

भारत सरकार
Government of India
केन्द्रीय जल आयोग
Central Water Commission
बाढ़ पूर्वानुमान प्रबोधन निदेशालय
Flood Forecast Monitoring Directorate

Tele/ Fax: 011-26106523, 26105274

e-mail : fntte@c.i.n, ffnwc@mail.com

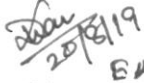
दूसरा तल, दूसरा विंग (दक्षिण), पश्चिमी खण्ड-2,
रामाकृष्ण पुरम, नई दिल्ली-110066

17, 18, 19, 20 & 21.9.2019

विषय : दिनांक की समाचार की कतरन (News Clippings) प्रस्तुत करने के सम्बन्ध में ।

मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचारों की कतरन (News Clippings) अवलोकन हेतु प्रस्तुत हैं :

संलग्न : उपरोक्तानुसार


20/9/19
EAD (HM),
(सहायक निदेशक)

उपनिदेशक

निदेशक (बा.प.प्र.)

कृपया केन्द्रीय जल आयोग की वेब साईट पर अपलोड करने की व्यवस्था करें।

निदेशक (तकनीकी प्रलेखन)

Rain fury abates, Kerala toll reaches 110

RELIEF OPS CONTINUE Congress leader Rahul Gandhi sends food to flood-hit Wayanad

HT Correspondent

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Congress lawmaker Rahul Gandhi on Friday rushed 11 truckloads of food and essentials to his flood-hit constituency, Wayanad in north Kerala, as rescue personnel retrieved four more bodies from debris taking the death toll from flood and landslides to 110 in the state, party leaders said.

They said a fresh consignment of 50,000-kg rice and other essentials such as sugar, salt and different varieties of dal (pulses) as well as bed-sheets, blankets and mats were despatched to Wayanad. "We have prepared kits containing these items and it will benefit at least 10,000 affected families," said ND Appachan, Wayanad convener of the Congress-led United Democratic Front. He added Gandhi would reach Wayanad by August-end.

Last week, Gandhi had visited his constituency that falls in two districts—Wayanad and Malappuram. While a portion of the aid came from his MP fund, the rest was collected by party workers from various states, according to Congress leaders.

Heavy rain and landslides had wreaked havoc in many parts of the state, especially north Kerala for the past one week leaving a trail of death and destruction. During the peak of floods, some areas such as Nilambur and Mepadi had received 30 cms of rain in a day, said weathermen.

As rain fury abated, rescue officials have intensified search for missing people in Kavalapara and Puthumala, which bore the maximum brunt of landslides. At least 30 people are still missing from these two places. The highest toll is in Malappuram, 42, followed by Kozhikode, 17, and Wayanad 16.

At least 84 landslides were reported in Kerala this time. More than drowning majority

FLOOD WOES FOR ANDHRA, TELANGANA

HYDERABAD: The river Krishna on Friday flooded several areas downstream in Nalgonda district in Telangana and Guntur and Krishna districts in Andhra Pradesh after a massive inflow from upstream in Karnataka.

As irrigation department lifted all 10 gates of Srisailem, 26 gates of Nagarjunsagar and 22 gates of Pulichintala dams on the river to maintain reservoir levels at safe limits, there was heavy flooding downstream.

In Nalgonda, the Lakshminarasimha Swamy temple was inundated by the backwaters of the Pulichintala dam. The Amara Lingeswara temple in Amaravati in Guntur district was also flooded. **HTC**

great that rubble and slush travelled for miles together, entirely changing the landscape, they said.

In Kavalapara, a village had vanished completely. With accumulated mud still loose, rescue officials are finding it difficult to search for the missing.

Former chief minister V S Achuthanandan, known for supporting the green cause, has called for urgent measures to prevent future disasters. In a Facebook post, the veteran communist leader talked about 2011 Mahav Gadgil report on ecologically fragile Western Ghats. Even a small child in the state knows



■ A man carries essentials on his head as he wades through a flood-affected area following incessant rain, in Vijayawada on Friday.

PTI

short stories

ROW OVER DRONE CAMERAS ABOVE NAIDU'S HOUSE

HYDERABAD: Flying of two drones over the residence of Telugu Desam Party (TDP) president and former Andhra Pradesh chief minister N Chandrababu Naidu on the banks of Krishna river in Amaravati on Friday triggered a controversy.

Around noon, some TDP leaders came to his residence to see the flood situation in Krishna river, which partially submerged his residence. Naidu had moved to Hyderabad along with his family and his belongings on the ground floor were shifted to the first floor. While inspecting the premises, the TDP leaders noticed two persons operating drones at the spot. They immediately informed the police, who took the duo into custody.

On questioning, they said they were deputed by the state irrigation department to take pictures on the Krishna river to assess the flood situation. The state des-

ALERT SOUNDED FOR PEOPLE NEAR SUTLEJ RIVER

JALANDHAR: Authorities on Friday asked people living near Sutlej river and low-lying areas in Jalandhar district to remain alert after 40,000 cusecs water was released from Bhakra dam, a senior official said. Jalandhar Deputy Commissioner Varinder Kumar Sharma said the excess water had to be released from the reservoir following heavy rainfall in the hilly areas and it is expected to reach the district by Saturday. Also, the meteorological department has predicted heavy rainfall in the district during the next three days.

However, the deputy commissioner assured people there was no need to panic as yet. Sharma said people living on the banks of rivers should remain vigilant about rise in water levels as Sutlej could pose danger to people living in low-lying areas in the district.

K'TAKA CM MEETS PM, SEEKS FUNDS FOR FLOOD RELIEF

NEW DELHI: Karnataka chief minister B S Yediyurappa met Prime Minister Narendra Modi here on Friday and appealed for release of funds immediately to take up relief work in the flood- and rain-ravaged state. Responding to his appeal, PM Modi assured him to send a central study team soon to assess the damage, Yediyurappa said.

"State is hit by a calamity that has not taken place in the last 108 years. Fifteen days ago there was drought situation, but today dams are full and because of excess water released from Maharashtra there is damage caused..." Yediyurappa said. He said PM Modi "understood every thing" and soon he will be sending a team for assessment.

