



*A parallel government is being run by the Bhavan in Arunachal Pradesh.*

ARUNACHAL PRADESH CHIEF MINISTER N

ALLEGING THAT THE GOVERNOR IS INTERFERING WITH STATE GOVT AND LE

# 'DECLARE TN FLOOD A NATIONAL CALAMITY'

JAYA URGES MODI, PROPOSES MORATORIUM ON LOANS FOR VICTIMS

## 'Out of courtesy held slippers for Rahul'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
Chennai, 9 December

Tamil Nadu chief minister J Jayalalithaa on Wednesday urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to declare the unprecedented floods in the state as a national calamity and proposed measures, including a moratorium on home and vehicle loans, to enable affected families rebuild lives.

"I request you to immediately declare this unprecedented, catastrophic and cataclysmic event a national calamity," she said in a letter to Modi.

For flood-hit households many of whom are in the low and middle income groups, she proposed a special set of measures like soft loans, speeding up insurance claims disbursement and moratorium by banks on EMIs.

Referring to the destruction caused by the four rounds of floods in most districts, she said there has been extensive damage to infrastructure as well as to the private property of



thousands of families.

Many households had lost valuables like personal effects and domestic durable assets, she said and added that "it cannot be adequately compensated through the existing structure of relief payments".

"The insurance companies may be directed to take up the survey and settlement of the claims on a campaign mode, and with a liberal application of norms so that such households could receive insurance payments early," she said. "I suggest that the banks may be directed to provide a limited moratorium on repayment, as well as a rescheduling of the

loans, which would lower the Equated Monthly Instalment payments and offer a measure of relief," the CM said.

Many affected families also lost their personal vehicles and almost all their durable domestic assets, including furniture, refrigerators, television sets, washing machines and kitchen equipment, she said.

"I suggest that, as a special case, flood-affected families may be liberally extended soft loans by banks for purchase of vehicles, educational loans to continue to fund the education of children and personal loans of an amount upto Rs five lakh

to finance essential domestic durable assets."

The government would provide special certification to all such families, based on which banks could sanction loans as per their norms, she said. The CM stressed that only with such a package of assistance would many of these families be in a position to restart their lives.

Jayalalithaa also requested that excise duty exemption be provided till 31 March, 2016 for white goods (domestic electric appliances) and kitchen equipment to be sold in the flood affected districts.

Given the "extraordinarily heavy devastation caused by the floods," she said the liberal measures suggested by her would enable the flood affected families rebuild their lives. Requesting immediate action, she said, "I would be grateful if you could direct the Ministry of Finance to immediately formulate a liberal scheme as suggested."

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
Chennai, 9 December

After videos and images of him holding slippers to enable Congress vice president Rahul Gandhi wear them went viral, former Union Minister V Narayanasamy today said he did that out of courtesy to help his party top leader wade through a flooded street in Puducherry.

Yesterday, Rahul Gandhi toured flood-hit regions of Puducherry and Tamil Nadu, accompanied by regional Congress leaders, including Narayanasamy.

Among Rahul's tour pictures and videos was one showing Narayanasamy, bent and holding a pair of slippers for his leader to wear and it went viral. A section of the media claimed that Narayanasamy was holding Rahul Gandhi's slippers.

Asked about it, Narayanasamy said, "it was



A file photo of Narayanasamy holding slippers for Rahul Gandhi

not Rahul Gandhi's slippers, it was mine and I was holding it for him to wear out of courtesy so that he could walk through a flooded neighbourhood. Rahulji was had to remove his shoes as the street was flooded. As he got ready to walk barefoot, I offered mine as the flooded street had thorns."

# 'Carbon management key for all nations'

## DEVELOPED COUNTRIES SUPPORT 1.5 DEGREES TEMPERATURE GOAL

**STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE**  
New Delhi, 9 December

In order to achieve a 1.5 degrees temperature goal, the world must agree to a fair allocation of carbon space and massive enhancement of financial and technological support from developed countries, a joint statement by Prof T Jayaraman from Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Prof Anand Patwardhan from University of Maryland and IIT-Mumbai and Chandra Bhushan, Deputy Director General, Centre for Science and Environment, today said.

At the Paris climate conference, there is growing momentum for tight-

ening the global goal from 2 degree Celsius to 1.5 degree Celsius ~ a target that may better help the world avoid the worst effects of climate change.

Developed countries have openly given their support to this goal; India and China have also shown their willingness to consider this temperature goal, CSE said in a communique from Paris.

"While we welcome this increase in ambition, we would like to draw the attention of the climate negotiators to the need to allocate the remaining carbon budget in a fair manner to all countries so that there is a chance for meeting this temperature tar-

get," the joint statement said.

"We would also like to emphasise the fact that meeting this temperature goal would require massive enhancement of financial and technological support from the developed countries to the developing countries so that they are able to move quickly onto low-carbon development pathways.

"In addition, developed countries will have to significantly increase the level of their own efforts and reach net zero emissions in the next 5-10 years.

"In the absence of such commitments, a 1.5 degrees C temperature target would remain a hollow shell ~

devoid of any real significance."

Comparing the existing INDC's to the available budget indicates that for a better than even chance of meeting the 1.5 degree Celsius target, the remaining carbon budget is exhausted well before 2030.

On who will appropriate how much carbon space, the statement said the US and the EU would consume 128 Gt CO<sub>2</sub> between 2011 and 2030.

If we take available carbon space to be 550 Gt CO<sub>2</sub> (for a 50 per cent probability of staying below 1.5 degree Celsius) then the EU and the US alone will consume 23 per cent of the budget.

# Fluoride in water 22 times more than limit in Narnaul

RAVINDER SAINI

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MAHENDRAGARH, DECEMBER 9

A report on groundwater has sounded the alarm bells for people of the district, as fluoride content in water has been found 22 times higher than the permissible limit in Narnaul, the district headquarters.

