

Central Water Commission  
Technical Documentation Directorate  
Bhagirath(English)& Publicity Section  
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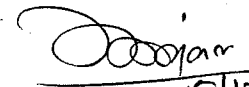
West Block II, Wing No-5  
R K Puram, New Delhi – 66.

Dated 05.12.2017


Subject: Submission of News Clippings.

The News Clippings on Water Resources Development and allied subjects are enclosed for perusal of the Chairman, CWC, and Member (WP&P/D&R/RM), Central Water Commission. The soft copies of clippings have also been uploaded on the CWC website.

Encl: As stated above.

  
5/12/2017  
SPA (Publicity)  
for

~~Deputy Director (Publication)~~

  
5/12

For information of Chairman & Member (WP&P/D&R/R.M.), CWC and all concerned,  
uploaded at [www.cwc.nic.in](http://www.cwc.nic.in)

O/C

Hindustan Times  
Statesman  
The Times of India (N.D.)  
Indian Express  
Tribune  
Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)  
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)  
The Hindu  
Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)  
Deccan Chronicle  
Deccan Herald

M.P. Chronicle  
Aaj (Hindi)  
Indian Nation  
Nai Duniya (Hindi)  
The Times of India (A)  
Blitz

and documented at Bhadrath(English)& Publicity Section.CWC

# Breathing life into old water transport project in

With Srinagar city roads struggling to cope with growing number of vehicles, the Jammu and Kashmir government has started ambitious water transport project on historic Jehlum river. The experiment has been started with an aim to revive the centuries-old water transport system and promote heritage tourism.

Srinagar, once called the city of canals or "Venice of the East", was robbed of its title due to human greed as waterways were sealed up to make way for roads. In 1970s, the state government filled up a 14th century canal, "Nallah Mar", which was the jugular vein of famous Dal Lake. It passed through downtown Srinagar and vegetables and goods would come to the city through this route.

Though a proposal to launch an inland water transport system was mooted in late 1990s, the trial could be conducted only in 2012. The pilot project could not take off due to the devastating floods in September 2014.

In July, the government re-started Jhelum cruise services to promote water transport and heritage tourism. The cruise service was started jointly by the

Department of Tourism, the Tourism Development Corporation and the Divisional Administration on August 25 after a over month-long trial.

The planners believe it could power Srinagar's potential to own a robust river transport system like Venice and Amsterdam. The department of tourism operates the service twice a day at 10 am and at 4 pm at Rs 25 per head from Peerzo to Veir Chattabal in Srinagar. The charges were slashed from Rs 100 per person following suggestions from various stakeholders. The plan is to extend the services to Pulwama and Anantnag in south and Baramulla in north. The action plan has adopted standards followed in Italy and other European countries.

Director, Tourism, Mehmood Ahmad Shah believes the service could boost tourism as there are many heritage sites on the banks of Jhelum which tourists want to see. "We have released the drone video on the seven bridges on Jhelum which received overwhelming response from locals. Both locals and tourists want to have the cruise on Jhelum to see the historic places," he said.

The tourism department has already



Tourists and officials travel in a boat in Srinagar. UMER ASIF

roped in Shikara owners in the initiative. A tourism department official said that Shikara owners will be trained first and then provided with motor boats. "We have involved them as we want them to run the services. They will be given 50% subsidy. Many Shikara owners have applied for training and participation in the initiative," he said.

Experts say that the plan needs lot of co-

ordination among different government departments because keeping the Jhelum navigable in all areas and throughout the year is difficult. For now, the river is navigable only in the summer, when the water levels are high.

The water transport system would be successful only for limited portions of the river. To make the river navigable all year round, it would need a long series of weirs.

or barriers across the river that would raise water levels during lean season," an official of Lakes and Water Ways Development Authority said.

Ufair Aijaz Kitab, Managing Director of Kashmir Motors, which is to run the river transport, says there is need to set up Jhelum Development Authority which, besides the river, will be entirely responsible for the affairs of water transport, if the project has to succeed.

"There is no dedicated government authority to administer all components of the Jhelum. The main problem is that it is no one's baby. The flood-prone Jhelum also lacks safety mechanisms. There is need to continuously monitor water levels," he said. The environmentalists have also issued an advisory saying the service should be eco-friendly and there should be no oil spill from boats.

"If the service is for only tourists, then the impact will be less. But if the government intends to develop it as a regular mode of public transport, then proper environmental assessment is needed," Shakil A Romshoo, the head of Kashmir University's department of Earth Sciences, said.

