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Hindustan Times 22/08/2024

Tripura reels under flood, toll hits 10



Disaster relief personnel rescue people stranded in a flooded Agartala street after heavy rainfall.

ANI

Priyanka Deb Barman

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AGARTALA: Unrelenting rainfall on Wednesday worsened the ongoing flood situation in Tripura leaving 10 people dead due to landslides, and over 34,000 people from 6,620 families homeless across districts.

According to officials, two people sustained serious injuries and 34,100 people are sheltered in the 346 relief camps set up by the government. A power department official said that electricity

was snapped in few areas since transformers and power transmission infrastructure were submerged.

Chief minister Manik Saha on Wednesday was seen travelling in a rescue boat from his residence to take stock of the situation. Saha spoke to Union home minister Amit Shah about the flood situation and requested him to deploy additional NDRF teams. "...I urge those affected to cooperate with the authorities and move to the shelter houses immediately," Saha wrote on X.

→P9

Hindustan Times — 22/08/2024

Rain continues to cripple Tripura, at least 10 killed



A partially submerged bus in Agartala on Wednesday. ANI

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AGARTALA: Sharp rain throughout Wednesday worsened the floods in Tripura, killing 10, injuring two and displacing tens of thousands people, officials said, even as rescue teams scrambled to evacuate people to safer ground.

Tripura chief minister Manik Saha took stock of the situation and assured people that their safety is his government's "top priority".

The 10 people who have died either drowned or were buried in landslides, the state's revenue department said.

According to the state's latest situation reports, more than 34,000 people from 6,620 families have been left homeless.

They have been moved to 346 relief camps across districts, said officials.

The rain also crippled health care services, as well as essential public infrastructure like power lines and transformers.

Large parts of the state, including North Tripura, South Tripura, Unakoti, Dhalai, Khowai and Gomati districts were affected by the floods.

The capital city, Agartala, was caught in waist-deep floods as relief teams used dinghies and improvised boats to rescue people.

Tripura power minister Ratan Lal Nath, meanwhile, allayed fears over the gates of the Dumbur dam, the reservoir of the Gumti hydro power project being opened amid excess flow.

"No gate has been opened.

The reservoir's capacity is to hold water up to 94 metres and water will automatically escape through the gate when it crosses this mark. When the water level recedes below capacity, the gates will close automatically," the minister said in a social media post.

Meanwhile, landslides in a string of areas cut off key national highways as trees and boulders blocked roads.

Chief minister Saha spoke to Union home minister Amit Shah and requested him to deploy additional National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) teams.

"I urge all those who may be affected by the flooding to please cooperate with the authorities and move to the shelter houses immediately. Your safety is our top priority", Saha wrote on X.

The Hindu - 22/08/2024

Crumbling hills



Broken and battered: A damaged road after a massive landslide triggered by heavy rain at Baluganj in Shimla on Wednesday. As many as 55 roads are reportedly blocked in Himachal Pradesh following landslips and floods. PTI