News item/letter/article/editorial published of Jugust-06.08 204 Line

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RAIN PAIN IN MUMBAI

People wade through an waterlogged area in Mumbai on Friday, the day the city received nine hours of continuous showers. According to the Met department, the weather station at Santa Cruz recorded 128.9 mm rain and predicted more showers on Saturday. Several places like Hindmata, Parel, Sion, Wadala, Mahalaxmi temple and Byculla witnessed traffic snarls due to waterlogging. The suburban railway services was the worst hit, with 121 trains cancelled. *Prashant Nadkar*

News item/letter/article/editorial published on

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Assam flood situation improves

Water level of the Brahmaputra falling; 1.27 lakh people in 10 districts remain affected

Deccan Herald

GUWAHATI: In signs of easing of the flood situation in Assam, floodwaters on Friday receded and the water levels of the Brahmaputra and its tributaries were falling gradually even as 1.27 lakh people in ten districts remained affected by the calamity.

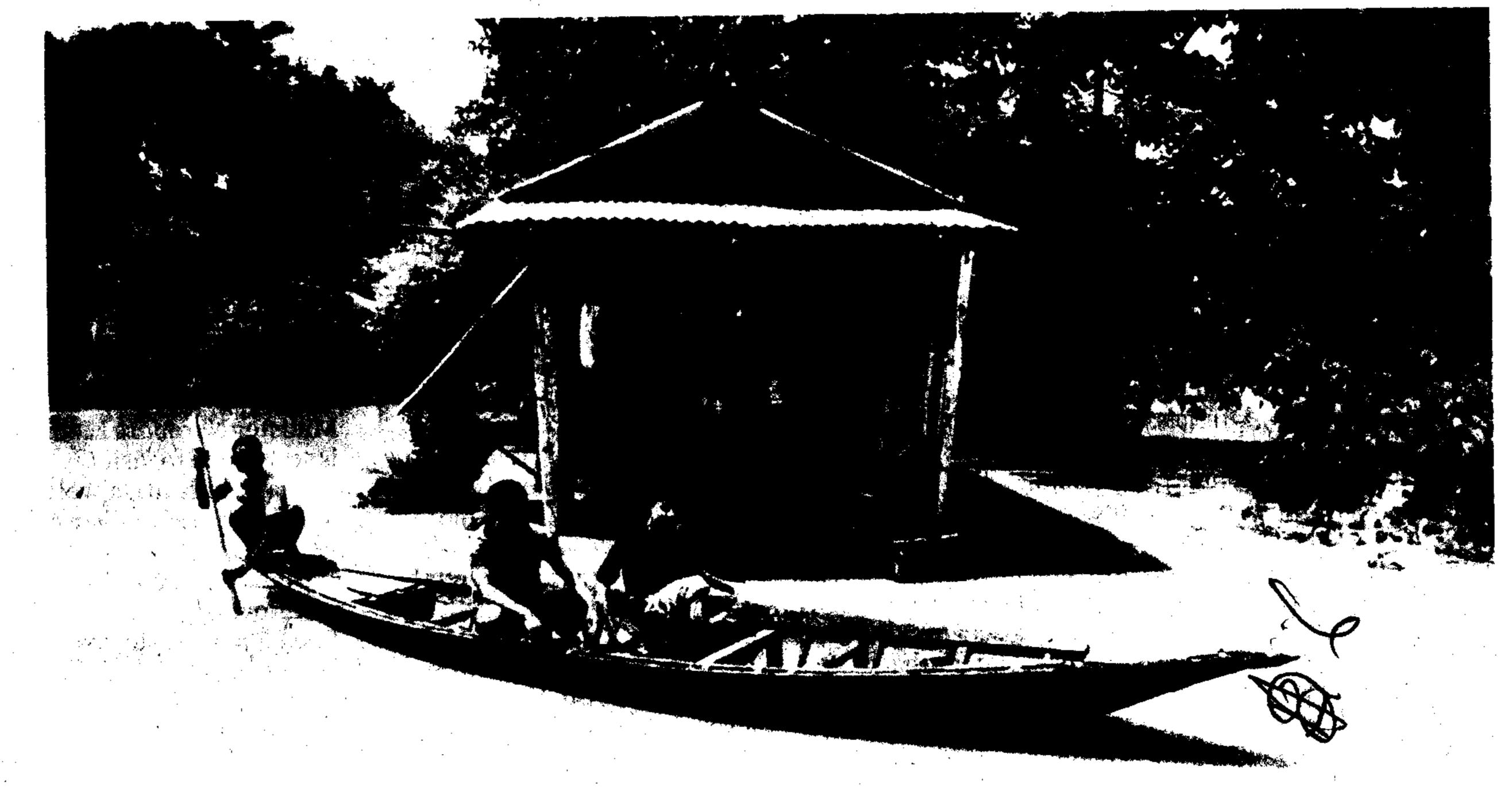
The Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA) said with the decline in the population hit by the deluge, the number of relief camps has also come down to 44 with 14,398 people taking shelter there.

The affected districts are Jorhat, Golaghat, Bongaigaon, Dhemaji, Barpeta, Dhubri, Morigaon, Kokrajhar, Goalpara and Chirang where 175 villages and 4.75 lakh hectares were affected, the ASDMA said.

Nearly three lakh people were suffering till yesterday in the 10 districts.

The death toll in the current wave of floods stood at 34 across the State.

The Brahmaputra is flow-



LIFE GOES ON: A man keeps his shop open in a flooded village in Morigaon district of Assam. - PHOTO: RITU RAJ KONWAR

ing above the danger mark only in Dhubri district, the ASDMA added.

In West Bengal, cloudy sky accompanied by a few

spells of rain helped keep day temperatures low with Burdwan recording the highest rainfall of 27.8 mm since Thursday morning. The flood situation improved as districts of Darjeeling, Coochbehar and Jalpaiguri, which have been receiving heavy rains for

several days in many places in the Terai and plains of North Bengal, went dry for the second consecutive day. -PTI News item/letter/article/editorial published of /690/-06. By of in t

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Heavy rain in Shimla and other Himachal towns

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

SHIMLA: The Southwest monsoon, which was confined to a few places in the hill state, hit the majority of its districts on Friday and resulted in a big spell of rain in Mandi, Kullu, Solan, Bilaspur, Sirmaur and Shimla districts. The earlier monsoon deficiency of around 20 percent is being covered now, said weather department officials. Transportation and marketing of apples in the hill state is at its peak but the heavy rain is causing considerable damage to roads in some places.

A very heavy downpour on Friday afternoon disrupted normal life in the state capital and all other nearby hill resorts like Kufri, Mashobara, Naldehra and Fagu. Rainwater choked the municipal drains and it became difficult to even walk on the fashionable Mall Road, and in Lower Bazaar and other streets of the town. Vehicular traffic also came to a standstill on the circular road as water overflowed on roads for a long time.

The massive rainfall lowered the temperature by a few notches and the capital town had a minimum temperature of 17 degrees Celsius today. A number of landslips and uprooted trees were also reported from various nearby resorts.

There was more than 50 mm of rain recorded in the town on Friday. Interestingly, in spite of heavy rains, Shimla is facing an acute shortage of drinking water these days. With a minimum requirement of 42 MLD (millions of litres per day), the capital town is just getting 20 MLD of fresh water daily. The municipal corporation is having great difficulty in supplying water on alternate days to different localities and suburbs of the town. The huge quantity of silt that comes with the rain and hits water sources is the main reason for this disruption of fresh water supply to residents, said officials of the local body.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on flugus 1-3.8.2016 in the

Hindustan Times
Statesman
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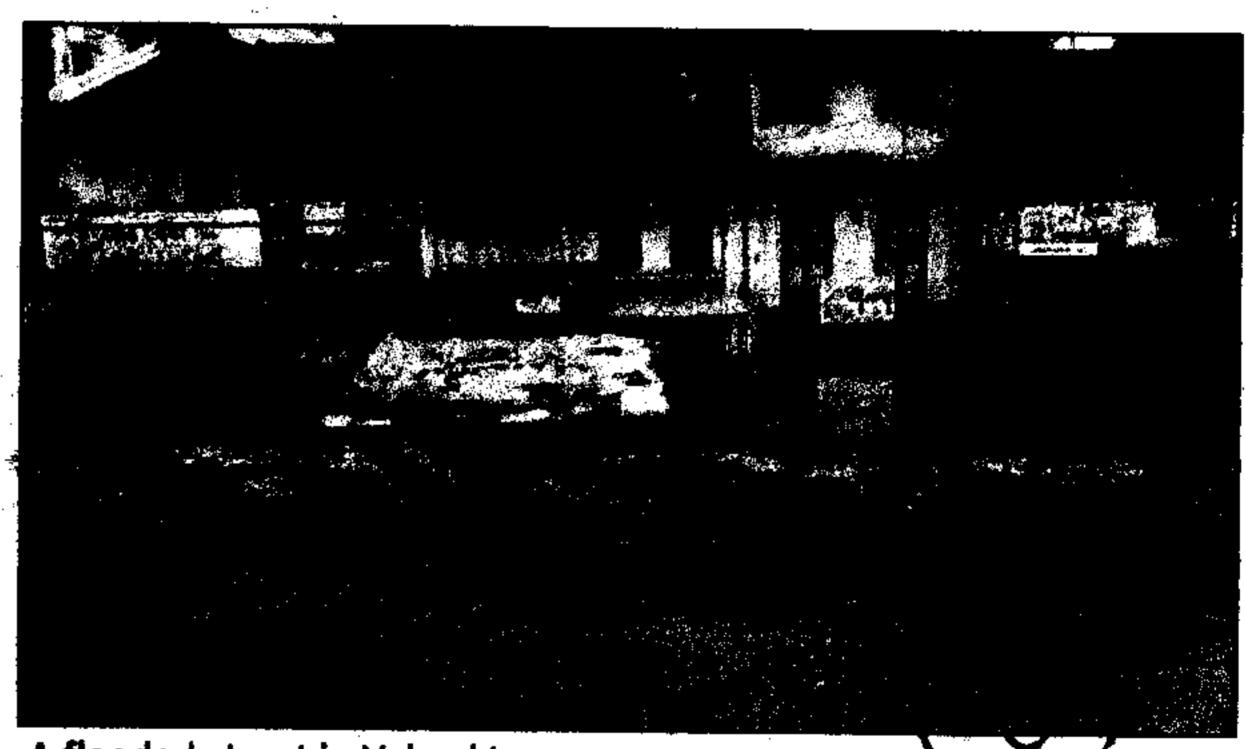
Heavy rain pounds south & central Gujarat, nine killed

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Surat: Nine people lost their lives in rain-related incidents in the state in the past 24 hours until Tuesday morning after heavy rain pounded south and central Gujarat districts, leaving a trail of devastation at many places.

In south Gujarat, National Disaster Response Force personnel rescued 518 people from Valsad, while Coast Guard airlifted 28 people from the coastal village of Hanuman Bhagda. Among the dead, three drowned in Valsad, two each in Navsariand Bodelitaluka of Chhota Udepur district, while two were electrocuted in Valsad.

Thousands of passengers were stranded on railway platforms in Surat, Valsad, Vapi and Navsari as railway traffic was severely affected after tracks between Vapi and Udva-



A flooded street in Valsad town

da junction got washed away in heavy rains.

Many talukas of Valsad district recorded more than 300mm of rainfall in just eight hours. Pardi taluka recorded 315mm, Vapi 314mm and Dharampur 348mm of rainfall. Dang district recorded 275mm of rainfall on Monday night.

The Auranga river was flo-

wing one metre above danger mark, flooding many areas of Valsad district, including Vapi town. The bridge over the Auranga going towards Khergam was badly damaged in the floods, sources said, adding that the situation could worsen in the coastal areas because it was Amavasya and there could be high tides in the sea.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on Jugust 7.8.20/ in the

Hindusian Times
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Over 300 dead, lakhs displaced across country in floods

HT Correspondent

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The death toll from floods sweeping parts of the country following heavy showers has crossed 300, with Bihar accounting for 89 deaths followed by Uttarakhand where at least 73 people are known to have perished.

Among the other states battered by floods are Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab.

This year's rains after two consecutive droughts have wrecked havoc in many states, claiming lives and destroying property and standing crops. Lakhs of people have been displaced with thou-

LANDSLIDES HAVE KILLED SEVERAL PEOPLE, INCLUDING THREE PILGRIMS WHO DIED NEAR THE VAISHNO DEVI TEMPLE IN JAMMU

sands of houses washed away. Some 3.4 lakh people have been affected by the flood waters in Madhya Pradesh alone.

Among the dead are two girls in Punjab who were swept away by flash floods in Udhampur of Punjab. Landslides triggered by rains have also killed several people, including three pilgrims

who died on Friday near the Vaishno Devi temple in Jammu.

According to Indian Meteorological Department, the rainfall in the country till August 6 was 6% more than normal and was in excess in flood-hit Assam, Bihar and parts of Uttarakhand. Rainfall is considered to be in excess if the region has received more than 20% of what it normally received in the last 10 years.

Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Odisha and Telengana are among the state that have received normal rains this year. Rainfall received in parts of eastern Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand and Sikkim was less than normal, the weather department said.



■ According to the Indian Meteorological Department, rainfall in the country till August 6 was 6% more than normal.REUTERS FILE

News item/letter/article/editorial published on Jugust - 7.8.201 in the

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Rain brings down humidity levels on Saturday, more showers likely today

IANS

htreporters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Rains brought relief from the humidity in Delhi on Saturday, with the maximum temperature settling at 32.8 degrees Celsius, one notch below the season's average, the Met office said. Some rain is also likely on Sunday.

A weather official said the day started off as humid but the subsequent rains brought down the temperature.

He added that the Palam observatory recorded 18.4 mm of rain, Lodhi Road 3 mm, Ridge 2.4 mm while Ayanagar observatory received 17 mm rain in Delhi between 8.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.

"Generally cloudy sky with thunderstorm and rain is likely to occur on Sunday," said an official of the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

The maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to hover around 32 and 27 degrees celsius, respectively.

Delhi residents woke up to a cloudy Saturday morning, with the minimum temperature at 29 degrees Celsius, two notches above the season's average, while the humidity oscillated between 90 and 65%.



A weather official said though Saturday started off as humid, the subsequent rain brought down the temperature.
SONU MEHTA/HT

News item/letter/article/editorial published on Nugus 1-05.08.2016 in the

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Deluge leaves Valsad areas under water

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

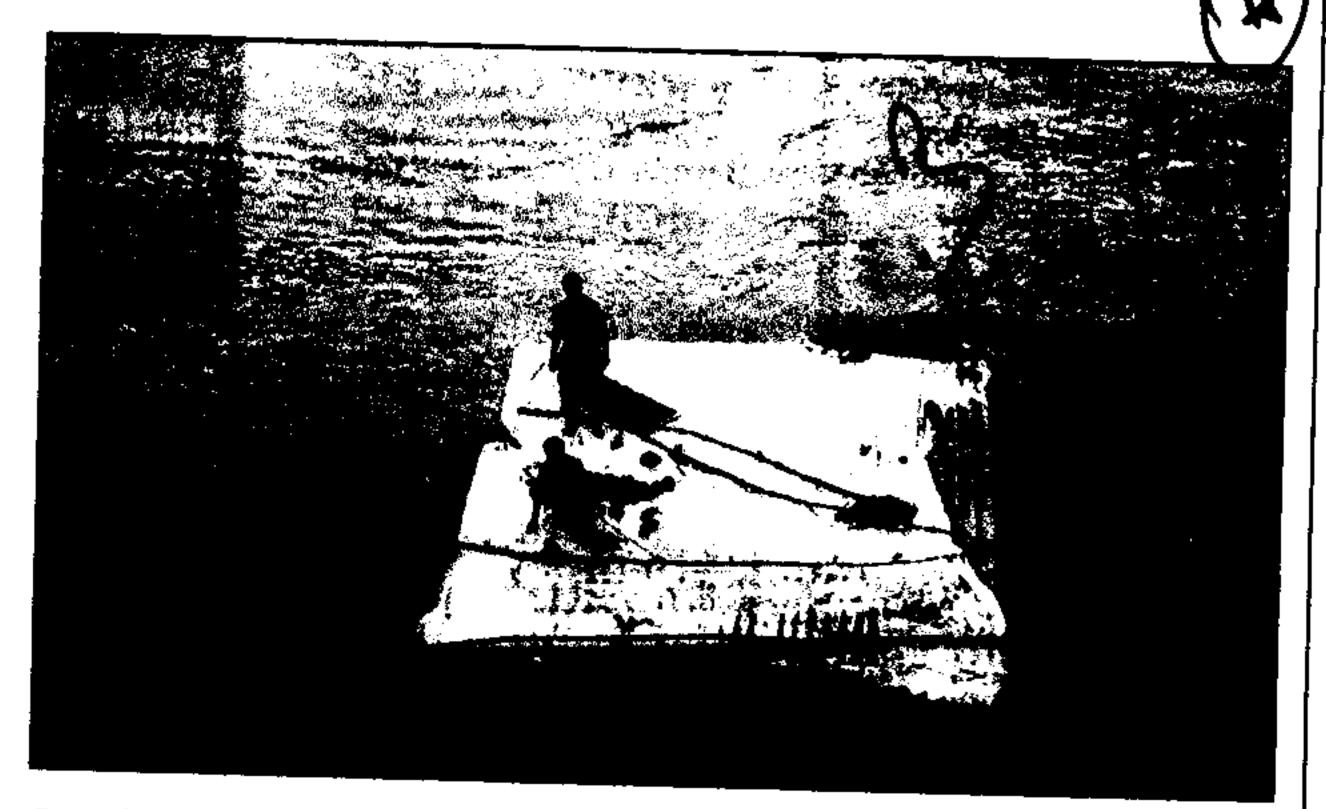
Surat: Many low-lying areas on the banks of Auranga river in Valsad were flooded on Tuesday amid heavy rains in the district even as Daman Ganga was in spate, which created a scare among people living in and around Vapi town.

Sharad Patel, who lives in a society on Bandar Road in Valsad town, had never expected flood waters at his doorsteps. Heavy rains in the catchment areas of Auranga and others in Dang had swelled the rivers, bringing many areas of the town like Bandar Road, Chipwad, Kashmirnagar and Barudiawad under water.

Valsad district collector Remya Mohan said, "We are keeping a close watch on the water level in the river." The water level of Auranga river began to recede by 4 pm.

Meanwhile, a company of National Disaster Relief Force (NDRF) got down to work in Valsad Nagarpalika, Navinagri, Lilapore, Hingraj and Hanuman Bhagda and rescued around 60 people. NDRF also rescued 458 people from Dharampur, Vapi and Valsad taluka.

Gunjan Chowkdy in Vapi, which is located close to National Highway (NH)-8, was un-



People stranded on rooftops in Valsad were rescued by Coast Guard

Met forecasts heavy rains for two days

Ahmedabad: The Meteorological centre- Ahmedabad on Tuesday issued a warning of heavy to very heavy rainfall in various parts of the state till Thursday. "Heavy to very heavy rainfall is expected in south, east central and north Gujarat. Cyclonic circulation over Gujarat region is causing rains in these regions," Jayanta Sarkar, director, IMD, Ahmedabad, said. TNN

der waist deep water in the morning. Bilkhadi, a creek passing through Vapi town, overflowed due to the rising level in Daman Ganga river and incessant rains in the district.

Sources said around 10 flood gates of Madhuban Dam were opened up to 3.5 metre to release 2.5 lakh cusecs of water. The low-lying areas along the embankment of Daman-

Ganga river in Vapi, including Lavacha, Chanod, Vapi GIDC, Dungra, Namadh, Chandor, etc. were put on a high alert.

In Daman, some low-lying areas like Patalia, Bamanpuja, Zari, etc. were flooded due to the release of water from Madhuban Dam.

In Navsari, the Amalsad-Navsari state highway was closed after it was flooded. News item/letter/article/editorial published on Jugust - 7.8.2016_ in the

Hindustan Times \
Statesman
The Times of India (N.D.)
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Rhinos in Kaziranga caught between floods and bullets

ENDANGERED Assam's state animal is fighting a tough battle for survival in the national park

Utpal Parashar

letters@hindustantimes.com

GUWAHATI: Even as authorities in Assam's Kaziranga National Park were counting losses from the recent floods, a female rhino and her calf succumbed to a poacher's bullets on Wednesday.

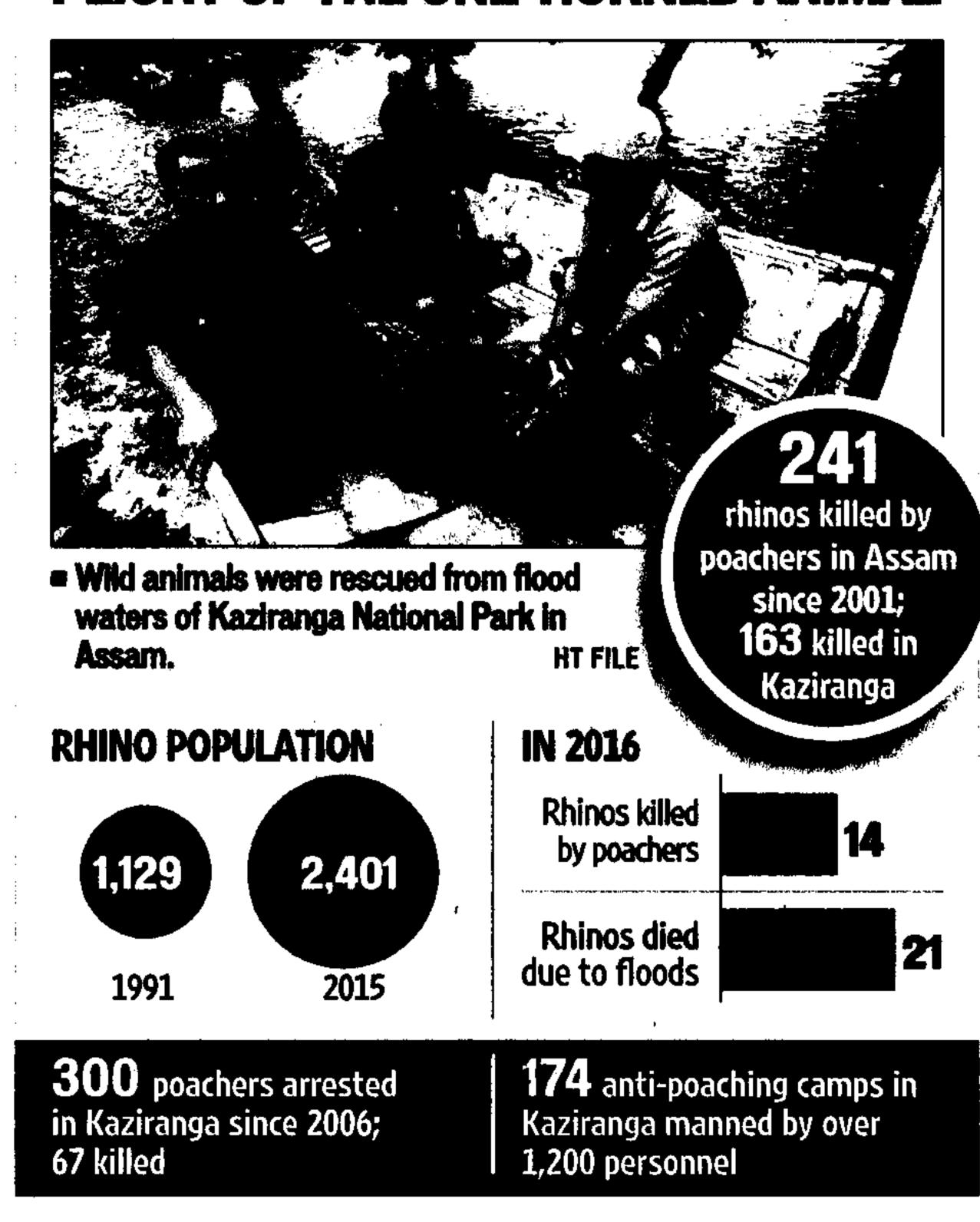
In the first attack since flood waters submerged over 80% of the 1,055 sq-km park last month, poachers targeted the endangered animals at Bagori range and took away the rhino's horn.

Floods claimed 21 other rhinos and one died after forest officials fired at it. The figure is higher than 2012 when over 600 animals, 19 rhinos and more than 500 hog deer were killed in floods.

On Thursday, another carcass of an adult rhino which had died due to drowning in floods was found in the Kohora range of the park. The animal's horn was missing. The deaths, both due to floods and poaching, signified how Assam's state animal is fighting a tough battle for survival inside Kaziranga, which houses more than two thirds of the world's one horned rhinos. "The number of rhino deaths in Kaziranga this year due to floods and poaching is worrying," Rathin Barman, deputy director of Wildlife Trust of India said.

Rhino horns are consumed as medicine in China and other southeast Asian nations due to its

PLIGHT OF THE ONE-HORNED ANIMAL



perceived aphrodisiac qualities. A horn weighing 900 grams to 1 kg fetches Rs 60-70 lakhs locally and costs over ₹1 crore abroad.

Floods are an annual feature in

the park. But despite the devastation, flooding of the park is necessary to regenerate the grasslands and also to fill up the 400 water bodies located inside the park. "Flood waters are required to sustain life in Kaziranga. But only when the situation becomes as grim as it did this year, things get out of hand," said Barman.

Tall promises like latest technologies to end rhino poaching and stricter punishment for poachers were made by the BJP before this year's assembly election in April. But after assuming power, chief minister Sarbananda Sonowal's government hasn't initiated any action to fulfill those promises.

Recovery of huge amount of unaccounted cash, tiger and deer skins and ivory from the residence of a senior forest officer in June indicates a possible nexus between poachers, politicians and officials.

Rhinos in Kaziranga face threat of bullets from local residents, illegal immigrants who have set up homes inside the park and also from militant outfits who sell rhinos horns to buy arms.

Forest officials say lack of adequate funds, manpower crisis and old and unreliable weapons and equipment hamper anti-poaching activities. Some forest guards still use .303 rifles while poachers come with Kalashnikovs and M16 rifles.

"We are stretching ourselves to the limits to protect the rhino. But proper motivation and incentives are needed to boost morale of the forest staff," Subasish Das, divisional forest officer of Kaziranga park said in April. News item/letter/article/editorial published on

Hindustan Times
Statesman
The Times of India (N.D.)
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Brace for rain, traffic chaos

East and northeast Delhi, however, have seen little rain. The deficit in east Delhi is 61% and that in northeast Delhi is 37%. Data show areas such as the Indira Gandhi International Airport in southwest Delhi and Ayanagar in south Delhi have received the most rain this year.

On July 29, the Safdarjung observatory in central Delhi received 4.2 mm of rain, the IGI airport area received 63.4 mm.

After two successive droughts in the past two years, India has witnessed a normal monsoon in most parts of the country.

This is because a weather phenomenon that dries up rain in the subcontinent known as the El Niño – a warm ocean current along the coast of Ecuador and Peru – has weakened this year.

Brace for rain, traffic chaos

2-DAY FORECAST Moderate to heavy showers could unleash nightmare on Delhi-NCR roads

HT Correspondent

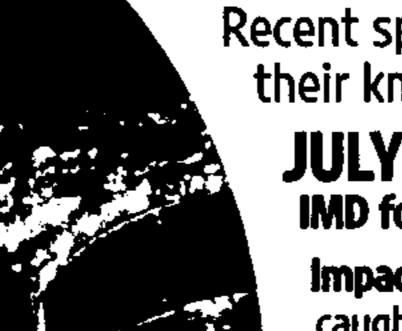
▶ letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Moderate-to-heavy rainfall forecast across Delhi over the next 48 hours revived fears of traffic mayhem, flooded roads and a nightmare for commuters who bore the brunt of shoddy infrastructure crumbling under showers several times this monsoon.

The India Meteorological Department's (IMD) monsoon forecast said Haryana, Delhi and Chandigarh could see a downpour on Monday and Tuesday with the southern and western parts of the Capital predicted to receive more rainfall.

This is bad news for residents in the national capital region, many of whom waded through waist-deep water and got stuck in miles-long traffic snarls when heavy showers deluged vast swathes of Delhi and Gurgaon two weeks ago.

The worst hit in the weather-



THIS SEASON SO FAR

Recent spells have brought Delhi and adjoining areas to their knees and Monday threatens to be no different

JULY 15 AND 16

IMD forecast: Moderate to heavy rain

Impact: Delhiites got a taste of the chaos in store. Civic bodies were caught napping again as water-logged roads triggered massive jams

JULY 29 AND 30

IMD forecast: Moderate to heavy rain

77.8mm Rain received

Rain received

impact: Roads leading to Gurgaon were submerged with many forced to abandon their cars and wade their way to work in knee-deep water

TODAY AND TOMORROW

70mm Expected rainfall

IMD forecast: Moderate to heavy rain

Light rain: <15mm | Moderate rain: 20-60mm | Heavy rain: >70mm

induced havoc was Gurgaon, where thousands were stranded without food or water and a seven-hour-long monster traffic jam saw authorities ask commuters to avoid the area.

Cars and trucks, ambulances and school buses backed up for

up to 24 hours in a hair-pulling drive home. Many abandoned their cars and waded to drier areas through knee-deep water.

The frenzied scenes mirrored a similar nightmare in the second week of July, when heavy downpour deluged many parts of south and west Delhi.

In both cases, the chaos was triggered by showers choking storm-water drains that flooded streets, submerging vehicles and throwing normal life out of gear.

For the mess, experts blamed

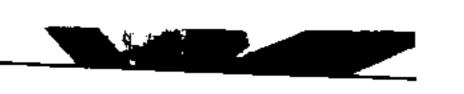
a rush to build apartments, malls and office complexes in the national capital region that ensured ponds, embankments and water channels draining the monsoon runoff vanished in the last three decades.

But with politicians trading blame and little progress on cleaning of the ageing drains or hacking off encroachments, the city appeared illequipped to handle another spell of heavy rain.

The monsoon this year is expected to bring more than normal rain to most parts of northwest India, including Delhi till September, when the season ends. August is expected to be wetter than usual.

Delhi has received 396.8mm of rain—13% more than normal—till August 7 but the distribution has been uneven. South Delhi has seen 49% more rain than usual while west Delhi got 30% more showers.

