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Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)
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The Times of India (A)
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and documented at Bhagirath(English)& Publicity Section, CWC.

Assam, Odisha face flood fury

Relief apace in Gujarat, heavy downpour in Bengal, cloudburst in Himachal

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

KOLKATA

Sixty persons have died due to the floods in Assam over the last couple of months. Nearly 10 lakh people in 21 districts of the State have been affected.

The South Salwara district is the worst hit. The districts of Lakhimpur, Karimganj and Biswanath have also been severely affected by the flood.

According to State officials, about 435 roads, seven bridges and 30 embankments have been damaged in the floods. Hundreds of houses were submerged as the Brahmaputra has been flowing above the danger level.

Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal on Monday directed all Deputy

Commissioners to ensure that families affected by the floods were provided with relief materials, irrespective of whether they were staying in relief camps or not.

He asked authorities in the five districts covered by Kaziranga National Park – Nagaon, Karbi Anglong, Golaghat, Biswanath Chariali and Sonitpur – to take steps to safeguard wild animals affected by the floods in close cooperation with the police and the forest department.

The Assam State Disaster Management Authority said 1,102 villages were under water at present and nearly 41,000 hectares of crop areas were inundated.

In Odisha, the State government rushed relief materials to villagers in the Rayagada and Kalahandi

districts, a day after flash floods wrought havoc.

4,000 evacuated

About 4,000 people were evacuated and lodged in 15 temporary shelters, where cooked food was being provided to them at free kitchen centres.

Five bridges were washed away and four major roads were damaged in the floods.

The twin cities of Cuttack and Bhubaneswar faced heavy waterlogging. In 18 major localities in Cuttack, residents had a tough time stepping out of their houses as the lanes and by-lanes were submerged in water. Cuttack received 154.5 mm of rainfall over the 24 hours till Monday morning.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Monday direc-

ted all departments to work on a war-footing to restore road and power connectivity to the flood-hit villages.

The flood-related death toll in Gujarat rose to 11 as two more persons died in the last 24 hours.

Rescue operations are on in Jamnagar district, where several people are still stranded. The Umergam and Kaprada taluks of Valsad district received the highest rainfall of 99 mm and 98 mm, respectively.

West Bengal too received isolated heavy downpour.

A man was swept away by flash floods triggered by a cloud burst in the Chama district of Himachal Pradesh, as rain lashed many parts of the State.

(With inputs from Ahmedabad and Bhubaneswar)

को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Hindustan Times (Delhi)

हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स (दिल्ली)

The Tribune (Chandigarh)

The New Indian Express (Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati)

The Times of India (Mumbai)

The Telegraph (Kolkata)

हिन्दुस्तान (पटना)

The Deccan Herald (Bengaluru)

The Deccan Chronicle (Hyderabad)

Central Chronicle (Bhopal)

Flood scene improves, death toll rises to 59



Living with floods: Provisions for boats and houses on stilts/platforms may be part of public awareness in flood-prone areas. An affected village at Dhakuakhana, on Saturday. — UB Photos

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, July 15: The overall flood situation in the State is improving with the number of villages affected coming down to 1,795 from yesterday's 2,240. However, with reports of seven more deaths from different flood-hit areas, the toll has gone up to 59.

According to the evening flood bulletin of the Assam State Disaster Management Authority, the population af-

ected by floods stood at 11.93 lakh in 24 districts, while around 24,000 people are tak-

Govt to provide textbooks to flood-hit students

ing shelter in 123 relief camps. Over 50 per cent of the Kaziranga National Park is still under water, affecting 93 anti-poaching camps, it said.

Meanwhile, Education Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma

today said the State government will provide textbooks to school students who have lost them during the current wave of floods.

"Students from Class I to X whose books have been damaged or lost during the floods can inform their school headmasters before July 25. We will get the requirement from the districts by July 30 and we hope we will be able to provide the textbooks by August-end," Sarma said.

(See page 13)

Flood scene ...

(Contd from page 1)

Sarma, who also holds the Health portfolio, said the district administrations have been directed to conduct extensive medical camps to prevent any outbreak of diseases after the floodwaters recede.