# project in Valley

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Habib-ullah Bhat, an octogenarian, while recalling his childhood, said people of the city used to go on excursions in boats. "There were many ghats that served as ports for loading and unloading the boats. Even goods would be transported in boats in the river and the canals that snaked through Srinagar. But with increasing human greed, all these ghats met the same fate as the nallahs (canals)," he told *DH*.

"Often, visiting dignitaries would take a stately ride down Jhelum, from the viceroys in British colonial times to first Prime Minister of India the late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in the 1940s," he recalled.

Bhat says present generation is hardly aware of Kashmir's rich history and heritage. "They don't know how it feels to eat and relish a fresh nadur (lotus stem) from Dal lake. They don't know how it feels to travel in a Shikara. New generation is losing touch with our rich heritage and it is only a matter of time before our heritage gets lost like many other great things. If we want to prevent this, it is time we worked towards reviving our traditions and culture," he said.

**Zulfikar Majid in Srinagar**

Bengaluru

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 05.12.2017 in the

Hindustan Times  
Statesman  
The Times of India (N.D.)  
Indian Express  
Tribune  
Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)  
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)  
The Hindu ✓  
Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)  
Deccan Chronicle  
Deccan Herald

M.P. Chronicle  
Aaj (Hindi)  
Indian Nation  
Nai Duniya (Hindi)  
The Times of India (A)  
Blitz

and documented at Bhadrirath(English) & Publicity Section, CWC.

## Farmers asked to shift paddy to safe places

Odisha likely to get rain for at least three days from December 7

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

BHUBANESWAR

With heavy rainfall warning issued by the IMD in many parts of Odisha, the State government on Monday asked farmers to shift their harvested paddy from the fields to safer places to avoid loss or damage.

Rain is likely to lash Odisha for at least three days from December 7 due to a well-marked low pressure that lies over south-east Bay of Bengal and adjoining south Andaman Sea on Monday, the Meteorological Centre here said.

It is very likely to become a depression over south-east Bay of Bengal during the next 24 hours and further intensify into a deep depression in the subsequent 48 hours.

It is likely to move west/north-west towards north Tamil Nadu and south And-



A farmer couple shifts paddy to their house on the outskirts of Bhubaneswar on Monday. BISWARANJAN ROUT

hra Pradesh coasts in the next three days, it said.

While weather is expected to remain dry over Odisha during next 72 hours, rainfall is likely to occur in several parts of the State by December 7 under its impact, said local Met Centre Director Sarat Chandra Sahu.

Low-intensity rainfall is likely to occur in districts like Koraput, Malkangiri, Gajapati and Ganjam on December 7, while rainfall of higher intensity is expected to pound coastal and adjoining districts on December 8 and 9, he said.

Preliminary reports indicate that around 18 districts

of the State are likely to face heavy rainfall due to the system, the Met office said.

In view of the emerging weather conditions, the Revenue and Disaster Management department has advised the farmers of the districts likely to be affected to shift their harvested paddy to safe places and keep it properly stacked under suitable cover so as to avoid any loss or damage.

Where paddy crops are ready for harvest, the farmers should take steps to harvest the same and store safely to avoid damage due to rains, a senior official said adding necessary measures should also be taken to protect the paddy in 'mandies', if any, from rain.

Farmers in most parts of the State have already suffered a lot due to crop loss caused by unseasonal rains last month.

News Item/Article/Editorial published on 01/12/2004 in the

English Edition  
The Times of India (A)  
Indian Express  
Tribuna  
Hindustan (Hindi)

New Eastern Times (Hindi)  
Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)  
Deccan Chronicle  
Deccan Herald (A)

Deccan Chronicle  
Deccan Herald (A)  
The Times of India (A)  
Editor

and documented at: [Ehsanirathi\(English\)& Publicity Section, CWC](#)

# Cyclone: Kerala toll touches 24

## 92 fishermen missing; are over govt apathy

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM. The number of people reported dead in Kerala in four days after the formation of cyclonic storm Ockhi on the Arabian Sea reached 24 on Sunday, amid concerns over 92 fishermen still missing from the state's shores.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) located the now-weakened cyclonic storm in the afternoon at about 450 km west-northwest of Amindivi, 860 km south-southwest of Mumbai and 1070 km south-southwest of Surat. Over the next 72 hours, it is expected to re-curve towards south Gujarat and north Maharashtra.