The death toll in Karnataka has reached 62 till Thursday night; 14 people are still classified as missing,

70 people killed in MP flooding, fresh rainfall likely today

HT Correspondent

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

BHOPAL: Parts of western Madhya Pradesh continued to reel under floods caused by incessant rain, officials said on Friday, adding that the death toll has reached 70 in the state. However, the intensity of rain lessened in rest of the state on Friday.

"Of the 70 people, 15 died due to lightning," GV Rashmi, additional secretary, revenue department, said, adding, "The floods had happened in isolated parts of the state. An alert had been sounded in the state." Fresh rains were expected by Saturday morning, the IMD said.

Heavy downpour had thrown normal life out of gear in the past few days. RR Tripathi of IMD Bhopal said heavy rainfall may occur in the districts of Agar-Malwa, Sheopur, Ratlam, Neemuch, Mandsaur, Shajapur, Guna and Rajgarh by Saturday morning. Showers were also expected in isolated places in the rest of the state, he added.

Sluice gates of six big and medium reservoirs including Indira Sagar Dam in Khandwa district have been opened as the reservoirs were full, said water resources department's executive engineer Kamlesh Raikwar.

A joint team of local police and State Disaster Emergency Response Force rescued as many as 117 villagers in Shivpuri on Friday, according to the police.

Superintendent of police, Shivpuri Rajesh Singh Chandel said, "There were 17 children among 117 people rescued. We are keeping a close watch on the situation and alert has been sounded in the district." Meanwhile, the bodies of two teachers and their car driver who were swept away by flood waters near Mahidpur

17.8.19
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Monsoon lull may continue in interiors of state till Aug 22

Neha.Madaan
@timesgroup.com

The lull in monsoon activity is likely to continue till August 22, at least in interior Maharashtra, unless there is a sudden change in the weather scenario next week.

The latest extended range forecast released by the India Meteorological Department (IMD) states that the interiors of Maharashtra, including Pune, might receive below normal rain till August 22 and thereafter too, till August 28. The forecasts are, however, most accurate till the first week of the prediction.

Except for a heavy rain warning in the ghat areas of Pune and Satara districts and Sindhudurg in south Konkan on August 16, most parts are

Flood-hit students can skip uniforms

Schools students from flood-affected Sangli and Kolhapur districts have been allowed to attend classes in civil dress if they are unable to locate uniforms. The state education department has instructed schools in the two districts in this regard. TNN

likely to see only light to moderate rain during the next few days. Pune may also only get very light to light rain till August 21, after which chances of showers may reduce further.

Anupam Kashyapi, head of weather, IMD, Pune, told TOI that there was no negative factor affecting monsoon in Bay of Bengal and Arabian

₹5k relief to be given to people at homes

The Kolhapur administration will go door-to-door and distribute cash to flood-hit people. Authorities have set aside Rs 22 crore for over 4 lakh people. Each family is being paid Rs 5,000 cash, individual Rs 60 per, and child Rs 45 in camps. TNN

Sea branches. This is the reason why forecasters cannot say for certain if the weak monsoon activity is likely to continue beyond August 22.

"In Konkan-Goa, rain will be widespread though with reduced intensity. Marathwada and Vidarbha may also record very light to light rain in the next week," Kashyapi said.

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Why are the suburbs wetter than SoBo? Secret lies in cloud-sourcing

Richa.Pinto@timesgroup.com

Mumbai: The monsoon has been marked by extreme rain days this year, with some areas of Mumbai recording over 400 mm of rainfall over 24 hours. But the pattern has not been uniform. Rain data from the onset of the rainy season till now shows that suburban areas like Vikhroli, Dindoshi, Kandivli, Borivli and Mulund have recorded the maximum rain in the city, while Mumbai's central and southern parts have received less rain in comparison (see graphic).

The weather bureau and climate experts said this has a lot to do with the topography and layout of the suburbs, like hills and large green areas, and the presence of water bodies. In comparison, they said, the island city has more built-up area and less green cover. Wind patterns, too, differ. "Climatologically also, city-side rainfall is less than in the suburbs. Besides, the other core reason for suburbs witnessing more rainfall is local topography. The Sanjay Gandhi National Park, the Aarey Milk Colony are all large expanses of green, the equivalents of which don't exist in the island city. Then there are water bodies like Powai lake as well," said K S Hosalkar, deputy director general (western region), India Meteorological Department.

As a result, clouds are observed more towards the suburbs whenever there is a weather system over central India. "Hills influence weather and the Konkan belt is a perfect example of orographic enhancement of rainfall (orographic lift occurs when an air mass is forced from a low elevation to a higher elevation as it moves over rising terrain). In Mumbai's case, hills such as those within the national park, although not as high as in the Western Ghats proper, massively enhance rainfall in the suburbs," said Akshay Deoras,



Now on, helicopters can take off from dry ground at Juhu runway

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Low-lying Juhu airport becomes inundated even in light rain, but it so happens that it is the nerve centre of India's offshore helicopter operations. In the last two months, offshore flights have been severely hit by rain as portions of Juhu runway remained under water, forcing air traffic control (ATC) to suspend helicopter operations from Juhu entirely. To facilitate offshore operators, airport authorities and regulators have now planned to allow helicopters to take off and land from certain portions of Juhu runway that are at a higher elevation and so tend to largely remain dry. In a meeting on Friday, Juhu ATC and Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) representatives discussed this with operators.

"The meeting was requested by ONGC as ATC would stop flight operations on days when parts of

the runway got flooded. ONGC was severely hit as they couldn't retrieve staff from offshore platforms," said a source. "Water collects largely at the centre of Juhu main runway 08/26. But some portions towards the runway end don't get submerged except when it rains heavily."

For instance, 300-400 m towards one end of runway 08 largely remains dry. "Even 100 m of runway is enough for a helicopter, carrying reduced payload, to lift off safely," he said. It was decided that this part of the runway could be used for helicopter operations, "but only in cases of emergencies," said an official. "Normal operations won't be carried out from such portions. It's just a way to keep helicopters flying without entirely shutting down the airport on days when rain is light." Operators have been asked to prepare a standard operating procedure for such operations to ensure safety.

an independent meteorologist and doctoral student at the University of Reading, UK. "Enhancement is often visible when suburbs' seasonal or sub-seasonal rainfall is compared to that of south

Mumbai, which mostly has a flat terrain."

