at Chamoli after the flood receded. SNS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI, 7 FEBRUARY

A 2019 study had warned about the dangers of climate change and said Himalayan glaciers have been melting twice as fast since the start of this century.

The glacier collapse at Joshimath led to a massive flood in the Alaknanda river system and caused devastation in the upper reaches of the ecologically fragile Himalayas.

Two years earlier in June 2019, a study spanning 40 years of satellite observations across India, China, Nepal and Bhutan, indicated that climate change is eating away at the Himalayas' glaciers.

The study, published in the journal *Science Advances* in June 2019, shows that glaciers have been losing the equivalent of more than a vertical foot and half of ice each year since 2000 – double the amount of melting that took place from 1975 to 2000.

While not specifically calculated in the study, the glaciers may have lost as much as a quarter of their enormous mass over the last four decades, said Joshua Maurer, lead author of the study.

The study synthesised data from across the region, stretching from early satellite observations to the present. The data indicates that the melting is consistent in time and space, and that rising temperatures are to blame, the researchers said.

Researchers analysed repeat satellite images of some 650 glaciers spanning 2,000 kilometres from west to east. They found that from 1975 to 2000, glaciers across the region lost an average of about 0.25 metres of ice each year in the face of slight warming. Following a more pronounced warming trend starting in the 1990s, starting in 2000 the loss accelerated to about half a metre annually.

The Hans 08-February-2021

THE HANS INDIA

UTTARAKHAND GLACIAL BURST

12 KILLED, 170 MISSING

All 16 labourers rescued from tunnel

DEHRADUN/NEW DELHI:

A PORTION of the Nanda Devi glacier broke off in Uttarakhand's Chamoli district on Sunday, triggering an avalanche and flooding in the Dhaul Ganga, Rishi Ganga and Alaknanda rivers that washed away hydroelectric stations, swept away homes and left at least 12 people dead and 170 missing. Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat, however, put the death toll at seven.

The sudden flood in the middle of the day in the Dhaul Ganga, Rishi Ganga and Alaknanda rivers -- all intricately linked tributaries of the Ganga -- triggered widespread panic and largescale devastation in the high mountain areas. Two power projects -- NTPC's Tapovan-Vishnugad hydel project and the Rishi Ganga Hydel Project -- were extensively damaged with scores of labourers trapped in tunnels as the waters came rushing in.

Sixteen men were rescued safely from a tunnel in the Tapovan project but about 125 were still missing. As night fell in the ecologically fragile Himalayas and rescue work in the difficult to access areas became more difficult, there were fears they may be dead. **Cont'd on Page 7**



A worker being rescued from tunnel by the ITBP team

MORE REPORTS: P10

What is glacial lake outburst flood

A glacial lake outburst is a type of outburst flood that takes place occurs when water dammed by a glacier or moraine is released. To simplify it, GLOF is an outburst that happens when a dam containing a glacial lake fails. As per antarcticglaciers.org, GLOFs have three main features:

- They involve sudden (and sometimes cyclic) releases of water
- They tend to be rapid events, lasting hours to days
- They result in large downstream river



discharges (which often increase by an order of magnitude).

Nanda Devi glacier

The Nanda Devi glacier forms part of the second-highest mountain in India -- the

Nanda Devi mountain. While it the second-highest after Kangchenjunga, it is the highest mountain located entirely within the country as Kangchenjunga lies on the border of India and Nepal.

High alert in UP

LUCKNOW: The Uttar Pradesh government on Sunday put on alert the authorities in all districts on the banks of the Ganga and asked them to continuously monitor the water levels in the river after a glacier broke off at Joshimath in neighbouring Uttarakhand's Chamoli, triggering a massive flood there. The glacier burst triggered an avalanche and a deluge in the Alaknanda river system that washed away hydroelectric stations, leaving at least seven people dead and 125 missing who are feared dead.

4 lakh for those killed: U'khand CM

DEHRADUN: Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat on Sunday announced 4 lakh compensation for those killed by floods in the state and said it was for experts to find out the cause while the government was focused on saving lives. So far, the bodies of seven people had been recovered, the Chief Minister said, but rescuers put the number of dead at 12.

