

DISASTERS UPDATE

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TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

NATIONAL

Bridge collapse: 8 more bodies recovered; toll rises to 22

Source: DD News

Date: 06 August 2016



Eight more bodies were recovered yesterday during search operation in the Savitri river, where two state-run buses and some private vehicles were swept away after a British-era bridge collapsed in Mahad, taking the toll in the tragedy to 22 as hopes for survivors faded.

A fresh search operation, involving multiple agencies and local divers, has been launched today morning.

Twenty boats and nearly 160 personnel from Coast Guard, NDRF and Navy were deployed in the search operation.

The tragedy occurred on Tuesday night at Mahad, about 170km from here, when two state-run buses and some private vehicles fell into the swollen river following collapse of a British-era bridge on Mumbai-Goa Highway.

Four killed in landslide enroute to Vaishnodevi

Source: The Times of India

Date: 06 August 2016

JAMMU: Four persons including three pilgrims were killed and nine injured in a landslide triggered by heavy rains enroute to the cave shrine of Mata Vaishnodevi in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi district.

The landslide occurred on Banganga-Ardhkuwari road around midnight and the debris fell on a shelter where the pilgrims were sitting, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Shri Mata Vaishnodevi Shrine Board (SMVDSB) Ajeet Sahu told PTI.

"Three pilgrims including a 5-year-old died on the spot and another person was brought dead at hospital," the CEO said.

The victims were identified as 29-year-old Shashidhar Kumar of Bangalore, 30-year-old Bindu Sahni and her 5-year-old son Vishal from Chhattisgarh, besides 32-year-old Sadik of Reasi who was a 'ponywalla', CEO said.

Additional Superintendent of Police (ASP), Reasi, Sanjay Rana said that nine people were also injured in the incident.

While seven of them were given first aid, two others were admitted to Kata hospital with serious injuries, he said.

Rescue operation was conducted immediately on the spot in the presence of CEO and senior officers.

Ex-gratia is being paid and arrangements for shifting dead bodies are also being made, Sahu said.

Some of the injured were identified as Suraj Kant Sahni (36) of Chhattisgarh; Ved Singh (69), Naryani (58) and Om Parkas (62) of Haryana; Paras (8) and Santosh (28) of Bangalore.

The yatra to the cave shrine, which was disrupted for some hours, later resumed, the ASP said.

INTERNATIONAL

At least 13 killed, 6 injured in France bar fire

Source: DD News

Date: 06 August 2016

The blaze broke out at around midnight at the basement room of the Cuba Libre bar in the city centre during a birthday celebration.

"A fire broke out in a bar in the city centre of Rouen this evening, according to an initial investigation, 13 are dead and six are injured, and more than 50 firemen attended the scene," Cazeneuve said in a statement.

"An inquiry is underway to establish the cause of the fire," he added.

One source close to the investigation said that candles on a birthday cake may have sparked the blaze.

One of the injured was in a critical condition, the secretary general of the Seine-Maritime prefecture Yvan Cordier told.

15 killed in rain-related incidents in Pakistan

Source: The Hindu

Date: 06 August 2016

At least 15 people have died in separate rain-related incidents in Pakistan's southern Sindh province with heavy monsoon showers wreaking havoc here.

The heavy rain, which began on Friday evening, continued on Saturday leaving 50 per cent of Karachi in darkness as around 450 feeders of K-Electric — Karachi's power utility company — tripped with several roads heavily inundated and communication systems badly disrupted.

Electrocution, roof collapse

Rescue and government officials said around eight deaths were reported in Karachi from electrocution or roof collapse in low-lying areas while another 7 were killed in Badin, Mithi and Thatta in interior Sindh.

The rains also resulted in massive traffic jams and gridlocks in various parts of the city.

The roads in Karachi were deserted on Saturday as people preferred to stay indoors in the wake of heavy rains.

The Meteorological Office earlier described the fresh spell as a "moderate to heavy rainfall" and said that the trend was likely to continue for at least 24 hours.

Rain to continue

Meteorological Office Director Abdul Rashid explained that the pressure system that developed in Rajasthan has grown over time and has now reached rural Sindh.

"The rain will continue for next three days," he said.