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LG calls for.

works and instructed the Department to expedite the flood management works especially on Flood Spill Channel so that life and property of public can be safeguarded.

The Lt Governor was accompanied by Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; Vijay Kumar, ADGP Kashmir; Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Mohammad Aijaz, Deputy Commissioner Srinagar and other senior officers.

Meanwhile, a red alert has been issued for Kathua and Samba districts along with lower catchment areas amid incessant rains in the region for the third consecutive day.

The alert was issued by the meteorological department as reports came in from different areas about the water level in rivers and streams crossing the danger mark this morning.

"Red warning for Kathua, Samba and other lower catchment areas of Jammu region as risk of flood, flash flood increased considerably. All concerned are advised to stay alert during the next 24 hours," a spokesperson of the meteorological department said.

A red alert indicates heavy to extremely heavy rains of over 20 cm in 24 hours, while an orange alert means very heavy rains of 6 cm to 20 cm of rain.

He said widespread rain was experienced in Kathua, Samba and at some places of Ramban, Doda, Udhampur districts overnight.

"More rain is very likely in Kathua, Samba, and at some places of Ramban, Doda and Udhampur districts during the next 12 hours before overall improvement from July 10," the spokesperson said.

A police official said almost all water bodies, including Chenab, Ravi, Tawi and Neeru, are in spate and have crossed the danger mark at several places.

However, there was no report of flood-related damage from anywhere, he said.

The Ujh river crossed the danger mark as the Kathua district recorded 221.8 mm of rainfall during the past 24 hours ending at 8.30 this morning.

At least 40 people trapped in flash floods in different parts of the district were rescued by police and SDRF teams, officials said.

Many villages including Mehreen, Bhamberwan and Bani were inundated due to overflowing rivers and streams, forcing the residents to shift to safer places, the officials said.

Flood waters entered several villages in Akhnoor in Jammu, Ramban and Udhampur districts but there was no report of any major damage, the officials said, adding the exact damage to public infrastructure including water supply lines is being assessed.

Several foot over bridges and some houses were damaged by flash floods in Tawi and its tributaries in parts of Udhampur district.

"Incessant heavy rainfall and flash floods in the hilly terrains of district #Udhampur, are particularly affecting houses and population in Dudu, Jakhed, Pattan, Latti, and surrounding areas. Local PRIs including Sarpanch Kasturi Lal Gupta are on the spot.

"I have just now spoken to DC #Udhampur, Sh Sachin Kumar Vaisliya. SDM (sub-divisional magistrate) and Tehsildar have been deputed to urgently ensure the safety of local natives by shifting them to safer places. The work to restore the damaged foot bridges will be taken up when the weather improves. I am in constant touch," union minister and local MP Jitendra Singh wrote on twitter.

The water level in Chenab increased further after the gates of Salal Dam and Baghlihar dam were opened to drain out the excess water.

Reports of landslides and flash floods were also received from Reasi district but there was no report of any major damage.

In the meantime, people living in the low-lying areas of Kashmir, including Srinagar city, heaved a sigh of relief as a flood threat eased due to a dip in the water level in the Jhelum river following improvement in weather conditions, officials said here.

"The weather is improving and the water level will drop, but those living in low-lying areas should take precautionary measures at least for Sunday. Rains are expected in south Kashmir over the next 24 hours but not of the same intensity as on Saturday. The danger of flood is also receding," Farooq Ahmad Bhat, a meteorologist associated with the India Meteorological Department (IMD), told PTI.

The Jhelum was flowing above the danger mark at Sangam in Anantnag district and Ram Munshi Bagh in Srinagar since Saturday evening, bringing back the nightmares of 2014 when massive floods inundated vast areas of the Kashmir valley.

"Like our prediction, heavy rainfall and snowfall in the upper reaches have taken place. The level of water in the Jhelum has increased due to moderate rains in south Kashmir. The good thing is that the rainfall has been less in north Kashmir, allowing a good flow of water. The water is flowing at the danger mark in south Kashmir but there is no need to worry. We expect the water level to come back to normal by the evening," Bhat said.

As the skies cleared up to give way to sunshine, the locals are hopeful that they have already seen the worst for now.

"It has been raining for the last two days and the water level is rising. We saw a similar phenomenon during the 2014 floods. Thankfully, the rains have stopped since Saturday but if there are more rains, then there is danger. We are cautious and

apprehensive about the rising level as the water is above normal," Mohammad Athar, a city resident, said.