Wind patterns matter too. "Northwesterly winds push cloud bands towards north Mumbai. South Mumbai gets cloud bands from southwest-

erly winds (coming from Ali-baug), which lose much rainfall over Raigad and the ghats before reaching the island city," said Sridhar Balasubramanian, an associate professor at IIT-Bombay.

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Rain fury in HP, dams near full

Highways blocked after landslides; Kangra, Kullu, Chamba worst hit

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, AUGUST 17

Heavy rains in several areas of Himachal today triggered landslides, disrupted road traffic and prompted the Kangra administration to order closure of schools, officials said. Water in most dams, including Bhakra, Pong and Pandoh, remained close to the danger level.

Even as the Meteorological Department issued a warning of very heavy rain in the two districts of Mandi and Kangra on Sunday, the authorities were keeping a close watch on the rising water level in most dams.

Six people stranded near Palampur following flash floods were rescued, while several roads in Kangra, Kullu and Chamba districts



A nullah in spate after heavy rainfall near Chamunda temple in Kangra district on Saturday. TRIBUNE PHOTO

were blocked due to landslides. The Kullu district administration diverted traffic through Akhara Bazaar in Kullu as the bailey bridge

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7
RELATED REPORTS INSIDE

DAM	PRESENT LEVEL	DANGER LEVEL	DISCHARGE
BBMB Talwara	1,363.40 m	1,390 m	10,005 cusec
BBMB Nangal	1,674.54 ft	1,680 ft	45,100 cusec
BBMB Pandoh	2,920 ft	2,941 ft	13,685 cusec
NTPC Kol Dam	636.79 ft	642 ft	1,300 cusec
Larji Dam, Kullu	968.60 m	971 m	8,968 cusec

Punjab on alert as more Bhakra water on way

CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 17

With heavy rains forecast in the region and the Bhakra Dam reservoir in Himachal Pradesh nearing its peak storage capacity, more water than usual is expected to be released from the dam.

While a general alert has been sounded downstream by the civil administration for residents to take precautionary measures due to rising water levels in the Sutlej and its associated canals, there have been reports of some villages being inundated. The state administration has also geared up to deal with any flooding situation. The water level recorded at Bhakra was 1,675 feet today against the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

Punjab on alert

FROM PAGE 1

permissible level of 1,680 feet. Inflow into the Bhakra reservoir was 60,000 cusecs, while the outflow 53,000 cusecs. The dam's sluice gates were opened yesterday and will remain so till Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) officials assess that water would not rise above the upper mark.

BBMB officials said discharge up to 50,000 cusecs does not cause flooding downstream in areas along the Sutlej, but safety measures necessitated if more water is released. Though the reservoir is not full, water is being released to cater to the

expected heavier inflows over the next few days.

BBMB officials say they are monitoring the inflow and meteorological reports regularly and apprising the state governments about the quantum of water being released.

Meanwhile, heavy rains disrupted normal life in Kathua, Reasi and Udhampur districts of Jammu region, causing damage to houses and roads besides affecting traffic on Jammu-Srinagar highway for several hours. In Kathua, 14 nomadic families got trapped in flash floods in Ujh river near Rajbagh and Pandori area. They were evacuated by the police and SDRF team.

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Heavy rain batters Andhra, R'sthan

Swollen Krishna inundates 87 villages | Flood-like situation in northern state

JAIPUR/TRIVANDRUM, AUG 17

Andhra Pradesh today received heavy showers, with a swollen Krishna river leaving 87 villages and hundreds of acres of farm land under a sheet of water in two districts. NDRF personnel retrieved the body of a girl who drowned in Krishna district, taking the death toll to two in the state. Normalcy seemed to be slowly returning to flood-ravaged Kerala, where so far 113 persons have lost their lives, while in Rajasthan, several rivers and dams were overflowing due to incessant rainfall.

According to the MeT department, Gegal in Ajmer recorded 15 cm rainfall followed by Mount Abu 14 cm, Kishangarh and Pushkar 13 cm, and Taragarh 11 cm during the last 24 hours ending on Saturday morning. The Chambal river is flowing at 140.50 metres, 12 metres above the danger mark in Dholpur, officials said. A district administration official said nearly 12 roads are disconnected due to heavy rains



NAIDU TOLD TO VACATE HOUSE ON RIVER BANK

In Andhra Pradesh, the Tadepalli mandal tehsildar has served a notice on Leader of Opposition N Chandrababu Naidu asking him to vacate the rented bungalow on the Krishna river bank at Undavalli in view of the heavy flood. Naidu was away in Hyderabad and, as such, the notice was handed over to the security personnel at the bungalow

<< An aerial view of the flood-hit Ibrahimpatnam area near Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh on Saturday. PTI

and 40 villages are facing a flood-like situation.

In Tonk, Bisalpur dam is almost filled and its gates can be opened anytime. The subdivisional magistrate of Deoli in Tonk has issued an advisory saying the decision to open gates may be taken anytime.

He also asked the block level officials to ensure that people from low-lying areas and vil-

lages are shifted if required. People have started moving to their homes from relief camps in Kerala, even as the toll climbed to 113, with authorities retrieving more bodies from landslide-hit Malappuram and Wayanad districts.

Fifty people have so far lost their lives in Malappuram and 12 in Wayanad, the two northern districts, where 28

people are still missing.

Search operations are continuing at Kavalappara in Malappuram and Puthumala in Wayanad, the two areas which were the worst hit in the second spell of south west monsoon rains since August 8, where massive landslides had wiped out two villages.

Kolkata, which is being battered by torrential rains,

received 186.1 mm rainfall during the last 24 hours till Saturday noon. Vehicular traffic was disrupted in several areas of central, south and north Kolkata, resulting in traffic snarls. Flight operations were also affected, as take-off and landing was delayed, said a senior official of the Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport. — PTI

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Heavy rain brings life to halt in Jammu

Triggers flash floods in Kathua | Damages several houses, crops and roads

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU/KATHUA, AUGUST 17

Heavy rainfall on Saturday disrupted life across the Jammu region, causing damage to several houses and roads besides affecting traffic on the Jammu-Srinagar national highway for several hours.

