#### Central Water Commission Technical Documentation Directorate Bhagirath(English)& Publicity Section

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The News Clippings on Water Resources Development and allied subjects are enclosed for perusal of the Chairman, CWC, and Member (WP&P/D&R/RM), Central Water Commission. The soft copies of clippings have also been uploaded on the CWC website.

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Nav Bharat Times (Hindi) Punjab Keshari (Hindi) The Hindu Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi) Deccan Chronicle Deccan Herald

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## might intensify agitation

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE CHANDIGARH, 3 JULY

The Indian National Lok Dal on Tuesday threatened to intensifyits Jail Bharo agitation from 17 July if the ruling BJP at the Centre and state remained unresponsive to the demand for completion of Satluj Yamu-

na Link (SYL) canal.
Addressing volunteers of INLD and party's alliance partner Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) in Jhajjar, leader of the Opposition Abhay Singh Chautala said the Jail Bharo agitation has been launched for the completion of the SYL canal as directed by the Supreme Court, the completion of the now abandoned Dadupur-Nalvi canal and getting Mewat's legitimate share of water from Agra canal. Chautala said during its decade long rule at the Centre, instead of ensuring that the SYL canal the Congress indulged in unprecedented corruption and the people were so fed up of the Congress that for lack of viable alternative they chose the BJP to rule the country.

"Now, however, the people have an option in the form of



Third Front, the next elections will witness the change when BJP is ousted and Third Front government formed under the leadership of Mayawati," he said. Training his guns on the state govern ment, the INLD leader also accused the ruling BJP of mis-



leading the people on vital issue of SYL and conspiring with its central leadership to invent new excuses for delaying the implementation of the Supreme Court order regarding SYL canal. In addition, the BJP government in Haryana has failed in its primary duty of providing security and safety to the people. It has thrice allowed the dtate to be engulfed by divisive forces. In its nearly four years of rule it has attempted to destroy the traditional amity and brotherhood by trying to divide the castes and groups of the society.

Even more, the BJP has tried to create insecurity among the minority community and spread hatred against them, Chautala said. He also targeted the Congress whose senior leaders instigated violence during the Jat agitation for

reservation.

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## Shimla receives highest rain in a day in 68 years \*

118.6 mm during the last 24 hours, says Met Department

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA SHIMLA

Heavy rain continued to lash most parts of Himachal Pradesh, with Shimla recording the highest rainfall in a day in the last 68 years, the Meteorological (Met) Department said.

"As per the rainfall recorded today, Shimla witnessed 118.6 mm of rain during the last 24 hours. This is the highest rainfall in the city in a day in the last 68 years as per the data available with our department since 1951," Met Department director Manmohan Singh

"The previous highest rainfall in Shimla was at



A car crushed by a giant boulder after a landslide in Shimla on

108.4 mm, recorded on due the formation of cumu-April, 15, 2005," Mr. Singh

The weatherman said that the rain in Shimla occurred Ionimbus clouds and moisture incursion from both the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Hindustan Times Statesman
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# A climate of uncertainty

## States need to roll out proper adaptation techniques



n Monday, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said that the rainfall in June, the first month of the monsoon, was below the mark, with the country recording a deficit of about 5% as of June 30. The shortfall, the IMD said, may get worse, While this year's

erratic monsoon has not yet been OUITAKE

enough studies that show India's rainfall patterns are changing and monsoons are weakening in many parts of the country. According to a fact sheet released by Climate Trends, a US Global Research programme, monsoon rain has been below average in five of the last six years. These shifts, scientists feel, are part of long-term changes in where and when rain falls in India, driven by climate change. To understand the calamity that India faces, this fact sheet must be read with the latest World Bank study on how rising temperatures could cost India 2.8% of the gross domestic product.

In a country in which over 75% of the population is dependent on agriculture, the report said, falling yields from climate change would lead to a decline in living standards for agriculture-dependent households, while the effect on people's health would worsen the overall impact. The obvious question: Is India doing enough to tackle the climate-related challenges, especially because the country has to balance development needs with environmental concerns? There are some things that India is doing right. The thrust on renewable energy, especially solar, is a welcome move. But there are many areas that need more work: air pollution; water harvesting; groundwater recharge; climate-sensitive agriculture; building resilient cities; climate-efficient buildings; irrigation; and investment in public health.

Much of the effort has been top-down even though states have their own action plans on climate change. A review of the action plans by the Centre for Science and Environment shows that there is lack of comprehensive climate impact vulnerability assessment at local, regional and state levels; lack of clarity on climate change; and no effective institutional framework for monitoring and evaluating climate-related projects. This is a cause of worry because unless the gravity of the situation percolates to the lowest administrative structure, the districts, and there is a proper roll out of adaptation techniques, people will pay a heavy price for these administrative failures.

Covering L

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## How climate change can erode Indian coastline more intensely



AN UPDATE FROM INDIA'S FINEST RESEARCH INSTITUTES

ONE OF the biggest impacts of climate change is likely to be felt along coastlines across the world. Rising sea levels, accompanied by stronger waves and currents, are likely to reshape the coastlines and potentially inundate or even submerge many low-lying areas.

With a nearly 7,500-km coastline, India has a lot to worry. Although present knowl-

edge suggests that sea-level rises around the Indian coastline are likely to be relatively small compared to many other regions, it does not mean that there is no threat. India is in the process of preparing a comprehensive vulnerability map of its coastline, which will be used to finalise a coastal zone management plan.

A new study by scientists of IIT Bombay has now concluded that the impacts of climate change on India's coasts, at least in terms of coastal sediment transport, shoreline erosion and overall coastal vulnerability, could be far worse than previously understood. Rajasree B R, B Gopikrishna and M C Deo of the IIT's department of civil engineering conducted a study of potential climate-change impacts on five beaches and found that the rates of transport and ero-

sion could be much higher than estimated.

The amount and rate of erosion of coastlines is generally studied using data from the past and extrapolating the changes into the future. The researchers, however, used newly released data on projections of a large number of climate variables in the future.

"Refined climate models and data on basic variables are coming in, as more and more research happens on climate change and its impacts. So far, we have had to rely on historical data to make our assessments. But the latest models, computational resources as well as analysis techniques are now giving us a different picture. Our claim is that the projected data that we have used in our studies presents a more accurate depiction of what is likely to happen to our coasts in the fu-

#### THE RESEARCH

Use of new data to reassess vulnerability of beaches to effects of climate change

#### RESEARCHERS:

Rajasree BR, B Gopikrishna & MC Deo, IIT Bombay

ture," Deo says.

One of the key variables the researchers relied on was projected wind-generated waves around Indian coastline. Wind vectors influence wave height as well as direc-

tion, and also the currents that in turn affect the rates of coast sediment transport att and erosion.

