

News item/letter/article/editorial published on July 19, 2015 in the

Hindustan Times

Statefamer

The Times of India (N.E.)

Indian Express

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

Kav Eharat Times (Hindi)

Punjab Keshari (Hindi)

The Hindu

Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

Deccan Chronicle

Deccan Herald

M. E. Chronicle

A. J. (Hindi)

Indian Nation

Kal Dunya (Hindi)

The Times of India (V.)

P. J.

and disseminated at Elhachirath (English) & Publicity Section, CWS.

# Maharashtra records most farmer suicides

Pavan Dahat

**RAIPUR:** With 2,568 farmers' suicides during 2014, Maharashtra recorded the highest number in the country, though activists pointed out that the number was far higher.

The data released on Friday by the National Crime Records Bureau also show that Chhattisgarh is among the top four States in farmers' suicides.

According to the NCRB, Maharashtra recorded 578 fewer suicides than 2013, when 3,146 farmers ended their lives.

Activists, however, criticised the NCRB for "manipulating" the data to paint a "rosy picture".

"They [the NCRB] have deliberately divided the suicides under different heads. The report says 4,004 agriculture-related suicides were recorded in Maharashtra during 2014 and then subtracts agricultural workers from the number and gives



Activists have criticised the NCRB for 'manipulating' the data to paint a 'rosy picture' on the agriculture front. - FILE PHOTO: VIVEK BENDRE

2,568 as the total figure. But even with 2,568, Maharashtra tops the country, and for the first time, the government has admitted that the landless farmers are also dying," said Kishor Tiwari, who runs Vidarbha Jan Andolan

Samiti, a farmers' advocacy group.

"The total number of farmers' suicides in Maharashtra should be 4,004, which is almost 1,000 more than the 2013 figure. It's shameful if the government takes credit

for 500-odd fewer suicides. The issue is getting complicated everyday in Maharashtra. Farmers are not getting proper prices for their produce, but input costs are rising. Maharashtra has recorded over 2,000 farmers'

suicide until June this year. Over 800 farmers have killed themselves in Vidarbha and over 600 farmers committed suicide in Marathwada," Mr. Tiwari said.

## Chhattisgarh's entry

According to the data, 443 farmers committed suicide in Chhattisgarh during 2014, making it the State with the fourth highest number after Maharashtra, Telangana and Madhya Pradesh. The State has rarely figured in the list of farm suicides earlier. State Agriculture Minister Brijmohan Agrwal, however, termed the NCRB data "misleading and based on a wrong analysis."

"These numbers are wrong, and there are no such incidents in Chhattisgarh," he told *The Hindu*.

He questioned the authenticity of the data and said: "I don't know how they [the NCRB] issued it. As per our knowledge, there are no farmers' suicides in the State."

News item/letter/article/editorial published on July-12.7.2015 in the

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

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)  
Punjab Kesari (Hindi)  
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The Times of India (A)  
Elitiz

and documented at Bhagirathi (English) & Publicity

## CLOUSBURST

### AMARNATH YATRA SUSPENDED

# Heavy rain claims four lives in Kashn

At least four persons were killed in a series of cloudbursts that struck on both Baltal and Pahalgam routes of the Amarnath Yatra, forcing temporary suspension of the pilgrimage from one side.

"We have recovered three bodies from Kullian area on Srinagar-Leh road where a cloudburst took place on Thursday evening," a police officer said on Friday.

One body, recovered from River Sindh, has not been identified so far, the officer said.

Two persons — Rukhsana (32) and her four-year-old son are still missing.

He said work was on to remove the debris that has blocked the road, leading to Baltal base camp.

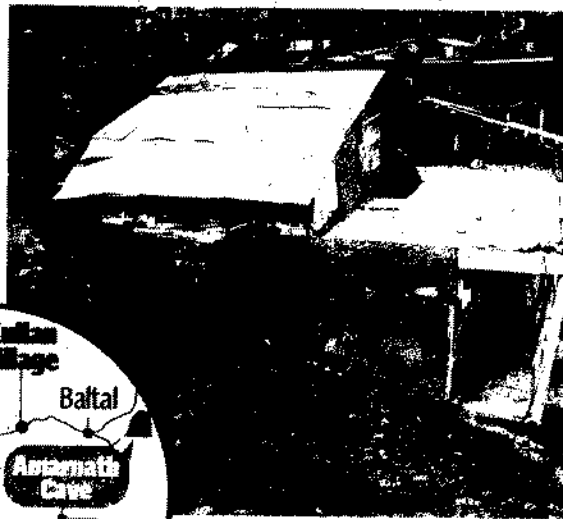
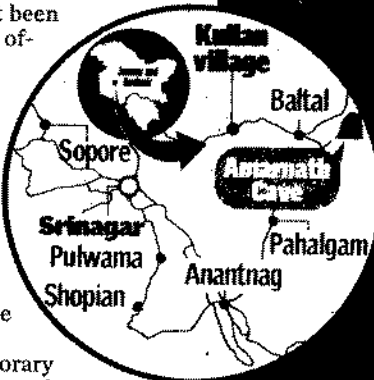
"There is a temporary suspension of the yatra from Baltal road. The removal of debris will take a few hours more," he said.

Some houses in the Kullian area have been damaged in the landslips that occurred following rain.

Cloudbursts were reported from several areas of Kashmir.

Authorities said all the pilgrims were safe at transit camps set up along the north and south Kashmir routes.

