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DC Doda, SSP take stock of road damages, direct immediate restoration measures

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Karra asks party cadres to render all possible help in rescue, relief

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CM Omar Abdullah conducts extensive tour of flood-affected Jammu



BRIEF

Schools to remain closed today due to flood-like situation

**Jammu :** Due to flood-like conditions, all schools, colleges and educational institutes in Jammu and Kashmir will remain closed on Thursday (August 28), announced Education Minister Sakina Itoo. The decision comes as torrential rains continue to batter the Jammu region and intermittent rainfall impacts the Kashmir valley on Wednesday. Schools and Colleges across Jammu & Kashmir will remain closed tomorrow (28.08.2025) in view of inclement weather," Itoo stated in a post on X on Wednesday.

All the universities are to remain closed today

**Jammu :** In the order issued by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir higher education department, Civil Secretariat, Jammu that all the universities in Jammu and Kashmir will remain closed tomorrow (29-8-25). The order has been issued due to the adverse weather conditions in the Jammu division. Authorities had made the decision as a precautionary measure to ensure the safety of the students.

CBT Examination for post of Reader postponed

**Srinagar :** According to a notification issued by the Registrar Recruitment, J&K High court, in view of the inclement weather and heavy rainfall, it is hereby notified for information of all the candidates who had to appear in the online CBT Examination for the post of Reader, Level-8 (47600-151800) advertised pursuant to Advertisement Notification No. 02 of 2025/RR/RC dated 26.05.2025, that the examination for the said post which was scheduled to be held on 28.08.2025 in different centers both at Jammu and Srinagar, stands postponed and shall now be conducted on 13.09.2025. Further, the candidates are informed to download their admit cards afresh, which shall be made available on the official website of the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh w.e.f., 06.09.2025.

Announces Rs 6 lakh relief for families of Katra tragedy, Rs 10 crore advance to DCs for swift relief operations

**Jammu :** Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today announced an ex-gratia of Rs 6 lakh for the next of kin of those who lost their lives in the tragic landslide at Katra near Mata Vaishno Devi shrine - Rs 4.00 lakh from State Disaster Relief Fund and Rs 2.00 lakh per deceased person from Chief Minister's Relief Fund. He also announced relief for victims of other flood-related incidents reported across Jammu and Kashmir over the past two days with compensation from State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) and Rs 2 lakh from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund. The Chief Minister also announced Rs 1 lakh for each person who

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LG chairs high level meeting to review Rescue & Relief Operations

Essential services disrupted in flood affected areas must be restored on priority : Sinha

**TT Correspondent Jammu, Aug 27 :** Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha chaired a high level meeting today to review the rescue and relief operations and preparedness of Union Territory's and concerned central agencies, Army, Air Force, NDRF, CAPFs to deal with the situation arising out of incessant rain and flash floods.

The Lieutenant Governor directed officials to take every possible measure to ensure that people staying in low-lying flood affected areas are safely evacuated. He asked the officials to ensure maintenance of all essential services such as power, health-care, clean drinking water, ration and tele-connectivity. He said the essential services disrupted in flood affected areas must be restored on priority and natural-disaster

hit areas should have adequate stock of essential supplies and medicines. The Lieutenant Governor also directed for immediate



restoration of roads, bridges on National Highways, alternate routes for traffic movement and preparedness of hospitals in case of influx of patients with water-borne diseases. The Lieutenant Governor directed PDD to closely work with NHPC Limited and Power Grid Corporation of

India Limited (PGCIL) for early restoration of Power Infrastructure. He called upon the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI)

and hilly habitations, while restoring the regular water supply infrastructure. He also directed the Secretary Health, Public Work Department (R&B), Food and Civil supplies and Power Development Department to remain in Jammu Division and reach out to the flood affected areas. He said no officer or employee will take leave or leave the station. The Lieutenant Governor directed officials that non-essential government offices, schools and colleges must be closed till further notice and every district to ensure 24x7 functioning of control rooms to help individuals and households affected by the flooding. The Lieutenant Governor said emergency responders must be pre-positioned in vulnerable areas and other teams

(Cont. on Page-11)

emergency responders, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board employees and citizens for their exemplary interventions which saved many lives. Interacting with the media persons, the

Pilgrimage already suspended when cloudburst led to Viashno Devi landslide : LG Sinha

**KATRA, AUGUST 27 :** Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today met the devotees injured in an unfortunate landslide incident near Ardhkuwari at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine who are undergoing treatment at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Narayana Superspeciality Hospital, Katra and enquired about their health.

Team of senior doctors briefed the Lieutenant Governor on the health condition of the injured and the medical procedures being followed. The Lieutenant Governor directed the Doctors and Hospital Administration for ensuring the best possible treatment for the speedy recovery of the injured. It was informed that 13 people are presently undergoing treatment at SMVD Narayana Superspeciality Hospital, Katra and their condition is stable. The Lieutenant Governor expressed his gratitude to

emergency responders, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board employees and citizens for their exemplary interventions which saved many lives.

