

Dozens dead in N-E floods



Army personnel evacuate people from a flooded area in Hojai district of Assam on Saturday. REUTERS

90 DEAD SO FAR

Five people died in Assam and one in Meghalaya on Saturday, taking the toll in the two states to 39 in the past three days. Officials said that 58 people have died in Assam and 32 in Meghalaya this monsoon.

MORE RAIN LIKELY: IMD

The Met department has forecast rains for northeast at least till June 20, which local authorities said could worsen the flood and landslide situation in the worst-hit Assam and Meghalaya. →P10

Hindustan Times- 19- June-2022

6 more die, many displaced in N-E as rain fury continues

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SILCHAR/SHILLONG: Five persons died in Assam and one in Meghalaya on Saturday, taking the toll in the two northeastern states because of incessant rains to 39 in the past three days, disaster management officials said. In this monsoon season, 58 people have died in Assam and 32 in Meghalaya.

The India Meteorological Department has predicted rains for northeast at least till June 20, which local disaster management officials said could worsen the flood and landslide situation in the worst-hit Assam and Meghalaya.

East Khasi Hills in Meghalaya, where Mawsynram and Sohra are located — the two places recorded 1,003.6 mm and 972 mm of rain on Friday — was the worst affected with nine deaths reported on Friday, when 19 people died because of heavy rains in the state.

Chief minister Conrad K Sangma on Saturday announced compensation of ₹4 lakh to next of kin of each deceased.



People being shifted to a safer place near Rangia in Kamrup district of Assam on Saturday. PTI

Nine people lost their lives in landslides at Dangar, Kenmynsaw, Boro Ryngku and Betgora A villages under the Mawsynram Community and Rural Development (C&RD) block, the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) of East Khasi Hills.

At Dangar in East Khasi Hills, five members of a family were killed in a landslide on Friday. Several flash flood and landslides was also reported in Gillabora and

Kolaibari villages of South West Khasi Hills district.

The landslide at Kenmynsaw claimed the lives of a couple. Some of the sites are cut off because of road damage and therefore, the extent of damage and loss was not known, officials said. The state has sought help of the Border Security Force for rescue operations. Road communication has been severely impeded across the state, with all agencies

of the government being pressed into service.

In Assam, five persons died and four were reported missing on Saturday due to rain-related incidents taking the toll to 20 in the past five days. About 2.6 million people across 30 districts have been affected by heavy rains and induced floods, of which 150,000 have taken shelter in 765 relief camps, said state disaster management department.

Due to heavy rainfall, Brahmaputra and eight other rivers across Assam were flowing above danger levels, a Central Water Commission report said. The government appealed to people in flood-affected areas to take shelter in government buildings and schools.

State capital Guwahati remained flooded for the third day in a row, especially at low lying areas such as Anil Nagar, Nabin Nagar, Zoo Road, Six Mile, Bhootnath, Maligaon, Rajgarh Link Road, Hatigaon, Rukimigaon and Gotanagar. Over 234 roads and 16 bridges have been damaged in the rain, hampering road and rail traffic in the state, according to officials.

Hindustan Times- 19- June-2022

Water supply crisis will continue for now, DJB warns

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NEW DELHI: Water supply will continue to remain affected in national capital, the Delhi Jal Board said on Saturday in an advisory, the ninth such statement in the last one and a half months as the Capital continues to face shortage of supply as well as some parts complaining over the turbid quality of water being supplied.

In the advisory on Saturday, the jal board said that water

supply will continue to remain affected "Sunday onwards" till sufficient water is released by Haryana and urged people to utilise water judiciously.

The water utility said that the water level in Yamuna at Wazirabad on Saturday stood at 667.60ft (0.6 ft from the riverbed) against the normal level of 674.5 ft. "Due to less receipt of raw water in Delhi Sub Branch (CLC) reduction of pond level of Yamuna at Wazirabad Water Works at 667.60 feet against the

normal level of 674.50 feet is being observed. Due to the reduction in release of raw water by Haryana in the Yamuna, water production has been affected from water treatment plants at Wazirabad, Chandrawal and Okhla. Water supply will be affected from the morning of June 19, 2022 till the sufficient water is released by Haryana in DSB, CLC and Yamuna river," the board said in an official statement.

