

FFM Directorate

भारत सरकार
Government of India
केन्द्रीय जल आयोग
Central Water Commission
बाढ़ पूर्वानुमान प्रबोधन निदेशालय
Flood Forecast Monitoring Directorate

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विषय : दिनांक 17, 18, 19, 20 की समाचार की कतरन (News Clippings) प्रस्तुत करने के सम्बन्ध में ।

मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचारों की कतरन (News Clippings) अवलोकन हेतु प्रस्तुत हैं :

सम्बन्ध : उपरोक्तानुसार

हार्दिक
सहायक
(सहायक निदेशक)

उपनिदेशक हार्दिक 25/8/2018

निदेशक (बा.प.प्र.) 21/08/2018

कृपया केन्द्रीय जल आयोग की वेब साईट पर अपलोड करने की व्यवस्था करें ।

उपनिदेशक (त.प.) विपिन
20/8

निदेशक (तकनीकी प्रलेखन)

हार्दिक
20/8

दिनांक 17/8 को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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The Deccan Herald (Bengluru)
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Kerala rain fury kills 26 more, Kochi airport shut till Aug 26

Toll Since Aug 8
Now 97, PM To
Visit State Today

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Kochi/Thiruvananthapuram: Heavy rains continued to batter Kerala, claiming the lives of 26 more people on Thursday as floods and landslides ravaged the region in what is being described as the worst disaster the coastal state has wit-

FULL COVERAGE: P 15

nessed in living memory.

Incessant rains since August 8 have so far killed 97 people, with more than 1.67 lakh being shifted to 1,165 relief camps across the state. Most parts of Kerala are now flooded, with the situation worsening in several places, including



People are rescued in a boat in Kochi on Thursday. More rains have been predicted across Kerala till Saturday

Kochi, where the backwaters are threatening to breach their banks. Kochi airport remains under water and has now been closed till August 26. Train services from the state capital have been suspended and Kochi Metro operations drastically cut short.

The Met office said rains were expected to continue till Saturday, although a statewide "red alert"—the highest level weather warning—was in place only till Thursday.

PM Modi will visit Kerala on Friday evening and conduct an aerial survey of the affected

regions on Saturday. CM P Vijayan had sent an SOS to Modi on Wednesday, describing the floods as the worst ever in the state. The toll is likely to rise as rescuers are struggling to reach far-flung locations.

► ₹8,000cr loss so far, P 15

दिनांक 17/8 को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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Massive floods turn coffee land into one huge water body

DH 17/8

leaves scores of poor people homeless, gruel centres opened

MADIKERI: As many as 85,000 cusecs of water was released from the Harangi reservoir due to heavy inflow following copious showers in the catchment areas of the dam.

The Madikeri-Hassan state highway has been completely submerged following the release of water. Traffic has been prohibited on the bridge across River Harangi at Kudige in Kushalnagar taluk of Kodagu district, as cracks were identified there.

Amrita Coffee Curing Works has reported huge losses as water entered its premises at Kudluru. The Morarji Desai English medium school at Kudige has been flooded and students have been shifted to a safer place. The Cauvery Nisargadhama has been closed for visitors.

Several houses collapsed in a few localities of Madikeri city, following heavy rains on Thursday.

Gruel centres have been opened at Kodava Samaja and Gowda Samaja for those affected by floods in Cauvery and Harangi rivers in Kushalnagar and surrounding villages.

Incessant rains left a trail of destruction in Virajpet taluk of Kodagu district, including collapse of houses in the town.

The bridge connecting Virajpet and Madikeri at Bhetri



Water from overflowing Keerehole has gushed into several houses in Gonikoppa. DH PHOTO

has been flooded and vehicular movement has been banned on the bridge. Affected families were shifted to gruel centres at Hemmadu village.

The residential area near the Harangi reservoir populated by workers who had come from Tamil Nadu during the construction of the dam has been flooded, rendering hundreds of them homeless. Their huts have been washed away.

Several houses have collapsed due to heavy winds and showers in Somwarpet taluk

of the district. People in many villages are abandoning their homes due to the fear of landslides.

Gruel centres have been opened to provide succour to the affected. Roads have gone under water, putting residents at the mercy of coracles to reach their destinations. Hundreds of paddy fields have been flooded in these villages.

Many people in the district started leaving the district after tremors were experienced.

Several houses have been flooded at Gonikoppal in the

district following a flood in the Keerihole stream. The Gonikoppal-Ponnampet road faces the threat of being submerged.

Several acres of paddy fields were destroyed by the overflowing Kajur stream in Shanivarasanthi and nearby villages.

Coffee estates have also been waterlogged in the area. Hoilday has been declared for schools and colleges in the district on Friday and Saturday.

DH News Service

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जवाहर नगर (दिल्ली)
The Tribune (Chandigarh)
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Kochi airport closed till August 26

■ Odisha offers financial assistance of ₹5 crore to Kerala ■ Patnaik offers additional disaster support for relief

DC CORRESPONDENT
KOCHI, AUG. 16

The Cochin international airport which is still submerged in flood waters won't open on Saturday as expected. A CIAL release on Thursday said that the airport operations have been temporarily suspended upto 2 pm, August 26 due to very high flood situation and with key essential facilities like runway, taxiway, apron, NAV aids are under submerged condition.

The Central government, in a release, however said that Trivandrum and Calicut airports are available for scheduled operations of the Cochin airport. For international operations, both immigration and customs facilities are available 24x7 at these airports. Trivandrum airport can also accommodate wide body aircraft.

In view of the above and to cater for the stranded passengers, scheduled domestic airlines have been advised to reschedule their flights to/from Cochin to Trivandrum and Calicut airports till such time the situation at Cochin airport returns to normal," the release said.

"Scheduled domestic airlines have also been advised to operate relief flights to Trivandrum/Calicut for passengers of diverted flights, who have landed at Bangalore, Coimbatore and Chennai on August 15 morning instead of Cochin," it said.

All scheduled domestic airlines have been advised to ensure that airfares for flights to/from Trivandrum and Calicut airports in Kerala are kept at optimal level proportionate to sector distance so that travelling public is not inconvenienced.

Flights of foreign air-



People (left) being rescued from a flood-affected region following heavy monsoon rainfall, in Kochi on Thursday. A fully-submerged car at Edappally in Kochi on Thursday as rains battered the city for the second day in succession.



— PTI, ARUN CHANDRABOSE

lines viz. Air Arabia, Emirates, Etihad, Fly Dubai, Jazeera, Oman Air, Qatar, Saudia Airlines and SriLankan have been rescheduled for Trivandrum airport.

Foreign airlines viz. Air Asia Berhad, Gulf Air, Kuwait Airlines, Malindo, Scoot, Silk Air and Thai Air Asia have suspended their flights to/from Cochin.

Meanwhile, the Odisha government announced a financial assistance of ₹5 crore for Kerala, where the death toll since August 8 has risen to 75.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik talked to his Kerala counterpart Pinarayi Vijayan over telephone, following which the financial aid was announced, the CMO said.

Mr Patnaik also offered any other kind of support required to tackle the calamity, as Odisha has expertise in dealing with disasters, it said.

35 NDRF TEAMS SENT AS OPS SCALED UP

New Delhi, Aug. 16: The Centre on Thursday decided to send 35 more NDRF teams comprising nearly 1,000 personnel to shore up relief and rescue operations in Kerala.

After the meeting of the National Crisis Management Committee (NCMC) early in the day, the government initially directed sending 12 fresh teams of the federal disaster contingency force to the state and later decided to airlift 23 more teams in order to scale up the operations.

NDRF director general Sanjay Kumar said that the first 12 teams are being airlifted from Ghaziabad (6) and Vadodra (6) in Gujarat.

— PTI

SC asks Mullaperiyar panel to reduce water

New Delhi, Aug. 16: Taking note of the "grave" flood situation in Kerala, the Supreme Court on Thursday ordered the disaster management panel of the Mullaperiyar Dam to urgently decide on lowering the water level by three feet by holding a meeting on Friday. The direction to the disaster management sub-committee to reduce the water level up to 139 feet from the existing 142 feet came in the backdrop of Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan writing to his Tamil Nadu counterpart E.K. Palaniswami seeking lowering of the water-level in the Mullaperiyar dam in the interest of its safety.

A bench of Chief Justice Dipak Misra and Justice Indu Malhotra considered the plea for urgent hearing at 2 PM and decided to hear it on Thursday itself, observing that the flood situation the state was "grim and grave". The court directed the Disaster Management sub-committee of the Mullaperiyar Dam, set up by the Centre under section Section 9 of the Disaster Management Act, to hold an urgent meeting on Friday.

— PTI

Landslide kills 8, fury continues in Kerala

Thiruvananthapuram/Kochi, Aug. 16: A massive landslide killed eight people in Palakkad district of Kerala on Thursday morning even as there was no let-up in the torrential rains in the state where additional defence teams have been rushed to scale up rescue and relief operations.

With this, the death toll in the second spell of monsoon fury since August 8 has risen to 75.

Panic-stricken people in marooned buildings and high-rise flats sought help using social media platforms and patients, including those in ICUs, from various hospitals were shifted to safer places as the flood situation worsened this morning.

As many as 20 people stranded in a theology seminary were airlifted from Ranni in the worst-hit Pathanamthitta district and brought to Thiruvananthapuram by an Air Force helicopter.

Kerala Chief Minister, Pinarayi Vijayan, told reporters here that eight people lost their lives on Thursday in a landslide at Nenmara in northern Palakkad.

— PTI

TWEET TALK
T.S. Sidhr
@tamtsudhr

This video from this man's home in Pattanamthitta district, gives a sense of #keralafloods situation ... His family has moved to the upper floor of the house.



■ PM asked the Defence ministry to further step up relief and rescue operations across Kerala which is facing a severe flood situation.

■ NCMC meets; decides to scale up relief, rescue ops in Kerala

■ Southern Railways, Kochi Metro suspend operations in flood-hit Kerala

■ The CP(M) appealed to people of the country today to contribute generously to aid the rescue and relief operations in Kerala which has been hit by unprecedented floods.

Hindustan Times (Delhi)
नवभारत टाइम्स (दिल्ली)
The Tribune (Chandigarh)
The Hindu (Chennai)

The Assam Tribune (Guwahati)
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Kerala floods: Onam holidays for schools in the state rescheduled from August 17 to 29

Distress calls mark social media stories

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DHNS: As Kerala reels under one of the deadliest disasters in its history, social media is doubling as a support system for the official machinery and the thousands affected across the state. And it's not just about the hashtag campaigns.

Distress calls from people marooned in flooded houses, spot videos of people calling out for help, men and women living abroad posting Google-mapped locations of aged parents and requesting evacuation, collection of relief material—a good part of the rescue and rehabilitation effort is also being supplemented on social media platforms.

In Pathanamthitta district where many areas were flooded after river Pampa breached its banks, hundreds posted videos and messages on social media to highlight their plight, leading rescue teams to their locations. Contact numbers and locations of the affected were shared across WhatsApp

groups, Facebook and Twitter. People offered shelter to the affected in their homes while members of voluntary groups and collectives stepped in with offers to help—from food to fibre boats for evacuation in flooded areas.

The state government, from the Chief Minister and ministers to district administrations and official departments, have used social media to ensure that information that goes out is authentic and panic-mongers are kept away. Help also emerged through keralarescue.in, a state government initiative.

There, however, was also the staple dose of fake news and trolls entering the social media spaces—the inputs ranging from non-existent power shutdowns to dam level alerts to uninformed criticism of the rescue and rehabilitation operations. Kerala Police said stringent action would be initiated against people who spread hoax.

Two killed in TN rains

CHENNAI, DHNS: Two persons, including a woman, were killed in rain-related incidents in Valparai in Coimbatore district on Thursday, even as more than 1,200 families were moved to safety in Erode district as gushing waters from Bhavani dam submerged their houses.

With the catchment areas of Mettur and Bhavani Sagar dam receiving heavy rains and the outflow from Krishnarajasagar and Kabini reservoirs touching nearly 2 lakh cusecs of water, the Tamil Nadu government issued a flood alert to 11 districts asking them to move people living in low-lying areas to safety.

Velankanni, 42 drowned to death in a flash flood that

gushed into her house in Manampalli tribal settlement in Valparai, Vigneshwaran, an assistant engineer with the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board, died after a huge tree fell on him while he was involved in clearing the mud slipped on the roadside.

With MeT department predicting more rains, the district administration declared holiday for schools on Friday in Valparai. As public transport came to a grinding halt in Valparai with the Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation depot coming under water, the Coimbatore district administration asked tourists not to visit Anaimalai, Valparai and Aliyar for the next three days.



SUBMERGED: An aerial view of Pala following a flash flood after heavy rains in Kottayam. ROBIN JOSE



People being rescued from a flood-affected region following heavy monsoon rainfall, in Kochi on Thursday. PTI



Houses on the streets of Valparai, flooded due to heavy rains in the Nilgiris. DH PHOTO

Reduce water level at Mullaperiyar dam: SC

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Supreme Court on Thursday asked the disaster management sub-committee to consider reducing the water level upto 139 feet from the existing 142 feet at the Mullaperiyar Dam, in view of "grave" flood situation in Kerala.

A bench of Chief Justice Dipak Misra and Justice Indu Malhotra issued the directive by holding a meeting on Friday. Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has written to his Tamil Nadu counterpart E K Palaniswami for lowering of the water level in the Mullaperiyar dam.

The meeting of the National Crisis Management Committee (NCMC) and the Chief Secretaries of Tamil Nadu and Kerala was ordered to be held, to deal with the situation.

The court said if the physical presence of the officials for meeting cannot be ensured, then the meeting should be

held via video-conferencing. The court fixed the matter for hearing at 2 PM on Friday.

It also asked the Tamil Nadu and Kerala governments to cooperate with the NCMC for providing adequate relief to the displaced flood-affected families. During the hearing, Kerala government said the water level of the Mullaperiyar dam should be reduced to 139 feet to ensure that there was no safety issue with the barrage itself.

Kerala resident Russel Roy made a plea before the court seeking a direction to Tamil Nadu to manage the water level in the dam.

The Centre, represented by Additional Solicitor General P S Narasimha, informed the court that the NCMC headed by Cabinet Secretary had held meeting on Thursday and all possible relief was sent to the flood-affected people of Kerala.

Rainfall likely to decrease from today: IMD

The India Meteorological Department said on Thursday that intense rainfall over Kerala, Karnataka and the ghats areas of Tamil Nadu was likely to reduce from Friday. Forecast by the Thiruvananthapuram Met Centre for heavy to very heavy rainfall at one or two places till Friday and heavy rainfall till Saturday is in place. The Onam holidays for schools in the state have been rescheduled from August 17 to 29. Strong winds were reported from Punalur and other parts of Kollam district late in the evening. The Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services has issued a warning of high waves in the 3.5 m-4 m range till Friday night along the Kerala coast between Vizhinjam and Kasaragod and along the coast of Karnataka, from Mangaluru to Karwar.

दिनांक 17/8..... को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Hindustan Times (Delhi)

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Distress signals: A view of a landslide on the Punalur-Sengottai railway stretch in Kollam on Thursday. (Centre) A migrant worker being rescued at Kampanipady in Aluva. The worker, who was holding on to a raft, lost his grip due to strong waves but was saved by locals. (Right) The Army engineering wing team from Pune arriving at the Thiruvananthapuram airport for rescue operations on Thursday. *C. SURESHKUMAR, THULASI KAKKAT & S. GOPAKUMAR

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No let-up in Kerala's rain woes, 180 dead^{18 T 18/8}

EVACUATION More than 2 lakh people housed in relief camps as troops step up rescue ops

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

KOCHI: Almost 120 people died over the past 48 hours in the worst floods to hit Kerala in eight decades, state officials said, as relief and rescue workers stepped up efforts to reach marooned residents by boats and helicopters in the state where Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived on Friday to survey the havoc. In some areas, people fled to their rooftops to escape water levels reaching as high as the second floor of their houses.

"We are trying our best to save the marooned. Saving lives is our main concern now. Rescue operation is going on on a war footing with more choppers and boats," chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan told a news conference in the state capital Thiruvananthapuram, adding that more than 15,000 people had been evacuated in last two days.

Flooding began from August 8 when rains intensified, causing landslides and swelling rivers that have swept away buildings. Around 180 of the flood-related deaths have taken place since then, including the 120 lives lost in the past two days.

Vijayan said about 223,000 people were taken to 1,568 relief camps.

Hours later, Vijayan said in a tweet that 324 lives had been lost in the heavy rainfall and floods that have battered Kerala.

CONTINUED ON P 6



■ People wait for aid on the roof of a house in a flooded area of Kerala on Friday.

REUTERS

Meanwhile, Tamil Nadu farmers say they have no water to irrigate fields

CHENNAI: About 170,000 cusecs of water have been released from the full-to-capacity Mettur dam into the Cauvery this year but farmers in Tamil Nadu's Cuddalore and Nagapattinam districts claim that they are not getting enough to irrigate their fields.

The farmers, living in the districts close to the tail end of the Cauvery, have been complaining

that most of the water is simply draining into the Bay of Bengal in the absence of a check dam in Nagapattinam district and inadequate desilting of the network of canals that branch out from the river and lead into the fields.

"After reaching Mukkombe in Trichy, the Cauvery splits into the Kollidam, Cauvery, Vennar rivers and the Grand Anicut

canal. Of these, Kollidam is the widest, which can carry 400,000 cusecs of water. As of now, about 150,000 cusecs is flowing into the Kollidam. But we are still struggling to get water for cultivation in 60,000 acres in the tail-end region," Elankeeran Veeramani, secretary of the Cauvery Delta Farmers' Association, told HT.

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CHENNAI THE HINDU

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 2018

Landslips, rain hamper rescue work in Kodagu

Navy to be deployed in Karnataka district; 1,500 shifted to relief centres so far

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MYSURU

It is a race against time for people trapped amid landslips even as rescue operations in Kodagu on Friday continued to be hindered by inclement weather.

In view of the gravity of the situation, the Navy will be deployed in the district. Naval personnel from Karwar are expected to join the rescue mission on Saturday.

The use of helicopter was hampered by intermittent rain, prolonging the uncertainty of several people trapped at Mukkodlu, Hebbageri, Kattakeri, Yemmathalu, Meghathalu, and surrounding villages that have been marooned.

Many villages cut off

There were reports of several landslips in the hilly areas on Friday as well and a large number of people are reported missing. Additional



Daring rescue: Nearly 200 villagers were rescued in an operation at Jodupala in Kodagu district of Karnataka on Friday. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Deputy Commissioner Praveen Kumar told *The Hindu* that many villages were still cut off owing to landslips though 1,500 people had been shifted to relief centres so far. An Army contingent, which is in Kodagu since Thursday night, has been

drafted for rescue and relief operations, supplementing the efforts of the State Disaster Relief Force.