According to official reports, overnight rainfall brought normal life to a complete halt in Kathua, Reasi and Udhampur districts.

In Kathua, landslides shut many roads while several nomadic families got trapped in flash floods. Several areas were waterlogged, causing losses to household items and shops in the main Kathua market.

According to reports, the link road connecting the upcoming Kathua Medical College with the national highway got washed away due to flash floods in a rivulet while a bus ferrying passengers also got trapped along the Jammu-Pathankot national highway near the Hatli Morh area due to waterlogging. All passengers were, however, safely evacuated.

Meanwhile, the rainfall also caused floods in the Ujh river, causing losses to crops in the lower Rajbagh area. Fourteen nomadic families, which got trapped in the flash floods in the Ujh near the Rajbagh and Pandori areas, were evacuated by the police along with the help of a team of the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF).

In the main Kathua town,

the movement of vehicles on the Parwanoo-Dharampur stretch of the National Highway-05 was disrupted following a landslide near Sanwara

Parwanoo Road



1. People try to cross a waterlogged road in Jammu; 2. A flooded house; and 3. Farmers stand in an inundated field in Kathua.



14 FAMILIES RESCUED

- Overnight rainfall caused flash floods in the Ujh, causing losses to crops in the lower Rajbagh area of Kathua district
- Fourteen nomadic families, which got trapped in the flash floods, were evacuated by the police along with a SDRF team

NH traffic restored

- Showers affected traffic on the Jammu-Srinagar highway for several hours



Two persons, trapped in the middle of the Beas at Patlikul in Manali subdivision, were rescued as the water

OUR CORRESPONDENT

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87 villages in AP affected by Krishna floods, toll rises to 2

AMARAVATI (AP), Aug 17: Tens of villages and hundreds of acres of farm land remained under a sheet of water in Krishna and Guntur districts even as the flood fury in river Krishna was abating, while the toll in the deluge climbed to two with the death of an 11-year-old girl.

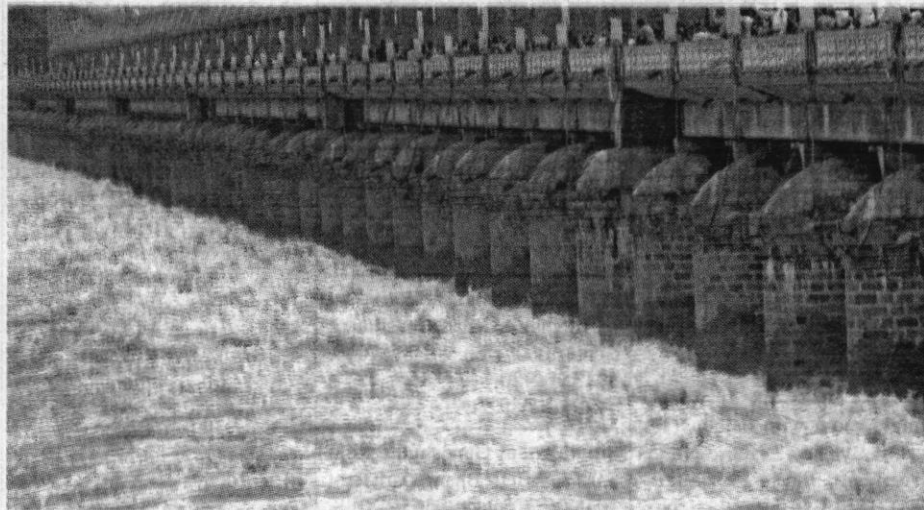
The body of the girl who drowned in the swollen river in Krishna district on Friday was recovered by NDRF personnel.

A farmer too met with a watery grave in Guntur district on Friday, the State Disaster Management Authority said.

After touching a maximum of 8.21 lakh cusecs in the early hours of the day, the flood discharge at Prakasam Barrage in Vijayawada has fallen to 7.99 lakh cusecs at 10 am while the inflow remained steady at 7.57 lakh cusecs, the State Real-Time Governance Centre said.

Even the discharges from upstream reservoirs showed a declining trend but the travails of more than 17,500 people in 87 villages under 32 mandals in Krishna and Guntur districts may continue for the next two days.

In the two districts, 24 villages were completely unin-



Water gushes out as all the gates of Prakasam Barrage across the Krishna river have been opened due to heavy inflow following monsoon rains, in Vijayawada on Saturday. - PTI

dated by the flood.

In all 11,553 people in the two districts have been moved to 56 relief camps where food and drinking water are being provided. In the lanka villages along the river course, people are reluctant to move out of their houses despite the flooding, reminding of the scenario during the massive floods in 1998 and 2009.

According to the State Disaster Management Authority,

a total of 4,352 houses in the two districts remained marooned. Agriculture crops in 5,311 hectares and horticulture crops in 1,400 hectares remained submerged in the flood in these districts.

In river Godavari, there was a marginal drop in the flood intensity with inflow at Sir Arthur Cotton Barrage at Dowaleswaram falling to 7.46 lakh cusecs.

At Polavaram project site,

water stood at 26.36 meters but flood flow from upstream Bhadrachalam showed a declining trend, the SDMA said.

Meanwhile, the Tadepalli mandal tehsildar served a notice on Leader of Opposition N Chandrababu Naidu asking him to vacate the rented bungalow on the Krishna river bank at Undavalli in view of the heavy flood. Naidu was away in Hyderabad and, as such, the notice was handed over to the security personnel at the bungalow.

State Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan conducted an aerial survey of the flood-hit areas of Krishna while ministers visited the marooned localities in Vijayawada city and supervised the relief measures. - PTI

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Midnight rain wreaks havoc

Trees uprooted
in several areas,
vehicular movement
affected

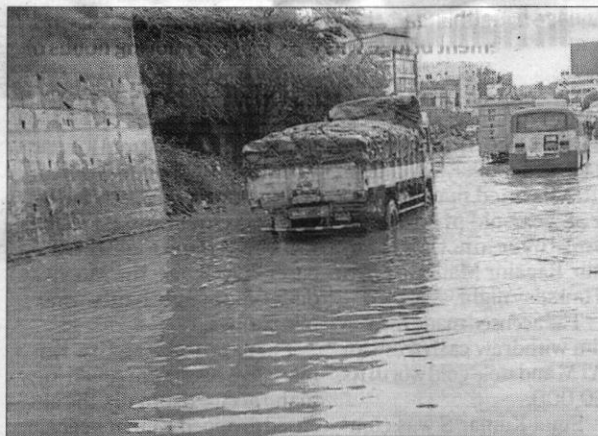
BENGALURU, DHNS

Midnight showers wreaked havoc in the city, with rainwater gushing into houses in low-lying areas late on Saturday night.

An official of the India Meteorological Department told DH that the city recorded rainfall of 35.50 mm between 8 pm on Saturday and 8 am on Sunday. The people of the city woke up to flooded roads and fallen trees on Sunday morning. BBMP personnel swung into action early in the morning to clear roads off the trees.

"Several trees were uprooted on Pipe Line Road in Vijayanagar and near Indiranagar Club. Our personnel rushed to the affected areas following complaints," an official of the BBMP helpline said.

Water gushed into more than five houses in Subhashnagar of Singasandra ward. The residents had to spend the whole night draining the water



Traffic was affected as rainwater accumulated under the Chandapura railway bridge on Saturday night. DH PHOTO

from their houses.

The showers, which began on Saturday evening, picked up pace towards the night. There were reports of tree fall on Mysuru Road, Jayanagar, Basaveshwara Nagar, Rajajinagar, Hoysala Nagar, Chamarajapet, Yelahanka, Vidyanagar, Basavanagudi, Girinagar, Hanumanthanagar and Chandapur, and local residents cleared the trees themselves.

Movement of vehicles was affected and motorists struggled to navigate the flooded roads.

Meanwhile, the residents of Beguru Koppa took to the streets on Sunday, demanding the immediate repair of

the road in the locality. They alleged the road was dug up to lay Cauvery water supply lines three years ago, and later by Bescom and subsequently by some private telecom companies. They alleged that rain had aggravated their problem with water accumulating in the potholes.

IMD director C S Patil said there was a possibility of Kolar, Chikkaballapur, Bengaluru, Bengaluru Rural, Ramanagar and Chamarajanagar districts receiving moderate rain on August 19 and 20. He said the southwest monsoon weakened in the coastal parts and there could be moderate rain in south interior Karnataka.

19/8/19

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In Himachal, total loss of property assessed at ₹490cr



Over 300 affected people have been evacuated and shifted to safer places

► From P 1

The death toll across Himachal was put at 23 while tourists visiting the state during the Independence Day weekend were reported stuck in Lahaul-Spiti and along the Manali-Mandi highway.

In the past 24 hours, Uttarakhand received 34.2mm average rainfall against a normal of 13.2mm, recording a surplus of 159%. Nainital district recorded 64.5mm rain, the highest in the state.

Officials said flash floods in the Mori block of Uttarakhand district caused substantial damage. Hundreds of hectares of agriculture land was washed away and dozens of cattle were feared dead. Water, electricity and communication facilities have been hit.

"Nearly 10 people are re-

ported missing in the flash floods. We have recovered three bodies - Soma Devi, 38, Kalu Ram, 60, and one unidentified body of a one-year-old child - from the affected area," Uttarkashi disaster management officer Devendra Patwal told TOI.

According to volunteers at the spot, another five bodies were found in Makudi village. "The total loss to the state property has been assessed at Rs 490 crore," chief minister Jai Ram Thakur said. "Over 300 affected people have been evacuated and shifted to safer places. Primary rescue forces have reached the spot, while the other teams will reach the area on Sunday night. A rescue operation by helicopters could not be attempted due to bad weather," Patwal added.

Full report on www.toi.in

Landslides, flash floods kill 31 in HP, Uttarakhand

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Shimla/Manali/Uttarkashi: At least 31 people were killed, 10 were missing and hundreds of tourists left stranded as another day of torrential rains in Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand triggered flash floods and landslides on Sunday.

Himachal got its highest ever single-day rainfall, recording 102.5mm on Sunday, 1,065% higher than normal. Around 670 roads in the state, including 13 national highways, were blocked or washed away, including six bridges.

Raghav, 22, a tourist from Telangana, was among the dead after being hit by a rock during a landslide near Manikaran. In Uttarakhand, eight



A woman was killed but four others were rescued when their open jeep was swept away while they were trying to cross the swollen Song river in Maldevta area of Dehradun

bodies were recovered and at least 10 were missing in flash floods in Mori block of Uttarkashi on Saturday night. Houses were damaged and an entire market washed away.

► ₹490cr loss in HP, P 11

Heavy rains kill 38 in north India

WEATHER FURY Over 850 tourists stranded in Lahaul-Spiti due to untimely snowfall; over 500 stranded due to landslides in Himachal

HTC & Agencies

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

NEWDELHI: Rains in India's northern states have taken at least 38 lives, triggering landslides that stranded hundreds of people in Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh and left several areas in Punjab, Haryana and Jammu flooded.

On Monday, Indian Air Force helicopters carried out dramatic rescue operations in Jammu and Karnal districts, even as the administration was on alert in parts of Haryana and Punjab.

Although the rainfall subsided across the region on Monday, rivers in several parts of the region were in spate. The water level rose above the danger mark in Haridwar and Delhi, and the level at Bhakra dam was a foot above the permissible mark.

Three more people were reported dead in Himachal Pradesh, where heavy rains over the weekend have caused floods and landslides, increasing the toll to 25. In neighbouring Uttarakhand, the toll climbed to 12, with recovery of two more bodies.

Cloudbursts have wreaked havoc in a dozen villages of Uttarakshi district, washing away houses and hectares of agricultural land. A 16-year-old boy drowned in Uttar Pradesh's Etawah due to release of water from Kota Barrage into the Chambal.

