

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 22/7.2016 in the

Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Times of India (N.D.)

Indian Express

Tribune ✓

Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)

Punjab Keshari (Hindi)

The Hindu

Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

Deccan Chronicle

Deccan Herald

M.P.Chronicle

Aaj (Hindi)

Indian Nation

Nai Duniya (Hindi)

The Times of India (A)

Blitz

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

# Rain deficit up in 9 districts

**SHIMLA, JULY 21**

In spite of regular rain and forecast of normal monsoons, the rain deficit from June 1 to July 21 has increased to 26 per cent in the state and nine out of 12 districts received deficit rain ranging between 11 per cent and 83 per cent.

The state received average rainfall of 283 mm during the current monsoon against normal rainfall of 301 mm, while Lahaul and Spiti, Kinnaur, Chamba and Sirmaur received 83, 60, 53 and 22 per cent deficit rain.

The monsoon rain deficit was 11, 14 and 15 per cent in Bilaspur, Hamirpur and Kangra districts, respectively, while Kullu district had 20 per cent less rainfall. — TNS



People walk with umbrellas during the rain in Shimla on Thursday. PHOTO: AMIT KANWAR

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# Ministries drag tussle over Ganga power projects to SC

## IN LIMBO Call for review of 24 projects approved by green ministry

**Bhadra Sinha**

■ [bhadra.sinha@hindustantimes.com](mailto:bhadra.sinha@hindustantimes.com)

■ **NEW DELHI:** The inter-ministerial tussle in the NDA government over the hydro-power projects on Ganga basin in Uttarakhand has reached the Supreme Court, with the ministry of water resources (MoWR) calling for a review of all the 24 projects including the six ministry of environment and forests (MoEF) had approved.

■ MoWR complained that no hydro-geological study of the areas has been mandated in the environment impact assessment of the power projects nor has it been done prior to sanctioning them. It said the projects are likely to interrupt the unfettered flow of water and this will negate the government's ambitious project to clean Ganga for which the NDA government has sanctioned ₹20,000 crore.

■ The stand taken by Uma Bharti headed ministry puts a question mark over the future of the 6 power plants – construction of which is nearly complete. SC had

➤ **The existing dams and river water diversions have caused significant damage to the river length and deprived the river with its original content thereby compromising the quality of water downstream**

Ministry of water resources affidavit

■ in 2013 stopped work on more than 24 hydroelectric power projects in Uttarakhand shortly after flash floods devastated portions of the state. Much of the destruction was blamed on unplanned urbanisation that stifled the Ganga.

■ A MoEF affidavit filed in January this year cited a century-old document signed between the British-India government and princely states while pushing for work to be resumed on three of the stalled projects in the hill state. It allowed two projects with design modifica-

tion. The sixth one is yet to get environmental clearance. Bharti had expressed strong reservations over the affidavit.

■ The Ganges clean-up mission is a key project of the NDA and the Uma Bharti-headed water ministry is tasked with accomplishing the job in stages. A third of India's 1.2 billion people live on the floodplains along the 2510-km sacred river. Although the river is an icon of the Hindu faith, it is dying a slow death due to filth, untreated sewage and industrial runoff. Only about 45% of the 11 billion litres of sewage from 181 towns along the river is treated.

■ "The existing dams and river water diversions have caused significant damage to the river length and deprived the river with its original content thereby compromising the quality of water downstream," the ministry said.

■ MoWR's contradictory submission is despite the SC on last hearing advising the government to present a unified stand on the issue.



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# राज्यों की सहमति से नदियों को जोड़ा जाएगा

हि-22-7-16  
भरसा

लोकसभा

नई दिल्ली | विशेष संवाददाता

केंद्र सरकार ने साफ किया है कि राज्यों की सहमति से ही नदियों को जोड़ने की परियोजना पर आगे बढ़ेगी।

नदियों को जोड़ने की जिन परियोजनाओं पर राज्यों की सहमति नहीं है, उन योजनाओं पर किसी तरह का काम नहीं किया जाएगा। इस बीच, समाजवादी पार्टी अध्यक्ष मुलायम सिंह

यादव ने बाढ़ से नुकसान को कम करने और जमीन के अंदर पानी का स्तर बढ़ाने को हर गांव में तालाब खोदने का सुझाव दिया। उन्होंने कहा कि यूपी में इस पर अमल किया जा रहा है।

केंद्रीय जलसंसाधन मंत्री उमा भारती ने लोकसभा में पूरक प्रश्नों के जवाब में कहा कि सरकार नदियों को जोड़ने की योजना को लेकर प्रतिबद्ध है। अदालत ने भी एक टिप्पणी में कहा है कि यह परियोजनाएं राष्ट्रहित में हैं। पर सरकार उन्ही योजनाओं पर विचार करेगी, जिन

- हर गांव में तालाब खोदना है सबसे अच्छा उपाय: मुलायम सिंह यादव
- लोकसभा में अन्नाद्रमुक सांसद के सवाल का जवाब दे रही थी उमा

पर संबंधित राज्यों के बीच पूरी सहमति है। वह अन्नाद्रमुक सांसद द्वारा पूछे गए प्रश्न का उत्तर दे रही थीं। केरल के सांसदों ने इस संबंध में आपत्ति जताई थी। उमा ने

कहा कि केरल के सदस्यों को चिंता करने की जरूरत नहीं है और प्रधानमंत्री का निर्देश है कि जिन राज्यों की पूरी सहमति नहीं है वहां पूरी तरह सहमति होने तक परियोजना पर काम नहीं किया जाएगा।

उन्होंने कहा कि बाढ़ प्रबंधन के लिए हाल में पांच हजार करोड़ रुपये खर्च किए गए हैं। पर यह बाढ़ से होने वाले नुकसान के मुकाबले में बहुत कम है। उन्होंने कहा कि नदियों को जोड़ने की परियोजना पूरी होने पर बाढ़ की समस्या काफी हद तक खत्म हो जाएगी।