Alarmed, officials of the National Programme for Prevention and Control of Fluorosis (NPPCF) have swung into action and launched a special awareness drive to motivate the people not to consume groundwater, as it may prove hazardous for their health.

Sources said the NPPCF officials, during the survey on groundwater, found 22.2 ppm (parts per million) fluoride content in the groundwater at the Sighana Road area, Narnaul.

The permissible limit of fluoride in water is 1 ppm.

Most of the people in

## 1 ppm is the limit

- The permissible limit of fluoride in water is 1 ppm
- Persistently depleting water table and fluoride-rich soil of Mahendragarh are the reasons behind rising fluoride content in groundwater
- Most of the people in Mahendragarh district are compelled to use groundwater for drinking and other purposes because of the scarcity of canal water



A lab technician takes a sample of groundwater in Mahendragarh. TRIBUNE PHOTO

Mahendragarh district are compelled to use groundwater for drinking and other purposes because of the scarcity of canal water.

“High fluoride concentration in water is causing health problems such as dental and skeletal fluorosis, anaemia, gastroenteritis, joint pains

and other abdominal disorders among villagers,” said Dr Sanjay Yadav, district consultant with the NPPCF.

Besides Sighana road area, the fluoride content has been recorded alarmingly high in Kultajpur (8.4 ppm), Akbarpur Ramu (8 ppm), Nangal Mittrapura (7.4 ppm

each), Saidpur (7.3 ppm), Muraripur/Kanwi (6.6 ppm), Niwaz Nagar (6.4 ppm), Nimbehra (6 ppm), Bhungarka (6.2 ppm), Dhani Kirarod (6 ppm), Chapra Bibipur (5.9 ppm), Bhojawas (5.6 ppm), Mulodi (5.1 ppm), Mali Tibba Narnaul (4.2 ppm), Azam Nagar (4.4 ppm), Jatwas Mihara (4.1 ppm), Tazipur (5.6 ppm), Chanduwara Narnaul (4.3 ppm), Dharsoon (4.2 ppm), Karota (4.4 ppm) and Amarapur Jorasi (4 ppm) villages, the report said.

“Persistently depleting water table and fluoride-rich soil of Mahendragarh are the reasons behind rising fluoride content in groundwater in most of the villages. Samples were taken from the main source of water such as borewells and tube-wells,” Dr Yadav said.

A laboratory had been set up in the Narnaul Civil Surgeon's office to check the fluoride level in water free of cost, he added.

## Coldwave intensifies

SHIMLA, DECEMBER 9

The hills and valleys of the state reeled under piercing cold wave conditions as mercury plummeted across the state due to fresh Western Disturbances and strong velocity icy winds swept the region.

The maximum day temperatures recorded a sharp fall of five to eight degrees while there was marginal fall in the minimum temperatures making people shiver even in heavy woollens. The sky remained heavily overcast raising hopes of snowfall in higher hills and tribal areas and rains in mid and lower hills, breaking the two-week dry spell.

Foggy conditions prevailed in towns along river banks in the morning while thick ground frost occurred in higher hills and tribal areas. The Rohtang Pass received mild snow but the Manali-Leh National Highway was open for light vehicles. Heavy vehicles like buses and trucks have been advised not to cross the pass as precaution. — TNS



# Cruise and shikaras at Pong Dam soon

**PRATIBHA CHAUHAN**

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**SHIMLA, DECEMBER 9**

The Tourism and Civil Aviation Department will soon launch an eco-friendly cruise service and shikaras at the Pong Dam in Kangra with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) sanctioning Rs 8 crore for the project.

The Tourism Department has already got the approval from the Police Department to launch the services. The nod from the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) is now awaited as this is mandatory before launching the cruise which will be eco-friendly and ensure that the tourist attraction is run without causing any harm to the environment and the water body.

The Pong Dam water body is very expansive and has about 65-km run but at many places the depth of the water is not enough to run a cruise throughout the year. "The cruise will have a deck and proper restaurant, though initially we intend to run it only during the day time and not with night-stay facility," revealed an official of the Tourism Department. He added that the moment the BBMB gives its nod, the department would start the process for purchase of the cruise.

He also added that locals as well as private entrepreneurs would be invited to purchase and run shikaras like in the Dal Lake in Srinagar here so that the area can be promoted as a major attraction. Water sports activities are already being

## ADB okays ₹8 crore

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has sanctioned Rs 8 crore for the project.
- The Tourism Department has got the approval from the Police Department for the services.
- The nod from the BBMB is awaited as this is mandatory before launching the cruise.
- "The cruise will have a deck and proper restaurant, though initially we intend to run it only during the day time," revealed a Tourism Department official.

undertaken at the Pong Dam and students from various states come here for training.

The Pong Dam also attracts thousands of migratory birds during the winter months and many bird lovers arrive here to admire rare bird species which descend on this wetland.

The government intends to develop and promote the Pong Dam as a major water sports attraction. Considering its close proximity to Punjab, Chandigarh and Jammu area, the water body has immense tourism potential. A huge sum of over Rs 10 crore will be being spent under the Asian Development Bank project on creating tourism infrastructure and developing the Pong Dam, also known as the Maharana Pratap Sagar for tourism and water sports related activities.

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**THE TIMES OF INDIA**

# Capital to stay cloudy till Friday

TNN | Dec 10, 2015, 12:27 AM IST

New Delhi: The persistent smog of the past week gave way to a cloud cover and drizzle in parts of Delhi on Wednesday. The maximum temperature fell three degrees from Tuesday to 23.8 degrees Celsius, one degree below normal. The Met department said that the sky will clear up only around Saturday and till then, one can expect light to moderate fog in the mornings.