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Freaky Friday deluge stalls Maximum City



Richa.Pinto@timesgroup.com

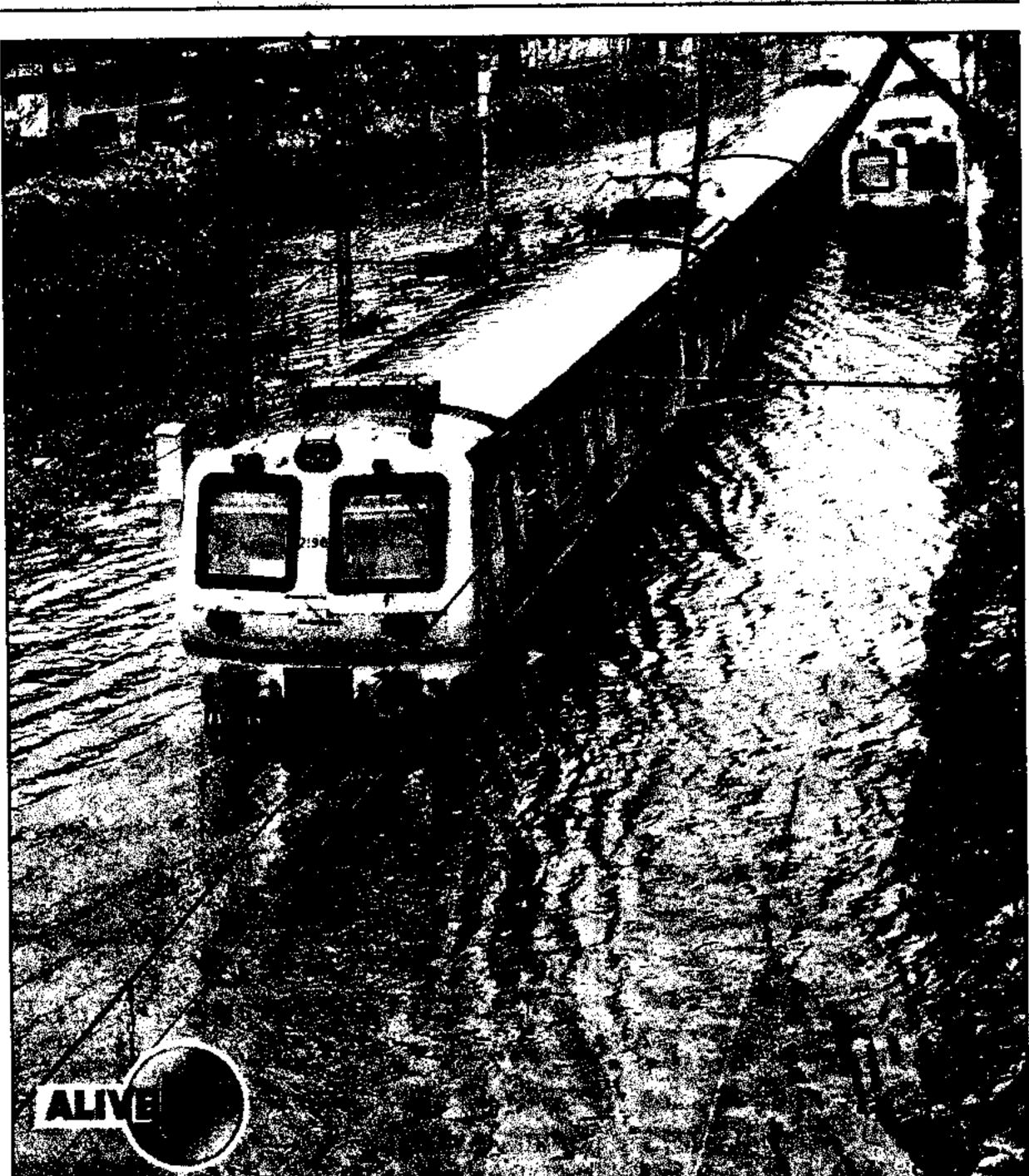
Mumbai: Normal weekday life came to a standstill in Mumbai, especially the suburbs, on Friday morning as very heavy rain lashed the city. The Santacruz observatory recorded 126.3mm of rainfall in barely six hours from 8.30am-2.30pm, making it the wettest August day since 2012.

Waterlogging at low lying areas, compounded with potholed roads and problems in the suburban train services, severely disrupted traffic, leading to harassment for commuters, attendance at offices being hit, schools declaring holidays and delays in flights.

The intensity of rain subsided by afternoon, but IMD issued a heavy to very heavy rainfall warning for the next 24 hours, beginning Friday evening itself. "The winds are totally westerly with an average speed of 40-45kmph due to which fisherman and port warning was issued. There is an offshore trough from south of Gujarat to south of Maharashtra. These are typical weather systems that are known to enhance rainfall activity," said K S Hosalikar, deputy general, western region, India Meteorological Department (IMD).

The heavy rain hit flight schedules as both arrivals and departures were delayed by 30 minutes throughout the day. Early in the day, three arriving flights had to go around due to inclement weather. Jet Airways' Raipur-Mumbai flight 9W 378, which was to land at 11am, had to be diverted to Vadodara.

There was a high tide warning of 4.47m at 2.04pm, but, luckily, it did not coincide with the heavy rains. BMC said on account of the



(Top) Schoolchildren brave a flooded Mumbai street while local trains are slowed down between Sion and Matunga stations. The Santacruz obervatory recorded 126.3mm of rainfall in barely six hours on Friday, making it the wettest August day in Mumbai since 2012

stormwater pumping station at Britannia, they were able to clear the waterlogging at Hindmata in Dadar in much lesser time as compared to earlier years. "We were able to clear 10 inches of water in barely two hours. There were 203 pumps which were in operation," said additional municipal commissioner Sanjay Deshmukh.

with railway tracks at Sion, Matunga and Kurla going under water, the BMC is mulling asking Central Railway for the reason. The BMC pays the railways for cleaning the nullahs prior to

monsoon every year.

Till Friday afternoon, 26
tree-fall complaints were re-

gistered with the BMC disaster management cell by citizens — three from the eastern suburbs, 12 from the western suburbs and 11 from the island city. At 3.06pm, a 21-year-old man, Mohammad Sayed, fell into a open drain in flooded road at Sharif Nagar in Govandi. He was taken to Rajawadi hospital, but was declared dead before admission.

There was no significant rise in the levels of the lakes that supply water to Mumbai. While five of the seven lakes have overflowed, Upper Vaitarna is less than a metre away from the overflow mark. The total water stock on Friday stood at 13.2 lakh million litres.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on August - 6-8-2016 in the

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Melting ice may expose Cold War-era N-waste

US Quit Secret Test Site In Greenland In 1967

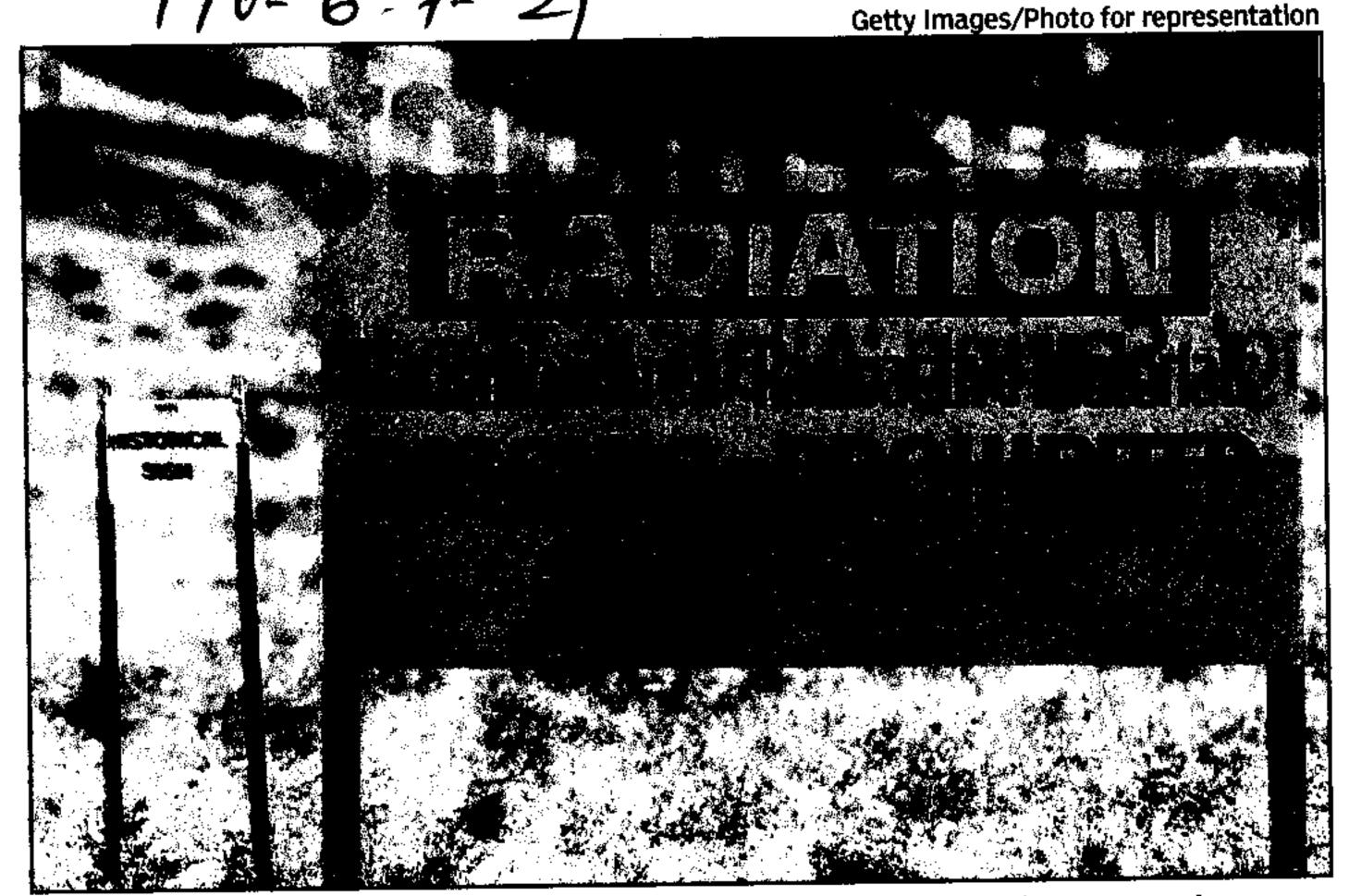
Toronto: Climate change is threatening to expose hazardous biological, chemical and radioactive waste at an abandoned Cold War-era base it was presumed would stay buried forever on the Greenland ice sheet, new research has warned.

Camp Century, a US military base built on the Greenland ice sheet in 1959, doubled as a top-se-cret site for testing the feasibility of deploying nuclear missiles from the Arctic during the Cold War.

When the camp was decommissioned in 1967, its infrastructure and waste were abandoned under the assumption they would be entombed forever by perpetual snowfall. "Two generations ago, people were interring waste in different areas of the world, and now climate change is modifying those sites," said William Colgan, a climate and glacier scientist at York University in Canada.

"It's a new breed of climate change challenge we have to think about," said Colgan.

Climate change has warmed the Arctic more than any other region on Earth, and the new research has found that the portion of the ice sheet covering Camp Century could start to melt by the



The US & Denmark believed the waste would stay entombed forever under snow

end of the century. If the ice melts, the camp's infrastructure, as well as any remaining biological, chemical and radioactive waste, could re-enter the environment and potentially disrupt nearby ecosystems, researchers said. The waste would not remain encased in ice forever, as was assumed by the US and Denmark. Determining who is responsible for cleaning it up could also lead to political disputes, said Colgan.

The researchers took an inventory of the waste at Camp Century and ran climate model simulations. They also analysed historical US army engineering documents to determine where and how deep the waste was buried and how much that part of the ice cap had moved since the 1960s.

They found the waste at Camp Century covers 55 hectares, roughly the size of 100 football fields. They estimate the site contains 200,000 litres of diesel fuel, enough for a car to circle the globe 80 times, and 240,000 litres of waste water, including sewage.

Based on building materials used in the Arctic at the time, the researchers speculate the site contains polychlorinated biphenyls, pollutants toxic to human health, along with an unknown volume of low-level radioactive coolant from the nuclear generator. Camp Century's waste presents a non-trivial environmental hazard, said Colgan. When the ice melts, pollutants may be transported to the ocean, where they could disrupt marine ecosystems. PTI

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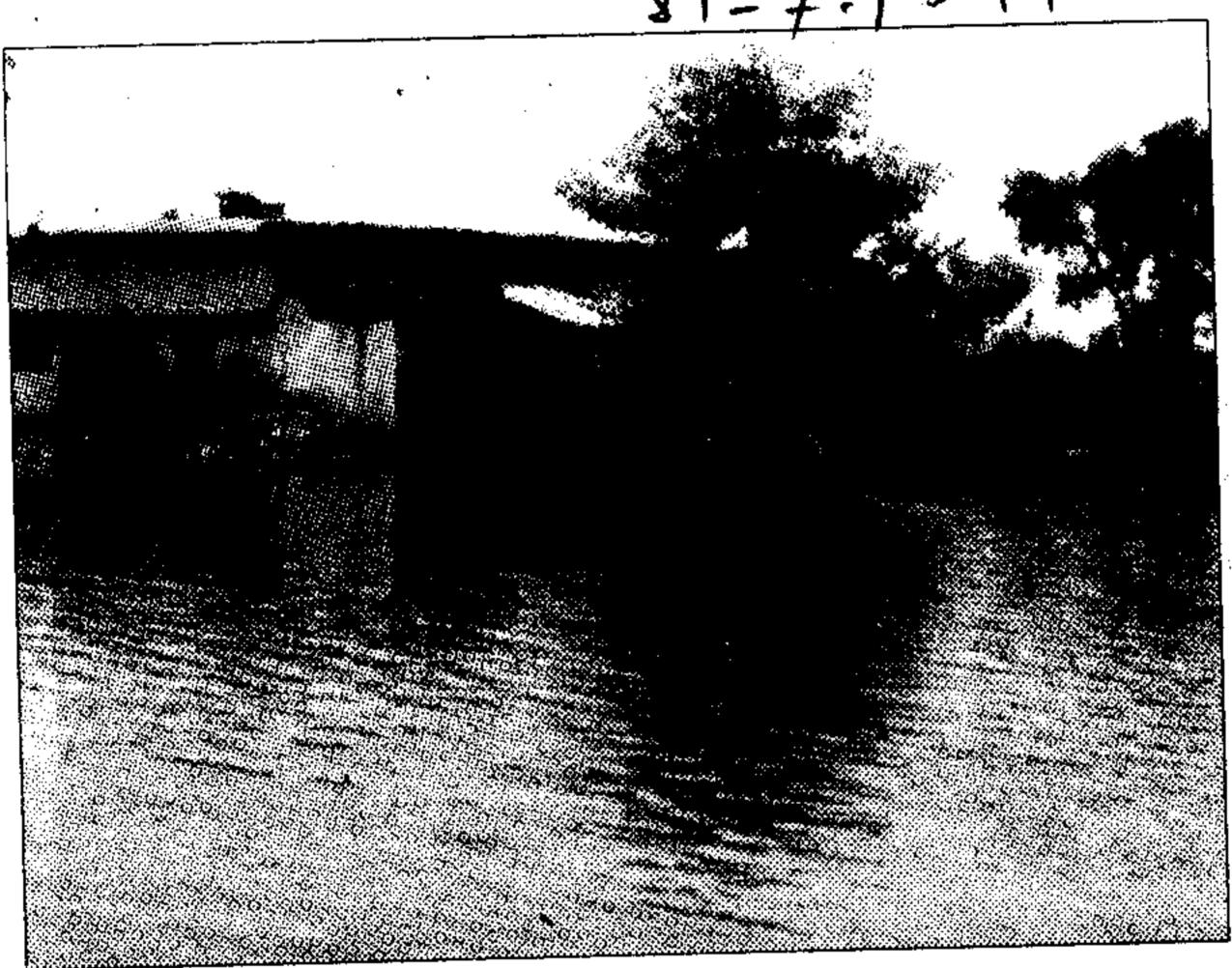
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Flood situation in Bihar grim, toll climbs to 91



Nawada village submerged in flood waters of Gandak river in East Champaran district of Bihar on Saturday. PTI

PATNA, AUGUST 6

With two more deaths reported from Purnea district, the toll in Bihar floods increased to 91 today with many areas in 14 districts still reeling under inundation in the state.

The Bihar floods have affected 33 lakh people in 642 panchayats of 78 blocks of 14 districts of the state, besides widely damaging crops in different parts of the state.

The disaster management department said two fresh deaths were reported from Purnea taking the toll to 91 from yesterday's 89 in the state. Purnea district, which accounted for maximum number of deaths, reported 28 deaths followed by Araria (21), Katihar (15), Supual (8), Kishanganj (5), Madhepura (4), Gopalganj (4), Darbhanga (3), Saharsa Saran and Muzaffarpur one each.

Fed by heavy rains in the Terai region of Nepal, Ganga

river was flowing above danger mark at various places including at Kahalgaon in Bhagalpur district, Ghaghra-Darauli and Gangpur-Siswan in Siwan district.

The Kosi was flowing above danger level at Baltara in Khagaria and Kursela in Katihar, the Department release said. The 14 flood-affected districts of the state are Purnea, Kishanganj, Araria, Darbhanga, Madhepura, Bhagalpur, Katihar, Saharsa, Supual, Gopalganj, Muzaffarpur, East Champaran, West Champaran and Saran.

The floods have also damaged crops in 2 lakh hectares of land, the assessment for which was being made by the authorities, it said.

A total of 464 relief camps are being run in the flood-hit areas, giving shelter to 3,86,449 people even as 224 medical teams are providing their services.—PTI

News item/letter/article/editorial published of

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

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)
Punjab Kesheri (Hindi)
The Hindu
Rajasihan Patrika (Hindi)
Deccan Chronicle
Deccan Herald

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

and documented at Bhagirath(English)& Publicity Section, CV/C.

Heavy rains kill 3 in Jammu region

AMIR KARIM TANTRAY

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

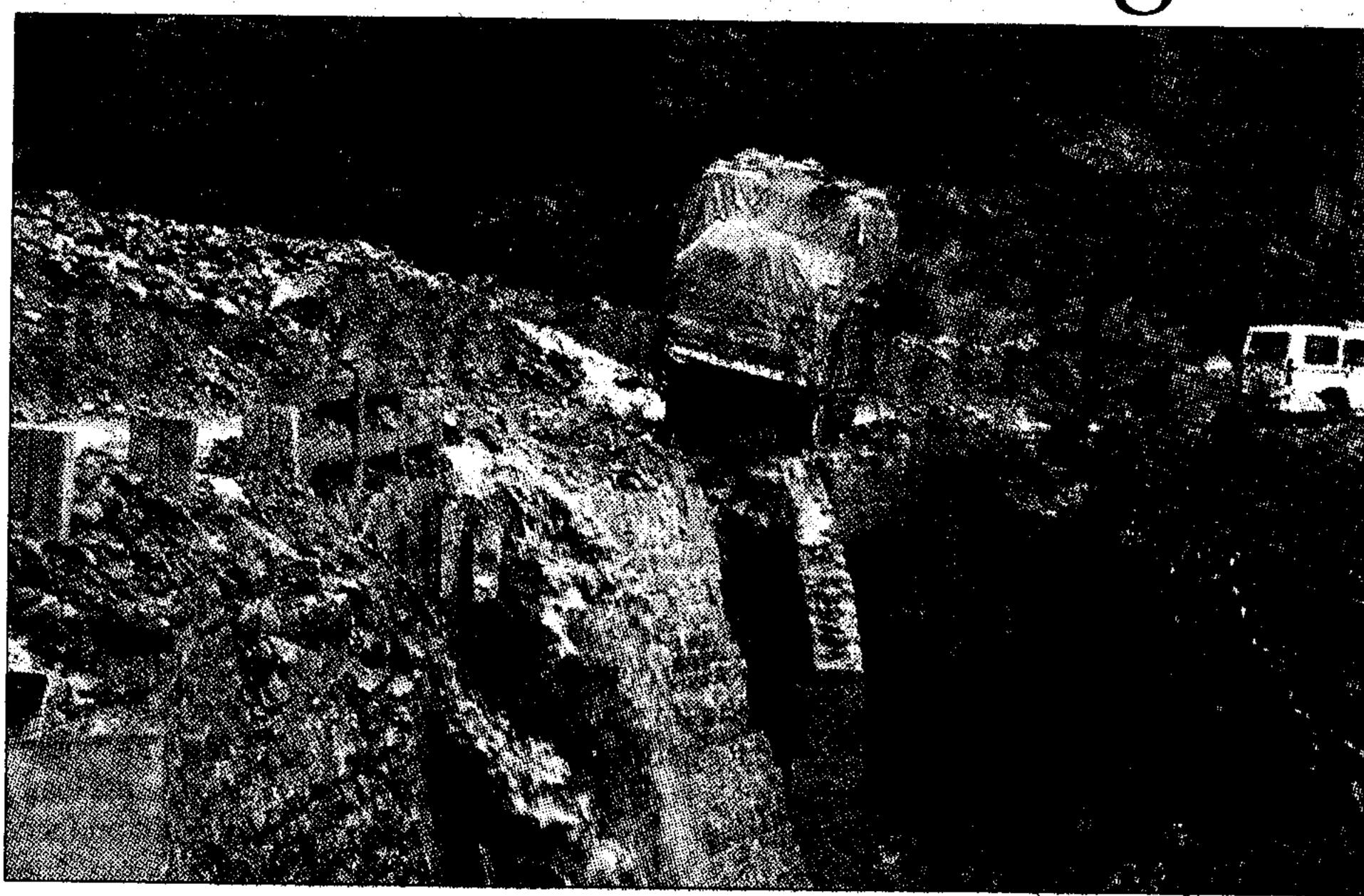
JAMMU, AUGUST 7

Heavy rain in Jammu plains since Saturday night left three persons dead, six injured and several houses damaged in Jammu, Kathua and Udhampur districts even as the pilgrimage to the Amarnath and Vaishno Devi shrines was suspended due to inclement weather.

Fatha Chand Batti, 100, of the Parlathpur area on the outskirts of Jammu, and Saif-ud-din and Dost Muhammad in Sharora Swardhar area of Doda district died when their houses collapsed during incessant rain. Three members of a family in the Jakhbad area of Kathua district and three others in Doda district were injured. A landslide in Ghordi village of Udhampur damaged three houses.

The Tawi, which divides Jammu city, was hit by flash-floods and the water level went above 13 feet. The Chenab also flowed at 34 feet, just one foot below the danger mark, in the Akhnoor area.

Jammu Deputy Commissioner Simrandeep Singh said: "As the water level in the Tawi increased abruptly, people living in the low-lying areas were evacuated to safer places. Considering heavy rain in catchment areas, pre-



A massive landslide blocked the Jammu-Srinagar national highway at Kheri in Udhampur district.

7-8-P-101

Vaishno Devi landslide toll rises to 5

Katra: Following landslides due to heavy rain in Reasi district, the Vaishno Devi pilgrimage was on Sunday suspended for the second consecutive night. The toll in the mishaps increased to five after a boy (10), injured near the gate number three of the Vaishno Devi shrine on Saturday evening by a shooting stone, succumbed to his injuries. "The pilgrimage to the cave shrine of Vaishno Devi through the new track was suspended after a landslide was triggered by the ongoing rainfall on the tracks to the shrine," said Additional Superintendent of Police, Reasi, Sanjay Rana. However, the yatra continued from the old route during the day on Sunday. — OC

cautionary measures have been taken to minimise loss."

The Ujh river in Kathua district flowed above the danger mark as flashfloods

hit the area. The Devak river in Samba district witnessed flashfloods but no loss of life or property was reported.

Heavy rain trigged mas-

sive landslides that briefly blocked the 300-km Jammu-Srinagar national highway that was later opened for vehicular traffic.

The traffic on the Jammu-Udhampur railway line was also affected as landslides blocked the track at several places near the Ramnagar station in the district.

A flashflood triggered by a cloudburst hit a remote village in Tral sub-district of south Kashmir on Sunday morning even as the Meteorological Department issued a forecast for week-long downpour in the Valley.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on Dugust- 6.8.2016

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

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)
Punjab Koshan (Hindi)
The Hindu
Rajasthan Fatrika (Hindi)
Deccan Chronicle
Deccan Herald

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

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

पुल हादसे में 17 शव मिले

सावित्री नदी में शुक्रवार को तीने और शव दिखे। रायगढ़ जिले के महाड़ के नजदीक अंग्रेजों के जमाने का एक पुल टूट जाने के बाद दो बस और कुछ निजी वाहन सावित्री नदी में बह गए थे। अब तक 17 की मौत हुई है।

पंचगंगा नदी उफनाई

महाराष्ट्र के कोल्हापुर में शुक्रवार को लगातार छठे दिन भी बारिश होने के कारण जनजीवन प्रभावित हो गया है। पंचगंगा नदी खतरे के निशान से ऊपर बह रही है। राज्य के छह राजमार्गों पर जाम की सूचना मिली है।

रावत ने भी रिपोर्ट मांगी

उत्तराखंड के मुख्यमंत्री हरीश रावत नेप्रदेश में भारी बारिश से हुए नुकसान की आंकलन रिपोर्ट सोमवार तक जमा करने के निर्देश जारी किए। मुख्य सविव शत्रुन सिंह के साथ विभागाध्यक्षों की बैठक में रावत ने कहा कि बारिश से हुए नुकसान का आंकलन एसडीआरएफ द्वारा जारी किए गए दिशा-निर्देशों के तहत किया जाए।

पूर्व और उत्तर-पूर्व को छोड़ देश में झमाझम बारिश

पिछले हपते देश में सामान्य से छह फीसदी ज्यादा बारिश दर्ज की गई। मौसम विद्याग की हालिया रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक उत्तर पश्चिम और मध्य भारत में 26 और 20 फीसदी ज्यादा बारिश दर्ज की गई। हालांकि पूर्वी और उत्तर पूर्वी भारत में 42 फीसदी कम वर्षा हुई।

पिछले रुपते का हाल

पूर्वी यूपी में सामान्य **बा**रिश

फीसदी ज्यादा बारिश हुई सामान्य से पश्चिम उत्तर प्रदेश में, वहीं पूर्वी इलाके में बारिश सामान्य रही। **बिहार, झारखंड में** सामान्य से कम

फीसदी कम बारिश दर्ज की गई पिछले हफ्ते बिहार में। झारखंड में भी 37 फीसदी कम बारिश हुई।

दिल्ली में कल से फिर बारिश का दौर

स्काइमेट विशेषज्ञों के अनुसार दिल्ली और आसपास के इलाकों में शनिवार से एक बार से फिर से बारिश का दौर शुरू होगा। देश की राजधानी दिल्ली में पिछले दो-तीन दिनों से मौसम शुष्क है। शनिवार से शुरू होने वाली बारिश पहले कुछ इलाकों में होगी। फिर बारिश का दायरा बढ़ेगा।

नानसून से अब तक



ज्यादा बारिश हो चुकी है मानसून की शुरुआत से अब तक

कई राज्यों में बाढ़ जैसे हालात

देश में मानसून के बाद से 85 फीसदी इलाकों में सामान्य और उससे ज्यादा बारिश हुई है। 15 फीसदी इलाकों में सामान्य से कम बारिश हुई है। बिहार, असम व गुजरात में बाढ़ की स्थिति है।

यहां हुई कम वर्षा

जून में मानसून सक्रिय होने से हिमाचल, केरल, पंजाब, गुजरात, सौराष्ट्र, कच्छ, असम, मेघालय, नगालैंड, मणिपुर, मिजोरम त्रिपुरा में कम बारिश हुई।

बिहार में बारिश जल्द

मौसम वेबसाइट स्काइमेट के अनुसार बिहार में नौ अगस्त तक कई इलाकों में भारी बारिश की संभावना है। हालांकि तापमान 28 डिग्री से 34 डिग्री के बीच में रहेगा। झारखंड में भी 11 अगस्त तक कई इलाकों में बारिश की संभावना है। agai alan acot ottorianolium

बदलती दिल्ली

नई दिल्ली पंकन रोहिला

दिल्लीवालों के लिए अच्छी खबर है। दिल्ली सरकार की योजना परवान चढ़ी तो दो साल में यमुना लंदन की टेम्स नदी जैसी साफ और खूबसूरत दिखेगी। 6000 करोड़ रुपये की लागत वाली इस विशेष योजना के तहत यमुना के किनारे को पर्यटन केंद्र के रूप में विकसित किया जाएगा। इसमें प्राकृतिक यानी इकोलॉजिकल वैल्यू तकनीक का इस्तेमाल किया जाएगा। दिल्ली सरकार की ओर से तैयार इस कार्ययोजना को राष्ट्रीय पर्यावरण अभियांत्रिक अनुसंधान संस्थान (नीरी) ने भी सराहा है। इस पर जल्द काम शुरू होगा।

दिल्ली सरकार की इस योजना के तहत यमुना के किनारे 50 से 200 मीटर तक हरित क्षेत्र विकसित किया जाएगा। यह व्यवस्था इसमें गिरने वाले गंदे नालों के आसपास भी होगी। इस योजना को अमलीजामा पहनाने के लिए मोसाइक तकनीक का सहारा लिया जाएगा। लोगों को यमुना किनारे तक आकर्षित करने के लिए पब्लिक सेंटर और रिक्रिएशन सेंटर भी तैयार किए जाएंगे। इसके लिए तीन स्तरीय व्यवस्था की मदद ली जाएगी।

यहां अतिक्रमण खत्म करना होगा

- सूर घाट और कुदेशिया घाट पर निर्माण को रोकना होगा
- सीडब्ल्यूजी गांव, पुराना जैतपुर, सोनिया विहार, जगतपुरी जैसी कॉलोनियों के लिए निर्माण नियंत्रित करने होंगे
- मिलेनियम बस डिपो को हटाने की आवश्यकता होगी
- नर्सरी, पशु गृह और फार्म हाउस हटाने होंगे
- यमुना के दोनों तरफ खाली हरित क्षेत्र विकसित करना होगा
- किनारों के आसपास लगी हुई गाद हटानी होगी



फिलहाल राजधानी से गुजरने वाली यमुना नदी का किनारा इस तरह दिखता है। • हिन्दुस्तान



दिल्ली सरकार की योजना पर काम होने के बाद यमुना का किनारा इस तरह दिखेगा। • पीपीटी से ली गई तस्वीर

क्या है योजना

करोड खर्च होंगे 2 साल में

साफ पानी के जलाश्य तैयार होंगे

किमी यमुना बैराज के क्षेत्र को संवारा जाएगा

हेक्टेयर वर्ग क्षेत्र को पर्यावरण के अनुकूल विकसित किया जाएगा

• यह योजना देश के अन्य राज्यों के लिए रोल मॉडल बनेगी

ये सख्त प्रावधान होंगे

- यमुना में सीधे तौर पर गंदे नाले गिराना एक अपराध होगा
- पब्लिक एरिया के लिए भी गाइडलाइन निर्धारित रहेंगी
- एक जोन में किसी भी प्रकार के निर्माण की अनुमति नहीं होगी

यमुना नदी पर एक नजर

किलोमीटर है

% ही दिल्ली में प्रवेश होता है यमुना का

जिसमें शाहदरा,बारापूला नजफगढ़ प्रमुख हैं

इमेजिंगः

भूपेन मंडल

स्थान .