Deo cited the example of the coast in lea Udupi of Karnataka. There is likely to be around a 25% increase in average wind speeds, resulting in about a 35% increase in for mean wave height in the region. Greater sa transport of sediments would likely result jed in erosion in the next 30 years rising to 1½ times as compared to the previous three decades.

"Different locations would face different kinds of impacts. Local geo-morphology as well as factors like whether the coastline is uninterrupted or is interspersed with barriers like harbours or river-mouths play a role. But, at a very general level, we can say that winds are likely

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"Different locations would face different kinds of impacts. Local geo-morphology as well as factors like whether the coastline is uninterrupted or is interspersed with barriers like harbours or river-mouths play a role. But, at a very general level, we can say that winds are likely

to intensify, and there is likely to be greater attack on our beaches, and coasts in the future than we had so far imagined. This will lead to a greater vulnerability of the coast-line," Deo said.

This can have far-reaching implications for the efforts to safeguard our coasts. Deo says many more studies, based on projected data and using new and sophisticated climate models, require to be undertaken for a better assessment of the potential impacts. "In the meanwhile, we need to strictly enforce the current regulations, including the Coastal Regulation Zone rules," he said.

For your research to be considered for this column, write to the author at amitabh.sinha@expressindia.com

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### hy Dam Safety Bill bothers Tamil Nadu

**ARUN JANARDHANAN** 

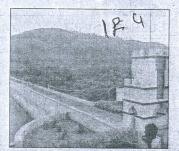
LAST WEEK, the Tamil Nadu Assembly unanimously adopted a special resolution demanding that the Centre keep the Dam Safety Bill 2018 in abeyance. A look at the Bill and why the state is opposing it:

#### Why the Bill

The stated objective is to help all states and Union Territories adopt uniform dam safety procedures. Besides providing for safety measures including surveillance, inspection, operation and maintenance, the Bill proposes a National Committee on Dam Safety to formulate policies and regulations, and State Committees on Dam Safety.

As per a central notification, the National Dam Safety Authority will liaise with the state organisations and dam owners for standardisation of dam safety-related data and practices, besides giving dam safety assistance, maintaining a national-level database of dams with records of failures, looking after design or construction of new dams and eliminating inter-state disputes.

The Bill is "to address all issues concerning dam safety including regular inspection of dams, emergency action plan, comprehensive dam safety review, adequate repair



Mullaperiyar dam in Kerala, owned by Tamil Nadu, Wikipedia

and maintenance funds for dam safety, Instrumentation and Safety Manuals," ac cording to the Centre.

Most dams in India are constructed and maintained by the states, while some of the bigger ones are managed by autonomous bodies such as Damodar Valley Corporation or Bhakra Beas Management Board. The Centre has come up with the Bill when about 450 dams are being constructed. "Due to lack of legal and institutional architecture for dam safety in India, dam safety is an issue of concern. Unsafe dams are a

hazard and dam break may cause disasters, leading to huge loss of life and property," says a June 13 statement following Cabinet approval for the Bill.

#### Tamil Nadu opposition

The unanimous resolution passed in the Assembly said: "That as the proposed draft Dam Safety Bill, 2018 contains clauses." which violate the rights of Tamil Nadu especially with respect to the Dams constructed by the Government of Tamil Nadu in the neighbouring State, and would cause various problems in their maintenance and operation, this House urges the Central Government to take up the legislation on Dam Safety only after consulting the States and after arriving at a consensus and till then, keep in abeyance the process of legis-

lating on Dam Safety". When the Centre had sought inputs from states in 2016, late chief minister Jayalalithaa had raised some questions about a clause allowing the National Dam Safety Authority to inspect dams situated across intra-state rivers. Parties in Tamil Nadu - the Opposition DMK joined the government in passing the resolution - view the Bill as an attempt to encroach on the state's powers.

#### Tamil Nadu & Kerala

Tamil Nadu owns dams in Mullaperiyar,

Parambikulam, Thunakadavu and Peruvaripallam in Kerala. The two states have engaged in dispute over the Mullaperiyar dam. When Tamil Nadu wanted to increase storage of the dam, Kerala opposed it citing safety threats. Eventually, a Supreme Court team inspected the dam and confirmed in

November 2014 that the dam was safe.
In May 2014, the SC had struck down a Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation (Amendment) Act 2006 limiting the full reservoir level to 136 feet. The dispute was over the Tamil Nadu government's demand to raise the water level to 142 feet and carry out repair. While that order went against Kerala, the latest move by the Centre has made Tamil Nadu cautious about its authority and assets.

#### Other states

Water experts expect that more objections will follow from other states, because most dams in India are owned and operated by state governments. Maintenance, which includes inspections and assessing the safety and strength of the dam, is mostly done by state Public Works Departments except in bigger dams that are managed by autonomous bodies. Tamil Nadu has demanded consultation with states before finalising the Bill.

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## With 118 mm, Shimla rain breaks 68-yr record

Traffic disrupted on Sanjauli bypass I Under-construction parking lot in Kaithu damaged

TRIBUNE REPORTERS

SHIMLA, IULY 3

Shimla received record rainfall of 118.6 mm in the last 24 hours, which is the highest in the city in a day in the last 68 years.

"As per the rainfall recorded on Tuesday, Shimla witnessed 118.6 mm rain during the last 24 hours. This is the highest rainfall in the city in a day in the last 68 years as per the data available with our department since 1951," Manmohan Singh, Director of local MeT office, said.

"The previous highest rainfall in Shimla was at 108.4 mm, recorded on July 15, 2005," he said.

The heavy rain in Shimla was due the formation of tall cumulonimbus clouds and moisture incursion from both Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal, he said.

Monsoon, which set in on June 27, remained active during the past 24 hours and heavy rain occurred at isolated places in the districts of Shimla, Bilaspur, Solan, Sirmaur and Una forcing the maximum and minimum temperatures to dip by 2 to 3 degrees across the state.

The state received 33 per cent excess rain from June 1 to July 3 as the pre-monsoon and monsoon showers lashed the state which received 153 mm of rain against the normal rainfall of 115 mm. Except Kinnaur with 40 per cent rain deficit, all other 11 districts recorded excess rain.

Shimla received 98 mm of rain in half-an-hour on Monday throwing normal life out of gear as gushing waters flooded roads, houses and shops and triggered landslides at several places.

The tall claims of the

A boulder damages a car; and (below) a railway track under debris in Shimla on Tuesday. Photos: AMIT KANWAR

Traffic blocked near hospital

Landslides occurred at many places in the town.
A landslide near Kamla Nehru Hospital blocked the vehicular movement on the road.

Debris falling from under-construction building blocked the

Shimla Municipal Corporation (SMC) proved hollow as roads were flooded with dirt and debris due to choked drains. Three vehicles parked at the lawyers' parking of the DC office were damaged as an uprooted tree fell on the vehicle.