"A western disturbance is affecting northwest India at present. Till Thursday, Delhi can expect light rain and thundershowers in some areas during evening and night. The sky will remain cloudy till Friday and clear up by Saturday," said a Met official.

Due to the build-up of a cloud cover, Delhi's maximum temperature came down while the minimum went up. The maximum ranged between 22.4 degrees Celsius and 23.8 degrees Celsius while the minimum ranged between 10.5 degrees Celsius and 14.3 degrees Celsius. Humidity levels touched a high of 98%.

"Shallow to moderate fog will occur in isolated pockets of Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, north Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh over the next two to three days. There will be no significant changes in the minimum temperatures over the plains of northwest India during the next two days after which it will fall by 2-3 degrees.

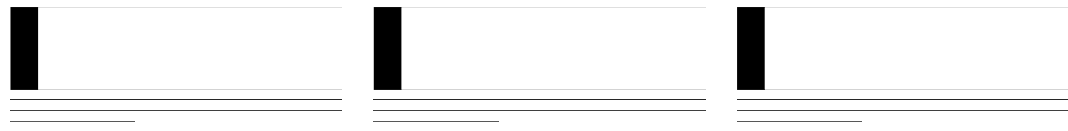
Meanwhile, several parts of northwest India witnessed dense fog on Wednesday morning, with visibility touching between 50 m and 200 m, Delhi managed to get off with only a short spell of moderate fog. Dr RK Jenamani, director in-charge of IGI Met said: "Many airports were closed from early Tuesday night till late Wednesday morning in north India due to dense fog but Delhi escaped it this time. Because of the approaching WD, the fog spell over Punjab and Haryana will weaken though east UP and Bihar may continue to witness very dense fog. Very dense fog is not likely over Delhi till at least December 12."

Gufan Beig, project director, SAFAR, under the ministry of earth sciences, however, said that the air quality may remain poor due to influx of pollutants from distant sources. "It is due to influx of pollutants from distant sources, mostly due to the north-easterlies from the Indo-gangetic plains, an area which stretches from Kolkata to Rajasthan," he said. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB's) air quality index (AQI) at 382 was in "very poor" category on Wednesday with PM 2.5 (fine, respirable pollution particles) and PM 10 (coarse, pollution particles) as lead pollutants. The AQI on Tuesday was 382.

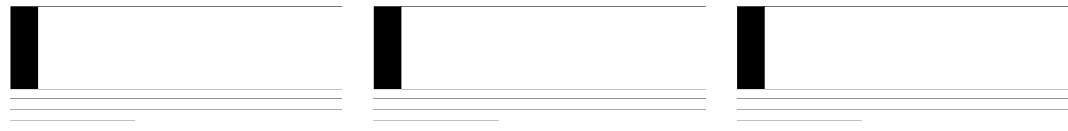
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**THE TIMES OF INDIA**

# Carbon footprints don't lie: World's richest 10% release 50% of its CO2

Subodh Varma,TNN | Dec 10, 2015, 02:05 AM IST



*The carbon footprint of the richest is 60 times larger than that of the poorest at a global level.*

As the rich countries of the West lock horns with the developing world at Paris on the question of who will cut how much carbon emissions, a new study by Oxfam shows the jaw dropping chasm between emissions of the two sides. The richest 10 percent people of the world are responsible for almost half of all global carbon emissions while the poorest 50 percent of the world - some 3.5 billion people - cause just 10 percent of it in one year.

Here's another way of looking at this: a person belonging to the poorest half of the world emits just 1.57 tonnes of carbon dioxide per year while a person belonging to the richest 10% emits 17.6 tonnes - over 11 times more.

If you compare the richest 10 percent with the poorest 10 percent, the gap is mind boggling. The carbon footprint of the richest is 60 times larger than that of the poorest at a global level.

Why is this relevant to the Paris talks? Because in the smoke and mirrors of global negotiations, the commitment of the rich countries to their own lifestyles - and its humongous carbon footprint - is so entrenched that they are unable to give it up, forcing changes on the struggling poor of the developing world. This is all the more unjust because it is the developing world that is going to bear the brunt of extreme climate change effects as a recent World Bank study of 52 countries showed.

Oxfam has made these calculations for consumption rather than production as is normally done. In this way, what happens is that if a soft drink made in China is consumed in the US, the emissions in production, transportation etc. are counted in US. This is more logical as the reason for making the drink was a demand in US, as was its ultimate destiny.

The vast majority of the richest 10 percent of the world stay in the OECD countries - North America, Western Europe, Australia, New Zealand and Japan. In fact a third of them stay in the US. So the culpability of the rich countries in emissions is reaffirmed, with the additional information that it is their profligate consumerism that is driving emissions.

Where does India fit into this picture? Oxfam's estimates reveal that per person emissions of India's richest 10 percent are about 2 tonnes which is just a quarter of even the poorest 50 percent of US whose emissions are 8.57 tonnes.

If you compare the poorest half of the population of India and US, the contrast is even starker. India's poorest 50 percent population has a per capita emission of a mere 0.42 tonnes while for the US it is 8.57 tonnes per year, over 20 times more.

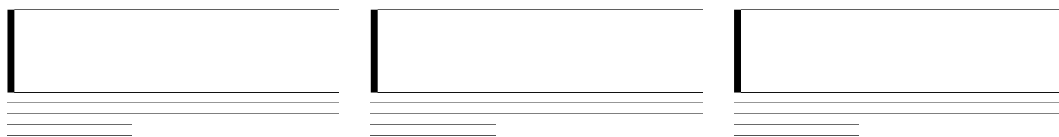
This incredible equation shows the wide and deep chasm between consumption driven emissions in the first world and the third world. It also shows the locked down nature of the rich economies where even the poor cause more emissions than the rich of the third world.