Interacting with the media persons, the



Lieutenant Governor said, "Yatra was suspended yesterday due to bad weather. Cloudburst occurred and devotees at Ardhkuwari were caught in it. It was a heart-wrenching natural calamity, in which we have lost precious lives. We are providing all possible assistance to bereaved families."

The Lieutenant Governor also announced

ex-gratia relief to the families of the deceased. He said the Shrine Board and the administration are extending all the necessary assistance to the affected families.

The Shrine Board's policy provides for an ex-gratia payment of Rs 5 lakh to the next of kin of any individual who dies in an unfortunate incident. An additional Rs 4 lakh will be provided from SDRF.

The Lieutenant Governor has also briefed the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Hon'ble Home Minister Shri Amit Shah on the flood situation and the ongoing relief and rescue operations in various Districts of Jammu Kashmir.

He has directed the officials for maximum readiness and presence of staff at their posts to respond to emergency situations.

PM Modi condoles loss of lives in Vaishno Devi landslide incident

**New Delhi, Aug 27 :** Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah expressed grief over the deaths caused by a landslide on the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Yatra route in Jammu and Kashmir. The whole union territory is battling a wider crisis triggered by relentless rains, flash floods, and widespread landslides that have crippled communication and transport networks across the Valley.

In a post on X, the Prime Minister described the incident as "saddening," extended condolences to the bereaved families and

wished the injured a speedy recovery. He said the administration was extending all possible assistance to those affected and prayed for the safety and well-being of all pilgrims. Home Minister Amit Shah yesterday called the landslide "extremely tragic," and said he had spoken with Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to review the situation. He added that the local administration had been mobilised for relief and rescue work and that teams from the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) were being rushed to the

affected areas.

While rescue operations continued the Vaishno Devi



route, in Jammu city and surroundings where several bridges and other infrastructure collapsed, the wider Kashmir Valley slipped into silence as a near-total communication collapse struck late tuesday

afternoon. Persistent rains and flooding triggered landslides at multiple points, damaging telecom infrastructure and leaving both government and private networks paralysed. Mobile services, landlines, and internet connectivity remain severely disrupted. Thousands of Kashmiri families living outside the state were in panic since last evening. The blackout and silence in communication has created deep anxiety, as they have been unable to connect with loved ones in the Valley for nearly 24 hours. "It feels like we are cut off from our people. (Cont. on Page-11)

More than 5000 people were evacuated from low-lying flooded areas to safety : LG

**Srinagar, Aug 27 :** Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has spoken to Divisional Commissioner, Jammu Ramesh Kumar and other senior Officials and took stock of flood situation and rescue and relief Operations.

He has directed the officials for restoration of Power, Communication, Water Supply on priority in areas where flood water is receding. More than 5000 people were evacuated from low-lying flooded areas to safety.Army, NDRF and SDRF is working in coordination with the Divisional

Commissioner's office and we are ensuring that there is adequate supply of relief materials and all possible assistance is being given to those affected.The Lieutenant Governor has also prayed for the safety and well-being of everyone affected by the natural calamity in various parts of Jammu Division, and those brave emergency responders and citizens actively helping in the relief efforts.

In a post on X, the Lieutenant Governor said:"Spoke to Divisional Commissioner, Jammu Sh. Ramesh Kumar and other

Senior Officials and took stock of flood situation and rescue and relief Operations. Directed the officials for restoration of Power, Communication, Water Supply on priority in areas where flood water is receding. More than 5000 people were evacuated from low-lying flooded areas to safety. Army, NDRF and SDRF is working in coordination with Div Com's office and we are ensuring that there is adequate supply of relief materials and all possible assistance is being given to those affected."

Jal Shakti Dept elevates 8 in-charge Superintending Engineers as in-charge Chief Engineers

**Srinagar :** In a significant administrative move aimed at strengthening leadership and ensuring uninterrupted delivery of public services, the Jammu and Kashmir Government has approved the placement of eight in-charge Superintending Engineers as in-charge Chief Engineers in the Jal Shakti Department.

The decision, taken under exceptional circumstances by the department led by Jal Shakti Minister, Javed Ahmed Rana, is part of a broader strategy to reinforce managerial oversight and operational efficiency across key infrastructural sectors under the department's purview.

The move comes in light of pressing administrative exigencies and the need to ensure continuity in the functioning of critical divisions within the Jal Shakti Department and its allied organizations. The placements have been made to provide leadership support at the Chief Engineer level in view of existing vacancies, without allowing any disruption in project execu-

tion or departmental operations. As per Government Order issued by Additional Chief Secretary, Jal Shakti Department Shaleen Kabra, eight officers namely Er. Mohd Hanief, Er. Showkat Hussain, Er. Rakesh Kumar Gupta, Er. Jugal Kishore Nagotra, Er. Naseeb Chand, Er. Dev Raj Bhagat, Er. Zakir Hussain and Er. Muneer Hussain have been temporary placed as In-charge Chief Engineers. Subsequently, after placement, the officers were posted in various wings of Jal Shakti department. Er. Mohd Hanief has been posted as in-charge Chief Engineer, PHE Jammu; Er. Showkat Hussain as in-charge Chief Engineer, Irrigation & Flood Control, Kashmir; Er. Rakesh Kumar Gupta as in-charge Chief Engineer, PHE Kashmir; Er. Jugal Kishore Nagotra as in-charge Chief Engineer, UEED, J&K whereas Er. Naseeb Chand, Er. Dev Raj Bhagat, Er. Zakir Hussain, and Er. Muneer Hussain have been placed at the disposal of JKPCDC for further