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# 44 करोड़ का एनिकट बना 150 बच्चों की पढ़ाई में रोड़ा

**सुरंग और एनिकट का काम पूरा होने पर एक किमी दायरे में पानी से कट जाएगा**

**आसावाणिया का संपर्क**

पत्रिका न्यूज़ नेटवर्क

rajasthanpatrika.com

**उदयपुर. परसाद.** 44 करोड़ का देवेन्द्र एनिकट 150 बच्चों की पढ़ाई की राह में रोड़ा बन सकता है। सराड़ा तहसील में परसाद गांव की पाराई नदी पर बने इस महत्वाकांक्षी प्रोजेक्ट का एक पहलू यह भी है कि बारिश के बाद जब भी पाराई उफनती है, नदी के दूसरे छोर पर बसे आसावाणिया गांव का संपर्क कट जाता है। फिलहाल यह परेशानी 4 से 6 घंटे की है। गांव के स्कूल पर भी ताले जड़े रहते हैं। परसाद के निजी एवं सरकारी स्कूलों में पढ़ने वाले इस बस्ती के बच्चे नहीं आ पाते। जो आते हैं, उन्हें जान हथेली पर रखनी पड़ती है।

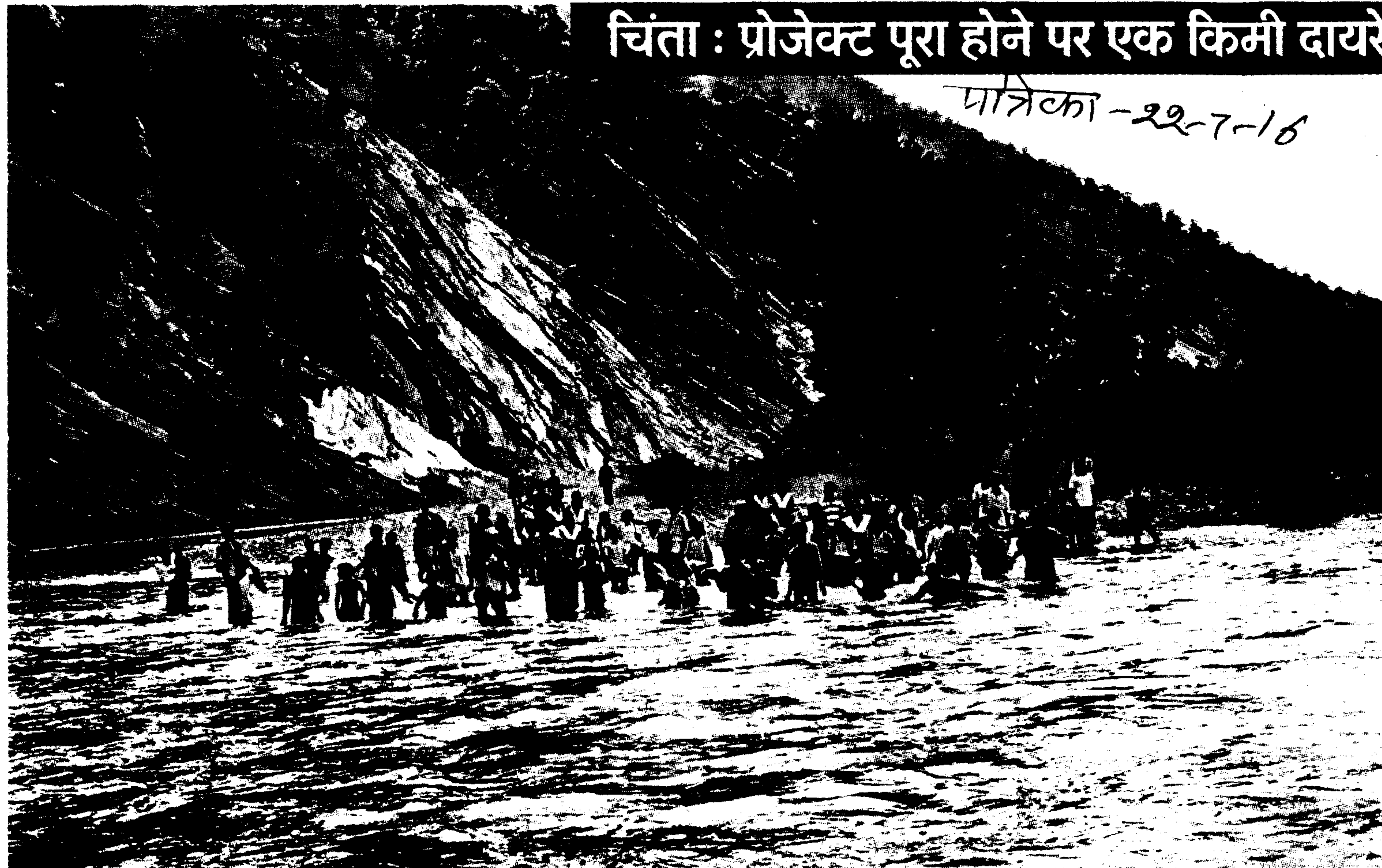
ग्रामीणों का कहना है कि हजारों लोगों को पीने और सींचने का पानी मुहैया कराने वाला यह प्रोजेक्ट पूरा होना उनके लिए भी कम खुशी की बात नहीं है, लेकिन सुरंग और एनिकट का काम पूरा होने के बाद उनकी परेशानी स्थायी हो जाएगी। तब एक किमी के दायरे में पानी भरा रहेगा। नदी के पार पहुंचने का कोई विकल्प भी नहीं बचेगा। अभी ग्रामीण जान जोखिम में डालकर