So, what does it mean for the climate change negotiations in Paris? While climate change is a global crisis and everybody has to chip in, the magnitude of the problem is directly linked to the lifestyle choices and economic trajectories of the rich countries. Without even going into the question of historical responsibility, even on the basis of current emissions, the scale of emissions from the richer bloc is orders of magnitude more than India and other third world countries. Hence the richer bloc of countries need to not only make deeper cuts, they also need to pay more to compensate for the damage caused by climatic changes in the third world.

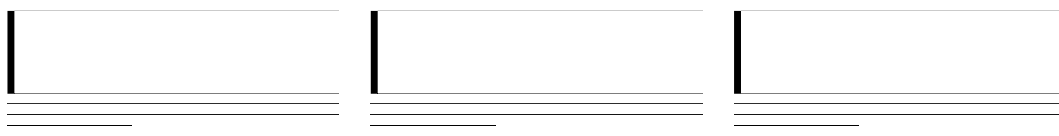
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## Centre sends right signal to the Cuddalore's flood-affected

[Anuradha Raman](#)

*Makeshift radio station set up in Cuddalore within five days of receiving SOS from Chennai.*

As the focus shifts to relief and rehabilitation in rain-ravaged Chennai, it is perhaps the first time that the Central government has helped facilitate the setting up of an emergency community radio station within five days of receiving an SOS, at Cuddalore, 180 km away.

107.8MHz, offering listeners' services related to relief in this flood-affected town, became operational at 5 p.m. on Wednesday. *The Hindu* had reported on Tuesday how thousands of residents have been cut off by waters.

The setting up of the radio station once again brings into sharp focus the need for communication services to be set as part of emergency protocol which in this case, was expedited due to some quick thinking by the Ministry of Communication and Technology's Wireless Planning and Coordination Unit. Usually, the decision of awarding frequencies to community radio is a process that can take days to months.

In the past, requests for emergency radio services have been made during the Kosi flood in 2008 and the rains that wreaked devastation in Uttarakhand two years ago, for setting up radio stations on a temporary basis to address local issues and help in relief.

The district administration had underlined the importance of community radio in emergency situations. The National Disaster Management Authority was also part of the discussions. But nothing came of it.

### Team effort

This time round, as a submerged Chennai sent an SOS, processes for setting a radio station worked fast. The Broadcasting Engineering Consultants India Ltd. (BECIL), a public sector enterprise which provides consultancy services to the entire gamut of radio and television services, moved in with expertise after a local NGO Saranalayalam sounded them out on December 4.

The Tamil Nadu government gave the permission to the NGO after which the Community Radio Forum initiated the process of seeking a frequency which was given on December 5 by the Telecom Ministry. Mr. John Nelson dropped a mail to the senior deputy wireless administrator in the Ministry at 11 pm which was responded to by 1 am the following day.

BECIL moved its transmitter by road from Benagaluru, and on Tuesday night, the process of setting up a radio station began literally at 12.30 pm in the Cuddalore Collector's office where basic Internet and telephone services were provided.

With the help of the Public Works Department, materials like lightning arrester were put in place. The antenna came up at 10 pm and test transmission started soon.

"The Collector wants us to continue our services 24 hours a day till relief reaches everyone," Mr. Nelson, who is running the radio now, said from Cuddalore.

A 20-second announcement is played over and over on 107.8 FM. The-set up, Mr. Nelson said, is extremely basic but sufficient to start with.

The radio station is in the process of building a partition to separate the recording place from the broadcasting studio and work is on to fix the antenna.

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Printable version | Dec 10, 2015 3:54:27 PM | <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/centre-sends-right-signal-to-the-cuddalores-floodaffected/article7967369.ece>

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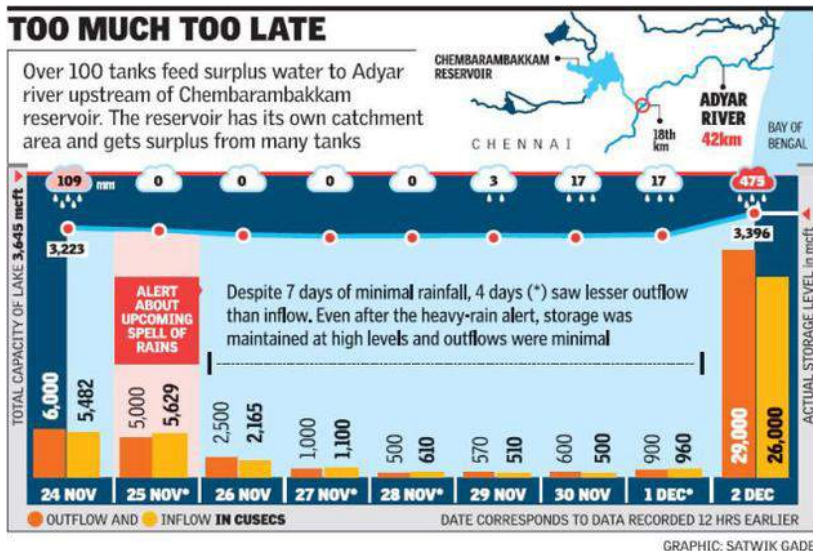
## A wrong call that sank Chennai



Srinivasan Ramani



Vasanth Srinivasan



The Hindu

Chembarambakkam reservoir near Chennai on November 24, 2015. The Tamil Nadu government, it is learnt, is considering a move to reduce the set storage level in the reservoir. Photo: B. Jothi Ramalingam

Official data from the Metro Water for the last 20 days suggest that the high precipitation and reservoir outflows on November 16 and December 1 respectively were primarily responsible for swelling the rivers.

As the flood water recedes in Chennai, serious questions are being raised about reservoir management in the city. Much of the flooding and subsequent waterlogging was a consequence of the outflows from major reservoirs into swollen rivers and into the city following heavy rains. The release of waters from the Chembarambakkam reservoir in particular has received much attention.