Millennium Post 08-February-2021

High alert in UP as glacier breaks off in Uttarakhand

'People residing on banks of Ganga should be shifted in case of rise in water level'

OUR CORRESPONDENT

LUCKNOW: The Uttar Pradesh government on Sunday asked authorities in all districts on the banks of the Ganga river to be on high alert and continuously monitor the water level after a glacier broke off at Joshimath in Uttarakhand's Chamoli district.

The glacier burst triggered a massive flood in the Dhaul Ganga river and caused large-scale devastation in the upper reaches of the ecologically fragile Himalayas.

Over 150 labourers working at a power project in Tapovan-Reni are feared dead, an Indo-Tibetan Border Police spokesperson said while quoting the project-in-charge. Three bodies have been recovered so far.

In a disaster alert issued to all district magistrates in Uttar Pradesh on Sunday, the relief commissioner said, "Report of breaking of a part of the Nanda Devi Glacier in Uttarakhand has been received. The districts on the (banks of the) Ganga river need to be on a high alert and the monitoring of water level needs to be done 24/7.

"If required, people need



Damaged dam of the Rishi Ganga Power Project, after a glacier broke off in Joshimath in Uttarakhand's Chamoli district causing a massive flood in the Dhaul Ganga river, on Sunday

to be evacuated. The NDRF, SDRF and PAC Flood Company have been instructed to be on the highest alert," the statement added.

In a tweet in Hindi, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said, "To tackle the natural disaster in Uttarakhand, the Uttar Pradesh government will extend all possible help."

In another tweet, he said, "Feel sad by the news that many people are feared dead in the disaster which took place after breaking of a glacier. I pray to

Lord Ram to give peace to the souls who have passed away, strength to the aggrieved family members to bear the loss and speedy recovery to the injured."

Later, in a statement, the chief minister said in case of rise in the water level, people residing on the banks of river Ganga should be shifted elsewhere if needed.

He also appealed to the people to not believe in any rumour.

"People should exercise caution and not venture

towards the banks of rivers. In case of any adverse circumstances, cooperate with the district administration. The UP government is taking all necessary steps," he said.

Interacting with reporters in Ayodhya, Adityanath said, "Ganga covers the maximum area in Uttar Pradesh, almost 1,000 kilometres. We are exercising full caution. We got information about the incident and the Jal Shakti department was alerted soon after.

"The Home department is keeping a watch. In Uttara-

khand, river Alaknanda is fast approaching towards normal (level) and our supposition is that the water will take time to reach lower areas. After Haridwar, we will absorb this water at the barrages in Narora and Bijnor, and there will be no problem in the downstream areas," he said.

"Despite this, all the 25 districts in the state where the Ganga flows have been alerted. The emergency and home departments and the SDRF are on alert, the chief minister said.

"There is no need to fear. A disaster like this generally arises when glaciers break. This situation possibly arose because it collided with an under-construction dam. The incident is sad and in the lower areas such a situation will not arise," Adityanath said.

In Kannauj, District Magistrate Rakesh Kumar Mishra convened an emergency meeting of officials. Diver and revenue officials of villages located on the banks of the Ganga have been told to remain on alert.

Mishra inspected the Mahadevi Ghat in the district and said in case of rise in water level, villagers will be taken to safer places.

Millennium Post 08-February-2021

'Dhaul Ganga river's water level at Joshimath breached all records after glacial burst'

NEW DELHI: The water level of the Dhaul Ganga river at Joshimath flowed at a perilously high level, breaching all records, Central Water Commission officials said after a part of Nanda Devi glacier broke off in Uttarakhand's Chamoli district leading to massive floods.

The glacial burst triggered an avalanche and a deluge in the Alaknanda river system that washed away hydroelectric stations and trapped more than 100 labourers who are feared dead. The intensity of the river's flow in a short span of time was such that it engulfed whatever came in its way.