Deputy Commissioner, Shimla, Amit Kashyap directed the SMC to clear all culverts immediately. He directed the Public Works Department to remove debris and muck from roadside and instructed the Forest Department to mark all dangerous trees so that they could be axed or pruned.

Landslides hit traffic on Parwanoo highway

Solan: Traffic remained disrupted throughout the day on Tuesday with frequent

landslides which occurred on the Parwanoo-Kumarhatti section of NH-22 where excavation work for four-laning work was underway.

The stretch between Dharampur and Kumarhatti has become most vulnerable due to excavation work on the hill side and cutting of road on the valley side. This had considerably reduced the width of the road.

Traffic was halted several times in the day when the earth excavation machines pulled down earth from the hill sides, thus uprooting trees and making the road vulnerable to accidents. Vehicles were seen moving at a snail's pace on this

railway track between the railway station and

Water entered some hous-

es in the lower Khalini area due to flash floods

triggered by heavy rain,

while a few houses were damaged in Bangala

colony of Engine Ghar

in Sanjauli.

stretch throughout the day.
The highway faced huge influx of vehicles throughout the day and commuters were

often witness to falling muck

PWD told to stop road work Billing (Palampur): The state government has directed the PWD to stop the widening of Bir-Billing road with immediate effect, keeping in view the landslides reported from Billing

slides reported in the past two days.

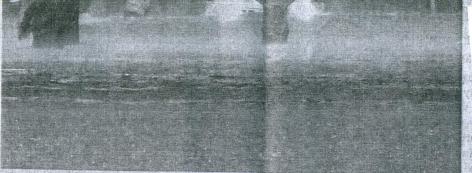
SDM, Baijnath, Vikas Shukla visited the land-slide-hit area along with the officers of the PWD, forest and revenue. He told the department to stop widening of the road and unscientific cutting of hills. He also directed the Division Forest Officer to identify a dumping site immediately so that debris could be dumped.

Billing wore a deserted look as no tourists reached Billing on Tuesday. On Monday, over 200 tourists were stuck here following heavy rain and a landslide on the Bir-Billing road. They were later rescued by the administration with the help of locals. A Tribune team visited Billing and witnessed land erosion on the road at different points. The road was not visible at many places. Billing is one of the most busy tourist resorts of Kangra district and also famous for paragliding which attracts hundreds of tourists daily to enjoy it. However, the ecology of Billing has been disturbed. There is continuous landslides and tourists are afraid of visiting Billing.

If no steps have been taken to check the environmental degradation in Billing, the attraction of the famous destination will vanish soon.

Information gathered by The Tribune revealed that that the landslides took place because of widening of the Bir-Billing road.





Helping hand: Rescue services personnel look for injured commuters in Andheri, where a foot-over-bridge collapsed on Tuesday morning. (Right) A man signals a car on an inundated road at the signals a car on an inundated road at the signal s

Rain inundates Mumbai; pedestrian section of Gokhale road bridge linking Andheri East and West gives way

# Maximum chaos as ३ 131 mm rain in 24 hours 'Mumbai locals' stop brings road traffic to a halt

AJEET MAHALE

Five people were injured and Mumbai's suburban Western Railway service was paralysed for several hours after a section of a crucial road overbridge came crashing down on the tracks.

The incident took place around 7.30 a.m. The pedestrian section of the Gokhale Road bridge, which connects Andheri (East) with Andheri (West) collapsed on the tracks below following incessant rains, damaging the overhead equipment as well as a portion of platforms eight and nine of Andheri station.

Dwarkaprasad Sharma, Girdhari Singh and Asmita Katkar were crossing the bridge when it gave way. They suffered multiple fractures. Manoj Mehta was waiting for a train on platform No.8 when the debris

ender to a state of the another



Commuters at Goregaon.

• ARUNANGSU ROY CHOWDHURY

fell on him. Haresh Koli fell on the tracks at platform No. 1 as the peak hour rush became unmanageable after the collapse.

Nearly 500 personnel from the Railways, the Fire Brigade, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation and the National Disaster Response Force worked for several hours to remove the debris from the tracks.

Railway Minister Piyush Goyal visited the site in the evening. He said Commissioner of Rail Safety would hold an inquiry and submit its report within 15 days. A joint-safety audit would be conducted by the railways, the BMC and IIT at 445 road overbridges, foot overbridges and bridges over pipelines in Mumbai.

"I do not want to indulge in a blame game," said Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis. "The incident has happened and that is the reality. We will have to fix the responsibility on someone, be it the BMC or the government or the railways."

The Western Railway resumed services between Bandra and Churchgate and between Goregaon and Virar around 9 a.m. Services to Churchgate and CST from Goregaon started around 2.15 p.m. WR resumed services on the fast corridor by late evening.

#### TANVI DESHPANDE MUMBAI

Mumbaikar's woke up to a downpour on Tuesday morning, with the city receiving 131 mm in a 24-hourperiod until 8.30 a.m. The figure stood at 98.3 mm by the end of the day. Water logging in many places disrupted traffic.

The Indian Meteorological Department's Santacruz observatory recorded 98.3 mm from dawn to dusk on Tuesday, while the Colaba observatory recorded 45.4 mm. Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation's automated weather station Malad (West) recorded the highest rainfall of 97.2 mm, followed by Chembur (96.8 mm), till 5.30 p.m.

#### Action reaction

The heavy downpour led to water logging in Central Mumbai's Hindmata junction for at least three hours



An ambulance in Central Mumbai. \*PRASHANT NAKWE

and traffic had to be diverted over the flyover. Other chronic flooding spots in Central Mumbai, the Sion's King's circle and the Gandhi market, were under ankledeep water for hours. The other areas that saw flooding include Andheri subway, Parel TT, Shindewadi, Bhoiwada, Parel, Dharavi, Chunabhatti, Chembur, Vikhroli, Ghatkopar, Bhandup, Sakinaka, Chincholi Road, Dindoshi Road, New Link Road Malad and Jogeshwari.

There were 13 incidents of slabs collapsing across the city, but no injuries were reported. A 30-feet wall collapsed on a house in suburban Thane's Ghodbunder Road area, killing one person.

In Bandra, the fire brigade received a call around 11 am that a youth was drowning in Shastri Nagar nullah no.3 near Bandra-Kurla Complex. The brigade's rescue teams were sent to the spot, but the youth could not be found.

"Only one person had seen him going into the sea. Even the CCTV cameras showed nothing. We searched until 3 pm, after which we called it off. Nobody has been reported missing. We have asked locals to alert us if a body washes ashore. It is possible that the person managed to save himself," said a fire brigade official.

ightning strikes claim more lives annually in India than other natural disasters such as floods and cyclones. They have turned deadlier over the years.

Climate change is leading to extreme weather events such as storms, rain, heatwaves and lightning are getting more frequent and more intense, causing more deaths and destruction.