Official data from the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board for the last 20 days suggest that the high precipitation and reservoir outflows on November 16 and December 1 respectively were primarily responsible for swelling the rivers. On November 17, 18,000 cusecs was released from the reservoir in Chembarambakkam.

However, from November 24 to November 30, when the city experienced minimal rainfall, the outflows from the reservoir were limited, even as the storage levels were maintained at almost 85-88% of the total capacity of 3645 mcft. When heavy rains to the tune of nearly 48 cm fell

on the reservoir on December 1, 29,000 cusecs was released over 12 hours.

Experts raise the question as to why storage was set at such high levels. Professor Janakarajan of the Madras Institute of Development Studies also argues that the outflow management from the reservoir was improper. If storage levels were set at less than 75% and sluice gates were opened to allow for outflow from the reservoir in a way that it exceeded the inflows in the last week of November, the blow in the form of the high outflow on December 1 could have been softened, he asserts.

Officials formerly with the PWD say if the risk of releasing a particular volume prior to the heavy rainfall day had been taken, there would have been lesser floods in places like K.K.Nagar.

It is reliably learnt that the government is considering a move to further reduce the set storage level in the reservoir. Now the level is at two feet below the brim, and discussions are under way to change this to four feet.

### **Reservoir managers ignored warnings of heavy downpour**

On November 17, 18,000 cusecs was released from the reservoir in Chembarambakkam, causing massive flooding in areas such as Mudichur, West Tambaram, and Manapakkam among others.

However, from November 24 to November 30, when the city experienced minimal rainfall, the outflows from the reservoir were limited. Officials in the Public Works Department asserted that the inflow of 31,000 cusecs (26,000 before 6:00 p.m. owing to the high rainfall) resulted in the high outflow of 29,000 cusecs from the reservoir on December 1 and that they couldn't hold the reservoir beyond a point.

Former officials of the department, however, said if they had taken the risk of releasing a particular volume from the reservoir prior to the heavy rainfall day, water received from some tanks like Porur and Mudichur could have been stored.

The decision to conservatively hold storage despite early warnings from various meteorological agencies about heavy rainfall in the offing in late November and early December, clearly exacerbated the disaster that followed.

This was in addition to the structural issues in Chennai with floodplains and drainage systems being constrained by unplanned urbanisation.

Storage levels in Chembarambakkam and other reservoirs are decided based on drinking water requirements for the city and other areas in summer.

That the authorities should have hedged on the side of flood management over concerns on drinking water is now evident in hindsight.

*(With inputs from K. Lakshmi and Ramya Kannan)*

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Printable version | Dec 10, 2015 3:56:07 PM | <http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/chennai/chennai-floods-a-wrong-call-that-sank-the-city/article7967371.ece>

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# *Man made calamity: Humanitarian crisis caused by floods in Chennai could have largely been prevented*

December 10, 2015, 1:33 AM IST [TOI Edit](#) in [TOI Editorials](#) | [Edit Page](#), India | [TOI](#)

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As Chennai emerges from the worst floods it has seen in over a hundred years, the sordid saga of how heavy rain turned the city into a disaster zone is slowly unfolding. There is no questioning the fact that such a quantum of rain can cause havoc in any city, particularly those with lowlands. But the catastrophe Chennai faced went beyond this.

Water release from the brimming Chembarambakkam reservoir on the city's outskirts made this calamity a major tragedy. Record rain in mid-November had exposed the abysmal state of the city's infrastructure. Even as the city was getting back on its feet, weather agencies predicted 500mm of rain on December 1-2. So government and the civic agency did have time to plan, but got entangled in red tape instead. It has come to light that PWD officials had advised higher-ups to bring down the reservoir level from 22 to 18 feet to make room for anticipated inflow. But this was ignored and sluice gates were opened when the reservoir reached its capacity of 24 feet. This water then spread out all over the city, flooding even areas largely unaffected by the heavy rain.

What stands out starkly, therefore, is the directionlessness of government officials. Delegation of power is almost non-existent in the present autocratic regime in Tamil Nadu. As a result, during the crucial hours when help was desperately needed, hapless and marooned people did not know whom to turn to. The Army, the Coast Guard and the National Disaster Response Force stood by along with the entire police force, as there was total lack of coordination between departments in the state government. A shocked world was witness to a macabre drama played out on flooded streets – marooned residents beseeching help, rescuers unable to reach them, hundreds washed away, party functionaries obstructing or taking credit for the splendid gestures of people from all walks of life who filled in the vacuum in rescue and relief operations.

What Tamil Nadu needs is a command structure that can respond to crises and act in coordination – among departments and with external agencies – especially in the crucial early hours. This is one calamity that has touched the lives of every individual in the city, high or low. And it was brought on largely by government ineptitude.



Published: December 10, 2015 00:00 IST | Updated: December 10, 2015 07:41 IST Thiruvananthapuram, December 10, 2015

## New dam the only solution, says CM

- Special Correspondent



The Hindu

*The State government would explore legal options and seek the Centre's intervention to address concerns over the safety of the Mullaperiyar dam, says Chandy.*

The construction of a new dam is the only solution to the inter-State dispute between Kerala and Tamil Nadu on the Mullaperiyar issue, Chief Minister Oommen Chandy has said.

### Legal options

Addressing the media after a meeting of the State Cabinet here on Wednesday, he said the State government would explore legal options and seek the Centre's intervention to address concerns over the safety of the Mullaperiyar dam, without affecting ties with the neighbouring Tamil Nadu.

### Leased

"The dam was leased to Tamil Nadu for 999 years under an agreement between the two States.

How can anyone guarantee that the dam will last that long? A new dam is inevitable."