The Army personnel have brought sophisticated equipment for rescue and relief work, besides moving in food, according to Relief

Commissioner Gangaram Baderia.

A report from Hassan said as many as 12 railway staff stuck amid heavy rain and landslips at Yedakumari railway station in the Western Ghats were rescued on Friday.

गवर्मास्त टाइम्स (दिल्ली)
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The Hindu 18/8

18/8/2018



... ₹ 700 crore, and are still mounting. Picture shows the northern part of Kochi, with the flooded Vembanad lake submerging

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Kerala fishermen in over 100 boats join rescue ops

Ockhi Payback? Many Spending Own Money To Save Flood-Hit

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Thiruvananthapuram: Kerala fishermen who had borne the travails of cyclone Ockhi last year are setting a new model in rescue mission, in what could be an act of repayment for the care they had received when Ockhi wreaked havoc.

In more than 100 country boats, fishermen from Thiruvananthapuram, Ernakulam, Kollam and Alappuzha have joined the rescue mission in the flood-hit areas. Kerala Swanthantra Matsyathozhilali Federation



People in Aluva being taken to a relief camp in a boat on Friday

has set up regional centres to co-ordinate the mission. Each team on the field has been assigned a leader who has been directed to work with revenue authorities, police and disaster management team.

The twin-engine country boats made of wood are helpful in places with strong undercurrent and unexpected flow of water. "It can go through any narrow lane. We have the driver, the

path guide and a helper on board. In addition, we can accommodate 10 people. A minimum depth of 50 centimetres is enough for the boat to move and we are equipped with wooden poles to traverse ahead safely," said Jack Mandela, a fisherman who is part of a rescue team from Veli.

While in some cases, the fishermen have been supported by the local police, in many places, they are shelling out their own money. Each boat is equipped with fuel, drinking water, life jackets and search lights. "It's time to express our gratitude for all the help we have received during Ockhi. Many of the fishermen who are taking part in rescue operations have forsaken their daily jobs," said T Peter, the forum general secretary at the National Fish Workers.

Submit report on rescue and rehab ops, SC tells Kerala govt

New Delhi: In a departure from the past, the Supreme Court on Friday refused to monitor rescue and rehabilitation measures in flood-battered Kerala but asked the state chief secretary to submit a report within a week on steps taken to provide relief to people. Refusing to comment on Kerala government's assertion that it was undertaking rescue and rehabilitation efforts on a massive scale, a bench of CJI Dipak Misra and Justice D Y Chandrachud said, "We would like an affidavit to be filed by Kerala chief secretary detailing the steps taken on disaster management and for the purpose of rescue and rehabilitation measures."

The bench said it was of the view that "the situation caused by the floods in Kerala requires to be addressed with focus, concentration and efficiency by all concerned, both at the national and state level". Petitioner Russel Joy's counsel Manoj V George said the Kerala government had worsened the flood situation and did not care for people living downstream by ordering opening of sluice gates of 33 dams. **TNN**

PM leaves for Kerala, crisis mgmt team meets for 2nd straight day

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi left for Kerala on Friday afternoon to take stock of the grim flood situation across several districts and review the status of rescue and relief operations. Sources said he will undertake an aerial survey of the flooded areas. It was also on the PM's instructions that a meeting of the National Crisis Management Committee was chaired by cabinet secretary P K Sinha for the second straight day on Friday to decide on further assistance to Kerala. Sinha directed the three armed forces forces, Coast Guard and National Disaster Response Force to mobilise additional boats and equipment for rescue and relief in Kerala.

The NCMC members held a video conference with the chief secretaries of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. The Kerala chief secretary requested for motorised boats to reach marooned flood-hit areas. So far, the Centre has mobilised deployment of 339 motorised boats, 2,800 life jackets, 1,400 life buoys, 27 light towers and 1,000 raincoats. Cabinet secretary also directed that emergency medicines may be put on standby. **TNN**

दिनांक 18/8..... को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

Hindustan Times (Delhi)

नवभारत टाइम्स (दिल्ली)

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Major inflow of water into TN ^{DH}_{18/8}

ET B Sivapriyan

TIRUCHI, DHNS: As unprecedented rain continues to pound catchment areas in Karnataka and reservoirs releasing excess water, low-lying areas in districts through which the Cauvery river passes in Tamil Nadu are under water.

More than 8,400 people have been moved from their houses to safety in Namakkal, Erode, Kanniyakumari, Karur, Dharmapuri and Tiruchi districts, with nearly 2 lakh cusec of water being released from Mettur Dam, which receives huge inflow from Krishnaraja Sagar and Kabini dams in Karnataka. Incessant rain in Valparai in Coimbatore district affected normal life yet again on Friday. Many areas in the town were under the water and it was completely cut-off from rest of the district.

In Mukkombu in Tiruchi

district, where the Cauvery river splits into two — Cauvery and Kollidam — one could see water everywhere. While 63,000 cusec of water is being released from Mukkombu into Cauvery river, the outflow into Kollidam is 1.35 lakh cusec.

Majority of the water that is released into Kollidam river merges into the sea at Poompuhar, though some amount goes to the Veeranam river that is one of the sources that meets the drinking needs of Chennai.

The worst-hit seems to be Thirumukkudal, a village in Karur district that falls at the confluence of three rivers — Cauvery, Bhavani Sagar and Amaravathi — where many people have been moved to safety.

The unprecedented release of water from dams in Karnataka have flooded many low-lying areas on the banks of

Cauvery in Tiruchi with temple tanks, irrigation tanks, river, lakes and ponds brimming with water.

12 districts — Dharmapuri, Krishnagiri, Salem, Erode, Karur, Namakkal, Tiruchi, Pudukkottai, Ariyalur, Thanjavur, Tiruvarur and Nagapattinam — are already on high alert and all precautionary measures have been taken to evacuate those living in vulnerable areas to safety.

“A total of 8,410 people living in low-lying areas have been evacuated and moved to safer places. They have been provided with all facilities and food,” Revenue Minister R B Udayakumar told reporters at a press conference in Chennai.

He said so far 96 relief centres have been opened in six districts and more such centres have been kept ready in case of more low-lying areas coming under water.

Hindustan Times (Delhi)
त्रिभुवन टाइम्स (दिल्ली)
The Tribune (Chandigarh)
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Rain continues to batter Kodagu, claims 4 lives

Massive landslides at many places, rescue ops hit

KODAGU, DHNS: Kodagu district is virtually under siege as heavy rain continued to batter the coffee bowl of the state. Incessant rain claimed four lives on Friday.

Several hillocks have caved in, but non-stop rain is hampering rescue operations. More than 600 people are waiting to be airlifted, but helicopters could not reach Kodagu on Friday due to inclement weather. Some are feared to be buried under soil or washed away in floods. The airlifting operations are likely to begin on Saturday morning from Mysuru, using MI7 chopper.

According to the district administration, 873 people were brought to safety by 5.30 pm on Friday. Multiple agencies such as the army, navy, civil defence, IAF and the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) are involved in the rescue operations. Teams of officials from revenue, health, food and civil supplies departments are camping in vulnerable villages for providing necessary assistance. The services of HAM operators are also being utilised.

A 62-year-old man was buried alive in his house in a landslide at Muvattoklu village under Madapur gram panchayat of Somwarpet taluk. The deceased has been identified as Uttappa alias Sabu. His wife, who noticed the land caving in, alerted Uttappa, but he couldn't rush out in time.

Three were feared dead following a massive landslide at Jodupala in Sampaje, bordering Dakshina Kannada district.



HELPING HAND: NDRF personnel rescue people across the flooded Haleri river in Somwarpet taluk of Kodagu district on Friday. DH PHOTO

Damage in numbers

98 km of roads

243 government buildings

58 bridges and culverts

3,006 electrical poles/transformers

Minister UT Khader and Deputy Commissioner Sasikanth Senthil rushed to the spot and rescued 180 people. Superintendent of Police Ravikanth Gowda said one body has been recovered and two more are yet to be retrieved.

Villages disappear

Several villages have virtually disappeared in and around Makkandoor following landslides. Kotebetta at Somwarpet taluk, too, has started caving in, raising concerns. There

were reports of landslides on Madikeri-Mangaluru road and Mysuru-Bantwal road, hampering movement of vehicles. The KSRTC has suspended services from Mysuru to Kodagu. All buses to Kodagu are terminating at Kushalnagar.

The district witnessed more landslides due to overnight rainfall, inundating low-lying areas. All major roads leading to Kodagu are blocked.

Revenue Minister RV Deshpande, District-in-Charge Minister Sa Ra Mahesh, District in

Charge Secretary Kalpana and other senior officials are camping in the district and overseeing rescue operations.

Telephone services have been hit and only BSNL network is functional. A large number of villages are in the dark as thousands of electricity poles have been uprooted.

Kushalnagar town is partially submerged. As many as 296 houses and two anganwadi centres are under water. Madikeri-Hassan state highway is under water following release of huge quantity of water from Harangi reservoir. The hanging bridge at Kanive Ramalingeshwara temple where Cauvery and Harang rivers meet, has been damaged.

Related reports, Page 6

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KERALA FROM THE SKY ^{Tel} A town looked like an island dotted with submerged houses and cars and downed coconut trees

The worst floods in nearly a century in Kerala have killed 324 people and pushed over 3 lakh people into relief camps, plunging India's trophy state on social indices into a catastrophe. Why it is a never-before crisis:



An aerial view shows partially submerged houses and a church in Kerala on Friday. "In some areas, airlifting is the only option... thousands are still marooned," chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan said. (Reuters)

■ After 1924, this is the first time Kerala is suffering a disaster that covers 13 of its 14 districts

■ The state never had to lift the shutters of 80 dams, including irrigation dams, as it did this time. This eventually led to flooding in the districts

■ Kerala has rarely seen 40 of the 41 major rivers in spate

■ Never has Kochi, the commercial capital, been cut off so badly with the airport, rail and road services paralysed

■ Tourist magnets like Munnar, Wayanad and Alappuzha are completely cut off

■ Most of the affected areas like Aluva, Pannai, Kalpetta and Sulthan Bathery are densely populated. Some areas witnessed a construction boom and became a preferred destination for the wealthy

■ Many apartment complexes have sprung up along both banks of the Periyar river. NRIs from the Gulf have invested heavily in these apartments and many have moved in after retirement

■ A witness on board a relief helicopter in Chengannur town (*not in the picture above*) in the south of the state told the Reuters news agency: "The town looked like an island dotted with houses and cars submerged in muddy flood waters and downed coconut trees."

■ **What Kerala needs most now:** Bottled drinking water, dry food such as bread and biscuits, baby food, baby diapers, clothes for people of all ages, inner wear for men and women, sanitary napkins, bed sheets, flannels, paracetamol tablets and pain and cold balms

Reporting by K.M. Rakesh

Reports on Page 5 and Metro

दिनांक 19/8..... को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

✓ Hindustan Times (Delhi)
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Kerala off red alert but IMD's rain forecast keeps it on edge

Relief Pours In From Centre & States; Toll 196

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Thiruvananthapuram/Kochi: No red alert was issued for any of Kerala's rain-ravaged 14 districts for the first time since August 9, raising hopes that the lull in downpour since Friday wouldn't prove to be

FULL COVERAGE: P 4, 8 & 11

deceptive. The India Meteorological Department (IMD), however, has forecast heavy rains at several places in Ernakulam, Pathanamthitta and Alappuzha districts.

On Saturday, aid came po-



An aerial view of the flooded Kochi airport on Saturday

uring in from the Centre as well as several states.

The flood toll since August 9 now stands at 196 with 22 more deaths reported in the state on Saturday.

Currently, 6,61,887 people

are in 3,466 relief camps. The 22 deaths reported during the day were in Ernakulam, Thrissur, Idukki, Pathanamthitta and Chengannur districts.

► Continued on P 8

PM announces ₹500cr more in aid for state

PM Narendra Modi announced an additional Rs 500 crore in aid. He also directed insurance companies to hold special camps for assessment and timely release of compensation to the affected families/ beneficiaries under social security schemes. **P 8**

RBI adviser hints at wrath of Sabarimala

S Gurumurthy, RBI adviser and co-convenor of RSS' economic wing, was trolled on Twitter for suggesting that Sabarimala was getting flooded because of the SC's decision to permit women into the temple. **P 8**

दिनांक 19/8 को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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Odisha to see heavy rain for three days: IMD

20 Have Died In Flash Floods In State This Year

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar: The Odisha government on Saturday sounded an alert for the southern and coastal districts of the state following IMD forecast that these areas will experience heavy rain for three days starting Sunday. Twenty people have died so far in flash floods in the state this year.

An IMD-Bhubaneswar bulletin said a cyclonic circulation over the northwest Bay of Bengal was likely to intensify in a low pressure area in next 24 hours. Under its influence, heavy rain is likely to occur in many districts — including Gajapati, Ganjam, Puri, Khurda, Nayagarh, Balasore, Cuttack, Rayagada, Kalahandi, Kandhamal, Nabarangpur and Balangir — in next 48 hours.

"The intensity of rain will



BOULDERS FALL ON TRACKS IN KARNATAKA: Heavy rain in parts of the state led to a portion of a hillock collapsing on a railway track near Yedakumeri in Sakleshpur taluk in the Western Ghats on the Subrahmanya-Sakaleshpur train route on Saturday. Rain in Karnataka's Malnad region became moderate on Saturday, helping the Army, police and NDRF personnel step up rescue work. CM HD Kumaraswamy, who visited flood-hit Madikeri, promised the displaced adequate help to rebuild their lives. He said the state government would pay 5 lakh to the next of kin of those who lost their lives in the floods that ravaged Kodagu district. The CM said 2,500 people had been evacuated so far and moved to relief centres

reduce from Tuesday," said HR Biswas, director of IMD-Bhu-

baneswar. The IMD advised fishermen against venturing

into deep sea in north-west and west-central Bay of Bengal.

RBI adviser: Women's entry in Sabarimala caused deluge

Rachel.Chitra@timesgroup.com

Bengaluru: RBI adviser and co-convenor of Swadeshi Jagran Manch, the RSS' economic wing, S Gurumurthy on Saturday found himself at the receiving end on Twitter for suggesting on the social media forum that Sabarimala is getting flooded because of the Supreme Court's decision to permit women into the temple.

Gurumurthy tweeted: "Supreme Court judges may like to see if there is any connection between the case and what is happening in Sabarimala. Even if there is one in a million chance of a link people would not like the case decided against Ayyappa."

The twitterati immediately liked and retweeted the responses of people like Manikandan, who said, "Don't link this with any religious issue.

Not in good taste. Didn't expect this one from you. Helping the stranded people is the need of the hour. If you can help in some way, do it please."

SC lawyer Indira Jaising shot back, "Mr Gurumurthy, read the Constitution: Fundamental Duties Ar 51A (h) — duty to develop a scientific temper. You're inciting people of Kerala who have lost loved ones to revolt in the name of religion & threatening SC. Withdraw your tweet immediately and read up on climate change."

Gurumurthy tried to peddle back saying, "What I said is this: If there is even one in a million chance of a link between the case and the rains, people — repeat people — would not like the case decided against Ayyappa. It is about people's belief. For the info of all I am not an Ayyappa devotee, going to Sabarimala."

दिनांक ...19/8..... को निम्नलिखित समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित मानसून/ बाढ़ सम्बन्धी समाचार

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All hands on deck

19/8



A flooded stretch in Kochi, the commercial capital of Kerala, on Saturday. As many as 33 deaths were reported in the state on Saturday, taking beyond 350 the total toll since May-end. (AFP picture) ■ See Page 4 and Metro

The Telegraph (KOLKATA) 19/8/2018

Telegraph 19/8

Limp to normality, braced for rain



RAIN-RAVAGED: A house destroyed by a landslide in a village in Kerala. (AFP)

Cloud on 3 districts, 6 dead in church

K.M. RAKESH

Bangalore: Three districts in Kerala are bracing for more rain at a time some other parts of the state appear to be slowly emerging out of the flood crisis that has taken more than 350 lives since end-May.

Rain was forecast in Pathanamthitta, Idukki and Ernakulam on a day the floodwaters receded in a few places but continued to hinder rescuers elsewhere.

One of the 33 people reported dead on Saturday was a local rescue team member who drowned near Aluva in Ernakulam.

V.D. Satheesan, Congress MLA from Paravur, said six people who had taken refuge at St Xavier's Church at Kuthiathodu in Paravur, Ernakulam district, had died on Thursday night.

"But I got to know about this only today," Satheesan told **The Telegraph** on Saturday. The church wall had apparently collapsed under the



People being rescued from flood-affected regions of Kochi and taken to shelter camps in trucks on Saturday. (PTI)

pressure of the floodwaters.

Satheesan pleaded for help: "We haven't even got a bag of rice. No one has so far helped Paravur. Bodies are still lying in the church," he said.

Another church wall had collapsed in neighbouring Aluva on Friday, fracturing the arm of a man who had taken shelter there.

On Friday, Chengannur

MLA Saji Cherian had broken down on live television while pleading for helicopters to be sent to airlift the thousands marooned in his constituency.

Rescue teams heeded his appeal and concentrated much of their efforts on Chengannur, Alappuzha, on Saturday, with MI-17 helicopters dropping about two tonnes of food packets.

There was no immediate confirmation how much of this had reached the flood victims since there was no way of communicating with them.

State police's special branch reported 12 deaths in Chengannur on Saturday, with at least three bodies found floating in the floodwaters.

Chalaky, where the

water levels had risen two-storey high in some places, has begun limping back to normality with a dry spell but newer areas have been submerged.

Vaikkom in Kottayam district was flooded, as were T.V. Puram on the road to Ernakulam and Thalayolaparambu on the road to Kottayam. The rescuers are likely to focus on these areas on Sunday.

The spectre of another wave of flooding loomed large on Aluva, where thousands are still marooned, with dams in Idukki once again opening their sluice gates because of rising inflow.

District authorities in Alappuzha have got the rescue teams to evacuate all the flood-affected families in the Kutnad backwater area.

Massive evacuations were carried out also along both banks of the Pampa, as the Kakkil Dam raised its shutters from 70cm to 90cm. The rescued people were moved to relief camps in the higher reaches.

Air India test flight

Air India on Saturday said its subsidiary, Alliance Air, had operated a non-commercial flight to Kochi's naval base to confirm the feasibility of operating flights with turboprops to evacuate people. The flight from Bangalore had landed at Kochi at 12.40pm and the return flight had taken off at 1.45pm.