रीवर को जीवनदान दिया गया था। क्या कहते हैं मंत्री

क्या होती है

इकोलॉजिकल

वैल्यू तकनीक

इस तकनीक का सबसे बड़ा

को प्रवाह देने की कोशिश की

जाती है। इसके अतिरिक्त उन

पौधों का प्रयोग किया जाता है जो

माने जाते हैं। इससे पानी इन पौधों

के बीच से होते हुए गुजरेगा और

साफ होकर पुनः यमुना में चला

तकनीक है। इससे साउथ प्लाटी

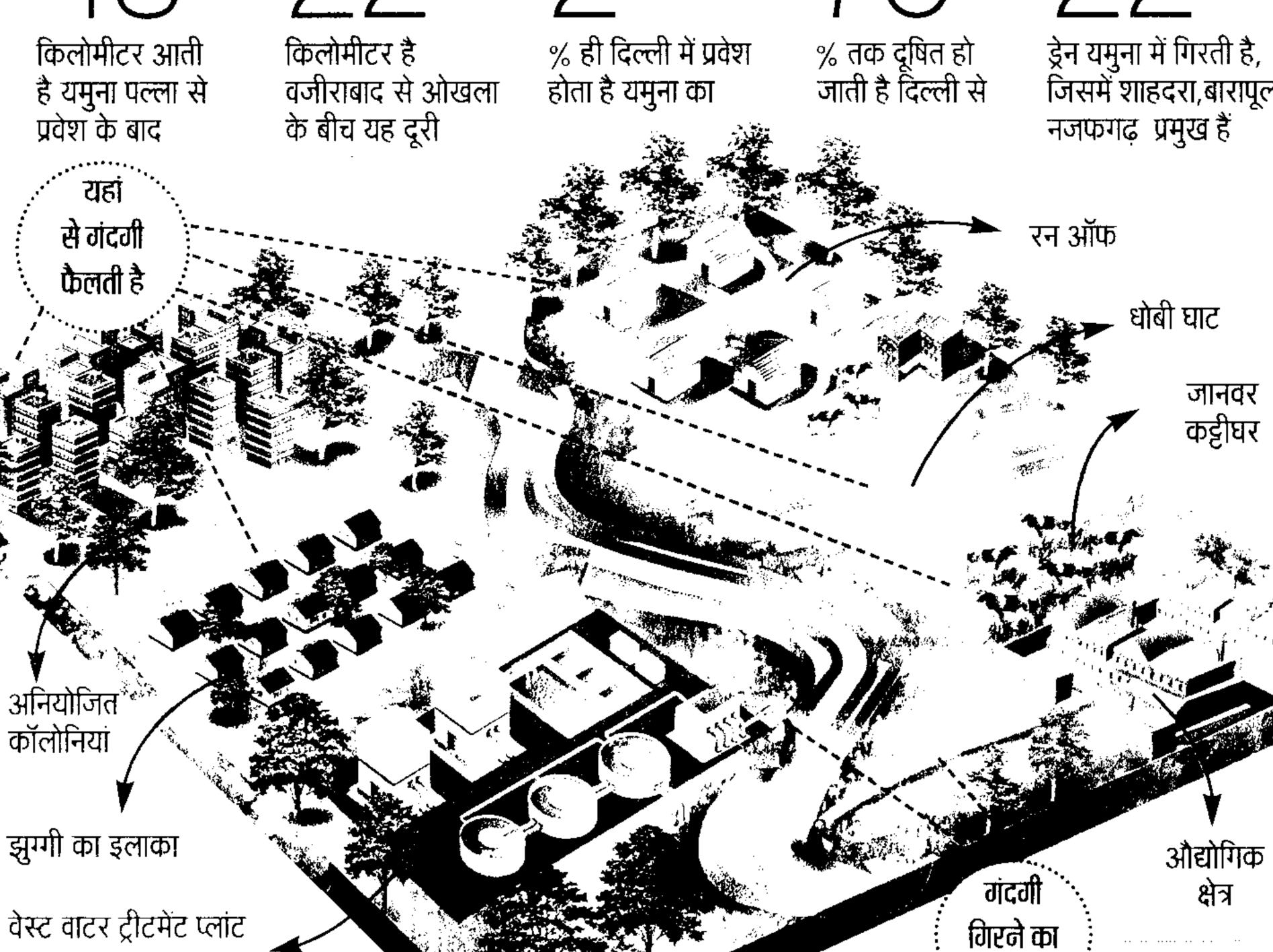
जाएगा। यह एक अमेरीकी

पानी को साफ करने में कारगर

फायदा यह है कि इसके तहत पानी

🕎 यमुना के तटों को सुंदर बनाया जाएगा ताकि दिल्लीवालों को यमुना के पास लाया जा सके। योजना पर नीरी की राय से दिल्ली सरकार की इस पहल को बल मिला है। यह योजना देश के अन्य राज्यों के लिए रोल मॉडल बनेगी।

-**कपिल मिश्रा**, मंत्री दिल्ली सरकार



News item/letter/article/editorial published on

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

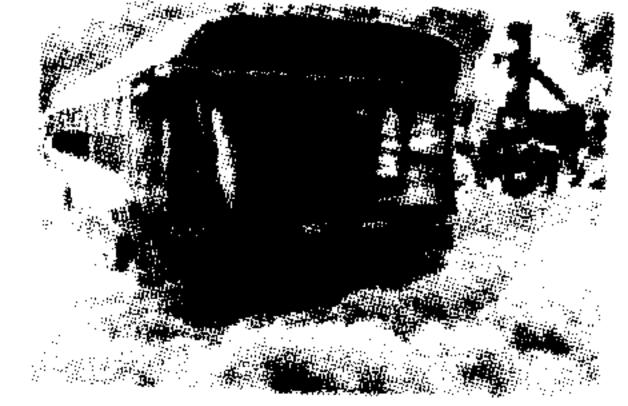
Nav Bharat Times (Hindi) Punjab Kashari (Hindi) The Hindu

Rejesthen Patrika (Hindi)

Deccan Chronicle Deccan Herald M.P.Chronicle
A a j (Hindi)
Indian Nation
Nai Duniya (Hindi)
The Times of India (A)
Elitz

and documented at Bhagirath(English)& Publicity Section, CV/C,

बारिश ने किया बेबस, 24 घंटे का अलर्ट



नई दिल्ली. पिछले 24 घंटे में देश के विभिन्न हिस्सों में हुई बारिश ने जन जीवन को बुरी तरह प्रभावित किया है। महाराष्ट्र, मध्यप्रदेश, राजस्थान और उत्तरप्रदेश के कई इलाकों में जमकर बारिश हुई। नजर डालते हैं देश के विभिन्न हिस्सों में हुए बारिश के असर पर...



मुंबई में थमी रफ्तार

मुंबई में 8 घंटे में 120 एमएम बारिश हुई। ठाणे और सीएसटी से चलने वाले ज्यादातर ट्रेन कैंसल कर दी गई। फ्लाइट भी करीब 30-40 मिनट देरी से उड़ीं। नवी मुंबई में अगले 48 घंटे भारी बारिश का अलर्ट जारी किया है।



सध्यप्रदश

भोपाल में भी बुरे हाल हैं। जबलपुर और इंबरेर जैसे शहरों में जोरदार बारिश ने जन जीवन प्रभावित किया है। भोपाल में अब तक 936 एमएम बारिश हो चुकी है। जबलपुर प्रदेश में भी अगले 24 घंटे में रतलाम, उजीन, दिदिशा, रायरोन जैसे शहरों में भारी बारिश की चेतावनी ही है।

हिमाचल

बारिश का असर हिमाचल में भी देखने को मिला। कुल्ली में भारी बारिश से बाढ़ ही आ गई। कुल्ली की तिरथ नदी का पानी शहर में घुस आया। इससे जन जीवन अस्त व्यस्त हो गया।

छत्तीसगढ

रायपुर की कई कॉलोनियों में पानी घुस गया है। दुर्ग में 10 घंटे में ही 100 एमएम बारिश दर्ज हुई है। बस्तर में पिछले 28 घंटे के दौरान कुछ जगहों पर भारी बारिश दर्ज की गई। News item/letter/article/editorial published on Nagust-7-8206 in the

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

Nev Bharat Times (Hindi) Funjab Keshari (Hindi) The Hindu Rejasthan Patrika (Hindi) Deccan Chronicle

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

and documented at Bhagirath(English)& Publicity Section, CV/C.

राज्य में अब तक 646.9 और रायपुर में 580.9 मिमी बारिश दर्ज

Deccan Herald

गंगरेल बांध के चार गेट खोले, तेजी से बढ़ रहा शिवनाथ समेत प्रमुख निदयों का जलस्तर

पत्रिका न्यूज़ नेटवर्क

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रायपुर. प्रदेश में बारिश अपने पूरे शबाब पर दिख रही है। शनिवार को भी बदरा बरसते रहे। नदी-नाले उफान पर है। प्रमुख बड़े बांध भी लबालब होते जा रहे हैं। पुल-पुलियों के ऊपर से पानी बह रहा है। सबसे ज्यादा बरसात खरिसया रायगढ़ में 138.2 मिमी स्कॉर्ड की गई। निचली बस्तियों में पानी भर रहा है।

लगातार हो रही बारिश से लोगों का जीवन प्रभावित हुआ है। मौसम विज्ञानियों का कहना है, 48 घंटों में राज्य के कई क्षेत्रों में अतिभारी बारिश की संभावना बनी हुई है। राजधानी रायपुर में अब तक 580.9 मिमी और प्रदेश में 649.9 मिमी बारिश हो चुकी है।

नदियां उफान पर

राजनांदगांव. शिवनाथ, आमनेर और मुस्का नदियों का जलस्तर तेजी से बढ़ रहा है। बालोद-अंतागढ़ मार्ग पर शिवनाथ नदी पर बने पुराना पुल डूब गया है। आवाजाही बंद हो गई है। बकरकट्टा, साल्हेवारा, पैलीमेटा, गातापार, गंडई और छुईखदान क्षेत्र के भीतरी गांवों में रहने वाले लोगों मुसीबतें भी बढ़ गई हैं। दर्जनभर गांवों का सड़क संपर्क टूट गया है।

पाटन दुर्ग

तमनार

कुरुद

मगरलोड

मारड़ी

अंतागढ

भैरमगढ़

104.2

88.2

71.2

104.6

99.0

71.8



दीवार ढहने से मासूम की मौत, सचिव नाले में बहा

जांजगीर-चांपा थाना क्षेत्र के भादा में शनिवार सुबह कच्ची दीवार ढहने से बुधराम केवट की छह साल की बेटी दुर्गा की दीवार की चपेट में आ गई। कोरबा के मुझपार बस्ती में आधा दर्जन मकान दह गए। जशपुर में बारिश ने कई वर्षों की बारिश का रिकार्ड तोड़ दिया है। रायगढ़ में भी लोगों के घरों में पानी भर गया। बीजापुर के भोपालपटनम ब्लॉक के बंडलवागु नाले में मोटरसाइकिल से पार हो रहे पामगल के पंचायत सचिव डोलीराम संतुलन बिगड़ने से गिर गया, जिसमें उसकी जान चली गई। वारायणपुर औरअबूझमाड़ सहित दर्जनौं गांव मुख्यालय से कट गए हैं।



HE villagers had been talking all morning. There was some water seeping through the embankment along the Brahmaputra, they said, so Ruparam Das, 52, a fisherman in Kaivartagaon, a village in the river island of Majuli, decided to check out for himself. Around 3 pm on July 26, as he stood in front of the river, a few metres downstream from his house, he heard a loud bang. The river had broken through the embankment, but not where he stood. Instead, the river had torn through the wall right infront of his house. His house, as well as those of his neighbours, Bitul Das and Babul Das, had vanished. In their place flowed the Brahmaputra, an angry and swirling river of mud.

"I have nothing left, no house, no belongings, Luckily, my wife and four children rushed out a few seconds before this happened," says Das, who is now among the 200 villagers at the Bongaon Primary School that has been converted into a relief camp.

The waters have since receded, but not before leaving behind a thick sheet of silt and sand, 10 to 12 feet thick, over hundreds of acres of what used to be fields of paddy and sugarcane. People in relief camps such as the one in the Bongaon school have since left and started repairing their homes. But Ruparam and 10 of his neighbours have nowhere to go.

The Brahmaputra, one of the mightiest rivers in the world, runs through Assam like a throbbing vein, sustaining lives and livelihood along its banks. But every monsoon, the lifeline snaps, breaks all boundaries and causes widespread misery to about 20 of the state's 32 districts.

The Brahmaputra Valley is said to be one of the most hazard-prone regions of the country - according to the National Flood Commission of India (Rashtriya Barh Ayog), about 32 lakh hectares or over 40 per cent of the state's land is flood-prone.

So far, 35 people have lost their lives to the floods and about 12 lakh people have been temporarily displaced. According to the Assam State Disaster Management Authority, over 40,000 houses have borne the brunt of the floods, while the damage to infrastructure - embankments, dykes, roads, bridges, schools, anganwadi centres — runs into several hundred crores of rupees.

"Whenever we take one step forward towards development, floods and erosion push us two steps backwards. While we spend around Rs 12,000 crore on development every year, floods and erosion cause a loss of about Rs 10,000 annually." says Assam Chief Secretary VK Pipersenia.

the state. While a final assessment of the Khakandaguri, Lengera, Garmora, Joraguri

damage is still being worked out, the Brahmaputra and the Barak (the second biggest river in the state), together with their numerous tributaries, have caused 26 breaches in embankments," says state Water Resource Minister Keshab Mahanta.

As another flood ravages Assam, displacing hundreds of people and damaging property worth crores, the question is, why does the the Brahmaputra spill over with such alarming frequency?

Experts say the problem begins with the embankments, the very structures that are meant to keep the flood waters away.

The embankments constructed along the banks of the Brahmaputra, its 103 tributaries, many of which come down from Bhutan and Tibet, and the Barak run into over 4,475 km. Many of these structures, constructed over a period of 25 to 30 years based on the 1954 recommendations of the Rashtriya Barh Ayog, show visible signs of ageing. "Though embankments don't have specific life-spans, the ones in Assam are designed on the basis of flood data of 15 to 20 years and are supposed to remain fit for 25 to 30 years," says a senior officer in the state water resource department.

While natural wear and tear - surface run-off due to rain and rats digging burrows through the earthen structure - is one reason, most embankments across the state are also used as roads by villagers who ply motorbikes, bullock-carts, tractors, cars and trucks on them. Hundreds of families in Majuli and other flood-hit areas have made these embankments their homes by building bamboo houses on them.

The gaping hole in the embankment wall at Dergaon, an Assembly segment in Golaghat district of the state, tells this story of how the embankment lost the battle to the river.

Sitting at his home in Amguri, a village of Mising tribals in Dergaon that's right behind the embankment, Bhishma Kaman, 65, says, "The water-level kept rising since June 25 and we were worried. The embankment, which was built some 40 years ago, had shown signs of seepage at three or four spots just in front of our village. We called up the flood control office and informed them. But even before the officials could arrive, on July 27, the river brought down the embankment."

Luckily for Kaman, the breach happened near Dainigaon, about two and a half kilometres from his village. Though Amguri village was spared, others such as Dainichapori, Lemchapori, Chokial "Three successive waves of floods that Nepaligaon, Tayung Gaon, Koilaghat, Nabegan in May have caused huge losses to bhanga, Birinagaon, Kumoliyachapori,

RECENT FLOODS

As another flood kills 35 and displaces thousands in Assam, SAMUDRA GUPTA KASHYAP travels along the mighty

Brahmaputra to find why this trail of destruction has become an annual ritual

Year	Districts affected	Population affected	Crop area Br damaged emba	reaches in inkments		Houses damaged	Human lives lost
2012	27	23.91 lakh	9.35 lakh hectares	43	4,540	38,000	110
2014	23	42.03 lakh	3.72 lakh hectares	40	4,446	54,000	68
2016	28	36.67 lakh	2.29 lakh hectares	26	4,026	42,000	35



BRAHMAPUTRA, ITS EBB AND FLOW 2,880 km long

(China, 1,625 km; India: 918 km, of which 240 km in Arunachal and 670 km in Assam; Bangladesh: 337 km)

- 19,830 cubic metres per second is the average flow discharge at its mouth, making it the fourth largest river in terms of flow. Only the Amazon carries more water
- Its catchment area is 1,94,413 sq km
- 402 million tonnes is its mean annual suspended sediment load
- It has 103 tributaries 65 on the north bank, 38 on south bank

 all in the Dergaon assembly segment of Golaghat district — were flooded. But this year, the villagers were not caught unawares. They knew the river had been rising so they had evacuated a couple of nights ago.

While it has been raining in different parts of the state since the first week of July, experts say the above normal rainfall in upper Assam and Arunachal Pradesh is not the only reason for the floods; environmental degradation in neighbouring hill states is part of the problem.

Only the Amazon carries more water than the Brahmaputra, one of the largest rivers in the world with an annual flow of about 573 billion cubic metres at Jogighopa, close to the Indo-Bangladesh border. But its waters carry a great deal of sediments, raising the river by about three metres in places and thus reducing its water-carrying capacity. Landslides and in-

- The river is 18 km wide between Palashbari and Mukalmua, its maximum width, and 1.2 km wide at Pandu (Guwahati), where it is at its slimmest
- 6,080 sq km is the area the river covered in 2006, up from 4,850 sq km in 1975 and 3,870 sq km in 1928
- 4,275 sq km of land has been lost to Brahmaputra erosion since 1954

creasing topsoil erosion in the river's catchment areas, particularly in Arunachal Pradesh from where come down most of the Brahmaputra's majortributaries, have added to the river's sediments.

As the river rages on, it eats into the soft alluvial soil of the state, eroding land along the banks. A recent study sponsored by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) said the Brahmaputra had eroded 388 sq km of land in the state between 1997 and 2008. According to the state government, Assam has lost more than 4.27 lakh hectares – 7.4 percent of its area — to erosion by the Brahmaputra and its tributaries since 1950. That has made the Brahmaputra among the widest rivers in the world, more than 15 km in places.

Since July 24, the Aie, a tributary of the Brahmaputra that comes down from Bhutan and flows through Chirang and Bongaigaon districts, has eroded more than 2 sq km of land in Chota-Nilibari and Dababeel villages. "The river simply swallowed our land. It was so swift that only a few families could remove the tin sheets, wooden doors and timber posts of their houses, apart from a few household items. What could we have done? You cannot remove the walls and the floor," says Swapan Basumatary, 32, a marginal farmer who lost three bighas in Chota-Nilibari and whose family is now lodged at a relief camp in Subaijhar, Chirang district, with 46 other families.

According to the Brahmaputra Board, deforestation in Assamand its neighbouring states have accelerated the process of land erosion. According to the Forest Survey of India Report 2015, Arunachal Pradesh's forest cover has reduced by 162 sq km between 2011 and 2015, Assam has lost 48 sq km of forest cover in the same period, Meghalaya 71 sq km, and Nagaland 78 sq km.

"Managing the Brahmaputra is a big challenge. For instance, while the Mississippi's catchment is four times the Brahmaputra, at 700 million tonnes per annum, Brahmaputra's sediment load is four times the Mississippi's," says Anju Gaur, a water specialist with the World Bank, Gaur, who was in Guwahati last week to attend a two-day workshop organised by the state Department of Water Resource on floods and erosion, suggested a few best practices deployed in others countries to control the damage caused due to river floods.

"Constructing reservoirs to hold the water during the monsoons is one way of reducing floods. Besides, countries such as The Netherlands have adopted practices such as 'room for the river', a concept of rejuvenating wetlands that will then work as a flood cushion," she says.

Chandan Mahanta of IIT Guwahati agrees that rejuvenating the state's 3,500 wetlands is a "brilliant" concept. "We have numerous wetlands which can take off a major portion of the Brahmaputra's energy during high floods," says Mahanta.

The Brahmaputra Board, in its studies and master-plans, had suggested, in the early '80s, the construction of storage dams upstream of the major tributaries, which would also help generate power. But while strong opposition by various groups has stalled one such project, the 2,000-MW Lower Subansiri project, most other projects are yet to take off. The Assam government, meanwhile, has asked experts to study if the main channel of the Brahmaputra can be dredged. One such attempt made in the late 1970s remained a non-starter though two dredgers were brought in from abroad.

The floods have dealt the new BJP-led

government of Sarbananda Sonowal its first big challenge. Last week, the state government got experts from various agencies, including the World Bank, ADB, Brahmaputra Board, and IIT Guwahati, to take part in the two-day brainstorming

"While many states in the country have been crying for water, Assam has been suffering from lack of expertise to control this huge resource," said Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, during the workshop.

Last week, Sonowal also asked the water resource department to set up 'embankment protection committees' of departmental engineers, youth organisations, NGOs, clubs and socio-cultural organisations to keep an eye on the embankments and help avert breaches.

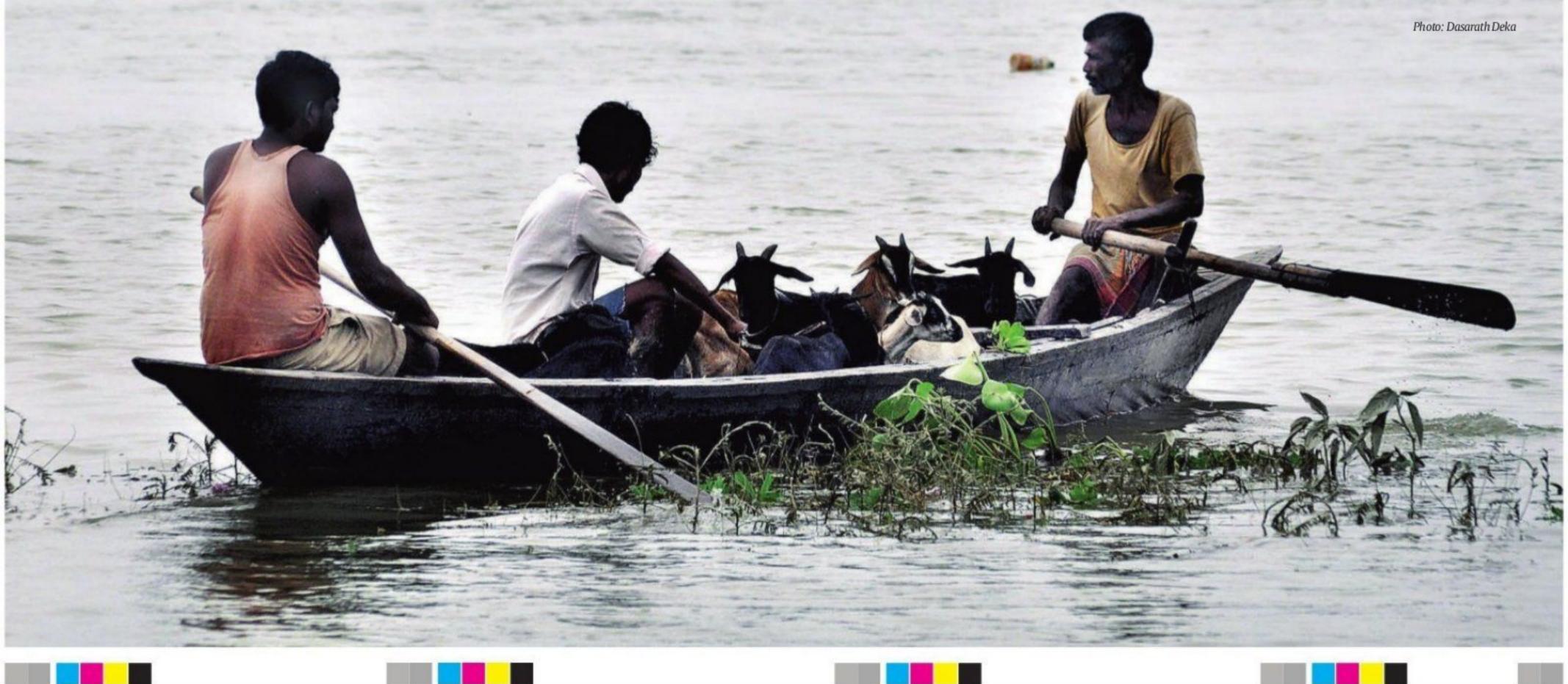
The government has carried out routine relief in the form of distribution of supplies and providing healthcare to those in camps. Families of the 35 people who died in the floods have been given Rs 4 lakh each.

But unlike his predecessor, Sonowal has refrained from asking the Centre for financial aid, something for which he has drawn a lot of flak. "What is the use asking for funds and packages in the middle of the floods? We are making a thorough assessment as the floods recede. The Centre is sending an inter-ministerial team. These reports, along with the recommendations of the experts, will help us in finding a permanent solution to the floods," says Sonowal

Immediately after the floods of 2014, which affected over 42 lakh people and left 68 people dead, the Tarun Gogoi-led state government had asked for Rs 5,700 crore from the Centre - Rs 3,500 crore to strengthenembankments, Rs 2,000 crore for anti-erosion measures and rehabilitation of affected people, and Rs 200 crore for construction of 5,000 raised platforms and relief centres.

While successive governments have

failed to come up with a solution to the state's recurring floods, Pratima Boro believes she has found a way out. "We will have to simply learn to live with it," says the 67-year-old, sitting outside a shed along the Guwahati-Morigaon state highway that has been her home for over 10 days. Pratima is glad her two daughters are married into families who live in the Kharghuli hills in Guwahati and not in villages such as theirs. 'The floods come and go every year and some government officials come, take down our details and go back. We get a few kilogrammes of rice, some dal, mustard oil and salt for a few days. By the time we repair our houses on our own, the monsoon is back and, with it, the floods," she says.



विज्ञाकं रिश्राद्धिको निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Hir dustan Times (Delhi) जाउमारान टा**ईम्स (विवंशी**) The Tribune (Chandigarh) The Hindu (Chennai)

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

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



एजेंसी, जम्मू/भोपाल/पठानकोट

जम्मू में पिछले 24 से घंटे से हो रही भारी बारिश के बाद रविवार को बाढ़ को लेकर अलर्ट जारी कर दिया गया। राज्य में तवी नदी खतरे के निशान से ऊपर 🥖 बह रही है। चेनाब नदी भी खतरे के निशान से 30 फीट ऊपर बह रही है। जम्मू के रामबन सेक्टर में लैंडस्लाइड के महेनजर रविवार को जम्म-श्रीनगर मैशनल हाइवे बंद करन पड़ा। यहां भरी बारिश की वजह से एक होगी। शनिवार की 136 मिमी बारिश हो लैंडसगाइड के बाद स्थानीय प्रशासन ने पूरे की विभिन्न घटनाओं में तीन लोगों की मौत में कई स्थानों पर रविवार को भी बारिश दिया है।

हो गई, जबकि सात जख्मी हुए हैं। 9 लोगों को किया एयरलिपट

पंजाब के पठानकोट में सिर्फ 10 घंटे में मौसम की आधी बारिश हो गई। पठानकोट में 9 लोग पानी में फंस गए थे। उन्हें हेलिकॉप्टर ब की मदद से करीब 6 घंट की

> के बाद वैष्णोदेवी गुफा मंदिर की तीर्थयात्रा रोक दी गई है। पुलिस और श्राइन बोर्ड के अधिकारी स्थिति पर नजर बनाए हुए हैं और वे मौसम में सुधार होने के बाद तीर्थयात्रा को फिर से शुरू करने की अनुमति देंगे। गुफा के मार्ग में भारी बारिश की वजह से हुए लैंडस्लाइड में शनिवार को चार की मौत हो गई थी।

जारी रही। नासिक में पिछले 24 घंटे से हो रही लगातार बारिश से गोदावरी का लेवल फिर बढ़ने लगा है। मध्य प्रदेश, उत्तराखंड, महाराष्ट्र और जम्मू-कश्मीर में अलर्ट जारी कर दिया गया है।

अक्षातम में नैकरणाव श वासी महावकत के बाद सुरक्ति बारबारा में मूसलाधार बारश के कारण बहर निकाला गया। मौसम भूस्खलन होने से तीन लोग जरूमी हो गए विश्वम का अनुमान है कि इस और आठ घर का गा। अतिरिक्त उपायुक्त साल यह करीब 272 मिनी बहिला दिलीय कुमार चुटिया ने बहा कि सुक्रवार को व्यक्ति की जान चली गई है। मकान ढहने चुकी है। मध्य प्रदेश में भोपाल सहित राज्य गांव के लोगों को सुरक्ति स्थान पर पहुंचा

लोगों की मौत हो चुकी है। महाड आपदाः मृतको की संख्या हुई 26

बिहार में बाद से अब

तक 95 की मौत

भाषा, पटना : बिहार में बाद से अब

95 लोगों की मौत हो चुकी है। बारिश

के कारण बेघर हुए करीब चार लाख

लोग 464 सरकारी राहत शिविरों में

रह रहे हैं। आपदा प्रबंधन विभाग के

मुताबिक बाढ़ के कारण पिछले 24

घंटे के दौरान कटिहार में 4 और

भाषा, मुंबई : महाराष्ट्र के रायगढ़ जिले में महाड़ के पास मुंबई गोवा हाइवे पर एक पुल के ध्वस्त होने के चौथे दिन रविवार को भी जारी तलाश एवं बचाव अभियान में दो शव मिले, जिससे इस घटना में जान गंवाने वालों की संख्या 26 हो गई है।

वैष्णो

जम्मू-कश्मीर में भारी बारिश की वजह से हुए लैंडस्लाइड के बाद वैष्णोदेवी तीर्थयात्रा रोक दी गई है। निट्या इस बीच लैंडस्लाइड में घायल हुए 10 साल के एक । लड़के की मौत हो गई। इसके साथ ही घटना में मरने वालों की संख्या पांच हो गई है। पुलिस ने बताया, मंदिर के बाणगंगा मार्ग पर भारी बारिश के बाद हुए लैंडस्लाइड

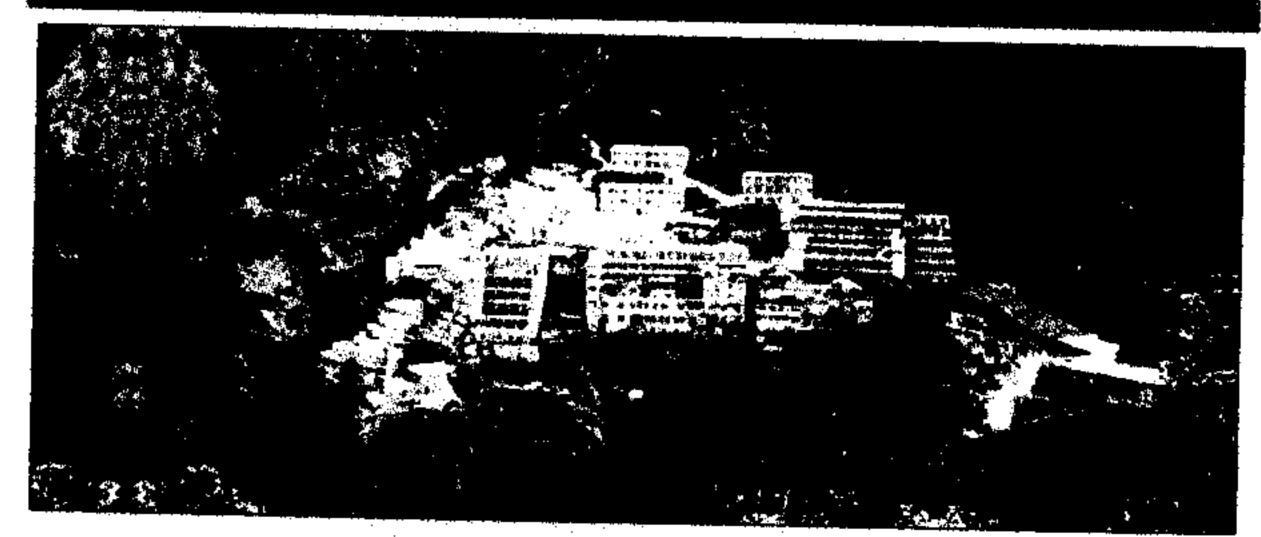
धार्मिक यात्राओं पर मौसम भारी

उत्तराखंड में बारिश और भूस्खलन से एक मौत

प्रमुख संवाददाता, देहरादून

उत्तराखंड में बारिश का सिलसिला जारी है। शुक्रवार शाम पिथौरागढ़ जिले के बंगापानी में दान सिंह नाम के एक व्यक्ति की चट्टान से दबकर मौत हो गई। उत्तराखंड में चारधाम यात्रा को भी बारिश ने खासा प्रभावित किया है। बारिश की वजह से जहां बदरीनाथ नैशनल हाईवे कई जगहों पर बंद है। वहीं गंगोत्री का रास्ता भी 4 जगहों पर रुका होने की सूचना है। केदारनाथ को जाने वाला रास्ता भी सोनप्रयाग और गौरीकुंड के बीच 3 जगहों पर अवरुद्ध बताया गया है। हालांकि सरकार ने चारधाम यात्रा को जारी रखा है। रुके हुए रास्तों को खोलने की कार्रवाई जारी हैं। पूरे प्रदेश में अब भी सैकड़ों सड़कें भूस्खलन के करण बंद हैं। जोशीमठ से मलारी गांव का रास्ता भी बंद है।





एजेंसी, जम्मू कश्मीर के रियासी जिले में माता वैष्णोदेवी गुफा मंदिर के रास्ते में भारी बारिश के कारण हुए भूस्खलन से 3 श्रद्धालुओं समेत चार लोगों की मौत हो गई और नौ अन्य लोग घायल हो गए। भूस्खलन बाणगंगा-अर्द्धकुमारी मार्ग पर करीब आधी रात को हुआ और मलबा उस जगह पर गिरा जहां तीर्थयात्री बैठे थे। पांच साल के एक बच्चे समेत तीन श्रद्धालुओं की मौके पर ही मौत हो गई और एक अन्य व्यक्ति ने अस्पताल ले जाते समय दम तोड़ दिया। पीडितों की पहचान बेंगलुरू के 29 साल के शिशधर कुमार, चंडीगढ़ निवासी 30 साल की बिंदु साहनी और उनके पांच वर्षीय बेटे विशाल के रूप में हुई। चौथा शख्स 32 साल के रियासी है।



हेमकुंट में भी फंसे यात्री

चारधाम यात्रा पर गए 386 श्रृद्धालु बदरीनाथ में तो 258 श्रृद्धालु हेमकुंट साहिब में फंसे हुए हैं। इनको बहार निकलने को सड़क खोलने के काम में बीआरओ ने पूरी ताकत झोंकी है लेकिन बारिश से लगातार बढ़ रहे भूस्खलन ने इनका काम मुश्किल कर रखा है। केदारनाथ को भी शनिवार सुबह सिर्फ 32 श्रृद्धालु ही रवाना हो सके। गंगोत्री और यमुनोत्री धाम पहुंच रहे यात्रियों की संख्या में भी भारी गिरावट आई है।

विज्ञाकं 💯 🎖 ५७१६ टी. को निम्निलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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Over 300 dead, lakhs displaced across country in floods

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The death toll from floods sweeping parts of the country following heavy showers has crossed 300, with Bihar accounting for 89 deaths followed by Uttarakhand where at least 73 people are known to have perished.