Mr. Chandy said the issue of dam safety would be taken up with Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visit to the State on December 15. Ministers from Kerala would also raise the issue during talks with Union Water Resources Minister Uma Bharati in New Delhi this week.

"The government is deeply concerned about the safety of the dam. We understand that five districts in Tamil Nadu are dependent on the water from the reservoir for their drinking and irrigation needs. Kerala is willing to let Tamil Nadu use the water.

Our only demand is to ensure the safety of the people in Kerala."

He said abnormally heavy rain like that experienced by Chennai recently could jeopardise the safety of the Mullaperiyar dam. Kerala maintains that the 120-year-old Mullaperiyar dam has outlived its safe-life period and had become structurally unsafe.

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Printable version | Dec 10, 2015 3:52:09 PM | <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala/new-dam-the-only-solution-says-cm/article7968582.ece>

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## Reservoir managers ignored warnings of heavy downpour



• [Srinivasan Ramani](#)

In the aftermath of the Chennai floods, the release of waters from the Chembarambakkam reservoir in particular has received much attention, as the outflow from it into the already constricted Adyar river resulted in a severe deluge, whose after-effects persist to this day.

On November 17, 18,000 cusecs was released from the reservoir in Chembarambakkam, causing massive flooding in areas such as Mudichur, West Tambaram, and Manapakkam among others.

However, from November 24 to November 30, when the city experienced minimal rainfall, the outflows from the reservoir were limited. Officials in the Public Works Department asserted that the inflow of 31,000 cusecs (26,000 before 6:00 p.m. owing to the high rainfall) resulted in the high outflow of 29,000 cusecs from the reservoir on December 1 and that they couldn't hold the reservoir beyond a point.

Former officials of the department, however, said if they had taken the risk of releasing a particular volume from the reservoir prior to the heavy rainfall day, water received from some tanks like Porur and Mudichur could have been stored.

The decision to conservatively hold storage despite early warnings from various meteorological agencies about heavy rainfall in the offing in late November and early December, clearly exacerbated the disaster that followed.

This was in addition to the structural issues in Chennai with floodplains and drainage systems being constrained by unplanned urbanisation.

Storage levels in Chembarambakkam and other reservoirs are decided based on drinking water requirements for the city and other areas in summer.

That the authorities should have hedged on the side of flood management over concerns on drinking water is now evident in hindsight.

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Printable version | Dec 10, 2015 3:54:31 PM | <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-international/reservoir-managers-ignored-warnings-of-heavy-downpour/article7967699.ece>

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# Why the 2-degree warming target has now come down to 1.5 degrees



**EXPRESS IN PARIS**

**AMITABH SINHA**  
DECEMBER 9

TWO DEGREES isn't good enough. We need to prevent the Earth from warming beyond 1.5 degrees compared to pre-industrial times, say the island countries. Over the years, the rest of the world has expressed sympathy, said it agreed in principle — and then thrown up its hands. The actions required to hold warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius weren't practically possible, it has argued.

Not any longer. For the first time, the climate talks have gathered some momentum on the 1.5-degree target. The US and EU have said they are willing to accommodate a reference to this target in the agreement under negotiation. India has said it has no opposition to the proposal. On Tuesday, BASIC countries — Brazil, South Africa, India and China — said the 1.5 degree target was still an option. African countries and the group of least developed nations have always backed the idea.

Both 2 degrees and 1.5 degrees are mentioned as options in the current negotiating text. The choice is still to be made.

## A tactical step?

The growing convergence on the 1.5-degree target is being seen as evidence of stronger resolve to fight climate change. While non-government organisations have welcomed the move, some have suggested that it could also be a negotiation tactic by the bigger players in the talks.



1.5 degrees is where hope for survival lies: environmental activists in Paris. Reuters

The US and EU could be attempting to wean the small island developing states (SIDS) and the least developed countries (LDCs) away from the bigger developing nations like China and India. The EU has, in fact, formed an alliance with 79 African, Caribbean and Pacific countries on some common issues, and promised to provide \$ 516 million to support climate action there up to 2020.

The developed countries were hoping that India, China and other developing nations would not agree to the 1.5-degree target — and they could be painted as spoilers. By promising to keep the discussion open, the BASIC countries have tried to call the developed nations' bluff, and hold on to the support of the SIDS and LDCs.

## How big is 1.5?

This isn't the first time that the 1.5-degree target has created a buzz at a climate meet. In Copenhagen 2009, the last time the world tried to stitch together a climate agreement, Tuvalu, one of the smallest countries on the planet, held up talks for two days on this demand.

So, what happens at 2 degrees that doesn't at 1.5 degrees?

The Nobel Prize-winning Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, whose periodic assessments of climate science are the basis of the ongoing negotiations, says keeping the rise of average global temperatures under 2 degrees from pre-industrial times is essential to prevent "catastrophic" and "irreversible" impacts. This year, we are set to touch the 1-degree mark.

Obviously, 2 degrees is not a definitive tipping point. Impacts of climate change get progressively strong with rising temperatures, and there is no minimum threshold for triggering them. IPCC uses the language of probability to say what different impacts could be expected with rises of 1.5 and 2 degrees. For example, there is a much greater possibility that seas would rise by more than 1 metre by 2100 in a 2-degree scenario than in a 1.5-degree world.

A rising sea is what small island states fear most. Most of them are in danger of disappearing altogether. Even parts of Bangladesh face nearly 70% submergence if the sea rises

by 1 metre.

## The road to 1.5

In the run-up to Paris, countries submitted proposed climate action plans for 2030. An assessment showed that combined actions would not be able to prevent global temperatures rising beyond 2 degrees, and if actions were not enhanced, the world was headed to a 2.7-degree rise by 2100.

