भारत सरकार Government of India केन्द्रीय जल आयोग Central Water Commission

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सतंञ्न : उपरोक्तानुसार

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निदेशक (बा.पू.प्र.)

कृष्या केन्द्रीय जल आयोश की वेब साईट पर अपलोड करने की व्यवस्था करें।

निद्शक (तकनीकी प्रलेखन )

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## दिनाकं 22/8/15 को निम्निखिखत समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Hindustan Times ( Delhi ) ਜ਼ਕੁਆਦਰ ਟਾਡ੍ਰੇਸ਼ਦ ( ਫ਼ਿਲੀ ) The Tribune ( Chandigarh ) The Hindu ( Chennai )

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

#### Bhakra water level to be reduced by 5 ft

VIJAY MOHAN

CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 21

While reducing the outflow from Bhakra Dam's floodgates tonight, authorities have decided to bring down the water level in the reservoir, which is hovering near the top mark, by at least 5 feet over the next few days to handle the possibility of any future weather event as well as to counter the unusually high deflection of the dam's structure.

#### **RESERVOIR LEVEL STATUS**

PERMISSIBLE	1,680 FT
CURRENT	1,679.5 FT
TARGET	1,675 FT

"The water level this morning was 1,679.5 feet, which will be brought down to 1,675 feet. A special technical committee meeting to review the situation was held yesterday in which all members of the partner states were of the view that the water level should be reduced by five feet," said DK Sharma, chairman, Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) today.

In the evening, the BBMB decided that in view of CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



Villagers carry food and essential items on a wooden raft in flooded fields at Shahkot in Jalandhar on Wednesday. PHOTO: SARABJIT SINGH

### Water continues to rise, so do fears

Jalandhar villagers spend sleepless nights on rooftops; No fodder or medicines

DEEPKAMAL KAUR

JANIAN CHAHAL (JALANDHAR), AUG 21
Marooned in their houses by
the swollen Sutlej, affected
families at Janian Chahal,
Chak Wadala and Gatti Peer
Baksh villages in the district
today spent their fourth
sleepless night stranded on
rooftops, waiting for the
water levels to recede. However, there was no respite in
sight as water remained 8 to
10-ft deep at most places.

#### TWO WEEKS TO PLUG BUNDH BREACH: ARMY

Col Bharat Bhalla from the Vajra Corpa Engineers, supervising work on the reconstruction of a bundh at Janian Chahal village which has a 200x45 ft deep breach, said it would take 15 days to plug it. "It is a long, laborious process that may take two weeks. Our main job is to arrest further breach," he said.

Villagers use tractor tyre tubes and huge cauldrons from flooded kitchens as boats to move around and collect relief material from nearby locations.

As The Tribune team

reached out to some of them, Harpal Singh of Chak Wadala village said from the rooftop: "Water is still rising, it seems we will get submerged and die soon. We are not getting any information as there is no access to television, mobile phone or newspapers. Is it true that more 1 lakh cusecs of water is being discharged (from Bhakra) by the BBMB today?"

With food and water being supplied to the flood-hit areas through boats and helicopters, Gurdial Singh at Janian Chahal village rued: "We don't need food for ourselves. The cattle, our livelihood, are starving.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



#### दिनाकं २<sup>1</sup> हो हिना को निम्निलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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continue on lage 1

#### 'Water continues torise, so do fears'

FROM PAGE 1

There is no fodder for them. Please tell the administration to provide us fodder. They are neck-deep in water and can barely breathe."

Parveen Kumari, also stranded on the rooftop of her house along with daughter Muskan, said: "I've been having a severe headache since morning and urgently need medicine. I have not been able to sleep for four days. Our men have been busy helping out in the reconstruction of the 'dhussi bundh'."

Green activist Sant Balbir Singh Seechewal, who was seen distributing food through boats, said: "Villagers were asking for fodder for animals, besides medicines for themselves. We had to tell them to be content with food and water for the time being."

# ra water level to be cut by 5 ft

inflows reducing to 45,000 cusecs and forecast of low rainfall in the coming weeks, the discharge from the spillway would be reduced from 41,000 cusecs to 18,500 cusecs. The spillway gate opening would be lowered down to four feet from the present eight feet.

The reservoir's permissible limit is 1,680 feet and the water level had gone past it following heavy rain in the catchment area. At present, the BBMB is releasing 40,000 cusecs through the spillway, in addition to 36,000 cusecs through the power generation tunnels to reduce water levels.