Joint Search and Rescue operations by the Indian Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard continued off the coasts of Thiruvananthapuram and Kollam. Eight unidentified bodies were brought dead to the shore.

Thiruvananthapuram Government Medical College Hospital on Sunday. Three bodies were recovered off the Kollam coast. An evening update from the State Revenue Department said 690 people have been rescued in the joint operation. A total of 1,597 families are housed in 37 camps.

On a day Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan made his first visit to an affected coastal area, Vizhinjam in Thiruvananthapuram, protests continued against alleged government apathy. Vijayan's late evening visit was also marked by protests by fishermen. Earlier in the day, the chief minister chaired a meeting to take stock of the situation, in the presence of Minister of State for Tourism K J Alphons. "The search operations will continue with the same intent. It has been decided to involve fishermen in the search and rescue teams," Vijayan said.



ALTERED STRUCTURE: Uprooted trees following Cyclone Ockhi in Lakshadweep on Sunday. PTI

Alphons said there was no provision for the Centre to declare the cyclonic storm a national disaster, as requested by the state government.

Fishermen in Thiruvananthapuram and Kollam ventured out into the sea for their own search operation. Many stranded fishermen from Kerala were on Sunday reported to have reached the shores of Lakshadweep, Karnataka and Maharashtra.

Allegations that the state government was one of the

### Over 1,200 fishermen reach M'rashtia

More than 1,200 fishermen who were caught in the choppy and turbulent Arabian Sea because of Cyclone Ockhi reached the Maharashtra coast over the weekend, DHNS reports from Mumbai. "They are safe in Sindhudurg and Ratnagiri districts and care is being taken," Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said. While 952 fishermen in 68 boats reached Sindhudurg on Saturday, 321 fishermen in 28 boats landed in Ratnagiri on Sunday.

government responded late to an alert sounded by central agencies regarding the deep depression before it formed

the cyclonic storm led to more political posturing around the disaster. Union Minister Alphons endorsed the state's

view that a specific cyclone alert was issued only on November 30 but later clarified that the "seriousness" of the deep depression was conveyed to the state government two days earlier. Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, who arrived here in the evening, headed for affected areas in neighbouring Kanyakumari in Tamil Nadu. The minister is scheduled to visit the coastal regions of Thiruvananthapuram on Monday.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 08.12.2017 in the

Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Times of India (N.D.)

Indian Express

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)

Punjab Keshari (Hindi)

The Hindu

Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

Deccan Chronicle

Deccan Herald

M.P. Chronicle

Aaj (Hindi)

Indian Nation

Nai Duniya (Hindi)

The Times of India (A)

Blitz

and documented at Bhadrirath(English)& Publicity Section, CWC



**OCKHI'S AFTERMATH**  
A man watches a road that has been cut off due to floods following the heavy rainfall caused by the cyclone Ockhi in Kanyakumari district in Tamil Nadu on Saturday. As many as 531 fishermen who were stranded off Kerala and Lakshadweep coasts were rescued. The Tamil Nadu government requested the Centre to deploy the Navy and Coast Guard for the search and rescue of missing fishermen. The Kerala government decided to urge the Centre to declare cyclone Ockhi as a national calamity.

— PTI

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 05.12.2017 in the

Hindustan Times

Statesman

The Times of India (N.D.) ✓

Indian Express

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)

Punjab Keshari (Hindi)

The Hindu

Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)

Deccan Chronicle

Deccan Herald

M.P. Chronicle

Aaj (Hindi)

Indian Nation

Nai Duniya (Hindi)

The Times of India (A)

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# Ockhi batters Goa coastline, hits beach tourism

## Likely To Be Declared State Disaster

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Goa:** Goa's beach tourism is battered by the rising waves from the sea due to cyclone Ockhi as shacks crumbled under its impact, while those left standing were dismantled by its waves on Monday. With the high tides showing no signs of abating, the district collectors of Goa rushed to the state government with recommendations to declare it as a state disaster.

The recommendation is likely to be accepted by the state disaster management authority chaired by chief minister Manohar Parrikar and consisting of revenue mi-



The shack owners body said at least 70-80% shacks have been affected

nister Rohan Khaunte at its meeting on Tuesday.

Goa's 105-km coastline is home to at least 350 authorised shacks on the beaches, while another 600 stands on private property. The worst affected have been Pernem and Bardez talukas that saw damage to 50 shacks.