Omar, who lives on the banks of the Jhelum here, said, "The water level has increased due to rainfall over the last two days. If the water level rises further, entire Kashmir is in danger of floods."

Idris Khan said he has moved his belongings to the first floor of his house due to the rising water level in the river.

"We have moved our belongings from the ground floor as the Jhelum is flowing close to the danger mark and the water can overflow," Khan said.

Flash floods have been reported from many areas in south Kashmir, including Kulgam district, but there are no reports of any major damage.

Amarnath Yatra resumes...

700 Amarnath pilgrims at its camp in Qazigund in Anantnag district after they were stranded due to heavy rainfall in the valley.

Earlier, in the day no fresh batch of pilgrims was allowed from Jammu owing to inclement weather and closure of the Jammu-Srinagar national highway, officials said.

Meanwhile, traffic movement on the Jammu-Srinagar national highway remained suspended for the second day on Sunday as authorities stepped up efforts to restore the road amid improved weather conditions, officials said.

The 270-km highway, the only all weather road linking Kashmir with rest of the country, was closed for traffic on Saturday following heavy rains overnight that triggered multiple landslides and also washed away a portion of nearly 40-metre road stretch near Panthiyal tunnel in Ramban district.

The closure of the highway left over 3,500 vehicles, including those carrying Amarnath pilgrims from Jammu to Kashmir, stranded at different places.

After hectic efforts, the highway was partially opened for stranded vehicles with concerned agencies bypassing the damaged road stretch by connecting an old road alignment and clearing the debris, the officials said.

However, they said sinking of road at Chamba near Seeri and fresh landslides at Mehar and Cafeteria Morh forced the authorities to suspend the traffic once again.

Ramban Deputy Commissioner Massarat-ul-Islam, along with Senior Superintendent of Police, traffic national highway, Rohit Baskotra, and senior officials of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) visited the problematic spots, including Panthiyal, to inspect the ongoing works.

"Efforts are going on at war footing to ensure early opening of the highway. The damaged portion of road near Panthiyal was a temporary arrangement as work on a bridge was going on. The engineers are working on a plan to make the permanent bridge connecting T3 and T5 tunnels motorable to allow traffic through T5 tunnel bypassing Panthiyal slide," NHAI Project Director Parshutam Kumar told PTI.

He said necessary works like filling and grading are in progress to allow traffic via the newly constructed bridge over Panthiyal nullah.

"Different agencies are working round-the-clock to ensure early restoration of the highway. We request people to know the condition of the road from the traffic department before starting their journey," SSP Baskotra said.

He said all the pilgrims stranded on the highway are safe and are being provided all facilities.

Ajay Kumar, an engineer working with a private construction company, said they are expecting to provide an alternative road near Panthiyal tunnel by this evening.

"The operation to clear the landslide debris and bypass the damaged portion of the road near Panthiyal tunnel through old road alignment is going on. Frequent shooting of stones from the hillocks overlooking the highway at Panthiyal delayed the restoration work," a traffic department official said.

He said stranded vehicles will be cleared on priority once the road is made trafficable before allowing fresh traffic from Jammu and Srinagar.

The official said a fresh landslide at Ratta Chamb has blocked the Mughal road.

The road was cleared for traffic late afternoon on Saturday but was again blocked due to a fresh landslide, the official said, adding the clearance operation is on.

HM speaks to...

due to heavy rains," PTI reported quoting a source.

Delhi recorded 153 mm of rain in 24 hours ending 8:30 am on Sunday, the highest in a single day in July since 1982, the India Meteorological Department said.

An interaction between a western disturbance and monsoonal winds is leading to an intense rainfall spell over northwest India, including Delhi which experienced the season's first "very heavy" rainfall.

Teen from Nepal...

was admitted and his condition is stated to be serious.

Quoting the statement of the accompanying relatives, the official said the condition of the duo deteriorated shortly after having dinner and they were rushed to hospital. The body was handed over to the family after completion of legal formalities, he said.

2 soldiers among...

killed when a boulder rolling down a hillock hit and buried his vehicle near village Pandrass along Leh-Srinagar national highway in Kargil district of Ladakh, the officials said.