Among the other states battered by floods are Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab.

This year's rains after two consecutive droughts have wrecked havoc in many states, claiming lives and destroying property and standing crops. Lakhs of people have been displaced with thou-

LANDSLIDES HAVE
KILLED SEVERAL
PEOPLE, INCLUDING
THREE PILGRIMS WHO
DIED NEAR THE VAISHNO
DEVI TEMPLE IN JAMMU

sands of houses washed away. Some 3.4 lakh people have been affected by the flood waters in Madhya Pradesh alone.

Among the dead are two girls in Punjab who were swept away by flash floods in Udhampur of Punjab. Landslides triggered by rains have also killed several people, including three pilgrims

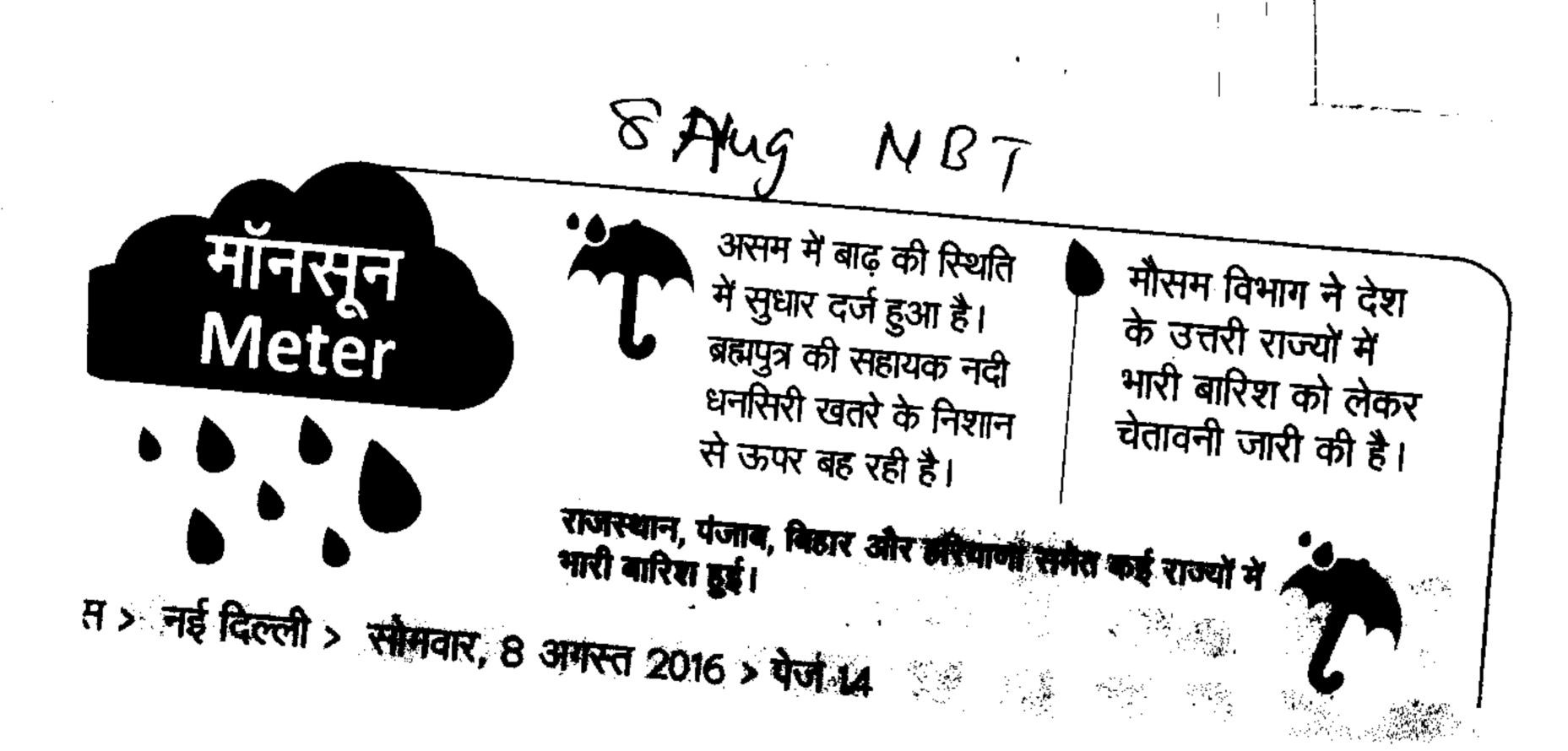
Who died on Friday near the Vaishno Devi temple in Jammu.

According to Indian Meteorological Department, the rainfall in the country till August 6 was 6% more than normal and was in excess in flood-hit Assam, Bihar and parts of Uttarakhand. Rainfall is considered to be in excess if the region has received more than 20% of what it normally received in the last 10 years.

Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Odisha and Telengana are among the state that have received normal rains this year. Rainfall received in parts of eastern Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand and Sikkim was less than normal, the weather department said.



■ According to the Indian Meteorological Department, rainfall in the country till August 6 was 6% more than normal.
REUTERS FILE



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Heavy rains kill 3 in Jammu region

AMIR KARIM TANTRAY

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

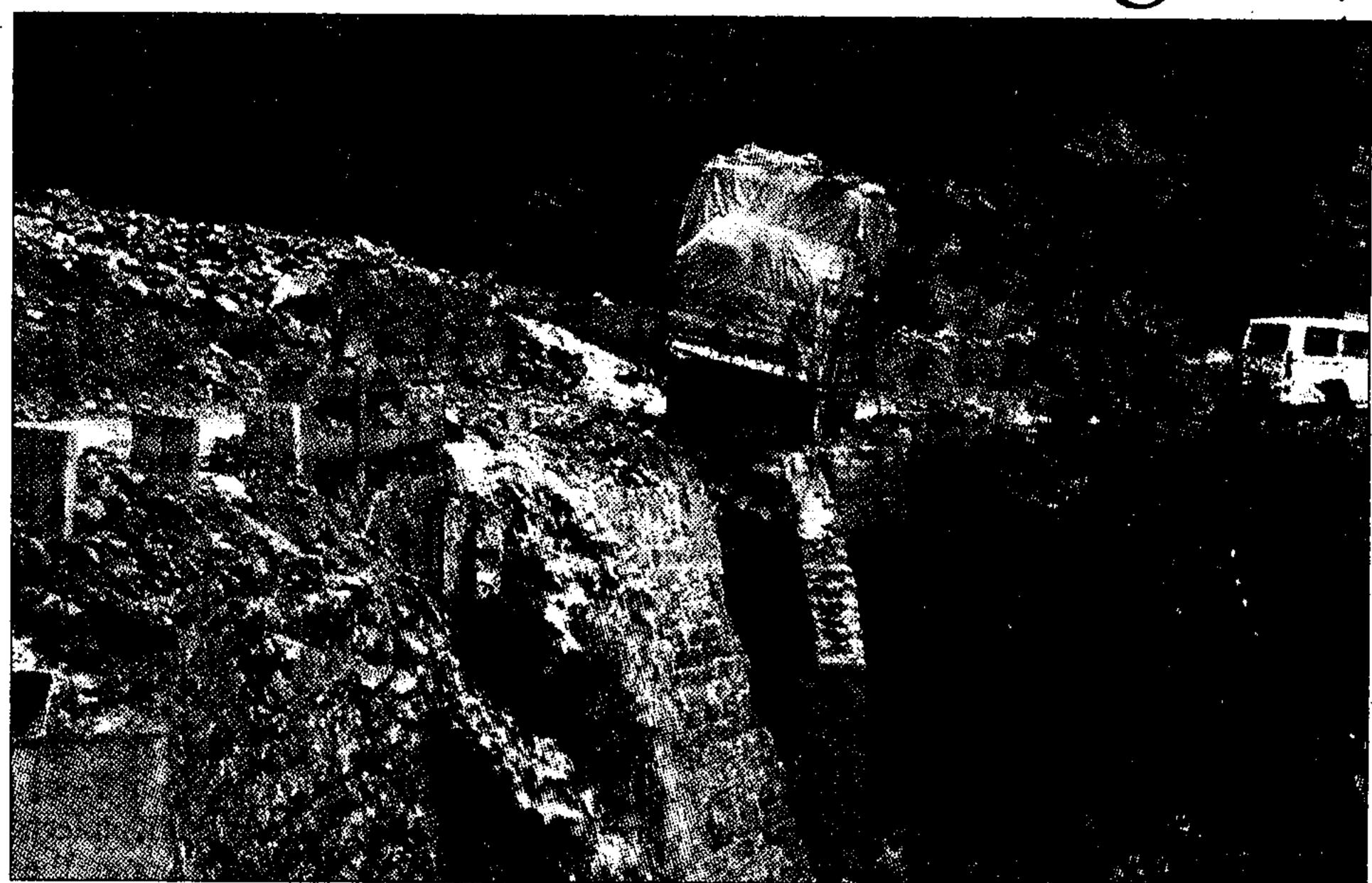
JAMMU, AUGUST 7

Heavy rain in Jammu plains since Saturday night left three persons dead, six injured and several houses damaged in Jammu, Kathua and Udhampur districts even as the pilgrimage to the Amarnath and Vaishno Devi shrines was suspended due to inclement weather.

Fatha Chand Batti, 100, of the Parlathpur area on the outskirts of Jammu, and Saif-ud-din and Dost Muhammad in Sharora Swardhar area of Doda district died when their houses collapsed during incessant rain. Three members of a family in the Jakhbad area of Kathua district and three others in Doda district were injured. A landslide in Ghordi village of Udhampur damaged three houses.

The Tawi, which divides Jammu city, was hit by flash-floods and the water level went above 13 feet. The Chenab also flowed at 34 feet, just one foot below the danger mark, in the Akhnoor area.

Jammy Deputy Commissioner Simrandeep Singh said: "As the water level in the Tawi increased abruptly, people living in the low-lying areas were evacuated to safer places. Considering heavy rain in catchment areas, pre-



A massive landslide blocked the Jammu-Srinagar national highway at Kheri in Udhampur district.

Vaishno Devi landslide toll rises to 5

Katra: Following landslides due to heavy rain in Reasi district, the Vaishno Devi pilgrimage was on Sunday suspended for the second consecutive night. The toll in the mishaps increased to five after a boy (10), injured near the gate number three of the Vaishno Devi shrine on Saturday evening by a shooting stone, succumbed to his injuries. "The pilgrimage to the cave shrine of Vaishno Devi through the new track was suspended after a landslide was triggered by the ongoing rainfall on the tracks to the shrine," said Additional Superintendent of Police, Reasi, Sanjay Rana, However, the yatra continued from the old route during the day on Sunday. — OC

cautionary measures have been taken to minimise loss."

The Ujh river in Kathua district flowed above the danger mark as flashfloods

hit the area. The Devak river in Samba district witnessed flashfloods but no loss of life or property was reported.

Heavy rain trigged mas-

sive landslides that briefly blocked the 300-km Jammu-Srinagar national highway that was later opened for vehicular traffic.

The traffic on the Jammu-Udhampur railway line was also affected as landslides blocked the track at several places near the Ramnagar station in the district.

A flashflood triggered by a cloudburst hit a remote village in Tral sub-district of south Kashmir on Sunday morning even as the Meteorological Department issued a forecast for week-long downpour in the Valley.





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Low water level delays Bhakra Dam inspection

ARUN SHARMA
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

ROPAR, AUGUST 7

A low water level in the reservoirs of Bhakra Dam, Pong Dam and Thein Dam has impeded the plans of the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) to carry out a low-level inspection of the Bhakra Dam. This is the second time when the board has deferred the inspection.

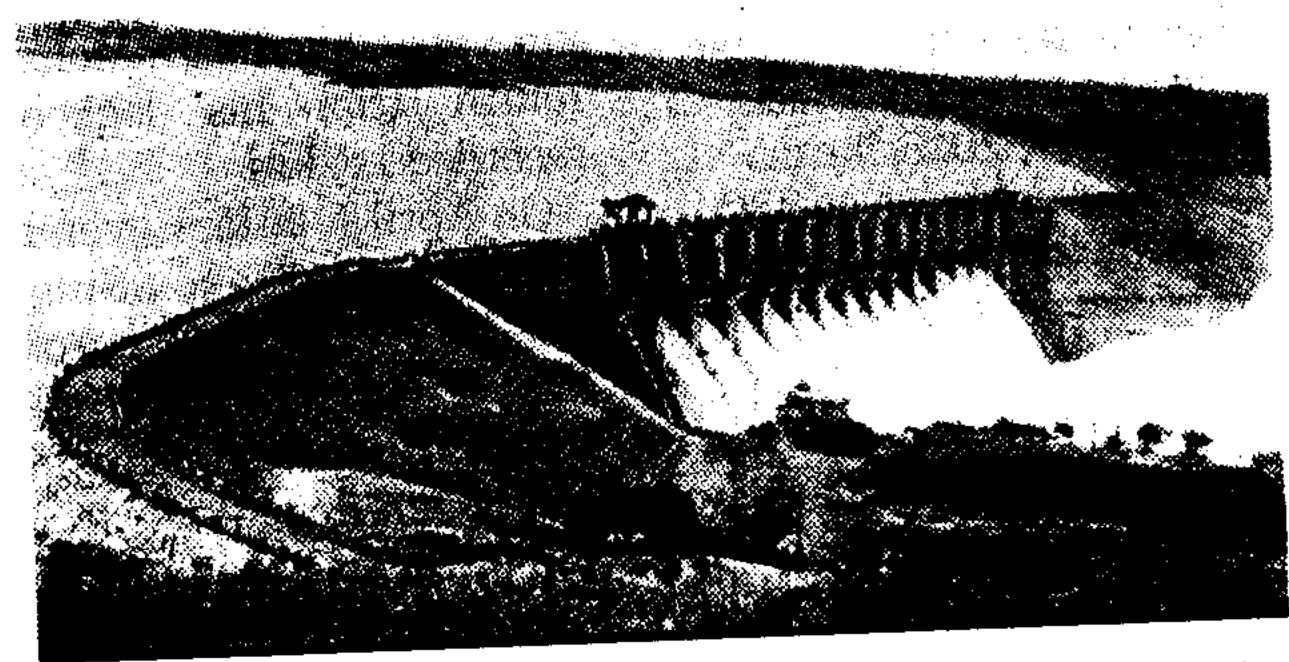
Last year, the board had decided to deplete the water level in the Bhakra and Pong reservoirs for inspection in April this year.

However, the partner states of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan objected to it, citing a high demand of water. The inspection was carried out only at the Pong Dam, while this exercise for Bhakra Dam was deferred to next year.

The inspection will require bringing the level of the Bhakra Dam reservoir

Well below danger mark

Dam	Sunday's level (6 am)	Last year (Aug 7) Capacity		
Bhakra	1,606.30 ft	1,656.33 ft	1,680ft	
Pong	1,339.45ft	1,371.88 ft 1,390 ft		
Thein	509.76 m	523.64 m	525 m	



to its dead-storage level of 1,462 ft against the maximum storage capacity of 1,680 ft so that the experts can check the condition of the trash racks, penstocks, river outlets and other submerged installations. Such an inspection was carried

out three decades ago at the 53 year-old dam.

As the level in all three reservoirs is already too low, the board cannot take the risk of depleting it at the Bhakra Dam in April next year, said a senior BBMB official.

िं जाके जिल्ली को निम्निलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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Brace for rain, traffic chaos

East and northeast Delhi, however, have seen little rain. The deficit in east Delhi is 61% and that in northeast Delhi is 37%. Data show areas such as the Indira Gandhi International Airport in southwest Delhi and Ayanagar in south Delhi have received the most rain this year.

On July 29, the Safdarjung observatory in central Delhi received 4.2 mm of rain, the IGI airport area received 63.4 mm.

After two successive droughts in the past two years, India has witnessed a normal monsoon in most parts of the country.

This is because a weather phenomenon that dries up rain in the subcontinent known as the El Niño – a warm ocean current along the coast of Ecuador and Peru – has weakened this year.

Slight rainfall in city, humidity climbs to 90 pc

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

Slight rainfall occurred in parts of the national Capital today while the humidity level went up to 90 per cent, causing discomfort to people.

"The maximum temperature recorded today was 32.8°C while the minimum was 29°C," said an official of the Met Department.

Traces of rain occurred in a few parts of the city, with 0.8 mm level of precipitation posted from 8 am to 5:30 pm today. The humidity level oscillated between 65 and 90 per cent.

The weatherman has predicted a generally cloudy sky, with chances of thundershowers and rainfall tomorrow.—PTI

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Brace for rain, traffic chaos

2-DAY FORECAST Moderate to heavy showers could unleash nightmare on Delhi-NCR roads

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Moderate-to-heavy rainfall forecast across Delhi over the next 48 hours revived fears of traffic mayhem, flooded roads and a nightmare for commuters who bore the brunt of shoddy infrastructure crumbling under showers several times this monsoon.

The India Meteorological Department's (IMD) monsoon forecast said Haryana, Delhi and Chandigarh could see a downpour on Monday and Tuesday with the southern and western parts of the Capital predicted to receive more rainfall.

This is bad news for residents in the national capital region, many of whom waded through waist-deep water and got stuck in miles-long traffic snarls when heavy showers deluged vast swathes of Delhi and Gurgaon two weeks ago.

The worst hit in the weather-

THIS SEASON SO FAR

Recent spells have brought Delhi and adjoining areas to their knees and Monday threatens to be no different

JULY 15 AND 16

IMD forecast: Moderate to heavy rain

Impact: Delhiites got a taste of the chaos in store. Civic bodies were caught napping again as water-logged roads triggered massive jams



IMD forecast: Moderate to heavy rain

77.8mm Rain received

108.4mm

Rain received

impact: Roads leading to Gurgaon were submerged with many forced to abandon their cars and wade their way to work in knee-deep water

TODAY AND TOMORROW

IMD forecast: Moderate to heavy rain

70mm Expected rainfall

Light rain: <15mm | Moderate rain: 20-60mm | Heavy rain: >70mm

induced havoc was Gurgaon, where thousands were stranded without food or water and a seven-hour-long monster traffic jam saw authorities ask commuters to avoid the area.

Cars and trucks, ambulances and school buses backed up for up to 24 hours in a hair-pulling drive home. Many abandoned their cars and waded to drier areas through knee-deep water.

The frenzied scenes mirrored a similar nightmare in the second week of July, when heavy downpour deluged many parts of south and west Delhi.

In both cases, the chaos was triggered by showers choking storm-water drains that flooded streets, submerging vehicles and throwing normal life out of gear.

For the mess, experts blamed

a rush to build apartments, malls and office complexes in the national capital region that ensured ponds, embankments and water channels draining the monsoon runoff vanished in the last three decades.

But with politicians trading blame and little progress on cleaning of the ageing drains or hacking off encroachments, the city appeared illequipped to handle another spell of heavy rain.

The monsoon this year is expected to bring more than normal rain to most parts of northwest India, including Delhi till September, when the season ends. August is expected to be wetter than usual.

Delhi has received 396.8mm of rain—13% more than normal till August 7 but the distribution has been uneven. South Delhi has seen 49% more rain than usual while west Delhi got 30% more showers.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

िचाकं हिनामंत्र को निम्निलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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FLOOD ALERT IN JAMMU

41-Timees 0/8/16



People stand on the bank of the overflowing Tawi river in Jammu on Sunday. Authorities sounded a flood alert after heavy rain continued for over 24 hours in the district, causing many rivers and water bodies to swell. "The Tawi river was flowing at the 18-feet mark on Sunday morning, which is the danger mark," an official said. NITIN KANOTRA / HT

The Sunday Tarbure, 7/8/16



Vehicles move on a waterlogged Ashram-Faridabad ring road after heavy rain in south Delhi on Saturday. TRIBUNE PHOTO

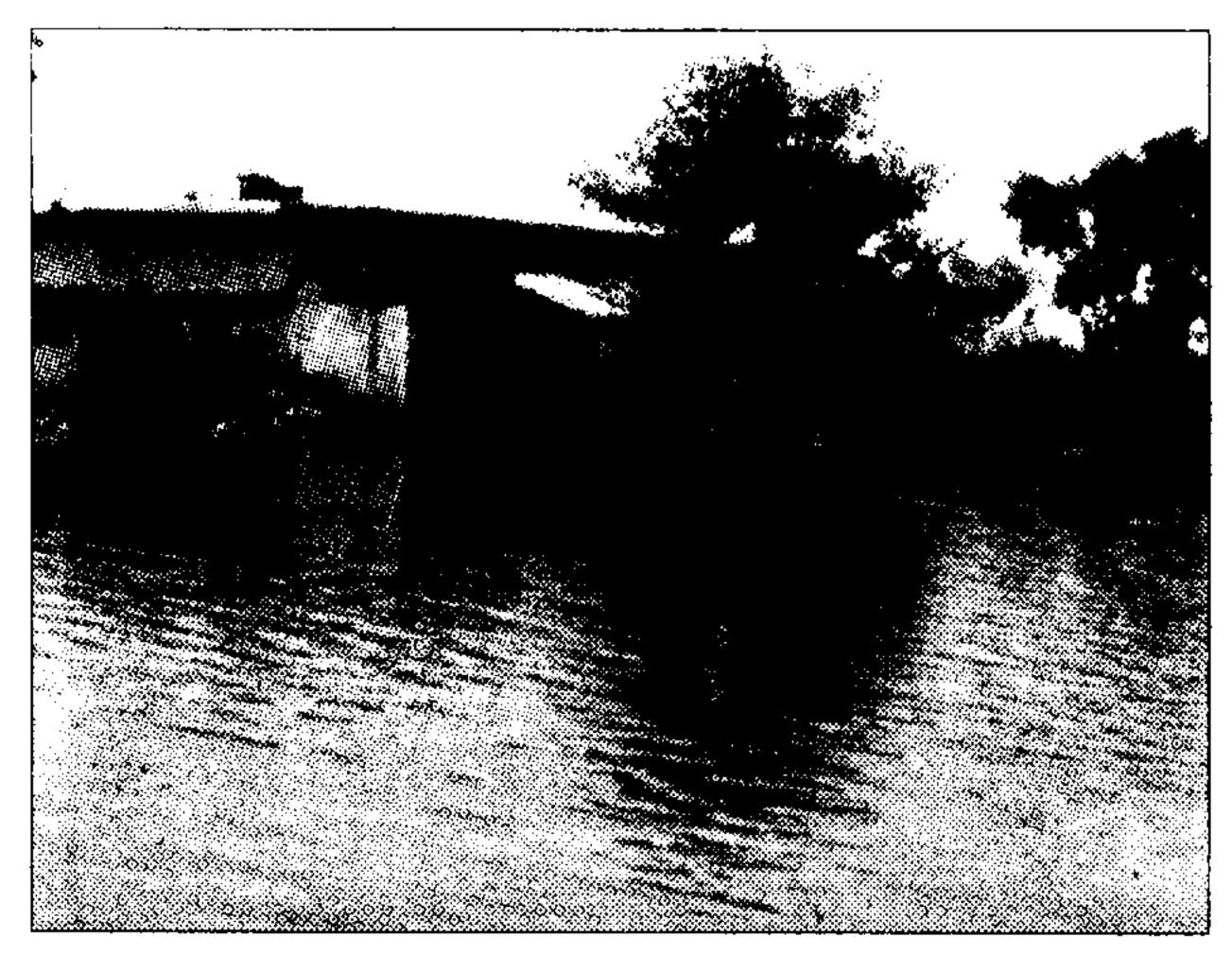
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The sunday 7-55 tune, 718116 Flood situation in Bihar grim, toll climbs to 91



Nawada village submerged in flood waters of Gandak river in East Champaran district of Bihar on Saturday. PTI

PATNA, AUGUST 6

With two more deaths reported from Purnea district, the toll in Bihar floods increased to 91 today with many areas in 14 districts still reeling under inundation in the state.

The Bihar floods have affected 33 lakh people in 642 panchayats of 78 blocks of 14 districts of the state, besides widely damaging crops in different parts of the state.

The disaster management department said two fresh deaths were reported from Purnea taking the toll to 91 from yesterday's 89 in the state. Purnea district, which accounted for maximum number of deaths, reported 28 deaths followed by Araria (21), Katihar (15), Supual (8), Kishanganj (5), Madhepura (4), Gopalganj (4), Darbhanga (3), Saharsa Saran and Muzaffarpur one each.

Fed by heavy rains in the Terai region of Nepal, Ganga

river was flowing above danger mark at various places including at Kahalgaon in Bhagalpur district, Ghaghra-Darauli and Gangpur-Siswan in Siwan district.

The Kosi was flowing above danger level at Baltara in Khagaria and Kursela in Katihar, the Department release said. The 14 flood-affected districts of the state are Purnea, Kishanganj, Araria, Madhepura, Darbhanga, Bhagalpur, Katihar, Saharsa, Supual, Gopalganj, Muzaffarpur, East Champaran, West Champaran and Saran.

The floods have also damaged crops in 2 lakh hectares of land, the assessment for which was being made by the authorities, it said.

A total of 464 relief camps are being run in the flood-hit areas, giving shelter to 3,86,449 people even as 224. medical teams are providing their services. — PTI

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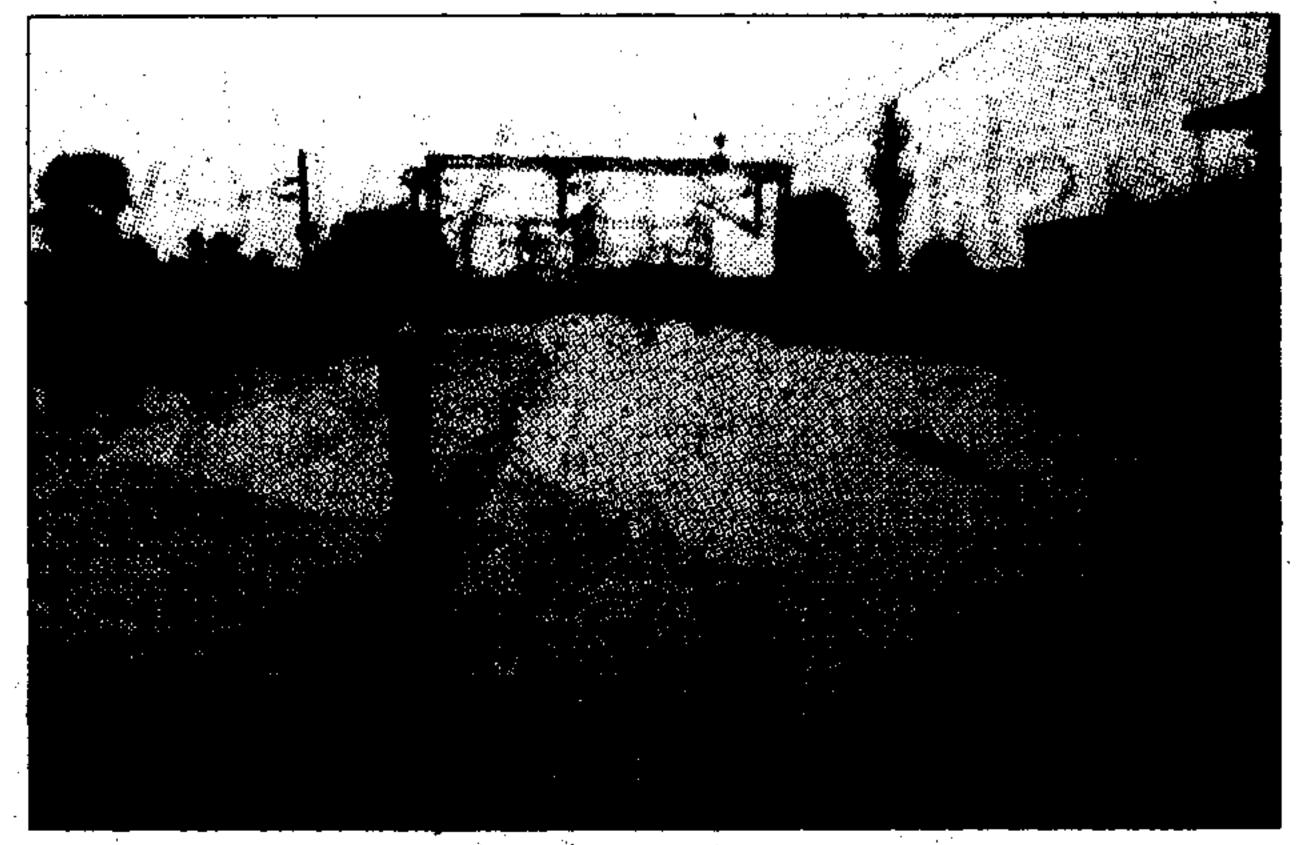
Flood-like situation in Nurpur's Indora

RAJIV MAHAJAN

NURPUR, AUGUST 6

The torrential rain, which has been lashing Indora and mand area since Friday night, has created flood-like situation, disrupting normal life of the people.