**चिंता : प्रोजेक्ट पूरा होने पर एक किमी दायरे में होगा पानी**

पत्रिका-22-7-16

**विकल्प : एक अदद सड़क और पुलिया**

मुख्य आबादी से आसावाणिया गांव के जुड़े रहने का विकल्प एक अदद सड़क और पुलिया है। एनिकट की मुख्य दीवार के नीचे की तरफ रास्ते की गुंजाइश है, जबकि पुलिया के लिए अधिकारी सर्वे करवाकर संभावनाएं तलाश सकते हैं। चुन्नीलाल मीणा, प्रेमचंद कलाल, मानाराम मीणा, रमेशकुमार मीणा सहित कई ग्रामीणों ने बताया कि उन्होंने ये संभावित हालात अधिकारियों को भी बताए थे। दो बार काम एनिकट का काम रुकवाकर प्रदर्शन भी किया, लेकिन न अफसरों ने ध्यान दिया, न जनप्रतिनिधियों ने चिंता की। उल्लेखनीय है कि पाराई नदी पर आसपास के बरसाती पानी को रोकने के लिए यह एनिकट बनाया है। इसकी लागत 44 करोड़ रुपए के आसपास है। पिछले महीने ही आर-पार हुई पौने दो किमी लंबी टनल की फिलहाल लाइनिंग हो रही है, जबकि एनिकट का काम अंतिम चरण में है। अधिकारियों ने पिछले दिनों दावा किया था कि अगले मानसून से एनिकट में पानी स्टोर हो सकेगा। इसका पानी पहले चावंड तालाब, फिर केजड़ व हरचण तालाब को भरा रखेगा।



नौनिहालों की जेबिज में जान . हाल ही हुई बारिश के बाद जब पाराई नदी उफनी तो आसावाणिया गांव के बच्चे ऐसे पहुंचे स्कूल।

परसाद

बच्चों एवं बीमार लोगों को कंधे पर नदी पार करा रहे हैं, लेकिन बाद में यह भी संभव नहीं हो पाएगा। इन

लोगों को नदी की दो किमी परिक्रमा कर खरबर की ओर जाना होगा, जिसके बाद परसाद तक पहुंच

सकेगे। वन क्षेत्र होने से इस रास्ते पर जंगली जानवरों का डर भी रहता है। गांव वालों का कहना है कि बीमारी

या आपात स्थिति में वे ऐसा कैसे कर पाएंगे? बता दें कि आसावाणिया में 200 परिवार हैं। चिकित्सा, शिक्षा,

राशन सहित हर छोटी-बड़ी जरूरत के लिए यह आबादी सबसे करीबी परसाद के बाजार पर निर्भर है।



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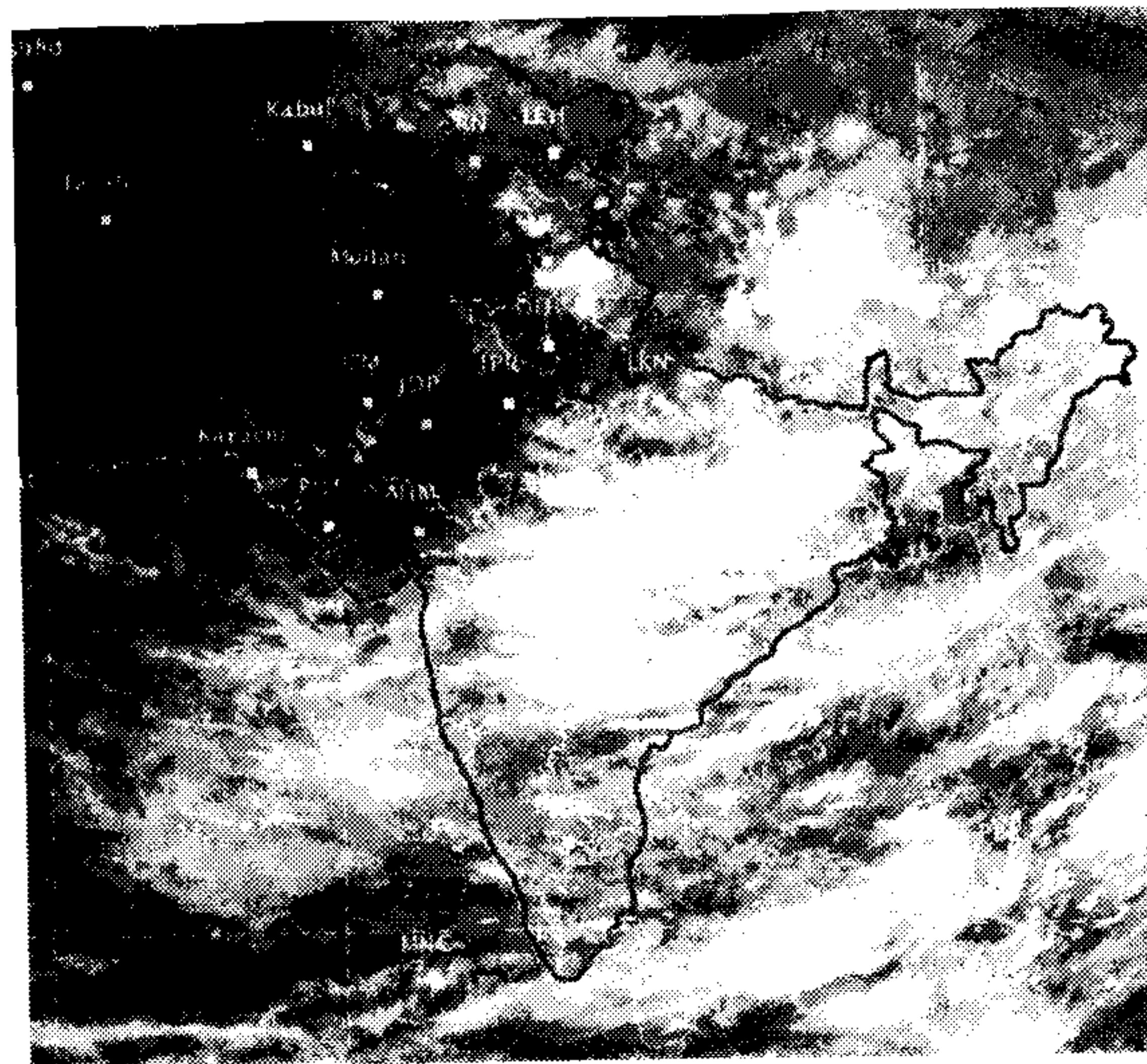
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भारत-22-7-16