Achieving a 1.5-degree target would require far greater action. The world would need to 'peak' its emissions much faster, probably as early as 2020 — and then achieve net zero carbon emissions in the 2060-80 period. It has often been argued that with the world struggling to meet even the 2-degree target, targeting 1.5 would be a non-starter.

But this may not be entirely true. Several reports have shown that the 2-degree and 1.5-degree roads are not very different till 2030. This year's emissions gap report by the UN Environment Programme showed that for a 2-degree world, total greenhouse gas (CO<sub>2</sub> plus other gases) emissions must be about 37 gigatons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent in 2030. Total emissions for the 1.5-degree scenario for the same year was only slightly higher — 39 gigatons. In 2025, total emissions in both scenarios are nearly equal.

After 2030, however, the paths diverge sharply. In 2050, the world should not be emitting more than 8 gigatons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent for a 1.5-degree scenario, while in the 2-degree scenario, it can emit up to 23 gigatons. For 1.5, a net zero emissions scenario must be achieved in 2060-80; for 2, it is 2080-90.

## Will we choose 1.5?

It is unlikely that the Paris agreement would commit itself to a 1.5-degree target. To satisfy the SIDS and LDCs, other formulations may be used — say, "well below 2 degrees" instead of "2 degrees". Another formulation could be to aim for the 2-degree target while striving to achieve 1.5 degrees.





नासा के अनुसार चेन्नई में 111 साल बाद ऐसी बारिश हुई, यह डाटा वैश्विक अवक्षेपण मापन अभियान के तहत आईएमईआरजी के जरिए जुटाया गया

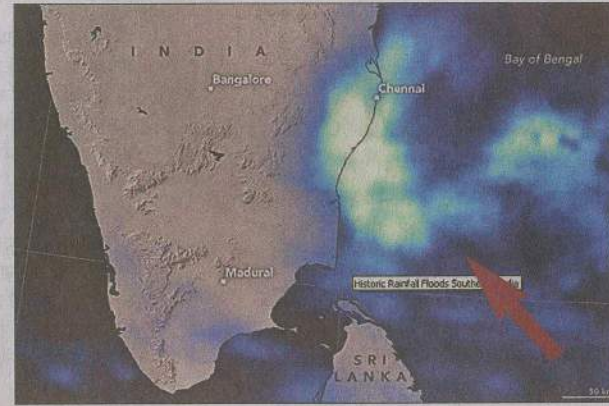
# 24 घंटे में तबाही का बादल बढ़ता चला गया | 400 मिलीमीटर से ज्यादा पहुंच गई बारिश दक्षिण पूर्वी तट के इलाके के आसपास



नई दिल्ली | एजेंसियां

चेन्नई में एक और दो दिसंबर को देखते-देखते छापे बादलों ने ऐसा कहर बरपाया कि पूरा शहर जलमग्न हो गया। नासा की अर्थ ऑब्जर्वेटरी ने दक्षिणपूर्वी भारत का एक नक्शा जारी किया है, जिसमें दिखाया गया है कि कैसे 24 घंटे के भीतर इस क्षेत्र में बारिश ने यहां तांडव मचा दिया।

आधे घंटे के अंतराल पर जुटाए गए आंकड़े बता रहे हैं कि चेन्नई और आसपास के इलाकों में इस दौरान 500 मिलीमीटर से ज्यादा बारिश रिकॉर्ड की गई। नासा ने कहा कि यह डाटा वैश्विक अवक्षेपण मापन अभियान के तहत आईएमईआरजी के जरिए जुटाया गया।



**1-2 दिसंबर** नासा ने एक से दो दिसंबर के बीच चेन्नई के ऊपर छापे बादल के आंकड़े हर आधे घंटे के अंतराल पर दर्ज किए। नासा की ओर से जारी इन तस्वीरों में दिखाया गया है कि 24 घंटे के भीतर बादल किस तरह से बढ़ते चले गए। ● एजेंसी

## आफत की बारिश

**1901** में हुई थी चेन्नई में एक दिन में सर्वाधिक बारिश

**50** से 60 प्रतिशत होती है भारत के पूर्वी तटीय इलाके में सर्दियों के दौरान बारिश

**188** मौतें हुई 01 दिसंबर को चेन्नई में बारिश से

**269** मौतों का आंकड़ा पहुंचा 3 दिसंबर तक

## क्या है कारण

मौसम विज्ञानियों ने इस बारिश के पीछे की वजह अत्यधिक सक्रिय उत्तर पूर्वी मानसून को बताया। नवंबर-दिसंबर में, देश में उत्तर पूर्व से दक्षिण पश्चिम की ओर बहने वाली प्रबल हवाएं अधिकतर स्थानों पर शुष्क प्रभाव डालती हैं, लेकिन ये उत्तर पूर्वी हवाएं बंगाल की खाड़ी के गर्म जल के ऊपर से भी होकर बहती हैं। वहां वे समुद्र से भारी मात्रा में नमी को वाष्पित कर देती हैं और इसे दक्षिणी एवं पूर्वी भारत पर ले जाती हैं।

Her



## दिल्ली में बारिश ने सर्दी बढ़ाई

नई दिल्ली। राजधानी में बुधवार को हुई हल्की बारिश और सर्द हवाओं ने पारा गिरा दिया। मौसम के जानकारों के अनुसार 12 दिसंबर से दिल्ली के तापमान में और गिरावट दर्ज की जाएगी। सप्ताह के अंत तक न्यूनतम तापमान 10 डिग्री सेल्सियस के नीचे आने की संभावना है।

गुरुवार को भी हल्की बारिश हो सकती है। सुबह और शाम को कोहरा दर्ज किया जाएगा। अधिकतम तापमान 25 डिग्री सेल्सियस व न्यूनतम तापमान 12 डिग्री सेल्सियस के करीब दर्ज किए जाने की संभावना है। मौसम वैज्ञानिक बीपी यादव ने बताया कि पश्चिमी विक्षोभ के प्रभाव के चलते मौसम में बदलाव हो रहा है।

