



Nima Kumari shows a photo of her husband Mithlesh Kumar, who has been missing after flash floods in Chamoli district of Uttarakhand

# SDRF men monitor Rishiganga river flow, set up alert sensors

DEHRADUN

EVEN as rescuers continued to look for more survivors after flash flood damaged two hydroelectric projects in Chamoli district of Uttarakhand, the SDRF said on Monday that it had deployed men along the Rishiganga river to monitor its water flow. Even though a considerable flow of water downstream

from a lake formed in the catchment area of the Rishiganga had been recorded, State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) personnel were deployed at Pang and other areas along the river, SDRF Commandant Navneet Bhullar said.

In addition, alert sensors have also been set up along the river, he said. Top government officials

said that people have been directed not to go near the Rishiganga river and take all precautions.

Amid growing fears, the Uttarakhand government had on Friday sounded an alert after satellite images indicated the formation of a lake in the catchment area of the turbulent river.

"We have to remain alert as satellite pictures show the for-

mation of a 400-metre long lake at Rishiganga," Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat had said.

An 8-member SDRF team headed by Bhullar had conducted a survey of the lake and returned on Saturday evening to Tapovan in Chamoli district after collecting samples like mud and water and videography of the area.

"We have sent these samples

and videos to the police headquarters in Dehradun for further action," said Bhullar.

Significantly, there has been considerable discharge from the lake also, Bhullar said.

The government has asked scientists of the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology and the Geological Survey of India to depute teams to the Rishiganga valley to make a detailed report on the lake formation.

Reports pouring in from different areas of Chamoli district said that the flow of Rishiganga had been disturbed since Thursday afternoon.

A glacial mudflow on February 7 morning had triggered a massive flash flood in the river at Joshimath in Chamoli district, hitting NTPC's Tapovan and Rishiganga hydro projects. Over 200 persons had gone missing after the disaster.

# UP: 1 killed in encounter while in police remand

LUCKNOW

GIRIDHARI Vishwakarma, the main accused in the murder of another history-sheeter Ajit Singh last month in Lucknow, was shot dead by the Lucknow police in an encounter at 2.30 a.m. on Monday.

The police spokesman said they were taking Giridhari to Khargapur area in Vibhuti Khand in Gomti Nagar to retrieve the weapon used in the Ajit Singh murder on January 6, when the accused shoved aside a sub inspector, snatched his revolver and tried to flee at the railway crossing.

Other members of the police team chased Giridhari and shot him. The police took an injured Giridhari to the Ram Manohar Lohia hospital where he was



declared brought dead.

Two police personnel have also been injured in the encounter.

It may be recalled that a history sheeter, Ajit Singh, was shot dead in Gomti Nagar area

on January 6. The main accused, Giridhari, was arrested from Delhi on January 11. Giridhari was in police custody from February 13 to 16 and the police was trying to retrieve the weapon used in the crime.

## BJP MLA booked in case of abetment of suicide

MEERUT

BHARATIYA Janata party MLA from Hastinapur Assembly segment, Dinesh Khatik and 13 others have been booked for abetment of suicide after one Omkar Singh Tomar, 48, allegedly ended his life and reportedly named the BJP MLA as one of the persons to be held responsible. According to the family of the deceased, Khatik had been allegedly putting pressure on Tomar to shell out Rs 15 lakh to settle a dowry case registered against Tomar's son. Khatik, however, refuted all charges and said, "I was asked to mediate on behalf of Tomar's family and I was doing that. I have no role in his suicide and will fully cooperate with police investigation."

# Delhi HC: There can't be so many vacancies in minority panel

NEW DELHI

THE Delhi High Court on Monday asked the Ministry of Minorities Affairs as to why various posts at the National Commission for Minorities (NCM) are lying vacant and directed it to submit a status report.

Justice Prathiba M. Singh was hearing a petition seeking filing up of vacancies. Petitioner Abhay Ratan Bauidh told the court that only the post of the Vice Chairman was functional, while six others are vacant since October 2020.

"There cannot be so many vacancies," the court observed and directed the Ministry to file a status report in 10 days. It has also been asked to explain why the posts are not filled up.

"The National Commission for Minorities cannot protect



the interests of minority communities without its Chairperson, members Buddhist, Christian, Parsi, Sikh and Jain," the petitioner stated.

The plea, filed through advocate Vinay Kumar, also contended that not filling the vacant posts is affecting the safeguards and interests of

the petitioner's Buddhist minority community. The court has, however, removed the Prime Minister's Office from the list of respondents after Additional Solicitor General Chetan Sharma raised an objection, apprising the court that it has no role to play in the process of appointment.