However, while floods and heat waves that impact large swathes of the population attract the spotlight, lightning strikes that prove dangerous to individuals get less attention.

The average number of people who died of lightning strikes every year between 2006 and 2015 was about 50% higher than the decade before, National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data shows. Taking into account population growth, the average deaths from lightning strikes per million people in 2006-2015 was 26% more than in 1996-2005.

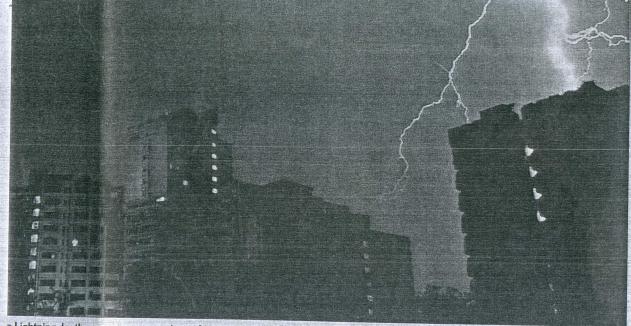
Part of the reason for the higher number is better reporting but the increasing number of lightning strikes could be playing a role, scientists from the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology said.

V Gopalkrishnan and his colleagues at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, examined satellite data for the period from 1990-2013, and found a 2-3% increase in lightning strikes.

Lightning deaths are more common in rural areas where the presence of open spaces and outdoor work leads to more casualties. However, higher particulate matter pollution and loss of vegetation is also making urban areas more susceptible to lightning strikes.

The researchers found that Aerial Optical Depth (AOD), which captures how much sunlight is obstructed from reaching the earth's surface by aerosols, has a positive correlation with lightning strikes. More green cover also decreases the chances of a deadly lightning strike.

"When aerosol loading increases in the atmosphere, it makes the cloud grow taller. If the vertical height of the cloud increases, there will be an increase in the



 Lightning deaths are more common in rural areas. However, higher particulate matter pollution and loss of vegetation is also making urban areas more susceptible to lightning strikes.

charge separation or the distance between the positive and negative charge," Gopalkrishnan explained.

"The greater the charge separation, the greater the likelihood of a lightning strike," he said.

How climate change impacts lightning strikes is still not well understood. Abnormal surface-level heating that leads to the formation of deeper thunderstorm clouds, could be giving rise to more lightning strikes, the scientist said.

However, not every body is convinced that pollution is contributing to more lightning strikes. "Deep convective clouds have greater chance of lightning events, but it depends greatly on how the clouds are developing, how the internal charging takes place," SNT ripathi, ascientist at ITT Kanpur, said.

#### MONITORINGLACUNAE

Experts, however, agree that India is especially prone to lightning strikes and also fatalities, and not having a monitoring network and lack of awareness are costing lives. Barring a handful of states,

there is no lighting monitoring network on the ground.

"India is a very populous country—this certainly is a factor. But another very important factor is that India is a country where a lot of people work outdoors. These people are often caught in places that provide no proper shelter for safety when storms threaten," Mark Hoekzema, chief meteorologist at Earth Networks, a US-based company that operates a global lightning detection network, said.

"Another reason is the climate of India – being in the location it is on the earth, with a lot of heat and plenty of moisture from the Indian Ocean, it is an area that gets a lot of thunderstorms," he said.

IITM, which is under the earth sciences ministry, operates a lightning location network in Maharashtra. It is planning to expand this network, but some states like Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, West Bengal, and most recently Odisha, have already signed agreements with Earth Networks to provide lightning monitoring services.

"Spikes in the amount of in-cloud light-

ning are a known precursor to severe weather on the ground and can be used for severe weather prediction and alerting," Hoekzema said.

"Andhra Pradesh has become a customer of Earth Networks' data earlier this year, and is using it with the help of its state disaster response agencies operating in the field to alert people about imminent lightning strikes up to around 30 minutes beforehand."

India has only recently started to seriously study thunderstorms.

"The expert group looking at thunderstorms will also be studying lightning," Madhavan N Rajeevan, secretary, ministry of earth sciences, said.

"Lightning is a common phenomenon during thunderstorms. Deaths happen because people are notable to respond in time," Rajeevan said.

TOMORROW Hottest years, warmest decades

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रात से मुंबई में हो रही लगातार बारिश कहर बनकर टूटी। कहीं मोबाइल टॉवर ब्लास्ट हुआ, तो कहीं आग लगने और जमीन धंसने के हादसे हुए। सबसे बड़ा हादसा

अधेरी स्टेशन के करीब हुआ जहां एक फुट ओवरब्रिज का हिस्सा रेल ट्रैक पर गिर गया जिससे 5 लोग घायल हो गए। लगातार चल रही बारिश की वजह से लोकल ट्रेनों की आवाजाही

ठप हो गई। सबसे बुरा असर वेस्टर्न लाइन पर पड़ा। सूचना मिलते ही घटनास्थल पर राहत और बचाव कार्य शुरू कर दिया गया। सेंट्रल रेलवे द्वारा यात्रियों की भीड़ को देखते हुए घाटकोपर स्टेशन से कुछ टेनों के रूट को बढ़ाना पड़ा। वहीं, रेल मंत्रालय ने इस हादसे की जांच

मुंबई, (पंजाब केसरी): सोमवार के आदेश दिए हैं। हादसे के बाद अंधेरी और बोरीवली के बीच ट्रैफिक जाम हो गया। बता दें कि मुंबई में सोमवार रात से ही लगातार बारिश हो रही है जिससे जनजीवन अस्त-व्यस्त हो गया है। जगह-

मोबाइल टावर

ध्वरत हुए तो

कहीं पर जमीन

धरा गड

जगह जलभराव होने से लोगों की परेशानियां बढ़ गयी हैं। सियोन रेल वे स्टेशन का रेलवे ट्रैक पूरी तरह जलमंग्न हो चका है। दादर, हिंदमाता और माटुंगा इलाके में भी पानी भर गया

है। माटुंगा इलाके में भी पानी भरने से लोगों को भारी दिक्कतों का सामना करना पड़ रहा है। ठाणे, वाशी, कोलाबा, कुर्ला, सायन, हिंदमाता, सांताक्रूज, माहिम, बांद्रा और अंधेरी समेत करीब 10 से ज्यादा इलाकों में पानी भर जाने से ट्रैफिक पर असर पड़ा।



मुम्बई में तेज वर्षा के बाद बाढ़ में डूबी सड़क पर सस्ता ढूंढकर आगे बढ़ते राहगीर। (छाया : प्रे.ट्र.)