This was a grim reminder of the Kedarnath deluge of 2013 which led to widespread devastation in the ecologically fragile Himalayan region.

"At 11 am, the water level recorded at Joshimath was 1,388 metres," Saumitra Halder, Chairman, Central Water Commission said.

During the 2013 Uttarakhand flash floods, the highest flood level (HFL) at Joshimath was 1,385.54 metres, he added.

However, by 6 pm on Sunday, the water level of the river had reached the normal levels recorded a day before, said Rajesh Kumar, the superintendent engineer (Upper and Middle Ganga division) of the

Central Water Commission (CWC). He said water levels have started receding.

At Joshimath, which bore the fury of floods, the water level recorded at 1 PM on February 6 was 1,372.58 metres. At 6 PM on Sunday, hours after the disaster, the water level was 1,375 metres.

In Nandprayag at the lower stretches of the river, the water level at 6 pm was 840.40 metres. A day before, it was 848.30 metres at 1 pm. Kumar said the situation was similar in Rudraprayag, Srinagar, Devprayag, Rishikesh and Devprayag.

The water level at the Srinagar Hydroelectric Project was also at the Mean Draw Down Level which helped accommodate excess flow from the upper stretches. This will be released slowly, Halder added.

The sudden flood in the middle of the day in the Dhaul Ganga, Rishi Ganga and Alaknanda rivers –all intricately linked tributaries of the Ganga –triggered widespread panic and large-scale devastation in the high mountain areas. Two power projects – NTPC's Tapovan-Vishnugad hydel project and the Rishi Ganga Hydel Project –were extensively damaged with scores of labourers trapped in tunnels as the waters came rushing in.

AGENCIES

Pioneer 08-February-2021

सात जिलों में हिंडन का पानी बनेगा निर्मल

हरित पुरुष के नाम से प्रसिद्ध विजयपाल बघेल एक मार्च से शुरू करेंगे सफाई अभियान

प्राथमिक समाचार सेवा। नोएडा

पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश के सात जिलों से होते हुए यमुना में समाहित होने वाली हिंडन नदी जल्दी ही साफ नजर आएगी। इसके लिए 1 मार्च से सफाई अभियान की शुरुआत की जाएगी। सात जनपदों के लाखों लोगों के लिए जीवनदायिनी इस नदी के प्रदूषित पानी को निर्मल बनाकर हिंडन नदी को पुराना स्वरूप दिया जाएगा। इस नदी का उद्गम स्थल सहारनपुर जिला है और दिल्ली से कुछ दूरी पर यह यमुना में मिल जाती है। फिलहाल इसका पानी इतना दूषित है कि इसमें जलीय जीव भी नहीं जीवित रह पाते हैं।

हरित पुरुष के नाम से प्रसिद्ध विजय पाल बघेल ने इस नदी को स्वच्छ और साफ बनाने का बीड़ा उठाया है। उन्होंने शनिवार को इस बारे में मीडिया से बात की।



हिंडन नदी (फाइल फोटो)

विजय ने बताया कि ब्रिटिश शासन में हरनंदी का नाम बदलकर हिंडन कर दिया गया था। अब इसे फिर से हिंडन को हरनंदी बनाने का वक्त आ गया है। इसके लिए 1 मार्च से सहारनपुर से गीतमबुद्धनगर तक यमुना को इस सहायक नदी के

सफाई की मुहिम शुरू की जाएगी। नदी के तटवर्ती इलाकों में बसे गांवों और नगरों के लोगों को इसके पानी को स्वच्छ और निर्मल बनाए रखने के लिए जागरूक किया जाएगा। बिना उनकी सहभागिता के यह संभव नहीं है। सरकार से भी नदी