The board said areas where water supply will remain hit

include Civil lines, Kamla Nagar, Shakti Nagar, Karol Bagh, Paharganj and NDMC areas, Rajinder Nagar, Patel Nagar Prem Nagar, Inderpuri and Kalkaji.

Other areas where water may be available at low pressure include Govindpuri, Tugalkabad, Sangam Vihar, Ambedkar Nagar, Delhi Gate, Model Town, Gulabi Bagh, Punjabi Bagh and south Delhi localities such as Moolchand, South Extension, Greater Kailash and neighbouring areas.

A senior DJB official said that normal supply is only expected after the arrival of monsoon.

Water from Haryana, via Yamuna and the two canals, constitutes almost 40% of the raw water availability in the city; a quarter (25%) water comes from UP through upper Ganga canal, 22% comes from Bhakra Nangal while rest of the 13% is sourced from subsurface sources (groundwater).

"In order to reduce the impact of the shortage, we have carried out rationalisation of

water in the whole city. Hence, water supply will be available at low pressure in the morning and evening on Sunday," the official said.

Moulik Arora, a resident of west Delhi's Sudarshan Park said that water supply in the area has been affected for the past two weeks. "We got water on Monday and Tuesday in F block, but since Wednesday there is almost negligible or limited supply. There is no water in our area for the last two days," Arora said.

OVER 2,000 PEOPLE DISPLACED DUE TO TRIPURA DELUGE

Assam flood situation worsens; 8 more die, Modi dials CM

MPOST BUREAU

GUWAHATI/AGARTALA:

Assam reeled under devastating floods caused by incessant rain affecting nearly 31 lakh people in 32 districts, while eight more people lost their lives on Saturday taking the toll to 63, officials said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi called up Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma to take stock of the situation. The CM also visited a few relief camps sheltering affected people in Kamrup and Darrang districts.

A total of 18.94 lakh people were affected in 28 districts of the state on Friday.

The toll in the current second wave of floods and landslides in the state has increased to 63 as



People use a banana raft to move to a safe shelter, at a flood-hit village in Nalbari district of Assam, on Saturday

PIC/PTI

two deaths each were reported from Barpeta and Karimganj

while one each died in Darrang, Hailakandi, Nalbari and Sonitpur districts. Eight people, including three children, were reported missing after a boat capsized in Hojai dis-

trict on Friday night. They are from the districts of Hojai, Bajali, West Karbi Anglong, Kokrajhar and Tamulpur. Altogether 21 people were rescued there.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi rang up the chief minister to enquire about the current flood situation in the state and assured him of all help from the Centre.

"Earlier today, spoke to Assam CM and took stock of the situation due to floods in the state. Assured all possible support from the Centre. I pray for the safety and well-being of the people of Assam affected by flooding," Modi tweeted.

Sarma visited the inundated Rangia town in Kamrup district, with state BJP president and local MLA Bhabesh Kalita. He also vis-

ited relief camps at Fatima Convent School and Kolajal where affected people have taken shelter.

Speaking to media persons, Sarma said that the district administration is ready to face any exigency and to help the flood-affected people.

"The administration has been directed to ensure relief supplies and evacuate people from vulnerable areas to relief camps. The Army is ready to provide assistance and the deputy commissioners have been asked to take their help when required. NDRF and SDRF personnel are evacuating affected people to safer places," he said.

The CM assured the inmates of the relief camps that all steps are being taken to help them.

In Darrang district, Sarma

waded through flood waters and examined the breached embankments at Patharughat and Bor Athiabari. He directed the officials concerned to repair it after the water recedes.

The Army has deployed 11 columns to assist in rescue and relief operations in Hojai, Baksa, Nalbari, Barpeta, Darrang, Tamulpur and Kamrup districts and has so far evacuated 3000 people to safety.