The Met department has forecast more rain over the next 24 hours across Kashmir. — PTI & IANS



**BURSTS WERE REPORTED FROM  
AL AREAS OF KASHMIR AND THE MET  
MENT HAS FORECAST MORE RAIN IN  
EXT 24 HOURS ACROSS THE STATE.**

(Clockwise from top left) A badly damaged house in Anantnag district, South Kashmir; a view of the slush on a road at Nilagrar near Sonamarg; and villagers and Army men make their way through the mud at Kullian village, northeast of Srinagar, on Friday. — PHOTOS: NISSAR AHMAD, PTI & AFP

स्रोत : केंद्रीय जल आयोग केंद्र सरकार 16 जलाई 2015 के सप्ताहांत तक

News item/letter/article/editorial published on July - 12.7.2015 in the

Hindustan Times	Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)	M.P. Chronicle
Statesman	Punjab Keshari (Hindi)	Aaj (Hindi)
The Times of India (N.D.)	The Hindu	Indian Nation
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Tribune ✓	Deccan Chronicle	The Times of India (A)
Hindustan (Hindi)	Deccan Herald	Blitz

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

## Rains boost storage in water reservoirs File - 19/7

**VIJAY MOHAN**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, JULY 18

With the monsoon having covered the entire country, the water level in major reservoirs in the northern region has improved and noticeably higher storage has been recorded this year than the preceding years.

There are six major reservoirs in this region, having a total storage capacity of 18.01 billion cubic metres (BCM). The total storage available in these reservoirs as on July 17 is 9.28 BCM,

which is 52 per cent of the total storage capacity of these reservoirs. The northern region includes the states of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Rajasthan.

The storage during the corresponding period of last year was 45 per cent and the average storage of last 10 years during the corresponding period was 39 per cent of storage capacity of these reservoirs, according to data released by the Ministry of Water Resources.

In the Bhakra-Beas system, which is vital for power

generation as well as irrigation for the region, the water level has increased by several feet over the past few days.

The water level at Bhakra Dam, on the Sutlej, stood at 1,631.39 feet today with the inflow being 70,150 cusecs. The level and inflow were 1,597.91 feet and 31.084 cusecs, respectively, about a month ago. At Pond Dam on the Beas, the water level recorded today was 1,348.13 feet as compared to 1,331.18 feet about a month ago.

The reservoirs at Bhakra

and Pong are, however, still 49 feet and 42 feet below their maximum permitted level of 1,680 feet and 1,390 feet, respectively.

The monsoon, according to the Meteorological Department, has been normal in Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand till July 17, while it has been excess in Jammu and Kashmir. This coupled with snowmelt in the higher regions has helped increase the water level in reservoirs.

News Item/letter/article/editorial published on July-19-7-2015 in the

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Statesman	Punjab Kesari (Hindi)	A. & J. (Hindi)
The Times of India (N.D.)	The Hindu	Indian Nation
Indian Express	Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)	Kal Panjya (Hindi)
Tribune	Dacca Chronicle	The Times of India (M.)
Minuteman (Hindi)	Dacca Herald	File

and documented at Bharatika (Hindi) & Publicity Section, P.O.

## केदारनाथ-गंगोत्री मार्ग पर भूस्खलन

1 लाख से ज्यादा लोग कर चुके हैं केदारनाथ यात्रा

■ प्रमुख संवाददाता, देहरादून

उत्तराखण्ड में भारी बारिश के चलते चारधाम यात्रा करने वालों की संख्या में कमी आई है। धुंध और खराब मौसम की वजह से शनिवार को हेलिकॉप्टर की सेवा रोक दी गई, श्रद्धालुओं ने पैदल ही केदारनाथ यात्रा शुरू की। उल्लेखनीय है कि पैदल यात्रा दो दिनों से बंद थी। शनिवार को 61 यात्रियों ने केदारनाथ के दर्शन किए। सोनप्रयाग से 169 लोगों को पैदल यात्रा के लिए छोड़ा गया। अब तक केदारनाथ जाने वाले यात्रियों की संख्या 1 लाख 14 हजार 331 पहुंच चुकी है। लेकिन देर रात गंगोत्री मार्ग के भूस्खलन से गंगोत्री धाम की यात्रा बाधित रही।

**24 घंटों तक भारी बारिश की चेतावनी :** बद्रीनाथ, यमुनोत्री और हेमकुंट यात्रा जारी है, लेकिन यात्रियों की संख्या में भारी कमी आ गई है। हेमकुंट के लिए गोविन्दघाट से घाघरिया के लिए 125 यात्रियों को छोड़ा गया है। मौसम विभाग ने

राज्य में अगले 24 घंटों तक बारिश की संभावना जताई है। शुक्रवार को केदारनाथ में 18 यात्री हेलिकॉप्टर से पहुंचे थे, जबकि पैदल यात्रा बंद



थी। बद्रीनाथ धाम 700 यात्री पहुंचे जबकि वहां से वापस आने वाले यात्रियों की संख्या 500 थी। शुक्रवार को हेमकुंट जाने वाले यात्रियों की संख्या 500 थी, जबकि आज 125 यात्री ही हेमकुंट के लिए रवाना हो सके। उत्तरकाशी, पिथौरागढ़, चमोली जिलों में भी बारिश से हालात जोखिमपूर्ण बने हैं। पिथौरागढ़ में शुक्रवार रात हुई भारी बारिश से थल मुनस्यारी मोटर मार्ग में भारी मलबा आ गया।

July-19-7-15

News item/article/editorial published on July-18-7-2015 in the

Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Times of India (M.D.)

Indian Express

Tribuna

Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)

Punjab Keshari (Hindi) ✓

The Hindu

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Deccan Chronicle

Deccan Herald

M.P. Chronicle

Aaj (Hindi)

Indian Nation

Nai Dunia (Hindi)

The Times of India (M)

Bikr

and documented at Eheadra (H/English) & Publicity Section, CHC.