"After assessing inflows, the BBMB had released more water during May and June. The level had been

brought down by 20 feet from 1,624,18 to 1,604 feet by June 25, before the onset of monsoon," Sharma said while trying to dispel public misperception that floods were the result of water being released from Bhakra.

Stating that the BBMB had no option but to discharge excess water, Sharma said a host of factors, including quantum of inflow, meteorological forecasts, seepage levels and deflection of the dam had to be taken into account.

"The deflection experienced this time was among the highest such recorded instances due to the intense pressure of water," he said.

Pointing out that this year. Punjab had experienced the worst floods since 1988, Sharma said controlled

#### **WATER FLOW**

Current inflow 45,000 cusecs Current discharge 41,000 cusecs Target outflow 18,500 cusecs

release of water could successfully handle the situation. The gates of the spillway were initially opened only by three feet and thereafter by eight feet. In 1988, the gates had been opened up to 22 feet. The maximum discharge capacity of the spillway is four lakh cusecs.

Peak water generated in the Sutlej at Ropar headworks during the floods was 2.4 lakh cusecs, most of which came from rivulets downstream of the dam. Rajasthan's requirement is 12,500 cusecs and since there is no storage means

downstream of Ropar, water eventually went waste by flowing across the border.

Sharma added keeping in mind the long-term health of the dam and condition of the reservoir, several projects had been initiated. This includes allocation of Rs 220 crore for undertaking a study and related works under phase-2 of the Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project that would cover structural, hydrological, seismic and geo-physical aspects.

Further IITs at Roorkee and Ropar had been roped in to identify areas along the reservoir's periphery that were prone to silt inflow and to assess the commercial exploitation of silt dredged from the reservoir bed.





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# 2 new breaches worsen situation in Jalandhar, Kapurthala

APARNA BANERJI

FATEHPUR/JANIAN/JANIAN CHAHAL, AUGUST 21

With two fresh breaches at Mandala Channa village, Lohian, in Jalandhar and Indessar village in Kapurthala, the flood crisis in the districts has been aggravated.

With over 21 villages inundated in Lohian alone, there is no let-up in the severity of water flow. For the second consecutive night, more than 19,000 villagers are expected to spend night in the open. Over 30,000 acres in Jalandhar has been inundated.

Twentyfive boats Jalandhar and 5 Kapurthala) and seven helicopters have been pressed into service for executions in the 138

#### NOT MUCH RELIEF

30,000 acres inundated in Jalandhar

138 villages affected in Jalandhar, Kapurthala

27 boats, 7 helicopters roped in for relief ops

Villagers use a boat to cross a flood-hit area at Shahkot in Jalandhar on Wednesday. TRIBUNE PHOTO: MALKIAT SINGH

flood-hit villages of the districts. The heavy flow of water and villagers' reluctance to leave their belongings are posing problems to rescue and relief works.

Some villages have also

been using their own boats or those provided by activist Balbir Singh Seechewal to ferry people. Three boats provided by Seechewal plied all day at Janian Chahal village. Jalandhar Deputy Commis-

sioner Varinder Kumar Sharma said, "About 18,000 villagers are expected to be staying put at their 'flooded' homes today too. Ration for two days has been airdropped today. We expect

waters to recede soon and will airdrop ration a day after."

Kapurthala DC DPS Kharbanda said choppers should be pressed into service tomorrow to air drop over 10,000 packets of ration.



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# Water level recedes, rail traffic restored



Trains pass through the Iron bridge after the rail traffic was restored on Wednesday. TRIBUNE PHOTO: MUKESH AGGARWAL

#### NEW DELHI, AUGUST 21

Water level of the Yamuna started receding on Wednesday, but the river continues to flow above the danger mark, an official said.

A Northern Railway spokesperson said rail traffic over the old Yamuna bridge ('Lohe wala Pul'), which was temporarily suspended on Tuesday night, was restored at 4.25 pm on Wednesday with speed restriction of 20 kmph.

According to the Flood Control Room, the water level came down to 206.50 metres at 5 pm from 206.60 metres at 2 pm. The river breached the danger mark of 205.33 metres on Monday.

"The water level is likely to recede further as Haryana has so far not released water from the Hathni Kund barrage in large quantity," a government official said.

At 4 pm, only 10,000 cused water was released from the barrage. Due to inundation of low-lying areas, over 15,000 people living in Yamuna floodplains have been shifted to tents set up by various government agencies, officials said.

The river flows through six districts of Delhi whose low-lying areas are prone to flooding. The administration has deployed 30 boats to prevent accidental drowning. In 1978, the water in the river rose to its highest-ever level of 207.49 metres, causing a devastating flood in the Capital. — PTI