Several high altitude areas of the Union Territory including Rangdum, Pensi La and Zanskar in Kargil besides various mountain passes in Leh district experienced unseasonal snowfall, while the towns were lashed by rains.

Shah resident of Gonipora Kunzer, Iqbal Ahmad Ganie son of Ab Aziz Ganie resident of Kasie Mohalla Chaupora & Javed Ahmad Shah son of Gh Ahmad Shah resident of Batapora Kunzer at Bongaam Kunzer for illegal extraction and transportation of minerals.

Similarly, a party of Police Station Tangnarg seized 05 vehicles (3 Tipppers, 2 Tractors) and arrested 5 drivers identified as Nazir Ahmad Najar son of Ab Razak Najar resident of Ganibaba, Manzoor Ahmad Lone son of Gh Ahmad Lone resident of Ferozpora, Amir Ahmad Reshi son of Ab Ahad Reshi resident of Paraswani, Parvaiz Ahmad Reshi son of Farooq Ahmad Reshi resident of Rambailpora Kunzar & Ishfaq Ahmad Tantray son of Ali Mohd Tantray resident of Devpora Kunzar at Ferozpora Nallah for illegal extraction and transportation of minerals.

Accordingly, cases under relevant sections of law have been registered at respective police stations and investigation have been initiated.

6 gamblers arrested, stake money seized

PULWAMA: Acting tough against the social crimes, Police on Sunday arrested 6 gamblers in Pulwama and seized stake money from their possession.

As per details, acting on specific information regarding gambling activities at public place in Loswani, a police party of Police Post Neva raided the specific spot and arrested the 06 gamblers. They have been identified as Khurshed Ahmad Shah son of Ali Mohd resident of Loswani, Rameez Ahmad Dar son of Farooq Ahmad Dar resident of Ashmander, Shakeel Ahmad Dar son of Ab Rehman resident of Manghoma, Mohd Yousuf Ganie son of Gh Mohd Ganie resident of Neva, Fayaz Ah Sheikh son of Gh Ahmad resident of Karimabad and Mushtaq Ah Magray son of Gh Ahmad resident of Wahiubugh. Officers have seized stake money of ₹33,500/- and playing cards from their possession. They have been shifted to the police station where they remain in custody. Accordingly, a case under relevant sections of law has been registered at the Police Station and investigation has been initiated.

Woman nabbed with illicit liquor, Lahan

BISHNAH: Police on Sunday nabbed a woman with 8 ltrs. Desi illicit liquor and 100 litres Lahan.

As per details, an information was received through reliable source that one woman namely Veena Devi, wife of Bachan Lal, resident of Village Karail Manahasan Tehsil Bishnah Distt Jammu was selling illicit liquor to her customers near her home situated at Karail Manhasan.

On this information, a party of Police Station Bishnah led by SHO Inspr Vikram Sharma raided the spot and apprehended above said woman with 08 ltrs Desi illicit liquor and also destroyed 100 litres Lahan on the spot.

FIR No. 162/2023 under section 48 (A) Excise Act has been registered against her at Police Station Bishnah.



JPDCL worker dies ...

department as people demanded adequate compensation to the family of the deceased. The protesters dispersed on the assurance of Thanamandi Sub-Divisional Magistrate Mohammad Shaffiq Mir and Sub-Divisional Police Officer Intiaz Ahmed that cognizance of the matter has already been taken and action will be initiated against the staff behind the negligence, the officials said.

Mir said the department concerned has assured adequate compensation to the family of the deceased in accordance with norms.

DPAP Govt will...

new roads in Uri, Karnah, Rajouri and Poonch were constructed during my tenure under PMGSY programme which I got approved from Centre for J&K," Azad said.

The role of former cabinet minister and senior DPAP leader Taj Mohiuddin in reconstruction post earthquake was eulogised by all those who spoke on the occasion. Among those present on the occasion included, Vice Chairman G M Saroori, Chief spokesperson Salman Nizami, Distt President Shoaib Nabi Lone, Gen Secretary Province Shaffiq Shabnam, Haji Musadiq Provincial Vice President, Tariq Tenga Sr DPAP leader, Umar Kakroo Working President, Tasleema Akhtar Secretary, Bharat Kumar Chairman MC Uri, Mudasir Ah Tantray Acting Chairman MC Baramulla, Gurdeep Kaur and Fareeda Begum.

All villages of...

villages. All have achieved the ODF Plus status.