"The administrations have been directed to work extensively on providing safe drinking water to the flood-affected areas. We have also appealed to the private sector to hold health camps in the flood-hit areas," he said, adding the Veterinary Department has also been asked to step up relief for animals.

He claimed that for the first time fodder has been provided by the government for the flood-hit animals in Kaziranga. He reiterated that there is no dearth of funds for flood relief and the

Deputy Commissioners have been asked to spend "liberally".

The minister further said that as per a report till 10 this morning, 71 bridges have been damaged and 12 embankments breached in the floods. "Work on them will start immediately after the floods. We have asked the respective departments to provide the project reports by August 15 so that work can start by September/October," he said.

Sarma also said the DCs have been asked to increase the number of relief distribution points so that the materials reach the maximum number of people. "Some people are reluctant to leave their homes and are not staying in the relief camps. The materials are not reaching these people," he admitted.

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Flood toll shoots to 65 in Assam

BREAKDOWN Authorities air-drop food packets as bridge collapses in Odisha, Manipur lead to connectivity troubles

HT Correspondents

www.hindustantimes.com

GUWAHATI/IMPHAL: The flood situation in the Northeast improved on Monday, but five people drowned in Assam and Manipur's connectivity woes were compounded after a British era steel bridge on a national highway collapsed partially.

The Assam flood death toll since April is now 65 with 7.65 lakh people in 17 inundated districts still unable to return home. More than 18,900 of them are spread across 256 relief camps, officials of Assam State Disaster Management Authority said.

Officials in Manipur's Tamenglong district said a part of the bridge across river Barak along NH102 gave way on Monday morning, leaving more than 400 Imphal-bound goods trucks stranded. The bridge is about 120km west of Imphal.

NH102, which connects Imphal to southern Assam's Silchar, is one of the two lifelines of Manipur.

The other is NH2 via Nagaland, which has been cut-off since Saturday after a massive landslide took away a 150-metre stretch 22 km south of Kohima.

Some goods trucks were diverted from the more popular NH2 route after Saturday's landslide.

"We have supplies to last 24-30 days but we will have to think of alternatives if the two highways are not repaired fast," a transport officer said.

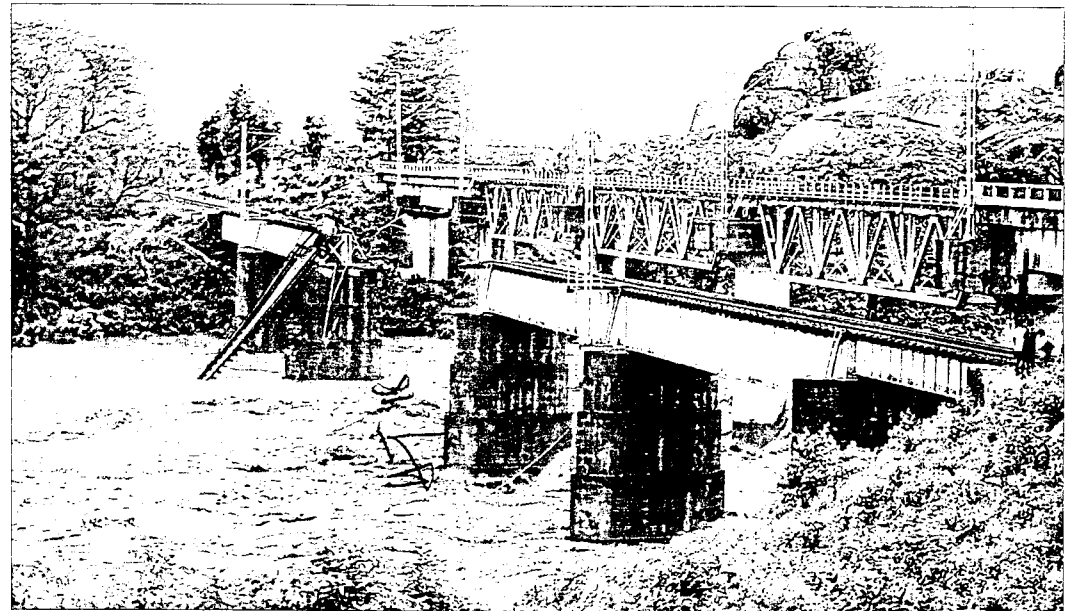
On Monday, Assam chief minister Sarbananda Sonowal asked officials to provide relief material to every flood-affected family, "even to those who are not in relief camps". Officials in Manipur have been unable to collate flood damage data.