"We are in the process of doing a detailed assessment of

the financial losses suffered by the 50 shacks at Morjim, Mandrem, Arambol and Keri beaches and soil erosion at Anjuna and Baga beaches. Damages to the retaining wall at Cocobeach at Nerul has also been reported," north Goa collector Nila Mohanan told TOI.

The shack owners body said at least 70-80% shacks have been affected.

## IMD warns of heavy rainfall in Maha, Guj due to Ockhi

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** As the cyclonic storm Ockhi moved towards Maharashtra and Gujarat, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Monday warned of heavy rainfall in certain districts of the two states and advised fishermen not to venture into the sea along and off south Gujarat and north Maharashtra coasts till Wednesday morning.

The weather forecaster said the cyclonic storm was nearly 500km south-west of Mumbai and 770km south-southwest of Surat.

"It is very likely to continue to move north-northeastwards, weaken gradually and cross south Gujarat and ad-

## Mumbai schools closed on Tuesday

The Maharashtra government has declared a holiday for schools and junior colleges in Mumbai and adjoining districts on Tuesday due to "serious weather predictions" in view of Ockhi. The Met office said the city has started receiving rainfall due to spread of clouds.

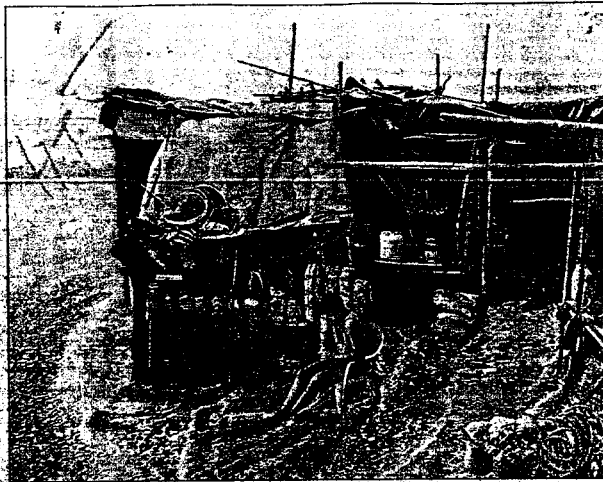
joining north Maharashtra coasts near Surat as a deep depression by Tuesday night," it said. The IMD said damage was expected over south Gujarat Daman, Diu, and Dadra, Nagar Haveli and certain districts of Maharashtra.

Hindustan Times  
Statesman  
The Times of India (N.D.)  
Indian Express  
Tribune  
Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)  
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)  
The Hindu  
Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)  
Deccan Chronicle  
Deccan Herald ✓

M.P. Chronicle  
Aaj (Hindi)  
Indian Nation  
Nai Duniya (Hindi)  
The Times of India (A)  
Blitz

and documented at Bhagirath(English) & Publicity Section, CWC



On Monday, Mumbai experienced high tide due to the side-effects of Cyclone Ockhi at Versova beach. SHASHI S KASHYAP/HT PHOTO

# Gujarat, Maha in the path of Cyclone Ockhi

Ramesh Babu and  
Malavika Vyawahare  
letters@hindustantimes.com

**THIRUVANANTHAPURAM:** Cyclone Ockhi, which left behind a trail of destruction in Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Lakshadweep, is expected to make landfall in Gujarat Tuesday night, which may cause heavy rains in the state and adjoining Maharashtra.

An India Meteorological Department (IMD) forecast said, "The severe cyclonic storm Ockhi is now laid centred about 350km south-southwest of Surat and is likely to cross south Gujarat and adjoining North Maharashtra coasts near Surat as a deep depression by midnight of December 5."

"We have issued heavy rainfall warnings for Gujarat, while light to moderate rain is expected in isolated areas in north Konkan, including Mumbai, on Tuesday," IMD's director general KJ Ramesh said.

Schools and colleges in Mumbai and adjoining districts have been asked to remain closed on Tuesday due to "serious weather predictions", Maharashtra's school education minister Vinod Tawde said.

The impact of the cyclone will be seen in Palghar, Thane, Raigarh, and Greater Mumbai districts of Maharashtra and Valsad, Surat, Navsari, Bharuch,

Dang, Tapi, Amreli, Gir-Somnath and Bhavnagar of Gujarat. Union Territories Daman, Diu and Dadra, Nagar Haveli will also be affected.

The scale of the cyclone was reduced from 'very severe' on Sunday to 'severe', the weather department said. It has warned fisherman along the Maharashtra, Goa and Karnataka coastline not to venture into the sea from Monday to Wednesday.