Railway tracks at Kandrori were submerged which resulted into the suspension of rail traffic on the Pathankot-Jalandhar section from 10 am to 3 pm. The power supply in most parts of the area has been affected due to falling of electricity poles and trees. The rainwater entered



The submerged rail tracks on the Jalandhar-Pathankot section at Kandrori on Saturday. Photo by writer

houses and shops of locals.
The administration has requisitioned the services

of the local NDRF for relief and rescue operation in the mand area. As per information, Dhussi Bandh, raised by the Army two years ago on the Chhonch khud, was washed away following which flood water entered the houses at Shekhupura and Kandrori villages.

In some houses, the water level was at 4 or 5 feet. The flood water also damaged maize and paddy crops. According to an estimate, 70 villages have been cut off due to damage of road.

Malot Bridge on the Mohatli-Pathankot-Indora road was damaged and the Public Works Department has closed this road.

हिनाकं र् जिल्ला को निम्निखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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Monsoon good, but reservoirs still not full

VIBHA SHARMA
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 5

The Northwest—comprising Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kash-Uttarakhand, mir, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan has recorded 26 per cent excess rain so far this season, but the water storage levels in key reservoirs continues to be less than the corresponding period last year. The latest government data shows it is even less than the average storage of the past 10 years in the same period.

So far, the country has registered one per cent excess rain and the Northwest five per cent. For the week ending August 3, countrywide rain was six per cent above average.

Government functionaries

From a dismal 15 pc storage recorded in June-end, the total water storage available in 91 major reservoirs in the country till August 4 was 71.556 BCM — 45 pc of their total storage capacity

assure the situation has "improved significantly" and will "further improve" as the season progresses. "Good rains have already resulted in an increase in the level of many reservoirs. They will further increase as it is still time before the four-month season ends," they say.

From a dismal 15 per cent storage recorded in June-end, the total water storage available in 91 major reservoirs in the country for the week ending August 4 is 71.556 billion cubic meter (BCM) — 45 per cent of their total storage capacity.

The current storage is 96 per cent of that recorded in the corresponding period last year.

In the northern region, which includes six reservoirs of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Rajasthan, the situation is less encouraging. With a total live storage capacity of 18.01 BCM, they are currently having a live storage of 8.41 BCM, which is 47 per cent of their total live storage capacity. The storage during corresponding period last year was 80 per cent and average storage in the past 10 years in the same period was 54 per cent.

The IMD has retained its fore-cast of an above-average monsoon this season, keeping high hopes of good agriculture output, both during summer and winter — factors which would boost income and economy after a dry spell of two years.

Meanwhile, states having better storage than last year for corresponding period are Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Those with equal storage as compared to last year in the same period are Karnataka and Kerala. The ones with lesser storage than last year for corresponding period are Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Odisha, Tripura, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh and Tamil Nadu.

Hir dustan Times (Delhi)

तिक्की)

Tribune (Chandigarh)

The Hindu (Chennai)

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

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

Rains slow down Mumbai

Heavy waterlogging in Central Mumbai I Rail, road traffic disrupted



TROUBLE FROM ABOVE: A bus wades through a flooded street during heavy rains in Mumbai on Friday. PTI

SHIV KUMAR TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MUMBAI, AUGUST 5

Heavy rains disrupted rail and road traffic and caused flight delays in Mumbai this morning.

According to police and fire officials, heavy water-logging in Central Mumbai reduced traffic to a crawl. While the suburban section of the Western Railway reported a 10-15 minute delay in train services, the Central Railway services were thrown out of gear as water levels rose above train tracks.

Central Railway officials said many services were cancelled till noon, though services limped back to normal later

Bridge collapse: 3 more bodies spotted in river

- Three more bodies were on Friday spotted in the Savitri river even as incessant rain hampered the search operations launched after two buses and some private vehicles were swept away following collapse of a British-era bridge near Mahad in Raigad district
- With this, the total number of deceased in the mishap has gone up to 17
- "Till last night we had fished out 14 bodies. The search teams this morning have spotted three more bodies," Raigad Additional Superintendent of Police Sanjay Patil said, adding: "Efforts are on to fish out the three bodies." PTI

in the afternoon as the rains took a breather.

"The suburban services on Up and Down slow lines have been suspended between Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (CST) and Thane due to waterlogging at Sion, Masjid and Sand-

hurst Road stations because of continuous heavy rain," a Central Railway spokesman said in the morning.

Low-lying areas in central Mumbai like the Hindmata Cinema and Gandhi Market in Sion saw knee-deep water despite the civic authorities'

best efforts to pump out water into sea. Important commercial areas of the city like the Bandra Kurla Complex also reported heavy flooding, police and fire officials said.

According to the state government, heavy rains were reported from other parts of Maharashtra with the Mahableshwar hill station receiving a record 160 mm of rainfall in 24 hours.

The authorities in Thane district today asked people at the foothills of the Parsik and Belapur hills to move away, fearing a landslide. These areas had reported falling rocks in the past, sources said.

नं ने स्टान टाईम्स (बिख्नी) The Tribune (Chandigarh) Tr... Hindu (Chennai)

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

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

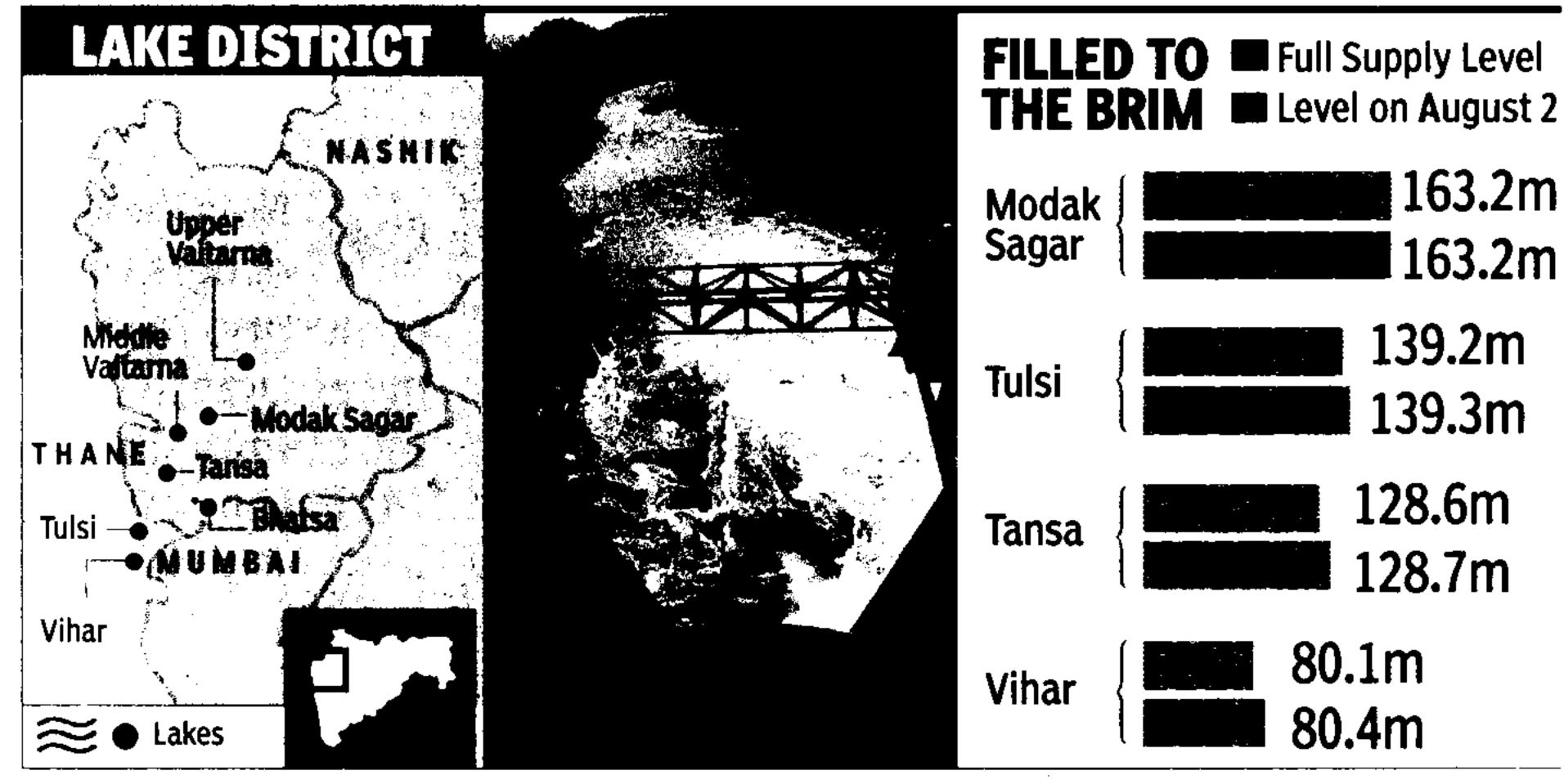
Water way to go! 3 of city's big lakes overflow in 24 hrs

Mumbai Now Has 81% Of **Annual Stock**

Richa.Pinto@timesgroup.com

Mumbai: The city's cup of joy overflows. For the first time, three lakes providing potable water to Mumbai overflowed within 24 hours on Tuesday morning, taking total supplies available to 11.89 lakh million litres. This is roughly 81% of the water required by the city in a year.

BMC officials said the monsoon has proved to be more than bountiful for all the lakes and reservoirs which feed the city. There are seven of them and they need to have



14.37 lakh million litres by September 30 so there are no cuts the rest of the year. The city consumes 3,750 million litres of water every day.

So far four lakes supplying

have overflowed, of which the smaller two, Tulsi and Vihar, are located within city limits. Modak Sagar and Tansa began overflowing on Monday.

Mumbaikars struggled

with a 20% water cut till last month due to poor rains in **2015**. Even in 2014, the monsoon had picked up late.

▶3 more near-full, P 6

Friday Was Wettest August Day In Five Years: Weather Bureau

Richa.Pinto@timesgroup.com

ormal weekday life came to a standstill in the city, especially the suburbs, on Friday morning as very heavy rain lashed Mumbai. The Santacruz observatory recorded 126.3 mm of rainfall in barely six hours from 8.30 am-2.30 pm, making it the wettest August day so far in the city in five years.

Waterlogging at low-lying areas, compounded with potholed roads and problems in the suburban train services, severely disrupted traffic, leading to harassment for commuters, attendance at offices being hit, schools declaring holidays and delays in flights.

The IMD has forecast intermittent rain or showers for Sat-

The heavy rain hit flight schedules as both arrivals and departures were delayed by 30 minutes throughout the day. Early in the day, three arriving flights had to go around due to inclement weather. Jet Airways' Raipur-Mumbai flight 9W 378, which was to land at 11am, had to be diverted to Vadodara.

There was a high tide warning of 4.47m at 2.04pm, but, luckily, it did not coincide with the heavy rains. BMC said on account of the recently commissioned stormwater pumping station at Britannia, they were able to clear the waterlogging at Hindmata in Dadar in much lesser time as compared to earlier years. "We were able to clear 10 inches of water in barely two hours. There were 203 pumps which were in operation," said additional munici-



A biker drags his two-wheeler through the flooded King's Circle area

urday and heavy rain in some areas. "The winds are totally westerly with an average speed of 40-45kmph due to which fisherman and port warning was issued. There is an offshore trough from south of Gujaratto south of Maharashtra. These are typical weather systems that are known to enhance rainfall activity," said KS Hosatikar, deputy general, western region. India Meteorological Department.

According to the IMD, rainfrecorded from 5.50pm by the Santacruz observatory was 128.9mm, showing a clearing tapering off of the rain since afternoon: there was no increase in rainfall recorded after 5.30pm. The Colaba observatory recorded only 22.4mm rainfall from 8.30am-8.30pm. The automatic weather stations of the BMC recorded rainfall above 100mm between 8am and 4pm in Dadar, Matunga, Sion, Vikhroli, Deonar, Kurla, Andheri, Bandra,

Khar, Santaeruz, Wadala and

Worli.

pal commissioner Sanjay Deshmukh.

With railway tracks at Sion, Matunga and Kurla going under water, the BMC is mulling asking Central Railway for the reason. The BMC pays the railways for cleaning the nullahs prior to monsoon every year.

Till Friday afternoon, 26 tree-fall complaints were registered with the BMC disaster management cell by citizens—three from the eastern suburbs, 12 from the western suburbs and 11 from the island city. At 3.06pm, a 21-year-old man, Mohammad Sayed, fell into a open drain in flooded road at Sharif Nagar in Govandi. He was taken to Rajawadi hospital, but was declared dead before admission.

There was no significant rise in the levels of the lakes that supply water to Mumbai. While five of the seven lakes have overflowed, Upper Vaitarna is less than a metre away from the overflow mark. The total water stock on Friday stood

at 13.2 lakh million litres.

Severe snarls on both highways, Eastern Freeway

Took 4 Hours To Reach SoBo From Dindoshi, Says MLA In Assembly

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: The torrential downpour on Friday flooded roads and led to severe traffic snarls across the city. Motorists were stuck in their vehicles for hours as both Eastern and Western Express Highways, Eastern Freeway and Jogeshwari-Vikhroli Link Road saw bumper-to-bumper traffic. Worst were parts of Sion, King's Circle, Hindmata in Dadar and Kurla.

"I left Borivli at 9am and hadn't reached my office at BKC even by 11.40am via WEH in my car," tweeted a female motorist. Another motorist said he took two-and-a-half hours to reach CST from Thane—the journey shouyld usually take less than an hour.

Raising the issue of potholes on the two express highways in the assembly, Shiv Sena MLA Sunil Prabhu said it took him four hours to travel from Dindoshi to south Mumbai on Friday. "The public works department must explain the presence of potholes," Prabhu demanded.

As several areas got water-logged, additional traffic police personnel were deputed on the road to monitor the situation and divert traffic. "The locations that were badly affected were Ram Nagar subway near Vakola, D N Nagar in Andheri (W), Parel TT, King's Circle Junction, Mukhyadhyapak Bhavan at Sion and the Kurla-Kamani area near Phoenix Mall," said a statement issued by the traffic police.

Even BEST buses had a tough time ferrying passengers through these areas. By afternoon, it diverted buses from 11 water-logged spots and more than 40 bus routes were changed to ensure that the vehicles were not stranded. This inconvenienced many commuters, mainly those in the low-lying

Surge prices and taxi refusals add to agony

Scores of commuters stranded due to unavailability of trains, taxis, autorickshaws and poor frequency of buses opted for Uber and Ola cabs, only to be disappointed. Surge pricing came into play and went as high as 3X (three times the usual rate) during the day. Even the share prices jumped, complained passengers.

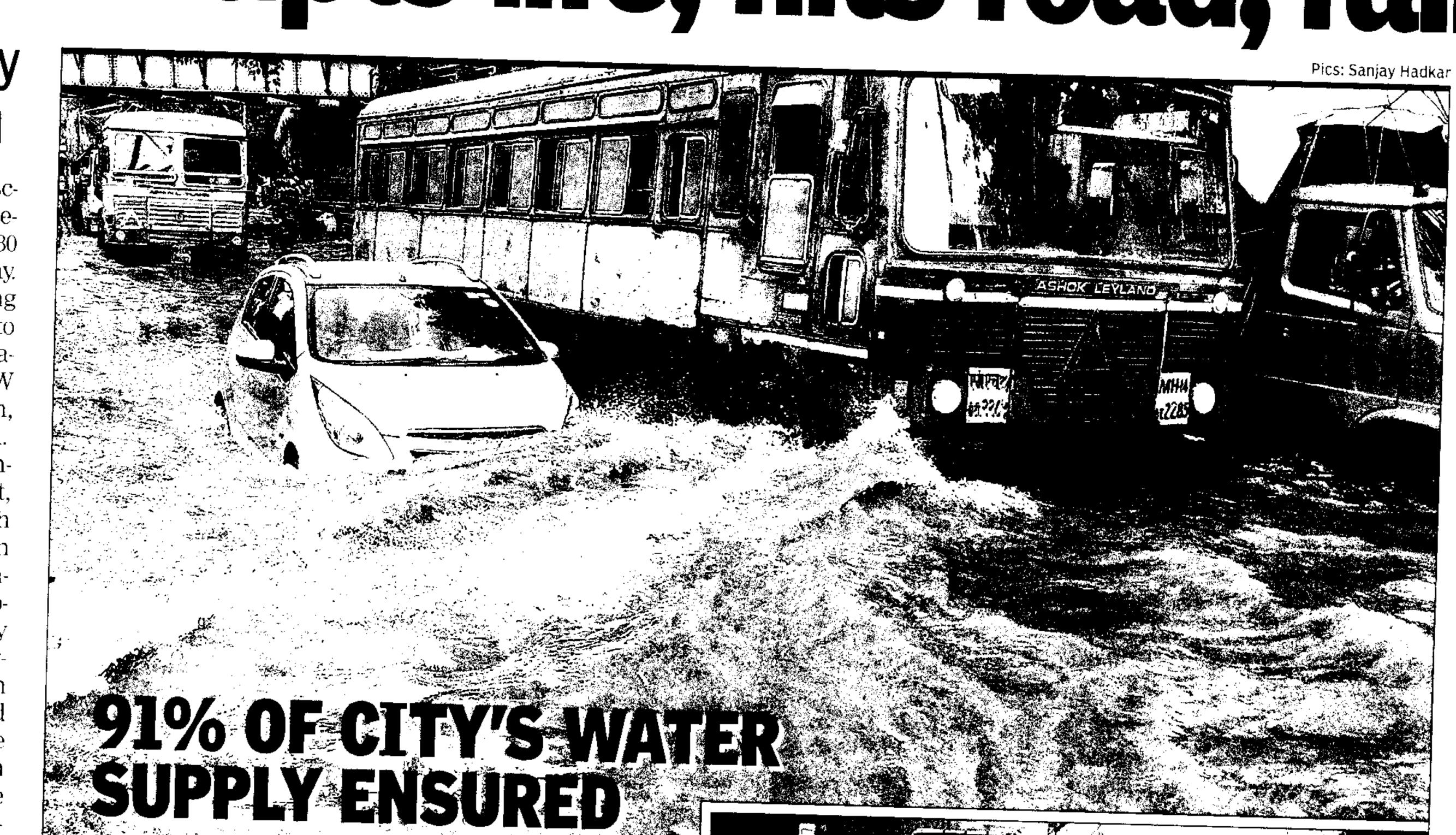
A commuter from Thane said the Ola Share rate from Thane to CST was Rs 661 (usually Rs 300-350), while the cheapest Uber fare was Rs 750 (Rs 450-500). Sources in aggregator firms said demand was high during the heavy rains, so the surge pricing. "In certain situations like strikes or heavy rains and water-logging, there could be fewer cabs on the road, which is why we have surge pricing to get more drivers," said an official with an aggregator.

Refusals by taxis and autos were rampant. At places, particularly at long-distance train terminals, they agreed to ply only at steep fixed rates. — **Somit Sen**

areas. The BEST operated 26 extra buses due to heavy rains on 18 routes.

The south-bound entry to Dahisar toll booth was jammed as early as 8am as trucks, that refused to ply in the downpour, blocked the road. Slowmoving traffic was reported on Gokhale Road at Dadar towards Sena Bhavan, on Santacruz-Chembur Link Road from Tilak flyover towards BKC Road and on Andheri-Ghatkopar Road near Asalpha towards Sakinaka Metro station. Massive congestion was reported at Mith Chowky junction in Malad, Larsen & Toubro to Seepz, Bandra-Worli Sea Link, Wadala bridge and Mahalaxmi. Snarls were also reported from Haji Ali to Worli Naka, S V Road at Andheri. LBS Marg, Andheri-Kurla Road from JB Nagar towards Marol Naka, Bandra (E) to Mahim Causeway, Dr Ambedkar Road towards Dadar TT, Wadala to Matunga from Lijjat Papad

signal and Sion Circle.



2016

24-hour period starting 8.30am on mentioned date, unless specified



2015 22.3

88.1

1st

2014

92.3

2nd

2013

19th

2012

82.8

Source: India Meteorological Department

6th

Rainfall in mm

8am-4pm. Recorded by BMC's automatic weather stations

102.6

F-North*	
Worli	
Wadala	

148.1 122.7

Andheri

111.5 162.8

Santacruz

Bandra

104.1

Kurla Deonar

134.4 108

Vikhroli

110.7

*Ward comprises King's Circle, Matunga and Dadar

ORE Intermittent rain or showers very likely in city and suburbs. Heavy to very heavy rain in some areas

Repaired by BMC

Reported by citizens

THIS YEAR

Since start of monsoon

BREAK JP

City : **786**

Island

Yet to be filled Western

965

LAST YEAR

suburbs |

From start of monsoon to August 5

616

Eastern

suburbs |

WATERLOGGE

Sion Road No 24. Pratiksha Nagar, Hindmata, King's Circle, Mahalaxmi, Byculla, Ghatkopar (East), Kherwadi in Bandra (East), Khar

➤ 203 pumps were put in operation. Storm water pumping stations at Cleveland Bunder and Lovegrove (both in Worli), Britannia Outfall on Reay Road, Irla in Juhu, and Haji Ali were put in operation

HOW TO COMPLAIN

Website mcgm.gov.in Celiphone app

MCGM 24X7

Phone | 1292, 1293 (toll-free), 22691293 (MTNL)

BMC expected to attend to complaints within 48 hours

TOFF FALL

Complaints 26



Eastern suburbs

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Western Suburbs

Island city

Complaints registered

RAIN IN RESERVOIRS

In 24-hour period till 6am, August 5. In mm

Lake	2016		
Modak Sagar	45.4	6.3	
Tansa	40.4	3.2	
Vihar	18.6	3.4	
Tulsi	55	0	
Upper Vaitarna	43	17	
Bhatsa	34	4	
Middle Vaitarna	41.8	4	

AL WATERS OCK

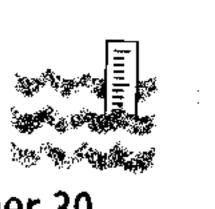
As of August 5. In lakh million litres

2016 13.2

2015 8.6

Annual average 14.5

This is the combined water stock reservoirs should have by September 30



of Mumbai's annual water supply has already been accumulated by reservoirs

91.38%

with BMC's disaster management cell

विज्ञाकं रिकारित को निम्निखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Hindustan Times (Delhi)
जाउभारात व्यक्तिस्स (विक्सी)
The Tribune (Chandigarh)
The Hindu (Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati)
The Times of India (Mumbai)
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हिन्दुस्तान (पटना)

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

The leagness, 6/8/16

HEAVY RAIN HITS MUMBAI





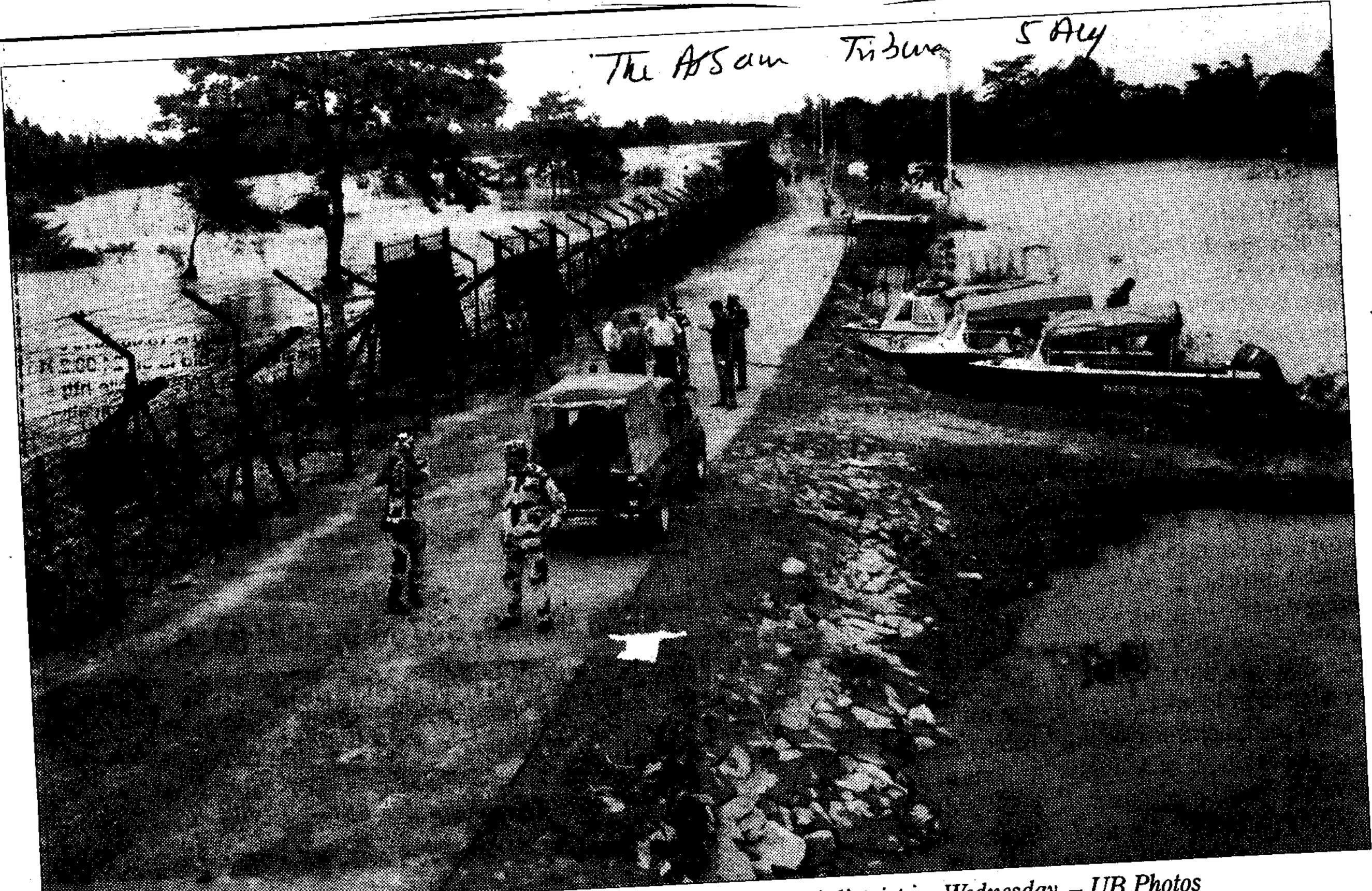
A man enjoys a turtle-raft ride on a flooded street during heavy rains in Mumbai on Friday; a woman and a child make their way back home from school in the rain. (PTI)

िनाकं र्रेग्सिट्रं.... को निम्नलिखित रामाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Hindustan Times (Delhi) ਜ਼ੁਰੂ ਮਾਨਰ ਟਾਡੇਸ਼ (ਫਿਫਰੀ) The Tribune (Chandigarh) The Hindu (Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati)
The Times of India (Mumbai)
The Telegraph (Kolkata)
ਇਕਫੁਪੁੰਜੀਕ (ਧਟਕਾ)

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



An inundated stretch of the Indo-Bangla border, in Dhubri district on Wednesday. – UB Photos

ਜ਼ਿਲਰustan Times (Delhi) ਬੰਤ ਮਾਹਰ ਟਾਡੰਸ਼ਨ (ਫਿਫਰੀ) ਜਿਸ Tribune (Chandigarh) ਜਿਸ Hindu (Chennai)

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200 schools still under flood waters in Barpeta district

CORRESPONDENT

BARPETA, Aug 4: The recent floods have damaged the backbone of educational infrastructure in Barpeta district affecting more than 800 schools. Although it has subsided in many areas, 200 schools, are still under water and classes have not commenced though three days have passed since the reopening of summer vacation. Normal activities in these schools are surely to be delayed as the premises and approach roads will take a few days to dry. Most of such schools are known to be located in *char* areas of the district while a few are in the riverine southern parts.

The most significant aspect of the flood devastation is that as many as 13

schools have been eroded by Brahmaputra and Beki rivers. Out of these 13, 12 belong to Mandia Educational Block, the worst affected area by flood and erosion. 1077 no. Sapari LP, 1879 Baseruddin Gaoburha LP, Garalasuti LP, Garala Sat LP, 1635 no. Pachim Mayanbari LP, Pachim Mayanbari ME Girls Madrassa, 969 Kismat Mayanbari Dhakaliapara LP, 1659 no. Matharanga KalpaniLP, 1965 no. Uzirar Char Bhangi Khowa LP Bhabarpar LP, Sayedpur LP and Sasmina LP Schools under Mandia Education Block have been eroded this year. These school will have to run academic activities in makeshift temporary sheds until permanent structures are built. Twenty-one school buildings were eroded in this area in 2014 also.

On the other hand, as many as 63 high and higher secondary schools all over the district have been affected by floods this year. According to information, normal activity has not been possible in eight high schools under Chenga, nine under Baghbar, six under Kalgachia and five under Sarthebari Revenue Circles. It will take another few days to commence academic activities in these schools.

Besides Kammarpara High Madrassa under Kalgachia Revenue Circle has been eroded by Beki making it necessary to shift to some safer place.

Besides, a large number of school children have to take shelter either in relief camps or on embankments after losing their homes in erosion foretelling a bleak future for them.