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 04.07.2010 in the

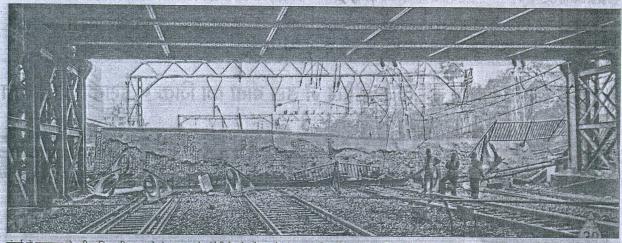
Hindustan Times Statesman The Times of India (N.D.) Indian Express Tribune Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi) Punjab Keshari (Hindi) The Hindu Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi) Deccan Chronicle Deccan Herald '

M.P.Chronicle Aaj (Hindi) Indian Nation Nai Duniya (Hindi) The Times of India (A) Blitz

and documented at Bhagirath(English) & Publicity Section, CWC.

## से उत्तराखंड तक बारिश से आफत



मुंबई में लगातार हो रही बारिश की वजह से मंगलवार को अंधेरी रेलवे स्टेशन के पास फुटओवर ब्रिज का एक हिस्सा ट्रटकर ट्रैक पर गिर पड़ा। इससे ट्रेन थम गई। 🖣 प्रेट

नई दिल्ली। देश के ज्यादातर हिस्सों में कई दिनों से हो रही भारी बारिश आफत बन गई है। मुंबई में मंगलवार को मुसलाधार बारिश की वजह से रेलवे के फुटओवर ब्रिज का एक हिस्सा गिर गया। इसमें पांच लोग घायल हो गए। गनीमत रही कि ट्रेन के ड्राइवर ने इमरनेंसी ब्रेक लगाकर टेन को रोक लिया वर्ना बडा हादसा हो सकता था। उधर, उत्तराखंड में तेन बारिश में कई मकान और सड़कें बह गईं। बिहार में नदियां उफान पर हैं तो उत्तर प्रदेश के कई जिलों में भी बारिश से जनजीवन अस्त व्यस्त हो गया है।

राज्यों में अगले 24 घंटे में मुसलाधार बारिश की चेतावनी जारी

से ज्यादा पुल बह गए उत्तराखंड में हो रही भारी बारिश से

#### तेज बारिश की संभावना

6 जुलाई तक मानसन की सक्रियता के चलते यूपी, हरियाणा, बिहार, पंजाब, हिमाचल प्रदेश, उत्तराखंड और जम्मू कश्मीर में तेज बारिश होगी। दिल्ली-एनसीआर के कुछ इलाकों में बुधवार को

हल्की से तेज बारिश होने का अनुमान है।

मौसम विभाग के मृताबिक

कैलास मानसरोवर तीर्थयात्रा से लौट रहे 1400 से अधिक भारतीय खराब मौसम के कारण तिब्बत के पास नेपाल के पहाड़ी इलाके में फंसे हुए हैं। इन्हें निकालने के लिए भारत सरकार ने नेपाल से मदद मांगी है। विदेश मंत्री सुषमा स्वराज ने टवीट कर यह जानकारी दी। काढमांडू स्थित भारतीय दूतावास नेपालगंज सिमीकोट हिलसा मार्ग की स्थिति पर पैनी नजर रखे हुए है। 🌶 ब्योरा पेज 08

केलास मानसरोवर के १४०० रात्री नेपाल में फंसे

#### शिमला में 68 वर्षों में सबसे ज्यादा बारिश

शिमला में पिछले 24 घंटों के दौरान 118.6 मिलीमीटर बारिश हुई। यह पिछले 68 सालों में इस शहर में एक दिन में हुई सबसे अधिक बारिश है। इससे पहले 15 अप्रैल 2005 को 108.4 मिलीमीटर बारिश हुई थी।

#### दिल्ली में मंगलवार की सबसे ठंडी सबह

दिल्ली में मंगलवार की सुबह पिछले सात वर्षों में सबसे ज्यादा ठंडी रही। न्युनतम तापमान २३.६ रिकॉर्ड किया गया जो सामान्य से चार डिग्री सेल्सियस कम है। 8 जुलाई से फिर मानसून की बारिश की आसार हैं।

News item/letter/article/editorial published on

**Hindustan Times** Statesman The Times of India (N.D.) Indian Express Tribune Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi) Punjab Keshari (Hindi) The Hindu Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi) Deccan Chronicle Deccan Herald

M.P.Chronicle Aaj (Hindi) Indian Nation Nai Duniya (Hindi) The Times of India (A)

and documented at Bhagirath(English) & Publicity Section, CWC.

खाडियों का जलस्तर बढ़ने से प्रशासन सतर्क

## बह से रात तक बारिश रत पानी-पानी ११-4

2.34 (Sept. 2015年)

स्रत @ पत्रिका. स्रत में सोमवार को दिनभर थम-थम कर बरसने के बाद मंगलवार को बादल सुबह से रात तक लगातार बरसे। एक ही दिन में पांच इंच बारिश ने शहर को पानी-पानी कर दिया। कई इलाकों में पानी भर जाने से लोगों को परेशानी का सामना करना पड़ा। जगह-जगह ट्रैफिक जाम रहा। शहर से बहने वाली खाडियों का दे जलस्तर बढ़ने से प्रशासन सतर्क हो गया है।

रिमझिम बारिश का दौर सोमवार आधी रात से ही शुरू हो गया था। मंगलवार तडके झमाझम बारिश शुरू हो गई, जो शाम तक जारी रही। सुबह लोगों को घरों से रैन कोट और छाते लेकर निकलना पड़ा। तेज बारिश के कारण कई इलाकों में सड़कों तथा रेलवे अंडर पास में पानी भर गया, जिससे लोग रास्ते में फंस गए। पानी में कई वाहन बंद

#### खुब भीगे, खुब आनंद लिया



शहर के लोग कई दिनों से अच्छी बारिश का इंतजार कर रहे थे। मंगलवार की झमाझम बारिश का लोगों ने आनंद भी खूब लिया। स्कूल से लौटते समय विद्यार्थी बारिश में मौज-मस्ती करते दिखाई दिए। कई लोग बारिश में भीगने के लिए सड़कों पर मोटर साइकल घुमाते और मस्ती करते नजर आए। भजियों की दुकानों पर भीड़ रही।

होने से इन्हें धक्के मार कर बाहर निकाला गया। कई लोग बारिश के कारण घरों से बाहर नहीं निकले। स्कल जाने वाले विद्यार्थियों को भी दिक्कतों का सामना करना पडा। फ्लंड कंट्रोल के मुताबिक सुबह

छह से शाम छह बजे तक सुरत में पांच इंच बारिश दर्ज की गई। शहर से बहने वाली खाडियों का जलस्तर बढ़ने से प्रशासन की चिंता बढ गई है और वह एहतियाती कार्रवाई में जुट गया है।

भारत सरकार

Government of India केन्द्रीय जन्न आयोग

Central Water Commission बाढ़ पूर्वानुमान प्रबोधन निदेशालय

Flood Forecast Monitoring Directorate

Tele/ Fax:

011-26106523, 26105274

e-mail: apdrastate. '-, 14

Room No. 5<sup>th</sup> Floor(S), Sewa Bhawan, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110066.