मौसम विभाग ने शुक्रवार के लिए देश के विभिन्न राज्यों में जबरदस्त बारिश की चेतावनी दी है। इनमें उत्तर पूर्व के राज्य भी शामिल हैं।



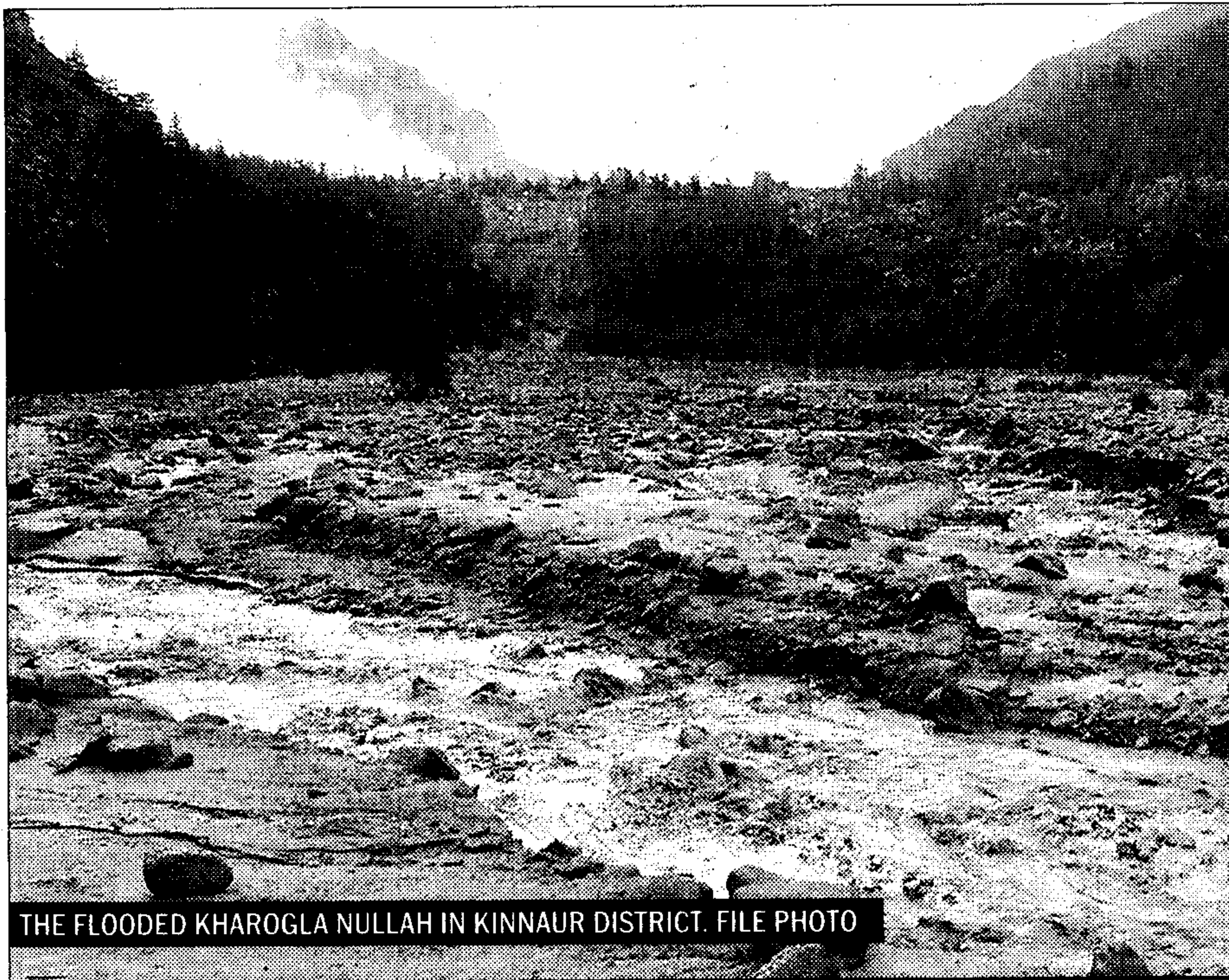
Hindustan Times ( Delhi )  
नवभारत टाइम्स ( दिल्ली )  
The Tribune ( Chandigarh )  
The Hindu ( Chennai )

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

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

# The Tribune 22 July 4 days on, Sangla-Chitkul link yet to be restored

## No lessons learnt from past flash floods in Baspa, say villagers



THE FLOODED KHAROGLA NULLAH IN KINNAUR DISTRICT. FILE PHOTO

### 'FLASH FLOODS KEEP TOURISTS AWAY'

- A hotelier from Sangla said the flash floods gave negative publicity that in turn kept tourists off the valley even in the peak season.
- He said the PWD had deployed only one JCB and the Sangla-Chitkul road was yet to be restored.