Hir dustan Times (Delhi) चंद्रभारत टा**ईम्स (विख्ली**) The Tribune (Chandigarh) The Hindu (Chennai)

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

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

'Spectre of floods looms large'

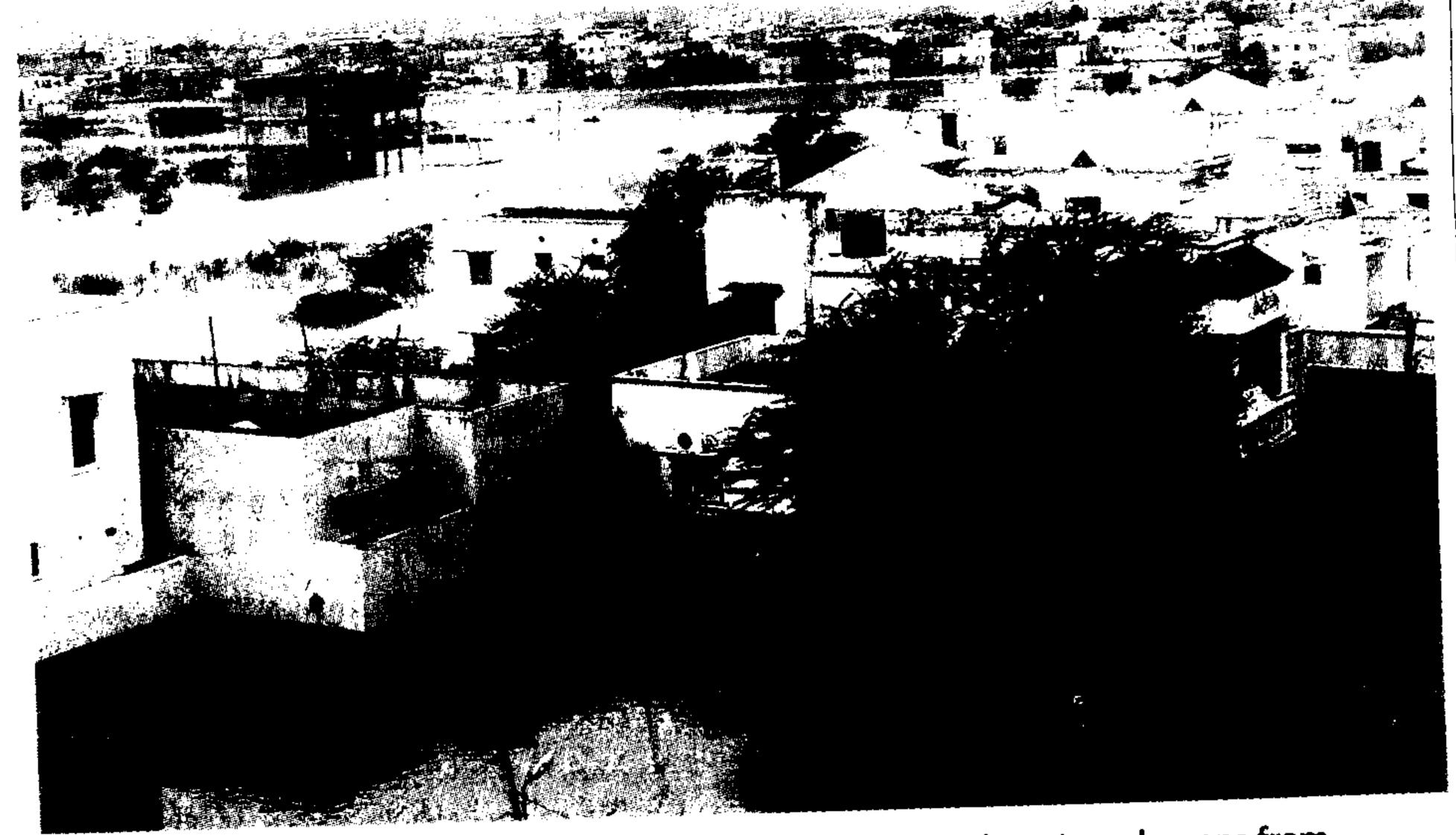
Audit report says authorities are ill-equipped to deal with similar situations

STAFF REPORTER

CHENNAI: The city does not seem to have learnt any lessons from last December's disastrous floods, an audit report suggests. Volunteers of the Arappor Iyakkam say that the lack of preparation for the northeast monsoon could have a dire impact on the city.

The audit carried out by the organisation in association with Magasool suggests that the State government had not learnt any lessons from the previous monsoons on safeguarding the city from flooding. Releasing the audit report on Chennai waterways titled 'Is Chennai ready to face the upcoming monsoon?' on Thursday, the members highlighted the background to the flooding of areas such as Sidco Nagar in Villivakkam, Mugalivakkam, Mudichur, Pallavaram and Chromepet and Pallikaranai and surrounding areas.

Jayaram Venkatesan, coordinator, Arappor Iyakkam, said the dumping of debris



WARNING SIGNS: The audit suggests that the government has not learnt any lessons from December's floods. — PHOTO: G. KRISHNASWAMY

from Metro Rail work sites and the construction of pumping stations by the Chennai Metro Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB)

pletely blocked the drainage facilities leaving residents of Sidco Nagar to face the brunt of flooding.

Similarly, the lack of desilting of the Periya Eri, Keelkattalai Lake and Narayanapuram Lake, which drain into the Pallikaranai Marshland, led to the inundation of areas surrounding Pallikaranai. Encroachments on the once sprawling Thirupananthaal Lake near Pammal were the primary cause of flooding in Pallavaram and Chromepet. Regarding

had com- SAVING THE CITY for flooding in Mugalivakkam and nearby areas, the members pointed out the poor maintenance of the Mugalivakkam Canal, which has not been desilted for more than 15 years, and the damage to it was the reason for several areas getting submerged in rainwater.

the reasons

The voluntary organisation said officials of the Water Resources Department, Metrowater and Chennai were Corporation equipped to manage similar floods in the future.

P. Nakkeeran of the voluntary organisation said the Public Works Department through a Government Order had planned to widen the Buckingham Canal from 20 metres to 100 metres for a length of 13 kilometres at an estimated cost of Rs. 78 crore which was later revised to Rs. 104 crore, but the officials have widened it only for a length of 4.50 km in a few stretches.

Bhavika Jain & Abhishek Samuel TNN

Mumbai: Head for the hills in the rain with caution as driving to monsoon getaways like Mahabaleshwar, Lavasa in Mulshi and Sinhagad fort may be a damp squib. Incessant rainfall in Pune and its surrounding regions has caused mudslides, water-logging, shut down roads and valley view points at many of these popular tourist spots.

Tourist traffic to Mahabaleshwar, the hill station 230 km from Mumbai has been hit by the incessant rains. Due to very heavy rainfall, the local administration as a precautionary measure has decided to close six popular tourist spots in and around Mahabaleshwar for tourists till further notice. Mahabaleshwar tehsildar Ramesh Shendge issued the order on Thursday to avoid a mishap. "Mahabaleshwar has been experiencing a downpour over the past few days. Certain roads are flooded with rainwater making them unsafe. There have also been instances of landslides, mudslides and trees falling. As a precautionary measure, six tourist points around Mahabaleshwar will remain closed till further notice." The road to Mahabaleshwar will remain open, he added.

The points closed to tourists include Arthur point, Elphinstone point, Savitri point, Lingmala waterfall, Ludwik point, and Kate's point. Rainfall between Tuesday to Thursday alone was 1,154.8mm, according to data from Skymet.

Mapro Gardens, a priority on most Mahabaleshwar itineraries, has seen few crowds in the last few days. "We generally get close to 15,000 visitors a day during we ekends, but last weekend the number dropped to 12,000," said Pravin Malusare of Mapro.

Hotels in and around Mahabalesh-war too have seen a dip in enquiries and a few cancellations. "We have been receiving a lot of enquiries about the weather and if there are any roadblocks," said a four-star hotel official, requesting anonymity. The four star resort and spa, which gets a majority of its bookings from Mumbai and Pune saw a dip in enquiries along with a few cancellations in the last one week. "It's a five-hour drive from Mumbai and three hours from Pune. But people were worried about roadblocks. No one wants to spend their short weekend in a traffic jam," the official added.

On travel portals, the fall in demand reflected in comparatively lower tariffs. For instance, on Thursday afternoon, a four-star accommodation for this weekend was available at about Rs 8,000. "Even during the monsoon, four-star hotel rooms normally cost upwards of Rs 10,000 if booked only 24 hours in advance," said an official from a resort.

757 336 189 82 210 49 352 45

Nashik Division Division

Aurangabad Division

Pune Division

47.3%

15.7%

217 103 197 31

August Average Rain on August 1-4

NASHIK'S RECORD RAINFALL

	August Avg	August 1-4	%
Taluka	134.9	347	257.2
District	4,228	3,357.4	79.4

DOWNPOUR BRINGS A DELUGE

City	August Average	August 1-4	%
Pune	117.5	135.5	115
Nashik	145.7	318.7	218
Kolhapur	192.6	120.8	62
Mahabaleshwar	1,778 1,161 (Rainfall figures in millimetres)		65

Unprecedented rain in Nashik region caused flooding in Nashik city and parts of Aurangabad district, brought massive inflow of water into Jayakwadi reservoir, lifting it out of the dead storage.

On Thursday, Jayakwadi had 15% of its live storage

District	3-Day Rainfall	% Of Norma
Aurangabad	43.8	203.7
Nanded	41.6	130.4
Jalna	24	111.6
Hingoli	35.5	109.6
Beed	18.9	105.6
Osmanabad	29	101.4
Parbhani	25.7	97.7
Latur	21.8	92.8
Marathwada	30.9	121.2

(Rainfall figures in millimetres)

The IMD (India Meteorological Department)
has communicated its forecast of heavy rain for the next 24 hours. The precipitation has been higher in the hilly regions compared to the flat terrains of Marathwada and Vidarbha. We have issued instructions to our regional officers to keep updating villages on river banks about water discharge and possible flash-floods

— Girish Mahajan |
WATER RESOURCES MINISTER





Heavy rainfall over the last few days caused the Mula river in Pune to overflow, resulting in a crack in Baba Bhide bridge (top); Roads in Mahabaleshwar (above), which recorded 410mm rainfall on Tuesday, were ravaged by the downpour

Heavy rain alerts for Mumbai, Thane, Navi Mumbai for next 48 hours

The IMD, Mumbai has forecast that a few spells of rain or showers are likely to occur in the city and its suburbs on Friday. Heavy rainfall is also likely to occur at one or two places. The Thane and Navi Mumbai municipal corporations have also been alerted of possible heavy rains over the next 48 hours in their respective jurisdictions by the IMD. The Thane tehsildar's office has asked these corporations to depute rescue staff at problem points, especially along the foothills and low lying areas in areas around Parsik and Belapur hills, etc. The TMC has meanwhile started working on an action plan to tackle any rain related crisis to surface in the city. A special meeting was chaired by mayor Sanjay More and civic commissioner Sanjeev Jaiswal, attended by several corporators on Thursday, to streamline a plan to mitigate issues at perennial innundation spots in the city during the rains. TNN

The approach route to Sinhagad fort, a popular spot for trekkers from Pune, was also shut. While no untoward incidents were reported, the road that was closed as a precaution on Wednesday will remain out of bounds till Saturday. If the rain and its risks reduce, the route will be reopened, officials said.

Lavasa in Mulshi taluka, another favourite weekend destination for many from Mumbai, witnessed a mudslide on Wednesday on the road stretch between Ekaant Retreat and Dasave inside the Lavasa area. "Lavasa and its adjoining areas had incessant rain for the last fortnight, leading to minor

landslides on roads leading to the hill city. There has been no damage to life or property. Road blocks are being cleared by Lavasa's Emergency Response Team," a spokesperson said in a statement.

Some tourists were stranded. "I was to leave on Wednesday morning when I encountered the mudslide on the way to Dasave. I was told the route will be cleared by Saturday morning. Although the alternate Panshet route is open, locals advised

me it is unsafe. I have to stay here till the shorter route is cleared," said Mumbai resident Amit Deshmukh, who came to Lavasa on Tuesday.

A flood-like situation arose in Shirdi, following which 22 people from village Dauch Khurd in Kopargaon taluka were rescued on Thursday. These settlements were around the Godavari, which had begun to swell due to the rain.

(With inputs from Manju V)



Navy personnel carry out rescue work in Savitri near the collapsed Mahad-Poladpur bridge on the Mumbai-Goa highway in Mahad, Raigad district on Thursday. The Maharashtra government has announced a judicial probe in the collapse of a British-era bridge here in which at least 22 people in two buses went missing, even as rescuers have fished out nine bodies so far from the swollen Savitri river.

Rain continues to pound Maharashtra

MUMBAI, DHNS: The Godavari river continued to swell as heavy rain lashed Nashik and Aurangabad districts of Maharashtra. This resulted in inundation at several areas, leaving many people trapped in the floodwaters.

across Vaijapur and Gangapur of the IMD forecast moderate taluks of Aurangabad district were rescued by a National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) team. On Thursday, NDRF jawans evacuated people using small boats. The release of water from all the 11 upstream dams in Nashik and Ahmednagar districts led to the swelling of the river.

Meanwhile, the rising level of the Jayakwadi dam brought cheer to the people of the Marathwada region.

A report from Nashik said

that the Ramkund area, one of the most important Hindu pilgrimage sites, was still affected as some of the temples are submerged under the floodwaters, following the discharge from the Gangapur dam.

The Mumbai-based Region-More than 300 people al Meteorological Observatory to heavy rainfall in most parts of the state, and advised fishermen not to venture into the Arabian Sea for the next 24

The vehicular movement along the Malshej Ghat in Pune continues to be affected due to a series of landslides. This is the third time this monsoon that the Malshei Ghat road, near the borders of Thane and Ahmednagar districts, had to be closed. The closure on Wednesday and Thursday also affected the transport of vegetables from Pune to Thane and Mumbai.

Tourist spots hit

Several tourist spots like the hill station of Mahabaleshwar were closed on Thursday due to the heavy downpour in parts of the Sahyadri ranges of the Western Ghats.

Mahabaleshwar tahsildar Ramesh Shengde said that several incidents of landslides and uprooting of trees were reported. The places that are out of bounds for tourists are Arthur Point, Elphinstone Point, Lodwick Point and Lingmala waterfalls.

In Lavasa township, a popular weekend destination in Mulshi taluk of Pune, more than 400 people were stranded in hotels because of four incidents

of mudslides. While two were reported on Wednesday, two more occurred on Thursday.

Pune's water woes

Pune city continued to be affected as water accumulated in low-lying areas because of the discharge from the Khadakwasla dam to the Mutha river. As a precautionary measure, the vehicular movement was stopped from the Bhide bridge. "On Wednesday, from 8:30 am till 5:30 pm, Pune received a mere 29 mm of rainfall. The flood situation may not be intense in nature as the rainfall over the city is going to decrease significantly. The offshore trough, which is seen running from South Gujarat to Karnataka coast, is going to weaken further," according to Skymet Weather.

Lakhs return home as floods recede in Assam

GUWAHATI: The flood situation in Assam showed a great deal of improvement on Thursday even as lakhs of people returned to their homes from relief camps. However, 10 districts in the state are still inundated.

The Brahmaputra and seven of its tributaries are flowing above the danger level in two places.

Nearly 2.85 lakh people are still affected by floods.

According to Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA) assessment report, 386 villages across Assam remained affected by the floods as on Thursday. Floods have inundated nearly 13,000 hectares of cropland across the affected districts.

Nearly 19,000 people have taken shelter in 66 relief camps in some of the flood hit districts, sources said.

The state government has begun flood damage assessment and restoration works on a war footing, sources added.

3 rhinos poached

As floodwaters in Assam's Kaziranga National Park (KNP) receded, three rhinos from the park were poached in 24 hours.

At least 25 rhinos have died in Kaziranga during this fortnight. While most of them died of drowning, there have been several cases of poaching as well, official sources added.

DH News Service

न्य भारात द्राईम्स (विक्ती) The Tribune (Chandigarh) The Hindu (Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati) The Tir re of India (Mumbai) The Telegraph (Kolkata) हिन्दुस्तान (पटना)

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Deccan Hearald 5/8/16

Monsoon intensifies in U-K, Belagavi

BENGALURU: The monsoon has intensified in Uttara Kannada district. The rains were spread across the Mainad, semi-Mainad and coastal areas of the district.

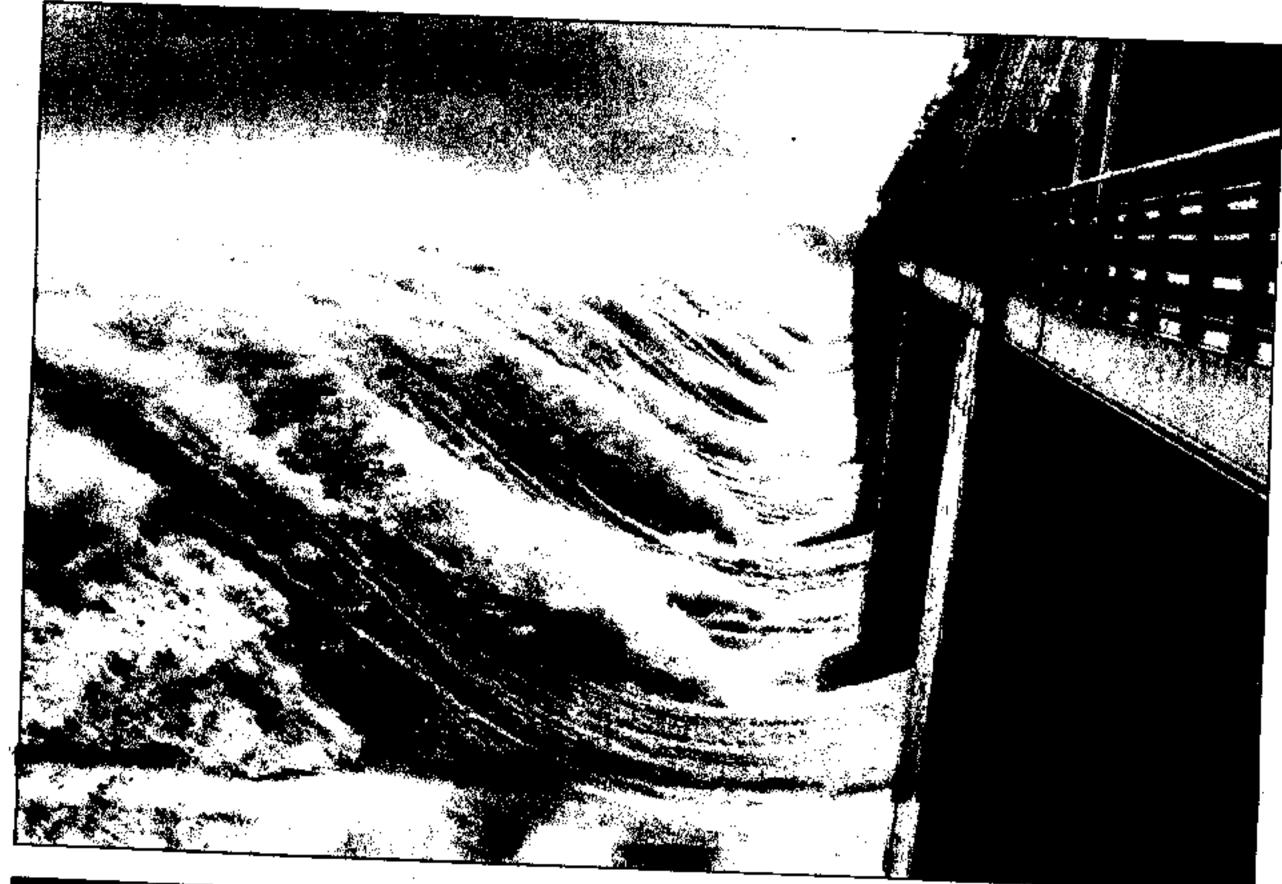
Intermittent rain lashed parts of Dakshina Kannada. The day was sunny till afternoon and clouds appeared in the evening in Mangaluru, bringing rain. In the last 24 hours, the district received an average of 20.6 mm rainfall.

Kodagu district received an average of 16.34 mm rainfall in the last 24 hours. The water level in Harangi reservoir stood at 2,857.82 feet. The inflow of water was 3,070 cusecs while 908 cusecs of water was released into the river.

Heavy rain continued to lash Belagavi and Khanapur taluks in Belagavi district on Thursday. Chikkodi, Bailhongal, Ramdurg, Saundatti and Athani received light showers.

The catchment areas of Rivers Krishna, Ghataprabha and Malaprabha received heavy rain, pushing up the water levels in Hidkal and Malaprabha reservoirs. Inflow of water from Maharashtra to River Krishna increased due to heavy rain for the last couple of days. Four lowlying bridges in Chikkodi taluk, Akkol-Sidnal, Jatrat-Bhiveshi, Bhojwadi-Kunnar and Karadga-Bhoj submerged in river on Thursday, while Kallol-Yadur and Dattwad-Malikwad bridges had submerged on Wednesday evening. The water level in Hidkal dam reached 2,141.98 feet, inflow being 22,190 cusecs and outflow 114 cusecs. The water level in Malaprabha dam reached 2,049.80 feet. The inflow was 5,856 cusecs and outflow 116 cusecs.

Shahapur Tahsildar Prakash Hosmani has directed the police to ban traffic at night on





(Top) A total of 2.26 lakh cusecs of water was released from the Basavasagar reservoir in Narayanapur, Yadgir district, on Thursday. (Above) Sarakuli river overflows on a bridge at Sirsi taluk in Uttara Kannada on Thursday. DH PHOTOS

Krishna river bridge on Shahapur-Devadurga State Highway at Kollur (M) village. The move comes in the wake of river overflowing following heavy rain.

A team of officials, including DC Manoj Jain, SP Vinayak Rao Patil and Zilla Panchayat CEO Vikas Kumar Suralkar, inspected the bridge. Malnad region received heavy rain in Shivamogga district. Thirthahalli, Hosanagar and Sagar received heavy rains throughout the day. Intermittent rain lashed Shivamogga, Bhadravathi, Shikaripur and Sorab.

The water level in Linganamakki dam rose to 1,782.15 feet against the maximum level of 1,819 feet as catchment area received rainfall of 48 mm. The inflow of water to the dam was 9454 cusecs. In the last 48 hours, Thirthahalli received rainfall of 30.60mm, followed by Sagar-21.80 mm, Sorab-18.20 mm, Hosanagar-14.20 mm. The water level in Mani dam rose to 580.76 metres against the maximum level of 594.36 metres. The inflow of water was 2,436 cusecs. **DH News Service**

Maha rain raises flood fear in Yadgir

It's bounty time for the water bodies in Yadgir district, which were not filled up in the last couple of years. This year, Rivers Bhima and Krishna are flowing to their full capacity due to the release of a large quantity of water from Maharashtra, raising fears of a flood in a hundred villages. A total of 2.25 lakh cusecs were released from the Basavasagar reservoir in Narayanapur on Thursday. Water has also been released from the barrages across the two rivers. The Neelakantarayana Gaddi in Surapur taluk has once again turned into an island. People of the village complain that the dam authorities do not inform them about the release of water beforehand. They say they had been to the weekly fair and by the time they returned, the water level had risen alarmingly. Deputy Commissioner Manoj Jain said all precautionary measures had been taken to handle the situation. The water in the Almatti dam has reached the maximum level and two lakh cusecs was released from there since Wednesday night. Tata Shivan, the executive engineer of the Basavasagar reservoir, told Deccan Herald that the water release may go up to 2.8 lakh cusecs soon. Farmers in the region fear that the water release may damage their crops. Last year, crops faced the danger of withering due to water shortage.

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24

Number of crest gates opened by Jurala Dam of Telangana, releasing one lakh cusecs of water by Thursday

This is considered as a major flood for the current season and the Srisailam Dam has the capacity to impound the entire flood of water flowing into it

800KM

The length of Godavari
— from Sriram Sagar to
Dhawleswaram barrage
near Rajahmundry — is
brimming with water



Constant rain in the region has increased the water levels on the Godavari river. The level reached 34 feet at the temple town of Bhadrachalam on Thursday

Srisailam, Sagar dams set to receive huge amount of water

CH. V. M. KRISHNA RAO | DC | HYDERABAD, AUG. 4

With Mahabaleshwar, the origin of the Krishna River, receiving nearly 80 cm of rain in the last four days, Almatti officials in Karnataka on Thursday released nearly two lakh cusecs of water from the crest gates as well as through Power House release downstream.

Similarly, Narayanpur Dam officials were alerted and released almost the same quantum into the river. Jurala Dam authorities of Telangana meanwhile, lifted 24 crest gates in advance and released one lakh cusecs by Thursday evening.

It is expected that the same flood pattern will continue for a week and the waters will reach the Srisailam inter-state dam in a couple of days. This is considered as a major flood for the current season and the Srisailam Dam has the capacity to impound the entire flood reaching into it.

Srisailam Dam, which has 50 TMC ft as of now, still has a flood cushion of about 170 TMC ft left. It is expected that around two lakh cusecs of water per day for a week will reach the dam, around 100 TMC ft (at the rate of 11,550 cubic feet of water per second {cusec} for a day would yield 1 TMC ft capacity).

Even if there are major floods in the coming days, Srisailam, the downstream Nagarjuna Sagar Dam (flood cushion is about 190 TMC ft) and Pulichintala (flood cushion of 43 TMC ft) can easily impound it with-

Water levels in Godavari rising

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, AUG. 4

With heavy rains across the catchment areas of Godavari for the past few days, the water levels along the river and its tributaries continued to rise steeply in the Agency areas of Bhadrachalam and Palvancha divisions in the district.

For example, the water level in Godavari touched 34 feet at the temple town of Bhadrachalam on Thursday.

A total of twelve gates of Taliperu project have been opened and 21,500 cusecs of water releasing into Godavari. All rivulets

out the water being wasted into the sea through the Prakasam barrage.

Not only these dams, once more water reaches Srisailam, it can be diverted to the Pothireddypadu head regulator to serve Rayalaseema projects.

According to AP irrigation minister Devineni Uma Maheswara Rao, whenever the Srisailam level touches 840 ft against the full reservoir level 885 ft, the AP government will release waters to the Handri-Neeva project through the Malyala lift situated in the foreshore of the Srisailam dam. Andhra

and streams in Charla mandal are full thanks to incessant rains in Chhattisgarh.

Even the road connecting a total of 10 villages was cut off due to water overflowing from the streams.

The Kinnerasani river is in spate as well and 25000 cusecs of water was released by opening five gates. Road connectivity was cut between Yanambailu and Rajanagaram due to the water release.

All rivulets and streams in Charla mandal are full thanks to incessant rains in Chhattisgarh.

Pradesh engineer-inchief M. Venkateswara Rao said, "We will utilise the flood for the Handri-Neeva lift as well as for Pothireddypadu head regulator to utilise for irrigation purpose."

This is also good news for devotees attending the Krishna Pushkaralu, that will commence on August 12, as they will be able to take sacred dips at all the ghats en route comfortably due to rise of the water level.

Meanwhile, the entire 800 km length of the Godavari, from the Sriram Sagar project up to the Dhawleswaram barrage near

CONNECTIVITY HIT BY WATER

- The road connecting a total of 10 villages was cut off due to overflowing water.
- Road connectivity was also cut between Yanambailu and Rajanagaram.
- However, it's good news for devotees attending Krishna Pushkaralu, that will start on August 12.

Rajahmundry is brimming with water. For the first time after construction of the Yellampally Dam (20 TMC ft capacity) near Mancheriyal town, Irrigation authorities have opened the crest gates and are releasing nearly 45,000 cusecs of floodwater.

There are no other significant reservoirs that can impound waters along the course of the river and all the water is being wasted into the sea.

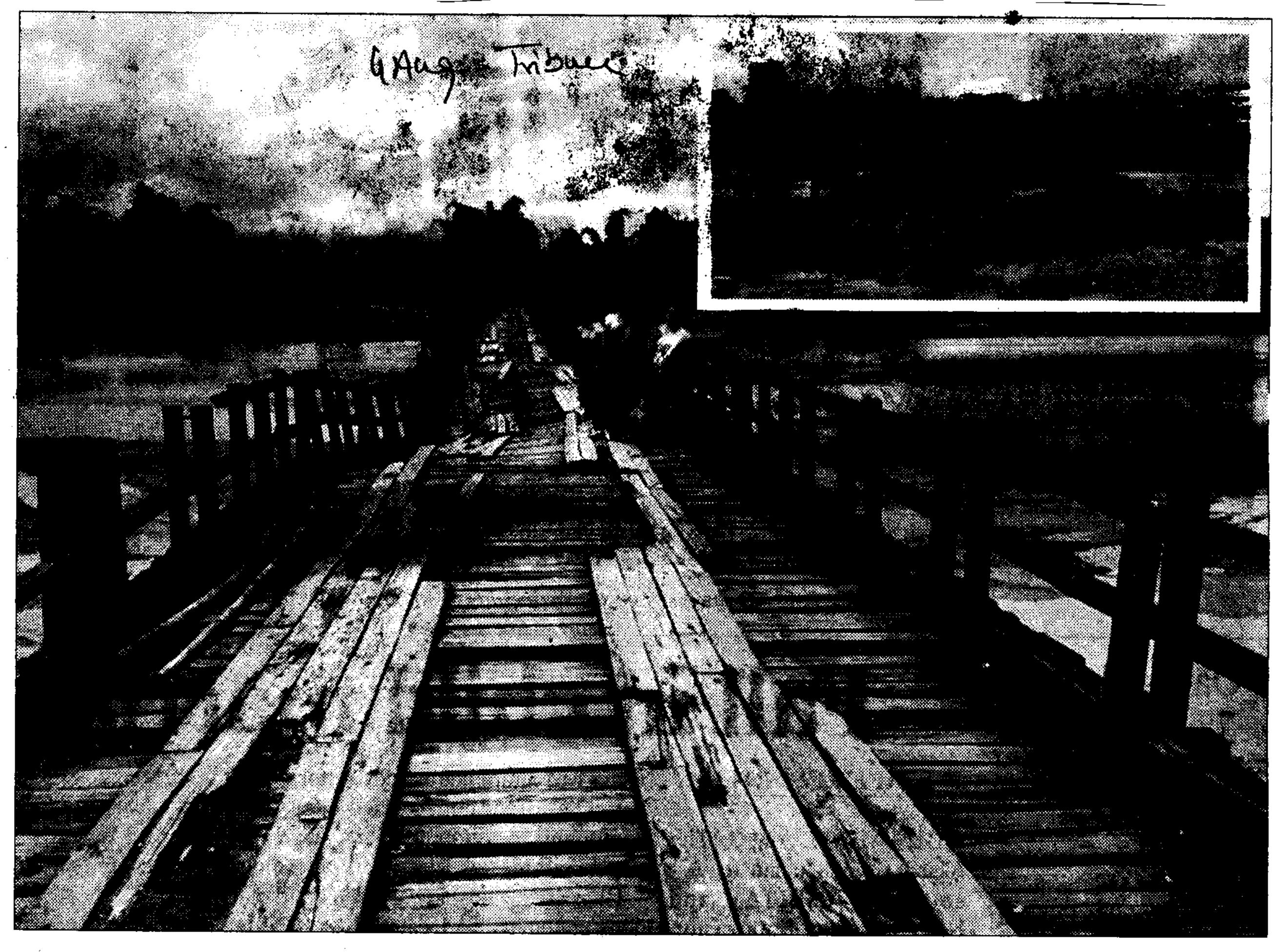
During the current water year that commenced on June 1, till date a little more than 1,000 TMC ft of water has been let into the sea from Dhawleswaram barrage. But in-flows into Sriram project has Sagar reduced to 13,000 cusecs and the same is being diverted to canals under the dam. Singur Dam across Manjeera is also getting good in-flows in the range of 13,000 cusecs per day, increasing its capacity to 6 TMC ft against a full capacity of 30 TMC ft.