# Priyanka's close aide flays Pilot's removal from dais at Rahul's rally

JAIPUR

SPARKING off yet another controversy by raising questions on the Congress' future, Acharya Pramod Krishnam, a close aide of Congress General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, has raised objections to Sachin Pilot being asked to leave the dais during the recently held Kisan Mahapanchayat in Rajasthan's Rupangarh when Rahul Gandhi was there.

"How can the farmers benefit when the farmer leader is brought down from the dais during the farmers' 'Panchayat'. This is not the question of Sachin Pilot's insult and neglect, but this is the question of Congress' future," Pramod Krishnam tweeted in Hindi on Sunday and tagged Rahul Gandhi, Ashok Gehlot and Sachin Pilot.

Soon after Pramod Krishnam's tweet, Sachin Pilot's supporters expressed their resentment on social media and questioned why their leader was ignored at the rally.

During Rahul Gandhi's Kisan Mahapanchayat in Roopangarh, Sachin Pilot and several



other leaders were initially seen on the stage.

However, soon after Rahul Gandhi went on the stage, MLA Ramlal Jat and Rajasthan in-charge Ajay Maken asked everyone to leave the stage except four leaders, including Ashok Gehlot, K.C. Venugopal, Govind Singh Dotasara and Rahul Gandhi.

Pilot was very much present on the stage when the announcement was made.

As Rahul Gandhi started speaking, Pilot and Maken spoke to each other and both of them stepped down from the stage. This incident has been linked with the move to get Sachin Pilot off the stage.

Pramod Krishnam recently triggered speculation by showering blessings on former Deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot to become the Chief Minister of Rajasthan in the future.

# NCLAT orders removal of Delhi Gymkhana's governing body

NEW DELHI

IN a major blow to the current management of the Delhi Gymkhana, the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) has ordered the suspension of the colonial era premier club's governing body -- General Committee (GC) -- and directed the Centre to appoint an administrator to manage the affairs of the more than century-old club, located in the heart of Lutyens Delhi.

The Principle bench of the Appellate Tribunal has also directed that acceptance of new membership or fee or any enhancement thereof till disposal of wait list applications be kept on hold till

disposal of the company petition.

In its order, NCLAT said that the considerations which must be present to the mind of tribunal at the conclusion of the Inquiry while recording the finding that the acts of "oppression and mismanagement" complained of are of a degree warranting winding up of the company but that it would be unfair to any class of stakeholders to wind up the company and therefore, would justify only passing of suitable direction, would not weigh at the stage of grant of interim relief when only interlocutory order may be required to be passed for regulating the conduct of the company's affairs.

"We accordingly modify the interim relief by directing suspension of the GC and appointment of an Administrator to be nominated by the Union of India to manage the affairs of the Club and also direct that acceptance of new membership or fee or any enhancement thereof till disposal of wait list applications be kept on hold till disposal of the company petition," said the order.

The appellate tribunal has ordered that its interim order should be carried into effect within two weeks. The management has failed to protect the distinctive character of the Club which stands converted into "recreational club only".

## COAST GUARD RECOVERS 3 BODIES



The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) recovered bodies of three crew members believed to be trapped inside the engine room of the ill-fated offshore supply ship 'Greatship Rohini', which caught fire on Saturday. The bodies were discovered on Sunday morning in a search operation conducted jointly by 19 persons including eight crew members of Greatship Rohini and 11 members from ICG.

# Boy accidentally hangs self in Gurugram

GURUGRAM

IN a tragic incident, a 10-year-old boy accidentally hanged himself while playing with a rope tied to the window of his house in the Shanti Nagar area of Gurugram, police said on Monday. According to the police, the incident took place on Sunday when a cloth rope became stuck around little Vishal's neck while he was playing in his room. Police reached the spot after receiving information and took the

body and sent it for post-mortem. In the evening the body was handed over to the family. The deceased's father Yogender told the police that his son was playing after locking his room from inside. The shawl which Vishal was using as a rope got stuck around his neck while the other end was tied to the window. The noose was stuck tightly while he was sliding through the window, due to which he died. Soon after the incident, the family took the child to the local hospital, where doctors

declared him dead. A team from the Shivaji Nagar police station is conducting further investigations into the matter. Investigating officer Sub-Inspector Surender Pal said that the deceased used to live with his family at Shanti Nagar area. His father is a wholesaler at the vegetable market.

# UP's free coaching for competitive exams begins today

LUCKNOW

UTTAR Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, on Monday, launched the 'Abhyudaya' scheme that will start free-of-cost coaching centres in the state.

The scheme aims to provide assistance to all such students who want to prepare for various competitive examinations but are unable to do due to their financial status. Speaking to students who have enrolled for the scheme, chief minister Yogi Adityanath, on Monday, said that during the lockdown, he felt that a Kota-like coaching centre should be set up in Uttar Pradesh too. The chief minister answered the queries of students in the Abhyudaya scheme.