# राहत-आफत दोनों लाई बारिश

■ प्रस/एजेंसियां, नई दिल्ली

उमस भरी गर्मी के बाद उत्तर भारत में बारिश का दौर फिर शुरू हो गया है। यूपी, पंजाब और हरियाणा में जहां शुक्रवार को बारिश हुई वहीं बिहार और मध्य प्रदेश में दिन घने बादलों के साये में गुजरा। मुश्किल पहाड़ी इलाकों में ज्यादा हो रही है। खासकर जम्मू-कश्मीर में गुरुवार शाम से हो रही बारिश के कारण कई जगहों पर बादल फटने की घटनाएं हुई हैं।

**कश्मीर में चार मौतें :** कश्मीर के श्रीनगर-लेह मार्ग से जुड़े कुल्लों इलाके में गुरुवार शाम बादल फटने से चार लोगों की मौत हुई है, जिनमें दो बच्चे हैं।

**वेस्ट यूपी की मौज :** यहां मॉनसून की चाल सामान्य है और पिछले 24 घंटे के दौरान राज्य के अनेक हिस्सों में बारिश हुई। फूलपुर (इलाहाबाद) में सबसे ज्यादा 12 सेंटीमीटर वर्षा हुई। अगले 24 घंटे में पश्चिमी यूपी में मॉनसून की खास मेहरबानी होने का अनुमान है।



लेह रोड, श्रीनगर

**उत्तरकाशी खतरे में :** भारी बारिश के कारण उत्तरकाशी के वरुणावत पर्वत में फिर से भूस्खलन से लोग परेशान हैं। इस पर्वत के ट्रीटमेंट के लिए 250 करोड़ रुपये की एक परियोजना अमल में लाई गई थी पर इस बार की वर्षा में इसका एक बड़ा हिस्सा क्षतिग्रस्त हो गया। वहीं केदारनाथ पैदल यात्रा शुरू नहीं की जा सकी है जबकि बदरीनाथ व हेमकुट साहिब की यात्रा जारी है।

**शेरो की हालत सुधरी :** पिछले महीने हुई भारी बारिश के बाद लापता हुए करीब



हरिद्वार

30 एशियाई शेरो को गुजरात के अमरेली जिले के गिर वन क्षेत्र में घूमते-फिरते और भोजन के लिए शिकार करते देखा गया है।

News item/letter/article/editorial published on July-18-7-2015 in the

Hindustan Times

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Indian Nation

Kal Dunya (Hindi)

The Times of India (A.)

Bills

and documented at Bhadrath/English & Publicity Section, D.H.C.

घटना की वजह से अमरनाथ यात्रा के दोनों मार्ग बालटाल और पहलगाम हुए प्रभावित

# कश्मीर में कई जगह बादल फटे, चार मरे

आफत

श्रीनगर | एजेसी

18-7-15

कश्मीर घाटी में कई स्थानों पर बादल फटने से कम से कम चार लोगों की मौत हो गई। वहीं घटना की वजह से अमरनाथ यात्रा के दोनों मार्ग बालटाल और पहलगाम प्रभावित हुए हैं। इससे तीर्थयात्रा को अस्थायी तौर पर निलंबित करना पड़ा।

पुलिस के वरिष्ठ अधिकारी ने बताया, हमने श्रीनगर लेह सड़क पर कुल्लन क्षेत्र से तीन शव बरामद किए हैं। यहां गुरुवार शाम को बादल फटा था। मृतकों की शिनाख्त 15 वर्षीय इकरा माजिद और 10 वर्षीय मोहिन अहमद के तौर पर हुई है। दोनों कुल्लन गांव के रहने वाले हैं। अधिकारी ने बताया कि एक शव सिंध नदी से बरामद हुआ है, जिसकी

पहचान अब तक नहीं हो सकी है। वहीं, रूकसाना (32) और उनका चार वर्षीय बेटा अकीब बाबा अभी भी लापता हैं।

**मलबा हटाने का काम जारी :** बालटाल आधारशिविर की ओर जाने वाली सड़क पर मलबे को हटाने का काम जारी है। अधिकारी ने कहा, बालटाल सड़क की तरफ से यात्रा को अस्थायी तौर पर निलंबित कर दिया गया है।

**पंजतरनी में एक की मौत :** इस बीच, यात्रा के पारंपरिक मार्ग पहलगाम से लगने वाले पंजतरनी इलाके में आकाशीय बिजली की चपेट में आने से एक व्यक्ति की मौत हो गई। मृतक की शिनाख्त मंजूर अहमद शेख के तौर पर हुई है। घाटी में गुरुवार शाम से हो रही भारी बारिश को वजह से कई इलाकों में बादल फटने की खबर है। मौसम वैज्ञानिकों ने पूरे कश्मीर में अगले 24 घंटे में और बारिश होने की भविष्यवाणी की है।



जम्मू-कश्मीर के गांधर्व बल जिले में बादल फटने के बाद कुल्लन गांव में अचानक आई बाढ़ के बाद कीचड़ में फंसी कार। • रायटर

दूसरे दिन भी बाधित रही केदारनाथ यात्रा

**रुद्रप्रयाग।** केदारनाथ पैदल यात्रा बारिश के कारण दूसरे दिन भी रुकी रही। वहीं, केदारनाथ और लिंगचौली में रुके तीर्थयात्री वापस लौट गए हैं। प्रशासन मौसम ठीक रहने पर ही शनिवार को यात्रा शुरू करेगा। हालांकि केदारनाथ में कुछ समय मौसम ठीक रहा लेकिन बाद में यहां भी बारिश शुरू हो गई। प्रशासन ने तीर्थयात्रियों की सुरक्षा को देखते हुए यात्रियों की आवाजाही नहीं होने दी।

