

The Times of India- 22- December-2023

WAPCOS a key stakeholder in Tanzania's water sector

Ministry of Water, Govt. of United Republic of Tanzania, in a stake holders' meeting, recognised WAPCOS as a key stake holder in water sector for achieving the water sector goals. Jumaa Hamidu Aweso, Minister for Water, Govt. of United Republic of Tanzania, was the guest of honour. He appreciated the efforts of WAPCOS for successful implementation of major water supply projects in Tanzania. WAPCOS, a "Mini Ratna-I" public sector enterprise under the aegis of the Union Ministry of Jal Shakti., Govt. of India, is a technology driven consultancy and engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) organisation.

Millennium Post- 22- December-2023

'Number of people affected by tropical cyclones rose sharply since 2002'

Tropical cyclones affected 117 countries, regions between 2002 and 2019: Study

NEW DELHI: The number of people globally impacted by tropical cyclones has nearly doubled from 2002 to 2019, reaching nearly 800 million, according to a study.

While more people are affected by tropical cyclones in Asia than any other region, every affected area saw an increase in the number of people exposed to tropical cyclones, which are expected to become more intense and possibly more frequent as the climate warms, the researchers said. The age distribution of those exposed to cyclones has shifted away from children under the age of 5 towards people who are aged 60 and older compared to the early 2000s, tracking with population trends in the regions most affected.

The findings, published in the journal *Nature*, also found that people exposed to tropical cyclones are more socioeconomically deprived than those unexposed within the same country, and this relationship was more pronounced for people exposed to higher-intensity storms during



Key Points

- » While more people are affected by tropical cyclones in Asia than any other region, every affected area saw an increase in the number of people exposed to tropical cyclones
- » The study estimates that 6 to 12 per cent of the global population is exposed to tropical cyclones each year. This more common exposure can have a disproportionate impact on low- and middle-income countries

the study period, which was from 2002 through 2019. Researchers say that characterising the patterns and vulnerabilities of exposed populations can help identify mitigation strategies, and assess the global burden and future risks of tropical cyclones.

The study estimates that 6 to 12 per cent of the global pop-

ulation is exposed to tropical cyclones each year, with a large portion of exposure occurring at lower wind velocities.

This more common exposure can have a disproportionate impact on low- and middle-income countries, especially in regions where resilience is limited, the researchers said.

The team used improved modelling techniques to construct estimates of the number of people worldwide who may be exposed to tropical cyclones in the future. The researchers found that tropical cyclones affected 117 countries and regions between 2002 and 2019, with a few regions accounting for the majority of exposure.

They estimate that 95 per cent of all person-days exposure during the study period come from Atlantic coastal North and Central America (5 per cent), the Caribbean (3 per cent), the Korean peninsula and Japan (6 per cent), coastal eastern Asia (43 per cent), South East Asia (24 per cent), or eastern India and Bay of Bengal (14 per cent). The top five countries/regions with the highest person-days exposure were coastal China (33 per cent of total person-days), Japan (19 per cent), the Philippines (10 per cent), Taiwan (9 per cent) and the US (4 per cent). These regions collectively make up more than 75 per cent of all exposed person-days. AGENCIES

Millennium Post- 22- December-2023

Central team assesses flood damages in TN's Tirunelveli district, Stalin distributes relief

OUR CORRESPONDENT

TIRUNELVELI/THOOTHUKUDI: An inter-ministerial central team visited the inundated areas in Tirunelveli district on Thursday to assess the extent of damage caused due to the torrential rain on December 17 and 18 in the four southern districts of Tamil Nadu.

The team under National Disaster Management Authority (Operation and Communication) Advisor K P Singh visited the waterlogged area at the Tirunelveli junction bus stand and interacted with the officials.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin embarked on a visit to the southern districts



NDRF personnel distribute food and other essential materials to stranded people amid floods in Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu

PTI

on Thursday to personally take stock of the damage caused due to massive inundation and to console the affected people.

