

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

Tele/ Fax: 011-26106523, 26105274

e-mail : fmdte@nic.in, ffwmcwc@gmail.com

भू तल, विंग 7 , पश्चिमी खण्ड-2,  
रामाकृष्ण पुरम, नई दिल्ली-110066

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उपनिदेशक

21. 2-5  
10/08/2020

निदेशक (बा.पू.प्र.)



# No let-up in rain in Malnad; Maha rains swell Krishna river

## Vast tract of sugarcane, paddy crops inundated in Krishna basin

BENGALURU, DHNS

Unrelenting showers in Konkani parts of Maharashtra, coupled with intermittent rains in catchment areas in Karnataka, has swelled the water level in Krishna river and its tributaries.

On Thursday, a whopping 1,02,000 cusecs of water was let into downstream Krishna from Rajapur Barrage. This apart, close to 30,000 cusecs was added to Krishna from its tributary Doodhganga river.

All seven low-lying barrage-cum-bridges in Nippani and Chikkodi taluks have remained under water. The swollen Markandeya river and Bellary Nala have flooded sugarcane, paddy crops on hundreds of acres on their banks.

The Gokak Falls has come alive with a huge surge in the water level in Ghataprabha. Parts of Bagalkot, Dharwad and Gadag districts, coming in Malaprabha and Ghataprabha basin, are facing flood threat.

In Uttara Kannada, there was some respite in rain and winds on Thursday, but the water-level in the rivers and rivulets is yet to recede. Many villages

in the district have remained cut off owing to the overflowing Gangavali, Kali and Kaneri rivers.

On Thursday, taluks lying on Malnad side received heavy showers intermittently. The veterinary hospital at Kumbharwada in Joida taluk suffered an extensive damage after a huge tree fell on it. More than 70 idols of Ganesha made for the Chaturthi also damaged in the incident.

Several houses were damaged in the tree fall incidents. More than 100 electricity poles were uprooted, plunging the taluk into darkness. As much as 58,000 cusecs was released to Kali river from Kadra dam.

In the last 24 hours, Siddapur recorded 20.3 cm of rain, Yellapur 17.7 cm, Sirsi 13.5 cm and Joida 11.4 cm. In Dakshina Kannada, the Netravathi river is flowing above danger mark at several places. The bath ghat in Dharmasthala facing threat of submergence. Huge volume of water is being discharged from Shambur, AMR and Tumbe Kindi reservoirs.

Hosanagara taluk in Shivamogga continued to witness very heavy rainfall. The taluk recorded 192.6 mm (19 cm) in

## Four die in rain-related incidents

Four people have died in separate rain-related incidents across the state on Thursday. Siddaiah (60), a cattle grazer, was washed away in Yettinahole stream in Sakleshpur taluk, Hassan district.

A 70-year-old man died after a portion of his house wall collapsed on him at Madapur in HD Kote taluk on Wednesday night. Shivananjaiiah was sleeping when the incident occurred. Parameshwara-papa (38) of Jakkannahalli in Kadur taluk, Chikkamagaluru, was electrocuted at his farm while Shankar (26) of Andamane near Balehonur washed away in a stream.

a day. Tunga reservoir is full to the brim again. On Thursday, 65,000 cusecs of water was let out from 12 crest gates of Gajanuru reservoir.

The intensity of rain has come down in Mysuru district, but the rivers continue to swell. On Thursday, 50,600 cusecs of water was released downstream from Kabini reservoir. The Hadinaru Kalu Mantap and Parashuram temple in Nanjangud remain partially submerged.



The inclement weather has affected the search operation in Talacauvery where a priest and his family members are feared to be buried in landslide. DH PHOTO

## Talacauvery priest, 4 kin feared buried alive in landslide

### A big chunk of Brahmagiri Hill slides for 5km

MADIKERI, DHNS

Talacauvery Kshetra chief priest TS Narayana Achar and four of his family members went missing after a massive landslide hit their house at Brahmagiri late on Wednesday night.

Achar, his wife Shantha, Anandthirth, Kiran and Pavan, along with their house, two cars and a few cattle heads, are suspected to have been buried alive under the mounds of mud and loose soil.

The incident came to light in the morning when a security guard of the temple visited the site.

The landslide has left no trace of two houses. It is said, the hill slid for five km. With the landslide-hit Bhagaman-dala-Talacauvery road having been closed for the vehicular movement, the NDRF per-

sonnel and the police walked all the way to the site.

The inclement weather has delayed the search operation.

The hilly district has been receiving heavy to very heavy showers for the past four days.

Talacauvery region has recorded a staggering 48 cm (480 mm) rain in the last 24 hours (ending 8 am on Thursday).

The flood-affected people of Karadigodu, Guhya, Nelyahudikeri, Kushalnagar and surrounding areas have been evacuated to safety.

The overflowing Cauvery and Lakshmanathirtha river have cut off many villages. The Madikeri-Virajpete road has remained out of bounds for traffic. With the Cauvery basin receiving copious rains, the inflow into Krishnaraj Sagara has increased considerably. On Thursday, KR dam received more than 43,000 cusecs.

In the last 24 hours, the water level in the dam has gone up by 4 feet and with more rain forecast in its catchment it will increase further in the next few days.

## Excess Cauvery water reaches TN, filling up dams

ET B SIVAPRIYAN  
CHENNAI, DHNS

Excess water, released from reservoirs in Karnataka due to heavy rain in the catchment areas of River Cauvery, reached Biligundulu, the entry point of the river in Tamil Nadu, on Thursday.

The inflow in Biligundulu, which was 10,000 cusecs at 8 am on Thursday morning, increased to 22,000 cusecs at 4 pm in the evening as more water was discharged from Kabini reservoir.

The water is expected to reach the Stanley Reservoir

in Mettur on Friday. With over 40,000 cusecs of water being released from Kabini, the water level in Mettur dam is expected to rise exponentially in the coming days.

At 8 am on Thursday, the inflow was 3,625 cusecs and the outflow was 3,000 while the water level stood at 64.20 feet as against the total capacity of 120 feet. People living on the banks of River Cauvery in Dharmapuri district have been asked to be alert.

