

# DISASTERS UPDATE

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## TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

### National

#### Flood fury stays unabated in Bihar

**PTI, August 28, 2016 12:30 IST**

The death toll in Bihar rose to 153 on Saturday with four more fatalities as floods continued to ravage the State, while higher reaches of Himachal Pradesh experienced the season's first snowfall.

In West Bengal, the flood situation in Malda worsened on Saturday with two fresh deaths reported from Kaliachak III block, taking the toll in floods to four in the district. Twelve more panchayat areas were inundated in Bihar affecting a total population of 34.69 lakh in 12 districts.

Two deaths each were reported from Bhojpur and Begusarai, the Disaster Management Department said.

Caused by a rise in water levels in Ganga, Sone, Punpun, Burhi Gandak, Ghaghra, Kosi and other rivers, the floods have affected people in 2,037 villages under 565 panchayats of 74 blocks in the state, it said.

#### 4.97 lakh people evacuated

The Ganga, though showing a receding trend, is flowing above the danger mark at seven places — Digha Ghat, Gandhi Ghat, Hathidah in Patna, Bhagalpur and Kahalgaon in Bhagalpur district, besides in Munger and Buxar districts.

A total 4.97 lakh people have been evacuated so far from the 12 flood-affected districts of Buxar, Bhojpur, Patna, Vaishali, Saran, Begusarai, Samastipur, Lakhisarai, Khagaria, Munger, Bhagalpur and Katihar, a department release said.

Parts of Uttar Pradesh witnessed a fresh spell of rains even as several rivers continued to flow above the danger mark at many places.

At least 8.7 lakh people in 987 villages in Varanasi, Allahabad, Ghazipur and Ballia have been hit by the floods as the Ganga continues to flow above the danger mark in Fafamu, Chhatnag, Mirzapur, Varanasi, Ghazipur and Ballia.

Several parts of Himachal Pradesh were lashed by moderate to heavy rains as the Dhauladhar ranges in Kangra district and high altitude tribal areas experienced the season's first snowfall.

Rain lashed various places in Punjab and Haryana as maximum temperatures hovered at below normal levels in some areas in both States.

More than 53,000 people have been rescued by National Disaster Response Force teams from the flood-ravaged areas in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh.

## **12 coaches of express train derail in Kerala, none injured**

**ToI, Aug 28, 2016, 07.20 AM IST**

KOCHI: Twelve coaches of Thiruvananthapuram- Mangalore express derailed in the wee hours of Sunday near Karukutty station, around 45 kms from here, Southern Railway said.

No casualties were reported in the incident.

The incident took place around 2.30 am when the 16347 express train derailed between Aluva and Karukutty stations in Ernakulam district after leaving from Thiruvananthapuram at 8.40 pm yesterday, a Southern Railway spokesman said. Following the incident, buses and local trains were arranged to ferry the stranded passengers to Kochi and Thrissur.

Traffic on both the lines of the route is affected due to the derailment and six to 10 hours are expected to complete the repair works of the damaged tracks on Ernakulam-Thrissur route, he said.

Some local trains connecting major stations of Kerala have been cancelled because of the derailment.

## **Fire razes 30 Karimganj shops**

**TNN | Aug 28, 2016, 07.29 AM IST**



Silchar: At least 30 shops were gutted in a devastating fire in the Charbazar area of Karimganj town early on Saturday.

Eyewitnesses said the fire broke out at 2.30am. Soon, flames engulfed part of the market. Five fire tenders rushed to the site and brought the fire under control. Police said no one was injured in the incident. An electric short circuit

may have been the cause behind the fire, the official said. The loss of property is yet to be estimated.

The traders have demanded adequate compensation from the district administration.

*Compiled by  
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