The Central Water Commission (CWC) bulletin on Saturday stated that the river Kopili is flowing above 'High Flood Level' in Nagaon district, while other rivers such as the Brahmaputra, Jia-Bharali, Puthimari, Pagladia, Manas, Beki, Barak and Kushira are flowing above the danger level at different places. **Turn to P4**

Assam flood

A population of 30.99 lakh has been affected in 32 districts, according to a report by the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA) on Saturday. Altogether 118 revenue circles and 4,291 villages have been impacted

by the calamity.

Barpeta, Darrang, Goalpara, Hailakandi, Kamrup (M), Nalbari, and Udalguri districts have also been affected severely by urban flooding, according to the bulletin.

A total crop area of 66455.12 hectares has been inundated while 441 animals have been washed away in the current wave of floods, according to the ASDMA.

Landslides were reported from Cachar, Dima-Hasao, Goalpara, Hailakandi, South Salmara and Kamrup (Metro) districts during the day.

More than 1.56 lakh people have taken shelter in 514 relief camps. Relief materials were also distributed to other affected populations that are not in such camps.

Infrastructure damage was also reported from various parts of the state as 216 roads, five bridges and four embankments were damaged during the day.

Meanwhile, more than 2,000 people have been displaced due to flooding in Sadar subdivision of West Tripura district triggered by torrential rain, officials

said on Saturday.

They have taken shelter in 20 relief camps. However, no fatality has been reported so far, they said.

West Tripura district has received 155 mm of rainfall in the last 24 hours, causing inundation of several low-lying areas on the banks of Howrah River.

"Water level in Howrah River is flowing slightly above the danger level, posing threat to several low-lying areas in southern parts of Agartala. The situation may worsen if it rains more," Sadar Sub-Divisional Magistrate Ashim Saha said. Police, National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and administration are jointly conducting relief and rescue operations in the affected areas.

Chief Minister Manik Saha visited the Integrated Command and Control Centre on Friday night and took stock of the situation. He asked officials to take all possible steps to handle the situation and assess the damage caused by the floods.

The Hindu- 19- June-2022

Erratic monsoon leads to poor Idukki reservoir storage

GIJI K. RAMAN
IDUKKI

The uneven rainfall since the start of the water year on June 1 has impacted the Idukki reservoir level, which has started to decline after initially increasing following the summer rain.

The water level receding after the middle of June is rare. The water level first

started to rise in May and it declined again. However, with the southwest monsoon it increased and then started declining again from Thursday. This is for the second time the water level has started to decline, says M.P. Saju, assistant engineer, Dam Safety, Kerala State Electricity Board.

Normally, the water level

starts to show a rising trend only after two to three days of continuous heavy rainfall after the start of the monsoon. However, the pattern has changed since 2018 and the water level increasing with the summer rain is rare in the Idukki reservoir.

High and low

The water level normally

touches the lowest level prior to the water year and the highest storage level will be by October-November. The water level on Saturday was 2,337.96 ft with a rainfall of 20.6 mm on Friday.

Power generation

The power generation at Moolamattom is below normal now. It was 4.43 million

units on Friday. Power generation had reached the highest level during the end of the summer season.

The water level is over 10 ft below now compared to the water level on the same day last year (2,349.30 ft). The present storage level is 35.96% whereas it was 46.23% on the same day last year.

The poor storage level is due to the erratic rainfall since June 1. The water level has not dipped to the lowest level prior to the southwest monsoon.

As per the rule curve fixed by the Central Water Commission, the blue alert level is 2,365 ft, orange alert 2,371 ft, and red alert 2,372 ft. The full reservoir level is 2,403 ft.

The Hindu- 19- June-2022

T.N. govt. should hasten legal battle in Mekedatu issue, says Anbumani

'It should work with Kerala, Puducherry'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

PMK president Anbumani Ramadoss on Saturday urged the State government to take measures to ensure speedy hearing of its petition seeking a ban on the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) from discussing the Mekedatu Dam project in its meeting.

