Situation Report - 03
Cyclone Michaung
Date: 09th December 2023
Time: 12:30 PM

SITUATION UPDATE AND RESPONSE

Cyclone Michaung made landfall Bapatla between Nellore and Machilipatnam in Andhra Pradesh, on Tuesday, 5th December 2023 as super cyclonic storm. Heavy rains led to inundation in various areas across Andhra Pradesh, Puducherry, and Tamil Nadu in the past few days. Parts of Chattisgarh including Raipur, Durg, Bilaspur, and Bastar received light rains and lowered temperatures due to Cyclone Michaung.

Tamil Nadu

- Heavy rainfall in northern districts of Tamil Nadu, including Chennai, caused road inundation and disruptions in daily life.
- Residents in South Chennai and parts of North Chennai continue to grapple with the aftermath of the cyclone including power outages, milk shortages and waterlogging.
- The most affected areas of Chennai include Pallikaranai, Tamaram, West Mambalam, Mylapore, Kodambakkam, Nungambakkam, Anna Nagar, and Velachery.
- Velachery, Perungudi, Kodungaiyur, Choolaimedu, Semmecery, Thiru-Vi Ka Nagar and Puliyanthope areas were still underwater
- Kondevaram village in U. Kothapalli mandal and affected villages in Pithapuram mandal reported 59 damaged houses and injured livestock.
- As per the information available till December 7, rescue forces have ferried almost 50,000 people to safer locations. More than 1.1 lakh people have shifted to government-run relief centres or in budget hotels and serviced apartments.
- The TN government has set up total 411 relief camps across eight locations, providing food, water, and other basic amenities to 41459 people to date

Andhra Pradesh

- Heavy rains were experienced by Kadappa and Annamaiya districts impacting residents and farmers.
- It resulted in significant influx of water into the main dams of the districts. To avoid potential risks due to increased water levels, the authorities have started releasing surplus water from the brimmed project towards river areas.
- The storm damaged 770-kilometre roads, uprooted 35 trees and killed three livestock, among others.
- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister held a meeting with senior officials to review the situation after Cyclone Michaung and progress on relief measures. The Chief Minister has directed the district collectors to provide all essential items like drinking water, food, and medicines to the affected population.
- As per the CM’s Office nearly 40 lakh people from 194 villages and two towns were affected by Michaung’s impact, including the inundation of 25 villages.

Statistical Overview

- Human Lives Lost – 27
  - Tamil Nadu -20, Andhra Pradesh - 05, Telangana -02)
- Population affected – AP: 40 Lakh, TN: 3.9 lakh
- Major Affected districts-
  - AP: Nellore, Prakasam, Guntur, Krishna, Bapatla
  - TN: Chengalpattu, Chennai, Thiruvallur, Kancheepuram
- No. of Relief Camps
  - TN: 411  & AP: 204
- No. of Inmates - 15173 (AP), 41459 (TN)
- Evacuated - 20000 (AP)
- Damaged houses: 232 (AP), 89 (TN)
GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

• Prime Minister instructed the release of the central share of the second installment of State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) for Andhra Pradesh (Rs 493.60 crore) and Tamil Nadu (Rs 450 crore), with the first installment already released.

• Approval of the first urban flood mitigation project (Rs. 561.29 crore) for the 'Integrated Urban Flood Management activities for Chennai Basin Project' under the National Disaster Mitigation Fund, including Rs 500 crore in central assistance.

• Health advisory issued by Tamil Nadu's Health and Family Welfare Department to prevent the spread of communicable diseases during floods.

• Contribution by ministers, DMK MPs, MLAs, and members of the Tamil Nadu IAS Officers’ Association, Indian Forest Service Association, and IPS officers to the Chief Minister’s Public Relief Fund (CMPRF).

• Deployment of more than 1,200 sanitary workers, panchayat secretaries, and block-level staff for relief work in inundated areas of Greater Chennai Corporation limits.

• TN Chief Minister announced the readiness of 350 boats for rescue operations and deployed 4,320 doctors to provide treatment in rain-affected areas.

• Special officers appointed in Andhra Pradesh for all cyclone-affected districts, with Rs 2 crore each released for rescue and relief efforts, prioritizing safeguarding crops and compensating damaged houses.

• Financial aid announced by the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh for individuals (Rs 1,000) and families (Rs 2,500) returning home from relief camps, along with compensation of Rs 10,000 for cyclone-damaged houses.