FOOD PACKETS

AIRDROPPED IN ODISHA The water level in several rivers receded Monday and the flood situation in Rayagada and Kalahandi districts improved.

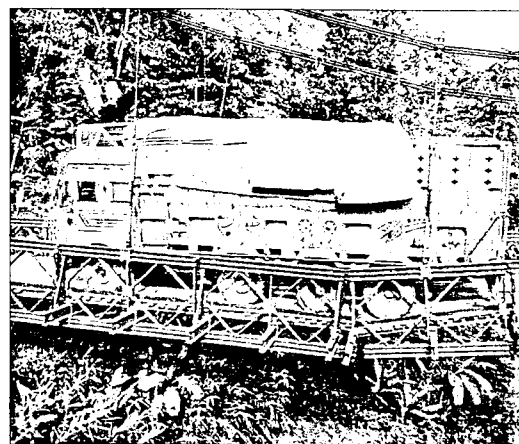
The state government started serving food through free kitchens.

"Despite intermittent rains, there is a slight improvement in the flood situation in Rayagada and Kalahandi districts. Choppers are air-dropping food pack-



• A railway bridge over the river Nagabali collapsed due to flash floods in Rayagada district, Odisha, on Sunday.

ARABINDA MAHAPATRA/HT



• Part of the bridge across river Barak in Tamenglong district, Manipur, gave away on Monday.

HT PHOTO



• A flood affected family takes shelter in a makeshift house at Goroimari village in Assam on Monday.

PTI PHOTO

ets," said Odisha special relief commissioner Bishnupada Sethi.

"Around 3000 relief packets have been distributed," he further added.

The state government continued to be on alert as the low pressure area over Bay of Bengal was likely to turn into depression during the next 24 hours resulting in heavy rain.

The Bansadhara river contin-

ued to swell, crossing the danger mark near Kasinagar in Gajapati district.

Health minister Pratap Jena said special medical teams had camped in Rayagada.

FLASH FLOOD IMPACT IN COASTAL ANDHRA

Several villages in north-coastal Andhra's Srikakulam and Vizianagaram districts were inundated and standing crops in

thousands of acres were damaged as heavy rains in southern Odisha resulted in flash floods in Nagavali river.

The floods also disrupted train services between Andhra Pradesh and Odisha.

With the Nagavali river in spate, Vizianagaram authorities released 29,000 cusecs of water from Thotapalli barrage, resulting in inundation of low-lying areas.

District authorities in Srikakulam district, downstream of the river, also evicted people from the low-lying areas to the safer places.

Vizianagaram collector Vivek Yadav and Srikakulam district collector K Dhanunjay Reddy visited the flood-hit areas.

"There is no threat to the lives of the people. But there is heavy damage to crops," Reddy told mediapersons.

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Storage in Cauvery basin less than half of last year

Owing to poor rain, it has dipped to 21.43 tmcft as against 48.26 tmcft last year

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

After three consecutive years of drought, Karnataka may be staring at an even grimmer situation in the Cauvery basin area this year, if the monsoon does not gain momentum in the next couple of weeks.

The storage in all four reservoirs of the Cauvery basin – Krishnaraja Sagar, Kabini, Hemavati and Harangi – is currently less than 50% of what it was last year, which was billed the worst in several decades. As per the Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre data, the total storage stood at 21.43 tmcft this year as against 48.26 tmcft in 2016.

'Not lost hope yet'

Water Resources Minister M.B. Patil, while addressing



Dwindling resources: The water level has come down drastically in the Krishnaraja Sagar dam. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

a press conference here, said, the State had not lost hope yet as the Indian Meteorology Department had forecast spells of rain in the next one or two weeks.

When asked if the government would reserve water in the reservoirs only for drinking purposes, Mr. Patil said he would convene a meeting of representatives of boards

of all the basin areas in the State after a week or two and take a call.