Don't want anyone's land, but ready to go to any extent to protect ours: Rajnath Singh

**Mhow (Madhya Pradesh), Aug 27 :** In a compelling address on the second day of the tri-service seminar 'Ran Samvad 2025' at the Army War College in Mhow (now known as Ambedkar Nagar), Defence Minister Rajnath Singh underscored India's commitment to peace while stressing the necessity of robust defence readiness in the face of evolving geopolitical challenges.

The Defence Minister highlighted the profound symbolism of the seminar's name, 'Ran Samvad' - where 'Ran' signifies battle and 'Samvad' represents dialogue and reconciliation. "The very title of the programme, Ran Samvad, strikes me as quite interesting. The name itself is a subject to think about and reflect on. On one hand, 'Ran' evokes the imagery of battle and conflict, and on the other hand, 'Samvad' points towards dialogue, discussion, and reconciliation," he said. Drawing from Indian culture, he explained that dialogue and battle are intertwined. "In

our culture, dialogue is not separate from battle. It comes before the battle. It happens during the battle, and it continues even after the battle." Citing the



Mahabharata, Singh noted, "Take the Mahabharat, for instance, to prevent the war, Lord Krishna went as a messenger of peace. He went to engage in dialogue so that the war could be averted. When Duryodhan, the antagonist of the epic Mahabharat, refused, the war became inevitable."

Reaffirming India's non-aggressive stance, the Defence Minister stated, "India has never been a nation that seeks war. We have never initiated aggression against anyone. However, the present geopolitical reality is quite

different. Even though we do not harbour any aggressive intent, if someone challenges us, it becomes imperative that we respond with strength."

He further emphasised territorial integrity, "We do not want anyone's land, but we are ready to go to any extent to protect our land." Addressing the nature of modern warfare, Singh warned of its unpredictability, "In today's era, wars have become so sudden and unpredictable that it is very difficult to predict when any war will end and how long it will last. That is, if any war stretches for two months, four months, a year, two years, even five years, then we should be fully prepared for it."

He advocated for a comprehensive approach to national security: "It has become an issue of a whole-of-nation approach." The Minister praised the success of Operation Sindoor as a testament to India's capabilities. "The success of Operation Sindoor is a perfect example in itself. (Cont. on Page-11)

We must set clear deadlines for bringing life to normalcy: CM Omar Abdullah

**TT Correspondent Jammu, Aug 27 :** Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today said that the continuous rainfall had created a flood-like situation of devastating proportions, despite prior forecasts. Stressing that his government's immediate priorities were rescue, relief and restoration, the Chief Minister emphasised that strict deadlines must be set to ensure accountability and transparency in the government's response.

Chairing a high-level meeting at the Civil Secretariat in Jammu, the Chief Minister reviewed the damages caused by incessant rains across Jammu and Kashmir and assessed preventive and welfare measures in view of the prevailing

weather situation. The meeting was attended by Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary; Minister for Health & Medical Education, School Education & Higher Education Sakina Itoo; Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs Javed Ahmed Rana; Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj Javid Ahmad Dar and Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Satish Sharma and Adviser to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani. MLAs from Jammu district and the MLA Bani, Dr Rameshwar Singh were present to apprise the Chief Minister of damages in their constituencies. Chief

Secretary Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary Jal Shakti Shaleen Kabra, Additional Chief Secretary to the CM Dheeraj Gupta, IGP



Jammu Bhim Sen Tuti, all Deputy Commissioners, Commissioner Jammu Municipal Corporation Dr. Devansh Yadav, and other senior officers of the admin-

istration also participated. Appreciating the role of the Jammu district administration, Omar Abdullah said the rescue of people had been



carried out effectively in many affected areas. "Relief delivery is our next mission. We have to make arrangements for those whose houses have been damaged. It is our

responsibility to look after them until they are settled. The Chief Minister directed that an immediate assessment of damages be undertaken so that a financial package could be pursued with the Government of India. "We must ensure nobody remains hungry and that there is no outbreak of water-borne diseases. Debris removal and deployment of men and machinery will be our immediate focus. He underlined the importance of setting practical and time-bound targets for public services. "We have to be honest and give realistic hopes. The people must be presented with a practical picture," he said. Taking note of power outages and disruptions in water supply, (Cont. on Page-11)

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person who sustained severe injuries and Rs 25,000 to 50,000 for those who suffered minor injuries in these incidents. In order to ensure timely response and assistance, the Chief Minister has directed the advance placement of Rs 10 crore with each Deputy Commissioners in Jammu and Kashmir of affected districts. The funds will be utilized to meet immediate requirements of relief, rehabilitation and restoration in the affected areas. CM Omar Abdullah expressed solidarity with the bereaved families and assured that all possible support will be extended by the government to the victims of these natural calamities.