He welcomed Chief Minister M.K. Stalin's statement that a team led by Water Resources Minister Duraimurugan will meet Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat on the issue. Ho-

wever, Mr. Anbumani stressed on the need for fastening the legal battle.

He also said Tamil Nadu should join hands with the Kerala and Puducherry governments and urge for the postponement of the CWMA meeting until the Supreme Court hears the case.

He also questioned the timing of CWMA chairman Saumitra Kumar Haldar's inspection in the delta regions and said the suspicion that it was done to favour Karnataka could not be ruled out.



Anbumani Ramadoss

The Statesman- 19- June-2022

Rice, pulses, oilseeds witness less sowing; only sugarcane up: Data

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 18 JUNE

As large parts of India remained monsoon deficit, Kharif 2022 witnessed lesser area under rice, pulses, and oilseeds while only sugarcane area is up compared to 2021 with a decline of 8.66 lakh Hectare in total area sown, government data said on Saturday.

A total of 99.63 lakh Ha area has been sown during the Kharif 2022 season compared to 108.29 lakh Ha in 2021, i.e. minus 8 per cent as on Saturday, June 18.

Rice is sown over 8.73 lakh Ha, compared to 12.52 lakh Ha in 2021, which is 3.80 lakh Ha less (minus 30.32 per cent). Pulses have been sown over 4.39 lakh Ha, compared to 4.74 lakh Ha in 2021, which is 0.35 lakh Ha less (minus 7.43 per cent), among them, Urad has witnessed the least sowing with 0.53 lakh Ha this year compared to 0.73 lakh Ha last year (minus 27.95 per cent).



Total coarse cereals has also witnessed decline with 6.81 lakh Ha compared to 9.74 lakh Ha in 2021, a decline of 2.98 lakh Ha (minus 30.07 per cent). Of them, Bajra has seen the least sowing with 0.45 lakh Ha compared to 2.85 lakh Ha in 2021 (minus 84.10 per cent).

Even the Oilseeds saw sowing over 4.75 lakh Ha compared to 5.79 lakh Ha (minus 17.86 per cent).

The government data showed only sugarcane has

seen an increase with 6.51 lakh Ha compared to 6.76 lakh Ha last year, up by 1.86 per cent. India Meteorological Department (IMD) data showed that as on June 16, the all India cumulative rainfall during this year's monsoon (between June 1-15) is minus 32 per cent, of which the largest gap was over north-west India, which was minus 77 per cent below the long period average for the region.

Meanwhile, major 143 reservoirs across the country

have the Full Reservoir Level (FRL) capacity of 177.46 billion cubic metres (BCM), which is about 68.83 per cent of total reservoir capacity of 257.81 BCM in the country. Data as on June 10 showed that the live storage in these 143 major reservoirs had decreased to 52.82 BCM from the previous week's level of 54.51 BCM.

"However, current year's storage position is higher than last year's storage position of 49.14 BCM and the average of last 10 year's storage position of 39.58 BCM," said an official, adding, "There were 112 reservoirs with more than 80 per cent of normal storage, 15 reservoirs with storage between 51 per cent to 80 per cent, 4 reservoirs with storage between 31 per cent to 50 per cent and 12 reservoirs with storage up to 30 per cent."

There are four reservoirs with no live storage, the official said, but that will not make much difference as the monsoon rains have started.

The Sunday Standard- 19- June-2022

TN legislators' team will meet Jal Minister to discuss Mekedatu

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

@ Chennai

EXPRESSING shock over Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) chairman SK Haldar's assertion that the authority will discuss Karnataka's Mekedatu dam proposal at its 16th meeting to be held on June 23, Chief Minister MK Stalin on Saturday said a delegation of leaders of TN legislature parties, led by Water Resources Minister Durai Murugan, will soon meet Union Jal Sakthi Minister Gajen-

dra Singh Shekhawat in New Delhi to bring to his attention the anguish caused by Haldar's remarks in Tamil Nadu.

"The CWMA does not have any power to take unilateral decisions on such issues when the matter is pending before the SC. The chairman's assertion that the authority will discuss Mekedatu issue is against law," the CM said in a statement issued in Chennai on Saturday.

