



Sinha reviews flood situation

LG Manoj Sinha today reviewed the situation following heavy rains, flash floods, and landslides in several parts of the Union Territory, especially in Rajouri & Poonch districts of Jammu, where 11 persons lost their lives yesterday in rain-related incidents.

He spoke to senior officials and directed for swift relief and infrastructure restoration in affected areas.

"I spoke to senior officials today to assess the impact of heavy rains, flash floods, and landslides. I am deeply sad

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Civil Def personnel deployed amid flash flood threats

Civil defence personnel were today deployed by the authorities concerned at bridges, rivers and other vulnerable water bodies across Jammu city to prevent people from venturing into flood-prone areas amid forecasts of heavy rainfall and the threat of flash floods.

According to officials, the personnel were stationed at key locations to

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Saxena lays foundation stones of 2 key bridges



In a major boost to infrastructure development in Nubra valley of Ladakh, LG Vinai Kumar Saxena today laid the foundation stones of two key bridges - Burma-Sumoor Motorable Bridge & Tongsted Motorable Bridge over

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Chardham Yatra temporarily halted

DEHRADUN, JUL 20: The Chardham Yatra in Uttarakhand was temporarily halted on Monday in view of heavy rains and landslides along the route. "The yatra has been halted as a precautionary measure in view of the red and orange alert warning of heavy rainfall," officials said.

Landslides have hit the route of the yatra following heavy rainfall.

The administration has directed local authorities to ensure that no pilgrim is allowed to proceed in view of the inclement weather.

The Chardham Yatra to Kedarnath, Badrinath, Yamunotri and Gangotri started in April this year.

Tripura DGP Dhankar commits 'suicide'



AGARTALA, JUL 20: Tripura DGP Anurag Dhankar died by suicide at his office in the police headquarters here today. He was alleged to have hung himself in the bathroom of his office.

The 1994-batch IPS officer was rushed to the G B

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Huma Qureshi Says CJP's 'Chalo Sansad' March Visuals Left Her With A 'Deep Sense Of Sadness'

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Rain fury continues unabated

11 more killed, death toll reaches 23 in 2 days; 7 still missing

Heavy downpour slows rescue efforts in Poonch, Rajouri

**BHARAT BHUSHAN
JAMMU, JUL 20**

With the nature's fury dragging on & skies remaining unforgiving, relentless deluge continued in Poonch, Rajouri & Doda districts of the region for the second day today, triggering fatal landslides that killed 11 more people, including a woman & her two children. This takes the two-day death toll to 23.

At least seven people were still said to be missing as heavy showers relentlessly washing over the landscape slowed down the relief & rescue operations in the flash flood-hit districts of Rajouri & Poonch.

Officials said a rain-triggered massive landslide brought down a mud house at Arigam in the upper



reaches of Loran in Poonch district. There were a total of seven people inside the house and all of them were buried alive under the debris.

Villagers were the first to reach the spot and start the rescue operation. By the time, they removed the de-

7 shops damaged in sudden land subsidence on NH



bris and pulled out the seven family members, all of them had died, officials said.

The dead included Zahida Begum (38), her son Manan Rafiq & daughter Aleesa, aged six and four, brother-in-law Tanveer Ahmad Bhat (27), sisters-in-law Shamim Akhter (33) & Shabnam

Bano (31), nephew Mohamad Irfan (17).

Earlier in the day, a huge boulder came rolling down the roadside hill near Raggi Nallah in Doda district, which witnessed heavy rain-fall, and hit a passenger bus.

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India, Moldova agree to promote trade: Prez



CHISINAU (MOLDOVA), JUL 20: India and Moldova on Monday agreed to promote greater trade and investment, strengthen resilient supply chains and improve connectivity, with President Droupadi Murmu saying economic cooperation remains a key pillar of the bi-

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Doval to receive Lokmanya Tilak Award



PUNE, JUL 20: National Security Advisor Ajit Doval has been selected for the prestigious Lokmanya Tilak Award for his significant contribution in the field of national security, the Tilak Smarak Trust announced today.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah will present the

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Jitendra for revisiting pension rules



NEW DELHI, JUL 20: Union Minister Jitendra Singh today called for a comprehensive review of pension regulations to ensure that evolving social realities were adequately reflected in government policies, stating that many pension disputes arise because existing rules have

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Omar announces Rs 6 lakh ex-gratia for kin of flash flood, rain victims

**Himalayan Mail News
JAMMU, JUL 20**

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today announced an ex-gratia relief of Rs 6 lakh for the next of kin of those who lost their lives in rain-related incidents in Rajouri and Poonch districts yesterday, as an immediate measure to support the bereaved families.

Expressing profound grief over the tragic loss of lives caused by the flash floods, landslides and other rain-related incidents, he said, "While no amount of financial assistance can compensate for the irreparable loss suffered by the affected families, the government stands firmly with them during this difficult time."