विषय : विमाक 4/7/2018 की समाचार की कतरम ( News Clippings ) प्रस्तुत करमे के सम्बन्ध में ।

मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी सनाचारों की कतरन ( News Clippings ) अवलोकन हेतु प्रस्तुत हैं :

सलंब्न : उपरोक्तानृसार

(शहायक भिन्दान प्रि

उपनिदेशक

। जिंद्रशक (वा.प.प्र. ) Mg on Ly.

कृत्या केन्द्रीय जल आयोग की वेव शाईट पर अपलोड करने की व्यवस्था करें।

**अ** निदेशक (तकर्मकी प्रनेखन )

19 9 ch

नवभारत टाईम्स ( दिल्ली ) The Tribune (Chandigarh) The Hindu (Chennai)

Reservoir

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SOURCE-KSNDMC Website

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Harangi

Hemavathi

Tungabhadra

Malaprabha

The Times of India (Mumbai) The Telegraph (Kolkata) हिन्दुस्तान (पटना)

The Deccan Chronical ( Hyderabad ) Central Chronical (Bhopal)

### Copious flow 1819.00 1773.60 1756.51 2848.83 2907.16 The water level in the Tungabhadra dam in Hosapete rose to 1611.47 feet on 108.55 Monday after an inflow of 31,780 cusecs following heavy rain in catchment 2282.38 1611.47

### 24 Delhi-bound flights diverted after heavy rain lashes city

2079.50 2041.80

1704.81 1676.85

areas. DH PHOTO

**Present** 

level\*

NEW DELHI, PTI: As many as 24 Delhi-bound flights were diverted to other destinations after monsoon rains lashed the city on Monday evening, sources in the Delhi airport said.

The diverted flights included both domestic as well as international, the sources said, adding that the diversions took place between 8.45 and 9.45

While close to a dozen Air India flights were diverted to other destinations, airlines of private carriers such as Indi-Go, Vistara and Jet Airways were also diverted.

A Singapore Airlines flight from Singapore, an Emirates flight from Dubai and a Gulf Air flight from Bahrain were among the international flights diverted because of the rain, the sources



RAINING CATS AND DOGS:Commuters make their way across a street during heavy rain, in Ahmedabad on Monday. PTI

### IMD issues heavy rainfall warning

NEW DELHI: Eastern India, Himalayan foothills and parts of the western coast, including coastal Karnataka, are likely to receive heavy rainfall in the next two days, India Meteorological Department (IMD) has warned.

"Heavy to very heavy rain at a few places with extremely heavy rain at isolated spots are very likely in Uttarakhand, east Uttar Pradesh, sub-Himalayan West Bengal and Sikkim, Bihar, Assam and Meghalaya," IMD said in its forecast on Monday

In addition, heavy rainfall at isolated places is likely to be seen in parts of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Chandigarh, Jammu and Kashmir, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Konkan and Goa, Rayalaseema, Tamil Nadu, coastal Karnataka, Lakshadweep and parts of the North East.

As of Monday, there is a 7%

deficiency in monsoon rainfall for the country, which the met office hopes, would be over shortly.

Out of 36 states and Union Territories, only 10 states received deficient rainfall whereas maximum deficiency has been recorded only in Gujarat and Manipur, both over 60%.

Eastern Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, sub-Himalayan West Bengal, Assam and Meghalaya are to receive heavy rainfall in

the next 48 hours. Heavy rains are also likely in the western and central India and along the coast but only in isolated spots.

The South West monsoon arrived on the Malabar coast on May 29 and marched for the next two weeks before it went into a break period for nearly

It revived around June 25 and quickly covered the entire country in the next three days. **DH News Service** 

Hindustan Times ( Delhi ) ਜਕभाएत टाईਸ्स ( ਫਿल्ली ) The Tribune ( Chandigarh ) The Hindu ( Chennai ) The Assam Tribune ( Guwahati ) The Times of India ( Mumbai ) The Telegraph ( Kolkata ) ਵਿਭਾਵ੍ਹਦਗਰ ( ਧਟਗਾ ) The Deccan Hearld (Bengluru)
The Deccan Chronical (Hyderabad)
Central Chronical (Bhopal)

## With 118 mm, Shimla rain breaks 68-yr

Traffic disrupted on Sanjauli bypass | Under-construction parking lot in Kaithu

TRIBUNE REPORTERS

SHIMLA, JULY 3

Shimla received record rainfall of 118.6 mm in the last 24 hours, which is the highest in the city in a day in the last 68 years.

"As per the rainfall recorded on Tuesday, Shimla witnessed 118.6 mm rain during the last 24 hours. This is the highest rainfall in the city in a day in the last 68 years as per the data available with our department since 1951," Manmohan Singh, Director of local MeT office, said.

"The previous highest rainfall in Shimla was at 108.4 mm, recorded on July 15, 2005," he said.

The heavy rain in Shimla was due the formation of tall cumulonimbus clouds and moisture incursion from both Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal, he said.

Monsoon, which set in on June 27, remained active during the past 24 hours and heavy rain occurred at isolated places in the districts of Shimla, Bilaspur, Solan, Sirmaur and Una forcing the maximum and minimum temperatures to dip by 2 to 3 degrees across the state.

The state received 33 per cent excess rain from June 1 to July 3 as the pre-monsoon and monsoon showers lashed the state which received 153 mm of rain against the normal rainfall of 115 mm. Except Kinnaur with 40 per cent rain deficit, all other 11 districts recorded excess rain.

Shimla received 98 mm of rain in half-an-hour on Monday throwing normal life out of gear as gushing waters flooded roads, houses and shops and triggered landslides at several places.

The tall claims of the



A boulder damages a car; and (below) a railway track under debris in Shimla on Tuesday. PHOTOS: AMIT KANWAR



Shimla Municipal Corporation (SMC) proved hollow as roads were flooded with dirt and debris due to choked drains. Three vehicles parked at the lawyers' parking of the DC office were damaged as an uprooted tree fell on the vehicle.

Deputy Commissioner, Shimla, Amit Kashyap directed the SMC to clear all culverts immediately. He directed the Public Works Department to remove debris and muck from roadside and instructed the Forest Department to mark all dangerous trees so that they could be axed or pruned.

Landslides hit traffic on Parwanoo highway

**Solan:** Traffic remained disrupted throughout the day on Tuesday with frequent

landslides which occurred on the Parwanoo-Kumarhatti section of NH-22 where excavation work for four-laning work was underway.

The stretch between Dharampur and Kumarhatti has become most vulnerable due to excavation work on the hill side and cutting of road on the valley side. This had considerably reduced the width of the road.