A total of 897 tourists were stranded in Himachal Pradesh's Lahaul-Spiti due to untimely snowfall, an official said. Official said, nearly 1150 tourists were stranded in the district, of whom 253 were rescued.

The situation in parts of Punjab and Haryana remained grim, prompting the Punjab govern-

ment to declare the current flood situation as a natural calamity.

The Kailash Mansarovar Yatra through traditional Lipulekh route was halted due to landslides on the trek route. According to Pithoragarh district magistrate V K Jogdande, the 17th batch with 56 pilgrims was called back to the Dharchula base camp for safety reasons.

Two bodies were recovered on Monday evening from Makudi as search operations were intensified with the weather improving, Uttarkashi disaster management officer Devendra Patwal said, adding five were still missing.

All bodies except one have been identified, he said. So far, six bodies have been pulled from the rubble in Makudi, four from Arakot and one each from Tikochi and Sanel. Sixty head of cattle have also been killed in the cloudbursts in Mori. Three helicopters, including one from the IAF, were pressed into service to take relief material to people.

In Himachal Pradesh, over 500 people were stranded as several roads were blocked by landslides and flash floods, officials said. The rains have so far caused damage adding up to ₹574 crore, according to a state government spokesperson. The incessant rainfall for the last two days damaged water pipes and hit supplies in Kangra district. In Jammu, an Indian Air Force helicopter rescued four fishermen who were stuck in swollen waters of the Tawi river, officials said.

Several rivers including the Ganga, Yamuna and Ghaghra were in spate in Uttar Pradesh due to heavy rains in neighbouring states, leading to floods in low-lying areas that left one person dead.



PRAYAGRAJ, U.P.

■ An aerial view of the flooded area after heavy rainfall at Sangam in Prayagraj on Monday.

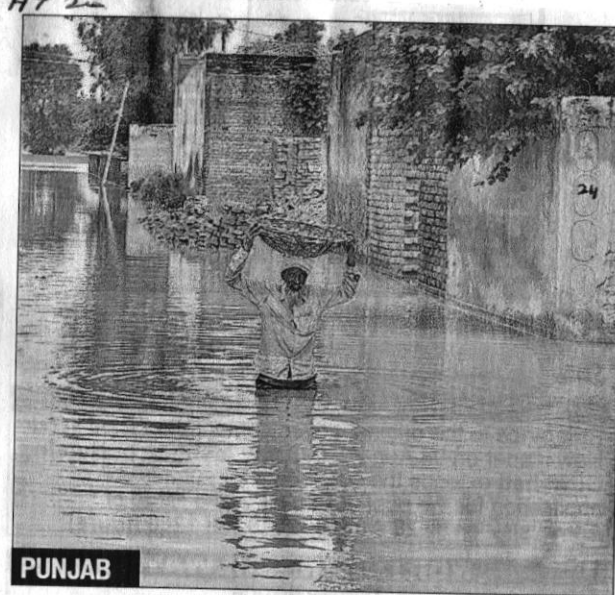
20/8/19

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Over 60 Jalandhar villages inundated

APARNA BANERJI

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MIANWAL/MAO SAHIB

(PHILLAUR), AUGUST 19

Over 60 villages in Jalandhar and its periphery were flooded after breaches in the Beas and Sutlej today and thousands of acres of paddy fields were submerged after water released from the Ropar headworks made its way to the area. In all, there were nine breaches in the rivers, inundating fields and some houses in villages.

Crops in thousands of acres were submerged and at least 200 people were safely evacuated from Jalandhar and Kapurthala in relief operations launched by the administration and villagers.

In Jalandhar, 49 villages were flooded — 31 in Phillaur and 18 in Shahkot. While crops in 11,400 acres were destroyed in Phillaur alone, the administration was assessing the damage in the remaining areas. Even though no loss of life reported was reported from anywhere, flooding of fields had stranded many people in their houses amid fields.

Notably, despite information about floods at least 48 hours ago, many breaches could not be prevented across the district.

Nearly 200 people rescued in Phillaur, Shahkot and Kapurthala villages

Many people in Shahkot and Phillaur claimed that rampant sand mining in their areas had weakened the bundhs.

With water flooding Mao Sahib Bhaini and Mianwal villages early this morning, the administration along with NDRF and SDRF teams started rescue operations and evacuated 70 persons in Phillaur. After the breaches in Shahkot at 3 pm, the relief efforts were shifted there. Until now seven persons have been evacuated from Shahkot.

In Kapurthala, five to eight villages were flooded after breaches at Gidderpindi and Darewal.

Talking to The Tribune, Nirmal Singh, sarpanch of Mianwal village in Phillaur, said, "The administration did step in early, but many people in Mianwal and Mao Sahib were rescued by other villagers. We rescued at least 15 to 20 persons from deras (fields houses) before the administration stepped in."



An NDRF team searches for people stuck in flood-ravaged villages of Phillaur in Jalandhar on Monday. SARABJIT SINGH

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Punjab, Haryana fail to tap surplus to recharge groundwater: Experts

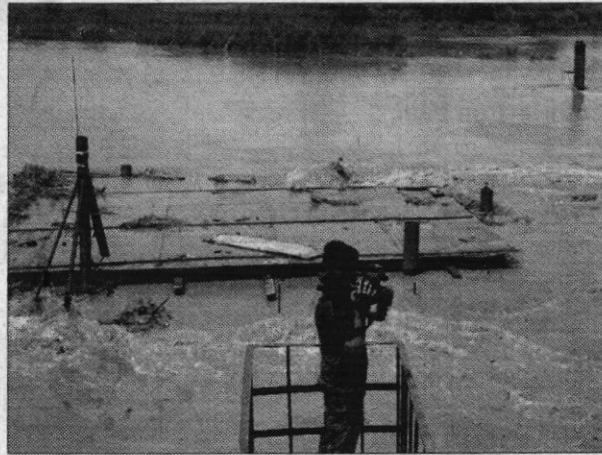
VIBHA SHARMA
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 19

As water from Indian rivers flows into Pakistan and floods wreak havoc in the plains, the authorities managing dams and Punjab and Haryana governments are being criticised over their "lack of synergy and planning to deal with the surplus".