The coaching centres will be first set up at the divisional level and then at the district level in the second phase.

The free-of-cost coaching institutes will start functioning from 'Basant Panchami' (February 16), the day of worship to the goddess of learning, Saraswati.

Over 4.84 lakh registrations have already done within four days of its



launch. Under the scheme, the students will be able to attend offline classes and will also get online study material.

The coaching will also involve provision of direct counselling by senior IAS, IPS and PCS officers for

the aspirants.

In case of examinations like the National Defence Academy (NDA) and combined Defence Services (CDS), thorough training will be given by principals of Sainik Schools in UP.

There will also be separate classes for NEET and Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) for admission into the prestigious IITs. All the lectures and complete study material covering the entire syllabus of various examinations will be made available online.

## 'All 75 UP districts to have medical colleges'

LUCKNOW

UTTAR Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath plans to construct a medical college in each of the 75 districts of Uttar Pradesh.

The medical colleges will soon be opened on the Public-Private-Partnership model in 16 districts of the state that do not have any college till now while others will be upgraded. The Ut-

tar Pradesh Government will soon introduce a new policy on this. According to the government spokesman, the state government wants to strengthen health facilities at the grass-roots level and the government will increase the number of health centres in rural and urban areas. Super-specialty hospitals will be constructed in districts including Gorakhpur, Agra, and Varanasi.

# Uttarakhand calamity: Three more bodies recovered, toll climbs to 53

DEHRADUN/TAPOVAN

THREE more bodies were recovered on Monday from the flood-ravaged Tapovan tunnel, taking the toll in the glacial disaster in Uttarakhand to 53.

The bodies were recovered this morning from the Adit tunnel at the NTPC's Tapovan-Vishnugad project site, Chamoli District Magistrate, Swati S Bhadauria, told PTI.

Rescue efforts are now underway at the Silt Flushing Tunnel (SFT) only with the help of excavators as a camera or a pipe cannot be inserted due to mounds of sludge and water choking it, the district magistrate said. The SFT at Tapovan where drilling was completed on Saturday night in the hope of inserting a camera to locate those believed to be trapped inside is also badly choked with slush and water, she said. Rescue or recovery is possible only with the help of excavators now, she said.

Officials said over 150 people still remain missing after the February 7 devastation, possibly triggered by an avalanche in the upper reaches of the Alaknanda river system. A surge of



water in Dhauliganga and Rishiganga rivers had ripped through two hydel projects. Asked about the chances of survival of those missing or trapped, the district magistrate said, "We must always try to be hopeful when the circumstances are adverse."

Over 500 ration kits carrying food-grains and essentials have already been distributed among residents of over a dozen villages that were cut off from the district headquarters following the disaster that struck a week ago. Electricity supply has been restored in all affected villages except Pang where solar lanterns have been provided to residents for the time being, she said. The agencies involved in the Tapovan rescue work include the Indo-Tibetan Border Police, the National Disaster Response Force and the State Disaster Response Force.

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Empanelment of Service Provider(s) for supply and installation of fresh Fire Extinguishers and refilling of existing Fire Extinguishers at various Business Units / Offices / Currency Chest / Guest House of J&K Bank under Zonal Office (North) Delhi

Tender Notice along with Complete tender document outlining the minimum requirements can be downloaded from and Bids can be submitted on the Banks' e-Tendering Service Provider Portal <https://eauction.auctiontiger.net> w.e.f February 16, 2021, 16.00 Hrs. Tender Document can also be downloaded from Bank's Official Website [www.jkbank.com](http://www.jkbank.com). Last date for submission of Bids is March 09, 2021, 17.00 Hrs.  
e-NIT Ref. No. JKB/ZG/ZOND/Rental-DG/2021-359  
Dated: 12-02-2021

**J&K Bank**  
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The Jammu And Kashmir Bank  
Estates & General Department  
Zonal Office North Delhi,  
Plot No 132-134 Sector-44  
Gurugram Haryana, 122003

**Notice for e-RFP (e-NIT)**  
for  
Empanelment of vendor/s for Providing Silent Diesel Generator Sets on rental Basis (Excluding Fuel Consumption Charges) for J&K Bank's various Business Units falling under Zonal Office North Delhi.

Tender Notice along with Complete tender document outlining the minimum requirements can be downloaded from and Bids can be submitted on the Banks' e-Tendering Service Provider Portal <https://eauction.auctiontiger.net> w.e.f February 11, 2021, 16.00 Hrs. Tender Document can also be downloaded from Bank's Official Website [www.jkbank.com](http://www.jkbank.com). Last date for submission of Bids is March 04, 2021, 17.00 Hrs.  
e-NIT Ref. No. JKB/ZG/ZOND/Rental-DG/2021-351  
Dated: 09-02-2021