Traffic was halted several times in the day when the earth excavation machines pulled down earth from the hill sides, thus uprooting trees and making the road vulnerable to accidents. Vehicles were seen moving at a snail's pace on this stretch throughout the day.

Traffic blocked near hospital

many places in the town.

A landslide near Kamla

Nehru Hospital blocked

the vehicular movement

Debris falling from

under-construction

building blocked the

railway track between

the railway station and

Water entered some hous-

es in the lower Khalini

area due to flash floods

triggered by heavy rain,

while a few houses were

damaged in Bangala

colony of Engine Ghar

on the road.

bus stand.

in Sanjauli.

Landslides occurred at

The highway faced huge influx of vehicles throughout the day and commuters were

#### हिनाकं <del>?- 7-2018</del> ... को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Hindustan Times (Delhi) नवभारत टाईम्स ( दिल्ली ) The Tribune (Chandigarh) The Hindu (Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati) The Times of India (Mumbai) The Telegraph (Kolkata) हिन्द्स्तान (पटना)

The Deccan Hearld (Bengluru) The Deccan Chronical (Hyderabad) Central Chronical (Bhopal)

MONDAY, JULY 2, 2018

### Flood waters receding in Hailakandi district

CORRESPONDENT

HAILAKANDI, July 1: Flood waters in Hailakandi district have by and large receded, barring some low-lying areas under Algapur Revenue Circle.

A flood bulletin released by the District Disaster Management Authority today revealed that flood waters have receded in most parts of the district, except in low-lying areas under Algapur Revenue Circle.

All the relief camps have been closed down with the inmates going back to their homes. Only one medical team is being deployed.

The administration is now

units damaged, fully and partially, under the four revenue

Deputy Commissioner Adil Khan visited the affected areas to inspect the damaged infrastructure, including breached embankments and directed the departments concerned to submit damage estimates as per SDRF and Assam State Disaster Manual norms.

Several major departments submitted damage estimate reports in the last DDMA meeting on Tuesday.

"Once the assessment report of houses damaged is submitted along with plan erti

focused on making on-the-spot mates of few departments, we assessment of the dwelling can send the total losses suffered by the district due to the deluge to Dispur within a week for necessary funds for restoration of damaged infrastructure and rehabilitation of the affected people," said District Development Commissioner FR Laskar.

Laskar, who is incharge of Elementary Education, disclosed that 458 lower and upper primary schools were fully, or in some cases partially affected by the deluge.

Over 3 lakh people in 235 villages were adversely hit during the first wave of floods, even as two persons



Vehicles stranded on a flooded road after a heavy downpour in Bhubaneswar on Sunday. - PTI

## Immediate need for flood preparedness

#### Dwaipayan

t is a well-established fact that one of the most ticklish problems bedevilling the fundstrapped State of Assam for a couple of decades now is the recurring floods. A long-term solution to it which is long overdue is of immediate need for neutralizing its taking a heavy toll not just on the State's fragile agrarian economy but also on the livelihood of the poor people in rural Assam in particular. Like floods, bank erosion is also a major irritant for the people of the State as a whole. There is a constant push from academics, representatives of leading civil society groups, students' bodies, media persons and others for a lasting solution to floods and erosion. But it is unfortunate that in spite of the pressure, there is so far no information available about the government planning an effective strategy for either resolving the nagging problem on a long-term basis or reducing it whatsoever. What has been the upshot of this go-slow approach is that flood which was almost soluble at the very beginning of its occurrence when it was less menacing than at present in the State has over the years grown far more intractable to deal with. The reason is all too evident during every monsoon when flood wreaks havoc and inflicts huge losses on the State and the common people, mostly poor villagers, in terms of money and materials, besides taking human and animal lives, both domestic and wild. Arguably, it has been observed over a period of time that the frequency of floods in Assam every year and not alternate year, has increased, and sadly, so has

its menace.

As a study case, if we take up the floods of 2017, it will be intelligible whether its frequency has become far more devastating than before. Yes, it had been. In the three high waves of floods that had lashed the State over a period of five months last year, nearly 34 lakh people had been adversely affected. The floods had claimed 134 lives as against 11

lives lost in 2011, and damaged embankments, bridges, roads, besides causing irreversible damage to croplands. That year, Dhemaji and Lakhimpur districts had been hit hard by floods, together with several small towns such as Majuli, Kokrajhar, Mankachar and Dhubri. What must have saddened one is that vast swathes of Dhemaji and Lakhimpur districts are now reportedly showing sign of being gradually

transformed into an arid land, a phenomenon the Government needs to look into and try ways for better management of rivers there.

Notably, last year's third wave of deluge was one of the worst in the State in the recent memory. That its intensity was high was well reverberated in the world-famed Kaziranga National Park when it claimed the lives of as many as 242 park animal including 26 one-horned rhinos, 196 hog deer and one tiger. This tragic incident of drowning of the fast-vanishing rare species reportedly came about during the third week of Au-

gust, 2017 when the third spell of floods ravaged the State.

That the flood situation in Assam worsens each year for the past couple of years needs no further elucidation, simply because even in terms of damage caused to the State, 2016's floods had been equally recordbreaker as those of the previous years, with lakhs of hectares of agricultural land being adversely affected. Around 40.92 lakh people were hit hard by floods. As per media re-

However, what is indeed a matter of prime concern is the State's loss of around 8,000 hectares of land on an average every year due to erosion. A recent report says, Assam has lost about an estimated 4.50 lakh hectares of land to erosion in the past few decades.

ports, the deluge had submerged 1,50,777 hectares of cropland, and taken as many as 31 lives.

However, what needs mention here is that on a study of the flood situation in the State for a few consecutive years, it was observed that it is the river-bank erosion that is far more damaging than the floods. The impression in this regard is further reinforced by media reports. The study also reveals that bank erosion stays active even in dry season. Which is why it is more serious an issue than floods. Moreover, the impact of erosion is everlasting but that of flood

is ephemeral. Though floods damage properties, croplands, infrastructure such as embankments, bridges, surface communication network, etc., it is manageable, if a forewarning system is made use of on time. However, what is indeed a matter of prime concern is the State's loss of around 8,000 hectares of land on an average every year due to erosion. Then, a recent depressing report says, Assam has lost about an estimated 4.50 lakh hectares of land to

erosion in the past few decades, certainly a vast tract.

In the State, the tale of bank erosion is in fact never-ending. Because every other day there will be reports of fresh low-lying areas on the edge of a river in particular, facing constant threat of erosion. Of late, we have similar information that large tracts of land in Lahorighat of Morigaon district with a school building, and those of Narayanpur at Jamuguri, have been eroded by

the Brahmaputra. Nowhere in the State probably has the erosion of river banks been so pronounced as it is in Majuli, widely-known as the largest river island in the world. To begin with, its total geographical area was 1,256 sq miles in 1950. But, depressingly, over the years with its constant erosion, the island has been reduced to a mere 450 sq km. In August 2016, it may be noted, the then Minister of State for Revenue and Disaster Management Pallab Lachan Das, revealed that since 2001 till that year, Majuli lost around 13,440 bighas of land to erosion.