विनाकंको निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Hindustan Times (Delhi) ਜ਼ਰਮਾਨਰ ਟਾਡੇਸ਼ (ਫਿਕੰਗੇ) ਪੱਸਿੰਗ Tribune (Chandigarh) The Hindu (Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati)
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हिन्दुस्तान (पटना)

The Deccan Hearld (Bengluru)
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A damaged bridge over Dirgha river in Lakhimpur dist and (inset) the vulnerable portion. - Photo: N Lakhimpur Corespondent

Hir dustan Times (Delhi) अप्राप्त टा**ईम्स (विक्ती**) Laribune (Chandigarh) The Hindu (Chennai)

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

Food contamination suspected in livestock death in Dibrugarh men of goats gets swollen and its toll on the health of the live-

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

DIBRUGARH, Aug 3: In the wake of unprecedented deaths of goats in Dibrugarh West revenue circle following floods, the district Veterinary Department collected blood samples and carcasses of the affected and dead herbivorous animals from the area to send it for examination to the Regional Disease Diagnosis Laboratory, Guwahati.

The death of goats in the flood-prone area has been reported for the first time postfloods. Seventeen carcasses have been found in the area while several are said to be suffering from various diseases. The Veterinary Department after inspecting the area and examining the deceased goats suspected contamination in the food. The District Veterinary Officer, Dr Budhin-

dra Kumar Bora said that several goats had died and a large numbers of goats were infected. He said that personnel from his department were collecting reports from all floodravaged areas.

The Veterinary department collected four blood samples and one carcass for examination while conducting veterinary camps in the area yesterday. The personnel from the Veterinary Department also treated as many as 195 affected goats and examined 58 pigs, over 200 cows and bulls and about 190 birds in three different camps at Sessa Nagaon, Singibeel and that sample examination Lezai tiniali. A team of 12 veterinary personnel were engaged in treating and examining the animals.

Utapal Dehingia of 2 Gorudharia Sessa Nagaon who lost six goats said that the abdo-

they die. "The deaths or disease of certain cattle and birds is natural during the calamities such as floods as we have known since several decades, but goats are dying for the first time during floods this time," he said.

The villagers in the area suspect that the waste released from the Brahmaputra Cracker and Polymer Limited (BCPL) was polluting the surface water through the Sessa river. The villagers in the area have also stopped eating fish from the area. Dr RB Pradhan, Senior Veterinary Officer said would establish the truth.

The deluge in the district that inundated human habitations and submerged several tracts of agricultural land in all the seven revenue circles of the district has largely taken revenue circle.

stock and birds of the farmers. The Veterinary Department is holding two to three veterinary camps a day at several places in the area following direction from the district administration. However, several areas have remained unattended due to inadequate manpower and improper road connectivity. A veterinary camp was also organised in Kenduguri in Tingkhong where over 500 livestock and birds were examined.

Loss of more than 60 livestock like cows, bulls, piglets and goats has been so far reported from different parts of the district during the floods. The highest number of deaths of cows has been reported from Dhadia in Chabua revenue circle. Birds, mostly ducks died in Dibrugarh West

Mindustan Times (Delhi) र्यः स्थान टा**ईस्स (दिख्नी**) Tribune (Chandigarh) The Hindu (Chennai)

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

Awareness meeting among flood-hit Nalbari farmers

CORRESPONDENT

NALBARI, Aug 3: Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Nalbari in collaboration with the State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD), Nalbari is conducting a series of awarenesscum-training programmes on flood contingency measures in the flood- affected areas of the district.

The first programme of the series was conducted at Kaurehagi village under Tihu block on August 2. In the presence of 50 farmers of the vil-

lage, a scientist from KVK, Nalbari Dr Mridul Deka elaborated on the better technological measures developed planned manner. by the Assam Agricultural University, specially on cultivation of different short duration varieties of rice like Luit, Dishang, Nabin etc. Those varieties can be cultivated postflood period, mitigating and curbing the production losses incurred. The farmers were advised to establish a seed bank in the village where alternative varieties including sub one generic varieties like

Ranjit sub I, Swarna sub I etc., may be stored there for use in flood affected areas in a

Dr Deka also urged the farmers to cultivate lentils. toria, Rajmah, peas etc., as rabi crops. Farmers were also made aware about the negative impact of using chemical fertilisers and encouraged to use organic manure.

The awareness meeting was addressed among others by Manabendra Bharali, Subject Matter Specialist, Agronomy. He interacted with farmers

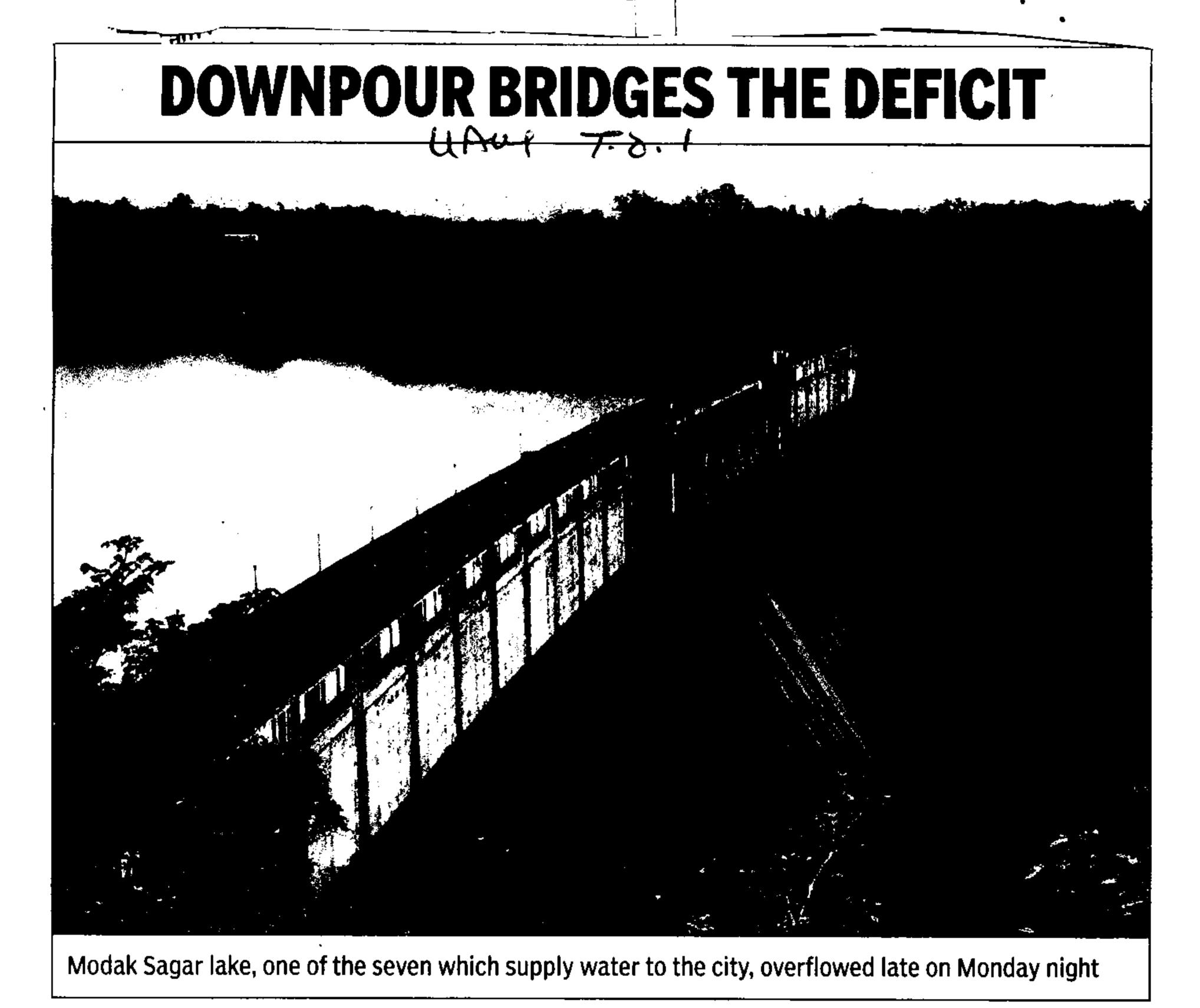
and advised them about the contingency measures to be undertaken after floods. The farmers were also advised measures to be taken for livestock against the problems and diseases that arise post flood. Dr Arfan Ali, Subject Matter Specialist of Animal Science spoke in details about the preventive packages to be undertaken like deworming, vaccination against fatal diseases, cultivation of fodder, treatment of straw with urea molasses for increasing their nutritive value etc.

विज्ञाक गुर्वाक गुर्वा को निम्निक्षिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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24-hr rain leaves 3 more lakes closer to the brim

Richa.Pinto@timesgroup.com

Mumbai: It's been a good monsoon so far for the city as a significant 1.58 lakh million litres of water accumulated in the seven lakes supplying water to it after just 24 hours of good rain. Mumbai needs a supply of 3,750 million litres per day. Moreover, while four lakes are already overflowing, the remaining three supplying water to Mumbai—Bhatsa, Upper Vaitarna and Middle Vaitarna—are three to five metres away from their overflow levels.

"There has been significant rainfall recorded so far in all the catchment area lakes and much more when compared to the same period last year. It is for the first time that three lakes started to overflow in less than 24 hours time, between August 1-2," said a civic official. For example, total rainfall received in Tansa lake so far was 1597.8 mm, while last year 1163.8 mm of rainfall was received in the same period.

Vihar overflowed on August 1 at 4.20am and Modak Sagar reached its full capacity at 10.28pm. Tansa was filled to the brim on Tuesday at 2.10 am. Tulsi, which overflowed on July 19, supplies 18 million litres

CITY'S CUP OF JOY OVERFLOWS

Mumbai's water supply (3,750) requirement mld **Total Water Stock On August 1** 10.3L million litres

Water in Lakes On July 31

Estimated Water Stock By September 30

14.4L million litres

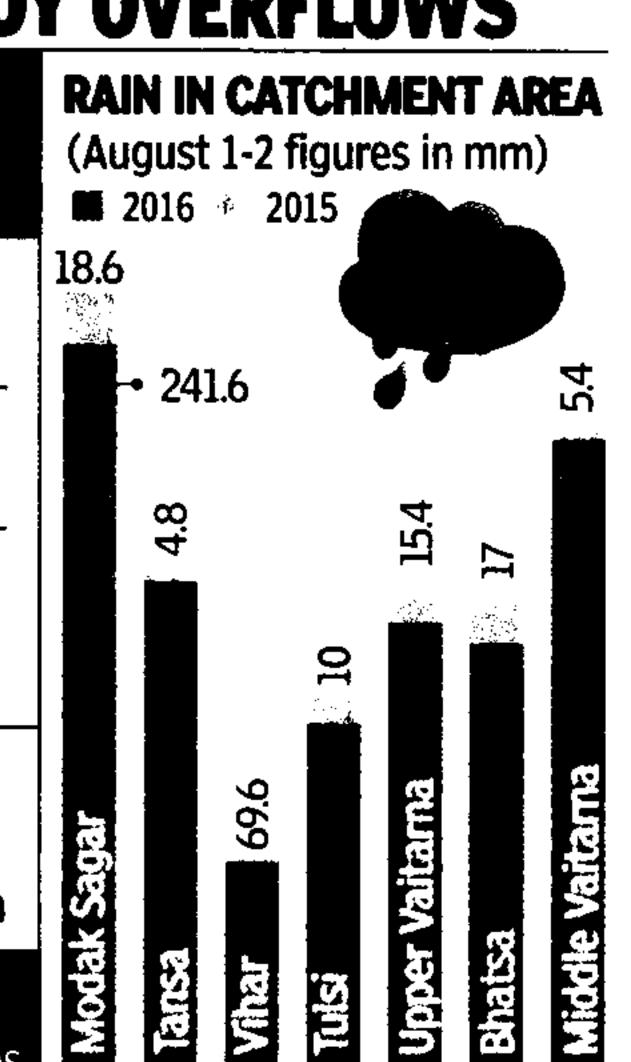
9.6L million litres

Total Rainfall Till Date

Colaba 1,359.4 mm

Santacruz 1,758 mm

Total Water Stock 8.5 On August 2, 2015 million litres



every day to Mumbai, while 90 million litres are brought from Vihar, and around 455 million litres of water each from Modak Sagar and Tansa.

Activist Shyama Kulkarni said with most of the lakes overflowing, the civic body should put in place measures to ensure the city does not face a situation like 2015 when water cuts lasted the entire year. "If there's poor rainfall next year, we must be ready by putting the right measures in place now," said Kulkarni.

Even in 2014, the monsoon had picked up late, leaving a deficit which the city's managers struggled to bridge.

Light rains continued in Mumbai on Tuesday. The IMD forecast intermittent rain was likely to occur in the city and suburbs in the next 24 hours. V K Rajeev from IMD Mumbai said an increase in wind speed and the cyclonic circulation over Gujarat were some reasons for the rains in Mumbai.

Hir dustan Times (Delhi) ना न टाईम्स (दिख्ती) The Tribune (Chandigarh) * In Hindu (Chennai)

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At least 20 feared dead as floods wash away bridge

Two State transport buses, several cars fall into River Savitri

SHOUMOJIT BANERJEE

MAHAD: Two persons were killed and over 20 feared dead after part of a colonialera bridge across River Savitri on the Mumbai-Goa Highway near Raigad district was washed away in floods late on Tuesday night.

At least two State Transport buses and many private cars on the bridge at the time fell into the raging river waters and were swept away.

Rescue operations which commenced on Wednesday morning were hampered by continuous downpour and the floods in the river.

The 50-ft. bridge connects the city of Mahad with Poladpur.

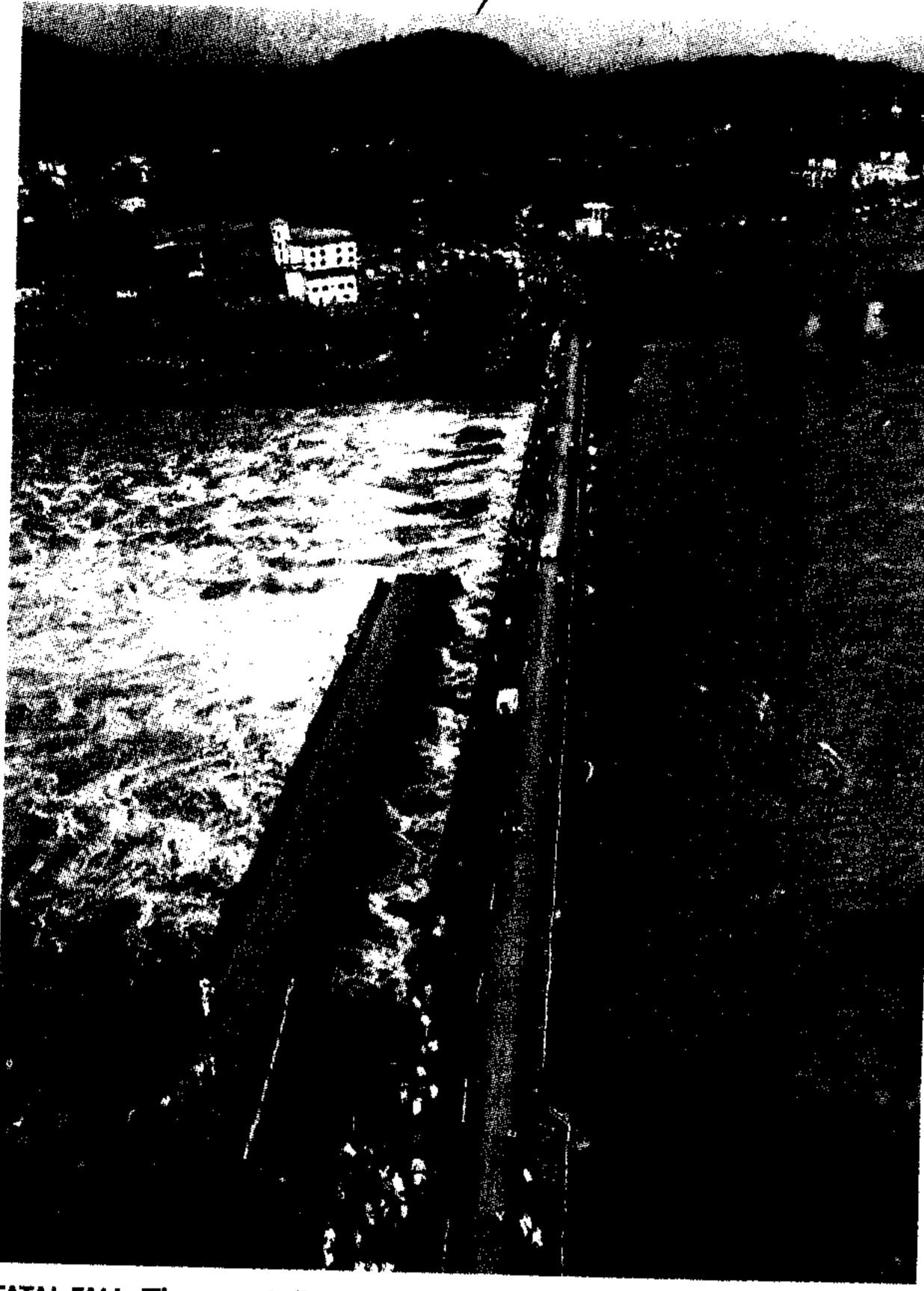
Family of seven missing

While the number of cars that plunged into the river is yet to be ascertained, Raigad Guardian Minister Prakash Mehta said 8-10 vehicles may have fallen in.

A Tavera SUV carrying a family of seven is suspected to be missing.

Around 22 people, including the crew, were said to be travelling in the two buses.

According to eyewitness reports, the incident occurred at 11.30 p.m. on Tuesday. "I was screaming for the other vehicles to stop when I found that the bridge had crashed. I saw three cars, of the 'Wagon R' type, plunge into the waters and tried calling 100 to no avail," said Basant



FATAL FALL: The partially collapsed bridge across River Savitri in Raigad district of Maharashtra. — PHOTO: AFP

saw three cars plunge into the waters and tried calling 100 to no avail, says eyewitness

Kumar Mishra, a driver who was among those who warned other vehicles, thus averting further tragedy.

"It is extremely unfortunate. We will be immediately conducting a safety audit of all the old, British-era bridges, which are still in use. We will leave no stone

Devendra Fadnavis, who surveyed the spot late on Four NDRF teams of Wednesday afternoon along round 115 personnel, a with Eknath Shinde, Minis- hetak helicopter and 12 ter for the Maharashtra State ivers from the Coast Road Development Corpora- luard, an Indian Air Force tion (MSRDC).

Personnel of the National Jing 42B helicopter were Disaster Response Force leployed for the rescue (NDRF), the Navy, the Air nission. Force and the Coast Guard Local fishermen and vilhave been searching the riv-lagers in boats also joined er for more than 12 hours in the search in the swirling pouring rain.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



2 feared dead as floods unturned to trace those missing," said Chief Minister Vash away bridge

4i 17 helicopter and a Sea

waters.

"Two bodies were retrieved from the Dasgaon area. After discussions with the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), we have shifted traffic to the new adjunct bridge. We are

trying to confirm reports of other missing vehicles," said Raigad District Collector Sheetal Ugale. Divers and rescue boats engaged in the search in a five-km radius around the bridge.

At the Chiplun ST bus depot, from where the two buses originated, anxious relatives gathered.

A spokesperson of the Navy said in Panaji that all agencies responded immediately to the rescue call with the Coast Guard and Navy sending their helicopters from Mumbai.

(With inputs from Prakash Kamat in Panaji)

Army swings into action in Majuli, tries to plug breach

Floodwaters recede in Assam

Ratnadip Choudhury

state government has started restoration works in Assam as floodwaters further receded. People too have begun leaving the relief camps.

The recent wave of floods in the state left 32 people dead and 40 lakh affected.

While 14 districts are still engulfed by floodwaters as the Brahmaputra and seven of its tributaries are flowing above the danger level, nearly 7.70 lakh people are still affected.

According to the Assam State Disaster Management Authority, as on Tuesday, 804 villages have remained affected by floods and 23,000 people have taken shelter in 117 relief camps.

The state government has started its assessment of damage and restoration works on war footing, official sources said.

The Army troops swung into action helping the civil

Rhino carcass recovered

On Wednesday, a carcass of an adult male rhino, which had died due to the devastating floods in Kaziranga National Park (KNP), was recovered with its horn fallen off, near Bokpara Forest Camp in Kohora Range of the KNP, official sources said.

Due to the massive floods in Kaziranga, 311 animals have died, including 22 one-horned rhinos and 221 hog deer, besides other animals, sources added.

The Asom Jatiyatabadi Yuva Chatra Parishad (AJYCP) has lashed out at the BJP-led government in Assam alleging it has failed to tackle the devastating problems of floods, erosion and encephalitis in the state.

In a statement on Wednesday, AJYCP president Biraj Kumar Sarma said, "The current flood has, in fact, exposed the utter inefficiency of the government where nearly 50 people died, not to speak of the lakhs affected in the state."

administration to control the flood situation in Majuli.

"The Army personnel from the nearby 41 Sub Area, Jorhat and Spear Corps, toiled relentlessly, skillfully employing their resources in plugging the breach in the antiflood bund near Bongaon in Majuli. This breach, which caused the devastating floods

on the largest riverine island affecting thousands of people has, to a large extent, been tamed," said Guwahati-based defence PRO Lt Col Suneet Newton.

Newton added that the Army troops have been assisting the district administration in providing flood relief at Majuli Island from July 28.



People wade through floodwaters in the east Champaran district of Bihar on Wednesday. PTI



DAMAGE: The Mahad-Poladpur bridge was washed away by the floodwaters of Savitri river on the Mumbai-Goa highway in Raigad district on Wednesday. DH PHOTO

Massive search ops under way

Mrityunjay Bose

helicopters of the Indian Coast Guard and Sea King choppers of the Indian Navy hovered over the Savitri river, at times at extremely low altitude, looking for survivors.

Twenty-two people are feared dead when a British-era bridge on the Mumbai-Goa highway in the Raigad district collapsed on Tuesday.

In river rafts, a National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) team sailed several kilometres up and down to look for the ill-fated buses. The telephones at control rooms at Mahad and Mumbai continued to ring.

Hundreds of people lined up by the side of the river on the Mumbai-Goa Highway to help authorities in the search and rescue operation. With intermittent rain, winds and the

strong current, the rescue operation was an extremely difficult task. The search and rescue mission is being executed jointly by the Maharashtra government, navy, air force, coast guard, NDRF and the railways.

"A coast guard Chetak helicopter is carrying out search over the spot, while an IAF Mil7 helicopter undertook a search down the river. Two navy Sea King helicopters, 42B and 42C, are being used to carry divers and search," said Commander Rahul Sinha, spokesperson, Ministry of Defence. Volunteers and adventure experts are also helping the government agencies.

"I live in this area. I travel between Raigad and Ratnagiri on a regular basis and I have been over this bridge hundreds of times...never did I think that it would go down," said Ramesh Sawant, a resident of Mahad.

389mm rain in 24 hours

The flood in the Savitri River is a result of massive rainfall in the popular hill station of Mahabaleshwar, which is a hotspot of the Western Ghats, a World Heritage Site designated by United Nations, DHNS reports from Mumbai. The Mahabaleshwar region received 389 mm rainfall in 24 hours ending on Tuesday and 410 mm in the next 24 hours ending on Wednesday. According to the Mumbai-based Regional Meteorological Observatory of the IMD, since June 1 this year, Mahabaleshwar has recorded 3,914 mm rainfall.

Rain continues to lash Rajasthan

Rain continued to lash several parts of Rajasthan on Wednesday as a majority of the places in the state witnessed moderate to heavy showers, DHNS reports from Jaipur. Attributing a revival of the south west monsoon activity to the active upper air cyclonic circulation and northerly winds, Jaipur Meteorological office issued heavy rainfall warning for isolated areas in the state. According to the forecast, many places in the state are likely to get heavy to moderate rainfall in the next couple of days.

On Wednesday, Danpur in Banswara recorded a maximum of 15 mm rainfall, followed by Kanva in Dungarpur, which received 14 mm rain.

10 die as heavy rain hits Maharashtra

MUMBAI, DHNS: At least 10 people lost their lives and several villages were flooded as rains continue to pound Nashik and adjoining Aurangabad, Ahmednagar and Pune.

Reports from Nashik district said at least 11 persons died in rain-related incidents as major dams including Gangapur overflowed.

The Nashik district administration evacuated hundreds of families since Monday from the banks of the Godavari river and Niphad taluka. The Godavari river continues to flow in full force. Meanwhile, water has reduced at Ramkund, one of the most important Hindu pilgrimage sites. District Collector B Radhakrishanan and Commissioner of Police S Ja-

gannathan were monitoring the situation.

A report from Pune said the Mutha river swelled as water was released from the Khadakwasla dam, the main source of drinking water in the Pune city. Several vehicles could be seen submerged in water. In Aurangabad district, Vaijapur received heavy rainfall and there was flooding in

several places. "Twelve villages have been affected," said Collector Nidhi Pandey.

There were also reports of more than 200 people stranded in a village, where rescue teams are reaching.

There was a landslide in Malshej Ghat that connects Mumbai to Ahmednagar and Pune due to heavy rains. No casualties have been reported.

22 teared dead in Mrashtra bridge collapse

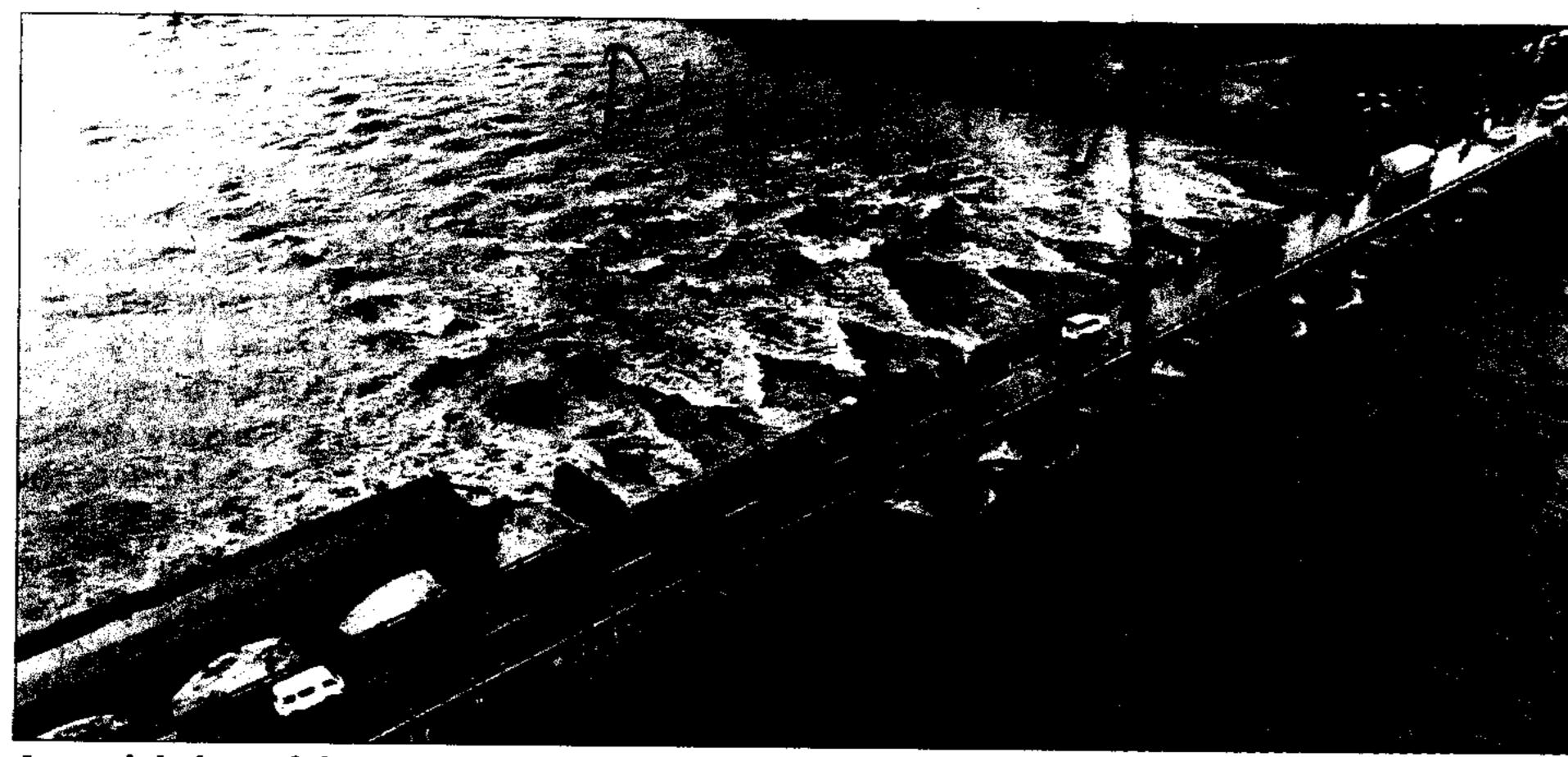
Mrityunjay Bose

RAIGAD (MAHARASHTRA), **DHNS:** Twenty-two people are feared dead after two state transport buses were swept away in the Savitri river when a British-era bridge on the Mumbai-Goa Highway in the Raigad district of Maharashtra collapsed late on Tuesday.

There are also reports that around three cars and SUVs have fallen into the river, but there was no confirmation from the Raigad district administration.

However, Vasant Kumar, who works in a transport company, told the authorities that he saw three cars falling into the river.

The incident occurred around 11.30 pm and a massive search and rescue operation



An aerial view of the Mahad-Poladpur bridge that was washed away in floodwater, on the Mumbai-Goa highway in the Raigad district of Maharashtra on Wednesday. DH PHOTO

was launched in the early hours of Wednesday. Search teams also used magnets in the oper-

More than 24 hours after the

incident, there is still no clue tions. The search operations, about the vehicles or the people which were later called off, will travelling in them. Intermittent rain and winds have severly hampered the search opera-

resume early on Thursday.

» Bridge, Page 12 Related reports, Page 12

tra, around 180 km south of Mumbai. The bridge is used by vehicles plying from Goa to Mumbai, while a parallel bridge built in 2001 is used by vehicles plying from Mumbai to Goa.