"The water from Biligundulu is expected to reach the Mettur dam on Friday. The dam's water level will increase from

Friday and the trend will continue if rains continue to pound the catchment areas," a senior government official said.

The fast filling up of Mettur dam will allow the uninterrupted supply of water for farmers in the Delta region, who were able to cultivate short-term crop (kuruva) in an area of over 5 lakh acres for the first time in about nine years. The sluices of the Stanley Reservoir were opened for the first time as scheduled in the month of June after 2011 as the dam had enough water. From 2012 to 2019, the dam was not opened in June due to less storage.



# Camp in flood-hit districts, CM tells district ministers

## BSY announces immediate relief of Rs 10k each to affected families

BENGALURU, DHNS

**A**s farmland and low-lying areas in nine districts of the state were inundated, Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa on Thursday directed all district-in-charge ministers to camp in their respective districts and monitor flood measures and relief.

Revenue Minister R Ashoka will travel to flood-hit regions of Kodagu and Chikkamagaluru districts on Friday, while Housing Minister V Somanna travelled to Kodagu on Thursday noon.

The government an-

nounced immediate relief of Rs 10,000 for the families affected by floods and Rs 5 lakh compensation for completely damaged houses. Yediyurappa instructed the ministers to remain in their constituencies and tour the affected areas. "Relief distribution and other measures should be taken up," he said, adding that ministers were empowered to take decisions for emergency work due to flood relief.

The chief minister was the only minister in the state Cabinet last year, when parts of north Karnataka and Malnad region were flooded.



The overflowing Markandeya river has flooded vast tract of paddy crop at Kadoli in Belagavi taluk. DH PHOTO

Yediyurappa has directed authorities to conduct a survey regarding crop loss and submit reports. "Daily report on total loss must also be submitted," he said.

Ashoka said that the threat of flooding in the banks of river Krishna in north Karnataka

was less due to dam management strategies adapted by Karnataka and Maharashtra governments, post the devastating floods last year. National Disaster Response Force teams are already in Kodagu, Udupi and Belagavi districts, he said.



Bharachukki Falls in Chamarajanagar district is back to its glory following heavy rain in the region. DH PHOTO/AVIN PRAKASH V



The 16-pillar Mantap (Hadinaru Kalu Mantapa) is almost under River Kapila in Nanjangud in Mysuru district. The water level in the river is increasing following incessant rain in the region. DH PHOTO



# Choked drains swamp Salt Lake

SNEHAL SENGUPTA

**Calcutta:** The rainfall was moderate on Wednesday but several pockets of Salt Lake and areas off VIP Road still witnessed waterlogging.

An official of the Bidhannagar Municipal Corporation said debris, leaves and branches had choked the rainwater drainage channels and gully pits, leading to flooding. To add to the problems, the Kestopur and the Bagjola canals, which drain out accumulated water from Salt Lake and VIP Road, are filled to the brim.

The Dum Dum observatory of the Indian Meteorological Department recorded 27.94mm of rain, while the Alipore Met office recorded 33mm of rainfall over 24 hours till 6.30pm on Thursday.

However, the showers proved to be enough to swamp several roads in Salt Lake as well as parts of VIP Road on Thursday.

In Salt Lake, the Karunamoyee intersection and the Karunamoyee Housing Estate had ankle to knee-deep water, making it tough for motorists and pedestrians to move.

Residents of the Karunamoyee Housing Estate and EE Block said they had a harrowing time reaching the



A man wades through a waterlogged road in ED Block of Salt Lake on Thursday. Picture by Snehal Sengupta

nearby markets as well as going to their workplaces.

"At least three app cabs cancelled the ride after seeing the water on the road leading to my house," said Animesh Bhattacharya, a resident of Karunamoyee Housing Estate in ED Block.

Similar scenes played out in several other blocks, including FA and AA Blocks.

Several places along VIP Road, such as Chinar Park, were flooded on Thursday morning.

Residents of housing complexes like Sriram Nagar and Space Town had a harrowing time reaching VIP Road or the Chinar Park crossing. "Every

time it rains, this area gets waterlogged. The water doesn't recede even after the rain stops," said Shyamal Chaudhuri, who lives in the neighbourhood.

A 1km-long stretch of the service road near the Haldiram's bus stop was under knee to waist-deep water.

The Calcutta Municipal Corporation had cleaned up their rainwater drainage network after Cyclone Amphan. But the Bidhannagar Municipal Corporation did not carry out such an exercise.

Devashish Jana, the may-

oral council member in charge of drainage at the civic body, said the entire drainage system in Karunamoyee needed to be upgraded. "We will need at least six months to upgrade the drainage network there," he said.

Places along VIP Road, Jana said, are prone to waterlogging because these are low-lying areas. The Bidhannagar civic body and Hidco, which builds infrastructure in New Town, will set up a drainage pumping station near City Centre II to solve the problem of waterlogging in these areas.

The Sunday Tribune - 09/08/20



Locals wade through a waterlogged street following heavy rain in Kottayam district, Kerala. PTI

## Expect more showers in northwest

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 8

Showers over the northwest India is expected to increase from tomorrow with heavy to very heavy rainfall at isolated places over Western Himalayan region and adjoining plains between August 9 and 11, the IMD has said.

The well marked low pressure area has moved westwards and now lies over the

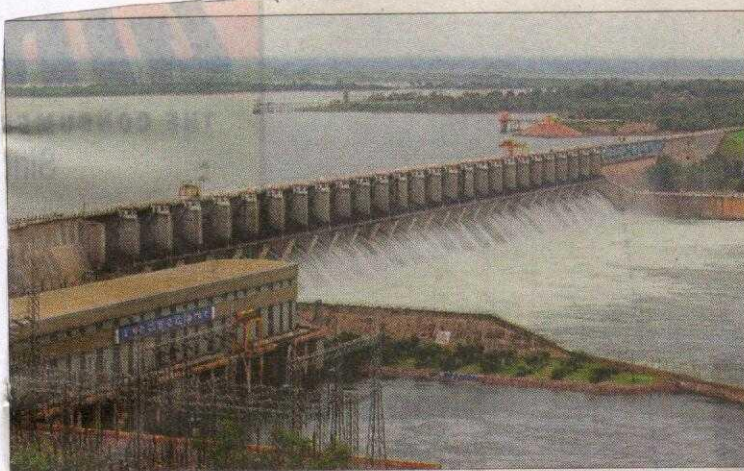
northwest and adjoining northeast Arabian Sea besides neighbourhood.