यमुनोत्री हाईवे पर फंसे रहे यात्री

**उत्तरकाशी।** देर रात भारी बारिश के चलते यमुनोत्री हाईवे पर राड़ी टॉप से लगभग 10 किमी आगे उरछा बेंड पर मलबा आने के कारण हाईवे बंद हो गया। इससे उत्तरकाशी से रवाई जाने वाले वाहनों को डेढ़ घंटे तक फंसा रहना पड़ा। बड़कोट-पुरोला-मोरी से आने वाले वाहनों और धरासू से जाने वाले वाहनों को वहां लगभग डेढ़ घंटे इंतजार करना पड़ा।

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Elite

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

**RADHIKA KHOSLA,  
NAVROZ K. DUBASH  
AND K. RAHUL SHARMA**

# The climate for cuts

1218

What can India take away from China's contribution to fight global warming?

PREPARATIONS FOR the December Paris 2015 climate negotiations are moving into high gear. Prior to the conference, each country is required to submit a statement of its intended contribution to the global effort to address climate change. In the lead-up, the Chinese government recently released its much anticipated climate pledge. What did China say, and what does China's stand imply for what India will put on the table?

The Chinese package includes economy-wide targets along with a long list of supportive actions, policies and measures in different sectors. The overarching objectives for 2030 are: peaking carbon dioxide emissions around 2030 with best efforts to peak early; 60-65 per cent reduction in carbon dioxide emissions per unit of GDP from 2005; 20 per cent share of non-fossil fuels in primary energy consumption; and 4.5 billion cubic metres increase in forest stock from 2005.

More broadly, the 15-page document provides more detail than has any other country so far on actions for implementation, notably including the integration of climate

and development goals. These details include means of shifting production and consumption patterns, improved accounting for emissions, strengthening climate risk-response systems, and stimulating science and technology innovation. Notably, all these actions are to be undertaken whether or not any additional climate finance is available from the international community, suggesting that the stated actions are motivated at least as much by domestic environmental pressures, such as air quality, as by climate considerations.

What can India take away from China's contribution? China's headline statement of peaking or reaching its maximum emissions by 2030 sounds ambitious, but in the absence of a level at which it will peak, this has correctly been criticised as a hollow statement. More substantial is the detail in elaborating sectoral actions. The lesson for India is that perhaps the road to signalling serious intent lies in highlighting transformative sectoral actions, which bend the curve of emissions downwards. If India

shifted focus towards implementation in sectors, it could avoid potentially risky promises about the year or level at which its emissions will be highest, and still clearly signal that it is a responsible global actor.

Focusing on key development aims, which often bring climate co-benefits, can usefully be the central principle of its contribution. For example, India can signal strong commitment and demonstrate specific actions by highlighting programmes such as the Smart Cities scheme, which integrates clean energy, transport and water-planning at an important stage of India's urban transformation. Ongoing Electricity Act amendments and enhanced state-level renewable energy purchase obligations indicate measures to streamline renewables beyond the declaration of ambitious targets. Such initiatives could be complemented by tackling the financial health of distribution companies, which address broader institutional and implementation considerations of clean energy penetration. Existing programmes to accelerate the shift to energy efficient appli-

ances, and plans to make the building energy code mandatory nationally, can be augmented to achieve significant development and climate outcomes.

An Indian submission to the global negotiations focused on action in sectors, accompanied by a reasonable emissions intensity target, will allow the country to set its own benchmark for what counts as effective action. Further, it will achieve the dual objectives that should drive any contribution India makes. The first are India's development priorities, the economic, social and environmental aspects of which must be explicitly addressed. Second, since India is deeply vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, an agreement for strong global action is in our interest. An Indian submission focused on co-benefits-based sectoral actions would align these two objectives so they work in tandem and form the basis of a strong Indian contribution to solving the climate problem.

The writers are with the Centre for Policy Research, Delhi



News item/letter/article/editorial published on July - 16.7.2015 in the

Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Times of India (N.D.)

Indian Express

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

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Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

Dacca Chronicle

Dacca Borani

M.P. Chronicle

A. & J. (Hindi)

Indian Nation

Nai Dunia (Hindi)

The Times of India (A)

Brix

and documents of Ehsarath(English)& Publicity Section, C.O.C.

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विविधा

► 18 जुलाई, 2015 ► शनिवार पंजाब

## घाटी में बादल फटे : 5 मरे

श्रीनगर, (भाषा): कश्मीर घाटी में कई स्थानों पर बादल फटने से कम से कम 5 लोगों की मौत हो गई। बादल फटने की घटना की वजह से अमरनाथ यात्रा के दोनों मार्ग बालटाल और पहलगाम प्रभावित हुए हैं जिस वजह से तीर्थयात्रा की एक तरफ से अस्थायी तौर पर निलंबित करना पड़ा। पुलिस के वरिष्ठ अधिकारी ने बताया, "हमने श्रीनगर-लेह सड़क पर कुल्लन क्षेत्र से तीन शव बरामद किए हैं। यहां