In its attempt to make all villages ODF Plus the department has taken many initiatives. For grey water management i.e. water generated from kitchen, bathing etc, soak pits, magic and leach pits have been developed by the department at household and community level. Till date 349687 individual soak pits have been constructed by the department so far.

For Biodegradable waste management individual and community compost have been constructed. 115502 compost pits have been constructed either by the department or by people themselves in their households. People are being encouraged to segregate dry and wet waste and process wet waste in compost pits.

GOBARdhan (Galvanising Organic Bio Agro Resources) launched by the government through Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation to ensure cleanliness in villages by converting bio-waste including cattle waste, kitchen leftovers, crop residue and market waste to improve the lives of villagers. While two such projects are already functional in Jammu and Kashmir, 18 more such projects are in the final stages of completion.

Door to Door collection of waste is now something which has become prevalent in almost all panchayats of Jammu and Kashmir. Through involvement of locals, NGOs, expert agencies, waste is being collected from households and segregated with balers, shredders, for its final disposal.

The segregated waste at the moment is being managed through recyclers, rag pickers, linkages with ULBs etc. However, PWMUs are being established in each district, some of which are in the final stages of completion. The plastic in these centres would be cleaned, shredded, bailed for its final disposal.

District Sanitation committees headed by respective Deputy Commissioners have also been constituted at district level to formulate, implement and monitor various aspects of the District and village Swachhta plans. IEC activities, door to door collection and committee meetings are regularly held at district level to discuss, monitor and strategize for achieving cleanliness and sanitation for all villages.

In order to enhance capacity building of officers, village level workers, elected representatives about swachhta, 1641 capacity building programs across 285 blocks in 20 districts have been conducted at the panchayat level so far. 401 Trainers have been trained to dispense information and provide orientations at the panchayat level.

SBM(G) is not just a scheme for asset creation but is a behavioural change program which each household of the UT has to embrace for its success. The focus of the departments on IEC through paintings, banners, awareness programs, plog runs, nukkad natak is immense. Innovative ideas such as Swachta Karwam, Swachta internship and Swachta quiz have been launched to bring behavioural change among masses. The role of PRIs is pivotal in motivating people to understand the importance of Swachhta and help in making the everyday activities like door to door collection of waste a success.

While the achievement is huge, it is one step forward towards the challenging goal of making all villages as ODF Model which look visually clean with minimal litter and stagnant water. The department is also continuing its efforts to ensure through IEC activity that people are motivated to participate in this Jan Andolan to ensure sustainability of the efforts. Through consistent endeavours and the support of people, the department aims to achieve the goal of Sampurna Swachhta in each and every village of Jammu and Kashmir.

Main accused behind...

The SSP said the investigation revealed that "Lambu-Gujjar-Gang" of notorious heroin smugglers, also called "Yuqa-Gujjar-Gang", had committed the murderous attack on innocent swimming pool's watchmen at Birpur.

A few days before the incident, some of the gang members had an altercation with the swimming pool staff after they denied permission to them to take bath without putting off clothes.

Raids are on to arrest the other accused involved in the case, he said.

Sinha reviews arrangements for Amarnath Yatra; restoration of NH stretch affected by incessant rain



LG Manoj Sinha chairing a meeting with senior administrative, police, SASB officials at Srinagar on Sunday.

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Sunday held a meeting with Senior Administrative, Police, Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board officials to review the arrangements for pilgrimage and restoration of National Highway stretch that was affected by incessant rain. Secretary, Public Works (R&B) informed the Lt Governor that the restoration work of the damaged stretch at Panthiyal Ramban is being carried out at war footing. The Lt Governor directed that necessary men and material should be stationed at key locations for timely actions and maintenance of roads. He also directed officials to continuously monitor the situation and take necessary steps without any delay. The meeting also discussed the utilization of Mughal road and other alternative roads for the traffic movement.

"J&K Administration is coordinating with Union Ministry of Road, Transport & Highways and NHAI on early restoration of damaged stretch. Pilgrims and Public should be informed about weather condition and status of Yatra on real time basis," the

STATE TIMES NEWS

Lt Governor said. The Lt Governor directed the officials to ensure every possible assistance, lodging, food arrangements for pilgrims and optimum utilization of major camps and enhancement of medical facilities for pilgrims. "Holding capacity in Kashmir Division should be increased for devotees returning after darshan in view of the closed National Highway. Holding area at Kathua should be utilized to optimum as it is the entry point to J&K. We should increase the capacity and facilities at health centres at both the divisions," the Lt Governor directed the officials. The Lt Governor appreciated the extraordinary efforts of J&K Police, Army, CAPFs, civil administration, camp directors, SASB officials and all stakeholder departments and agencies to restore the

arrangements and ensuring best possible facilities despite severe challenges due to bad weather.

Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, CEO Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board briefed the chair that the Mountain Rescue Teams have been deployed on the tracks to facilitate the pilgrims and all the stakeholders, Yatra nodal officers are working round the clock for smooth arrangements.

Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; RK Goyal, ACS Home; Dilbag Singh, DGP; RR Swain, Special DG CID; Administrative Secretaries; Divisional Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners; senior officers of Civil Administration, Police, and SASB; Camp Directors; Nodal officers and other concerned officials attended the meeting.

Police nabs 6 former JKLF terrorists

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Police on Sunday said it detained a group of former JKLF terrorists who were planning to revive separatist politics in Kashmir. "A Search was conducted on basis of credible info about meeting of some ex-trts (terrorist) of JKLF & erstwhile separatists in a hotel in Srinagar. They were brought to Kothibagh PS for verification. Inquiry has started, prima facie it came out that they were planning to revive JKLF & hurriyat," the Srinagar Police tweeted. The police did not elaborate if the persons were arrested or let go after verification.

CRIME REPORT

Woman among 3 narco-smugglers nabbed with heroin, cash

STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: Police on Sunday nabbed three narco smugglers including a woman and recovered/seized approx. 11.77 Grams of heroin (chitta) like narcotics alongwith cash amount of Rs. 18,100 from their possession.

As per details, In the first instance, an information received at Police Station Rajbagh that one woman namely Nidhi Shubh, wife of Satnam, resident of Ward No. 07 Kathua is indulged in illegal smuggling/selling of heroin like contraband and coming from Khanpur towards DPS Chowk Rajbagh by foot. Acting swiftly, a police team headed by SI Sunil Thakur laid a Naka near DPS chowk and arrested said drug peddler with approx. 3.15 grams Heroin (chitta) like narcotics alongwith cash Rs 18100. She was arrested and FIR No. 184/2023 under section 8/21/22/ NDPS Act was registered against her at Police Station Rajbagh.

While in the second instance, a police team led by SI Achru Ram during routine Naka/checking apprehended two suspicious persons namely Narinder Singh, son of Sagar Singh, resident of Dyal Chak Tehsil Hiranagar and Shubham Kumar, son of Satpaul, resident of Dyalachak Tehsil Hiranagar who were indulged in the illegal smuggling/selling heroin(chitta) like narcotics and enrouted from Banyari towards Khanpur by foot. During checking the police recovered approx. 8.62 grams of heroin like narcotics. Duo was arrested and FIR No. 185/2023 under section 8/21/22/29/NDPS Act was registered against them at Police Station Rajbagh.

2 notorious drug peddlers booked under PIT-NDPS Act

STATE TIMES NEWS

AWANTIPORA: Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, police have booked 02 notorious drug peddlers under PIT-NDPS Act in Avantipora after obtaining formal detention orders from the competent authority.

The 02 notorious drug peddlers identified as Shabir Ahmad Parray son of Mohd Kamal Parray resident of Katipora Chersoos and Manzoor Ahmad Bhat son of Gh Ahmad resident of Chersoos have been booked under PIT-NDPS Act after obtaining formal detention orders from the competent authority and subsequently lodged in Central Jail Kot-Balwal Jammu.

Its pertinent to mention here that many cases were registered against these drug peddlers and they were involved in promoting drug trade by supplying drugs to local youth of Avantipora and other areas of Police District. Despite their involvement in many FIRs, they did not mend their activities and were again involved in promoting drug abuse trade by supplying drugs to local youth.

8 vehicles seized, 8 arrested for illegal extraction and transportation of minerals

STATE TIMES NEWS

BARAMULLA: Acting tough against the persons involved in illegal extraction and transportation of minerals, police have seized 08 vehicles and arrested 08 persons in Baramulla.

As per details, a party of Police Station Kunzer seized 3 vehicles (Tipppers) and arrested 3 drivers identified as Javid Ahmad Shah son of Nazir Ahmad