

I/174272/2024

Millennium Post- 03 June- 2024

CYCLONE REMAL TRIGGERED HEAVY RAINFALL, EXACERBATING FLOOD CRISIS

Several rivers in Assam, Manipur experience severe flooding: CWC

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: Six rivers in Assam and Manipur, including Brahmaputra, and Barak, are experiencing severe flooding, putting numerous districts in the region at risk, the Central Water Commission has said.

The Brahmaputra river at Neamatighat in Assam's Jorhat district is flowing at 85.25 metres, which is 0.29 metres above its danger level of 85.54 metres, while the Barak river is in a severe situation.

In the Imphal East district of Manipur, the Barak River at Chotabekra is at 30.15 metres, 3.95 metres above its danger level. This significant rise poses a severe threat to the surrounding communities, according to the CWC data.

In Assam, the Barak River continues to impact various districts. At Badarpur Ghat in Karimganj district, the river is at 18.13 metres, 1.28 metres above the danger level while at Annapurna Ghat in Cachar district, it is at 21.52 metres, 1.69 metres above the danger level.



Flood-affected people with their sheep leave on a boat for a safer place, after the area was inundated with floodwaters in Nagaon. PIK/PTI

The Kopili River at Kamrup in Nagaon district is also in a severe situation, flowing at 62.08 metres, the Commission said, adding this level is 1.58 metres above the danger mark of 60.5 metres. In Karimganj district, the Kushiara river is at 16.5 metres, which is 1.56 metres above its danger level. The river's steady trend indicates that immediate action is required to mitigate potential flood damage, the Commission said.

Over two lakh people have been affected by the flood situ-

ation in nine districts of Assam following incessant rainfall in the aftermath of cyclone Remal, officials said. Altogether, six people have died in the flood, rain and storms in the state since May 28, they said. Cachar is the worst affected with 1,12,246 people reeling under the deluge, followed by 37,000 in Karimganj, 22,058 in Hojai and 14,308 in Hailakandi. A crop area of 3238.8 hectares has also been submerged, while 2,34,535 animals have been affected. The southwest monsoon has entered Assam and

Highlights

- » Brahmaputra at Neamatighat, Jorhat district, Assam, flows at 85.25m, 0.29m above danger level; Barak River at Chotabekra, Manipur, reaches 30.15m, 3.95m above danger level
- » Over two lakh people in nine Assam districts affected by floods; six deaths reported since May 28 due to rain and storms
- » Manipur floods affect 1,88,143 people, damage 24,265 houses; 18,103 evacuated to 56 relief camps, says Minister Awangbou Newmai

other parts of the Northeast region ahead of its scheduled time due to the effect of cyclone Remal, according to the Indian Meteorological Department.

The IMD has warned of heavy rainfall and thunderstorms in Goalpara, Bongaigaon, Sonitpur, Biswanath, Dibrugarh, Karimganj, Cachar, Hailakandi, Dima Hasao, Dhubri and South Salmara districts in the next two days. Altogether, 35,640 affected people have taken shelter in 110 relief camps with the highest of 19,646 in Hojai, followed

by 12,110 in Cachar, 2,060 in Hailakandi and 1,613 in Karimganj.

A total of 1,88,143 people have been affected by floods in Manipur following incessant rainfall in the aftermath of Cyclone Remal, a state minister said on Thursday. It has also damaged at least 24,265 houses in the last few days, he said. Altogether 18,103 people have been evacuated and 56 relief camps were set up. Minister for Water Resources and Relief & Disaster Management Awangbou Newmai informed.

I/174272/2024

Millennium Post-03 June- 2024

Water crisis: Atishi writes to Hry & UP CMs for additional release

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: In a bid to alleviate the acute water shortage gripping the national Capital, Delhi Water minister Atishi has reached out to the chief ministers of Haryana and Uttar Pradesh, requesting the release of additional water to support Delhi's escalating needs.

In her correspondence with Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini, Atishi emphasised the gravity of the situation, citing a dramatic increase in water demand due to soaring temperatures nearing 50 degrees Celsius. She stressed that Delhi, which sources 65 per cent of its water from Haryana, is stretched to its limits. "Delhi is facing one of the worst water crises this year. Unlike previous years, the demand for water has surged manifold. To tackle the existing crisis, we urgently need Haryana to release additional water into the Yamuna River at the earliest," she wrote.

During a recent visit to the Wazirabad Barrage, Atishi observed a significant drop in water levels, recording 670.3 feet compared to the normal 674.5 feet. This deficit has critically impacted the water production capacity of Delhi's treatment plants, resulting in severe shortages across the city.

Atishi highlighted the measures taken by the Delhi government to conserve water, including imposing a fine of Rs 2,000 on residents wasting water by washing vehicles with hoses or letting water tanks overflow. Despite these efforts, she stated, "We urgently need water in Yamuna to meet our day-to-day requirements."

In her appeal to Haryana, she invoked the essential nature of water and its fundamental



People collect drinking water from a tanker of Delhi Jal Board during a hot summer day, at a slum in Geeta Colony area, in East Delhi, on Sunday. PICS/PFI

“Water is essential for the existence of all human beings. Clean drinking water is the right of each citizen. Our ancient texts teach us that giving water to the thirsty is a noble act — Atishi

right, urging the release of additional water for the next month to help Delhi manage through the peak summer.

"Water is essential for the existence of all human beings. Clean drinking water is the right of each citizen. Our ancient texts teach us that giving water to the thirsty is a noble act," Atishi wrote.

Similarly, in her letter to Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, whose state supplies Delhi with around 240 million gallons daily from the Ganga, Atishi requested a temporary increase in water release until the monsoon's arrival. "As a neighbouring

CLOSER LOOK

- In her correspondence with Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini, Atishi emphasised the gravity of the situation, citing a dramatic increase in water demand due to soaring temperatures nearing 50 degrees Celsius. She stressed that Delhi, which sources 65 per cent of its water from Haryana, is stretched to its limits.
- In her appeal to Haryana, she invoked the essential nature of water and its fundamental right, urging the release of additional water for the next month to help Delhi manage through the peak summer.
- Similarly, in her letter to Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, whose state supplies Delhi with around 240 million

gallons daily from the Ganga, Atishi requested a temporary increase in water release until the monsoon's arrival.

- 'As a neighbouring state, we request Uttar Pradesh to lend a helping hand to Delhi in this time of crisis and release additional water for a month'.
- The Delhi government and its residents are now anxiously awaiting positive responses from both states, hoping for relief in the form of increased water supplies to navigate the harsh summer months'.
- During a recent visit to the Wazirabad Barrage, Atishi observed a significant drop in water levels, recording 670.3 feet compared to the normal 674.5 feet. This deficit has critically impacted the water production capacity of Delhi's treatment plants, resulting in severe shortages across the city.

state, we request Uttar Pradesh to lend a helping hand to Delhi in this time of crisis and release additional water for a month," she appealed.

"The Delhi government and its residents are now anxiously awaiting positive responses from both states, hoping for relief in the form of increased water supplies to navigate the harsh summer months," Atishi asserted.

Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva accused Atishi of

"playing politics in the name of water crisis". He said that there is no shortage of raw water in Delhi as both Haryana and Uttarakhand are giving excess water on a daily basis and it can be verified from the Delhi Jal Board record. He called upon Atishi to stop writing "politically motivated letters" to CMs of BJP-rule Haryana and UP and instead work to clean silt from water ponds and plants, along with stopping water wastage and theft to end the water crisis in Delhi.