**भारी तबाही**

**बालटाल मार्ग से  
अमरनाथ यात्रा मार्ग  
के बीच भारी फिसलन**

**पानी भरा, माली  
नुकसान ज्यादा**

कल शाम को बादल फटा था।" मृतकों की शिनाख्त 15 वर्षीय इकरा

माजिद और 10 वर्षीय मोमिन अहमद बाबा के तौर पर हुई है। दोनों गांदरबल जिले के कुल्लन गांव के रहने वाले हैं। अधिकारी ने बताया कि एक शव सिंध नदी से बरामद हुआ है जिसकी पहचान अबतक नहीं की जा सकी है। रुकसाना (32) और उनका चार वर्षीय बेटा अकीब बाबा अभी भी लापता हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि बालटाल आधारशिविर की ओर जाने वाली सड़क पर मलबे को हटाने का काम जारी है जिसने सड़क को अवरुद्ध किया है। अधिकारी ने कहा, "बालटाल सड़क की तरफ से यात्रा को अस्थायी तौर पर स्थगित कर दिया गया है। कुछ और घंटों में मलबा हटा लिया जाएगा।" इस बीच, यात्रा के पारंपरिक मार्ग पहलगाम से लगने वाले पंजतरनी इलाके में आकाशीय बिजली की चपेट में आने से एक व्यक्ति की मौत हो गई। मृतक को शिनाख्त मंजूर अहमद शेख के तौर पर हुई है। वह कुली का काम करता था।

घाटी में कल शाम से हो रही भारी बारिश की वजह से कई इलाकों में बादल फटने की खबर है। मौसम वैज्ञानिकों ने पूरे कश्मीर में अगले 24 घंटे में और बारिश होने की भविष्यवाणी की है।

News item/article/article/editorial published on July - 18 7. 2015 in the

Hindustan Times

Stefanman

The Times of India (M.C.)

Indian Express

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)

Punjab Keshari (Hindi)

The Hindu

Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

Deccan Chronicle

Deccan Herald

M.P. Chronicle

A.P. (Hindi)

Indian Nation

Nal Duniya (Hindi)

The Times of India (M.)

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and documented as Ehesia(h/English) & Publicity Section, C/S.C.

**4 स्थानीय**

► 18 जुलाई, 2015 ►

## जंतर-मंतर से नर्मदा बचाओ आंदोलन



नई दिल्ली, (ब्यूरो): नर्मदा बचाओ आंदोलन के कार्यकर्ताओं ने एक बार फिर से जंतर-मंतर पर प्रदर्शन किया। प्रदर्शन सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता मेधा पाटेकर के नेतृत्व में किया गया।

कार्यकर्ताओं ने आरोप लगाया कि नर्मदा बांध से विस्थापित हुए लोगों का पुनर्वास नहीं किया जा रहा

है। कार्यकर्ताओं ने सभी विस्थापितों का पुनर्वास कराए जाने की मांग की है। मेधा पाटेकर ने कहा कि नर्मदा घाटी में सालों के संघर्ष के बाद आज तक रुका हुआ सरदार सरोवर बांध आगे बढ़ाने की साजिश की जा रही है, जिससे वहां खतरा मंडरा रहा है।

News item/letter/article/editorial published on July-18-7-2015 in the

Hindustan Times  
Statesman

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

Nav Eharat Times (Hindi)  
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The Times of India (A)  
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and documented as Eharath/English & Publicity Section, CPIO.

## ON TENTERHOOKS

### UTTARKASHI TOWN VULNERABLE TO DISASTER?

# Threat from the hills

Kavita Upadhyay

**T**welve years after the Varunavat Parvat overlooking the town of Uttarkashi became a cause for worry for thousands of Uttarkashi residents, the threat of landslides in the Tambakhani region of the hill has again made the town vulnerable.

In 2003, massive landslides in the hill affected about 3,000 people in Uttarkashi and had completely damaged 81 buildings, a Geological Survey of India (GSI) report stated. In 2004, the Union government allocated Rs. 282 crore under the Varunavat package for treatment of the hill and the rehabilitation of the affected people.

On paper, the treatment was completed in 2008, but, Uttarkashi Disaster Management Officer Devendra Patwal told *The Hindu* that some work was left incomplete and some amount under the Varunavat package



Over 12 years after a month-long episode of landslides, the Varunavat hill keeps the people on tenterhooks. — FILE PHOTO: SANDEEP SAXENA

**THE TREATMENT OF THE HILL COULD NOT BE COMPLETED AS THE RESIDENTS REFUSED TO VACATE THEIR HOUSES TEMPORARILY**

was left unutilised and returned.

Now, landslides have started in the Tambakhani region. "The water, especially rainwater, eroding the hill was diverted during treatment

of Varunavat and all the water now falls on the Tambakhani region. As a result, this area has started eroding," Mr. Patwal said. While the officials denied there was any threat to human life due

to the fresh landslides, the Gangotri National Highway, which lies at the toe of the hill, has been closed. Administrative Officer of Tambakhani Bishan Singh Rana said.

"The vehicles will pass through the tunnel which was constructed under the Varunavat package [Rs. 282 crore]," he said.

#### Work not completed

Mr. Rana said the treatment of the hill could not be completed as the residents who were to temporarily vacate their houses, refused to do so. "The project authorities felt the treatment work was strong and no pressing need for more was felt," he said.

#### Survey on

But, over 12 years after a month-long episode of landslides in the hill kept the people living at the toe of Varunavat on tenterhooks, the decision to leave the work incomplete may have been unwise.

Mr. Patwal said that a geologist was currently surveying the area and all possible steps to minimise loss to life and property were being taken by the district administration.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on July-18-7-2015 in the

Hindustan Times

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M.P. Chronicle

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Indian Nation

Kal Duniya (Hindi)

The Times of India (A)

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

## Kharif sowing of pulses, oilseeds picks up despite sluggish monsoon

Gargi Parsai

**NEW DELHI:** Amidst growing concern over the sluggish progress of the southwest monsoon in parts of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and north interior Karnataka, the government on Friday said sowing of kharif crops has improved over last year particularly in the cultivation of pulses and oilseeds.