• Government decision to build a high-level bridge across River Swarnamukhi at a cost of Rs 30 crore, with Rs 32 crore sanctioned for repairing 110 tanks damaged due to the cyclone.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

• Caritas India, WVI, ActionAid, Seeds India, Aum Education Seva Trust, Society For Integrated Rural Development (SFIRD) and Society for National Integration through Rural Development are monitoring the situation.

• Goonj, Dream India Cyclone Relief Team, and Dreamz Foundation Trust have appealed for assistance, while Hero Insurance Broking assures swift help for vehicle damage during turbulent weather.

• IAG AP, SFIRD, SNIRD, CJWS, CADME, AALPE-NGO, Navajeevan Organisation and several others are proactively supporting the affected communities in AP.

• KAIFA, a pioneer in disaster management, is in Thanjavur, extending support to Chennai Corporation and the Government of Tamil Nadu for flood restoration.

• ICDM is conducting chlorination activities and offering support by providing dry rations in Tiruvallur and Kanchipuram districts in Tamil Nadu.

• ADRA volunteers are engaged in cleaning cyclone-affected areas in Tiruvallur district and concurrently providing dry rations in Chennai.

• HCLF and its partners, including Ramakrishna Mission Students Home and Grey Sim Learning Foundation, are actively involved in providing relief materials and basic essentials in Chennai, Tiruvallur, and Kanchipuram districts.

• COSCO, in collaboration with Green Trust and Real Charitable Trust, is providing essential items in the Chennai district.

• Sphere India, with the support of responding agencies and state IAGs, has initiated a joint rapid need assessment as per the guidance of the IAC committee. Assessment Timelines: http://tiny.cc/Cyclone-Michaung_JRNA.

• Agencies already responding or planning to respond are updating their information in the Sphere India URS matrix for mapping of who is doing what and where. The link to the matrix is http://tiny.cc/URSMatrix_CycloneMichaung.
Primary Field Assessment Findings – Tamil Nadu

General Observations
- Most affected regions are slums situated in low lying areas.
- Inadequate sewage and waste management observed across the city.
- Neither authorities nor residents anticipated such severe rainfall and flooding, resulting in lapses in preparedness, including EWS and relocation efforts.
- Water levels rose to 3 ft in many areas, reaching up to 5 ft in some locations.
- Proper drinking water and pipeline connections are lacking in places.
- Food is sourced either through government channels or community volunteers and local CSOs via crowdfunding initiatives.
- Residents reported health issues, including respiratory problems and skin rashes.
- Mobile networks and internet connectivity remain poor in certain areas.

1. Kailasapuram, Mylapore, Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- Approximately 500 residents evacuated to a nearby community hall.
- Panic ensued as water reached neck levels, however, a gate to the nearby graveyard protected community belongings from flowing away due to flooding.

2. Rajaji Nagar, Tiruvottiyur, Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- Around 7000 families residing opposite Buckingham Canal Road.
- 6 days post-rain, water still logged up to 3 ft; authorities working to pump it out.
- Flooding led to toxic water mixed with crude oil entering houses.

3. Rajiv Gandhi Nagar, Jamalia, Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- The water cleared on the night of December 7th; the power supply was restored on December 8th. Around 600 evacuated families are now returning.
- School closures with plans to resume classes from 11th December.

Priority Needs Based on Field Assessment

Immediate
- Distribution of essential supplies, including food, clean water, hygiene kits, and medical supplies.
- Setting up medical camps and mobile clinics to prevent and address immediate health issues.
- Provision of temporary shelters and housing for displaced individuals and families.
- Initiation of a robust Go-NGO coordination mechanism at the state and district levels.

Mid-Term Needs:
- Awareness and improvement of sanitation systems to prevent waterborne diseases.
- Initiatives to restore and support livelihoods, including farmers and small businesses.
- Repair of damaged schools, and psychosocial support for students.
- Implementation of community-based programs for disaster resilience and preparedness.
- Review, revision, or development of disaster management plans, mainstreaming DRR and CCA for all departments at all levels.

Long-Term Needs:
- Reconstruction of damaged infrastructure, including roads, bridges, and public facilities.
- Integration of climate-resilient strategies into urban planning and development projects.
- Training and capacity building for local communities and authorities in disaster response and management.

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Source of Information
IMD, CWC, Media, Social Media, Sphere India WhatsApp Group

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