The chief minister also interacted with the residents at Anthonyarpuram and later distributed relief to them.

After visiting the flood-hit areas in the district and also

the neighbouring Tirunelveli, which was also the worst affected, the chief minister would interact with the respective district collectors.

According to Tirunelveli district collector K P Karthikeyan ahead of the rains, the administration shifted about 696 pregnant women to

safety as a precaution. As many as 142 were admitted to various hospitals and of them, 91 pregnant women including 14 in Primary Health Centre, 13 in Government Hospital, 21 in Tirunelveli Medical College Hospital, and 43 in private hospitals, delivered babies in the last two days.

He said drinking water was being supplied through tankers to Kooniyur village where the drinking water infrastructure was affected due to flooding of the Tamirabarani river.

Several parts in the district remained cut off and a NDRF team provided relief assistance to the marooned in association with the Thoothukudi district administration.

The Hindu- 22- December-2023

NGT seeks report on encroachment of waterbodies, flood-control measures

The bench ordered the Chief Secretary to file an extensive report on details of waterbodies that breached, district-wise encroachments on wetlands and waterbodies, nature of encroachments, storage capacity of tanks and extent of shrinkage

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Miffed by the anthropogenic contributions to flooding during Cyclone Michaung in Chennai earlier this month, the southern bench of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has called for a detailed report on encroachment and shrinkage of waterbodies, and action plan to protect wetlands and storage tanks in Chennai, Chengalpattu, Tiruvallur, and Kancheepuram.

No solution yet

The bench, comprising Justice Pushpa Sathyanarayana and expert member Satyagopal Korlapati, took *suo motu* cognisance of the flooding in Chennai and noted that damage to a large number of waterbodies, rivers and flood plains is widely believed to be a significant cause. "No doubt one of the reasons



The bench noted that citizens are equally responsible for conserving natural resources and it cannot be denied that anthropogenic commissions and omissions have exacerbated the problem. FILE PHOTO

for the floods is extreme weather events but it cannot be denied that anthropogenic commissions and omissions have exacerbated the problem. In spite of the recurrence of floods, the problem continues to

evade a permanent solution," it said.

Noting that citizens are also equally responsible for taking proper care of natural resources and the agencies responsible for the protection of waterbo-

dies are found wanting, the bench ordered the Chief Secretary to the Tamil Nadu government to file an extensive report on a number of details: how many waterbodies were breached; district-wise en-

croachments in wetlands, storage tanks, rivers; the nature of the encroachments; plan of action to evict encroachments; extent of wetlands allotted to government departments for building offices or residences; storage capacity of tanks and the extent of shrinkage.

The report will also have to include regulations brought in to protect waterbodies, action taken to delineate buffer zones around wetlands, schemes launched since 2015 to increase the water storage capacity in Chennai, measures put in place by the Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority or the Directorate of Town and Country Planning to prevent flooding during monsoons, and technical solutions to impound more water in existing waterbodies.

The case has been adjourned to February 1, 2024.

Rashtriya Sahara- 22- December-2023

मुल्लापेरियार बांध का जलस्तर 140 फुट पहुंचा

इडुक्की। केरल में मुल्लापेरियार बांध का जलस्तर बृहस्पतिवार को 140 फुट पर पहुंच गया जिसके बाद अधिकारियों ने बाढ़ को लेकर पहली चेतावनी जारी की। जिले के प्राधिकारियों ने बताया, बांध के आसपास के इलाकों में बारिश से इसका जलस्तर बृहस्पतिवार दोपहर 12 बजे 140 फुट पर पहुंच गया। वर्तमान में बांध का जल प्रवाह 2,050 क्यूसेक है। वहीं, बांध के फाटकों के जरिये 300 क्यूसेक पानी छोड़ा जा रहा है। 125 वर्ष पुराने बांध की अधिकतम जल संग्रहण क्षमता 142 फुट है।