RK Mission school turns relief camp

KINSUK BASU

Calcutta: The headquarters of the Ramakrishna Math and Mission in Belur has instructed its centres in Kochi, Thiruvananthapuram and T. Nagar in Chennai to send monks to join the flood relief operations at its centres in Koyilandy, Kozhikode, Thiruvalla and Thrissur.

Math sources said over 2,800 people had taken shelter at the Kaladay centre of the Math and Mission, and the monks were struggling to meet the demand for relief materials, which were getting stuck on the way.

"Our Kaladay centre is almost three feet under water. There is no electricity," said Swami Suvirananda, general secretary of the Ramakrishna Math and Mission.

"Our ashram's school has been converted into a relief camp. Some 2,800 have been accommodated here."

Senior monks working at the Math and Mission centre in Ernakulam district said there was a huge need for blankets, mats, sanitary items and milk powder.

With the Purna river breaching its banks, the area faces the threat of an enteric outbreak, and the monks have decided to bring in medicines from nearby centres to distribute them among mothers and children.

"One of our trucks carrying relief materials is stuck in Kochi," said Swami Bodhsarananda, one of the assistant secretaries of the Math and Mission.



A monk distributes aid to the flood victims

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Homeless and hopeless, those stranded on hills wait for rescuers with bated breath DH 19/8

MADIKERI: Hit by the trauma of floods and having lost their houses in front of their own eyes, the people of Kodagu have been finding a way out to save their lives. While some have abandoned their homes out of fear and have been searching for places of shelter, many others are still stranded on the hills, desperately waiting for the floods to recede. There is no access to food in remote areas.

Hundreds of people were rescued by the disaster management team, comprising military personnel on Saturday.

Kaveramma, who has been sheltered in the gruel centre at Omkara Sadana, said she was dwelling on the hill at in Makandur.

Her family members, who were preparing to go to work as usual on Thursday morning, witnessed a couple of landslides on the hill. Anticipating trouble, the family members rushed out of the house grabbing the necessary items and reached the other side of the hill. There were hundreds of people from several other families too, who ran out of their houses.

Another labourer woman



Residents salvage their goods as water from the Mulasoge river gushed into their houses at Kushalanagar in Kodagu district on Saturday. DH PHOTO

Leela said that they had built a house in 1991, after lot of effort. The entire hill on which the house was built has been washed away.

Pranit, studying in class 9, said the whereabouts of one of his friends were not known. He said his friend was living with his mother. "Please help me find him," he said. Pranit is now at the gruel centre.

Thousands of hectares of coffee plantations in Makkandur, Haleri, Galibeedu, Hattihole, Eradane Monnangeri, Jodupala, Tantiapala, Meghatal and Mokkaodu, have been washed away.

Local people fear the worst as Kotebetta and Pushpagiri hills face the threat of collapse. People of Madapura, Muvattoklu, Shirangalli, Garvale, Kikkar-

alli, Takeri and Shantalli have been spending sleepless nights. Hoping to find a suitable shelter, they are bound for Madikeri. All gruel centres are packed.

It has been estimated that more than 1,000 houses have collapsed and thousands of people have been displaced in the district. Several villages have been washed away completely.

DH News Service



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Kerala toll 210, 7.25 lakh displaced

Most rescued, focus is rehabilitation: CM Vijayan

The rescue operations in flood-ravaged Kerala entered the last phase with week-long rains largely abated and daily death toll sliding to 16. Rehabilitation work gained momentum with the Centre set to send cereals and medical items amid increased participation of governmental bodies and voluntary organisations.

The death toll touched 210 on a day several riverine towns and villages resurfaced from the deluge. Waste disposal became the area of focus, with more people returning to their homes littered with muck even as 5,645 refugee camps housed 7.25 lakh displaced in the disaster.

Red alert has been withdrawn in all 14 districts. Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said most of the state's 39 dams had begun shutting more of their sluice gates. Most of the marooned had been rescued and the focus would now be on rehabilitation, he added.

Road traffic resumed partly on vital roads like national and state highways, while the Railways announced it wouldn't charge freight if the consignment to Kerala was relief material.

Most of the 23,213 rescued expressed anger over



NDRF personnel rescue residents in Alappuzha on Sunday. PTI

BATTLING THE DELUGE

 210 dead since Aug 8 and more than 400 since May 29	 18 trains cancelled, 9 partially cancelled
 7,24,649 lakh in 5,645 relief camps 22,000 MORE RESCUED	 ₹3,000 per day each for fishermen involved in rescue ops
 36 lakh	 ₹4,441 cr loss on account of

His 2011 report ignored, Gadgil's fears come true

SREEVALSAN THIYYADI

Seven years after he submitted a detailed report that prescribed ways to conserve Kerala's Western Ghats, renowned ecologist Madhav D Gadgil is aggrieved again that his 2011 study of the 'fragile' mountain ranges met with total stonewalling from administrators.

The expert's worst fears have come true: the southern state is battling its fiercest floods in a century.

At age 76 and away in Maharashtra's Pune along the northern stretch of the same 1,600-km mountains also called Sahyadri, Gadgil told *The Tribune* that he feels for the people of God's Own Country where he had worked intensively for a year as the head of a Centre-deputed committee on environmental protection.

Its task was three-fold: compile information on the biodiversity hotspot that is the Ghats, develop a geo-spatial database and interact with government bodies as well as civil-society groups.

The nine-member Gadgil panel recommended a regulation on natural exploitation and concrete construction along the Kerala stretch of the Ghats, wanting it to be divid-



GOA COULD BE NEXT

Goa, of course, does not have Western Ghats which are so high as in Kerala, but I am sure Goa will also experience all sorts of problems... reason for not taking any environmental precaution is purely greed

Madhav D Gadgil, ECOLOGIST

ed into three zones and conserved with separate levels of intensity. None of it yielded a positive response from the then Oommen Chandy regime. What's more, protests arose against those homilies made public in 2012, following which another committee headed by scientist K Kasturirangan effectively muted the Gadgil recommendations by preparing a watered-down version in October 2013. "Almost every political party had its interest in scuttling our recommendations.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

Central Water Commission
Technical Documentation Directorate
Bhagirath(English)& Publicity Section

West Block II, Wing No-5
R K Puram, New Delhi – 66.

Dated 20.08.2018

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.

SPA (Publicity)

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Business standard ✓

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

Decades of extreme rain events add to woes

ABHISHEK WAGHMARE
New Delhi, 17 August

The Great Deluge of 99 — or 99le vellappokkam — is how Kerala remembers, through oral history, the horrors of the flood of 1924 (1099 in Malayalam Era), regarded as the worst in the recorded history of the region. Kerala was not a state then.

Unprecedented rain this week in some districts of Kerala have left the state in the worst flood situation of the century. The flow of water in some stretches of the Periyar was 1,800 cubic metres — or about one swimming pool of water — per second, almost equal to that recorded in 1924 as recorded by the colonialists, state officials said.

The impossibility of predicting the intensity of a deluge beforehand, the rise in extreme rainfall events since the second half of 20th century, and the dearth of inter-state cooperation when it comes to water disputes have manifested into yet another disaster, reminiscent of the Utrarakhand cloud burst and havoc of 2013 and Chennai floods of 2016.

"Kerala is facing its worst flood in 100 years. 80 dams opened, 324 lives lost and 223,139 people are in about 1500+ relief camps," chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan tweeted later in the day. However, given the intensity of the rain, at least a third of this crisis could have been averted, had Tamil Nadu (TN) heeded to the requests of Kerala.

The Mullaperiyar dam, situated in Kerala but in the possession of TN,



has the permission to maintain full reservoir level at 142 feet of the dam wall, as mandated by the Supreme Court. But Kerala, in its submission to SC had asked to make 139 feet the upper limit.

Had the TN government started releasing water from the dam into Kerala when it had reached the critical level of 139 feet, the full blown crisis could have been averted to some extent, officials said.

"The three feet make a lot of difference. They contain 792 million cubic feet of water, which when released translates into a flow of about 9,000 cubic feet per seconds (cusecs), which got added to the flow caused by the rain," a senior official from the water resources department

of Kerala told *Business Standard*.

Mullaperiyar dam releases its water slowly into the Vaigai, and most of it, and at a faster rate, into the Idukki dam, where rainfall was the heaviest. This flooded the already full-to-brim Idukki dam, which releases water into the Periyar basin, where most of the casualties have occurred.

A flow of 36,000 cusecs was recorded in parts of the Periyar on August 15, almost the highest ever. "The flow on August 16 was definitely more than that, but we await official figures," said an official.

Keeping the 3-feet buffer for the purpose of flexibility in times of flood in the Mullaperiyar could have improved the flood manoeuvring



(Above) Rescue workers search for bodies of missing persons after a landslide, triggered by heavy rain and flood, at Nenmara in Palakkad in Kerala on Friday. (Left) People are airlifted by the Navy during a rescue operation at a flooded area

PTU/REUTERS

ability of the water, and averted the crisis, at least to some extent.

The apex court, hearing a petition from a Kerala resident, ordered the release of the water on Friday. But this would have worked only as a preventive and not a curative measure, officials said. The northern district of Idukki in Kerala recorded a massive 68 cm rainfall in a week to August 15, which is equivalent to two-thirds of the annual national average rainfall in India. The state, as a whole, received 30 per cent more rainfall than normal in that week, and the downpour did not stop until the night of August 16.

The normal mark of seasonal rainfall of June-September had already been crossed as early as till August 16, in 11 of the 13 districts in the state.

Idukki has received almost twice the rainfall it received till date.

Scientists from Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune, have, since the 2005 deluge of Mumbai, shown from their research that there is an "alarming" rise in both the number and the intensity of extreme rainfall events in India, as a result of climate change.

"The inter-annual variation of extreme rainfall in a single day shows highly significant rising trend during 1951-2007. The unprecedented rainfall on 26-27 July 2005 over the Mumbai Metropolitan city appears to be a realisation of this long-term trend," Ashwini Ranade and Nityanand Singh of the IITM noted in a 2010 study.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 18.08.2018 in the

Hindustan Times

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The Times of India (N.D.)

Indian Express

Tribune

Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)

Punjab Keshari (Hindi)

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Kerala CM sees flood damage at ₹195 bn

PM gives ₹5 bn immediate assistance; rain intensity may reduce soon

T E NARASIMHAN & GIREESH BABU

Chennai, 18 August

Unprecedented flooding triggered by torrential rain in Kerala had inflicted a loss of about ₹195 billion on the state's economy, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan informed Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who took stock of the situation on Saturday.

At least 324 people have been killed in rain and flood-related incidents, while 223,139 sheltered in 1,500 relief camps. The casualty figure was expected to go up, sources said.

Red alert was issued for 11 districts for Saturday. Heavy rainfall was predicted for the day in all districts except Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam and Kasaragod, said the chief minister.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) said the intensity of rainfall in the state would reduce in the next two to three days. "Kerala is not expected to receive heavy rainfall from August 20," said Mr.ritunjay Mohapatra, additional director general, IMD. He said the state received 170 per cent more precipitation than the normal between August 1 and August 17.

The prime minister announced ₹5 billion as immediate financial assistance, in addition to ₹1 billion announced by Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh last Sunday, after a high-level review meeting in Kochi, followed by an aerial survey of the worst-hit Aluva-Thrissur regions.

Vijayan thanked the Centre for the financial aid, but critics slammed the PM on the social media and compared his



Rescue personnel evacuate people from Aluva, Kerala, on Saturday

PHOTO: REUTERS

expenses on foreign trips and advertising with the relief package for Kerala. The state had sought ₹20 billion from the Modi government for relief and rehabilitation.

Modi said his government was providing all possible assistance to Kerala, including food grain and medicines. He directed the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), NTPC, and PGCIL to cater to the basic infrastructure needs of the people in the wake of the floods.

"NDRF teams, companies of the BSF, CISF and RAF are deployed in the state

for rescue and relief operations. The Air Force, Army, Navy and Coast Guard are assisting operations in different parts of Kerala. Rescuing those who are trapped remains the topmost priority," Modi posted on Twitter.

"I salute the people of Kerala for their fighting spirit. I compliment the authorities for their efforts in this adverse situation," he said in another tweet.

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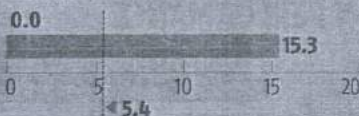
CRISIL'S DRIP

FOUR STATES REEL FROM WEAK RAIN

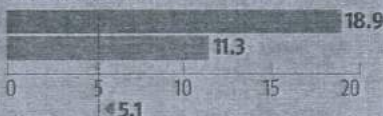
State-wise DRIP scores

■ 2017 ■ 2018 ◀ Average of last 5 years

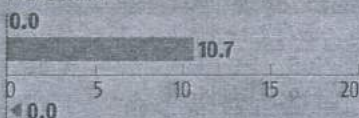
GUJARAT



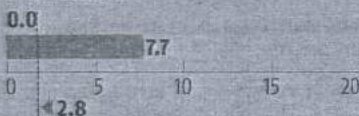
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WEST BENGAL

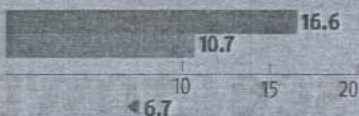


Crop-wise DRIP scores

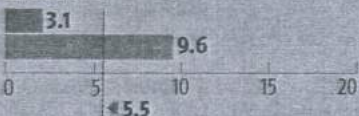
BAJRA



SOYABEAN



GROUNDNUT



Groundnut and soybean continue to see stress, bajra now under pressure



All-India rainfall has improved slightly in the weekend of August 15 with cumulative precipitation at 9 percent below the long-period average (LPA), compared to 10 percent in the preceding week. But the situation at the state level has deteriorated. Rain has swamped Kerala, with 11 of its 14 districts recording excess. Yet, Gujarat, Haryana, Bihar and Bengal continue to see deficiency at 18-26 per cent of the LPA. Madhya Pradesh (MP) and Rajasthan joined them last week. These six are major kharif-growing states. But rainfall volume data alone is not sufficient. For a comprehensive view, it's important to weigh it against irrigation levels.

CRISIL's Deficient Rainfall Impact Parameter, or DRIP, does just that. The higher the CRISIL DRIP score, the more adverse the impact of deficient rain. This is especially evident from the case of Haryana, which has, through most of this season, seen deficiency of above 12 per cent, but the DRIP score has stayed low because it is well-irrigated. This week's DRIP results highlight high stress in Gujarat, MP, Rajasthan and Bengal. In these, DRIP scores are higher than those of last year as well as above the past five years' average.

Among the previous week's list of stressed states, AP is out because the rain situation there has improved. While Rajasthan has joined the list, MP, Gujarat and West Bengal have not moved. The DRIP scores for three crops are high compared to 2017 and the past five years' average. These are groundnut (cultivated in rain-deficient states of Rajasthan and Gujarat), soybean (Rajasthan and MP) and bajra (Rajasthan and Gujarat). Here, soybean and groundnut have continued to see stress for 2-3 weeks. Jowar and rice also show some stress, with scores lower than or at par with past averages, but higher than in 2017. The situation is yet to evolve. Rain in August is as critical to kharif as that in July, so a lot depends on what happens in the next two weeks.

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T.N. refuses to reduce Mullaperiyar level 18/8

Dangerous surge

Inflow into Mullaperiyar dam has been rising dramatically. The drawal of water by Tamil Nadu as well as the surplus outflow (released to Kerala through vents) has also been increased

Date	Water level (ft)	Inflow (cusecs)	Drawal by T.N. (cusecs)	Surplus outflow to Kerala (cusecs)
Aug. 13	135.3	2,377	2,200	-
Aug. 14	136.1	4,419	2,200	-
Aug. 15	140.7	16,629	2,200	-
Aug. 16	142.2	25,733	2,336	23,397
Aug. 17	141.3	19,320	2,336	16,984

READINGS TAKEN AT 6 A.M. EVERY DAY

JACOB KOSHY

NEW DELHI

Tamil Nadu has "dissented" from an advisory issued by a Supreme Court-nominated expert committee to reduce water storage in the Mullaperiyar dam by two to three feet.

As of Friday morning, water in the dam had risen to 141.2 feet, just a few inches short of the 142-foot ceiling mandated by an existing SC order, a Water Resources Ministry official present at the meeting said.

The meeting in Delhi was attended by senior officials from the Union Water Resources Ministry, Central Water Commission, Chief Secretaries of Kerala and Tamil Nadu and State water board officials.

'More rain'

"Tamil Nadu was advised to reduce water by 2-3 feet, as a sort of cushion, in case of sudden heavy rains in the coming days and that it was impossible to rapidly release

a large amount of water in an emergency. They refused," said a person at the meeting.

"However, more than a scientific requirement, releasing water by a few feet would give psychological relief to Kerala, given that the situation is volatile and misinformation is rife," he added.

'Set a precedent'

Another official at the meeting told *The Hindu* that Tamil Nadu had dissented because they were afraid it would "set a precedent - of the State being forced to release water in the future too if demanded by Kerala." Moreover, with the Idukki dam downstream also now having released water, more water from the Mullaperiyar could worsen Kerala's flood problems, the Tamil Nadu officials reportedly argued. *The Hindu* couldn't independently verify this.

"Ultimately, Kerala and Tamil Nadu have to abide by the Supreme Court order but Tamil Nadu has said its dissent be recorded," an official said.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 10.08.2018 in the

Hindustan Times
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The Times of India (N.D.)
Indian Express
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Rains batter Kerala, death toll mounts to 174 18

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,
17 AUGUST

As a murderous monsoon savaged Kerala claiming 106 lives on a single day yesterday, the state plunged deeper into misery today with hospitals facing shortage of oxygen and fuel stations running dry, officials said. The deadliest deluge in close to a century has claimed 174 lives since August 8, and dealt a body blow to the scenic state, wrecking its tourism industry, destroying standing crops in thousands of hectares and inflicting huge damage to infrastructure.

Personnel of the three

services, besides the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) resumed the gigantic task of evacuating people stranded on rooftops, highlands where hills came crashing down blocking roads and cutting them off the rest of the world, and those marooned in villages that have turned into islands.

Hundreds of people, including women, children and the elderly trapped in places inaccessible by boats were winched up by defence helicopters and shifted to safety.

TV channels telecast disturbing visuals of a woman in labour being pulled up with the help of



a rope dropped down from a Navy chopper, swinging violently in the air.

The woman, whose amniotic sac was ruptured, was shifted to a Navy hospital where she gave birth to a baby boy. Both the mother and the child are doing fine, officials said.

Desperate non-resident Keralites from Australia, the US and the UK were making fervent pleas to authorities through television channels seeking help for their dear ones.