Monsoon trough is near to its normal position and continues to be active. Strong southwesterly/westerly monsoon flow prevailing over the Arabian Sea and along and off west coast is likely to continue for the next two days.

Under its influence, heavy to very heavy rainfall with isolated extremely heavy fall is

likely to continue over Kerala and Mahe during the next 24 hrs and isolated heavy to very heavy rainfall with isolated extremely heavy showers likely during the subsequent 24 hours. Isolated heavy to very heavy rain is likely over coastal and south interior Karnataka and Tami Nadu during next two or three days. Rainfall activity over north-west India is likely to increase from August 9.





Water gushes out from all the 26 crest gates of Almatti reservoir in Vijayapura district on Friday. DH PHOTO/CHANDRASHEKHAR KOLEKAR



The residents of Yadurwadi village in Chikkodi taluk of Belagavi district are shifted to safety. DH PHOTO

# Swollen Krishna, tributaries raise flood alarm in NK dists

## 1.80L cusecs of water released from Almatti reservoir

HUBBALLI/BELAGAVI/  
BAGALKOT/KARWAR, DHNS

**T**he intensity of rains has come down in catchment areas of Maharashtra and Karnataka, but the River Krishna and its tributaries continue to be in spate. A flood warning has been issued to the villages and towns downstreams Krishna, Malaprabha and Ghataprabha.

Krishna river and its tributaries have submerged huge tracts of farmlands in Belagavi, Dharwad, Bagalkot and Gadag

districts. People and cattle on the banks of overflowing rivers have been evacuated to safety in the basin districts.

As much as 1,50,000 cusecs of water flowed into the Almatti dam on Friday. With the inflows expected to climb further up, the dam authorities let out a staggering 1,80,000 cusecs by lifting all 26 gates for the first time this rain season. The water level in the dam, the lifeline of north Karnataka districts, as on August 7, was 517.95 metres as against the full reservoir level

of 519.60 metres.

The Sheelahalli-Hanchinal bridge has been submerged following the discharge of 1.83 lakh cusecs from Narayanapur dam. With this the link between the island villages of Krishna river in Lingasugur taluk has been cut off. The villagers have to take a 20km detour to reach Lingasugur via Jaladurga bridge.

Ghataprabha, a major tributary of Krishna, is flowing at danger levels in Bagalkot district. The swollen Markandeya river and the discharge from Dupadal dam have added over 30,000 cusecs to Ghataprabha, which is unleashing its fury on Mudhol taluk and Mahalingapur.

As many as 11 of the 12 barrage-cum-bridges in Mudhol taluk have gone under the swollen Ghataprabha. Several

bridges at Nandagaon, Avaradi and Dhavaleshwar have been submerged following which many villages are cut off.

Good inflows into Malaprabha river have bolstered Naviluthirtha dam. The outflow from the dam in Belagavi district is posing a flood threat to the downstream towns and villages in Dharwad and Gadag districts. Tupparihalla and Benne Halla streams are wreaking havoc in Navalgund taluk.

With Shivamogga and Chikkamagaluru getting torrential rain, the water level in Tungabhadra has gone up considerably. On Friday, as much as 83,376 cusecs of water flowed into Singatalur barrage in Gadag district. The same quantum of water was released downstream Tungabhadra.

### U-K grapples with landslides

Meanwhile, Uttara Kannada got some respite from rain on Friday, but the Malnad areas of the district are grappling with landslides. Mounds of mud and loose soil along with trees slid at Nage village under Devalamakki GP limits. The hill near Yana Bhairaveshwar temple in Kumta taluk caved in on Friday.

Varada river is flowing at danger levels in Sirisi taluk. Several bridges have been submerged, cutting off many villages.

Meanwhile, two toddlers suffered injuries at Moguru in Dharwad taluk when a wall of their house collapsed on them. Vishwanth Kuri (2) and Yellapa Kuri (4) are undergoing treatment at Dharwad district hospital.



## Rains continue to pound Kodagu, Malnad

BENGALURU, DHNS

Flood-hit Kodagu and parts of Malnad were battered by torrential rain for the fourth day in a row, with Bhagamandala receiving 400 mm of rainfall for the second consecutive day.

Residents in low-lying areas had to be shifted to relief camps, even as the IMD issued orange alerts for coastal and Malnad districts till August 11.

Inflows into the Cauvery river were rising due to very heavy rainfall in the river's catchment area in Kerala.

The Charmadi ghat road — prone to landslides during the monsoon season — developed cracks following which movement of vehicles was prohibited till August 11.

In north Karnataka, inflows into Almatti reservoir were surging due to heavy rain in the catchment areas, putting authorities on alert.

According to the Karnataka State Disaster Management Authority, 20 relief camps were set up on Friday. A total of 557 houses were damaged partially while 18 were completely damaged.

Bodies of five people, now feared dead in a landslide in Kodagu, were yet to be recovered due to continuous rain.

Revenue Minister R Ashoka announced Rs 5 cr each to 11 flood-hit districts for relief works.

## Flood alert sounded in Cauvery basin

MYSURU, DHNS: A flood warning has been issued in the Cauvery basin following a rapid surge in water level in Cauvery and Kapila rivers.

With River Cauvery's catchment getting copious rains, inflow into the Krishnaraja Sagara (KRS) has gone up significantly. On Friday, inflow into KRS clocked 54,000 cusecs.

The water level of the reservoir has reached 115.35 feet. And with inflow expected to go further up, the authorities may release water anytime soon. A flood alert has been sounded downstream Cauvery.

More than 60,000 cusecs of water was discharged into Kapila river on Friday. The swollen river has submerged Mysuru-Suttur road, Mudikatte and Parashuram

temples in Nanjangud.

Kapila flood waters have gushed into Halladakeri and Topinabeedi areas in the temple town. The river has meandered its way to hundreds of acres of paddy fields. A flood alert has been raised at T Narasipur.

The Hanagodu bridge in Hunsur taluk has gone under Lakshmanathirtha river. More than 50 flood-hit families in the taluk have been shifted to relief centres.