The high winds and persistent rains hit the southern districts of Kerala and Tamil Nadu last week and caused loss to life and property. The death toll climbed to 28 in Kerala after a rescue team recovered two more bodies on Monday and officials said at least 90 people were still missing.

Defence minister Nirmala Sitharaman said on Monday that representatives of fishermen will also be included in the ongoing search operation to rescue the missing in Kerala.

A naval ship on Monday located a fishing boat with nine crew members, reportedly missing from Kochi since the last 15 days, off Lakshadweep, a defence spokesperson said.

Meanwhile, in a move to help the damaging consequences of cyclone Ockhi, Haryana chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Monday sent ₹2 crore to the Prime Minister's relief fund.

(With agency inputs)



News item/letter/article/editorial published on 02.12.2017 in the

Hindustan Times  
Statesman  
The Times of India (N.D.)  
Indian Express  
Tribune  
Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)  
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)  
The Hindu  
Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)  
Deccan Chronicle  
Deccan Herald

M.P. Chronicle  
Aaj (Hindi)  
Indian Nation  
Nai Duniya (Hindi)  
The Times of India (A)  
Blitz

and documented at Bhagirath(English) & Publicity Section, CWC.

## More rain in coming days, temperature to drop

**BENGALURU, DHNS:** More rainfall and a drop in temperatures have been forecast in the coming days in the city and south interior and coastal Karnataka.

In the wake of cyclonic storm Ockhi, till 5.30 pm on Friday, the city received 9 mm rain, while HAL airport received 8.4 mm and Kempegowda International Airport received 1.6 mm rainfall.

On Friday, till 8.30 am, the city had received 10.7 mm rainfall, HAL airport had received 10.5 mm and the international airport had received 10.1 mm rainfall.

The cloud cover and the rain also led to a drop in the temperatures. The city recorded a maximum of 21 degrees Celsius up to 5.30 pm, which was six degrees below normal. The HAL and international airports recorded a maximum of 22.2 and 21.3 degrees Celsius, respectively.

The cyclonic storm intensified further and is moving west-northwestwards across Lakshadweep Islands. The



A scooterist struggles to ride on a waterlogged road in Wilson Garden following rain on Friday. The city received rain due to the influence of cyclone Ockhi. DH PHOTO/S K DINESH

### Power outage due to rains

Incessant rain and bad weather caused power blackouts in various parts of the city on Thursday and Friday. BESCOM received 6,258 complaints in this period. The authorities assured it was not due to power shortage. Details Page 2

India Meteorological Department (IMD) has also forecast strong winds from the easterly to the southeasterly direction at a speed of around 45-55 kmph off the Karnataka coast.

Sunder M Metri, IMD-Bengaluru, director-in-charge,

said rainfall would continue for the next two to three days.

Mist will form during morning and evening hours due to humidity. Thundershowers are likely to occur over coastal and parts of south interior Karnataka.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 02.12.2017 in the

Hindustan Times  
Statesman  
The Times of India (N.D.)  
Indian Express  
Tribune  
Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)  
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)  
The Hindu  
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Deccan Chronicle  
Deccan Herald

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A a j (Hindi)  
Indian Nation  
Nai Duniya (Hindi)  
The Times of India (A)  
Blitz

and documented at Bhadrath(English) & Publicity Section, CWC



Umbrellas were out in Mysuru on Friday as the city received light showers.

DH PHOTO / IRSHAD MAHAMMAD

## Ockhi effect felt in Mysuru, Chamarajanagar, Kodagu

**MYSURU, MADIKERI:** Mysuru woke up to a wet and chilly weather on Friday, due to the impact of cyclone Ockhi, which has created a havoc in the neighbouring Tamil Nadu and Kerala states.

Mysuru district received scattered rainfall and the skies remained overcast throughout the day. The weather was similar in Hassan, Mandya and Chamarajanagar districts.

Mandya and Mysuru experienced mild showers since morning and the cities received intermittent rainfall

throughout the day. Those venturing out to schools and offices had to carry umbrellas and wear warm clothes and jerkins.

Chamarajanagar district, adjoining Tamil Nadu and Kerala, received good rainfall on Friday.

Hanur, Male Mahadeshwara Hills and the surrounding areas received heavy rainfall. The district received mild showers in the afternoon. P G Palya and Ponnachi recorded 2 cm of rainfall.