Soumya from Australia said her parents and their relatives were stranded in

Aluva for the past two days. Another said an elderly relative Mary Varghese was badly in need of an oxygen cylinder and her condition was worsening.

In a WhatsApp video, a stranded woman with her 6-year-old child was seen pleading for help. "We have no food or water. Please help us," Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived in Kerala tonight and is likely to undertake an aerial survey tomorrow.

PTI adds from Bengaluru: The Army has joined operations to rescue people stranded due to floods and landslides in rain-battered Kodagu district bordering Kerala, officials said.

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Around two rivers

18/8/18

There is immense trade and investment potential in the Mekong countries. Closer collaboration between India and the Mekong region in trade promotion activities, Customs inspections, sanitary and phytosanitary support, clearance regulations to address trade bottlenecks and regional supply chains can create a win-win situation for all stakeholders



The ninth Mekong-Ganga Cooperation Meeting was held in Singapore on August 2. The conference was preceded by the 10th MGC Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) on August 1. The meeting was co-chaired by Don Pramudwinai, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand and Gen V.K. Singh (Retd.), Minister of State for External Affairs. Senior ministers from Cambodia, Laos PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam also attended the meeting.

The Mekong-Ganga Cooperation was established on November 10, 2000, at Vientiane, Laos, at the first MGC Ministerial meeting. It comprises six member-countries - India, Thailand, Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam. The four areas of cooperation are tourism, culture, education, and transportation. The organisation takes its name from the Ganga and the Mekong, two large rivers in the region. Since its inception as a sub-regional group of six countries, India has attached the greatest importance, and this has achieved tremendous success and resonance. The Mekong and the Ganga river basins share close civilizational and cultural links, which provide a strong basis for cooperation in the present times.

The joint ministerial statement for the 9th MGC meeting in Singapore appreciated the progress made towards the successful implementation of the Plan of Action 2016-18. As a logical extension of its Act East policy, India has been providing assistance in capacity-building in the SME and MSME sectors to the Mekong countries and is ready to share expertise in setting up regional value chains in sectors such as automobile components.

At the first MGC meeting in November 2017, the joint declaration had called for cooperation in malaria and dengue management. It was proposed that the JWG meetings may be held in the MGC countries on a rotational basis. At the same time,

the MGC Business Forum has been trying to promote trade and investment among MGC countries.

Cooperation in the education sector is another thrust area in which the leaders of the member-countries are committed. In particular, India being the largest nation endowed with high quality human resources has a special responsibility in helping the small member-nations of the GMC. India is aware of its responsibility and has been extending assistance in the education sector and contributed towards capacity building and human resource development in CLMV countries. The plan envisages 900 scholarships annually and the setting up of physical infrastructure. Further deepening its commitments, India agreed to offer five more scholarships to Mekong countries in museology and conservation techniques, which could significantly benefit the MGC Asian Traditional Textile Museum in Siem Reap, Cambodia.

The other sphere in which India has been offering assistance is in the setting up physical IT infrastructure, digital connectivity and ICT infrastructure development in Mekong countries. Following India's lead, Thailand has been organising training courses in tourism management, food security, climate change, SDGs, and Sufficient Economy Philosophy (SEP). Indeed, there is a greater need for better coordination to reap maximum benefits if the MGC countries cooperate sincerely through their respective ministries.

Many of the MGC countries are endowed with rich cultural heritage and preserving these assets requires shared efforts. It is a matter of pride that the Co-

mmon Archival Resource Centre (CARC) will be established at Nalanda University. The MGC countries are sharing with India information and materials on areas such as archaeological sites, world heritage, settlement history, history of trade, population, data on religious distribution, and historical linkage. All such information will be preserved at the CARC for the benefit of humanity. India proposed and others welcomed its suggestion to hold a meeting on Rice Germplasm in the second week of November, besides

cooperating in fisheries and animal husbandry.

Underscoring the importance of promoting tourism among MGC countries, the ministers supported the idea to organise MGC Tourism Week in four metropolitan cities of India in 2019. Establishing the trail of Buddhism could boost tourism. India's proposal to organise activities such as celebrating India-

ASEAN Year of Tourism 2019 with training programmes for chefs from MGC countries in Indian cuisine and hotel management, inviting craftsmen from MGC countries to participate in the Surajkund Craft Mela in February 2019, organising photography competition on tourism in India found favour. Such initiatives shall further contribute to India's Act-East policy.

Other areas of cultural cooperation among MGC countries could be a photography competition on tourism in India, conducting media programmes on Buddhist and North-East circuits, and organising tourism markets of MGC countries in India. Gen Singh highlighted the importance of tourism in secondary cities in order to expand the industry. Earlier, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had

announced the establishment of digital villages in Mekong countries as part of India's efforts to promote digital connectivity. India organised the 1st MGC Policy Dialogue, a track 1.5 event, on the theme "Stronger Connectivity, Enhancing Ties" on 8 April 2017 in New Delhi. It would be meaningful if this is converted into an annual event that could transform the dialogue into a think-tank to carry out research and provide policy recommendations on specific subjects for the governments of the MGC countries to consider.

There is immense trade and investment potential in the Mekong countries. Closer collaboration between India and the Mekong region in trade promotion activities, Customs inspections, sanitary and phytosanitary support, clearance regulations to address trade bottlenecks and regional supply chains can create a win-win situation for all stakeholders.

Economic development being the priority, the six MGC countries along the Mekong River adopted in April 2018 an ambitious investment plan worth \$ 66 billion over the next five years, \$7 billion of which is expected to come from the Asian Development Bank and the rest from governments and the private sector. Indeed, the Greater Mekong Sub-regional (GMS) economic cooperation programme was initiated by the ADB in 1992 and has since mobilised \$21 billion, with the bulk going to infrastructure projects. The five countries along with China's Yunnan province and the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous region with a population of 340 million and combined gross domestic product of \$1.3 trillion have recorded one of the world's fastest-growing economies.

The 10th MGC Ministerial Meeting shall be held in 2019 in Thailand on the margins of ASEAN Foreign Ministers' conference. The date and venue shall be notified through diplomatic channels in due course of time.



RAJARAM PANDA

The writer is IICR India Chair Visiting Professor at Rikkyu University, Japan. The views expressed are personal and do not represent either that of the IICR or the Government of India.

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The Tribune

ESTABLISHED IN 1881

P-18

The fury of Kerala floods

Human intervention compounds nature's wrath

KOLLAVARSHAM, the new year of the Malayalam calendar, has dawned on the worst-possible note for the people of Kerala. The rain fury has decreased but not the danger of spills in several parts of Kerala from the overflowing dams. Malayalees, long used to a relatively efficient and responsive public infrastructure, have by all accounts never suffered such a dislocation in their lives. Smart-phones, a constant companion today, have fallen silent because of lack of electricity, water is contaminated and food scarce. These are the normal hazards of a natural calamity and Kerala was unfortunate to face unprecedented monsoon frenzy. To put the situation in perspective, it received four times more rainfall than the 2013 Uttarakhand cloudburst, reckoned as the worst natural calamity since the 2004 tsunami.

Picking up the pieces will be even more agonising. Almost all the roads have been washed away, schools and houses submerged and power transmission pillars uprooted. It is standard to seek more attention from the Centre and Kerala should get more rescue personnel and facilities when PM Modi takes an aerial tour on Saturday. The heartwarming examples of civic consciousness — officials working round the clock, temples, churches and madaras turning into relief centres and fishermen and disaster relief personnel putting their lives on the line — need a major booster dose from the Centre, possibly declaring the floods as a national calamity.

But when the waters recede and Kerala begins picking up the pieces, its people must realise the price they have paid for resorts and commercial plantations — nine lakh hectare of forest land has been lost in the past 40 years. Most of the death toll is from Idukki. Besides being a watershed with a maze of dams, this is where most encroachment has taken place. The idea of environmentally sustainable development was sacrificed at the altar of corporate and individual avarice and party coffers. There are two months of respite before *thulavarsham*, the north-east monsoon, sets in. Kerala will need to demonstrate that it cannot be business-as-usual in its fragile highlands or the price to be paid in future will be heavier.

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Sirmaur to get landslide disaster alert technology

BHAWANI NEGI
SHIMLA, 17 AUGUST

To ensure disaster risk reduction, landslide disaster alert technology has been installed in Mandi district of Himachal Pradesh, while installation of the same is in the pipeline in Sirmaur district.

The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Mandi has been roped in to install these low cost landslide monitoring and warning system that will act as early warning system and monitor landslides.

Revenue and Public Works Department Additional Chief Secretary Manisha Nanda said that as a pilot project two districts Mandi and Sirmaur have been selected for the installation of the landslide sensors and in it has been installed in Mandi. The success of the same will ensure its replication in other districts as well, she added.

The district administration of Mandi in association with IIT Mandi has installed sensors at 10 landslide prone spots. The points in Mandi district at 10 different landslide sites along the Mandi-Jogindernagar and Mandi-Kullu. The site also include Kotrupi in Mandi district that had witnessed the worst landslide in the history of Himachal in August 2017. As many as 47 people had died after they were hurried alive.

Two sensor systems have been installed at Katropi village, two at Gumma village, one each villages of Narla, Decide, Hanogi, Thalot, Dawda and Pandoh.

The students of IIT Mandi developed these early warning system.

IIT Mandi, School of Computing and Electrical Engineering Prof Varun Dutt dis-



Landslide monitoring and warning system deployed along Mandi Jogindarnagar highway

closed that these systems help to address the problem of landslides and to reduce the cost of sensing the disasters.

The students of IIT Mandi have built the low-cost landslide monitoring and warning technology and the system costs around Rs 20,000 which can record weather parameters and soil properties. These parameters can be perused online on a website in both tabular and graphical formats. The system can generate warnings both locally (via blinkers and hooter) and globally (via SMSes) if there are soil movements of different magnitudes in the vicinity of the deployed system," he said.

Besides, each system has the capability of intimating population at risk about significant rainfall or soil movement events in their vicinity via SMSes, he added.

The system installed recently had raised the alarm at Kutropi just before water washed the Mandi-Jogindernagar highway a few weeks back, said Dutt.

"During the recent rains

earlier this week, the sensors did not report landslides at the locations they were installed and also on ground as well there were no landslides at the installed locations. However, the system did generate rain advisories for both Pandoh and Jogindarnagar area before heavy rains occurred. The automatic rain advisory was sent in the form of SMS to different stakeholders indicating more than 25 mm of rain with greater than 80 percent chance," he said.

The project has had been sanctioned for installation of monitoring system in Sirmaur district, however, funds are currently awaited from the district administration, he said, adding that once the funds are transferred, we can deploy the low-cost landslide monitoring system at the identified landslide sites.

Site inspections were done following directions by the Sirmaur administration and six sites have been identified along the National Highway between Solan and Nahan towns, he added.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 18.08.2018 in the

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868 dead due to rains, floods in 7 states

868 people have lost lives, 247 of them in Kerala, due to rains, floods and landslides in seven states this monsoon

PTI
NEW DELHI, 17 AUGUST

As many as 868 people have lost their lives, 247 of them in Kerala, due to rains, floods and landslides in seven states during the monsoon season so far, the Home Ministry said today.

According to the Home Ministry's National Emergency Response Centre (NERC), 247 people have died in Kerala, where 2.11 lakh people in 14 districts have been badly hit by the rains and floods and over 32,500 hectares of crops damaged.

As many as 191 people have died in Uttar Pradesh, 183 people in West Bengal, 139 in Maharashtra, 52 in Gujarat, 45 in Assam and 11 in Nagaland.

A total of 33 people have also been missing, 28 in Kerala and five in West Bengal, while 274 have been injured in rain-related incidents in the states.

After a dry spell, rains return to central, north Gujarat

PTI
AHMEDABAD, 17 AUGUST

Rains lashed several parts of central and north Gujarat today after a dry spell this monsoon that had led to the state government terming the situation as "worrisome" in a review meeting held early this month.

Officials said that, since early morning today, it had been raining in central Gujarat districts like Panchmahals, Kheda,

Anand and Ahmedabad and northern ones like Mehsana, Aravalli and Sabarkantha.

According to figures released by the state government, Kapadvanj in Kheda district received 145 mm of rains, Godhra town of Panchmahals received 120 mm, Sanand in Ahmedabad district received 110 mm and Matar in Kheda received 104 mm rainfall.

In the northern part of the state, Kalol in Gandhi-

nagar district received 100 mm rainfall, Malpur in Aravalli got 88 mm, Kadi in Mehsana district got 79 mm and Posina in Sabarkantha received 70 mm rainfall.

They said that Ahmedabad city, which had so far received 150 mm of rains during the current monsoon, received 102 mm in just four hours of rain in the morning today.

It caused low lying areas to flood which in turn led to traffic snarls and also

instances of trees getting uprooted. The Meteorological Department has predicted heavy to very heavy rains for the next three days in the state due to a well marked low pressure area lying over the state. Though south Gujarat and some other parts of the state had seen rains in early July, a dry spell since then had left 44 talukas in the state with less than 125 mm (5 inches) of rain till first week of August.

Yelahanka (Karnataka) and Nagpur (Maharashtra).

The Indian Navy has deployed 51 boats along with diving teams and 1,000 life jackets and 1,300 gum-boats are being rushed to Kerala today.

It has flown 16 sorties in last two days in rescue oper-

ations and it will airdrop 1,600 food packets today.

The Coast Guard has deployed 30 boats along with rescue teams, 300 life jackets, seven life rafts and 144 life buoys.

The Army has pressed into service 10 columns, 10 Engineering Task Forces

(ETFs), 60 boats and 100 life jackets.

One unit of the Territorial Army has also been deployed in Kerala.

In Assam, 11.45 lakh people have borne the brunt of the rains and floods, which have also hit crops in 27,600 hectares of land.

Altogether 14 teams of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), comprising 357 rescuers, are engaged in rescue and relief operations in Assam, the NERC said.

In West Bengal, 2.27 lakh people have been affected by the floods and crops in 48,550 hectares have been damaged.

In Uttar Pradesh, 1.74 lakh people are affected by the monsoon rains which have also damaged 33,855 hectares of crops.

The nine NDRF teams are deployed in Uttar Pradesh, eight in West Bengal, seven in Gujarat, four in Maharashtra and one in Nagaland so far.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 18.08.2018 in the

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Indian Express
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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)
Business standard

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

सूरत: बांध टूटने से 400 गांव जलमग्न R-18



सूरत @ पत्रिका. गुजरात की सीमा से सटे महाराष्ट्र के नंदुरबार जिले की नवापुर तहसील के विसरवाडी स्थित ऊंचीसेवडी बांध गुरुवार रात मूसलाधार बारिश के बाद टूट गया। इससे 400 से अधिक गांव जलमग्न हो गए। तेज बहाव से चार महिलाएं सहित पांच लोग बह गए हैं। 700 अधिक पशुओं की मौत हुई है। बाढ़ से नवापुर शहर सहित आस-पास के हजारों लोग बेघर हो गए हैं। इलाके में रात 12 से तड़के 3 बजे तक छह इंच बारिश दर्ज की गई है।

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 21.08.2018 in the

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Hindustan (Hindi)

Nav Bharat Times (Hindi)
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बांध का जलस्तर घटाने की संभावना^{NBT-18} तलाशें : सुप्रीम कोर्ट

■ विस, सुप्रीम कोर्ट : सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने नेशनल डिजास्टर मैनेजमेंट कमिटी और केरल सरकार की उप समिति से कहा है कि मुल्लापेरियार बांध के पानी के स्तर को कम करने की संभावनाएं तलाशें। चीफ जस्टिस दीपक मिश्रा की अगुवाई वाली बेंच ने केरल और तमिलनाडु सरकार से कहा कि विस्थापितों के पुनर्वास और बांध का जलस्तर 142 से 139 फुट

करने के लिए नेशनल डिजास्टर मैनेजमेंट के निर्देशों का पालन करें। कोर्ट ने कहा कि वह प्राकृतिक आपदा से निपटने के लिए विशेषज्ञ नहीं है। वह इस काम को कार्यपालिका पर छोड़ रही है। केरल सरकार को आपदा प्रबंधन और पुनर्वास उपायों के बारे में उठाए गए कदमों पर एक रिपोर्ट पेश करने का निर्देश दिया।

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केरल की बाढ़

18.11

मानसून का आनंद लेने में सबसे आगे रहने और इन दिनों देसी-विदेशी पर्यटकों से गुलजार रहने वाला केरल 1924 के बाद पहली बार ऐसी भयावह बाढ़ का सामना कर रहा है, जिसकी वहां किसी ने कल्पना भी न की थी। अब तक सैकड़ों लोग भीषण बारिश और बाढ़ में जीवन खो चुके हैं। ऐसा पहली बार हुआ है, जब पूरे राज्य में हवाई, ट्रेन, मेट्रो और सड़क परिवहन इतनी बुरी तरह ध्वस्त हुआ है कि लोग एक-दूसरे से कटकर रह गए हैं। यह भी पहली बार हुआ है कि राज्य के सभी जिले रेड अलर्ट पर हैं और लोकसेवा आयोग ने अगले दो दिनों के लिए प्रस्तावित अपनी परीक्षाएं और इंटरव्यू रद्द कर दिए हैं। यह भी संभवतः पहली बार होगा, जब किसी प्राकृतिक आपदा के कारण इस बार ओणम जैसा विश्व प्रसिद्ध त्योहार केरल नहीं मना सकेगा। एक ऐसा त्योहार, जिसमें देश-विदेश से पर्यटक जुटते हैं और यह राज्य के लिए सबसे बड़ी पर्यटन कमाई का जरिया भी होता है। वाकई केरल के लिए यह सब कुछ ठहर जाने का समय है। चिंता की बात है कि राज्य के 35 बांधों के फाटक खोल देने के बावजूद सभी बांधों पर पानी का स्तर खतरे के निशान से ऊपर बना हुआ है और बारिश और तेज हवाओं के पूर्वानुमान खतरे को लगातार बढ़ा दे रहे हैं। मुल्लापेरियार बांध में तो जलस्तर 142 फीट पहुंच गया है, जो अपने आप में एक रिकॉर्ड है। उत्तर में कासरगोड से लेकर दक्षिण में तिरुवनंतपुरम तक सभी नदियां उफान पर हैं।

यह बाढ़ चेतावनियों के साथ कई नए सबक दे रही है। केरल का उदाहरण बता रहा है कि देश को अब पर्यावरण पर सिर्फ बहस तक

सीमित न रहकर सही अर्थों में पर्यावरण संतुलन बनाने के तरीके अपनाने की चिंता शुरू कर देनी चाहिए। जिस देश के महानगरों में भी जरा सी बारिश से जल प्लावन जैसी स्थिति आ जाती हो, सूखा और बाढ़ पाली बदल-बदलकर रंग दिखाते हों, वहां ऐसी तैयारी अहम सवाल है। माना कि केरल की बाढ़ अप्रत्याशित है, लेकिन हम तो दशकों से चली आ रही यूपी-बिहार जैसी बाढ़ का भी कारगर तोड़ अभी तक नहीं निकाल पाए। हर बार कभी सूखा, तो कभी बाढ़ के नाम पर हाय-तौबा मचाना हमारी नियति बन चुकी है, जब हमारी बड़ी आबादी इस भयावह खतरे का सामना करती है और व्यवस्थाएं बेजार दिखाई पड़ती हैं।

मौसम या मानसून का यह असंतुलन नया नहीं है। इसकी ऐसी परिणति भी नई नहीं है। दरअसल पर्यावरण के प्रति हमारे उपेक्षा भाव ने कुछ ऐसा माहौल गढ़ा कि हम इसके नतीजों से तो चिंतित हुए, लेकिन इसकी चिंता करना छोड़ दिया। बाढ़ और सूखे पर राजनीति तो खूब हुई, लेकिन हमने उन मौसमी बदलावों तक की चिंता नहीं की, जो तयशुदा थे और इसी कारण उनके लिए तैयार होने की जरूरत भी नहीं समझी। दरअसल यहीं चूक हुई। सच है कि हमने तो नियमित मौसम का सामना करने में भी अपनी जिम्मेदारी नहीं निभाई, मौसम व हरियाली से खिलवाड़ जरूर करते गए। केरल की बाढ़ उसी खिलवाड़ व अनदेखी की भयावह परिणति है। यह समय इसी खिलवाड़, लापरवाहियों और चूक की पड़ताल कर नई तरह से सोचने, नई शुरुआत करने, नई तैयारियों में जुटने का है। कठिन परीक्षा के दौर में केरल को हर तरफ से मदद और दुआओं की भी जरूरत है। यह भी सोचना होगा कि आखिर इस समस्या का समाधान हम कब निकालेंगे?