What the State Government needs to do in this hour on a priority basis is remaining fully-prepared to tackle floods and minimize the loss caused by it because we have witnessed how the floods year after year causes large-scale devastations in terms of loss of life and property, that too in a brief spell of time. Last year's ravaging three waves of floods that continued up to August are a particularly gleaming example of that. It is indeed heartening that in a recent meeting on flood preparedness at the Kaziranga National Park presided over by the director of the park, it was decided to initiate a few remedial measures for the safety of wild animals of the park and for the general public travelling through it during floods.

As floods are an endemic problem, and their impact is widespread and swift unlike that of erosion, the imperative need is to put in place a flood forewarning mechanism already developed by the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASD-MA) for all the districts of the State to mitigate the people's sufferings and minimize the losses suffered during floods. However, one gratifying aspect of the otherwise gloomy scenario is the Centre's nod to set up an exclusive Brahmaputra Study Centre at the Gauhati University with a corpus of Rs 28 crore to be provided by the Ministry of DoN-ER. Much needed, the proposed Centre will hopefully soon be able to evolve an effective mechanism to resolve different aspects of the mighty river such as environment, flood management, hydropower production, etc., through research.

भारत सरकार

Government of India केन्द्रीय जल आयोग

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#### हिनाकं 1-7-2018 को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धा समाचार

Hindustan Times (Delhi) नवभारत टाईम्स ( दिल्ली ) The Tribune (Chandigarh) The Hindu (Chennai)

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### Rain woes: 3 deaths reported in Jammu; Governor reviews situation

## Valley on flood alert: Jhelum swells

SRINAGAR/JAMMU, PTI: **Authorities on Saturday** sounded a flood alert in central Kashmir even as three deaths were reported in rain-related incidents in the Jammu region.

On Late Saturday, Weather showed improvement in Jammu and Kashmir.

Intermittent rains since Friday night led to the flood alert in central Kashmir, but water levels had already started receding in the southern part of the Valley. The authorities had on Friday issued a flood alert in south Kashmir.

On Saturday, they put out an alert for low-lying areas in central Kashmir, including the summer capital Srinagar, and asked people to remain prepared for evacuation.

Schools across the Valley were closed on Saturday.

In Jammu region, three persons were killed and nearly a dozen houses damaged in rain-related mishaps since Friday, officials said. Harbans Lal (45) was washed away by a flash flood in a stream near his house in Akhnoor sector on was killed when a tree fell on the increasing water levels Saturday afternoon. 22-yearold Anzar Ahmad died in a



hershelter in Kishtwar district. of Jhelum and Tawi rivers,

similar case in Poonch district ernor N N Vohra reviewed a meeting on Saturday, a Raj on Friday. A woman, Jameela, the situation arising out of Bhavan spokesperson said.

Jammu and Kashmir Gov- and other major streams, at

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gered fears of a rerun in the Valley of the 2014 floods that caused widespread devastation and left over 300 people dead.

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## Flood alert in Kashmir, 3 deaths in Jammu





Water level of Jhelum river increases due to incessant rainfall in Srinagar on Saturday; (right) labourers place sandbags along the Jhelum riverbanks in an attempt to stop the flood water from spilling into residential areas. - PTI

SRINAGAR/JAMMU, June 30: Authorities today sounded a flood alert in central Kashmir even as three deaths were reported in rain-related mishaps in the Jammu region of the state.

Srinagar-bound traffic on the Jammu-Srinagar high was suspended due to the lurking threat of floods in the Valley, leaving hundreds of commuters stranded, officials said.

The Amarnath Yatra was halted again as both Pahalgam and Baltal routes were slippery because of the rain, a pared for evacuation. spokesperson of the Shri Amarnath Shrine Board said.

improvement later in the day in both regions of Jammu and

Intermittent rains since last night led to the flood alert in central Kashmir, but water levels had already started receding in the southern part of the Valley.

The authorities had yesterday issued a flood alert in south Kashmir. Today, they put out an alert for low-lying areas in central Kashmir, including the summer capital Srinagar, and asked people to remain pre-

Schools across the Valley were closed today. In the Jam-But the weather showed mu region, three persons were killed and nearly a dozen hal around 2 pm as a precauhouses damaged in rain-related mishaps since yesterday, officials said.

Harbans Lal (45) was washed away by a flash flood in a stream near his house in Natulphal village in Akhnoor sector this afternoon. A 22year-old man, Anzar Ahmad, died in a similar case in the Surankote area of Poonch district yesterday.

A woman, Jameela, was killed when a tree fell on her shelter in Kishtwar district.

On the Sringar-Jammu highway, Srinagar-bound vehicles were stopped at various places between Ramban and Banitionary measure, officials said.

The local administration was making arrangements to lodge passengers for the night at government buildings, including schools.

The Jammu-bound traffic was, however, allowed to proceed.

A fleet of vehicles, carrying over 2,000 Amarnath pilgrims, had also crossed the Jawahar tunnel around noon and reached the Pahalgam base camp, they said.

Jammu and Kashmir Governor NN Vohra reviewed the situation arising out of the increasing water levels of Jhelum and Tawi rivers, and other major streams, at a meeting this morning, a Raj Bhavan spokesperson said.

He directed the administration to keep all the agencies concerned at a high level of preparedness to deal with any exigency.

Kashmir has experienced rainfall over the past three days and yesterday the downpour intensified in many parts, including Srinagar.

The rising water levels triggered fears of a rerun in the Valley of the 2014 floods that caused widespread devastation and left over 300 people dead. - PTI

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A man helps a biker wade through a flooded road after Ganga level increased, at Danapur, Patna. PTI

#### **MET WARNS OF HEAVY RAINFALL**

- Heavy to very heavy rainfall is expected in large parts of India over next few days till Friday, the Met Department said on Monday
- The warning has been issued for parts of Uttarakhand, east UP, Himachal Pradesh, J&K, north Haryana and Chandigarh

#### **DELHI-BOUND FLIGHTS DIVERTED**

- Rains lashed several parts of Delhi on Monday after dust-laden winds swept the city
- At least 24 Delhi-bound flights, including five of Air India, were diverted to other destinations with most of the diversions taking place between 8.45 and 9.45 pm

#### Shimla drenched



The Ridge in Shimla after heavy rain on Monday. The state capital recorded 98 mm of rainfall within 30 minutes, leading to waterlogging.  $_{\mbox{\footnotesize AMIT}}$  KANWAR