

Millennium Post- 07- July-2022

ASSAM FLOODS

Flood situation improves; two more die, 9.68 lakh hit

Centre, Assam working together to minimise problems: PM

OUR CORRESPONDENT

GUWAHATI: The flood situation in Assam continued to improve on Wednesday although two more persons lost their lives taking the toll to 186 and over 9.68 lakh people in 15 districts are still reeling under the deluge, an official bulletin said.

Nearly 11.17 lakh people in 16 districts of the North-eastern state were affected by the calamity on Tuesday. According to the daily flood report of the Assam State Disaster Management Authority, two persons, both children, drowned in Kamrup Metropolitan and Nagaon districts during the day. With this, the total number of people losing their lives in this year's flood and landslides has gone up to 186 across the state.

Cachar is the worst-hit district with nearly 5.7 lakh people suffering from the flood, followed by Nagaon (1.89 lakh) and Morigaon (1.58 lakh). The authorities



Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma serves food to residents of the flood-affected areas PTI

Cachar is the worst-hit district with nearly 5.7 lakh people suffering from the flood

are running 295 relief camps and distribution centres in 16 districts, where 1,35,166 people, including 40,920 children, have taken shelter.

Massive erosions have been

witnessed in Baksa, Barpeta, Biswanath, Bongaigaon, Dhemaji, Dibrugarh, Hojai, Kamrup, Kokrajhar, Majuli, Morigaon, Nalbari, Sivasagar, Tinsukia and Udalguri districts.

PM Narendra Modi on Wednesday said that the Centre and the Assam government are working together to minimise the problems faced by people during the ongoing floods in the state.

While virtually inaugurating the Golden Jubilee celebrations of Assamese newspaper 'Agradoot', he said the state and its people are struggling due to the devastating floods this year, but Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma and his team are working hard to provide succour to the affected people.

"I have been regularly speaking with the CM and others. I want to assure the people of Assam that the central and the state governments are working together to minimise people's problems," he said.

The Hindu- 07- July-2022

'Notice from CGWA on groundwater extraction does not apply to T.N.'

WRD issues clarification on State

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI**

The Tamil Nadu Water Resources Department on Wednesday said the existing rules and regulations for groundwater management and extraction would continue, and the public notice issued recently by the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) did not apply to the State.

June 30 deadline

The CGWA, under the Ministry of Jal Shakti, recently issued a public notice dated April 10, 2022, stating that all groundwater users, including residential apartments using it for drinking and domestic purposes, group housing societies, government water supply agencies in urban areas, bulk water suppliers, industrial, infrastructure and mining projects and swimming pools, must obtain its permission for groundwater

withdrawal by June 30, 2022.

All existing users were given a one-time opportunity to register for groundwater withdrawal by paying a registration fee of ₹10,000, and were warned that strict action would be taken against those who continue to withdraw groundwater without a No Objection Certificate from the CGWA.

On Thursday, the Chief Engineer of the Water Resources Department, Tamil Nadu, issued a statement that "the Public Notice no.3/2022, dated.10.04.2022 issued by Chairman, Central Ground Water Authority, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India, is not applicable to the State of Tamil Nadu. The existing Rules and Regulations for Ground Water Management and Extraction in this State will continue until further notice".

The Morning Standard- 07- July-2022

Centre says No, Gehlot firm on canal project

RAJESH ASNANI @ Jaipur

RAJASTHAN Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has announced that the ERCP (Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project) will be completed despite the Centre stopping work and not giving it the status of a 'national project'. The project will provide water to people of 13 districts, but it has been caught up in Centre-state politics. It had taken a new turn a few days ago, after the Centre's directive to stop work in view of "lack of consent" by Madhya Pradesh.

The issue of declaring it a national project was echoed in the meeting of Congress leaders on Wednesday. Gehlot, AICC state in-charge Ajay Maken and state party president Govind Dotasra addressed the gathering, comprising over 2,000 representative from the affected districts.



Gehlot said he is not going to stop the ERCP. "I have kept ₹9,600 crore for this. The Union Jal Shakti Ministry has told the chief secretary to stop the work. Water is a state subject. I am not going to turn it off."

The blueprint for ERCP, estimated to cost over ₹40,000 crore, was drawn by the former BJP government and it even received PM Narendra Modi's nod. But in 2018, when Congress replaced BJP, the project got derailed.

Jal Shakti minister and Jodhpur MP Gajendra Singh Shekhawat is refusing to make any promise. He recently asked the state government to stop the ERCP work until the inter-state issues get resolved. The BJP also says Gehlot is playing politics on ERCP to hide his failure in governance, and that an all-party meeting should discuss the project.