माना जाता है कि बारिश से केरल का सौंदर्य निखर जाता है, लेकिन इस बार बरसात ने वहां वह कर दिया, जिसकी किसी ने कल्पना भी नहीं की थी।

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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)
Business standard

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

PM Modi announces ₹500 crore aid

Fresh rains force Kuttanad evacuation; thousands marooned; CM seeks ₹2,000 cr. in immediate relief

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday announced an immediate financial assistance of ₹500 crore to rain-battered Kerala after reviewing the flood situation, even as rescue operations continued in Pathanamthitta and Thrissur districts amid heavy rain.

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan later tweeted that the Prime Minister has sanctioned ₹500 crore as immediate relief.

"As per the initial estimate, the State has suffered a loss of ₹19,512 crore. The actual loss can be ascertained after the water recedes in the affected areas. The State has sought an immediate assistance of ₹2,000 crore," he said.

Complimenting the State authorities for their efforts in the adverse situation, Mr.



Taking stock: Prime Minister Narendra Modi conducts an aerial survey in Kerala. •PTI

Modi also announced an ex-gratia of ₹2 lakh per person to the next of kin of the deceased and ₹50,000 to those seriously injured from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund (PMNRF), a PMO

statement. After a high-level review meeting in Kochi, Mr. Modi undertook an aerial assessment of worst-hit Aluva and Thrissur regions.

Meanwhile, a parallel crisis unfolded in the Kuttanad

region, where rising floodwaters inundated thousands of houses, forcing a mass evacuation. A total of 58,506 people were rescued from different locations on Saturday while the toll in rain re-

Too little, say CPI(M), Cong.

The CPI(M) and the Congress said the ₹500 crore relief announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi was too little in the face of the devastation in Kerala caused by the floods. The Congress has been demanding that the floods be declared a national calamity. "Dear PM please declare Kerala floods a National Disaster without any delay," Rahul Gandhi tweeted. • PAGE 9

lated incidents since August 8 reached 194.

(With inputs from PTI)

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LANDSLIPS IN KODAGU • PAGE 8

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 19.08.2018 in the

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FROM PAGE ONE

194

PM Modi announces ₹500 crore for Kerala

The rescue operation for flood victims in Pathanamthitta and Thrissur districts continued on Saturday with response teams battling strong river currents and heavy rains to bring stranded citizens to safety, even as a parallel crisis unfolded in the Kuttanad region, where rising floodwaters inundated thousands of houses, forcing a mass evacuation.

The rescue work on Saturday involving the armed forces and State government agencies was focussed on Chengannur and Chalakudy. Amid frantic calls for help from hundreds of stranded citizens, the Army deployed bigger boats, while 22 helicopters and 119 boats of the Navy and Coast Guard were also involved.

Situation under control

Terming the floods as the worst in the century, Mr Vijayan said the rescue work was in the final stage with teams involved in mopping up operations. "Things are well under control," he told reporters after a review meeting.

Efforts were on to reach food and medicines to the marooned people. An official pressnote issued here said helicopters had carried out a total of 900 airlifts in the operation. More than 400,000 were shifted to relief camps from flooded localities.

Thousands of houses from Kumarakom to Vaikom in the Kuttanad region were inundated. The rising waters in the Vembanad lake flooded houses in Alappuzha town and Thaneermukkom panchayat.

The two canals in Alappuzha were also overflowing.

Officials estimate that

more than 200,000 people including the aged and the infirm and women and children would have to be evacuated from Kuttanad.

With the relief camps in Alappuzha filled to capacity, the authorities opened shelters at Cherthala to accommodate the flood-affected.

Coordinated effort

Five columns of the Border Security Force, 169 NDRF teams and 23 groups of the Army and engineering division worked closely with 3200 Fire Force personnel, 40,000 policemen and a large number of volunteers to rescue marooned families from flooded parts of Pathanamthitta and Thrissur.

The Coast Guard requisitioned an additional helicopter from Goa and deployed 31 rescue and relief teams equipped with life rafts, life jackets, life buoys, ropes and other equipment in several areas. Coast Guard officers and men also used four fishing boats for rescue operations at Paravur and Varapuzha. Food packets were airdropped and distributed by boats.

Heavy rains lashed many places in Idukki also triggering flash floods. Landslips occurred at Nelliampathy and Kattapana.

Role of Army

Reacting to the Opposition's demand that the rescue operations be handed over to the Army, the Chief Minister said the Central forces had worked closely with the civilian administration under a joint command and control system to carry out rescue and relief operations.

"There is no precedent of the Army carrying out a disaster management operation by itself," he said.

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Flood water inundates a village in P. Gannavaram mandal of East Godavari district. •S. RAMBABU

Godavari, Krishna in spate after rain

Four gates of Srisaillam reservoir lifted

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
VIJAYAWADA

The Godavari and the Krishna are in spate in Andhra Pradesh following heavy rains in the catchment areas.

A peak of 14.49 lakh cusecs was discharged from the Godavari in the early hours of Saturday at the Sri Arthur Cotton Barrage at Dowleswaram, downstream of Rajamahendravaram, East Godavari district.

The authorities sounded a "second warning" after the water level at the barrage crossed the 13.75 feet. The water level rose to 14.2 ft but then gradually fell to 13.7 ft. by evening. The discharge too fell to 12.72 lakh cusecs, making the authorities withdraw the second warning at 6 p.m.

On the Krishna, the Srisaillam reservoir, which receives water from both the main river and Tungabhadra, the tributary, was the focus of attention. The reservoir, which has a flood cushion of less than 5 tmcft, received an inflow of over 3.5 lakh cusecs through most of the day.

Minister for Water Resources Devineni Umamaheswara Rao was at the dam supervising the lifting of four radial gates to release over two lakh cusecs downstream into the Nagarjuna Sagar reservoir in the morning. As the inflows crossed 3.5 lakh cusecs in the evening, the authorities opened two more gates.

As the flood in the Godavari peaked, water entered a few villages on the banks of the river both in East and West Godavari districts. Water entered in over two dozen low-lying villages in Devipatnam mandal of East Godavari district.

Relief camps

Authorities in East Godavari opened seven relief camps to accommodate several families evacuated from the low-lying areas. Over 1,000 people evacuated from villages were accommodated in these camps.

The 3.5 lakh cusecs that was discharged from the Srisaillam reservoir is, however, welcome as the Nagarjuna Sagar reservoir has a flood cushion of 144 tmcft.

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Landslips continue to ravage Kodagu

Despite inclement weather, rescue measures are on

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MYSURU

The magnitude of devastation caused by landslips and rains in flood-ravaged Kodagu district is still unfolding, as rescue operations continued on Saturday despite inclement weather. There were conflicting reports of the number of deaths, but six have been officially confirmed.

Nearly 2,000 personnel from the Army, National and State Disaster Response Forces, and the Quick Response Team of Karnataka Civil Defence reached out to people stranded in remote hilly areas.

About 100 people who were cut-off in Mukkodlu village in Somwarpet taluk were rescued and shifted to Madapura relief centre after the teams negotiated their way through overflowing sludge and water along a treacherous terrain. According to reports, the civil defence team and Army personnel trekked about 13 km for the rescue mission.

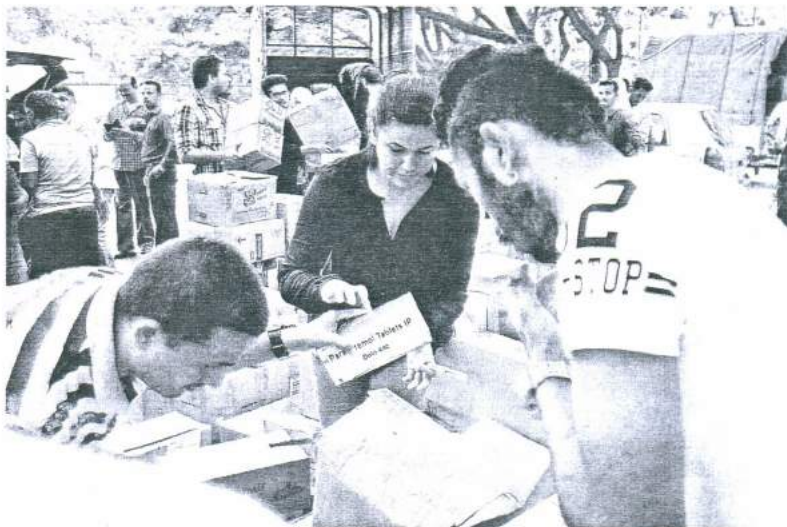
Additional Deputy Commissioner of Kodagu P.aveen Kumar said nearly 3,000 people were rescued and evacuated and the numbers were decreasing. Rescue missions would, however, continue.

CM appeals for help

Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy said that 60 people were still stranded and had to be airlifted. Though the helicopters were ready, they could not be pressed into service due to bad weather. More than 2,500 people had been evacuated so far, he said.

Mr. Kumaraswamy appealed to people to contribute generously to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund.

Expressing his gratitude



Pounded by rain: (From top) Floods and landslips at Jodupala in Kodagu district had a devastating impact, damaging infrastructure and uprooting trees; volunteers segregate flood relief material in the district on Saturday. *SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT & V. SREENIVASA MURTHY

to the Union Defence Minister for agreeing to deploy additional personnel, he said teams steered by the Army personnel had already reached Mukkodlu village, where many people waited for rescue.

Steps were taken to deploy medical and nursing staff and supply food to children on priority. Over 50 excavators were deployed to

clear landslide debris, which had blocked the highways.

₹2 lakh compensation

Over 800 houses collapsed in the heavy rains and people lost their property documents.

The departments concerned had been directed to provide copies of documents at the earliest and officials had been directed to release

₹2 lakh compensation for those who lost their houses, he said.

Meanwhile, hundreds of people from Makkandur, Mandalpatti, and Adageri took shelter in one of the 31 relief camps.

The villages were evacuated around Makkandur, one of the badly-affected areas, but people were still reported missing.

Polls in 3 town panchayats postponed

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Karnataka State Election Commission has put off elections to the town panchayats of Kushalnagar, Somwarpet and Virajpet in Kodagu district, until further notice. They were scheduled to be held on August 31.

This followed a request from the Deputy Commissioner of Kodagu. In a release, KSEC under-secretary Archana M.S. said the process related to polls that was under way from August 2 to 16 would not be affected by the rescheduling of polls.

Karnataka CM conducts aerial survey

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Karnataka Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy held an emergency meeting of officials on Saturday to take stock of the situation in the flood-ravaged Kodagu district and conducted an aerial survey of Kodagu and Dakshina Kannada districts to oversee the rescue operations.

Addressing the media after the meeting, he said 950 personnel from multiple agencies have been deployed for relief works.

Mr. Kumaraswamy said officials have been directed to supply uninterrupted gas, petrol and diesel in the areas of distress and re-install mobile towers, which had collapsed because of the rain.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 19.08.2018 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)

Business standard

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

Geo-tag plants under plantation drive: Kejri

PTI

NEW DELHI, 18 AUGUST

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal today directed officials to geo-tag plants and monitor their survival rate under the government's mega plantation drive in September.

Kejriwal also directed officials to launch a massive awareness campaign for mass public participation in the drive, according to an official statement.

Agencies participating in the drive include Forest Department, MCDs, NDMC, Education, Health, CPWD, PWD and Delhi Jal Board who briefed the chief minister on the progress, according to the statement.

Kejriwal directed that a helpline be created for the event and publicised for people to call and check the



nearest location for participation. He also directed that various clubs be also involved in the drive to make participation better.

The issue of post plantation care was also raised during the meeting. The chief minister said that all the plants should be geo tagged and monitoring should be done. He also said that a monthly report on the same should be

submitted to him.

"Responsibility of the survival of the plantation would rest with the respective greening agency. Forest department would be the nodal point for all such coordination," he was quoted by the statement as saying.

"Involve Resident Welfare Associations, market associations, school children and their parents in

the drive. Make it a mass movement. We have to reach the grassroots to make it a grand success," Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia was quoted as saying in the statement.

A decision was also taken to plant trees, which are at least 6 ft in height. Kejriwal also sought a detailed report on the survival report of the plantations done in the last five years in Delhi.

The chief minister has now called a meeting with heads of department of all the greening agencies on Tuesday for another review. They have been asked to come with a detailed plan on the plantation drive.

The Delhi government will carry out a massive drive to plant five lakh trees and shrubs on a single day in September, the city's Environment Minister Imran Hussain had earlier said.

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Business Standard

Volume XXV Number 89

NEW DELHI | MONDAY, 20 AUGUST 2018

The Kerala havoc

Govt must focus on man-made causes of floods

A sustained and intense downpour of the kind seldom witnessed in 100 years may be the immediate cause of the unusually devastating floods in Kerala, but the contribution of man-made factors to this calamity cannot be disregarded. Widespread deforestation, rampant construction and indiscriminate quarrying have triggered landslides, which have obstructed water channels, worsening the deluge. Besides, the lack of coordination in water releases from dams in Kerala and the adjoining states has further aggravated the situation, and even hampering the rescue and relief operations. Most reservoirs got filled up earlier than usual this year due to excessive rain. Yet the operation of their floodgates was not appropriately regulated and coordinated to avoid heavy discharges during actual flooding. The state government also seems guilty of not taking some of the routine risk mitigation measures enumerated in the National Disaster Management Policy. Similar mistakes should at least be avoided in staving off disease outbreaks that normally ensue from floods.

Nevertheless, Kerala is not the only victim of torrential rain in the current monsoon season. Several parts of neighbouring Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh are either reeling from floods or facing the threat. Almost all the 80-odd dams of the region are brimming over. The governments of these states are unable to evolve a common plan for releasing the excess water. This is a critical issue involving the safety of the dams, most of which are overage. The Supreme Court had to intervene to order a reduction in the water level of the 116-year-old Mullaperiyar dam. The discharge of this water can potentially worsen the flood situation if the matter is not handled skilfully. This aside, seven other states — Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Gujarat, Assam, Nagaland and Odisha — have also witnessed devastation due to floods, landslides and other rain-related incidents. More damage cannot be ruled out since the rainy season is still at its peak.

Floods, indeed, seem to have become an integral feature of the monsoon season. Inadequate flood-proofing effort is partly to blame for this. While in other countries dams and barrages are built to ward off floods, in India, they tend to serve the opposite purpose because of unprofessional management of the impounded waters. Besides, the country's flood forecasting system, too, is below par and needs to be revamped. Significantly, climate change is also playing a role in aggravating this menace. The projections made by a global panel on climate change indicate that the overall rainfall in the Indian subcontinent is likely to increase by 10 per cent in terms of both quantity and intensity by 2050. Some evidence of it is already noticeable by way of increased frequency of extreme weather events, such as the unprecedented rainfall and cloudbursts in Kerala this year and in Uttarakhand, Jammu and Kashmir, and Maharashtra earlier. With the unabated degradation of river catchments and heavy siltation of water bodies, the incidence of such episodes is set to exacerbate. This has necessitated substantial enhancement in the efficiency and reliability of the weather- and flood-forecasting systems to forewarn civic administrations of impending disasters for timely relief action. Besides, a flood code having ready-to-use contingency plans to cope with inundation, on the lines of the existing drought code, is badly needed for all flood-prone areas. Otherwise, Kerala-like calamities may continue to recur.

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The Times of India (A)
Business standard

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

Kochi naval base gears up to run commercial flights

Press Trust of India

letters@hindustantimes.com

2018

NEWDELHI: The Centre on Sunday said a joint team of different aviation-related bodies and Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) inspected the Kochi naval base, a day after announcing operation of commercial flights from the base from Monday to aid rescue efforts in Kerala.

Civil aviation minister Suresh Prabhu also said the watch hour at Vijayawada and Begumpet airports has been extended to facilitate relief operations by Indian Air Force (IAF) aircraft. Watch hour refers the period during which the airport remains open for operation.

"A Joint team comprising representatives from DGCA, BCAS, CISF, AAI and Indian Navy carried out inspection of #Cochin Naval Base today to check the feasibility of scheduled operations from there. Steps being taken to start operations with ATR-72 from Monday, 20th August," the minister tweeted.

The base will be used by carriers such as Alliance Air, a subsidiary of Air India, to operate 70-seater ATR aircraft to places such as Bengaluru.

The minister had said on Sunday that flights from the naval base to other destinations such as Coimbatore, Madurai could also start operations. Other air-



■ Army and rescue personnel evacuate residents of Alappuzha district using a boat on Sunday.

RAJ K RAJ/HT

lines are likely to join this effort too, he had said.

The main Kochi international airport, the seventh busiest in the country, has been rendered non-functional since August 14 due to flooding and torrential rains, and would remain closed till August 26. "In view of disruption of flights from Cochin airport due to floods, a joint team sent by @MoCA_GoI has approved starting of scheduled commercial flights using ATRs by Alliance Air, a subsidiary of Air India, between Bangalore and Cochin Naval Air base," Prabhu had tweeted last evening.