He said serious shortage had come in the way of releasing Cauvery water to Tamil Nadu as per the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal's order.

As against the required release of 44 tmcft of water so far from June 2017, the State had released only 2.2 tmcft of water, he said.

Cloud seeding

The government will also launch cloud seeding initiative after assessing the rainfall for the next one or two weeks, the Minister said.

Meanwhile, Mr. Patil clarified that Karnataka had not diverted water from the Mahadayi river to Malaprabha basin as reported in a section of media.

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माध्याह्निक प्रभावित

असम में अब तक 65 मरे पंजाब-18-7-17

उत्तराखंड से असम तक आसमानी आफत

नई दिल्ली, (पंजाब केसरी): असम, ओडिशा समेत देश के कई राज्यों में बाढ़ जैसे हालात हैं। असम में भारी बारिश के बाद नदियां उफान पर हैं। लाखों लोग बाढ़ के कारण प्रभावित हुए हैं। पानी से घिरे असम के मजुली में तूफान के कारण 400 से अधिक घर नष्ट हो गए हैं। वहीं उत्तराखंड के कई जिलों में भारी बारिश का अनुमान जताया गया है। एजेंसियां अलर्ट पर हैं।

असम के 24 जिलों में लगभग 12 लाख लोग बाढ़ का प्रकोप झेल रहे हैं। पांच और लोगों के मरने से अब तक इस प्राकृतिक आपदा में मरने वालों की संख्या 65 हो चुकी है। आधा काजीरंगा राष्ट्रीय उद्यान डूबा हुआ है और 70 से अधिक जानवर मारे जा चुके हैं। दुर्लभ प्रजाति के एक सींग वाले गैंडे खतरे में हैं। प्रभावित जिलों में धोमाजी, बिस्वबाथ, लखीमपुर, सोनितपुर, दरांग, नलबाड़ी, बरपेटा, बंगाड़ांग, चिरांग, कोकराझार, धुबरी,



ओडिशा के रायगढ़ जिला के बाढ़ से घिरे गांव कल्याण सिंह पुर से बाहर निकलती महिला। (छाया : प्रेटर)

सोपुथ सालमारा, गोलापाराए मोरीगांव, नागांव, कार्बी आंगलांग, गोलाघाट, जोरहाट मजुली, शिवसागर, चराईदेव, डिब्रूगढ़, करीमगंज तथा काचर जिला शामिल हैं। यूपी, बिहार के कई इलाकों में भी भारी बारिश के

कारण नदियां उफान पर हैं। उत्तराखंड के कुमाऊं में बारिश से आधा दर्जन रिहायशी मकान भूस्खलन की चपेट में आए हैं। पिथौरागढ़ के धारचूला क्षेत्र में ढालीगाढ़ नदी में सड़क समा जाने से 13 गांवों का अन्य

नदियां उफान पर

- भारी वर्षा के चलते उत्तराखंड में पिथौरागढ़ के धारचूला क्षेत्र में सड़क नदी में समाई : 13 गांवों का सम्पर्क कटा

- कई जगह एनडीआरएफ की टीम तैनात

क्षेत्रों से संपर्क कट गया है। काली नदी खतरे के निशान के करीब पहुंच गई है। देहरादून, उत्तरकाशी, रुद्रप्रयाग, बागेश्वर समेत कई इलाकों में अगले 24 घंटे में भारी बारिश का अनुमान जताया गया है। एएसडीएमए की रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक असम में 66,516 हेक्टेयर से अधिक कृषि भूमि बाढ़ से प्रभावित हुई है।