Nugu and Taraka reservoirs in Chamarajanagar district are full to the brim. Over 5,350 cusecs of water was released from Nugu dam. With the outflow expected to increase, the district administration has asked the people living on the banks of the rivers to move to safer places.



A road towards Bhagamandala in Kodagu is under water.

## 209 flood-prone areas identified

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has identified 209 flood-prone areas in the city, categorising 153 of them as sensitive and 56 hypersensitive. With the threat of flash floods looming over the city, the civic body has decided to instal sensors in many more stormwater drains.

On Friday, BBMP Commissioner N Manjunatha Prasad held meetings with the engineers of all departments to discuss the city's flood preparedness. Claiming that the BBMP had taken the necessary steps to avoid flooding, he said 28 sensors were already installed that would beam warning messages once the water level rises in stormwater drains.

One of the main causes of flooding in Bengaluru is the breaching of stormwater drains connected to the city's elaborate lake network. Early

A drain in Kurubarahalli. The BBMP is installing sensors in SWDs to get alerts about water rise. DH FILE



warnings of overflowing stormwater drains would help the authorities undertake corrective measures and evacuate residents from flood-prone areas.

According to Prasad, the Revenue Department had sanctioned Rs 50 crore to the BBMP for preventing rainwater from entering low-lying and flood-prone areas. The

BBMP has already spent Rs 15 crore on installing radars to obtain real-time information about rainfall. The remaining Rs 35 crore will be spent on a comprehensive flood mitigation plan. Engineers are already working on it, he added.

The city received 65% more rainfall than the normal of 185 mm in the months of June and July. But in August, it has

received 28% less rain so far, Prasad said.

### Clearing fallen trees

Prasad said that one team had been posted in each assembly constituency to clear fallen trees. The BBMP has purchased the necessary equipment to cut and transport the fallen trees. The control room would immediately send the team to the spot after receiving complaints. The BBMP has also opened a permanent control room in every zone and a temporary one in each subdivision, he said.

Prasad laid the responsibility of preventing rain-related disasters at the doorsteps of the BBMP's zonal engineers who, he said, were not given put on Covid duty. BBMP teams tasked with trimming tree branches and clearing fallen trees will not be deployed on Covid-19 duty either, the BBMP commissioner said.



# Relentless rain, landslides pour more misery on Kodagu, Malnad

**Landslide-hit  
Charmadi Ghat  
closed for traffic  
till August 11**

MADIKERI/CHIKKAMAGALURU,  
DHNS

**U**nrelenting rain, coupled with strong winds and landslides, has poured more misery on Kodagu and other Malnad districts.

Landslides were reported at Cherangala and along Brahmagiri Hills on Friday. Many families in the hilly district have been displaced due to flooding and landslides.

The road connectivity between Madikeri and Mangaluru has been cut off after a portion of a hill caved in on the highway. Traffic on Madikeri-Kushalnagar route was stalled following the submergence of Bhetri bridge. A few residential areas in Kushalnagar have been inundated by the flood waters of Cauvery.

Meanwhile, the hostile weather prevented the NDRF personnel from taking up the search operation at the Brahmagiri Hills site where



The Indira layout in Kushalnagar, Kodagu district, is under water following heavy rain on Friday. DH PHOTO

the family of chief priest of Talacauvery and several cattle heads were feared to have been buried alive in heaps of mud following a landslide on Wednesday night.

District in-charge Minister V Somanna on Friday took stock of the flood situation in Bhagamandala.

Bhagamandala recorded a whopping 40 cm of rain in the last 24 hours (ending 8 am on Friday). Madikeri received 23 cm while Virajpet witnessed 18 cm of rain. The vehicular traffic on Charmadi Ghat has been stopped till August 11 following a few

landslides at several points on the stretch.

People travelling to Dakshina Kannada from Chikkamagaluru have to take the Kottigehara-Kalasa-Kudremukh route or take the Shiradi Ghat.

With Chikkamagaluru and Shivamogga witnessing heavy to very heavy showers, Tunga, Bhadra, Hemavathi rivers and many rivulets, streams and falls have come alive.

Dakshina Kannada and Udupi continued to receive copious rains.

## Red alert for Kodagu

There's no let-up in rain for

four Malnad districts. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast heavy to very heavy rainfall for Kodagu, Shivamogga, Hassan and Chikkamagaluru districts for Saturday.

A red alert warning has been issued to the said districts. The weather department has predicted heavy showers in coastal districts and south interior Karnataka till August 11. With wind speeds touching 50 kmph and high tidal waves hitting the coast, the IMD has warned the fishermen not to venture into sea.

# Flood: JD(S) leaders demand relief from Centre

BENGALURU, DHNS

**J**D(S) leaders on Friday urged the Union government to release a special package for the flood-hit regions of the state.

In a statement, Deve Gowda said that a task force, consisting of the chief minister and other Cabinet ministers, should be formed to tackle flood situation in the state. The situation is such that the chief minister is forced to work from the hospital after testing positive for Covid-19. "While the corona pandemic is spreading in the state, people have to suffer floods at the same period, unfortunately," he said.

Former chief minister H D Kumaraswamy demanded the government to take up relief and rescue operations and their livestock on a war-footing. "The monsoon ferocity in Kodagu and Uttara Kannada districts has unleashed fear. District-wise special task forces should be constituted to manage the flood situation. The government must set up care centres for those affected," he said.

Kumaraswamy said on one hand it has to contain the spread of Covid 19 while on the other hand, it has to manage floods. If the government is not cautious enough, it will be risking lives of people," he said.