As of now, both domestic and

international flights to Kochi are being diverted to other destinations such as Trivendrum and Calicut.

The minister in a series of tweets on Sunday said that following a request from the Home and Defence Ministries, "watch hours at Vijayawada and Begumpet airports have been extended by Airport Authority of India" to assist in relief operations with IAF aircraft.

Besides, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) is in contact with three private helicopter operators to carry out relief operations after a request was received from the Kerala government.

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Business Standard

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hitspotlight

KERALA DELUGE

'The dead are gone... must save the living'

GROUND REPORT Tales of suffering, loss and struggle echo across Kerala as flood survivors try to stitch lives back together

Ramesh Babu
• rameshb@hindustantimes.com

CHENGANNUR (ALAPPUZHA): A harried resident rushed to report six bodies floating under Kallissery Bridge at Pandanad in Kerala's flood-hit Alappuzha district on Sunday. The overwhelmed officials working overtime to deal with the crisis were helpless. There was little they could do. "Even if we retrieve these bodies, we do not have mortuary to store them. Dead are gone but our priority is to save the living ones," an official said, summing up the mood in Pandanad.

The residents of Pandanad, an affluent village dotted with mansions on the banks of river Pambha, remained on the edge. An overcast sky threatened to bring more misery as the mansions remained submerged.

"At some places, the water levels have touched above 20-feet. Water currents make our task more difficult," said Lt Col Aiyappa BM of the army's engineer regiment, which has been involved in rescue operations since Friday.

An army boat hit a tree as soldiers were trying to rescue an

aged couple marooned for four days. The couple had been on the rooftop of their house reluctant to leave because there had been no news about their only son for two days. He had left to fetch water and food and had been stranded on the other side of Pambha in a relief camp. The diabetic couple agreed to leave the marooned house only after they were told their son is fine.

A heart patient rescued 45 minutes later was struggling without medicines. "My blood pressure (BP) is high... my tablets were destroyed in water. So I have been without medicine for two days," the teary-eyed man told his rescuers. Rushed to Alappuzha medical college, he was recuperating well, officials said.

Residents complained about a delay in the relief operations. Officials said a resident had been clinging onto a tree for two days when he shouted for help. Finally, a navy copter spotted and saved him.

Authorities insisted some people stayed put in their houses thinking the water levels would not reach their rooftops. This worsened the situation, they insisted.



Volunteers and fisherman rescue residents from inundated Chengannur taluk in Kerala's flood-hit Alappuzha district on Sunday.

"It is not water alone, slush is coming in a big way from lakes and dams. It makes the place more slippery and some have been swept away," said P Pramad, who lost his friend three days ago.

At least 30 people were missing from Pandanad and sur-

rounding areas and authorities say they were yet to compile exact casualties.

Residents blamed authorities for failing to take pre-emptive measures. "It is common sense. When catchment areas get heavy rain, dams will be filled. They waited for all dams to fill

hoping they can generate more power. When the situation became uncontrollable, they opened all dams together," said Velayudhan Nair, a retired government employee.

Residents complained food and relief materials were pouring in but there was a lack of

co-ordination in distributing them.

The soldiers pleaded helplessness by saying they have to go by the directives of the district administration.

"Initially the situation was really grim. But I think the worst is over," said Chengannur

member of legislative assembly (MLA) Saji Cherian, who broke down while narrating the plight of his people.

Kerala chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan had earlier ticked Cherian off for demanding full control for the army in flooded areas.

flood diary

VEGGIE PRICES SOAR; CHILLY ₹400 PER KG

KOCHI: The worst floods to batter Kerala since 1924 have sent prices of vegetables zooming, with green chilli selling at ₹400 a kg in Kochi and surrounding areas. After the retail price of green chillies went through the roof, angry locals sought police official's intervention and the cost came down. Onions, potatoes and cabbage were being sold at ₹90 a kg before police told the vendors to put up a price display board.

IANS

Amid grief, a wedding in relief camp

MALAPPUZHAM (KERALA): Even as Kerala battles the worst flooding in 96 years, a young couple, taking shelter in a relief camp in Malappuram district, got married on Sunday. Anju, who had moved into the MSP School near here three days ago, tied the knot with Saiju at the Thirupanthra temple, in the presence of her relatives at the relief camp. "Initially, we decided to postpone the wedding. But when we got the support of the people here, we decided to go ahead," a relative of the bride said.

IANS

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Business standard

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

Toll 239; Kerala faces long road to recovery

RESCUE NEARS END CM says over 700K in camps, Kochi flights to start today

HT Correspondent and Agencies

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

KOCHI/NEW DELHI: Rescuers struggled to reach some pockets still cut off by landslides and raging rivers in Kerala, and the government turned its focus to counting losses and launching a rehabilitation drive that could last months, officials said on Sunday as forecasts suggested the worst of the rains may be over for Kerala.

Since August 8 — the start of an unusually heavy bout of monsoon rains that led to what has been described as Kerala's worst flooding in nearly a century — some 239 people have died and more than 700,000 people were taken to relief camps, according to figures released by the state government on Sunday.

Chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan said much of the rescue operation was likely to be completed by end of Sunday, but "it will continue till the last person is rescued." He added that there were 15 new deaths and some 22,000 people rescued since morning.

At Chengannur in Alappuzha district, at least 5,000 are stranded, according to revenue officials quoted by PTL.

"The waters have not fully receded; there is moderate rain in some parts. Rescue work will continue till things go back to normal," the CM said at a press conference.

In New Delhi, the National Crisis Management Committee met for the fourth time in as many days.

CONTINUED ON P 6



■ A rescue boat evacuates people from Pandanad in Chengannur.

RAJ K RAJ/HT PHOTO

724,649

people lodged in 5,645 relief camps across the state

2.5 times

of the normal rain in state between August 8 and August 15

'No mortuary to store bodies ...priority is to save the living'

Ramesh Babu

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

CHENGANNUR (ALAPPUZHA): Drenched from head to toe, a man rushes towards district officials to report that he had discovered six bodies floating under a bridge nearby. "Even if we retrieve these bodies, we don't

have a mortuary to store them. The dead are gone but our priority is to save those still alive," one of the officials tells him. The exchange captures the mood in Pandanad village, one of the worst hit by the floods in Alappuzha district.

Situated on the banks of river Pambha, swathes of the villages

have been inundated — at places as much as till the height of 20 feet. "In some places, strong under currents make it difficult for us to move," explained Lt Col Aiyappa BM of the 3 Jodhpur-based 3 Engineer Regiment. His regiment was one of the first to reach and begin a rescue operation on August 17. ■P6

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State got 164% excess rain in August, 42% more during monsoon, says IMD

Anonna Dutt

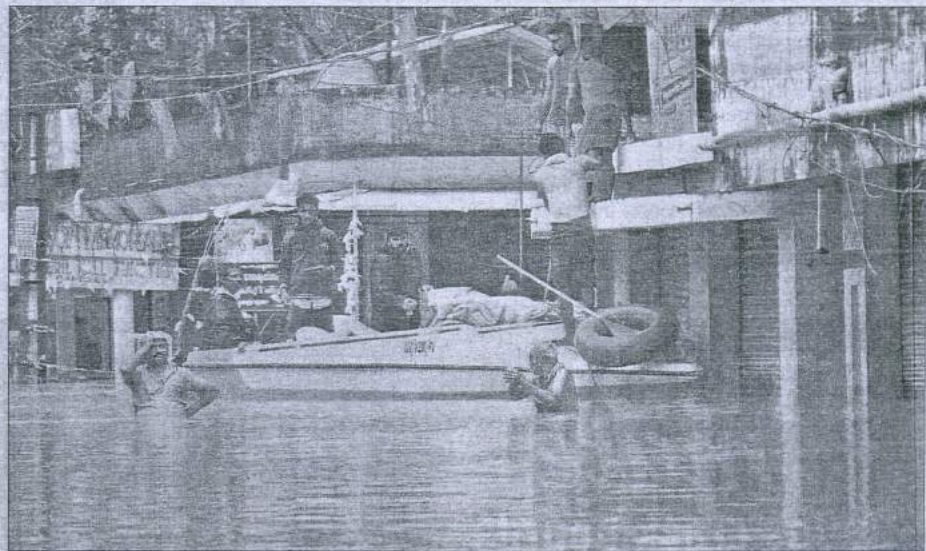
• letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Kerala received 164% more than normal rainfall for August till Sunday, the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Sunday. The state has received an excess of 42% rainfall over the monsoon season, which began in June, the agency added.

Kerala received 758.6 mm of rainfall in the period between August 1 and 19. So far, overall, there has been 2,346.3 mm of rainfall, instead of the normal 1,649.55 mm, according to Dr Mrutyunjay Mohapatra, senior scientist at IMD.

The highest rainfall was recorded in Idukki district, which received 92% more rains. This was followed by Palakkad district, with a 72% excess, he said.

"This year, the heavy rainfall was because of the perfect confluence of the southwest monsoon wind system and the two low pressure systems that formed over the Bay of Bengal and Odisha," Mohapatra said. Low pressure regions pull in moist south west monsoon winds, increasing their speed, which then hits the Western Ghats, travels skywards, and forms rain-bearing clouds. This brought the excess rainfall over areas near the Western Ghats, including Kerala, explained Mohapatra.



Volunteers distribute relief material among residents of Kerala's Alappuzha district.

RAJ KRAJ/T

He also said that over the next five days, rainfall over Kerala is likely to decrease, with every district experiencing light to moderate rainfall. Another low pressure system is forming over Odisha on Sunday, according to the IMD, but it is unlikely to affect Kerala as the direction of the monsoon wind has changed.

Even before the current surge in rainfall over the state between August 8 and 16, Kerala had three rainfall peaks — on June 14, June 20 and on July 20.

The state however, is likely to

receive another spell of extremely heavy rainfall in September before the monsoon retreats. "Kerala usually gets extremely heavy rainfalls — up to 24 cms — in September, so we can expect more extremely heavy rainfall in the state. However, this should not worsen the flood situation as we expect a respite from the rains for five to seven days, which should give time to the accumulated water to drain out," said Dr Mohapatra.

Health ministry kicks into action

To aid flood relief measure, the Union health ministry will set up 3,757 medical camps in Kerala and send 90 types of medicines requested by the state, a release from the ministry said.

"The first tranche of medicines shall reach tomorrow (Monday)," the release said. To date, no outbreak of communicable disease has been reported, but "health experts opine that once the flood water starts receding, the environment would be conducive for epidemic-prone diseases," the release added.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 20.09.2018 in the

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DE 20

FISHERMEN HEROES IN CRISIS

Leading rescue, fishermen who braved Ockhi

CM Pinarayi says fishermen who took part in rescue to be felicitated, compensated for damage

SHAJU PHILIP
CHENGANNUR, AUGUST 19

WHEN THE deluge submerged hundreds of villages in central Kerala, fishermen stepped in to help thousands of stranded people.

Fighting back memories of their dear ones lost in the Ockhi tragedy, over 1,400 fishermen from coastal villages of Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Alappuzha and Ernakulam rushed to the affected villages. With 600-odd country vessels, they ventured into the most remote corners of the affected areas. On Saturday, out of the 54,000 persons rescued in Ernakulam district, 18,000 were saved by fishermen who deployed 240 boats there.

National Fish Workers Co-ordination forum secretary T Peter said the fishermen ventured into the rescue mission spontaneously. "When we put out the suggestion in social media groups, many fishermen expressed

their willingness to join the rescue work. The fishermen took it up as their responsibility. When our social media groups got distress calls and messages about people stranded in submerged houses, we passed on the location details to the fishermen," he said.

Lalu Alex, a fisherman from Mariyapuram in Thiruvananthapuram, said their village has sent 60 country vessels with 150 persons. "On August 15, when we heard about the news, our parish priest said we should go and help the people trapped in water. On that night itself, we started moving from various villages to Chengannur, Ernakulam and Thrissur with vessels loaded in trucks. We took along kerosene and food," he said.

Another fisherman Varghese Stephen said the fishermen abandoned their means of livelihood to save lives. "This is the best season for a seagoing fisherman. A person can make up to Rs 5,000 in a trip if he goes for fishing now. We have left the opportunity to make some money. But, we don't



Fishermen get ready for rescue work, at Varattar river near Chengannur.

have any complaints."

A Revenue Department officer, who is coordinating the rescue mission in Chengannur, said the fishermen were involved in the most risky part of rescue efforts. "They went to several houses, swimming against heavy currents. I have seen how

difficult it was to manoeuvre the vessels through flooded narrow alleys and roads, where damaged civic infrastructure posed a serious threat. They even entered flooded wells, risking their lives. While uniformed persons rescued three or four persons in a single attempt, fishermen's boats came back

with 10-15 persons," he said.

The uniformed men ventured into the water with safety jackets, but the asset of the fishermen was their courage and experience in choppy waters. The only equipment in the vessels was GPS, using which they located the houses of those stranded. A local person also moved around in their vessels to show the areas to be evacuated.

Anto Elias, from Veli in Thiruvananthapuram, said many vessels have been damaged after they hit walls and electric posts. "But we have no complaints. We could save lives from very difficult areas. Only dampening experience was the reluctance of some people to come out of the flooded houses. They don't even understand our risk," he said.

Acknowledging the fishermen's service, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan on Sunday announced that all the fishermen who took part in the rescue mission would be felicitated. "The fishermen had intervened in a great way. Many of their vessels got damaged. The government would compensate them for the loss suffered. Apart from that, a boat would be given Rs 3,000 a day and the state would meet the fuel expenses," he said.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 20.08.2018 in the

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IMD GIVES HOPE

Situation set to ease as rain intensity falls

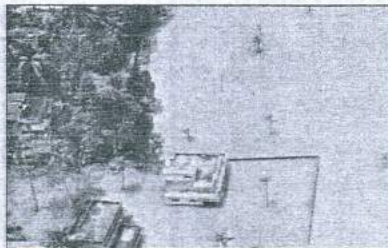
EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

PUNE, AUGUST 19

THE INDIA Meteorological Department (IMD) has termed the recent incessant rainfall over Kerala as "exceptionally high", confirming that the state received 2346.6mm rainfall during the season far, as against the normal of 1649.5mm meant for the entire four month-long monsoon season.

However, there may be some much needed respite for the local residents and swifter rescue operations may now possible, with the Met office indicating a reduction in rainfall intensity during the next five days.

According to the statement issued by IMD issued on Sunday, Kerala has during this during monsoon season recorded above nor-



In Kochi on Sunday. PTI

mal rainfall. The week during August 9 - August 15 were particularly reported very heavy spells of rainfall which ranged around 170 per cent more than what should have been normally recorded. During this week,

Idukki and Palakkad districts recorded the highest rainfall, 92 per cent and 72 per cent above normal, respectively.

"There were two consecutive active spells - during June 14 - June 20 and later around July 20. But it was a fresh wet spell during August 9 - August 15 that was 170 per cent above normal that led to the statewide flooding. The 35 reservoirs that were already full further swelled, compelling authorities to release water into river streams. As this activity continued for a week, it led to inundating of rivers which caused widespread flooding all over the state," the statement read.

During the next five days, a low pressure that has formed over the Bay of Bengal is expected to move towards central India and this system is likely to gain momentum till Monday.

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Focus shifts to relief as waters recede in Kerala

Death toll rises to 210; over seven lakh people take shelter in relief camps

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

After five days of extremely heavy rain and floods that ravaged several parts of Kerala, Sunday brought respite following a gradual decrease in rainfall and receding water levels in the flood-affected areas, particularly Chengannur and Chalakudy.

With 13 persons killed in rain-related incidents on Sunday, the toll since August 8 stood at 210.

Five killed in flash floods

Five persons were reported dead in flash floods in southwestern Thrissur when Kariyannur river, which services Chemmeni Dam and Manali river, breached a temporary embankment. Around 42 villages in and around the paddy fields were inundated.

Two bodies were recovered near St. Xavier's Church, Kuthiathodu, near



Under water: Chengannur in Alappuzha district of Kerala on Sunday. • S. GOPAKUMAR

north Paravoor, where a portion of a wall around a relief camp collapsed on Thursday, reportedly trapping six persons. Local MLA V. D. Satheesan said five persons were still missing.

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, who said rescue operations were in the final round, said priority would now be given to providing safe drinking water and restoring electricity and water

supply. A total of 7,24,649 displaced persons have been housed in 5,645 relief camps, he told reporters.

HELP FROM THE SKIES ▶ PAGE 7
3,500 RESCUED ▶ PAGE 5

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Under water: Chengannur in Alappuzha district of Kerala on Sunday. ■ S. GOPAKUMAR

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Nai Duniya (Hindi)
The Times of India (A)
Business standard

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

Rainfall will abate, says Met Dept. 20/1

It was 164% above normal for August

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The India Meteorological Department's forecast on Sunday of a gradual decrease in rainfall during the next five days has brought a sense of relief to Kerala, which continued to grapple with rescue and relief operations in the flood affected areas.

According to the Met Department's official statement here, a fresh low pressure area had formed over north-west Bay of Bengal on Sunday morning, but it would not have any significant impact over Kerala.

Exceptionally high

Rainfall over Kerala has been exceptionally high during the current south-west monsoon season (June 1 to August 18), with the State receiving 2,346.6 mm against the normal of 1649.5 mm (42% above normal). The spatial distribution of district-wise seasonal rainfall showed that Idukki dis-



A partially submerged house in Chengannur. ■ AP

trict recorded the highest excess rainfall (92% above normal) followed by Palakkad (72% above normal).

The statement said the rainfall over Kerala for June, July and August (till Sunday) was 15%, 18% and 164% above normal respectively. Rainfall during August so far has been exceptionally high.

Two consecutive active spells with above normal rainfall peaked around June 14 and 20 respectively. Another peak rainfall activity was experienced around July 20.

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

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3,500 rescued in Kodagu

^{H20}
Karnataka CM Kumaraswamy briefs Prime Minister, President on flood situation

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MYSURU

Over 3,500 people have been rescued in Kodagu so far, Karnataka Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy said on Sunday.

Briefing Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Ram Nath Kovind, who had called him to enquire about the situation in Kodagu, Mr. Kumaraswamy said the Army, the Navy, the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and other teams were involved in the operations. Mr. Modi also tweeted that he spoke to Mr. Kumaraswamy on the situation in Karnataka.