"On one side, Prime Minister Narendra Modi speaks of water conservation and on the other, precious water from Indian rivers is being allowed to flow into Pakistan — not just now (during intense rain), but at the peak of summer. Why were billions of litres released from Bhakra, Pong and Ranjit Sagar reservoirs this summer, much of which went to Pakistan and against the proclamations of the government," said Himanshu Thakkar of the South Asia Network on Dams, Rivers and People.

Releasing the excess water may have been a necessity now, but the question is why Punjab and Haryana do not have plans and infrastructure facilities in place to use the surplus to recharge sinking groundwater levels in the region. "It is the government's job to create



A cameraman at the Old Yamuna Bridge in New Delhi. The Yamuna is flowing at 205.36 m, just above the danger mark of 205.33 m. AFP

“On one side, the PM speaks of water conservation and on the other, precious water from rivers is being allowed to flow into Pakistan — not just now (during rain), but at the peak of summer. Why were billions of litres released from Bhakra, Pong and Ranjit Sagar reservoirs this summer. — Himanshu Thakkar, SOUTH ASIA NETWORK ON DAMS, RIVERS AND PEOPLE

recharge facilities, what have they done so far," he wonders. Had some of surplus water gone towards recharge, damage due to floods could have been reduced in Punjab, he said.

Besides, as the struggling Yamuna flows 'aviral' and 'nirmal', it seems soil carbon depletion, encroachment and deforestation in

catchment areas are hindering water recharge. Environmentalists say floodplains and river basins should be farmed only when "not under water and in an organic way. Floodplains are not meant for habitation...If you invade these, you should be prepared for consequences. You cannot blame the river or nature for your misery".

22 die as incessant rain lash Himachal

NEW DELHI, PTI

Heavy rain lashed the northern parts of the country leaving at least 22 people dead in Himachal Pradesh and eight missing after a cloudburst in Uttarakhand.

A flood alert was sounded in Delhi, Haryana and Punjab as the River Yamuna and others were in spate—In Delhi, people living in the low-lying areas were asked to vacate.

An official said that the Yamuna was flowing at 203.37 metre on Sunday evening and its water level is expected to rise further in next 24 hours after 8.14 lakh cusecs water was released from the Hathini Kund barrage in Haryana at 5 pm.

In view of heavy discharge being released in the rivers in Haryana, the state's Revenue and Disaster Management Department has requested to direct the Army officials concerned to be on stand by.

Heavy rain remained unabated in Himachal Pradesh, leaving at least 22 people, including two Nepalese, dead and nine others injured in rain-related incidents in the state.

Train services between Shimla and Kalka were disrupted on Sunday after multiple landslides blocked the rail route in the state.

In Uttarakhand, at least eight people were missing and several others injured in heavy rains at various places, State Emergency Operations Centre said.

Cloudbursts in Mori block of Uttarkashi district wreaked havoc in several villages, damaging several houses. A woman was washed away in Dehradun district when her car fell into a seasonal river, it said.

Following heavy rains in Aol village of Punjab, three members of a family were killed when the roof of their house collapsed.



A road in Himachal Pradesh's Killu district was destroyed after the River Beas was in spate following heavy monsoon rain, on Sunday. PTI



(From left) Onlookers stand next to a flooded water channel flowing over a bridge after heavy rain at New Chandigarh in Mohali district of Punjab; Residents move to drier ground at Sangam, as the water level of the Ganga and the Yamuna rose rapidly after rains in the region, in Allahabad on Sunday. AFP



Floods impact Maharashtra dairy industry

MUMBAI, DHNS: The floods in Kolhapur and the twin districts of Sangli and Satara have not only displaced over five lakh people and killed 55, it has also caused losses to many including the dairy industry there, which runs into several crores.

With the death of cattle in the floods and disruption of road connectivity, the procurement of milk from the three Western Maharashtra districts—where some of the big dairies houses like Warana, Gokul, Chitale and Swabhimani are located—has taken a big impact.

With a shortage being felt in Mumbai and Pune and the procurement dropping by 20 to 35%, the Maharashtra

government is in touch with its neighbours, Karnataka and Gujarat, to get the additional quantity of milk.

Mahadev Jankar, minister for animal husbandry, dairy development and fisheries, has said that government is extending a helping hand and will pay compensation to those whose cattle has perished in the floods.

According to Pune-based Divisional Commissioner Deepak Mhaisekar, as many as 7,847 cattle including cows, bulls and buffaloes have perished in the flood waters.

More 1,065 goats, sheep and 160 calves and donkeys have either been killed or have gone missing in the floods, he said.

Uddhav to visit flood-hit areas

Shiv Sena president Uddhav Thackeray and his son Aditya Thackeray will visit the flood-hit areas of Maharashtra this week, reports DHNS from Mumbai. While Uddhav will visit Sangli and Kolhapur districts, Aditya would tour the Konkan belt.

Uddhav is expected to visit Brahmanal village, where 17 people were drowned when a rescue boat turtled.

Meanwhile, Aditya, will restart his 'Jan Ashirwad Yatra', which was put on hold due to floods, from August 26

Seven more bodies recovered in Kerala

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DHNS: Six more bodies were recovered on Sunday from Kavalapara in Malappuram district of North Kerala, where a landslide occurred on August 8.

One body was also recovered

occurred the same day.

Revenue department sources said that about 13 more persons were still missing at Kavalapara, where the total death toll has reached 46.

Experts from the National

Malappuram to check the possibility of tracing any missing bodies with ground-penetrating radar system.

At Puthumala, six more persons were still reported missing.

One body was recovered

recovered from the spot.

The body recovered on Sunday was spotted one km away from the landslide spot.

The total death toll in this monsoon calamities in Kerala from August 8 now stands at

still residing at over 500 relief camps across the state.

As many as 1204 houses were fully damaged and 12,877 partially damaged.