While one Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation bus was en route to Mumbai from Raigad, the with a family of seven who incident

ravelling from Guhagar mbai. The Savitri river

The over 120 metre bridge originates in Mahabaleshwar, was built around 1928 and Satara district, which has reconnects Mahad town to Po-ceived over 800 mm rainfall ladpur in coastal Maharash- since Sunday. The river drains into the Arabian Sea, nearly 18 km away from the bridge.

"It is a very sad incident. We are making all efforts to look for survivors," said Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis after conducting an aerial survey. Fadnavis ordered a probe and said a "competent officer" would be appointed soon. During the search operation, other bus was moving from two bodies were recovered Rajapur to Borivli. Among the but authorities confirmed missing vehicles is a Tavera that it was not related to the

Hindustan Times (Delhi) न्य भारत टाईम्स (विक्ती) The Tribune (Chandigarh) The Hindu (Chennai)

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

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NDRF, defence & Coast Guard teams draw a plank, cite strong river current

Ship Stationed Near Mouth Of Savitri, Centre Sends Aid

Vijay Singh & V Narayan | TNN

Mahad: Members of the Na-Disaster Response tional Force's (NDRF) rescue team said they were doing their best to search for the victims and vehicles washed away by the water, despite the strong currents of the overflowing Savitri.

Four helicopters from the Indian Navy, Coast Guard, Air Force were also deployed at the spot but till late evening they were unable to trace any person or vehicle in the river.

"So far, we have not been able to find any vehicles or bodies, but the operation will continue tomorrow. Visibility under water is also low," said an NDRF diver near the bridge collapse site.

The NDRF informed that due to very heavy rainfall in the region of Mahabaleshwar and other parts close to Mahad since Monday night, the river level had risen and its strong ultimately currents broke through the seven pillars supporting the old bridge.

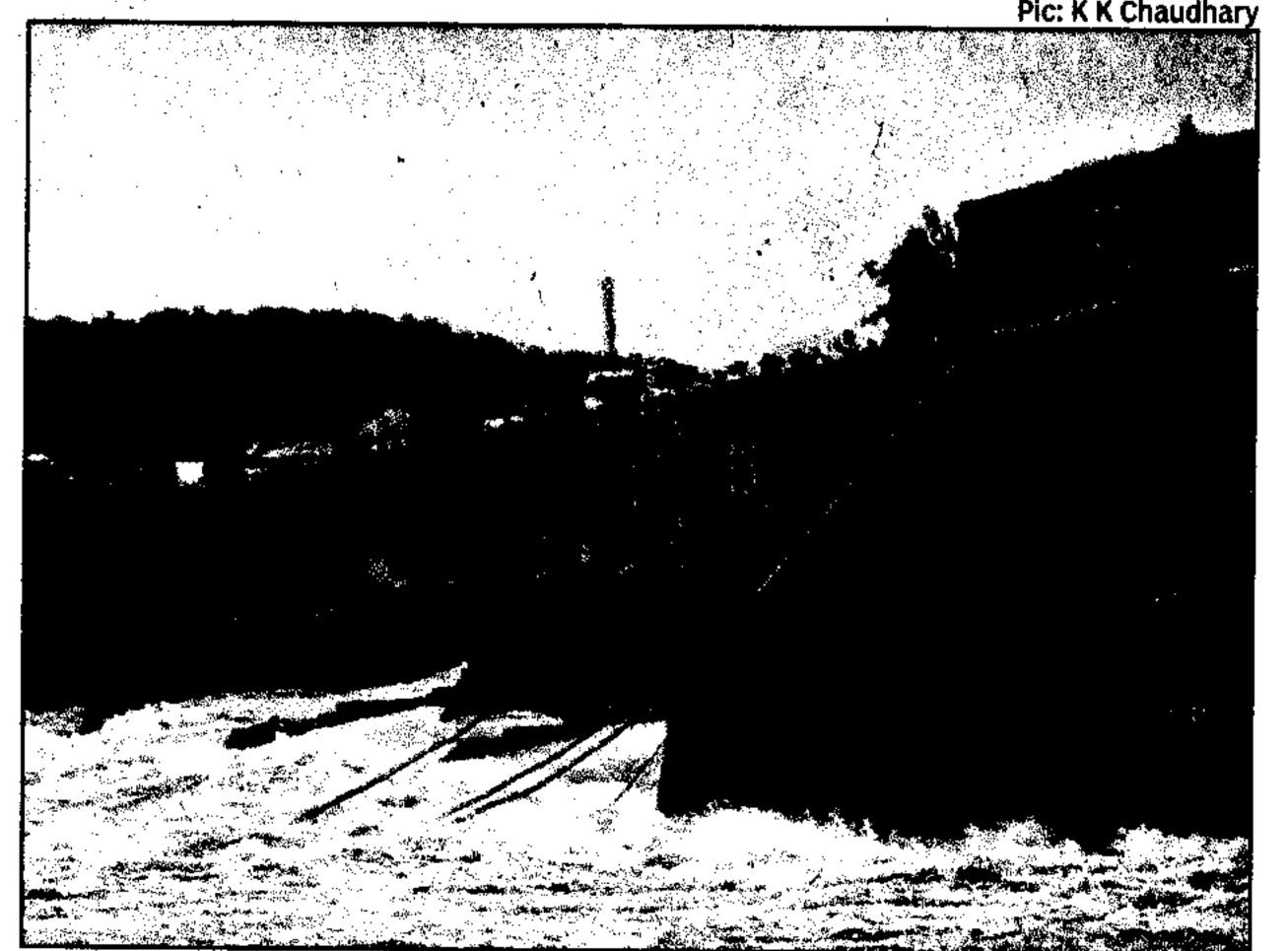
Anupam Srivastava, commandant, NDRF's fifth battalion, Pune said, "Four teams of 40 members, including deep divers, have started rescue oper-

ation. An area of about 500m from the bridge has been searched even though the current is strong. Satellite image technology is being explored for the rescue operation. A decision on night-hour rescue operation will be taken keeping visibility in mind."

The bridge is around 18 km from the Arabian Sea and a Coast Guard ship was stationed near the river's mouth, for any possible sighting.

Home minister Rajnath Singh told the Lok Sabha that the Centre was giving all help to the state administration in the rescue efforts. "What happened is very painful and unfortunate. Around 11.30pm, two passenger buses and four other vehicles are feared to have been washed away in the river," he said.

Singh made the statement after Shiv Sena member Vinayak Raut raised the issue, saying the accident took place as the bridge remained operational even though it was considered unsafe and another bridge over the river was constructed by the state government. Raut asked the government to present a report about such bridges and ensure that such incidents did not recur.



Strong currents of the Savitri river hampered rescue operations,

Narrow river turns into torrent

Kolhapur: Record rain in the hilly terrain of Mahabaleshwar and catchment areas turned the usually narrow Savitri river into a torrent, which washed away the Mahad-Poladpur bridge.

The Savitri, which flows through Mahad, originates in Mahabaleshwar. The hill station recorded its second highest rainfall on Wednesday, getting 410mm in the 24 hours till 8.30am on Wednesday. Mahad taluka received 222mm rain during that period. More rain is expected in the catchment areas in the next 48 hours, which will raise Savitri's water levels further.

Most catchment areas of the Savitri and Kal, which meet ahead of the bridge in Mahad, are on the slopes of Mahabaleshwar, Shivtharghal and Dasgaon. Savitri's flooding is not unusual as areas around have a history of receiving even up to 1,000mm rain in 24 hours.

This time, the heavy showers in Mahabaleshwar, Shivtharghal and the Kal river catchment raised the river's water levels by half a metre. The highest day's rainfall in Mahabaleshwar was 490.7mm on August 2, 2008, according to the India Meteorological Department. - Samrat. Phadnis

Late-night alert put CM on his toes

Prafulla.Marpakwar @timesgroup.com

Mumbai: Chief minister Devendra Fadnavis was about to retire for the day on Tuesday when his social media cell alerted him about a mishap on the Mumbai-Goa Highway, near Mahad, in Raigad district.

Fadnavis immediately called up Raigad superintendent of police Suvez Haque and collector Sheetal Ugale. He then roped in director gerleral of police Satish Mathur, chief secretary Swadheen Kshatriya and his principalsecretary Praveen Pardesi. In less than an hour, it was clear that the mishap on the state's 'killer highway' could be the worst ever. "Fadnavis also knocked on the doors of the Indian Navy and Coast Guard," a senior bureaucrat told TOI.

"By 5am, Fadnavis was aware of steps taken by the district administration, as he was personally monitoring them," the bureaucrat said. Even Prime Minster Narendra Modi sought information on the measures taken by the state government and offered all help from the Centre.

Hir dustan Times (Delhi) अंद्रमारात टाईम्स (विक्सी) The Tribune (Chandigarh) Thirdu (Chennai)

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'Killer highway' has 35 century-old bridges

Repairs On Collapsed Bridge Were Due In Dec

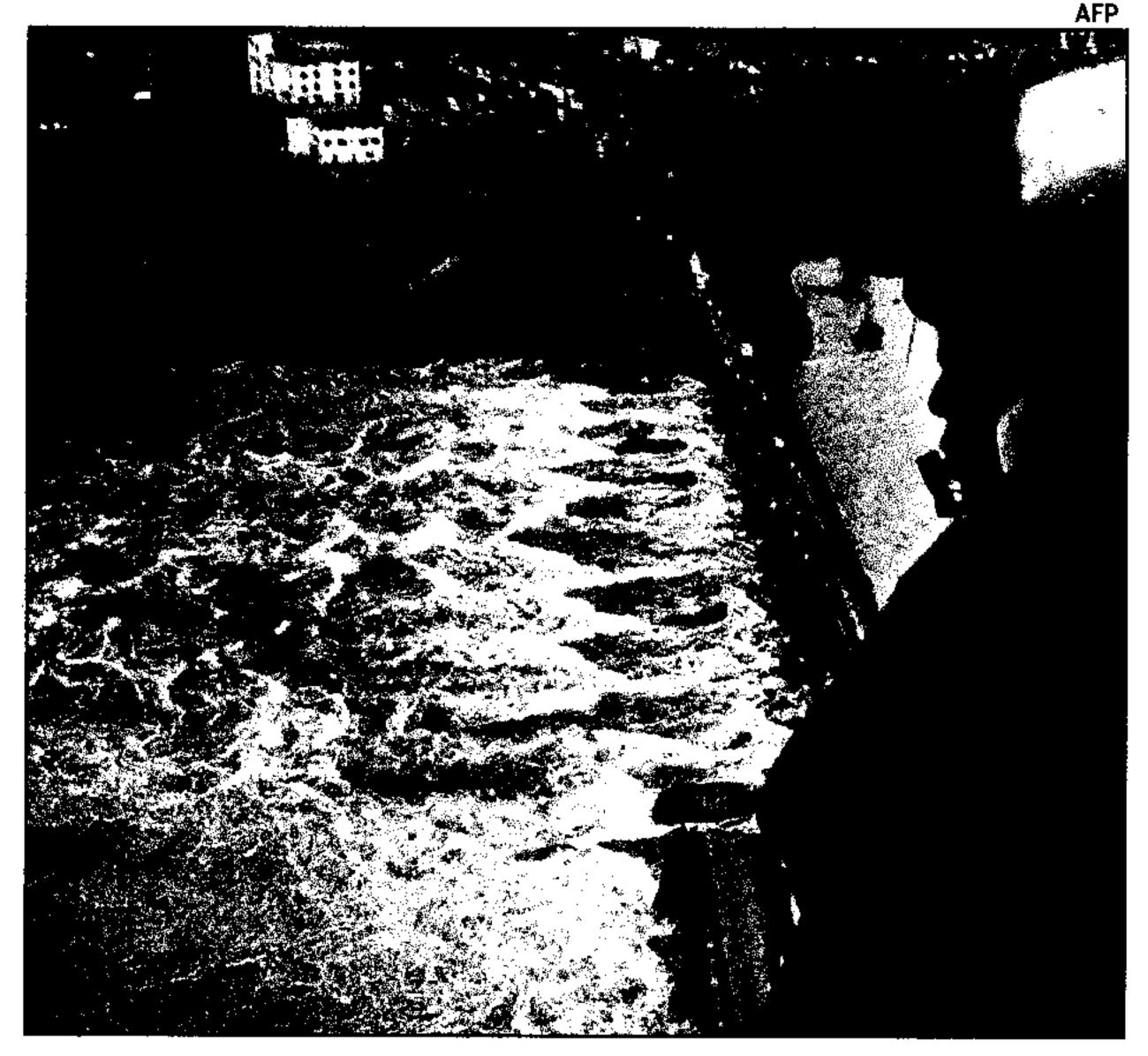
Chittaranjan Tembhekar & Bhavika Jain TNN

Mumbai: The Mumbai-Goa highway has 35 British-era bridges, besides the one that collapsed on Tuesday night. Most of these stone-arch bridges have already crossed 100 years of their life but are still open to traffic. Officials said the Mahad bridge that collapsed was to be taken up for reconstruction under the Mumbai-Goa highway expansion project, and work was to start in December. However, most motorists now opt for a longer route to the Konkan, avoiding the 'killer highway'.

Construction of the bridge that collapsed on Tuesday was completed in 1927 and it was being maintained by the state PWD department. It was selected, along with 20 other bridges, for reconstruction. "Tenders have been finalized for the other 20 bridges as well and the work will begin in December. There was a delay due to the acquisition land process, which has to be completed in most areas," said a senior official from the PWD department.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently asked the state government to take over the 470km highway expansion project as the NHAI was fed up with delays in land acquisition. The expansion project was handed over to the PWD a month ago.

The Mumbai-Goa highway records the highest number of accidents in the state and is known as its 'killer highway'. It is very narrow, with only two lanes, and a major part of the highway passes through ghats and is notorious for head-on collisions or vehicles falling in the valley. Work on its expansion has been delayed since 2008. Following a mishap in 2013, in which 37 people were killed after the bus they were



Rescuers at the site of the mishap in Mahad

PWD plans audit of bridges, but no mechanism in place

Manoj Badgeri & Dipak Dash TNN

The state public works department will conduct a fresh structural audit of all bridges on the Konkan route and carry out necessary repairs ahead of the Ganesh festival, said state public works minister Eknath Shinde. However, sources said unlike the railways, there is no structured mechanism for an annual assessment

of road bridges. Tuesday's collapse of the Mahad bridge has exposed this and highlighted the need to expedite a central government scheme—Bridge Ma-Information nagement System (BMIS)—to assess the structural health of all bridges.

"The Railways maintains a proper register for bridges. The official who carries out the inspection has to key in the details and put his/her signature."



a top railway ministry official said. Sources said though the Centre launched the BMIS project in February, it is yet to appoint a consultant for national highways in Maharashtra to map the bridges and their details, which include year of construction, schedule for repair or maintenance. The road transport ministry had claimed the BMIS system will automatically generate a pop-up mentioning the maintenance schedules of bridges.

The state PWD claims it does periodic checks of the bridges but after Tuesday's tragedy, it wants to none have suffered structural damagedue to the rains and flooding. "A report will be presented by the PWD in the next fortnight," Shinde said in a statement.

travelling in fell off a bridge near Khed, there was talk of speeding up the expansion project. But there has been no progress.

Residents of Raigad district said the government machinery remained idle and no repairs were taken up for several years, with stretches of the highway merely given facelifts.

But over the last few years, the 'killer tag' has prompted several vehicles to avoid the highway and take the Pune-Kolhapur highway though it is an hour longer, to reach the Konkan.





mir dustan Times (Delhi) जवभारत टा**ईम्स (विखंशी)** The Tribune (Chandigarh) Tree Hindu (Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati) The Times of India (Mumbai) * a Telep anh (Knikata) ाहन्द्रस्तान (पटना)

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Bridge Crash

Mumbai-**Go** NH-66

Savitri River

2 Buses, Unknown No. Of Cars Plunge Into Raging River At Night Over 20 feared dead as bridge on Goa-Mum highway washed away

1927 Structure Safe, State Had Said In May

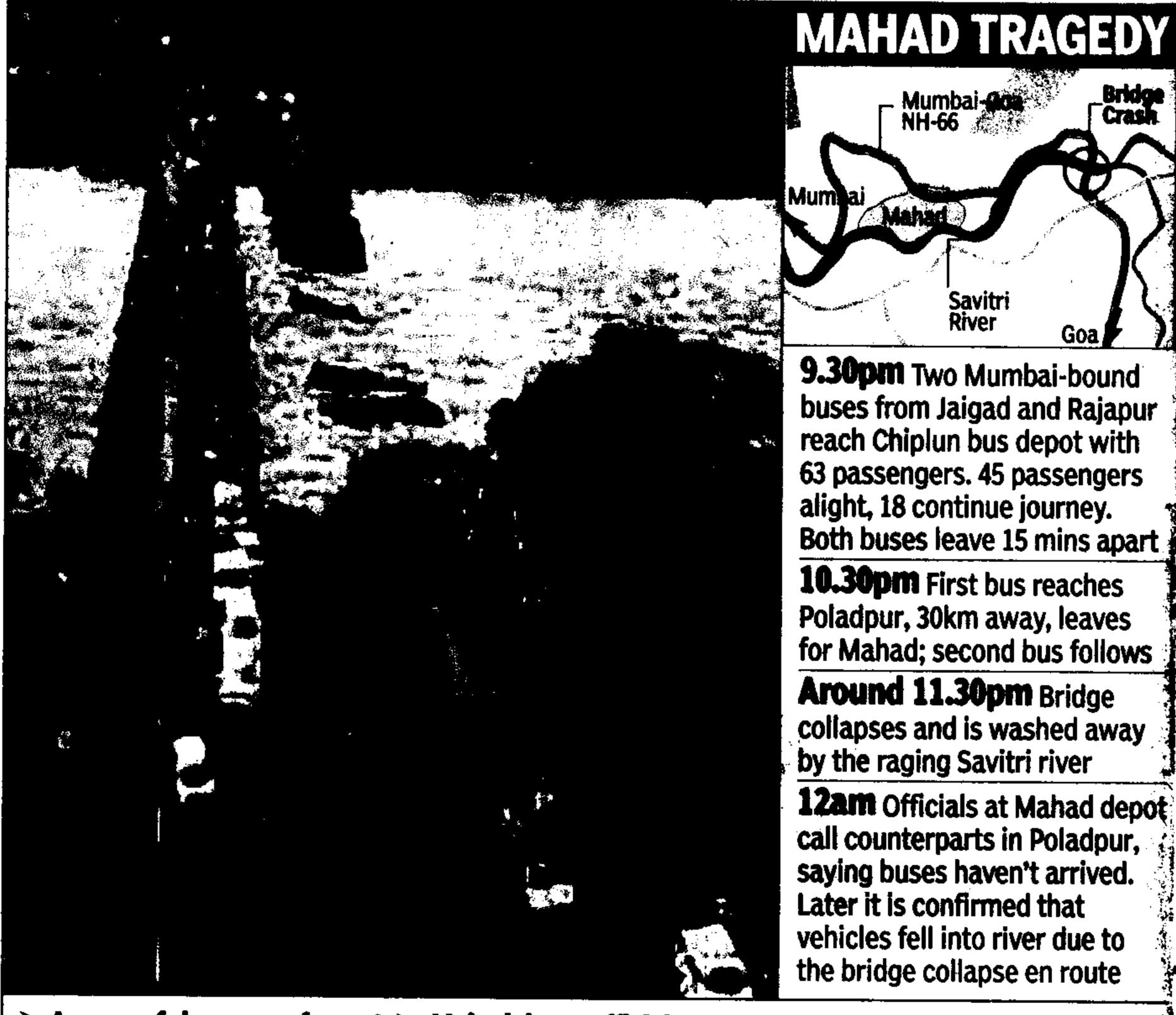
TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: At least 22 people are feared to have drowned after a nearly 90-year-old bridge at Mahad on the Mumbai-Goa highway collapsed during a torrential downpour in the region on Tuesday night. The dead included passengers and crew of two Maharashtra state transport buses bound for Mumbai, which plunged into river Savitri after portions of the bridge fell. There were unconfirmed reports of other vehicles also being swept away in the floodwaters. No bodies were recovered when reports last came in.

FULL COVERAGE: P 2 & 4

The incident took place close to midnight. It is believed the drivers of the two buses, moving in pitch darkness amid heavy rain, failed to see that sections of the Britishera, masonry bridge had crumbled under the weight of the floodwaters. "The primary reason seems to be the high pressure caused due to flooding of river Savitri due to heavy rams in catemient (area) of Mahabaleshwar," said chief minister Devendra Fadnavis.

Six families from Mumbai



> A group of six persons from Jogeshwari returning from their hometown in Jaigad in a Tavera are also missing. Five other Mumbai families are awaiting news of relatives stated to return home on Wednesday

the two state transport buses

coming from Jaigad and Raja-

Mahad depot officials, on learning about the mishaps. immediately alerted the bus driver of a Chiplun-Mumbai bus, who diverted it to the new bridge and saved the lives of at least 15 passengers on board

Centre rushed four 40-member NDRF teams along with 12 boats and expert divers to the spot. Four helicopters of the Navy, IAF & Coast Guard and a CG

> In a massive rescue op, the ship have also been deployed

have reported relatives mis---pur in the Konkan region. sing in the tragedy. Most of them were travelling back on

The incident rocked the assembly. PWD minister Eknath Shinde told the house

that an inquiry would be con-

ducted because after an inspection of the structure in May, it was declared fit for use.

►A 2-lane death trap, P 4

Drought-hit farmers in 12K villages await aid

State Waiting For Centre To Allot Addl Funds

Bhavika.Jain@timesgroup.com

Mumbai: Four months after promising compensation to cotton, soybean and paddy farmers from nearly 12,000 drought-affected villages in Vidarbha and Nashik districts, the Maharashtra government has left them in the lurch.

The state government, which had recently tabled a Rs 13,032-crore supplementary expenditure in the legislative assembly and so far, distributed Rs 3,400 among

DELAY IN COMPENSATION

> 'PIn October 2015, the state government declares drought in 15,757 villages, mainly in Marathwada, north Maharashtra and Khandesh regions and assures compensation. In March 2016, 11,962 more villages are added in the drought-affected list

> According to the National Disaster Relief

farmers whose crops were affec-

ted due to the severe drought this

year, had excluded 11,962 villages

as the farmers were growing cash

crops and could wait to receive

Fund (NDRF) guidelines the percentage of rainful and crop losses are studied for declaration drought. In the case of 11,962 villages, the rainful percentage is above the norm, but the government considers the drop in cap production and decides override the NDRF norm and declare these villages drought affected

compensation.

State officials said the relief and rehabilitation department had proposed a supplementary demand of Rs 4,000 crore, including Rs 2,000 crore to be given as compensation to farmers in the 11,962 villages, Rs 1,200 crore as compensation for failed rabi crops and the rest for water tankers and cattle feed, but the finance department hasn't included its demand. The compensation will be dispensed only after the Centre approves the special package for drought-hit farmers.

Farmer organisations complained that the delay in allotting compensation is adversely affecting farmers as sowing season has started.

According to senior state officials, the total compensation amount against losses for these farmers comes to around Rs 2,000 crore and the government is waiting for the Centre to allot additio-

nal funds. "It's as if the government has forgotten these farmers after declaring them drought affected. There has been an administrative delay in making funds available as the government is relying on the additional funding from Centre," said a state official.

Of the total Rs 13,032-crore of supplementary expenditure demand, the government plans to spend Rs 1,750 crore on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's flagship project called Housing for All 2022, Rs 800 crore as premium for the newly introduced agriculture insurance scheme called Pradhan Mantri Pik Bima Yojana, Rs 701 crore for Sarva Siksha Abhiyan and Rs 503 crore for the construction of the Ahmednagar-Parli-Beed railway line.

Rain brings down humidity levels on Saturday, more showers likely today

IANS

htreporters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Rains brought relief from the humidity in Delhi on Saturday, with the maximum temperature settling at 32.8 degrees Celsius, one notch below the season's average, the Met office said. Some rain is also likely on Sunday.

A weather official said the day started off as humid but the subsequent rains brought down the temperature.

He added that the Palam observatory recorded 18.4 mm of rain, Lodhi Road 3 mm, Ridge 2.4 mm while Ayanagar

observatory received 17 mm rain in Delhi between 8.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.

"Generally cloudy sky with thunderstorm and rain is likely to occur on Sunday," said an official of the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

The maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to hover around 32 and 27 degrees celsius, respectively.

Delhi residents woke up to a cloudy Saturday morning, with the minimum temperature at 29 degrees Celsius, two notches above the season's average, while the humidity oscillated between 90 and 65%.



A weather official said though Saturday started off as humid, the subsequent rain brought down the temperature.
SONU MEHTA/HT

Hindustan Times (Delhi) नायमा एत टाईम्स (विक्ली) The Tribune (Chandigarh) Tradu (Chennai)

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

Two-lane Mum-Goa highway a death trap KKChaudhary ur the choppy waters of the Savitri. vis. who went to the spot to perso

The Opposition demanded a judicial probe and said cases should be booked against those responsible.

A search and rescue effort was mounted within hours of the incident despite the rain and lack of light. Raigad district collector Sheetal Ugale and SP Suvez Haque coordinated to rope in the Coast Guard, Navy and the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF). The Coast Guard deployed a Chetak helicopter to carry out a search while the Navy flew in a Seaking 42C all-weather aircraft along with a diving team. A Seaking 42B helicopter on another mission was also diverted to the area. The NDRF deployed divers with inflatable dinghies to sco-



Chief minister Devendra Fadnavis at the accident spot on Wednesday

However, search teams were unable to find the bodies or trace the vehicle that were swept away. "So far, we have not been able to find the bodies or anything else, but the operation will continue tomorrow. The visibility underwater is low," said an NDRF diver.

Two extremely heavy magnets have now been dropped on the riverbed close to the site of the bridge to draw metallic objects such as vehicles towards it. "Satellite imagery technology is also being explored for the rescue operation. Navy helicopters have not yet been able to trace anything. A decision on the night-time operation will be taken keeping visibility in mind," said Srivastava.

Chief minister Devendra Fadna-

vis, who went to the spot to personally supervise the rescue operations, told TOI the bridge would be rebuilt within a year.

The bridge collapse has once again focused attention on areas where quality of road infrastructure is poor or outdated. The Mumbai-Goa NH66 (earlier NH17) is a scenic stretch, but remains a death trap. In recent years, the rising number of casualties on this two-lane highway has prompted travellers headed for Goa to take a detour via Pune and Kolhapur. There are 36 arch bridges of granite and masonry dating back to the colonial period on the same route. Union transport minister Nitin Gadkari had recently unveiled a plan to make the road more touristfriendly by broadening it, but the plan for now remains on paper.











िनाकं के क्रा.सि. को निम्निक्षिखत समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Hir dustan Times (Delhi) ਜਤਮਾਨਰ ਟਾ**ਡਮਾਨ (ਕਿਕੁੰਗੇ)** The Tribune (Chandigarh) The Hindu (Chennai)

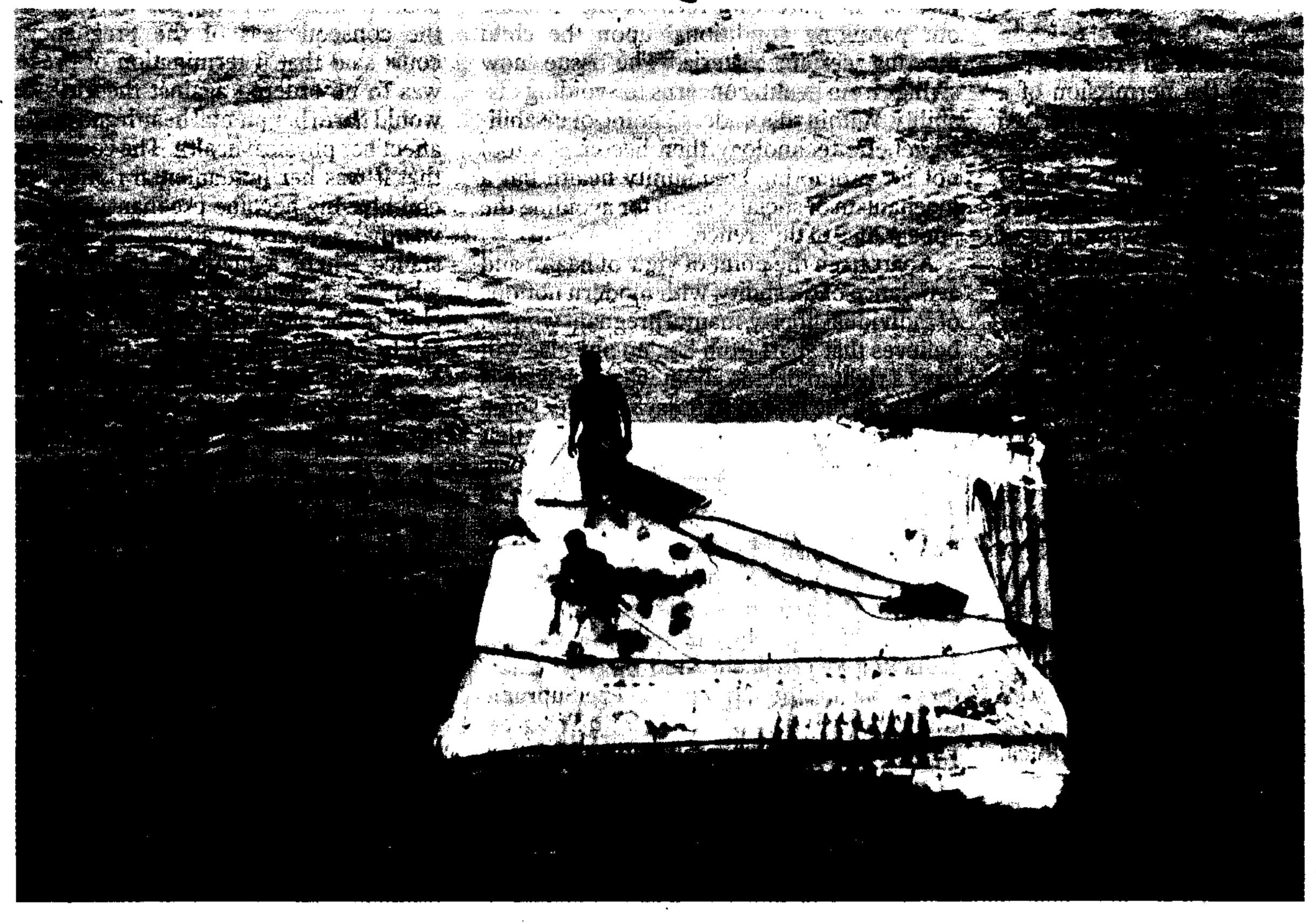
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Waiting for help

3 Au

2016 Ginda



NOWHERE TO GO: People marooned on top of a house in Valsad town on Tuesday following heavy rain. Overnight rain lashed several parts of Gujarat, causing flood-like situation in which five persons were killed. — PHOTO: PTI