### 'Restoration work on'

- Kinnaur legislator and Deputy Speaker Jagat Negi said the work on the restoration of the road was on.
- "We need to raise new protection works along the flood-prone nullahs to protect apple orchards and villages from the threat of flash floods," Negi said.

**KULDEEP CHAUHAN**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, JULY 21

Tribals of Batseri, Chitkul, Rakcham, hoteliers and camping site tourist operators have criticised the state disaster management authorities, the PWD and the Forest Department for their failure to raise proper crate walls and put in place conservation works to protect apple orchards, houses and tourism sites from recurring flash floods in the Kharogla and Azad Kashmir nullahs in the flood-battered Baspa valley in Kinnaur district over the years.

"Had the authorities taken cognisance of the 2007 floods, 350 bighas of apple

orchards and 20 'dogris', washed away on July 17 would have been saved this time," said Batseri tribals.

The flash flood in the Kharogla nullah, a right bank tributary of the Baspa that joins the Baspa about 3 km from Rakcham village, struck last Sunday. Apple orchards on more than 350 bighas have been washed away, destroying the source of livelihood of villagers and there is no help from the government, said Balbir Negi, a resident of Batseri.

"No lessons have been learnt by the disaster management, the PWD and the Forest Department from the 2007 flash floods in the

Kharogla nullah, 1997 flash floods in Azad Kashmir village near Sangla," said a hotelier from Sangla.

"The flash floods gave negative publicity that in turn has kept tourists off the valley even in the peak season. The PWD has deployed only one JCB and the Sangla-Chitkul road is yet to be restored," he added.

No proper protection walls were raised to protect the apple orchards and 'dogris' of tribals of Batseri village," said Batseri tribals. The tribals have joined hands to raise walls to protect the village from the fast-flowing Baspa that has changed its course by 60 m towards the left bank cutting the sandy soil.



दिनांक 22 जुलाई 2016 को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Hindustan Times ( Delhi )

नवभारत टाइम्स ( दिल्ली )

The Tribune ( Chandigarh )

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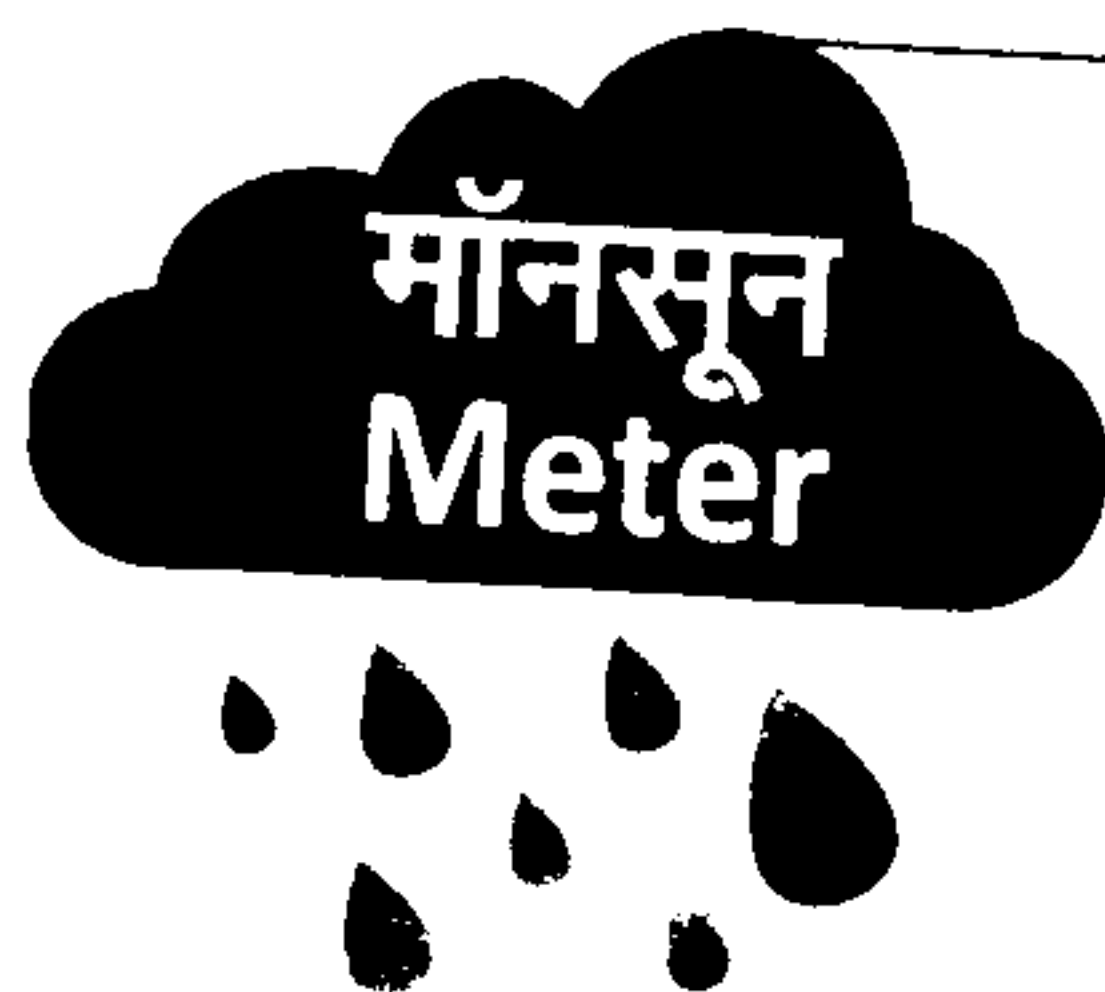
The Telegraph ( Kolkata )

हिन्दुस्तान ( पटना )

The Deccan Herald ( Bengluru )

The Deccan Chronical ( Hyderabad )

