

Telangana Today- 27- June-2022

# Floods recede in Assam; 5 more die, 22 lakh hit

GUWAHATI

The flood situation in Assam improved on Sunday, although five more persons died and over 22 lakh people continued to reel under the deluge across 25 districts, an official report said.

According to the daily bulletin of the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA), five persons, including four children, drowned at different places of Barpeta, Cachar, Darrang, Karimganj and Morigaon districts during the day.

Besides, two are missing in two districts, it said. The total number of people losing lives in this year's flood and landslides in the state has now gone up to 126. The bulletin said over 22,21,500 people were hit due to



*A man crossing a washed away road using a temporary bamboo bridge in Nagaon district of Assam.*

floods in Bajali, Baksa, Barpeta, Cachar, Chirang, Darrang, Dhemaji, Dhubri, Dibrugarh, Goalpara,

Golaghat, Hailakandi, Nalbari, Sonitpur, South Salmara, Tamulpur and Udalguri districts, among

others. Barpeta is the worst affected with nearly seven lakh people in distress, followed by Nagaon (5.13 lakh

people) and Cachar (over 2.77 lakh people). Urban flooding has also been experienced at several places in Cachar, Dibrugarh and Morigaon districts. Till Saturday, over 25 lakh people were impacted by the deluge across 24 districts.

Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Sunday visited Silchar in Cachar and Hajo in Kamrup, and issued instructions to agencies involved in the relief and rescue operations to maximise their reach, and ensure help at the earliest. With Silchar town submerged in flood waters for a week, Sarma conceded that administration has not been able to reach all the marooned people yet. "We are not denying it," he said, appealing to people to stand by each other during time of distress. PTI

Hindustan Times- 27- June-2022

# Saving oceans choked by humans

The five-day United Nations Ocean Conference – delayed from April 2020 by the pandemic – starts today in Lisbon and brings together governments of the world, scientists and NGOs in search of solutions to heal the oceans made sick by climate change, pollution and overfishing. A look at the challenges the conference looks to address

## THE CONFERENCE: ITS TIMING AND IMPORTANCE

Jointly hosted by Portugal and Kenya, the Ocean Conference comes at a critical time as the world is seeking to address many of the deep-rooted problems laid bare by the pandemic. The Ocean matters to everyone, even if you don't live by it – it provides the world with oxygen, food, and livelihoods. It nurtures unimaginable biodiversity, and directly supports human well-being, through food and energy resources.

**50%** of oxygen we breathe comes from the ocean

**1/3rd** of the carbon dioxide produced by humans is absorbed by it

**680mn** people live in low-lying coastal zones, a number that is expected

to rise to one billion by 2050, according to UN estimates



## The worsening problem at hand

Our species has returned its dependence on Oceans by dumping mountains of plastic waste into the sea, emptying it of big fish, and poisoning coastlines with toxic chemicals. "If we don't do the right thing, we might end up with a dead ocean... Think about that – Oh man, it's scary."

– RASHID SUMAILA, professor at University of British Columbia

**71%**

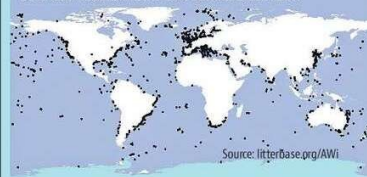
of surface pollution in the ocean is plastic, according to data by the Alfred Wegener Institute

## Flooded with plastic

The biggest challenge at hand for the conference is pollution – a factor that could, on current trends, see as much plastic in the seas as fish by mid-century. Scientific studies have found an overwhelming number of 'plastic patches' in the seas and waterways since 1960

### PLASTIC IN THE SEAS AND OCEANS

Areas where plastic has been detected in waterways, seas and oceans in scientific studies since 1960



Source: litterbase.org/AWI

## Heatwaves and marine life

Ocean water made acidic by CO<sub>2</sub> along with marine heatwaves lasting months are killing coral reefs that support a quarter of marine life. "We have only begun to understand the extent to which climate change is going to wreak havoc on ocean health," said Charlotte de Fontaubert, World Bank's global lead for the blue economy.