Hassan also received mild

showers and remained cloudy throughout the day.

Heavy rain coupled with lightning and thunder lashed different parts of Kodagu district on Friday.

Virajpet, Gonikoppa, Balugodu and Srimangala experienced rain for more than an hour. Napoklu, Bhagamandala, Talacauvery, Kushalnagar and Madikeri experienced moderate rainfall. The untimely rainfall affected the coffee and paddy harvest in the district.

DH News Service

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 05.12.2017 in the

Hindustan Times  
Statesman  
The Times of India (N.D.)  
Indian Express  
Tribune  
Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)  
Punjab Keshari (Hindi)  
The Hindu  
Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)  
Deccan Chronicle  
Deccan Herald

M.P. Chronicle  
Aaj (Hindi)  
Indian Nation  
Nai Duniya (Hindi)  
The Times of India (A)  
Blitz

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# Ockhi: Centre offers aid to Kerala

20 fishermen rescued; death toll in Kerala placed at 25, of which 12 bodies were yet to be identified

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,  
5 DECEMBER

**D**efence minister Nirmala Sitharaman today visited cyclone-hit Kerala and assured the state of all help while asserting that rescue operations would continue till every missing fishermen was brought back safely.

A total of 20 fishermen from the state were rescued by Navy today while the toll in rain-related incidents in the aftermath of 'Ockhi' cyclone was officially put at 25.

Sitharaman gave the assurance at a meeting with chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan here after visiting some areas hit by the natural calamity in the district, a CMO release said.

Her meeting came even as Naval ships, helicopters, Coast Guard vessels and Air Force planes continued to be engaged in the rescue and relief

operations to track down the 100 odd fishermen, reportedly missing after the cyclone tore into the state's south coast on 30 November.

The toll in the rain-related incidents was put at 25 by the state government. Of this, twelve bodies were yet to be identified. Eleven of the deceased were from Thiruvananthapuram district while the other belonged to Kollam, officials said.

A Navy ship located a fishing boat with nine crew members, missing from Kochi for the last 15 days, off Lakshadweep coast while 11 fishermen, who put out to sea from here, were brought back to the shore at Kochi, they said.

During the meeting with Sitharaman, Vijayan requested for generous help by the Centre for relief works considering the gravity of the situation if there was any technical hurdle to declare 'Ockhi' cyclone as a national disaster.



He also sought financial assistance for implementing long-term rehabilitation schemes for the affected fishermen.

The defence minister wanted the state to prepare a detailed memorandum and send it to the Centre, the CMO release said.

Earlier, talking to reporters, Sitharaman said "Search and rescue operations will continue. There will not be any

dilution of operations. We want to make sure that each and every fishermen who had gone from Kerala comes back safely," she said.

She visited Vizhinjam and Poonthura fishing hamlets, from where most of the fishermen have been reported missing.

"They (fishing community) are in deep distress...I can see it," she said.

Sitharaman said fishermen who had gone much before the cyclone warning, probably 15 days ago, had been spotted in the sea and given food and water.

"So I will not lose hope even for a minute. If boats that had gone 15 days ago had come back with fishermen alive, we will make every attempt to bring everybody back," she said.

The fishermen's demand for including some of their men in the rescue team had been accepted and already 11 of

them have joined the Navy boats and helicopters engaged in the operations, she added.

"This is the time to keep my focus on rescue operations," she said replying to a question.

The minister addressed the fishermen both at Vizhinjam and Poonthura.

It was an emotionally charged atmosphere at the two fishing villages as women wailing and weeping for the safe return of their husbands and brothers came together to hear the minister, while the men folk raised slogans.

"I speak with folded hands...Please listen to me peacefully...The warning was given on 29 November...We started search operations from 30 November...The Navy, Coast Guard and Air Force began their work. Many people were saved," she said.

"Many people have come back to their families...We have not stopped the search operations," she said, adding

war ships were also being engaged in the mission.

So much efforts, not even witnessed when the tsunami had hit the Indian coast, were being taken now, the minister, who arrived here from Kanyakumari this morning, said.