Central Chronical ( Bhopal )



उत्तर प्रदेश और दिल्ली में मॉनसून की तेजी में धीमी आई है। मगर इसके जल्द ही फिर जोर पकड़ने की संभावना है।



मध्य प्रदेश और राजस्थान में बारिश का दौर कमजोर पड़ते ही उमस बढ़ गई है। आज बूदाबादी होने सकती है।

बिहार में भारी बारिश के कारण कई नदियां खतरे के निशान से ऊपर बढ़ रही हैं। किनारे बसे गांवों में बाढ़ की स्थिति है।



दिनांक २१.७.८५..... को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Hindustan Times ( Delhi )  
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The Deccan Herald ( Bengluru )  
The Deccan Chronical ( Hyderabad )  
Central Chronical ( Bhopal )



An overloaded boat in the flooded Ganga in Fatuha near Patna on Wednesday. PTI

## 21 July DH 3 of family killed in Darjeeling

**KOLKATA, DHNS:** Three members of the same family, including an eight-year-old, were killed in a landslide at Darjeeling Hills on Wednesday.

They died after their house collapsed at Lodhma in the hill, district officials said.

District Magistrate Anurag Srivastava said that when the landslide hit the house situated on the brink of a gorge, all the family members were sleeping as it was early in the morning. "The house of yet another family also collapsed in the same landslide but they were saved. The district administration has

provided them with accommodation at a relief centre close to Rimbik," he said.

Srivastava pointed out that heavy rainfall in the last few days has been causing frequent landslides in the Darjeeling Hills and large parts of National Highway 10, connecting Siliguri to Sikkim's capital of Gangtok, caved in since Wednesday morning disrupting traffic in the region.

"The arterial road was cleared of the debris and traffic movement has improved," he said.

Bimal Gurung, the chief ex-

ecutive of the autonomous Gorkhaland Territorial Administration and president of the hill party, Gorkha Janamukti Morcha visited the affected area.

"This landslide has once again reminded us of the need to prepare for such disasters and educate people on what to do under such circumstances," he said.

Darjeeling, a landslide prone area, faces severe problems during the monsoon and in July last year more than 30 people died in landslides at Mirik in Darjeeling.



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# Havoc in times of rain: Three die as house collapses in West Bengal Rain triggers landslides in Assam

**NEW DELHI, PTI:** Heavy rain wreaked havoc in Assam, triggering landslides in which one person died and left rivers flooded in Uttar Pradesh.

The weatherman has warned of "extremely heavy" rain in Assam and Meghalaya and heavy rain in sub-Himalayan West Bengal, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Uttarakhand, Konkan and Goa and Vidarbha.

Delhi, which received rain over the last three-four days, reeled under sultry conditions, with the humidity levels soaring to 88% and the maximum temperature settling at 37 degrees Celsius. The minimum in the city was 28.5 degrees.

The maximum temperature in the other three metropolitan cities of Kolkata, Chennai and Mumbai settled at 32.3, 32.4 and 27 degrees Celsius.

A woman was killed in a landslide in Guwahati as the flood situation in Assam remained grim. The State Disas-

ter Management Authority has sounded an alert for Barpeta and Jorhat districts.

Manas, Noakhanda, Mora Chawlkhowa, Beki rivers are in spate in Barpeta and the

Brahmaputra at Majuli in Jorhat.

About 1.41 lakh people have



**ATTEMPT TO SALVAGE:** Workers try to move vehicles stuck on the damaged National Highway 44 due to the heavy landslides at Khasiapunji in Karimganj district, Assam on Wednesday. PTI

been hit by the current wave of floods in 213 villages in Lakhimpur, Golaghat, Morigaon, Jorhat, Dhemaji and Sivasagar districts.

Parts of Bihar got light rain, leading to a drop in the maximum temperature. The MeT department said the southwest monsoon is active over the region and the state will receive more rainfall in the coming days.

## Rivers in spate

Major rivers of Uttar Pradesh, which is experiencing a sustained monsoon activity, are in spate.

Sharda river was flowing above the red mark in Palia Kalan and close to the danger mark in Shardanagar. Ghaghra river has crossed the danger mark in Elgin Bridge area and Ayodhya. The Ganga and the Yamuna were flowing near the danger mark in Fatehgarh, Ballia and Mathura, the Central Water Commission said.

Waters from a swollen Ghaghra have entered 25 villages in Barabanki, officials said.

## Hundreds stranded

Hundred of victims are still trapped in the districts hit by the flood, even though the rains stopped 48 hours ago. DHNS reports from Rajasthan.

However, the Rajasthan administration is on the edge as the weather department predicts more rainfall in the next 24 hours.

According to the officials in Karauli, Dholpur, Bharatpur, and nearby districts that were hit by the flood, the water level in the area is receding. Despite this and there not being any rain for the last 24 hours, the stranded are still waiting to get to their houses. The measures taken by the administration and rescue teams seem inadequate as people are still struggling to get water, food packets, medicines, and other essentials.



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# BMC withdraws water cuts in city as stocks rise above 10-yr average

## Decision Comes Into Force With Immediate Effect

Richa.Pinto@timesgroup.com

**Mumbai:** Almost a year after it imposed water cuts in the city, the BMC on Wednesday withdrew the 20% water cut for domestic and 50% cut for commercial users with immediate effect.

This decision was taken after good rainfall in the seven lakes that supply water to the city. The total water stock on July 20 stood at 7.93 lakh million litres, which is the second highest since 2012.

The seven lakes need to have 14.37 lakh million litres water till October 1 this year and 5% of it has so far been accumulated so far. The BMC said

the rainfall received in the seven lakes has been 33% more than the last 10 years' average, while the quantity of water collected has been 64% more. In fact, one of the smaller lakes, Tulsi, which is located in Mumbai city limits, overflowed on Tuesday morning, while Vihar lake is three metres short of the overflow level.

