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Torrential rains trigger flood-like situation in J&K, bridge damaged on Jammu-Pathankot highway



▶ Jammu records 190.4 mm rainfall in 24 hours

▶ CM puts all departments on high alert

▶ Schools to remain closed across Jammu today

▶ IIIM-J students evacuated after floodwaters inundate hostel

▶ SDRF teams conduct Disaster Management Ops across Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU/SRINAGAR: Heavy rains battered most parts of Jammu and Kashmir overnight, triggering flood-like situation in several low-lying areas and causing damage to a vital bridge on the Jammu-Pathankot national highway, officials said.

Jammu recorded 190.4 mm rainfall in the past 24 hours ending 8.30 am, the second-highest downpour this month in a century. The highest rainfall for August remains 228.6 mm, logged on August 5, 1926 while the previous second-highest was 189.6 mm on August 11, 2022.

Authorities have issued advisories asking people to stay away from water bodies and landslide-prone areas amid a weather forecast predicting moderate to intense rainfall with possibility of cloudbursts, flash floods and landslides in high altitude areas till August 27.

Chief Minister Omar

Abdullah has directed all concerned departments to remain on high alert in view of heavy rains across Jammu and Kashmir, which have caused waterlogging in several residential areas and led to rivers and nallahs flowing above the danger mark.

The Chief Minister has emphasized close coordination among departments, ensuring that control rooms remain fully functional and responsive.

The Chief Minister's Office is in constant touch with the line departments to monitor the evolving situation.

He said that special priority is being given to clearing waterlogged areas, restoring drainage systems, and ensuring the immediate resumption of essential services including drinking water supply and electricity in the affected regions.

The Chief Minister has appealed to the public to remain cautious and cooperate with the administration

as necessary safety and relief measures are being taken.

All government and private schools will remain closed in Jammu division on Monday owing to bad weather conditions, while Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (JKBOSE) announced postponement of class 10 and 11 examinations.

"In view of the inclement and bad weather conditions, it is hereby ordered that all government as well as private schools in the Jammu Division shall remain closed tomorrow (August 25)," Directorate of School Education, Jammu said.

In a notification, JKBOSE announced the postponement of annual (Private)/Bi-annual 2025 examination of Secondary School Examination (Class 10th) and Higher Secondary Part-1st (Class 11th) scheduled to be held on Monday.

It said the decision to postpone the examination was

taken in view of severe inclement weather prevailing across the region.

"New dates for the postponed exams will be notified separately," the JKBOSE said.

In Jammu, at least 45 students of the Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (IIIM) were evacuated to safety in a joint operation by the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) and police after floodwaters submerged the ground floor of the hostel complex, officials said.

SDRF and police deployed manpower equipped with boats to reach out the students after more than seven feet of water from the overflowing canal entered their hostel buildings this morning, the officials said.

They said the rescue operation continued for more than five hours and all the trapped students were evacuated to safety.

Director IIIM, an autonomous body under the

Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), Dr Zabeer Ahmed said the institute has made arrangements for the safe stay of the students.

Normal life was disrupted in Jammu city because of the heavy downpour which led to overflowing of streams and drains, leading to inundation of roads and flood waters entering homes at several places, including Janipur, Roop Nagar, Talab Tilloo, Jewel chowk, New Plot and

Sanjay Nagar.

Boundary walls of several houses were also damaged, while nearly a dozen vehicles were swept away in the flash floods, the officials said.

A portion of a road adjacent to a temple near Tawi bridge caved in, while a culvert on the exit gate of Jammu bus stand also collapsed owing to the heavy rainfall.

The overflowing streams and drains aggravated the situation in low-lying areas

where the flood waters entered home, damaging boundary walls at several places and dozens of vehicles.

An official of the traffic department said the strategic 250-km Jammu-Srinagar national highway and 434-km Srinagar-Leh national highway is open for traffic despite heavy rains, while the Mughal road connecting Poonch and Rajouri in Jammu with south Kashmir's Shopian and Sinthan road linking

Kishtwar and Doda districts in Jammu with south Kashmir's Anantnag were closed owing to landslides at different places.

A bridge near Logate Morh on Jammu-Pathankot highway was damaged in the middle due to overflowing of Sahar Khad nallah following heavy rains in Kathua district, the officials said, adding the traffic on the highway was diverted through the alternate

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Ex-CRPF DG Anish Dayal Singh appointed deputy NSA



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Former CRPF and ITBP director general Anish Dayal Singh has been appointed the new deputy National Security Advisor (NSA), with a mandate to handle internal affairs, official sources said.

Singh, a 1988-batch Indian Police Service

LG visits GMC Jammu; enquires about health of injured in Chashoti flash floods

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Sunday visited Government Medical College in Jammu to enquire about the health of citizens injured in Chashoti flash floods.

The team of doctors briefed the Lieutenant Governor on appropriate and specialized treatment and integrated approach to the care of injured for their quick recovery. It was informed that 16 people are presently undergoing treatment at GMC Jammu and being monitored by senior health staff.

Speaking to media persons



LG Manoj Sinha enquiring health of injured in Chashoti flash floods.

on the sidelines of his visit, the Lieutenant Governor reiterated the commitment of the administration to trace the 32 persons who are still

missing. "Government stands firmly with the bereaved family members who have lost their loved ones.

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PM concerned, no stone left unturned to provide relief to cloudburst-hit people in Kishtwar: Rajnath

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Sunday said the Centre is making all efforts to provide relief and rehabilitation to those affected by a recent cloudburst in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district.

Reviewing the situation in the affected Chisoti village via video-conferencing from the Raj Bhawan here, Singh said it is heartening to note that the Union Territory administration, Army, NDRF, SDRF and police have done excellent work during the crisis situation.

Flash floods triggered by the cloudburst struck Chisoti, the last motorable village en route to the Machail Mata temple, on August 14, killing 65 people,



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh interacting with a child injured in Chashoti cloudburst, during visit to GMC Jammu on Sunday.

mostly pilgrims, and leaving more than 100 injured.

A large-scale search operation is underway for 32 people reported missing by their families after the tragedy. A makeshift market, a langar (community kitchen) site for the annual pilgrimage to the Machail Mata temple, 16 houses and government buildings, three temples, four water mills, a 30-metre-long bridge and more than a dozen vehicles were also damaged in the incident.

"Due to inclement weather, I could not go to the cloudburst affected areas of Kishtwar today. Reviewed the situation at Chisoti from Jammu, via video conferencing facility," Singh said in a post on X.

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