अधिकारियों के मुताबिक, प्रभावित 25,000 से अधिक लोगों ने विभिन्न जिलों में सरकार द्वारा स्थापित 19 शिविरों में शरण ले रखी है। ओडिशा में भी बाढ़ से कई जिलों में हालात काफी गंभीर हैं। दक्षिणी ओडिशा के विजयनगरम और श्रीकाकुलम जिलों में बाढ़ का खासा असर हुआ है। आंध्र प्रदेश और ओडिशा के बीच ट्रेन सेवा भी बुरी तरह प्रभावित हुई है। रायगढ़ और कालाहांडी के हिस्सों में भारी बारिश के चलते अचानक आई बाढ़ से प्रभावित लोगों की सुरक्षा के लिए ओडिशा सरकार ने सेना और वायुसेना की मदद मांगी और केन्द्र सरकार से राहत व बचाव कार्यों में तेजी लाने के लिए चार हेलीकॉप्टर उपलब्ध कराने का आग्रह किया है। आंध्र प्रदेश के श्रीकाकुलम में नारायणपुरम, अशावरम, कोल्लीवलासा आदि इलाके जलमग्न हैं। विजयनगरम, श्रीकाकुलम हाईवे पर यातायात प्रभावित हुआ है। गांवों में स्कूलों में और गन्ने के खेतों में पानी भर गया है।

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महादयी विवाद... पत्रिका-18-7-17

बातचीत ही समाधान का श्रेष्ठ तरीका: पाटिल

बेंगलूरु. राज्य सरकार दोहराया है कि कर्नाटक, गोवा व महाराष्ट्र के बीच महादयी नदी के पानी के बंटवारे के विवाद को न्यायालय के बाहर बातचीत के जरिए सुलझाना ही सर्वश्रेष्ठ तरीका है। इस विवाद का बातचीत के जरिए समाधान करने से ही राज्य में पानी की कमी वाले जिलों को पेयजल आपूर्ति करा संभव होगा।

जल संसाधन मंत्री एमबी पाटिल ने सोमवार को कहा कि महादयी जल विवाद पंचाट के दायरे से बाहर बातचीत से सुलझाना ही बेहतर विकल्प है। इससे तीनों राज्यों को अधिक समय व न्यायालयों में अधिक धन खर्च

करने की जरूरत नहीं पड़ेगी। हम गोवा के मुख्यमंत्री मनोहर पर्रिकर के साथ त्रिपक्षीय बैठक की मांग कर रहे हैं। यह एक पेयजल परियोजना है जिसके जरिए धारवाड़, गदग तथा बेलगावी जिलों को पेयजल आपूर्ति की जाएगी और अंतर राज्य नदी जल बंटवारा कोई राजनीतिक मसला नहीं होगा।

पाटिल ने कहा कि यह मसला न्यायालयों में बहुत लंबा खिंच चुका है और तीनों राज्यों की सरकारों ने बिना किसी हल के काफी समय खर्च कर लिया है। अब समय आ गया है कि हम न्यायालय के बाहर आपस में बैठकर सवालों को हल करें।

कावेरी बेसिन में चिंताजनक हालात

बेंगलूरु. जल संसाधन मंत्री एमबी पाटिल ने राज्य के कावेरी बेसिन में जलाभाव के हालात को चिंताजनक बताते हुए कहा कि चार दशक बाद पहली बार इस बेसिन के बांधों में जुलाई में केवल 26 टीएमसी पानी उपलब्ध है और इस साल अब तक चारों जलाशयों में केवल 12 टीएमसी पानी पहुंचा है। पाटिल ने सोमवार को यहां कहा कि पिछले साल के स्टॉक को मिलाकर नि चारों ही जलाशयों में केवल 26 टीएमसी पानी है जिसका फिलहाल केवल पेयजल के लिए इस्तेमाल किया जाएगा। राज्य के जलाशयों में हुई पानी की आवक को ध्यान रखकर 1 जून से अब तक 2.2 टीएमसी पानी तमिलनाडु को दिया गया है। यदि कावेरी बेसिन में बारिश के यही हालात जारी रहे तो इस साल पेयजल के भी लाले पड़ सकते हैं। कावेरी बेसिन के केआर सागर, कबिनी, हारंगी व हेमावती जलाशयों में पिछले साल 57 टीएमसी पानी एकत्रित था लेकिन इस साल इसका आधा हिस्सा भी नहीं है। ऐसे में इस साल के हालात पिछले साल से कहीं बदतर हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि अब तक कावेरी बेसिन के चारों जलाशयों में 100 टीएमसी पानी आना चाहिए था लेकिन पानी नहीं आया।