At the civic standing committee meeting on Wednesday, additional municipal commissioner Dr Sanjay Mukherjee announced the revoking of water cuts. "The water cuts would be revoked immediately for both domestic and commercial users. There have been good rains in the catchment

RAINS BRING HUGE RELIEF			
The present water stock will suffice to meet the city's needs for 167 days		Rain in catchment lakes on July 19-20 (6am-6am) (in mm)	
Water stock as on July 20		Lake	2016 2015
2016	7.93	Modak Sagar	69 22.4
2015	2.66	Tansa	67.6 15.6
2014	2.14	Vihar	87 4.4
2013	9.82	Tulsi	75 16
2012	3.10	Upper Vaitarna	49 45
* Water stocks in lakh million litres		Bhatsa	26 25
		Middle Vaitarna	52.2 29.6

area lakes in July. The meteorological department has forecast good rains in the coming days as well. However, we would keep reviewing the water situation every week," Mukherjee said.

The BMC had imposed the 20% water cuts for domestic

users and 50% water cut for bulk consumers like malls, star hotels, factories, and stadiums from the midnight of August 26 last year. Also water connections granted to public swimming pools and air conditioner plants had been disconnected.

Shiv Sena party leader in the BMC Trushna Vishwasrao said that in the last civic standing committee meeting, the administration had said they would take a decision regarding water cuts soon. "In the meanwhile, I had also written to the administration asking them to revoke the water cuts considering that water stocks in the seven lakes have risen significantly. Several areas located at the end of the water line and on hilltops were facing a lot of problems due to the water cut," said Vishwasrao.

The BMC said that 167 days of water has been collected so far. However, officials also added that in case rains in catchment area lakes lose the momentum, then a final strategy on water supply for the rest of the year would be worked out on October 1.



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## 21 July 84 Rain continues to lash parts of state

**DHARWAD/KARWAR/YADGIR/SHIVAMOGGA/MANGALURU/CHITRADURGA, DHNS:** Rain continued to lash different parts of the state on Wednesday.

Heavy rain lashed Dharwad city and surrounding areas for about two hours in the afternoon on Wednesday.

The sky was overcast since early morning, and heavy drizzle started around 10 am. However, the city and surrounding areas received heavy rain from around 12 noon till 2 pm.

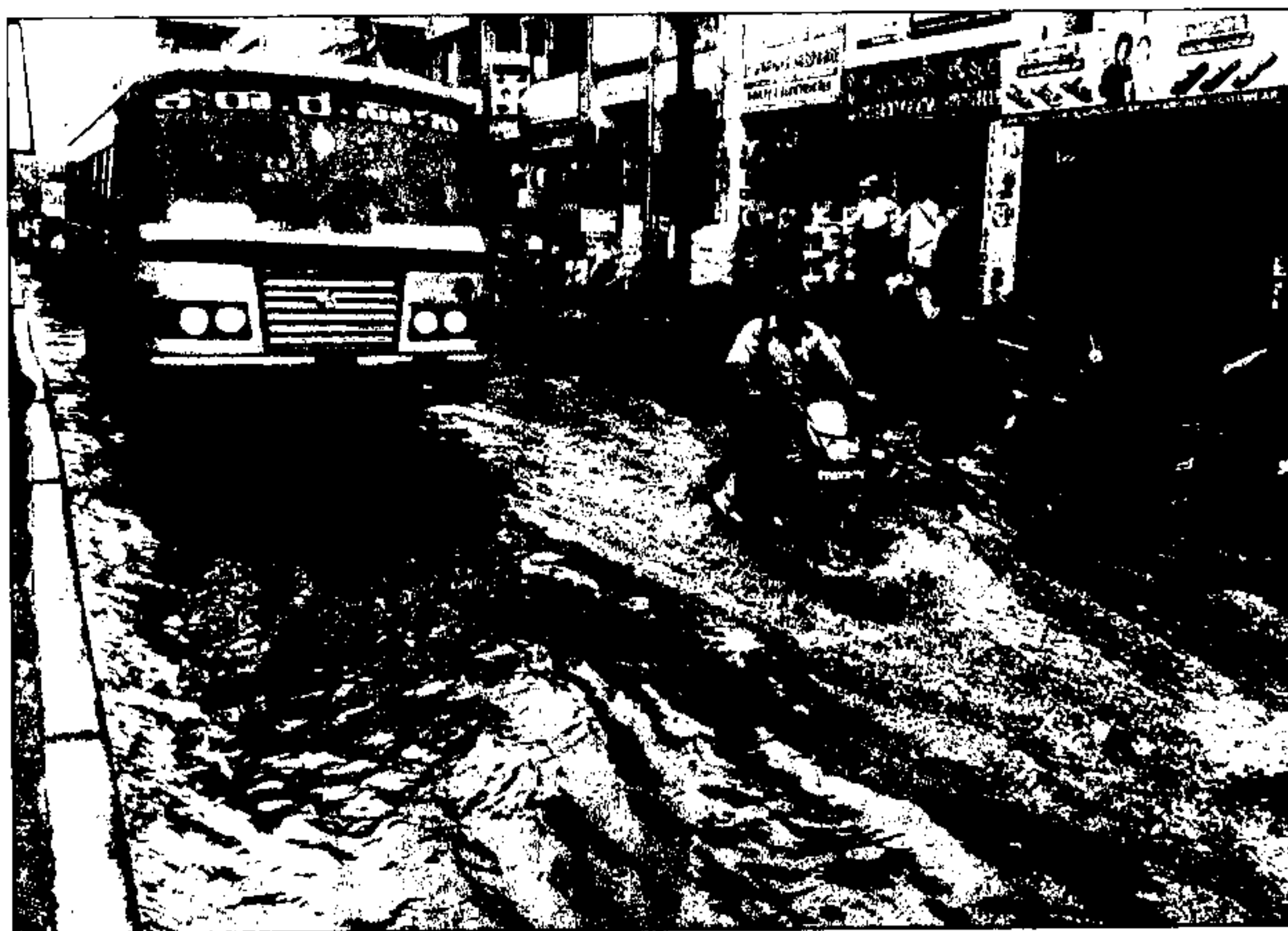
Hubballi city and surrounding areas received intermittent light drizzle throughout the day.