A higher minimum support price with bonus seems to have made farmers grow more pulses. However, as sugarcane arrears mount, the area under sugarcane has gone down with 44.80 lakh hectares sown so far as against 46.09 lakh hectares in the corresponding period last year.

The India Meteorological Department has said the monsoon has so far been six per cent lower than Long Period Average. Rainfall has been lower by 12 per cent in south peninsula, by 13 per cent in central India and by six per cent in east and north-east India. Although the monsoon has covered the entire



*A higher minimum support price with bonus seems to have encouraged farmers, with a surge in the sowing of pulses, coarse cereals and oil seeds.*

country, 11 sub-divisions remain deficient. About 39 per cent districts (238) are deficient.

While this may not augur well for farmers who suffered rain and hail in the rabi season resulting in lower output of foodgrains, the government on Friday released the statistics for cultivated area under kharif which is 62.6 per cent higher than last year. As against 346.34 hectares sown in 2014-15, this year so far 563.35 lakh hectares has been cultivated with a sizeable surge in the sowing of pulses,

coarse cereals, oil seeds and cotton.

### Pulses area up

The sowing of pulses is higher at 55.99 lakh hectares against 23.92 lakh hectares in the corresponding period last year due to improved sowing in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra. The cultivation of coarse cereals is higher by 54.7 lakh hectares at 102.35 lakh hectares on account of higher sowing in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

CM  
K

# Won't wash: Rain again sinks city <sup>13</sup>

Thunderstorms And Rain Likely In Some Areas Today

Vipin



When autos won't go

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Monsoon picked up again with large parts of south and central Delhi receiving heavy showers on Friday afternoon. While trace rainfall (less than 0.2mm) was recorded at Safdarjung between 8.30am

## WEATHER

Max 34.8°C (+1)/Min 27°C  
Moonrise: Sunday - 8:25am  
Moonset: Saturday - 8:44pm  
Sunset: Saturday - 7:20pm  
Sunrise: Sunday - 5:36am  
Generally cloudy sky. Thunderstorm with rain in some areas. Maximum & minimum temperatures on Saturday will be around 34°C and 26°C.

and 5.30pm, Palam and Akshardham saw 30mm and 15mm rainfall respectively.

"A cyclonic circulation has developed over Bay of Bengal and the adjoining coast of Gangetic West Bengal. So, a low pressure area is likely to form, which will bring moisture over northwest India if it goes westwards. An active monsoon sys-

tem will bring heavy rain over the region," said a Met official.

Meanwhile, other western disturbances are also approaching which will get more moisture. "Rainfall is likely to continue over Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, west UP, Himachal Pradesh and J&K for another three days. In Delhi, the monsoon activity may intensify on Sunday but will reduce considerably by Tuesday," said a Met official.

On Friday, Delhi's maximum temperature fell to 34.8 degrees Celsius, one degree above normal while the minimum was 27 degrees Celsius.

On Saturday, Delhi is likely to see thunderstorms and rain in some areas. The maximum and minimum temperatures will be around 34 degrees Celsius and 26 degrees Celsius respectively. On Sunday and Monday, heavy rainfall is likely over isolated places in J&K, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, UP, west MP, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand.

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TLO

## Knee-deep water as civic bodies leave job half-done

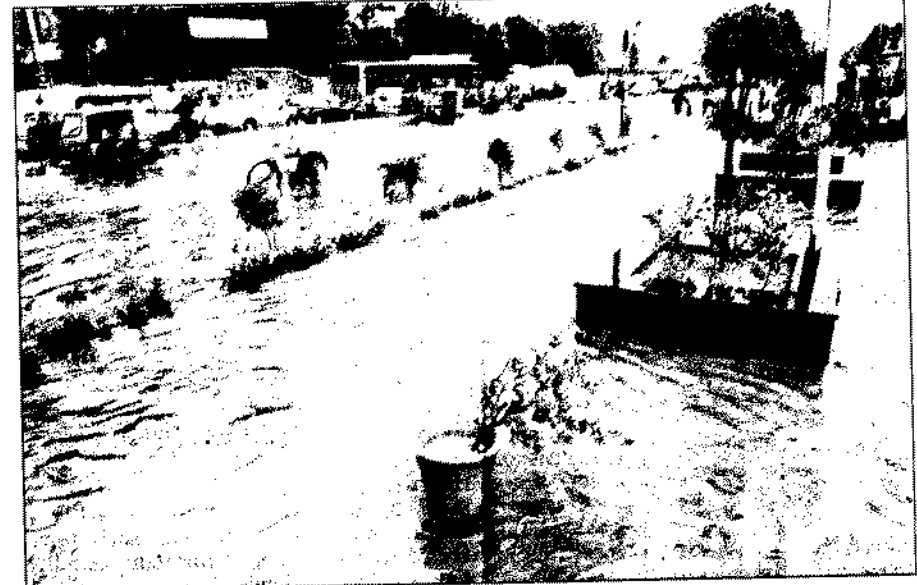
Mayank Manohar  
@timesgroup.com

**New Delhi:** Claims of civic agencies of having desilted drains in their jurisdiction fell flat on Friday after heavy showers lashed the city. Waterlogging was reported from many areas, especially near ITO Metro station where knee-deep water caused trouble for pedestrians and also halted traffic during evening peak hours.

DMRC was supposed to hand over the road to PWD for restoration, but that has not happened yet. As the road is low, there was waterlogging near the Metro entrance. Several commuters were stranded at the station's gate as they found it difficult to wade through the pool collected there.

