



Situation Report 02

Punjab Floods

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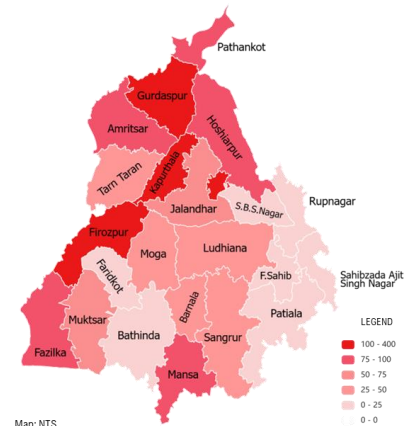
SITUATION OVERVIEW

Punjab is experiencing its most catastrophic flood disaster in nearly four decades, triggered by relentless heavy monsoon rains in the upper catchment areas of Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir during August-September 2025. The crisis has been severely compounded by surplus water releases from major dams including Pong, Ranjit Sagar, and Bhakra, causing unprecedented water levels in the Sutlej, Beas, and Ravi rivers along with numerous seasonal rivulets. The flooding has devastated 22 out of Punjab's 23 districts, with over 1,300 villages completely inundated and approximately 300,000 acres (121,400 hectares) of prime agricultural land submerged during the critical paddy-growing season. The human impact is staggering with over 256,000 residents affected. The disaster has claimed 29 confirmed lives with 3 persons still reported missing and numerous injuries documented across affected districts. High-severity districts include Pathankot, Gurdaspur, Fazilka, Kapurthala, Tarn Taran, Ferozepur, Hoshiarpur, and Amritsar, while mid-severity impacts are reported in Barnala, Bathinda, Patiala, Mohali, Sangrur, Ludhiana, Mansa, and Rupnagar. The situation remains highly dynamic with continuous monitoring of river levels and ongoing large-scale evacuation operations. Thousands of residents have been relocated to relief camps, with over 11,000 evacuated in severely affected districts alone.

SITUATION UPDATE

- The immediate human toll includes 29 confirmed fatalities and 3 missing persons, with over 256,000 people displaced and requiring immediate shelter assistance.
- According to the flood bulletin released by the government, an estimated 2.56 lakh people have been largely impacted due to the floods, with the highest 1.45 lakh population in Gurdaspur district, where 321 villages are affected.
- It is followed by 35,000 people in 88 villages of Amritsar district, 24,015 people in Ferozepur district's 76 villages, 21,562 people in Fazilka's 72 villages, 15,053 people in 82 villages of Pathankot district, 5,650 people in 115 villages of Kapurthala district and 1,152 people in Hoshiarpur's 94 villages.
- Agricultural devastation is particularly severe with estimates ranging from 94,061 to 121,400 hectares of farmland completely submerged, representing economic losses in the hundreds of crores during the crucial paddy cultivation season. This agricultural damage threatens food security and farmer livelihoods across the state's primary agricultural districts.
- Infrastructure damage is extensive with over 1,300 villages experiencing complete or partial inundation, affecting residential buildings, rural roads, bridges, power transmission lines, and communication networks.
- Educational infrastructure has been severely disrupted, necessitating closure of all schools until September 3, 2025, affecting hundreds of thousands of students.
- State government officials say that the loss of livestock and infrastructure damaged could be assessed only once the flood water recedes.
- Healthcare delivery systems are under strain due to damaged facilities and increased demand for medical services in relief camps and affected communities. The disaster has created immediate food security concerns requiring large-scale distribution of essential supplies including food grains, clean drinking water, medicines, and emergency shelter materials.
- Environmental impacts include soil erosion, contamination of water sources, and potential long-term effects on agricultural productivity in affected areas.

PUNJAB | DISTRICTWISE AFFECTED VILLAGES



Statistical Overview



Districts Affected:
22



Villages Affected:
1044



Population Affected:
2.56 lakh



Casualties:
29



Relief Camps:
129



Inmates:
7,144



Agricultural Impact:
3,00,000 acre



GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

- The government has so far evacuated 15,688 people from the flood-hit areas, while 7,144 people are being put up in 129 relief centres set up by the government.
- Deployment of NDRF, SDRF, Army, Air Force, BSF, and police, supported by drones and helicopters for evacuations and food/aid air-drops
- 438 rapid response teams, 323 mobile medical units, and 172 ambulances dispatched statewide. Use of boat ambulances in remote areas (e.g., Gurdaspur) to reach isolated populations, including pregnant women
- The state allocated ₹265 crore to flood preparedness, including procurement of 9 lakh sandbags (with 4 lakh filled and ready) and historic rollout of jumbo bags for embankment fortification DNP INDIA.
- Additional investments included ₹276 crore spent on flood control, desilting 4,766 km of drains, constructing 1,044 check dams, and pre-positioning 8.76 lakh sandbags using GIS mapping
- CM initiated a special girdawari (damage assessment) and assured full compensation based on assessment findings; conducted aerial surveys across affected zones.
- State-level appeals to the Centre: CM Mann requested the release of ₹60,000 crore in pending funds and called for an increase in crop compensation from ₹6,800 to ₹50,000 per acre, with Punjab offering its 25% matching share
- In Sangrur, a 24-hour vigil along the Ghaggar river is in place: sandbagging breach-prone spots, police monitoring, and public warnings to prevent tampering with flood protection infrastructure.
- The Punjab Agricultural University (PAU) issued a targeted agro-advisory, offering crop-specific guidance on recovery: drainage, nutrient treatments, pest control, and soil replenishment post-flooding
- Ministers and MLAs visiting flood-impacted areas, distributing essentials such as water bottles, food packets, tarpaulins, mosquito nets, fodder, and medicines. In Ferozepur, Water Resources Minister emphasized full compensation assurance, sector-wise outreach, and embankment reinforcement planning



Punjab Chief Minister visits a flood-affected area in Beas, Amritsar | Source: Media



waterlogged road after heavy rainfall, in Jalandhar, Punjab | Source: Media



Army personnel during a rescue and evacuation operation at a flood-affected village, in Kapurthala district | Source: Media

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

- Sphere India is coordinating with local organizations and responding agencies to track situation updates, facilitate information sharing, and strengthen collective response efforts.
- Indian Red Cross Society, Punjab State Branch, through its district branches in Gurdaspur and Hoshiarpur, has organized effective flood relief camps, distributing ration kits, medicines (with on-spot medical officer's guidance), mineral water, hygiene kits, food items, sleeping mattresses, tarpaulins, and infant nutrition to affected families in multiple villages, while also extending support at rescue camps for flood victims.
- Robin Hood Army, through its flood relief appeal in Fazilka (Punjab) is mobilizing food supplies (rice, dal, biscuits, baby milk, milk powder), drinking water, sanitary napkins, and tarpaulins, while engaging volunteers to provide urgent humanitarian assistance to flood-affected families.



Red Cross Relief and Response activities in Punjab

Source of Information

Media, Red Cross, Social Media, Sphere India
WhatsApp Group

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