State Fisheries minister, Mercykutty and Devaswom minister, Kadakampally Surendran accompanied Sitharaman. The local fishermen alleged that there was lack of coordination in rescue operations and staged protests in some places. Pastor of a local church at Vizhinjam said the search operations should continue intensively and the compensation should be disbursed by state and central governments in a time-bound manner. In a tweet yesterday, Sitharaman had said nearly 390 fishermen from the state had been rescued by the Navy, the Air Force, Coast Guard and merchant vessels.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 15.10.2017 in the

Hindustan Times	Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)	M.P. Chronicle
Statesman	Punjab Keshari (Hindi)	Aaj (Hindi)
The Times of India (N.D.)	The Hindu	Indian Nation
Indian Express	Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)	Nai Duniya (Hindi)
Tribune	Deccan Chronicle	The Times of India (A)
Hindustan (Hindi)	Deccan Herald	Blitz

and documented at Bhagirath(English)& Publicity Section, CWC.

# Air quality worsens, rain may bring relief over next 2 days

AQI recorded at 390; concentration of pollutants nearly five times the safe limit

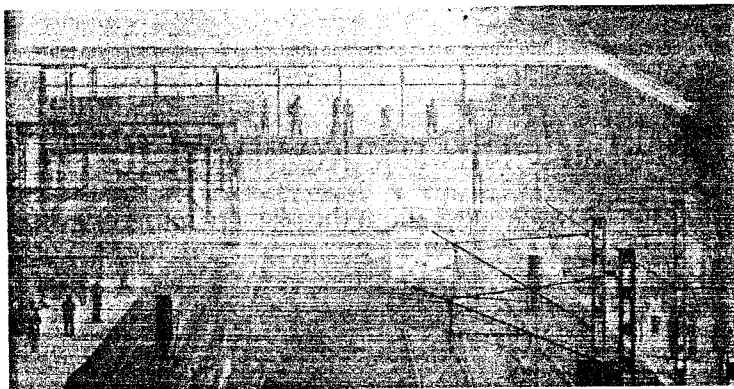
STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

Air quality in Delhi worsened on Monday and inched closer to the 'severe' category with a sharp rise in the level of particulates through the day, according to data by the Central Pollution Control Board.

## Nearing 'severe' level

The average Air Quality Index (AQI) for Delhi on Monday was 390, on a scale of 500. This is classified as 'very poor', which comes with the warning that people may develop respiratory illness on prolonged exposure. The 'severe' category starts from an AQI of 401 and above. On Sunday, the AQI was 351.

The dip in air quality on Monday was reflected in the concentration of pollutants in the air. Levels of PM2.5 and PM10 reached 276 and 455 micrograms per cubic metre (ug/m3), respectively, in the afternoon. The safe li-



**Poor visibility:** A passenger train waiting to depart is shrouded in dense smog at Sarai Rohilla railway station. ■ SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

mit for PM2.5 and PM10 is 60 and 100 ug/m3 respectively.

The rise in pollution levels have been attributed to low minimum temperatures and high moisture levels that create ideal conditions for the creation of smog as particulate matter get trapped close to the surface. Slow

winds have also aided the rise in the AQI score.

The dense smog reduced visibility and blocked out the sun throughout the day leading to a fall in the maximum temperature, which was recorded at 23 degrees Celsius. The minimum was recorded at 8.3 degrees Celsius.

The MeT department has forecast partly clear skies on Tuesday with mist in the morning. It has also forecast rain in the next 48 hours that may help improve air quality. The maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to be between 23 and 11 degrees Celsius respectively.

## File action plan within 48 hours: NGT to govt

SHINJINI GHOSH  
NEW DELHI

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) on Monday rapped the Delhi government for not submitting an action plan to tackle heavy pollution levels in the city.

### 'Face heavy fines'

The green panel told the Aam Aadmi Party government that heavy fines would be imposed if the report is not filed within 48 hours.

A Bench headed by NGT chairperson Swatanter Kumar said: "Tell us one step that you have taken on previous orders passed by the Tribunal. Are the people of Delhi always supposed to suffer? We had told you to shut all offices in case of emergent situations, what have you done? Children are also suffering."

The counsel for the Delhi government sought time from the Tribunal as the Chief Secretary and the environment secretary had been recently shuffled.

To this, the Bench said: "What can we do if you keep changing everybody? It is not our problem if people don't want to stick to you."

Referring to the India-Sri Lanka match, which was briefly stalled on Sunday due to poor air quality, the Bench said: "Look at people abandoning matches. You simply keep holding meeting after meeting, and not do anything else."

The NGT had on November 28 asked Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan to submit comprehensive action plans to tackle high levels of pollution.