The maximum damages were at the district of Wayanad, where 535 houses

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Punjab on edge, rivers in spate

Capt declares natural calamity | Orders ₹100-cr aid | Allowance for migrant labour

CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 19

As Punjab struggled to brace the onslaught of water from the swollen Sutlej and its tributaries, breaching river protection at several places and inundating hundreds of acres of agricultural land, the state government today declared the flood situation a natural calamity.

Chairing a meeting, Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh asked Financial Commissioner Revenue KBS Sidhu to issue a notification in order to facilitate affected persons to claim insurance against crop loss. He also asked the Finance Department to release Rs 100 crore as relief fund.

As flooding of fields was reported from Jalandhar, Ropar, Ludhiana, Nawanshahr and Pathankot districts, the Chief Minister asked all Deputy Commissioners to coordinate with the police, national and state disaster relief forces and expedite rescue and relief operations.

He declared temporary subsistence allowance for migrant labourers in flood-ravaged areas from the CM's Relief Fund and asked the Drainage Department to plug breaches. In Jalandhar, breaches in 'dhussi bundhs' have been reported at nine places. As many as 81 villages in Jalandhar and 35 in Ropar have been flooded.

Breaches in river protection along the Sutlej were also reported in Ludhiana. The Army has reportedly been called in for help in Ferozepur as the Sutlej is in spate there and in Fazilka. Harike witnessed unprecedented flow of water with 1.24 lakh cusecs upstream and 1.13 lakh cusecs flowing downstream. Officials in the Irrigation Department said water inflow into the Sutlej had reduced marginally.

The Ropar barrage yesterday recorded a peak outflow of 2,40,930 cusecs. — TNS

FIELDS INUNDATED, BUNDHS BREACHED

81 VILLAGES

FLOODED AFTER BUNDHS BREACHED AT NINE PLACES IN JALANDHAR

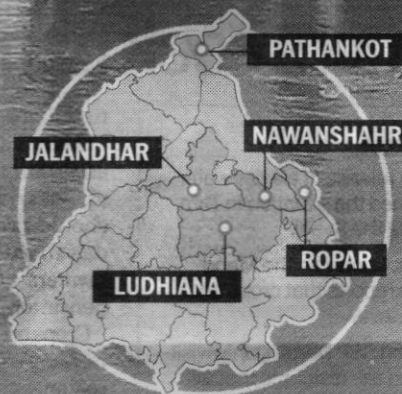
ARMY CALLED OUT IN FEROZEPUR TO ASSIST IN RESCUE AND RELIEF OPERATIONS

35 VILLAGES

FLOODED IN ROPAR; BREACHES IN RIVER EMBANKMENTS IN LUDHIANA



5 DISTRICTS BEAR THE BRUNT



A flooded field in Nawanshahr; and (inset) NDRF personnel inflate a dinghy at a field in Jalandhar. PTI

9 OF FAMILY AIRLIFTED FROM KARNAL VILLAGE

Karnal: Nine members of a family, seven of them children, were airlifted from a flooded field in district's Garhpur Tapu village early on Monday. A helicopter from the IAF base at Uttar Pradesh's Sarsawa was pressed into service to rescue those stranded. **INSIDE**

2 KIDS WASHED AWAY IN HIMACHAL; TOLL 25

Shimla: Two Nepalese children were washed away while crossing a swollen nullah at Kaidi in Nerwa of Shimla district, taking the toll to 25, even as most parts of Himachal, ravaged by heavy rains over the past 72 hours, began limping back to normalcy. **INSIDE**



The damaged Chamba-Bharmour road

OVER 1,000 ROADS CLOSED

SHIMLA	459
MANDI	314
KANGRA	191
HAMIRPUR	91

Bhakra reservoir full, more discharge on way

VIJAY MOHAN
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 19

With water in rivulets that merge into the Sutlej downstream of the Bhakra Dam subsiding and level in the dam's reservoir exceeding its permissible limit, authorities at the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) have decided to increase the quan-

HOW MUCH WATER TO EXPECT

- 20,000 cusecs additional to be released in next few days
- 18,000-20,000 cusecs already being released via sluice gates
- 36,000 cusecs being released via power generation tunnels
- 91,000 cusecs current water inflow into Bhakra reservoir

tum of excess water being discharged from the dam. While the BBMB had restricted the discharge to 18,000 to 20,000

cusecs through the sluice gates at the top of the dam over the past three days, it will now discharge an additional

20,000 cusecs over the next few days to maintain the water level within the permissible limit and maintain a buffer for continuous inflows. Besides an outflow of 36,000 is through the power generation tunnels.

The water level this morning was 1,681 feet against the permissible limit of 1,680 feet. With an inflow of 91,000 cusecs

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Continued from previous page

Bhakra full, more water on way

FROM PAGE 1

BBMB officials estimate the level to touch 1,683 feet by late night. Inflow had peaked to 3.11 lakh cusecs on August 18.

"Despite heavy inflows into the reservoir, we had earlier limited the release of water from Bhakra because heavy rains in the region had generated more than two lakh cusecs in rivulets like Sirsa, Swan and Lohand, which lie between Bhakra and Ropar," a BBMB official said.

"Since there is no forecast of any significant rain over the next seven days, we can now release the excess water in a regulated manner," he added.

The dam's filling season lasts till September 30 when monsoon and snowmelt recede and inflows drop.

'14% outflow from sluice gates'

"We tried to restrict and delay the release of additional water from sluice gates and even during peak inflows, gates were opened to the extent of only 6%. With situation downstream now improving, water release will be 14% of the gate's total capacity." — A BBMB official

Unforeseen weather events that can bring in deluge also have to be factored in.

Within a span of a year, the dam has witnessed extremities, from being virtually empty last summer with a storage reduced to just seven per cent due to historically low inflows to now managing surplus supply.

BBMB officials said of the 2.40 lakh cusecs that passed downstream of Ropar, only 19,000 cusecs had been released from sluice gates. An

official said minimum possible water would be released through the sluice gates and the quantum being released would not result in any adverse situation downstream.

At Pong Dam, which is also witnessing inflows of 91,000 cusecs, the water level is 1,375 feet against the limit of 1,390 feet. The BBMB has suspended power generation at Pong to stop discharge downstream into the Beas that could minimise flooding at the Harike barrage.

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