## Overfishing

The conference may report trend lines for wild fisheries and seafood farming for the first time, with each producing about 100 million tons per year. "At least one-third of wild fish stocks are overfished and less than 10% of the ocean is protected," Kathryn Matthews, chief scientist for US-based NGO Oceana, told AFP. "Destructive and illegal fishing vessels operate with impunity in many coastal waters and on the high seas."

**\$35bn**

in subsidies that aggravate overfishing will fall under a harsh spotlight in Lisbon

## TARGET FOR LISBON

The Lisbon meet will see ministers and even a few heads of state, including French President Emmanuel Macron, but is not a formal negotiating session. That won't stop participants, however, from pushing for a strong oceans agenda at two critical summits later this year: the COP27 UN climate talks in November, hosted by Egypt, followed by the long-delayed COP15 biodiversity negotiations, recently moved from China to Montreal.

**Fighting mass extinction:** Oceans are already at the heart of a draft biodiversity treaty tasked with halting what many scientists fear is the first "mass extinction" since a meteor wiped out terrestrial dinosaurs more than 65 million years ago. A coalition of nearly 100 nations supports a cornerstone provision that would designate 30% of the planet's land and ocean as protected areas



The Hindu- 27- June-2022

# ‘Silchar flood man-made; embankment breached’

Assam CM promises strong action against the miscreants

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
GUWAHATI

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Sunday said the unprecedented flooding of Silchar town was a man-made disaster.

He also said relief material could not reach many of some 2.8 lakh marooned people in the southern Assam town, the nerve-centre of Barak Valley.

“Silchar’s flood was man-made. It would not have happened had the embankment at Bethukandi not been breached by some miscreants,” Mr. Sarma told journalists after visiting the flooded town for the second time in less than a week.

He assessed the situation partly in an inflated boat of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and partly by wading the flooded streets in Silchar, where the water rose up to 12 feet in some areas.

The Chief Minister said the culprits who left a gaping



A woman protecting her baby from the sun as they move to higher ground in Silchar on Sunday. ■RAJKAMAL DAS

hole in the Barak river embankment at Bethukandi, more than 3 km from the town, would be brought to book.

Lapses, if any, on the part of officials would also be probed, he said.

Mr. Sarma said the Cachar District Disaster Management Authority had issued an advisory but many residents did not take it seriously as the town had never seen such a flood.

Following complaints of irregular or partial distribu-

tion of relief, the Chief Minister instructed officials to help as many people as they can.

Clean drinking water has been one of the scarcest commodities in the town with many drinking the floodwater after boiling it on any floor or structure above the water level.

Many NGOs have issued appeals and launched fundraisers for procuring at least 1 lakh litres of potable water for the town’s marooned people.

The Tribune- 27- June-2022



Villagers make a temporary bamboo bridge after a portion of a road was washed away due to flood following heavy rainfall at a village in Nagaon, Assam, on Sunday. PTI

## Flood situation in Assam grim, over 25 lakh affected

GUWAHATI, JUNE 26

The flood situation in Assam continued to remain critical on Sunday with more than 25 lakh people reeling under the deluge, although the water level has started receding in some areas. Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma visited Silchar in Cachar district, which is among the worst-affected areas, and assessed the damage in the Barak valley city.

According to the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA), over 25 lakh people are still facing difficulties in 27 flood-hit districts comprising 79 revenue circles and 2,894 villages. As many as 2.33 lakh have taken shelter in 637 relief camps of the northeastern state, which had been battling floods and landslides for the past two

### 637 RELIEF CAMPS

**2.33** lakh people have taken shelter in 637 relief camps in the state

**259** distribution centres providing relief to those not in shelter camps

**67,237** people have been moved to safer places; fresh landslides also reported

■ During the past 24 hours, the state has received an average 7 mm rainfall

■ The northeastern state has recorded 1,891.90 mm rainfall since March 1

weeks. Relief materials are being distributed to affected populations that haven't put up at shelter camps through 259 distribution centres that have been opened temporarily, the

ASDMA bulletin said. The NDRF has been helping the district administration in the evacuation of people apart from state forces like the SDRF, police and Fire & Emergency Services.