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Punjab Keshari (Hindi)  
The Hindu  
Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi)  
Deccan Chronicle  
Deccan Herald

M.P. Chronicle  
Aaj (Hindi)  
Indian Nation  
Nai Duniya (Hindi)  
The Times of India (A)  
Blitz

and documented at Bhadrirath(English)& Publicity Section, CWC.

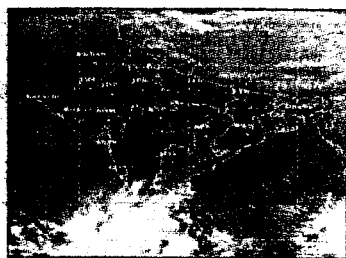
प्रशासन ने कमर कसी

जारी किया अलर्ट... रो-रो फेरी सेवा बंद

मजबूत-5-12-17

# ओखी तूफान गुजरात की ओर तेजी से बढ़ा

गांधीनगर, (वाती): दक्षिण भारत में कहर बरपाने वाले समुद्री तूफान ओखी के गुजरात तट की ओर बढ़ने के मद्देनजर राज्य के दक्षिण और सौराष्ट्र क्षेत्रों में कल भारी वर्षा की चेतावनी और एहतियाती उपायों और सतर्कता के बीच गुजरात मैरीटाइम बोर्ड ने प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी के हाथों गत 22 अक्टूबर को शुरू हुई भावनगर के घोघा और भरूच के दहेज के बीच रो-रो फेरी सर्विस (स्टीमर सेवा) को आज अस्थायी तौर पर बंद कर दिया गया है। अरब सागर में खंभात की खाड़ी में चलने वाली इस सेवा को फिर से शुरू करने के बारे में निर्णय छह दिसंबर को लिया



जायेगा इस बीच आज सुबह साढ़े पांच बजे करीब सूरत से 870 किलोमीटर दक्षिण दक्षिण पश्चिम में केंद्रित इस तूफान के कल दक्षिण गुजरात तट पर पहुंचने और बाद में कमजोर

पड़ जाने की संभावना है। मौसम के निदेशक जयंत सरकार ने बताया कि यह फिलहाल यह एक गंभीर तूफान है पर जब यह गुजरात तट पर पहुंचेगा तो कमजोर पड़ कर गहरे दबाव के क्षेत्र अथवा सामान्य दबाव के तौर पर गुजरेगा। मछुआरों को समुद्र तट में नहीं जाने की चेतावनी दी गयी है। एनडीआरएफ की टीमों को तटवर्ती इलाकों में तैनात कर दिया गया है। इस बीच इसके प्रभाव से कई इलाकों में बरसात शुरू हो गयी है। कल वलसाड, सूरत, नवसारी तथा अमरेली, भावनगर, गिर सोमनाथ आदि तटवर्ती जिलों में भारी वर्षा की चेतावनी जारी की गयी है।

## लापता मछुआरों को गहरे समुद्र में तलाशने की मांग

कन्याकुमारी, (आईएनएस): मछुआरा समुदाय की महिलाओं ने सोमवार को कन्याकुमारी जिले में विरोध-प्रदर्शन किया। घकघात ओखी के मद्देनजर गहरे समुद्री इलाकों में फंसे मछुआरों को बचाने के लिए अभियान तेज करने की मांग की। सैकड़ों महिलाओं ने नीरोडी गांव में सड़क पर उतर कर विरोध प्रदर्शन किया। महिलाएं अपने प्रियजनों का पता लगाने की मांग कर रही थीं।

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and documented at Bhadrath(English)& Publicity Section, CWC

## गुजरात, महाराष्ट्र की ओर ओखी, भूस्खलन का डर



■ एजेंसियां, चेन्नै/नई दिल्ली : लक्षद्वीप से गुजरने के बाद ओखी तूफान के महाराष्ट्र और गुजरात की ओर मुड़ने की आशंका है। अगले 24 घंटे में दोनों राज्यों में मौसम खराब हो सकता है। यहां कई जगहों पर भूस्खलन हो सकता है। कई जिलों के स्कूल, कॉलेजों में छुट्टी कर दी गई। इसके साथ ही तूफान तमिलनाडु और आंध्र प्रदेश की ओर बढ़ सकता है। इस बीच केरल में तूफान आने से लापता हुए मछुआरों की तलाश जारी है। रक्षा मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण ने कहा कि मछुआरों को और गहरे समुद्र में तलाशा जाएगा। मालूम हो कि करीब 100 मछुआरे लापता हैं।

05-12-17