## CM reviews flood situation

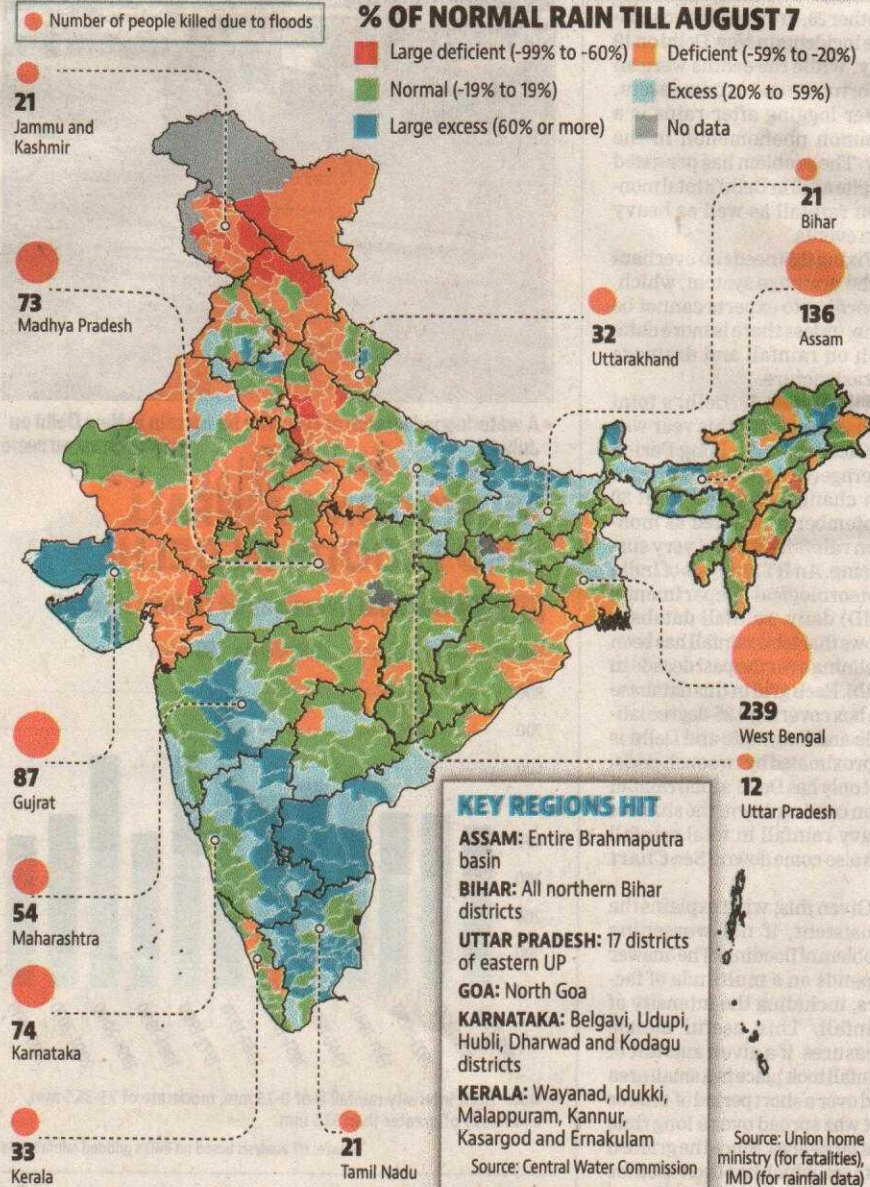
Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa spoke to Chief Secretary TM Vijay Bhaskar and Kodagu District In-charge Minister V Somanna to review the flood situation in the state. Yediyurappa has directed Vijay Bhaskar to make decisions during emergencies, without waiting for his consent. He also spoke to Somanna and obtained details on the extent of rainfall and rescue operations undertaken at Bhagamandala in the district.



# Heavy rain in east, south India

Eastern states such as Bihar, West Bengal, Assam saw flooding in July-end and early Aug, while the western coast — between Kerala and Goa — has seen heavy rains this week.

**803** deaths due to floods this monsoon in India | **12.8** million people affected in 11 states







■ NDRF personnel carry out rescue operations at Pettimudi in Idukki district, Kochi, on Saturday.

ANI

## IMD warns of heavy rain across northwest region

Jayashree Nandi

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Saturday issued an orange category warning, which means disaster management authorities should be prepared to avert any possible disasters, for parts of northwestern India for Sunday and Monday as the monsoon trough is likely to shift northwards and cause heavy to very heavy rain in Uttarakhand, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, western Uttar Pradesh, eastern Rajasthan.

Rainfall activity over northwestern India is likely to increase from Sunday and heavy to very heavy rainfall is expected at isolated places in the Western Himalayan region over the next two days.

Extremely heavy rains continued on Friday and Saturday in Kerala, where a red category warning has been issued for the weekend. A red warning implies disaster management authorities need to act immediately to control or prevent any rain or flooding disaster. Heavy rains triggered a landslide in Kerala's Idukki district on Friday and left

at least 15 people dead.

Torrential rains triggered floods and landslides in the Western Ghats in Kerala in 2018 and 2019 and left hundreds dead. The entire Western Ghats mountain range, which stretches from Kerala to Gujarat, is extremely vulnerable to disasters because of its topography and increasing incidence of extreme rains linked to global warming.

National Weather Forecasting Centre senior scientist RK Jenamani said strong westerly and south-westerly winds from the Arabian Sea hit the Western Ghats perpendicularly. "The low-pressure area over the Bay of Bengal strengthened the monsoon winds. Monsoon is a large-scale system of winds and moisture surge. The west coast is definitely vulnerable but the incidence of extreme rain is increasing across the country in recent years."

IMD director general M Mohapatra said extremely heavy rains were likely to continue in many places in Kerala till Monday. "When the warm westerly winds hit the hills, the ghat areas there are uplifting that air. It is called orographic uplifting. The warm

air condenses and forms clouds. The formation of convective clouds leads to extremely heavy rain," he said. He added Kerala has been recording deficient monsoon rains over the long term but there has also been an increase in the incidence of extreme rainfall events.

A fresh low-pressure area is likely to form over north and adjoining west-central Bay of Bengal by Sunday. Under its influence, more rain is likely over east and adjoining parts of central India and heavy to very heavy rainfall in Odisha from Sunday to Tuesday and in Vidarbha and Chhattisgarh from Monday to Wednesday.

According to a Union earth sciences ministry report, there has been a significant rising trend in the frequency and intensity of extremely heavy rain events over central India from 1950 and a decreasing trend in the moderate rain events.

Compared to the 1901-1975 period, rainfall has reduced by 1-5 mm/day during 1976-2015 over central parts of India (the core monsoon zone), Kerala, and extreme northeastern parts, it added.