Waterlogging was also reported in Lajpat Nagar, Moolchand, Nehru Place and other areas of south Delhi causing massive traffic jams. These roads fall under PWD and officials claim that as the drains are faulty waterlogging occurs for a temporary period. It takes time for accumulated water to flow down. "The drains under PWD's jurisdiction are old and faulty in design. That is why they are not able to take up the load, thereby causing waterlogging," said a senior PWD official.

Roads were also flooded in areas like Ashram, Modi Mill, Moti Bagh, near RTR flyover, Dhaula Kuan, Nizamuddin, Pragati Maidan, Najafgarh, Amar Colony, Sunlight Colony and Chandgi Ram Akhara. Civic agencies have re-



Photos: Anindya Chattopadhyay



Area near the ITO Metro station waterlogged after Friday's rain

peatedly failed to tackle the drainage issue. Small drains in many colonies remain blocked even after desilting work is carried out by the three mu-

nicipal corporations. "No new equipment has been given by South Corporation even though it is in a better financial state than the other two

bodies. The current situation belies their claim that desilting has been completed," said Farhad Suri, leader of opposition in South Corporation.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on July - 18-7-2015 in the

Hindustan Times

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Indian Nation

Kal Desiya (Hindi)

The Times of India (H)

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# Swan river in spate, fields near Anandpur Sahib inundated

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

ROPAR, JULY 17

Hundreds of acres were inundated in villages near Anandpur Sahib when the water level in the Swan river rose sharply due to heavy rain in the region this morning.

The district administration has asked residents of affected villages, whose houses are in low-lying areas, to shift to safer places.

At 9 am today, 14,000 cusecs of water was flowing in the seasonal Swan river. Noticing a heavy inflow of water at the Bhakhra Dam, the Bhakhra Beas Management Board authorities released 13,700 cusecs of water in the Sutlej, which further merged with the Swan at Lodhipur village near Anandpur Sahib. Water crossed over the damaged bandh and entered the fields.



Hundreds of acres were inundated due to the flooding of the Swan river near Anandpur Sahib on Friday.

The villages affected are Mataur, Burj, Lodhipur, Dasgrain, Hariwal, Ballowal, Mehndli Kalan Lower Baddal, Nikkuwal, and Chandpur Bela.

Three years ago, the Directorate of Irrigation and Power Research, Amritsar, had conducted a survey on the flow of rivers and its impact in the area. On the recommendation of the survey, a proposal

to construct a new 'bandh' at Lodhipur (costing Rs 13.43 crore) was submitted to the government, but nothing has been done so far.

At the BBMB, officials said the water level at the dam was recorded at 1630.15 feet. The maximum storage capacity at the dam was 1,680 feet which was supposed to be achieved during the filling period from May

21 to September 20. According to protocol, the authorities could store the water to the maximum of 1,650 feet by July 31. The authorities resort to the release of excess water into the Sutlej in a regulated manner so that there is no need of opening flood gates.

Ropar Xen, Drainage, Dalip Singh said they had taken up flood protection measures in

the district at a cost of Rs 1.5 crore. He said eight drains were cleared before the monsoon at a cost of Rs 80 lakh at Bhangala and Rs 20 lakh was spent on the Burj downstream revetment.

Anandpur Sahib SDM Amarjit Bains claimed the water had started receding by afternoon and there was no report of loss of property or life.

a

river



DRAINED OUT

# Respect river space to save Hindon

**BACK TO LIFE** Revival plan needs to be broadened to take into account the pollution of its tributaries, other water bodies

