

aw, they are traceless". Similar is the case of Umesh Kumar Yadav, a resident of ward number 13, Mirganj in Madhepura, who lost four members of his family in a boat tragedy on August 29. As bodies have not been recovered so far, his family members also remain 'missing'.

District magistrates of Supaul, Madhepura, Saharsa, Araria and Purnea are already getting reports of dozens of people feared swept away by Kosi, though the official death

declare the missing people dead only after seven years.

The Disaster Management Department said it had written several letters to the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) to bring a provision of special compensation in case of natural disaster. Disaster Management Principal Secretary R K Singh said: "We have to think of options in case of flood deaths even if bodies are not recovered. We served the last reminder to the

them compensation (Rs 1 lakh to kin of each dead)". "There will be a penal provision in place in case of filing a wrong affidavit," he added.

Disaster Management Additional Secretary Pratyay Amrit said the Government had already engaged IBM to prepare data of the lost people at camps. "A special software used during tsunami and Indonesia floods will avoid overlapping in recording missing names. In case, the software finds similar

National Disaster Management Act (NDMA), 2005, to make special provisions for compensation in case of deaths caused by flood.

Union Home Minister Shivraj Patil did hint on possible amendments to the NDMA during his speech at international conference on disaster management at Bangalore on June 14 this year but he mentioned only strengthening of civil defence organisations in the country.

For 4 days, ride Volvo for Re 1 in Bangalore

Johnson T A

Bangalore, Sept 13

A common sight on Bangalore's jammed roads over the past couple of years has been that of plush, air-conditioned, ultra-sleek Volvo buses of the city transport corporation plying at half its 43-seater passenger capacity.

On Thursday, this underwent a dramatic change. As many as 110 of 154 public transport Volvo buses in Bangalore, that serve the city as a high-end option to taxis and autorickshaws, were chock-a-block with passengers.

The buses were brimming not just with office-goers — typically associated with the Volvo buses on account of the minimum fare of Rs 10 — but also with daily wage earners and students as well.

The sudden fascination with the Volvo buses, expected to continue till Sunday, comes on account of an initiative of the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation to offer commutes between any two points in the city at a cost of only Re 1.

The offer has seen bus drivers and conductors in Volvos operate like private transport vehicles — hailing the Re 1 offer at bus stops, inviting even reluctant passengers to enjoy the luxury of a modern bus and filling buses to the brim.

The four-day 'travel anywhere in Bangalore in a Volvo for Re 1 only'

offer has been envisaged by the BMTC and state transport minister R Ashok as a new effort to encourage usage of public transport and to obtain returns on investments on Volvo buses.

"We have introduced the Re 1 offer with the aim of encouraging more people to use the Volvos for transport," the Transport Minister said.

On the first day of the offer made available on routes in the city — with the exception of the new international airport route where fares range between Rs 80 and Rs 150 — as many as 18,000 to 20,000 people used the Volvos, BMTC Chief Traffic Manager Dastgir Sharif said.

The Volvos commonly called 'Vayu Vajras' in the City have been in use by the BMTC for nearly two years. As many as 50 new buses were introduced this week taking the total to 154, including as many as 44 buses that operate on the new airport route.

While new commuters on the Volvos claimed to have enjoyed the experience of travelling in the modern buses, they also insisted that the buses were attractive only on account of the low pricing.

"We know it is a gimmick and fares will return to normal rates on Monday. I don't normally take the bus but was encouraged by the shouting of the conductors," says Damodar S, a security guard at a private firm.

Speedy insurance settlement sought

Chennai, Sept 13

Insurance companies should introduce a single-window clearance mechanism for speedy settlement of accident claim cases, Supreme Court judge Arijit Pasayat said on Saturday.

Addressing a seminar on alternative dispute redressal (ADR) here, Arijit Pasayat, said this would eliminate delay in handing out justice to the affected and also prevent the case from being dragged in courts for a long time.

Citing media reports, he said even minors were now driving cars on roads causing deaths, which he described as an "irresponsible" act.

(PTI)

Nagarjuna Fertilizers and Chemicals Limited

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This advertisement is being issued in compliance of the requirements of the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India, in terms of its letter No. F.No. J-11011/265/2008-IA II(I) dated August 22, 2008.

Nagarjuna Fertilizers and Chemicals Limited (NFCL) has received the Environmental Clearance approval from the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India for setting up of Wet blending Unit for Production of Customized Fertilizers (1.30 Lakh MT/Annum) at Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh, in terms of the application made by the company to the Ministry of Environment & Forests, New Delhi.

A copy of the letter No. F.No. J-11011/265/2008-IA II(I) dated August 22, 2008 is available with the Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board, Hyderabad and also can be seen at the website of the Ministry of Environment & Forests at <http://envfor.nic.in>.

Hyderabad
Sept. 12, 2008 Sd/-
M Ramakanth
Vice President
Legal and Secretary