# Kerala landslide toll hits 26, 44 missing

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Idukki:** The toll in the landslide at Pettimudy-Rajamala in Kerala rose to 26 on Saturday.

As many as 30 houses in four tea estate labour lines were destroyed by the deluge triggered by heavy rains in the early hours of Friday. "Currently, 44 people are still missing," Devikulam sub-collector S Premkrishnan told TOI. Almost all members of a large family of 21 are missing; only one body has been recovered.

"In the morning (on Saturday), there was no rainfall in the area, so we intensified search operations. However, we had to stop in the evening due to heavy rains again. We will resume on Sunday," said



NDRF personnel carry out a rescue operation in Idukki, Kerala

Premkrishnan.

Revenue minister E Chandrasekharan, power minister M M Mani and Idukki MP Dean Kuriakose visited the landslide

spot. Meanwhile, the Kanan Devan Hills Plantation Ltd has announced a financial aid of Rs 5 lakh each to kin of victims.

## Flood-like situation in Karnataka, toll 12

Swollen rivers and flood-like situation continued to threaten lives and property in several parts of rain-ravaged Karnataka, where the death toll reached 12 on Saturday. Though there has been a respite from rain in some parts, rivers continue to flow above the danger mark, inundating low-lying areas in several parts of Malnad, coastal and interior Karnataka. There are also reports of continued landslides in hilly areas of Kodagu and Chikkamagaluru. Total human loss from August 1 to 6pm on Saturday is 12 and five people are missing, data said. AGENCIES

# Landslips, floods took 900+ lives in 16 states this season

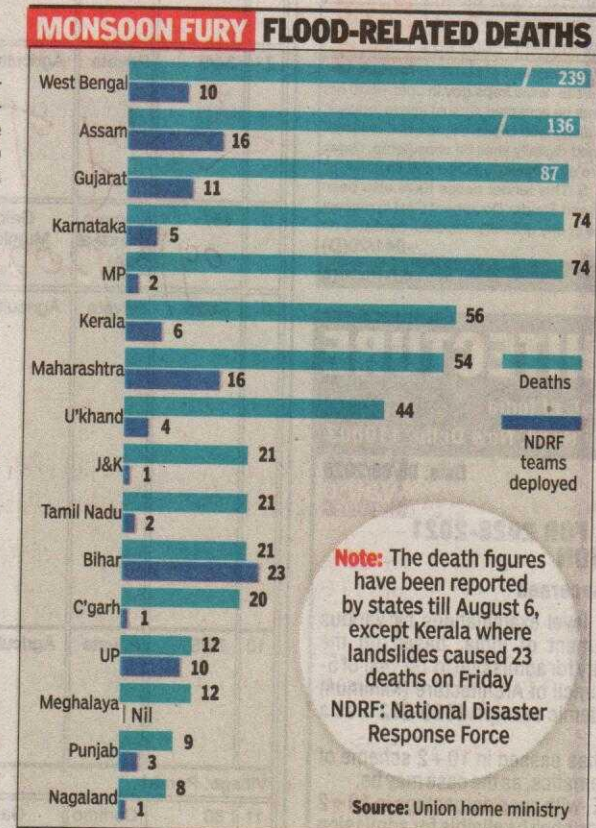
Pradeep.Thakur  
@timesgroup.com

**New Delhi:** Floods and landslides have caused widespread devastation across the country with more than 900 deaths reported so far by 16 states this monsoon season. On Friday, Kerala added over 23 to its tally of 33 lives lost reported till August 6. West Bengal, Assam, Gujarat, Karnataka, MP and Maharashtra are the worst affected states.

About 69 lakh people in Bihar and 57 lakh in Assam have been affected by floods, displaced or marooned. Millions across India have lost their habitat, livestock and livelihood, taking shelter in thousands of relief camps run by state authorities. The Centre has deployed 141 teams of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) for rescue operations, besides the state disaster response forces (SDRF).

In the last 10 days state governments have reported more than 200 deaths due to floods and landslides, taking the overall tally close to 900. West Bengal has the highest deaths at 239, followed by 136 in Assam, 87 in Gujarat and 74 each in Karnataka and MP. The total flood-related casualties is likely to go up as many states are not filing their 'situation reports' regularly with the Centre and rivers are flowing above the danger level in almost all states.

In Assam, out of 136 flood-related deaths reported by the state government, at least 26 have been caused by landsli-



des. Kerala's Idukki, in a single day on Friday, saw over 23 perish and scores missing in landslides caused by floods.

The deluge has made it difficult for states to maintain social distancing and follow other guidelines, as prescribed by the Centre in view of the outbreak of coronavirus, at relief camps or during its evacuation operations.

Disasters related to climate change such as floods

have become a recurring phenomenon in India with over a thousand deaths reported every year and millions of people pushed into poverty due to loss of habitat and livelihood.

Of all the disasters recorded globally between 1998-2017, floods accounted for 44%. Climate change is causing more havoc than earthquakes and tsunamis. That makes India's development highly risky.

Full report on [www.toi.in](http://www.toi.in)



## Kodagu landslip: body of one victim recovered

Five persons had gone missing on Thursday

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
MYSURU/HASSAN

The body of one of the five persons, who went missing after a landslip hit Bhagamandala in Kodagu district of Karnataka on Thursday, was recovered by the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) on Saturday.

The deceased was identified as Anandatheertha, 86. He and his brother Narayanchar, the priest of the main temple at Talacauvery; the latter's wife, Shanta, and two assistant priests, Pawan and Ravikiran, went missing



**Water, water, everywhere:** Floodwater of Netravathi entering the residences in Bantwal on Saturday. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

after a portion of a hill caved in owing to heavy rains early on Thursday.

Though a search operation was launched immediately, inclement weather hampered any rescue ef-

forts. However, on Saturday rain abated a little and the NDRF team launched a search operation.

Search operations for the remaining four persons will resume on Sunday.

## As floodwaters ebb in Assam, hunters kill rhino for horn

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
GUWAHATI

Hunters killed a female rhinoceros in the partially flooded Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve (KNPTR) on Friday and sawed off her horn.

This was the second rhino killed by hunters in the 1,055-sq.km park this year, while 18 more died during the floods since May 22.