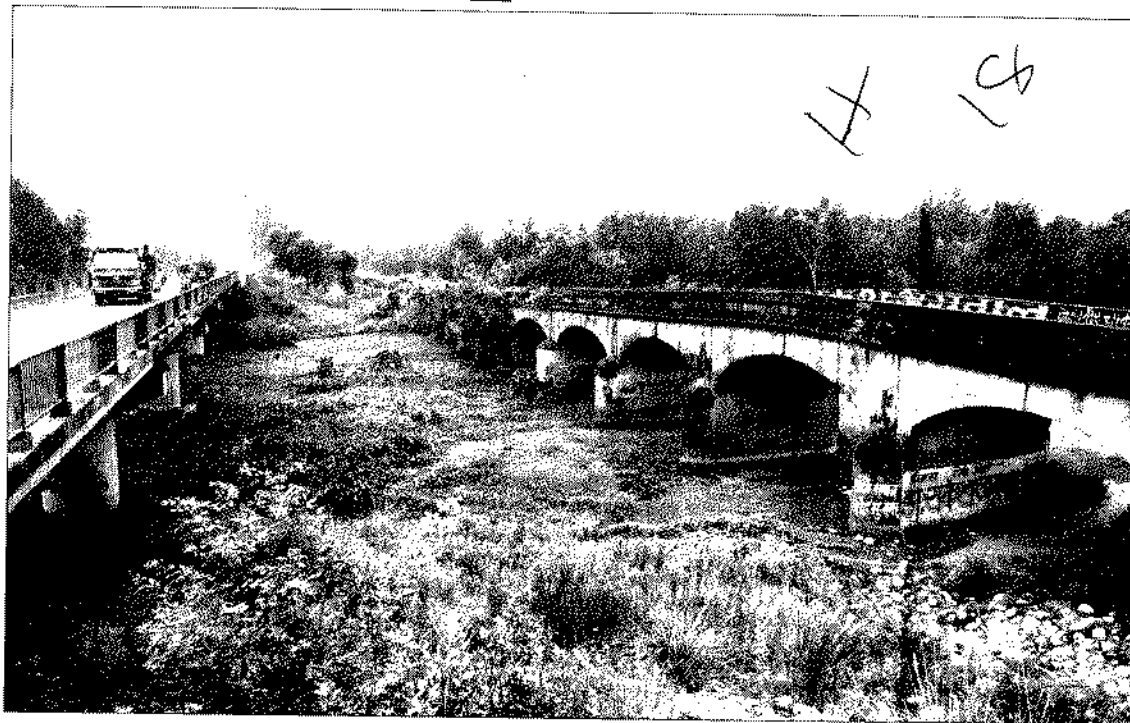
Peeyush Khandelwal

\* peeyush.khandelwal@hindustantimes.com

**SAHARANPUR/GHAZIABAD:** Having supported human civilisation for ages, the Hindon is now gasping for breath. Urgent steps need to be taken to revive and rejuvenate the river along with its tributaries so that other major rivers like the Yamuna and Ganga, which are connected with each other, are brought back to life.

Apart from effluents and municipal discharge, the rain-fed rivers of western Uttar Pradesh also face issues of encroachment, disappearance of its supporting water bodies and underperforming sewage treatment plants.

In a river panchayat held on June 11 in Delhi, eminent environmentalists, water activists, senior state and central government officials gathered to chalk out a strategy to infuse a fresh lease of life into the dying river.



Hindon's tributary Kall once flowed under the bridge, bavan dara, with 52 sluice gates in village Malira 14 kms from Deoband. Almost no water flows here now. A man walks past the effluent-laden Krishni in Shamli district (see box). BURHAAN KINU/HT PHOTOS

## MEASURES THAT CAN BE UNDERTAKEN FOR REVIVAL OF THE RIVER SYSTEM

**UPSTREAM CONCERNS**

- ❖ Construction of check-dams at the point where Hindon originates and upstream areas of Saharanpur to tap rain water for underground recharge
- ❖ Survey, identification, demarcation of river banks and their notifications, ensuring that the river banks are not used for any other purposes
- ❖ Master plans may be devised for different areas along the river; this has to be backed by fixing accountability
- ❖ Identification of connected water bodies like ponds and lakes, and their revival for underground water recharge; a number of water bodies in western UP districts stand encroached
- ❖ Groundwater contamination has been made a punishable offence

**DOWNSTREAM CONCERNS**

- ❖ Industries indulging in precious groundwater extraction should come with 'zero discharge' norms which enforces the recycle and reuse of treated water
- ❖ A mechanism to be devised to divert all sewerage to STPs. For this, more funding in form of grants and even loans be given to local bodies
- ❖ Waste generating units and sewage plants should make public their water usage, treated water quantities and output; the entire data should be rolled out in public domain, even online
- ❖ Treated water be diverted for local reuse, for irrigation to water bodies, diverted to local non-rainy drains and even to canals systems



# Toxic waste affects polluting units too<sup>16</sup>

**HT Correspondent**

• [htreporters@hindustantimes.com](mailto:htreporters@hindustantimes.com)

**GHAZIABAD:** The industrial units in western Uttar Pradesh that contributed to the pollution of the rivers in the area have themselves become victims of the effluents discharged by them.

Industrial clusters in western Uttar Pradesh, comprising sugar mills, paper industries, tanneries and others, have for long been discharging their treated or untreated effluents into the nearby drains and river. The industries are now incurring a heavy cost on water purification for their products or are compromising the product quality.

"At our unit we drew water from Hindon. Since it became polluted, we had to constantly upgrade the equipment and systems to get rid of impurities. Otherwise the product quality was to be affected. The more polluted the water, more is the investment on its treatment," said SN Dutt, former quality control (chemist) at a brewing unit.

River expert Manoj Misra is of the view that the adverse effect of impurities in water may not immediately show on the products, however, in the long term it will have an impact.

"Most industries in western UP use groundwater and they have already dug up deep borewells. To get rid of

contaminated surroundings, they have also constructed drains to flush water into the river. However, this water will affect the crops if used for irrigation," Misra added.

Arvind Yadav, scientist (plant protection) from Krishi Vigyan Kendra at Ghaziabad, said: "If heavy metals are present inside the water, the crops like vegetables are largely affected and the product would also be harmful for human health as these are consumed raw. Similar is the case with fodder, sugarcane which is grown in abundance in western UP. Likewise, irrigation by untreated sewerage also damages crops by destroying plants roots."



News item/feature/article/Editorial published on July 16, 2015 in the

Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Times of India (N.D.)

Indian Express

Tribune ✓

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H.P. Chronicle

Aaj (Hindi)

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# Cloudbursts kill 7 in J&K, HP

## TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR/KULLU, JULY 17

At least seven persons were killed in a series of cloudbursts in Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh in the last 48 hours.

Three workers of a contractor engaged by the HP State Forest Development Corporation Ltd were washed away in the Garsa valley after a cloudburst struck the Pancha Nullah uphill, a feeder tunnel of the under-construction Parbati-



Villagers assess damage to their property after a cloudburst near Sonamarg in Kashmir on Thursday evening. AMIN WAR

II hydel project at Shilagarh in Bhuntar subdivision of Kullu district last night.

Meanwhile, four people, including two minors, were killed and two others got

injured in cloudbursts in Anantnag district of south Kashmir and the Sonamarg area along the Srinagar-Leh highway last evening.

The movement of vehicles carrying Amarnath pilgrims to the Baltal base camp was suspended due to washing away of several patches of the road near Sonmarg. "The restoration work is in progress and the traffic movement on the highway to the Ladakh region is expected to resume by tomorrow morning," officials here said.