

## HP : 18 people have lost their lives

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### INVC NEWS

Shimla,

As many as 18 people have lost their lives during the heavy rains during the last twenty four hours in various parts of the State. This was stated by the Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur while interacting with media persons here today.

Chief Minister said that the State has witnessed torrential rains during the last two days resulting in landslides, flash floods and falling of trees. He said that as many as eight persons were reported to have died in Shimla district alone. He said that two persons each have lost their lives in Chamba, Kullu, Sirmour and Solan districts. Apart from it, one person each lost their lives in Bilaspur and Lahaul & Spiti districts due to heavy rains during the last 24 hours, he added.

Jai Ram Thakur said that all the Deputy Commissioners of the State have been directed to keep a close vigil on the situation and ensure safety of the local as well as of the tourists. He said that the tourists have also been advised to stay away from river beds as there was always possibility of sudden rise in water levels due to flash floods and heavy rains. He said that the State has suffered a loss of about Rs 490 crore in the State during this monsoon season.

Chief Minister said that Lahaul & Spiti district has witnessed untimely snow yesterday and today morning due to which heavy damages had been reported to crops. He said that the State Government would ensure time bound clearances of all the major roads so as to ensure that the people of the State, particularly horticulturists does not face any difficulty in transportation of their produce to the markets.

Jai Ram Thakur said that the Deputy Commissioners have also been directed to take decision regarding closure of educational institutions in their respective districts as per the situation well in time so that the students do not face any inconvenience.

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