● नदी किनारे बसे गांव के लोगों को स्वच्छता के लिए करेंगे जागरूक

की सफाई से जुड़े जरूरी कदम उठाने की मांग की जाएगी।

उन्होंने कहा कि उनका मकसद हरनंदी को उस ऐतिहासिक बिरासत को अगली पीढ़ी तक अनुष्ण पहुंचाना है। सहारनपुर के ऊपरी शिवालिक पर्वत माला स्थित पुरकटांडा गांव हिंडन का उद्गम स्थल है। यह नदी सहारनपुर, मुजफ्फरनगर, मेरठ, बागपत, गाजियाबाद और गीतमबुद्ध नगर से होते हुए दिल्ली से कुछ दूरी पर यमुना में समाहित हो जाती है। पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश में बेहतहाशा उद्योगों की स्थापना ने इस नदी को गंदे नाले में तब्दील कर दिया है। ईंसान तो दूर, इसके विपरीत जल में जलीय जीव भी नहीं पनप पाते हैं।

Jansatta 08-February-2021

उत्तराखंड में ग्लेशियर टूटा, 10 की मौत

25 मजदूर बचाए गए, रात को 175 लोगों के लापता होने की आशंका; जलस्तर बढ़ने पर बचाव कार्य रुका

सुनील दत्त पांडेय
देहरादून, 7 फरवरी।

उत्तराखंड के गढ़वाल मंडल के चमोली जिले के जोशीमठ से 25 किलोमीटर दूर रैणी गांव, ऋषि गंगा और धौली गंगा तपोवन क्षेत्र में नंदादेवी ग्लेशियर का एक बड़ा हिस्सा टूट जाने से तबाही मच गई। अभी तक 10 लोगों के शव निकाले जा चुके हैं जबकि मुख्यमंत्री त्रिवेन्द्र सिंह रावत ने 175 से ज्यादा लोगों के लापता होने की आशंका जताई है। दो सुरंगों में फंसे 25 मजदूरों को सुरक्षित निकाला जा चुका है।

ऋषि गंगा जल विद्युत परियोजना और तपोवन बैराज परियोजनाओं में काम कर रहे 125 मजदूर अभी तक लापता हैं। मुख्यमंत्री ने मृतकों के परिजनों को चार लाख रुपए का मुआवजा देने की भी घोषणा की। प्रधानमंत्री राष्ट्रीय राहत कोष से भी दो-दो लाख रुपए की अनुग्रह राशि प्रदान करने को मंजूरी दी गई।

चमोली जिले की जिलाधिकारी स्वाति एस भदौरिया ने बताया कि अब तक धौलीगंगा तपोवन और ऋषि गंगा क्षेत्र में मलबे में से 10 लोगों के शव निकाले जा चुके

बाकी पेज 8 पर



जोशीमठ में ग्लेशियर टूटने से आई बाढ़ और (इनसेट) बचावकर्मियों ने एक सुरंग से एक मजदूर को बाहर निकाल लिया।

सैलाब में बही ऋषिगंगा पनबिजली परियोजना

नई दिल्ली, 7 फरवरी (भाषा)।

उत्तराखंड में ग्लेशियर टूटने से ऋषिगंगा नदी पर 13.2 मेगावाट की एक छोटी पनबिजली परियोजना बह गई है लेकिन निचले इलाकों में बाढ़ का कोई खतरा नहीं है क्योंकि जल स्तर सामान्य हो गया है।

रविवार शाम यहां हुई एक आपात बैठक में मंत्रिमंडल सचिव राजीव गोवा की अध्यक्षता वाली राष्ट्रीय संकट प्रबंधन समिति (एनसीएमसी) को यह जानकारी दी गई। एक आधिकारिक प्रवक्ता ने बताया कि सेना और आइटीवीपी द्वारा राहत व बचाव अभियान का समन्वय किया जा रहा है। सभी लापता लोगों का पता लगाने और उन्हें बचाने के सभी संभव प्रयास किये जा रहे हैं।

ग्लेशियर टूटने से ऋषिगंगा नदी में जल स्तर बढ़ गया और

बाकी पेज 8 पर

अवैध वसूली का वीडियो सामने आने के बाद पूरी पुलिस चौकी निलंबित

जनसत्ता संवाददाता
नोएडा, 7 फरवरी।