Officials said forest guards at three anti-poaching camps — Gabrai, Borbeel and Kathanibari — in KNPTR's Kohora Range heard six rounds of gunshots on Friday evening. They followed the footprints of the hunters early on Saturday morning and located the car-



**At risk:** Almost 50% of the Kaziranga National Park in Assam is now under water. ■ PTI

cass at about 11 a.m.

"The staff took time because of the slushy conditions and recovered six empty cartridges of a .303 rifle from the spot. The hunters were apparently lying in ambush along the Brahmaputra

river at night," the park's Divisional Forest Officer Ramesh Kumar Gogoi said.

A joint team of police and forest officials detained a suspected poacher in the park's Biswanath Wildlife Division.



The Hindu - 10/08/20

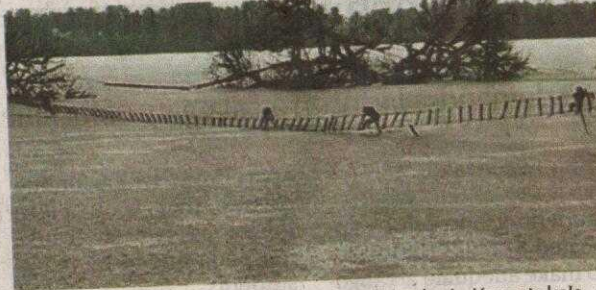
## When a marooned troop got a lifeline

Group of 50 monkeys camping in tree canopy near the Tungabhadra rescued

GIRISH PATTANASHETTI  
HUBBALLI

Monsoon rains have displaced people in many areas but there was a different group waiting for rescue since Friday near Tungabhadra river in Karnataka.

A troop of 50 monkeys had moved to a canopy of trees still above the overflowing river, near Rajanahalli in Harihar taluk of Davangere district. But strenuous efforts by personnel of the Fire and Emergency Services and the Forest Department to coax them on to rescue boats did not work. The 25-member



**Safe link:** Monkeys crossing the Tungabhadra in Karnataka's Davangere district on Sunday. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

team then threw a rope, which some bolder simians grabbed. But others balked. Finally, it was a rope ladder snaking its way to the river bank that did the trick. The operation

concluded on Sunday afternoon with the last of the members moving to safety using the ladder.

"On Saturday evening, five monkeys moved using the ladder. But many

returned to the trees as it tilted, making them lose balance," District Fire Officer, Davangere, Basava Prabhu Sharma said.

### Food provided

The rescue exercise also involved arranging food for the hungry monkeys.

With water levels rising, there was apprehension among the authorities whether the monkeys could be saved.

The team stabilised the ladder by tying it to stones and dispersed a crowd on the river bank that was scaring the monkeys, thus aiding their move to safety.

CM  
K

The Telegraph - 05/08/20



Commuters wade through waist-deep floodwater during heavy rain in Mumbai on Tuesday. The rain disrupted traffic and essential services workers such as nurses and other medical staff treating Covid-19 patients found it difficult to reach hospitals. Trains, already running skeleton services due to the novel coronavirus lockdown, were suspended in several places because of flooding and traffic was disrupted on some of the city's main roads. The weather department has issued a red alert for extremely heavy rainfall in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region and some other parts of Maharashtra on Wednesday and Thursday. Civil authorities have advised people not to venture out unless absolutely necessary. (AFP picture, PTI report)



# 17 more bodies recovered, Kerala landslide toll at 43

Sandeep Thomas | TNN

**Idukki:** Following intensified search operations, as many as 17 bodies of Pettimudy landslide victims were recovered on Sunday, taking the death toll to 43. "We recovered 17 bodies, including the body of a six-month-old baby boy. Of the 17, 10 bodies were found with the help of sniffer dogs. By evening, we had to stop all operations due to heavy rainfall. As of now, 27 people are still missing," Devikulam sub-collector S Premkrishnan said.

The landslide on Friday had taken away 30 houses in four tea estate layams (workers' quarters). At least 82 people were reported missing, of whom only 12 could be rescued. Bulldozers and other equipment were used on Sunday to clear the huge boulders, mud and slush in the area where houses of the plantation workers stood. Union minister of state V Muraliedharan, who visited the site on Sunday, said the central government had already announced a compensation of Rs 2 lakh each to the next of kin of the deceased. He highlighted a disparity in Kerala government's assistance to victims of Karipur air-crash and Pettimudy land-



NDRF personnel conduct a rescue operation in Munnar on Sunday

## 56 U'khand roads blocked after heavy rain

The Rishikesh-Kedarnath highway, NH-109, along with 55 other roads in Uttarakhand were reported blocked following incessant rainfall since Saturday, reports **Gaurav Talwar**.

Pilgrims who were planning to go on treks were stopped at either Sonprayag or Gaurikund due to the debris, sources said.

In Pithoragarh district, 13 link roads and three border roads were reported to be blocked. Around six roads were closed in Chamoli district, while three roads were out of bounds in Pauri district till the time of filing this report. Meanwhile, heavy rains and landslides on Saturday and Sunday led to the closure of at least 11 motorable roads in Nainital district.

slide, hinting at higher compensation to the former.

"I do not understand why there is a selective assistance on the part of the Kerala government... I hope the CM will explain the matter," he said. The state government had announced a compensation of Rs

10 lakh each to air-crash victims as opposed to Rs 5 lakh each to landslide victims. CM Pinarayi Vijayan had refuted the "disparity" charges on Saturday, saying the compensation announced was only part of the state efforts to assist the landslide victims.

## Kerala stares at flood havoc for third straight year

Ramesh Babu

letters@hindustantimes.com

**THIRUVANANTHAPURAM:** At least five people were killed in rain-related incidents on Friday with the state looking at a possible flood for the third consecutive year.

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said the government was keeping a close watch and army help will be sought if the situation deteriorated.

Red alert was declared in three districts - Wayanad, Kozhikkode and Idukki - and an orange alert in five districts. The metrological department said heavy rainfall will continue till Sunday.

The regional Met office in Thiruvananthapuram said a low pressure was brewing in the Bay of Bengal and it is expected to gain strength by Saturday triggering heavy rains till Sunday. The National Disaster Response Force has rushed six teams to Wayanad and Idukki, the worst affected districts this year.

Over the last two years, the state witnessed floods and a series of landslides during the monsoon, causing a considerable loss of lives.