So far, 67,237 people have been moved to safety. Fresh landslides have been reported from Kamrup Metropolitan district, the ASDMA said. During the past 24 hours, the state received an average 7 mm rainfall and has recorded 1,891.90 mm rainfall since March 1.

As per the Central Water Commission bulletin, the Kopili river at Dharamtul in Nagaon, the Barak at BP Ghat in Karimganj and AP Ghat in Cachar and its tributary Kushiya at Karimganj are flowing above the danger mark. — PTI

# 29 मोटरों से 187 फीट ऊपर उठता है पानी, फिर बुझती प्यास



एक्सक्लूसिव

महेन्द्र सिंह शेखावत/  
भानीराम गोदारा  
patrika.com

श्रीगंगानगर, राजियासर. रेलीले धोरो के बीच कहीं एकदम सीधो तो कहीं सांप की तरह बल खाती कंवरसेन लिफ्ट नहर की कहानी बड़ी रोचक है। श्रीगंगानगर के राजियासर के पास से यह इंदिरा गांधी मुख्य नहर की 243 आरडी के बिरधवाल हेड से निकलती है।

राजियासर से बीकानेर के बीच इस लिफ्ट कैनाल की लंबाई 152 किलोमीटर है। इस दूरी में नहर का पानी ढाई दर्जन मोटरों के माध्यम से 187 फीट ऊपर उठाया जाता है, तब कहीं जाकर पानी बीकानेर पहुंचता



है। इसके लिए बीच में चार पंपिंग स्टेशन भी बने हैं। नहर का पानी श्रीगंगानगर व बीकानेर जिले में कई माइनों व सीधे मोर्चों की सहायता से दूरदराज के सैकड़ों गांवों में सिंचाई और पीने के पानी की सपनाई की जाती है। बिजली की मोटरें लगातार चौबीस घंटे चलती हैं तथा उनके रखरखाव तथा बिजली पर दो से तीन

करोड़ रुपए प्रति माह खर्च होते हैं। इस नहर का निर्माण 1970 में शुरू हुआ था तथा 1972 में पूर्ण हुआ। यह नहर आधुनिक इंजीनियरिंग का अजूबा मानी जाती है। बीकानेर स्टेट के चीफ इंजीनियर कंवर सेन के अथक प्रयासों के कारण इस नहर का नाम कंवरसेन लिफ्ट कैनाल रखा गया।

## कंवरसेन लिफ्ट नहर एक नजर में

- कुल लंबाई: 152 किलोमीटर
- कुल पंपिंग स्टेशन: चार
- कुल बिजली मोटरें: 29
- सन् 1970 में निर्माण शुरू हुआ
- सन् 1972 में हुआ निर्माण पूरा
- नहर से 20 महीनर व 51 सीधे मोर्चो से होती है सिंचाई

## कहां कितना ऊपर उठता है पानी

- राजियासर पंपिंग स्टेशन से 58 फीट
- मलकीसर पंपिंग स्टेशन से 19 फीट
- खारा पंपिंग स्टेशन 48 फीट
- हुसगसर पंपिंग स्टेशन से 62 फीट
- कुल 187 फीट पानी उठता है ऊपर

## अस्तित्व खो रही है नहर

यह लिफ्ट कैनाल सालों से सरकारी उपेक्षा का दंश झेल रही है। बजट, उचित रखरखाव व अधिकारियों कर्मचारियों की कमी से लिफ्ट अपना पुराना अस्तित्व खो रही है तथा राम भरोसे चल रही है। वर्षों से चारों पंपिंग

स्टेशन पर अधिकारियों और तकनीकी कर्मचारियों की कमी, बजट के अभाव व उचित सार संभाल के अभाव में अपने समय की सबसे बड़ी लिफ्ट योजना अपना अस्तित्व खो रही है। इसमें सुधार की जरूरत है।