(एजेंसी)

➤ बर्फबारी की चेतावनी पेज 09

## उत्तराखंड में बर्फबारी की चेतावनी

देहरादून | त्रिछ संवाददाता

मौसम विभाग ने गुरुवार शाम से 36 घंटे में उत्तरकाशी, चमोली, रुद्रप्रयाग और पिथौरागढ़ जिलों में ज्यादा ऊंचाई वाले इलाकों में भारी से भारी बर्फबारी की चेतावनी जारी की है। इसके अलावा मैदानी इलाकों में तकरीबन सभी जगह हल्की से मध्यम बारिश होगी और कुछ जगह ओले भी पड़ेंगे।

बुधवार सुबह से ही प्रदेश में ज्यादा जगह घने बादल आ गए और दोपहर या शाम तक कुछ जगहों पर हल्की बूदाबांदी भी शुरू हो गई। मौसम विभाग ने बुधवार शाम को जारी ताजा बुलेटिन में चेतावनी

झारखंड में शुक्रवार से सर्द हवाएं चलेंगी

जमशेदपुर। यूपी और बिहार के ऊपरी वायुमंडल में कायम सिस्टम के आगे बढ़ने से झारखंड में रात में तापमान में कमी और सुबह कनकनी का अहसास हो रहा है। लौहनगरी में इसके असर से बुधवार को तापमान में आंशिक उतार-चढ़ाव रहा। तापमान अधिकतम 28.9 और न्यूनतम 15.2 डिग्री दर्ज किया गया। मौसम वैज्ञानिकों का कहना है कि शुक्रवार से पश्चिमी विक्षोभ का असर दिखाई देगा। मौसम विज्ञान केंद्र रांची के पूर्वानुमान पदाधिकारी रतन महतो ने बताया कि पश्चिमी विक्षोभ से आसमान में आंशिक रूप से बादलों का ढेरा रहेगा। रात में न्यूनतम तापमान में कमी की संभावना बनी रहेगी। साथ ही देर शाम और सुबह के समय कुहासा भी छाने लगा है।

दी है कि गुरुवार की शाम से अगले 36 घंटे में उत्तरकाशी, चमोली, रुद्रप्रयाग और पिथौरागढ़ जनपदों में तीन हजार मीटर से ज्यादा ऊंचाई वाले इलाकों में कुछ जगह भारी से भारी बर्फबारी हो सकती है। इस

दौरान देहरादून, हरिद्वार, पौड़ी, नैनीताल और ऊधमसिंह नगर जिलों में तेज हवाओं के साथ बारिश होगी। देहरादून में कुछ जगह ओलावृष्टि भी संभव है और तेज हवाएं चलेंगी।

## अब भी पानी को तरसते बैगा आदिवासी

कवर्धा. बैजलपुर @ पत्रिका. ग्राम पंचायत महली जंगल का एक छोर, जिसे होलिन टोला के नाम पुकारा जाता है। यहां 28 बैगा परिवार निवासरत हैं। यह टोला मूलभूत सुविधाओं से वंचित हैं। बिजली व सड़क के अलावा पानी की भी समस्या बनी हुई है। हैण्डपंप व कुएं के अभाव में बैगा परिवार की महिलाओं को पानी के लिए एक किमी दूर नाले तक जाना पड़ता है। सीमित पानी में ही इन्हें निस्तारी करनी पड़ रही है। दुर्भाग्य की यह भी बात है कि नाले का पानी सूखते जा रहा है। नाला सूखने पर इन परिवारों को पानी के लिए छह किलोमीटर का सफर तय करना होगा। यह स्थिति एक-दो माह में ही बन सकती है। यह एक हैण्डपंप नहीं है। अब परिवार शासन-प्रशासन से टोला में एक हैण्डपंप की मांग कर रहे हैं।



सरकार की जय हो





» TODAY'S PAPER » NATIONAL

Published: December 10, 2015 00:00 IST | Updated: December 10, 2015 05:38 IST Chennai, December 10, 2015

## Volunteer numbers dwindling in Chennai

• [T.K. Rohit](#)

There is likely to be a huge shortage of volunteers in Chennai starting this weekend. The government needs to act fast and send out supplies.  
— File photo: B. Jothi Ramalingam

As some normalcy returns to Chennai and Cuddalore, volunteers who became the first line of rescue and relief operations last week want the government and the Corporation to take up more responsibility.

With companies reopening operations, many who had turned saviours for the city are returning to work and their lives. Some volunteers' houses were also hit hard by the floods and they have to take care of themselves, say volunteer coordinators.

"Right now volunteers with money, vehicles and jobs are slowly returning to their lives. The number of volunteers donating supplies is also coming down. But college students are most likely to remain and help," Umamaheshvaran Panneerselvam, who has been coordinating volunteer relief operations both in Cuddalore and Chennai told *The Hindu*.

Volunteer fatigue is also another issue.

"Some people who have been in the field for the past week are extremely tired. My friend, who was listed as a volunteer, has been receiving calls non-stop. He looks like a zombie," Srinivas, a resident of Raja Annamalai Puram said. "But he's pulling along because of the enormity of the crisis".

However, the lack of any single helpline from the State government or the Chennai Corporation points to the lethargy with which relief operations are being undertaken.

"Come this weekend, there is going to be a huge shortage of volunteers. The government needs to act fast and send out supplies. There is no point in collecting everything and keeping it in one place and sitting on it," Santhosh, another coordinator in Cuddalore, said. "Maybe colleges can spare their NSS and NCC students for some more time," he said.

***With companies reopening operations, many are returning to their lives***

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