The Chief Minister, who cancelled his scheduled visit to Chikkamagaluru and Shivamogga, conducted an aerial survey of Kodagu for the second consecutive day on Sunday, taking stock of the situation in Somwarpet, Suntikoppa, Madapura, Mukkodlu, Harangi backwaters, Siddapura, Kushalnagar and surrounding areas. He later landed at Periyapatna and went to Madikeri by road.

En route, Mr. Kumaraswamy met victims in Avarthi, Sai Extension and Kuvempunagar Extension in Kushalnagar and assured them of government aid.

200 houses submerged

Flood waters had submerged about 150 to 200 houses in Sai Extension and another 400 houses had been affected in Kuvempunagar Extension.

After reaching Madikeri, Mr. Kumaraswamy met the district administration officials and discussed rescue and relief operations.

Meanwhile, BJP leader B.S. Yeddyurappa too visited Kodagu and spoke to flood victims. He was accompanied by BJP MPs, Shobha Karandlaje and Pratap Simha.



Ground situation: Karnataka Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy inspecting a damaged road during his visit to Kodagu on Sunday. *SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Good Samaritans to the fore

1,000 people housed in relief camps run by volunteers

R. KRISHNA KUMAR
SUNTIKOPPA

The devastation across Kodagu has spawned a number of voluntary initiatives to supplement the government's relief efforts to cope with the disaster. There are three relief camps in Suntikoppa town, about 16 km from Kushalnagar – at Srirama Temple, St. Anthony's School and the local madrasa, and nearly 1,000 people are being provided temporary succour and this is all a voluntary initiative.

Rendered homeless

"Most people who have been rendered homeless are from Mukkodlu, Mak-

kandur, Tanthipala, Hatti-hole and Kandanakolli. We have enough provisions to last for another 10 days, and this is all private contribution," said Shantharam Kamath, one of the coordinators of the relief effort.

He said that when the news of landslips first came in on August 16, local youth rushed in jeeps to rescue villagers. "Some risked their lives and trekked into the interior areas to rescue those stranded," said Mr. Kamath.

Bopanna, a resident coordinating a relief camp close to Iggodlu near Madapura, said: "We had about 500 people on the first two days, but some

have left to join their relatives. Thanks to the public there is no problem regarding food or drinking water. What matters most is permanent rehabilitation and that is the real challenge," he added, coordinating relief while handling phone calls from people desperate to track their missing relatives.

Besides, there is no count of the private homestays offering lodging to victims as evident by messages on social media.

"We ran for our life and there is nothing left in our villages to return to," said Parvathi at the camp near Iggodlu.

Hindustan Times

Statesman

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Half of farm households indebted: NABARD study

Their annual income may just be enough to repay what they borrowed; Telangana, A.P., Karnataka top the list with over 70% indebted families

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

More than half the agricultural households in the country have outstanding debt, and their average outstanding debt is almost as high as the average annual income of all agricultural households, according to a recent survey by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).

The NABARD All India Rural Financial Inclusion Survey 2016-17 covered a sample of 1.88 lakh people from 40,327 rural households. Only 48% of these are defined as agricultural households, which have at least one member self-employed in agriculture and which received more than ₹5,000 as value of produce from agricultural activities over the past year, whether they possessed any land or not.

NABARD found that 52.5% of the agricultural households had an outstanding loan on the date of the survey, and thus were considered indebted. For non-agricultural households in rural India, that figure was 10 percentage points lower, at only 42.8%.

Higher liability

Agricultural households reporting any outstanding debt also had a higher debt liability compared with non-agricultural ones.

The average debt of an indebted agricultural household stood at ₹1,04,602 in comparison to ₹76,731 for indebted non-agricultural households.

According to the survey, the average annual income of an agricultural household is ₹1.07 lakh. That is barely ₹2,500 more than the aver-

Mapping farm debt

Among other things, the NABARD survey measured incidence of indebtedness (IOI), the proportion of households reporting outstanding debt



• Incidence of indebtedness as per the survey is 52.5% for agricultural households and 42.8% for non-agricultural households. All India IOI taking all rural households together is 47.4%

• Average amount of outstanding debt (AOD) for indebted agricultural households is ₹1,04,602

• Outstanding debt for indebted non-agricultural households is ₹76,731. Overall extent of indebtedness taking all households combined is ₹91,407

• 43.5% agricultural households reported to have borrowed any money from some source or the other

• 60.4% of agricultural households borrowed from institutional sources alone

• 30.3% borrowed from only informal sources and 9.2% of agricultural households borrowed from both sources

• 56.7% of non-agricultural households and 58.6% of all households borrowed from institutional sources

SOURCE: NABARD, SURVEY REFERENCE YEAR: 2015-16

age outstanding debt of indebted farm households.

The survey found that only 10.5% of agricultural households were found to have a valid Kisan Credit Card at the time of the survey. The

scheme aims to give farmers credit from the banks with a simplified and flexible single-window procedure. Households who had the card utilised 66% of the sanctioned credit limit, the report said.

The biggest reason for taking loans among agricultural households was capital expenditure for agricultural purposes, with a quarter of all loans taken for this purpose.

While 19% of loans were taken for meeting running expenses for agricultural purposes, another 19% were taken for sundry domestic needs. Loans for housing and medical expenses stood at 11% and 12%, respectively.

While all classes of farmers had debt, the highest incidence of indebtedness came from those owning more than two hectares of land. In that category, 60% of households are in debt.

Among small and marginal farmers owning less than 0.4 hectares, slightly less than 50% of the households were in debt. Those with more land were more likely to have multiple loans.

"This may be attributed to the fact that these economically better-off households are more eligible for taking loans as they have enough assets to serve as security

against the loans taken," the survey report said.

State figures

The southern States of Telangana (79%), Andhra Pradesh (77%), and Karnataka (74%) showed the highest levels of indebtedness among agricultural households, followed by Arunachal Pradesh (69%), Manipur (61%), Tamil Nadu (60%), Kerala (56%), and Odisha (54%).

Looking at loans taken between July 2015 and June 2016, the survey found that farm households took less than half their loans from commercial banks. While 46% of the loans were taken from commercial banks, and another 10% from self-help groups, almost 40% were taken from non-institutional sources such as relatives, friends, moneylenders and landlords.

Police break Hardik's plan to protest

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
AHMEDABAD

Hardik Patel, leader of the Panchayat Anamat Andolan Samiti (PAAS), and more than 100 of his supporters were detained here and in other parts of Gujarat on Sunday before he could go on a hunger strike.

Violence erupted in Surat late in the night over the detention. Mr. Patel alleged that "anti social elements" were behind the violence.

Mr. Patel had announced a day-long fast in protest against the denial of permission to hold a rally on August 25 to mark the third anniversary of the Patidar agitation for reservation.

The police detained him while he and his supporters were on their way to Nikol for the protest.

News item/letter/article/editorial published on 20.08.2018 in the

Hindustan Times ✓

Statesman ✓

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Indian Express

Tribune

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Goa may go Kerala way, warns ecologist Madhav Gadgil

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

PANAJI, 19 AUGUST

ST-20

Noted ecologist Madhav Gadgil has warned Goa may face the same fate as Kerala if it does not take precautions on the environmental front.

Noted ecologist Madhav Gadgil has warned Goa may face the same fate as the flood-battered Kerala if it does not take precautions on the environmental front.

Like in some other states, Goa, too, is witnessing activities which are driven by greed for unlimited profits, said Gadgil, who headed a committee that authored a widely debated study on the Western Ghats a few years ago.

"Certainly all sorts of problems are beginning to surface

on the environmental front in the Western Ghats. Goa, of course, does not have Western Ghats which are so high as in Kerala, but I am sure Goa will also experience all sorts of problems," he said, react-

ing to the worst-ever floods in the southern state.

He said the reason for not taking any environmental precaution (in general) is purely greed for unlimited profits.

"You have seen it in Goa too. The Union government-constituted Justice M B Shah commission has estimated illegal profits of Rs 35,000 crore from illegal mining," he said. "There is also enormous profit in the business of stone quarrying while there is very little investment," he added while talking about rampant hill in the Western

Ghats. "The greed for enormous profits has been allowed to go on unchecked, which has actually worsened economic disparity in the society.

"So now those who are making money through these means are even more effective in getting the government allow this kind of rampant illegal behaviour," Gadgil said. The ecologist said governments have been lax on implementing environmental norms.

"The central government is actually bending over backwards to make sure the

National Green Tribunal does not function properly," he said. Gadgil had done extensive study on Goa's environment based on the data provided by iron ore mining companies in their Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) reports in 2011.

He had then said the mining companies submitted false information in their EIA reports. "In Goa, they had asked me to look into the impact of mining on environment. Every EIA suppressed fact about hydrological impact of mining," the 73-year-old expert said.

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Kodagu reeling under nature's fury; 3,000 people shifted

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU, 19 AUGUST

Kodagu, one of the major hilly districts in Karnataka, is reeling under nature's fury as it witnesses an unprecedented scale of destruction.

Over 2,000 personnel from the Army, Navy and NDRF along with state and other relief agencies work tirelessly to rescue victims but continuous heavy rains are making their task difficult.

Defence personnel has evacuated over 3,000 people. A group of villagers from Makkandur had been rescued by the agencies but the fact remains that they have lost everything. "There is nothing for us to go back to," is the painful refrain.

The number of deaths is not yet confirmed but estimates that six people have died so far. All educational institutions, including anganwadis, remained closed on Friday. The district administration has declared holiday for schools and colleges till Saturday in view of the rains.

Meanwhile, the inflow into Harangi dam increased to 15,285 cusecs and the outflow was 11,911 cusecs, which would augment the volume of water reaching KRS in the downstream.

Incessant rains have been leading to massive landslides, impacting life and property even as the Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre maintains that Kodagu received a rainfall of about 23 cm in the last 26 hours. Continuous rains caused landslips at Jayapura in Koppa taluk, forcing local authorities to regulate traffic movement on the busy road connecting Chikkamagaluru to Koppa

CM conducted an aerial survey to gauge the situation. Visited relief centres and the state government has announced a relief of Rs 2 lakh for those who have lost their homes and Rs 5 lakh to the families of the deceased

and Sringeri. The land next to the road slipped more than 50 ft deep, causing anxiety among travellers. Officers of the Public Works Department visited the spot and decided to stop the movement of heavy vehicles on the road.

Already the 60 Dogra regiment soldiers and naval divers have managed to rescue nearly 900, a local TV channel reported. Hundreds of boats as well equipment needed for rescue is being used to reach the affected area.

The state government has announced a relief of Rs 2 lakh for those who have lost their homes and Rs 5 lakh to the families of the deceased. Chief minister HD Kumaraswamy, has also conducted an aerial survey to gauge the situation besides visiting relief centres.

He has further asked officials of the Coffee Board to assess the loss suffered by the district, one of the main producing areas. In a related development, a fear of epidemic have surfaced with the need for paediatric medicine and allied health services becoming paramount. Health agencies are working round the clock for the requirement of drugs needed specially for the children.

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Kerala begins long trek back

Flood toll around 370, over 7 lakh in camps; waters have started to recede, focus now on rescue and rebuilding says CM Vijayan

SNS & AGENCIES
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,
19 AUGUST

As the rain fury finally abated on Sunday, 724,649 people remained in 5,645 camps in Kerala following "one of the worst ever floods" that has left about 370 dead and caused unprecedented destruction.

"Our prime concern was to save lives. It appears it has been met," Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan told the media amid signs that the most destructive phase of the floods had ended and that water overflowing numerous towns and villages had started to recede.

"It is perhaps one of the worst ever tragedies. Hence the loss caused is so huge. So we will accept all help," he said, revealing the extent of a tragedy which has not hit the state since 1924.

But even as Vijayan maintained that the last stage of rescue act was going on, various WhatsApp groups continued to be flooded with requests for help, especially from Alappuzha.

On Sunday morning, the authorities withdrew the red alert issued in the last of the three districts: Idukki, Ernakulam and Pathanamthitta.

There were only moderate rains in a few districts.

With fishermen, NCC, Navy and Air Force continuing to rescue the marooned



Sunday saw the maximum evacuation of people from Chengannur, Pandalam, Thiruvalla, several areas in Pathanamthitta district and in Aluva, Angamaly and Paravur in Ernakulam.

The chief minister said 22,034 people had been rescued from flooded homes and buildings.

The death toll began on May 29 when Kerala got the first of the monsoon rains. But the bulk of the fatalities were reported after August 9, when a tragedy of unprecedented proportion gripped the state after sluice gates of several rain-filled dams were opened.

Vijayan said the next task would be to help people get back to normal life.

"Rehabilitation will be done by various agencies," he said, and pledged that all towns and cities would be cleaned on a war footing.

Vijayan paid special tributes to Kerala's famed fishermen who played a key role in rescuing hundreds and navigating through dangerous waters.

Every fisherman who took part in the rescue act would be given Rs 3,000 each, he said. "We will always be grateful for their support and help."

Students who lost their educational materials and uniforms would get new replacements.

Rains in the catchment areas of the big dams in

Idukki district have subsided and the authorities have shut two of the five flood-gates at the Idukki dam. The outflow of water from both the Mullaperiyar and Idukki dams has also reduced. As a result, the water flow into the Periyar and its tributaries that flow through Ernakulam and Thrissur has come down.

On Sunday, the Kottayam sector operated special passenger trains. The state-run Kerala State Road Transport Corp also restarted operations on the MC Road to Kottayam.

But it is not as if all was going on smoothly.

Health minister K.K. Shailaja admitted that although the water level had

Rainfall intensity over Kerala decreasing: IMD

NEW DELHI, 19 AUGUST

The rainfall intensity over Kerala has decreased over the past two days, the meteorology department said today, adding that there is no alert of heavy precipitation for the next four days in the state.

India Meteorological Department's Additional Director General Mritunjay Mohapatra said, yesterday the state recorded 9 cm of rainfall.

On August 16 and 17, the state recorded 19 cm and 11 cm of rainfall respectively, he said.

"Over the past three days, we have seen a grad-

ual decrease in rainfall in the state," Mohapatra said.

The IMD said it is expecting "heavy rainfall" only in Kozhikode, Kannur and Idukki districts.

Kerala has been battered by "exceptionally high seasonal rainfall" since August 1, leaving nearly half of the state submerged. Idukki has reported the maximum number of deaths, with 43 people losing their lives since August 8, according to official estimates. The total number of deaths has touched 197 in the state during the second spell of monsoon fury.

fallen in many areas, medical facilities might not have reached certain regions due to the magnitude of the crisis. "This is because medical professionals found it difficult to reach the affected areas... We need a huge quantity of medicines. A major health drive is being planned to prevent communicable diseases," she said.

And with the water level coming down, it might not be possible to operate the big boats, forcing rescuers to rely on small or rubber boats.

But even as help poured

into Kerala from all over the country and abroad, some vendors made a killing because of food shortages. Green chillies, even after police intervention, was selling at Rs 120 a kg in Kochi.

Onions, potatoes and cabbage were sold at Rs 90 a kg. The retail cost of rice and sugar shot up by Rs 15.

Some people who reached their homes in central Kerala were stunned after seeing mud and dirt accumulated on furniture, with practically all their possessions destroyed.

Rescue ops on in flood-hit K'taka district

BENGALURU, 19 AUGUST

More than 3,500 people have been rescued till today in Kodagu district of Karnataka, where six people have lost their lives in floods and landslides following heavy rains in the past several days.

President Ram Nath Kovind and Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke over phone to Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy, who is campaigning in the rain-battered district, over phone and enquired about the situation.

Modi assured to extend all required assistance to the state to face the situation, the Chief Minister's office said.

"Extended all possible support in the rescue and relief operations. I pray for the safety and well-being of those in the flood affected areas," the PM tweeted. Kumaraswamy informed Kovind that the district administration was managing the rescue-and-relief work efficiently, along with the army, National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and other agencies, and have rescued more than 3,500 people so far, the CMO said.

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अतिवृष्टि और कुछ नहीं प्रकृति से मिला दंड है

केरल और हिमाचल में बारिश ने जो कहर ढाया है, उसे एक चेतावनी के रूप में देखा जाना चाहिए।

अनिल प्रकाश जोशी
पर्यावरणविद



इस बार मानसून ने कई तरह के रिकॉर्ड तोड़े, और ये सब बारिश और बाढ़ से जुड़े हैं। बारिश और बाढ़ के तांडव ने कई राज्यों के कई जिलों को बड़े रूप में प्रभावित किया है। केरल व हिमाचल प्रदेश दो ऐसे राज्य रहे, जहां बारिश और बाढ़ ने अभी तक के सभी रिकॉर्ड तोड़ डाले। केरल के मुख्यमंत्री के अनुसार, राज्य में ऐसा तांडव पहले कभी नहीं देखा। राज्य के सभी जिलों में रेड अलर्ट जारी है। जल, थल और वायु सेना तक लोगों को राहत देने और फंसे हुए लोगों को निकालने में जुटी हुई है। तबाही इतनी है कि अभी सही अनुमान भी मुश्किल है।

उधर हिमाचल प्रदेश में 117 वर्षों में इतनी ज्यादा बारिश कभी नहीं हुई। वहां से आई भूस्खलन की तस्वीरें बड़ी भयावह हैं। उत्तराखंड में भी मानसून का नया तेवर दिखाई दिया है। लगातार बारिश से राज्य की तमाम छोटी-बड़ी नदियां सीमा से ऊपर खतरे के निशान तक पहुंच गई हैं। यहां नेशनल हाईवे से लेकर तमाम लिंक रोड बंद पड़े हैं। बारिश का यह नया तरीका कुछ हद तक समझ से बाहर है। पिछले एक से डेढ़ महीने से हर दो-चार दिन बाद हफ्ते भर तक बारिश का दौर रहा है। मतलब गत माह लगभग 20 से 24 दिन लगातार बारिश हुई है। इससे पहले भी वर्षा का यह रुख दिखता रहा है। अब इसकी तीव्रता व समानता बदली है। वर्षा का यह दौर अब कहीं ज्यादा कहर ढा रहा है, तो कहीं इसका अभाव है। कई राज्यों में सूखे के हालात भी बने हैं। इनमें उत्तर प्रदेश, बिहार, झारखंड, असम व पूर्वोत्तर भारत के कुछ इलाके शामिल हैं। बारिश के इस तरह के व्यवहार से कुछ सीखने और समझने की आवश्यकता है।

इस बदलाव के पीछे बदलते पर्यावरण को नकारा नहीं जा सकता। पिछले तीन चार दशकों में जो भी बड़े विकासीय आयाम तय किए गए, उनमें कहीं भी इस पहलू पर कभी गंभीरता नहीं दिखाई गई कि इस तरह के अनियोजित विकास से आने वाले समय में कुछ दुष्परिणाम भी संभव होंगे। इसका एक बड़ा उदाहरण उत्तराखंड व हिमाचल प्रदेश हैं, जहां टुकड़ों में आई त्रासदी के पीछे एक बड़ा कारण अंधाधुंध सड़कों का निर्माण और काफी हद तक जल-विद्युत योजनाओं का निर्माण है। साथ ही, अन्य कई तरह के अनियोजित निर्माण यहां की पारिस्थितिकी के साथ सामंजस्य नहीं बना पाते, जिस कारण अब जरा सी बारिश में क्षति की