"We have sought an appoint-

ment with the Union Jal Sakthi Minister. Once the appointment is confirmed, the delegation will go to New Delhi. We will not

allow the construction of dam at Mekedatu. It is inappropriate to discuss this issue at the CWMA meeting. The legal battle of the Tamil Nadu government to protect the State's rights over Cauvery water will continue before the Supreme Court," the CM said.

Pointing to reports about Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj

Bommai camping in New Delhi to exert pressure on the Centre, the CM said, "The Union government should not yield to pressure from Karnataka. I believe the BJP-led central government would act in a manner that would protect the dignity of federal principles."

Stalin said Karnataka has been making efforts to reduce the quantum of Cauvery water being given to TN, and constructing a dam at Mekedatu was one such move. "This is a big betrayal to the farmers of Tamil Nadu

and it is against federal principles. The move is also against all past verdicts of the Supreme Court," he added.

The CM, who recalled his letter to the PM on June 13, said though the quantum of Cauvery water allocated to TN did not meet its expectations, the State has been managing its needs with its share of water, provided it was given to it by Karnataka as per schedule. Any disruption in that would affect the State adversely and hence Mekedatu was a sensitive issue, the CM said.



Jansatta- 19- June-2022

बारिश का दौर जारी, पूर्वोत्तर भारत के कुछ इलाकों में भारी बारिश की संभावना

जनसत्ता संवाददाता
नई दिल्ली, 18 जून।

पूर्वोत्तर भारत में तेज बारिश का दौर जारी है। वहीं देश के बाकी हिस्सों में भी छिटपुट बारिश हो रही है। मौसम विभाग ने अगले दो-तीन दिन में मध्य प्रदेश और उत्तर प्रदेश में मानसून के पहुंचने की संभावना जताई है।

इस बीच एक गर्त रेखा हरियाणा से उत्तर प्रदेश, बिहार, उप-हिमालयी पश्चिम बंगाल, सिक्किम और असम होते हुए नगालैंड तक फैली हुई है। साथ ही दक्षिण-पश्चिम राजस्थान पर एक चक्रवाती हवाओं का क्षेत्र बना हुआ है। एक गर्त

रेखा इस चक्रवाती परिसंचरण से उत्तर पश्चिमी अरब सागर तक फैली हुई है और एक चक्रवाती हवाओं का क्षेत्र हरियाणा और आसपास के इलाकों में निचले स्तरों पर बना हुआ है। एक और चक्रवाती हवाओं का क्षेत्र पाकिस्तान के मध्य भाग पर बना हुआ है। ऐसे में देश भर में मौसमी हलचल तेज हो गई है।

मौसम विभाग का अनुमान है कि एनसीआर के अलग-अलग भागों, गाजियाबाद, इंदिरापुरम, छपरौला, नोएडा, दादरी, ग्रेटर नोएडा, फरीदाबाद, बल्लभगढ़ के आसपास के क्षेत्रों में 30-40 किमी/घंटा की गति के साथ हल्की से मध्यम तीव्रता वाली तेज हवाएं

चलेंगी। यमुनानगर, कुरुक्षेत्र, कैथल, नरवाना, करनाल, फतेहाबाद, राजौंद, असंध, सफीदों, बरवाला, जींद, पानीपत, आदमपुर, हिसार, गन्नौर, हांसी, सोनीपत (हरियाणा) सहारनपुर, गंगोह, देवबंद, नजीबाबाद, शामली, मुजफ्फरनगर, कांधला, बिजनौर, खतौली, सकोटी टांडा, हस्तिनापुर, चांदपुर, बड़ौत, दौराला, बागपत, मेरठ, खेकरा, किठौर, अमरोहा, गढ़मुक्तेश्वर, कासगंज, नंदगांव, सिकंदर राव, बरसाना, एटा (यूपी) डीग (राजस्थान) में भी बारिश की संभावना बनी हुई है। वहीं पूर्वोत्तर भारत में मध्यम के साथ और एक या दो स्थानों पर भारी बारिश संभव है।