"While no amount of financial assistance can ever compensate for the irreparable loss of life caused by the yesterday's flash floods, landslides and other rain-related incidents in Poonch and Rajouri districts, an ex-gratia relief of Rs 6 lakh for the next of kin of each deceased is an immediate measure of support for the bereaved families," the chief minister said.

The relief package comprises Rs 4 lakh from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) and an additional Rs 2 lakh from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF).

The announcement follows the high-level review meeting chaired by the chief minister in the aftermath of the devastating flash floods and other rain-related incidents that struck the twin districts of Ra-



jouri and Poonch, resulting in multiple fatalities and widespread damage to public and private property.

During the meeting, the chief minister directed the administration to ensure immediate relief and rehabilitation of the affected families, stressing that all possible assistance should reach them without delay.

He also underscored the need for coordinated efforts by all concerned departments to restore essential services and expedite relief measures in the affected areas.

The chief minister was in Delhi yesterday to lead the statehood protest but he had cut short his stay in the union capital and returned to Jammu to take stock of the situation that had arisen due to rain-triggered flash floods and landslides. At least 11 persons lost their lives in rain-related incidents and several were reported missing

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LS adjourned twice on opening day of Monsoon Session

NEW DELHI, JUL 20: Lok Sabha proceedings were adjourned twice on the opening day of the Monsoon Session on Monday, following sloganeering by opposition members over various issues, including NEET paper leak and alleged theft of donations at the Ram temple.

As soon as the House assembled at 12 noon following an earlier adjournment, opposition members demanded action against those responsible for the NEET paper leak and those behind the alleged embezzlement of donations at the

Ram temple.

Amid the uproar, Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal introduced a bill to increase the number of judges of the Supreme Court. The bill replaces an ordinance issued in May to hike the sanctioned strength of the top court from 34 to 38, including the Chief Justice of India.

As the protest continued, Dilip Saikia, who was in the chair, adjourned the proceeding till 12:30 pm.

Following obituary references, the House earlier took up the Question Hour. However, opposition mem-

bers started raising slogans.

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla urged the members to let the House run and said it would set a bad precedent if the House does not run on the first day of the session.

Meanwhile, Rajya Sabha proceedings were adjourned till noon amid uproar over CJP-led protests at Jantar Mantar in the national capital.

After papers were laid in the Upper House, Leader of Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge rose to speak on the

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Bill to increase number of SC judges introduced in LS

NEW DELHI, JUL 20: A bill to replace an ordinance which increased the number of Supreme Court judges by four was introduced in the Lok Sabha today, with the government asserting that an enhanced strength was one of the most exigent and viable solutions for tackling pendency in the top court.

Law minister Arjun Ram Meghwal introduced the bill amid slogan-shouting by opposition members over NEET paper leak and alleged Ram temple donation theft.

In May, the union cabinet had cleared the bill to

increase the sanctioned strength of the top court, but soon thereafter the government brought an ordinance.

After the ordinance, five judges were appointed to the apex court based on the upgraded sanctioned strength.

The bill does not require an amendment to the Constitution and requires a simple majority for passage.

After the ordinance was issued, the sanctioned strength of the apex court went up to 38 from 34, including the Chief Justice of India.

According to the bill, the volume of litigation of cases in the Supreme Court has constantly been on the rise due to a persistent gap between institution and final disposal of cases in the court.

As on January 1, this year, there were 92,101 cases pending in the Supreme Court.

Even while working at near-full sanctioned capacity of 34 judges since 2019, the Supreme Court recorded institution of 75,410 fresh matters in 2025 against a disposal of 65,615 cases.

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US bombing of Iran expands as American troops killed

Tehran retaliates against Gulf states

DUBAI, JUL 20: The United States conducted a new round of airstrikes early Monday targeting Iran after announcing the death of another American service member. Iran responded by launching an attack targeting Bahrain, the home of the US Navy's 5th Fleet, and Kuwait.

The latest attacks again showed how, step by step, the US and Iran have inched closer to an all-out war as last month's interim deal meant to permanently end the fighting has crumbled

and shipping traffic in the Strait of Hormuz has largely stalled.

Both sides have targeted civilian infrastructure relied on by millions of people, while benchmark Brent crude rose Monday above USD 90 a barrel, further fuelling a global energy crisis sparked by the conflict.

The US military said the service member was killed in Iraq on Saturday during the "controlled detonation" of a downed Iranian drone.

"We hit them very hard again tonight," US President

Donald Trump said. "And we did that in honour of the" soldiers killed, he said.

The US military's Central Command announced a new round of strikes early Monday, now into their ninth straight night. Central Command said it targeted "Iranian military command centres, air defence and coastal surveillance sites, maritime capabilities, missile and drone launch sites and communications networks."

There was no immediate

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