Chief minister Pinarayi jayan on Friday, asked people to be more vigilant in view of twin reats of floods and the Covid-19 idemic. "Many areas received heavy rains and people living near the banks of rivers should be more careful. And it is better to avoid travel in hilly areas now," said the CM.

The state irrigation department said all major rivers in the state are in spate and sluice gates of some dams will be opened to ease the pressure.

Unlike 2018 floods, when shutters of all major dams were opened together worsening the situation, this time officials are keeping a close watch on the water level.

# Flood, landslides batter parts of Karnataka

Venkatesha Babu

letters@hindustantimes.com

**BENGALURU:** Flood-like situation and landslides continued to cause havoc in several parts of Karnataka that has been battered by torrential rains.

Many places in Malnad, coastal and north interior regions of the state have been affected by deluge, putting life and properties at risk.

There were reports of mudslides near Botlappa and other places in Kodagu, also along Charamadi ghat near Chikkamagaluru and Dakshina Kannada.

On Friday, rescue operations were halted in Kodagu, which suffered landslides at the foothills of Brahmagiri hills located near Talacauvery on Wednesday, due to inclement weather in the district.

Over the last four days, Kodagu has received an average of 106.2 mm of rain, an IMD bulletin said. Bhagmadala alone received a record 486 mm rainfall between August 5 and 6.

State minister V Somanna, after touring the affected areas along with local MP Pratap Simha, MLAs Appachu Ranjan, KG Bopanna, and district collector Annes Kannmani Joy, said



State minister V Somanna visits Kodagu district on Friday. ANI

"There are 4-5 landslides on the road between Bhagmandala and Talacauvery which is hampering our rescue efforts. The district administration is trying its level best to clear roads, fallen trees, electric poles and to ensure relief for those affected. Tomorrow too I am holding a high-level meeting with all officials to accelerate our efforts."

The district collector said that the landslides and continued heavy rain were posing a challenge to the movement of rescue

teams and equipment.

Addressing mediapersons, Somanna said, "We are nothing in front of nature. While we will take all measures humanly possible to mitigate the situation, I also pray to god to be kind on us."

Meanwhile, a political controversy has erupted over the handling of the flood situation in the state.

The opposition Janta Dal (Secular) has demanded that the Centre must extend financial assistance for the people ravaged by

floods.

Former PM Deve Gowda said that the state was facing a twin-challenges - the Covid-19 pandemic and the floods.

Former chief minister HD Kumaraswamy has warned the government that "if they are not cautious enough then it will be risking lives of people".

A release from the Chief minister BS Yediyurappa's office on Friday said Chief Secretary Vijay Bhaskar has been instructed to proceed with emergency measures without waiting for his approval. The CM is undergoing treatment for the coronavirus disease at a state hospital.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) regional centre in Bangalore has issued an orange alert across large parts of the state and has forecast heavy to very heavy rainfall over the weekend.

The department said that strong southwesterly and westerly monsoonal flow over the Arabian sea, along with winds of 50-60 km per hour off the Karnataka coast, are likely to continue till Sunday leading to heavy rains across large parts of the state.

So far, two people have been killed in rain-related incidents in the state.





A flooded area in Chellanam village, in Kochi on Friday.

ANI

## Landslides kill 17, bury 60 under rubble in south India

Ramesh Babu, Venkatesha Babu and Jayashree Nandi

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**THIRUVANANTHAPURAM/BENGALURU/NEW DELHI** : Landslides killed 17 people and trapped 60 others under a mound of slush and debris across Kerala and Karnataka on Friday as torrential rainfall pounded India's western coast.

In Kerala's Idukki district, three days of heavy showers triggered landslides in the early hours of the morning that razed a tea plantation workers' settlement. Fifteen were declared dead and 60 were missing – most of whom were sleeping. Idukki district collector H Dineshan said the downpour and mist hampered rescue even as the showers snapped communication lines.

"I heard a deafening sound and came out of the two-room house. I saw a big portion of the mountain coming out with a heavy flow of water and slush. I ran outside but got into the swirl of waters," said Deepan, who was admitted at a hospital in Munnar.

In neighbouring Karnataka, two people died in the Malnad region and another five reported missing.

Rescuers were also searching for five people missing at Talacauvery, the origin of Cauvery river, where massive landslides and floods inundated villages on

**THIS IS THE HEAVIEST RAINFALL THIS MONSOON IN THE TWO STATES, WHERE MASSIVE FLOODS HAVE KILLED 803 PEOPLE AND DISPLACED 12.8 MILLION, ACCORDING TO HOME MINISTRY DATA**

Wednesday night.

"Pained by the loss of lives due to a landslide in Rajamalai, Idukki. In this hour of grief, my thoughts are with the bereaved families. May the injured recover quickly," Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweeted. Heavy rains would continue in the region till Sunday, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Friday.

This is the heaviest rainfall this monsoon in the two states, where massive floods have killed 803 people and displaced 12.8 million, according to home ministry data.

"Our analysis of rainfall data over the last 70 years, show a three-fold rise in extreme rains along the west coast and central India. This is because the monsoon winds over the Arabian Sea are now exhibiting large fluctuations, thanks to a warmer environment," said Roxy Mathew Koll, a climate

scientist at Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune.

According to IMD, average rainfall in the coastal regions of Karnataka and Kerala in the past 24 hours was 20 cm with Idukki receiving 26 cm and Malnad receiving 23 cm.

At the almost half-way mark of the monsoon this year, Karnataka received excess rainfall by 53% and Kerala by 102%, whereas states in northern and central India have rainfall deficiency of 56% to 95%.

The eastern states have received heavy rainfall in the latter part of July and first week of August, causing massive floods. At least 239 deaths have been reported from West Bengal, the highest for any state.

Rainfall has subsided in the worst-affected northern districts of Bihar, where close to 6.9 million people have been affected, according to the state disaster management department. Sixteen districts remain flood-hit.

The situation may worsen in many districts if it rains heavily in the catchment areas of rivers such as Gandak, Bagmati and Kamla Balan, which are still flowing above the danger mark.

In Assam, where close to 200 animals in Kaziranga National Park and 136 people have died, the flood situation has improved in the past few days.