Monsoon picked up pace in Uttara Kannada district.

Siddapur, Bhatkal, Kumta, Ankola, Karwar, Haliyal, Joida and Sirsi received rain throughout the day. The district has so far received 416.2 mm of rain. In the last 24 hours, 132.8 mm of rainfall was recorded.

Meanwhile, rainwater flooded roads in Yadgir city. Gandhi Circle, Mailapur Base, Kanaka Circle, Old Bus Stand, Subhash Bus Stand and the road opposite CMC office were inundated. Vehicle users and pedestrians had to face difficulty to pass through the road.

The residents held the CMC responsible for the mess. Rainwater is entering houses and creating a lot of problem, they



**The movement of vehicles was affected following heavy rain in Chitradurga on Wednesday. DH PHOTO**

charged.

After a brief lull, moderate to heavy rains lashed several parts of Shivamogga district. Hosanagar, Thirthahalli, Bhadravathi and Shivamogga received good spell of rains in the morning. After a gap, moderate rain lashed Malnad region continuously.

Shikaripur and Sorab also received moderate rain. Water level in Linganamakki dam rose to 1,777.95 feet against the maximum level of 1,819 feet as catchment area received a rainfall of 23.4mm. The inflow of water was 3,715 cusecs. Water level in Mani dam rose to 579.00 metres against the maximum level of 594.36 metres as catchment area received rainfall of 32 mm.

The rain which had been playing hide-and-seek for the last few days in Dakshina Kannada appeared to have gained momentum on Wednesday. Intermittent rain lashed throughout the day.

Kodagu district experienced scanty rainfall in the last 24 hours. The water-level in Harangi reservoir stood at 2,857.79 feet. The inflow of water was 2,556 cusecs while 2,979 cusecs water is released into the river.

Rain lashed Chitradurga for more an hour. Traffic was affected on B D Road following the rain. Hiriyur, Holalkere and parts of Chitradurga taluk also received rain.

**DH News Service**



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The splash

DH- 21 July



Motorists struggle to drive their vehicles on the flooded Kalidasa Road in Gandhinagar as heavy rain lashed the city on Wednesday. DH PHOTO



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Assam Tribune, 20/7/16  
**Incessant rains  
submerge  
Namsai dist**

ITANAGAR, July 19:

Incessant rains in the past couple of days have thrown life out of gear at Namsai district of Arunachal Pradesh with Noa Dihing River along with its tributaries flowing above the danger mark.

All the low lying areas in the district have been submerged, while water of Noa Dihing River have entered villages of Silatoo, Mahadevpur-I and Mahadevpur-IV blocks, Namsai Deputy Commissioner RK Sharma said.

Reports of soil erosion along with loss of public and private properties were being received from various pockets of the district.

Hectares of cultivated land, especially paddy fields, have been submerged by the flood water, Sharma said adding the extent of loss can be ascertained only when flood water recedes.

The district administration has deputed NDRF team to shift the people from the affected areas.

Sharma visited the affected areas and personally monitored the flood situation. Relief camps have been set up at New Silatoo and Mahadevpur-I and essential items have been provided from the district administration.

Namsai district officials have been also directed to visit the affected areas and to keep vigil on possible epidemic in and around the affected villages. Fishermen have also been warned to refrain from going to the rivers, Sharma added. – PTI



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# Flash floods trigger rush hour chaos on city roads

**STAFF REPORTER**

GUWAHATI, July 19: Incessant rainfall followed by waterlogging in various parts of the city once again crippled the normal life in morning hours today.

As the measures taken by authorities are yet to be effective in controlling waterlogging, commuters had a harrowing time in the first half of the day. As the weather improved in later part of the day, water receded from several arterial roads, giving some relief to the citizens.

The condition of roads, however, continued troubling the commuters, especially, at places having potholes and the roads dug for pipeline laying work for the ambitious water supply project.

As the monsoons in Guwahati continue to make headlines for inundations, the temporary measures fail to save

the citizens from the water woes. Even a short spell of showers is enough to submerge the MRD Road at Chandmari, the Rajgarh Road, parts of Pub Saraniya Road and the worst hit localities of Anil Nagar and Nabin Nagar.

Commuters travelling via South Sarania Road, connecting Rajgarh and Ulubari areas of the city, also faced difficulties due to the extremely di-

lapidated condition of the road clubbed with the heavy water runoff from Sarania hills.

Though the authorities claim that due to the measures taken such as de-siltation and clearing of drainage within the city, water recedes faster, the citizens await some permanent steps, so that the ordeal can be permanently averted.

"It is unfortunate that the de-siltation work of the major

water channels was delayed due to fund crunch. As this situation is highly predictable during this time of the year, there is no reason to postpone whatever little the authorities can do to ease the situation. Inundation has proven to be life threatening in Guwahati, more than once. We urge the authority to take up the issue with utmost seriousness," said a resident of Rajgarh area.



*The city's RG Baruah Road inundated by flash flood, triggered by heavy rainfall, on Tuesday. - AT photo*



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*Erosion triggered by rising waters of Brahmaputra river at Dakshinpat Kumargaon in Majuli on Tuesday. – UB Photos*