खबरें ज्यादा आती हैं। इन राज्यों की संवेदनशीलता के अनुसार विकास के मानकों पर चर्चा का हमेशा अभाव रहा है। दूसरा बड़ा उदाहरण दिल्ली है, जहां एक ही बारिश दिल्लीवालों को परेशान कर देती है, क्योंकि राष्ट्रीय राजधानी को चमत्कारिक बनाने के चक्कर में पानी की निकासी के सारे रास्ते बंद हो गए। ये कहानी दिल्ली की ही नहीं अपितु सारे देश के शहर एवं गांव की भी है। हमने लगातार सड़कों को बेहतर बनाने के लिए पानी के रास्ते रोक दिए। वर्षा का पानी जो मिट्टी में अटक जाया करता था, आज नए तरह के बाढ़ का रूप ले लेता है। अब साल का कोई भी महीना या मौसम ऐसा नहीं होता, जो सामान्य हो। इस बार की गर्मी के बवंडर हो या पिछली सर्दी का धुंध हो, कहीं न कहीं इसी ओर इशारा करते हैं।

एक तरफ तो बारिश का यह हाल है, दूसरी तरफ नीतिकार दो बातों को आज तक जोड़ नहीं पाए। पहला

अब साल का कोई भी महीना या मौसम ऐसा नहीं होता, जो सामान्य हो। मौसम की अति ही हमारी नियति बन रही है।

कि चार अरब घन मीटर पानी जो वर्षा के रूप में हर साल मिलता है, उसका मात्र 15 फीसदी ही हम नदी, नालों और वर्षा के रूप में प्राकृतिक माध्यम से जुटा पाते हैं, पर बाकी का 85 फीसदी नीतिकारों की पहुंच से बाहर रहता है। वहीं नीतिकार गर्मियों में पानी की किल्लत को आज की अतिवृष्टि से नहीं जोड़ पाते।

हम वर्षा के पानी को जमा करने और इसके इस्तेमाल के रास्ते तैयार कर पाते, तो दोनों ही संकट से कुछ हद तक निजात जरूर मिल जाती। अगर सिलसिला ऐसा ही चलता रहा, तो हम एक बहुत बड़े चक्रव्यूह में फंस जाएंगे, जहां या तो बाढ़-अतिवृष्टि या फिर सूखा-अकाल जैसी आपदाएं साल भर हमें डुबोने या सुखा डालने के रास्ते तैयार करती रहेंगी। प्रकृति की फितरत को समय से समझ लेने में ही हमारी भलाई है, क्योंकि इसके समझने के तरीके अभी तक क्रूर दंड के रूप में ही हमारे सामने आए हैं।

(ये लेखक के अपने विचार हैं)

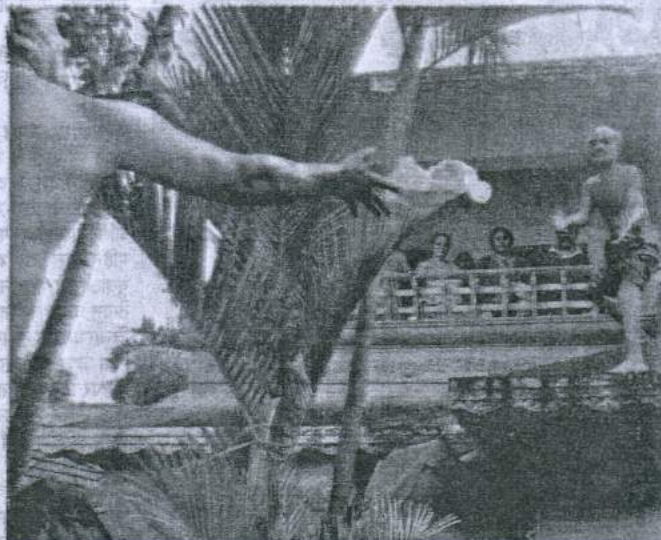
Hindustan Times
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Business standard

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

करल जलप्रलय : अलुवा के राहत शिविर में मिले चिकनपॉक्स (अचपड़ा या छोटी माता) के 3 मरीज 7 लाख लोगों पर महामारी का खतरा



गंभीर हालत

370 हुई मरने वालों की संख्या

75 लोगों की मौत एक सप्ताह में

12 जिले बाढ़ को लेकर अलर्ट पर

बारिश की अति

2227.26 मिमी.

1 जून से 16 अगस्त के बीच

37.49 प्रतिशत ज्यादा मानसून की बारिश

83.59 प्रतिशत ज्यादा बारिश छह जिलों में

पठानमथिट्टा जिले के एक राहत शिविर में बच्चे की जांच करते डॉक्टर। चेंगान्नूर की बाढ़ में फंसे लोगों तक ऐसे पहुंचाया जा रहा खाने का सामान (दाएं)।

पत्रिका न्यूज नेटवर्क
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कोच्चि, मौसम विभाग के अलर्ट से उलट केरल में जलप्रलय का कहर रविवार को कुछ कम होता दिखा। मौसम विभाग ने 9 अगस्त के बाद पहली बार राज्य के 14 में से किसी भी जिले के लिए रेड अलर्ट जारी नहीं किया। हालांकि तीन जिलों, एर्नाकुलम, पठानमथिट्टा और आलपुथा में अभी तेज बारिश की संभावना जताई गई है।

उधर, बारिश और बाढ़ से इतर अब राहत शिविरों में शरण लिए करीब 7.24 लाख लोगों में महामारी फैलने का खतरा उत्पन्न हो गया। अलुवा के एक राहत शिविर में चिकनपॉक्स (अचपड़ा या छोटी माता) के तीन मरीज मिले हैं। डॉक्टरों की टीम ने तीनों को शिविर से अलग कर दिया है। केरल से

स्वास्थ्य विभाग के अधिकारी अनिल वासुदेवन ने तीनों मामलों की पुष्टि की है। उन्होंने कहा कि स्वास्थ्य विभाग प्रदूषित जल और संक्रमण से पैदा होने वाली बीमारियों के खतरे से निपटने की तैयारी कर रहा है।

बीते 8 अगस्त से लगातार घनघोर बारिश के चलते राज्य बीबी एक सदी में सबसे खतरनाक बाढ़ का सामना कर रहा है। तीन सेनाएं, तटरक्षक बल, एनडीआरएफ समेत तमाम सरकारी एजेंसियां युद्धस्तर पर राहत और बचाव मिशन चला रही हैं।

पम्पा के इलाके पर नजर: राहत और बचाव कार्यों में जुटे अधिकारियों का कहना है कि फिलहाल बचाव टीमों का ध्यान पम्पा नदी के किनारे बसे चेन्नन्नूर कस्बे पर है, जहां 5,000 लोग फंसे हुए हैं। संबंधित खबर @ पेज 14

रेलवे: राहत सामग्री की मुफ्त ढुलाई

रेलवे ने देश के किसी भी हिस्से से केरल के किसी भी स्टेशन के लिए भेजी जाने वाली राहत सामग्री पर कोई भी शुल्क न लेने का निर्णय लिया है। यह व्यवस्था 31 अगस्त तक लागू रहेगी। राहत सामग्री यात्री गाड़ियों से भी भेजी जा सकती है।

‘महासागर कर्मभूमि व केरल हमारी मातृभूमि’

बादगुस्त केरल के कोच्चि नौसैनिक अड्डे और आईएनएस मैसूर भेजा जा रहा है। युद्धपोत में मुंबई में राहत सामग्री लादी जा रही है। उधर, नौसेना प्रमुख एडमिरल सुनिल लांबा ने टवीट किया, यदि हिंद महासागर हमारी कर्मभूमि है तो केरल हमारी मातृभूमि है।

रेलवे ने विभिन्न मंडलों के मंडल रेल प्रबंधकों को केरल के लिए राहत कार्यों में तेजी लाने के लिए किसी भी तरह का निर्णय लेने के लिए कहा है। रेलवे से केरल आने-जाने वाली गाड़ियों अतिरिक्त डिब्बे भी लगाने का फैसला किया है।

कोच्चि नौसैनिक हवाई अड्डा आज से शुरू

बादगुस्त इलाकों तक पहुंचने में जूझ रहे राहत दलों के लिए अच्छी खबर है। कोच्चि नौसैनिक अड्डे से हवाई उड़ानें सोमवार से शुरू हो जाएंगी। यहां से बेंगलूर और कोयंबटूर के लिए व्यावसायिक उड़ानें शुरू होंगी। डीजीसीए ने इसकी अनुमति दे दी है।

अमिताभ-शाहरुख ने भी दिया दान

केरल की मदद के लिए अमिताभ बच्चन, शाहरुख खान, ढुलकर रहमान और जैकलिन फर्नांडिस जैसी फिल्मी हस्तियां आगे आई हैं। अमिताभ ने टवीट किया, केरल में सेकड़ों और हजारों बहन-भाई बेहद तकलीफ में हैं। हमें केरल के लोगों की जरूरतों को पूरा करने के लिए जितना योगदान कर सकते हैं, उतना करना चाहिए। मैंने किया है।

शाहरुख के मीर फाउंडेशन ने बाढ़ पीड़ितों के बीच काम कर रहे एक राहत समूह को 21 लाख रुपये दिए हैं। जैकलिन ने भी पांच लाख रुपये दिए हैं। फिल्म निमांत प्रियदर्शन और अभिनेता अक्ष कुमार पहले ही मदद दे चुके हैं।

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)
Business standard

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

● केरल में इस माह 164 फीसदी ज्यादा बारिश हुई, बारिश के तीन बड़े दौर आए ● 35 जलाशयों से नदियों में पानी छोड़े जाने से समस्या विकराल हुई

बांधों से छोड़े गए पानी ने मचाई तबाही



बाढ़ से हाहाकार

नई दिल्ली। विशेष संवाददाता

केरल में भारी बारिश के साथ-साथ 35 जलाशयों से भी नदियों में पानी छोड़ा जाना बाढ़ का कारण बना है। मौसम विभाग ने कहा कि केरल में 19 अगस्त तक रिकॉर्ड 2,346 मिमी बारिश हो चुकी है। जो सामान्य से 42 फीसदी ज्यादा है। लेकिन बारिश के साथ-साथ लंबासब भर जलाशयों से पानी छोड़ने से भी नदियां उफान पर आ गईं, जिससे आसपास के क्षेत्र बाढ़ की चपेट में आए।

मौसम विभाग ने केरल में बारिश को लेकर खबरों को एक विस्तृत रिपोर्ट जारी की है। रिपोर्ट के अनुसार सामान्य बारिश 1,649 मिमी के मुकाबले 2,346 मिमी बारिश 19 अगस्त तक दर्ज की गई। इतनी बारिश केरल में इससे पहले कभी नहीं हुई। केरल में मानसून एक जून को पहुंचता है। इसलिए जून-जुलाई में वहां अच्छी बारिश होती है। लेकिन अगस्त में घटनी शुरू हो जाती है। लेकिन इस माह 164 फीसदी ज्यादा बारिश हो गई। अगस्त के पहले 19 दिनों में 287 मिमी की तुलना में 758 मिमी बारिश हुई। इसमें भी ज्यादातर बारिश 8-16 अगस्त के बीच हुई है।

जलाशयों से पानी छोड़ा: मौसम विभाग के अनुसार राज्य के 35 जलाशय जून-जुलाई की बारिश से ही लंबासब भर 8 अगस्त से भारी बारिश

बीमारियां फैलने की आशंका, केंद्र मदद देगा

केरल में बाढ़ से कई तरह की बीमारियां फैलने की आशंका पैदा हो गई है। इससे निपटने के लिए केंद्रीय स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय ने तैयारियां शुरू कर दी हैं। इसके तहत केंद्र की ओर से टीम भेजी जाएगी। स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय की ओर से जारी बयान के मुताबिक, केरल में बाढ़ की स्थिति से निपटने के लिए 3757 मोडकल राहत कैम्प बनाए गए हैं। राज्य की ओर से मांगी गई 90 प्रकार की दवाइयां भेजी जा रही हैं। पहली खेप सोमवार को केरल पहुंच जाएगी। केंद्रीय स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्री जेपी नड्डा ने कहा कि केरल के हालात पर हमारी निगाह है। स्वास्थ्य सचिव डीजील सर्जिलाल नेटवर्क के जरिए स्थिति की निगरानी कर रही है और राज्य के स्वास्थ्य महकमों के अधिकारियों के संपर्क में हैं।

शुरू हुई तो 10 अगस्त तक ये तय खमता से 170 फीसदी तक ज्यादा भर गए। बारिश लगातार हो रही थी। उनका पानी नदियों में छोड़ा जाने लगा। क्योंकि कोई और विकल्प नहीं था। इसे नदियों के आसपास के इलाकों में बाढ़ का प्रकोप और भी बढ़ गया।

भारी बारिश के तीन दौर: केरल में इस बार भारी बारिश के तीन दौर आए। एक 14-20 जून। दूसरा 20 जुलाई को तथा तीसरा 8-16 अगस्त के बीच। तीसरा दौर अगस्त में सर्वाधिक भयावह था। इस दौरान सामान्य से 461 मिमी ज्यादा बारिश हुई और बाढ़ की तबाही का कारण बना।



केरल में रविवार को बारिश के बाद आई बाढ़ से प्रभावित इलाकों के मकान पानी में डूबे। ● 8

केरल में बारिश (मिमी में)

महीना	बारिश हुई	सामान्य बारिश	अधिक
जून	749	649	15 फीसदी
जुलाई	857	726	18 फीसदी
1-19 अगस्त	758	287	164 फीसदी
कुल अब तक	2346	1649	42 फीसदी

नवजात को बचाने के लिए 'ऑपरेशन वाटर बेबी'

मुंबई। सेना ने केरल की बाढ़ में फंसी एक मां और उसके नवजात को बचाने के लिए 'ऑपरेशन वाटर बेबी' चलाया। लैपटॉप कर्नल शशिफल वाघमोड ने बताया, शनिवार रात करीब साढ़े दस बजे अभियान शुरू किया। परिवार बुरी हालत में था। नवजात और उसकी मां की विकसीली स्थिति को ध्यान में रखते हुए सुरु निकलने का इंतजार किया गया। इसके बाद स्थानीय डॉक्टर की मदद से अभियान को पूरा किया गया।

जायजा राष्ट्रपति ने स्थिति का जायजा लिया

राष्ट्रपति रामनाथ कोविंद ने केरल में बाढ़ की स्थिति का जायजा लेने के लिए राज्यपाल पी सदाशिवम और मुख्यमंत्री पिनरयी विजयन से रविवार को बातचीत की। राष्ट्रपति भवन ने ट्वीट कर बताया, उन्होंने मुश्किलों से लड़ने की केरल के लोगों की समता और साहस की प्रशंसा की। उन्होंने राज्य की जनता को भारीसा दिलाया कि पूरा देश उनके साथ है।

काई विशेष ट्रेन चलाई जाएगी

तिरुवनंतपुरम। बाढ़ से दक्षिण रेलवे की काई ट्रेन पूर्ण अथवा आंशिक रूप से रुक की गई है। कुछ ट्रेनों को परिवर्तित मार्ग से चलाया जा रहा है। दक्षिण रेलवे के प्रवक्ता ने बताया कि यात्रियों को लाने के लिए रेलवे विशेष ट्रेन चलाएगा।

राहत शिविर में गुंजी शहनाई

मलप्पुरम। रविवार को राहत शिविर में शहनाई गुंजी और एक युवा जोड़े ने शादी रचाई। अधिकारियों ने बताया कि यहां के एमएसपी स्कूल शिविर में रहने आई अंजु ने तिरियुन्ना मंदिर में सेजु के साथ विवाह किया।

चेतावनी गोवा में भी केरल जैसे हश

मराठ्र पर्यावरणविद माधव गाडगिल ने चेतावनी दी है कि यदि गोवा ने पर्यटकों के मोर्चे पर ऐतिहासिक नहीं बरती तो उसका भी हश बाढ़ से तबाह हुए केरल जैसा हो सकता है। कुछ अन्य राज्यों की तरह गोवा में भी ऐसी गतिविधियां हो रही हैं जिसकी मंश असंमित मुनाफा के नाम है। गाडगिल कुछ साल पहले कन्नड़ विधायक बनी परिवर्तनी घाट संबंधी रिपोर्ट लिखने वाली समिति के अगुवा रहे हैं।

15	हजार लोगों को बचाया एनडीआरएफ की 58 टीमों ने
50	पर्यटकों को भी सुरक्षित स्थानों पर ले गए एनडीआरएफ के जवान
65	टन राहत सामग्री लेकर मुंबई से खाना हुआ पोत
50	टन सामग्री के साथ एक अन्य पोत मंगलुरु से खाना हुआ
मदद	

ए बंगाल ने 10 करोड़ टिए

पाकिस्तान बंगाल सरकार ने केरल के मुख्यमंत्री राहत कोष में बाढ़ पीड़ितों की मदद के लिए 10 करोड़ रुपये की सहायता देने का ऐलान किया है। राज्य की मुख्यमंत्री ममता बनर्जी ने ट्वीट कर यह जानकारी देते हुए कहा, इस मुश्किल की घड़ी में केरल में बाढ़ से प्रभावित लोगों के प्रति मैं सहानुभूति व्यक्त करती हूँ।

बॉलीवुड भी साथ आया

बॉलीवुड भी केरल बाधियों की मदद को आगे आया है। फिल्म निर्माता प्रियदर्शन, अक्षय कुमार, अमिताभ बच्चन, शाहरुख खान, दिलीप रायान और जैकलिन फर्नांडिस जैसी फिल्मी हस्तियों ने मुख्यमंत्री आदेश कोष में आदान दे दिया है और साथ ही अन्य लोगों से भी मदद की अपील की है।

यूएफ के कारेबारी मदद की

संयुक्त अरब अमीरात (यूएई) के एक व्यापारी ने 26 लाख दिरहम (4.94 करोड़ रुपये) दान दिया है। रक्षित टाइम्स के अनुसार, फार्मिमा हेल्थकेयर ग्रुप के अध्यक्ष के जी. हीसन के अनुसार, राशि का लगभग आधा हिस्सा केरल के मुख्यमंत्री राहत निधि जवाकि शोध विकास सहायता के लिए दान दिया है।