

Information bulletin



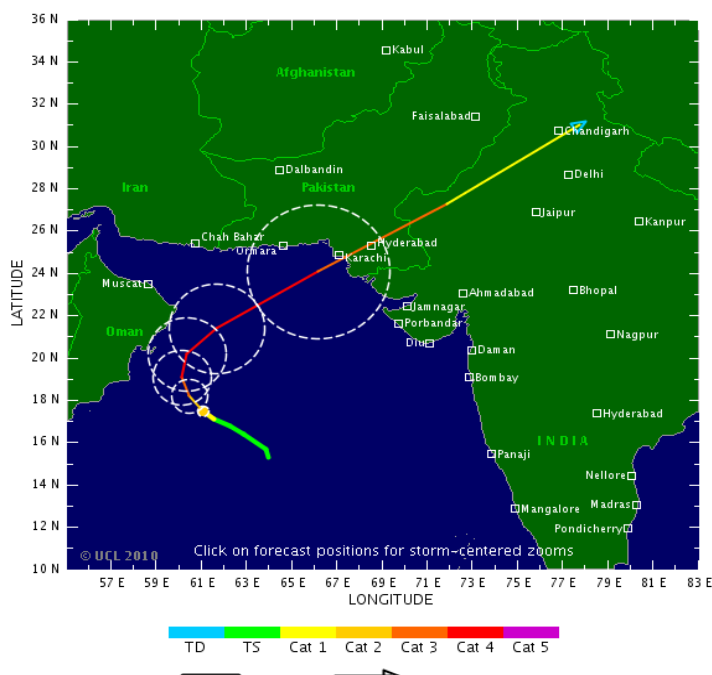
Pakistan: Cyclone PHET

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This bulletin is being issued for information only and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors for this operation. The Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) will, however, accept direct assistance to provide support to the affected population.

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Tropical Cyclone PHET in the Arabian Sea is anticipated to hit the coastal regions of southern Pakistan (Sindh). According to PRCS, 3,000 people have been evacuated from different areas of Badin district. On request of the provincial government, 50 tents have been released by the PRCS provincial branch to establish relief camps for people evacuated from vulnerable areas. According to the latest information shared today by the director general of the provincial disaster management authority (PDMA), the intensity of the cyclone is expected to reduce as it hits the Oman coastal areas. It is expected that it will remain there for 24 hours and then hit Pakistan with a lower intensity.



A map showing the cyclone movement towards coastal areas of southern Pakistan. Source UN OCHA One Response.

The Situation

Tropical Cyclone PHET in the Arabian Sea has intensified into a very severe tropical cyclone (with maximum sustained wind 64-119 Knots near the centre). It is located at about 900 km south-south west of Karachi. It is expected to re-curve towards the Indian Gujrat and Pakistan Sindh coasts. Based on estimated intensity of tropical cyclones, widespread rain with scattered heavy rain fall accompanied by gusty winds (60-80 knots) is expected along Sindh Makran coast from Thursday to Saturday. Widely spread heavy rainfalls with strong gusty winds are also expected over lower Sindh, including Thatta, Badin, Tharparkar, Umer Kot districts, southern areas of Hyderabad and Mir Pur Khas. Karachi is also likely to be affected. Due to this cyclone, sea conditions near Sindh Makran coast are going to be very rough in the next couple of days. All fishermen are advised not to risk their lives by sailing in the open sea for another three-four days.

Evacuation from the vulnerable villages has begun. According to the Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) provincial branch, approximately 250-300 people have been evacuated from different hamlets of KT Bander.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The PRCS Sindh provincial branch established a control room for the Cyclone PHET operation at provincial headquarters Karachi. The control room is working 24/7 from 1 June 2010 in order to stay in touch with the current situation and response teams in the field. PRCS Sindh provincial branch has formed different response teams to cater for the evacuation and early response activities. Disaster management officers at Badin and Thatta districts are in touch with local authorities to get information and ensure possible support. In Badin district, the government has allocated schools to be used as relief camps.

District coordination officer Thatta announced evacuation from KT Bandar yesterday. According to the PRCS provincial branch, approximately 250-300 people have been evacuated from different hamlets of KT Bander. PRCS volunteers headed by disaster management officers have been busy in evacuating the people from the vulnerable areas.

The rapid assessment team of Sindh branch has been deployed to Thatta and Badin. They have started working on ground assessment. Another team has been deployed to Badin.

To date, 51 PRCS volunteers, with the support of PRCS provincial branch staff, are working in different affected areas.

According to PRCS, 3,000 people have been evacuated from different areas of Badin district. On request of the district government, 50 tents have been released by the PRCS provincial branch to establish relief camps. According to the PRCS, 3,000 people have been evacuated from different areas of Badin district. The relief camps are listed below:

- a. Govt High School, Golarchi
- b. Govt Girls HSC, Golarchi
- c. Main Primary School, Golarchi
- d. GPS Bhi Colony
- e. GPS Ward No 3
- f. GPS Jaffar Jakhro
- g. GPS Golarchi
- h. Technical College Golarchi

The PRCS health, logistics and relief teams are on high alert to be deployed in the affected areas. Evacuated people now in relief camps are suffering and complaining to the authorities due to limited or non availability of food items. In the next 24 hours, the PRCS Sindh provincial branch will obtain prequalification notices from suppliers to acquire dry rations.

Coordination

The PRCS Sindh provincial branch is in close coordination with the provincial disaster management authority (PDMA). Further, the district branches are coordinating with the district governments in emergency response activities. On the request of the district coordination officer (DCO) Badin, PRCS released 50 tents to establish relief camps in Sirani. As of 4 June, the PRCS Sindh provincial branch attended a meeting held by the PDMA where representatives of UNICEF, World Health Organization (WHO), World Food Programme (WFP), Ministry of Health and other non-government organizations shared their preparedness plan. The preparedness plan of PRCS was highly appreciated. It was also suggested that PRCS could work with PDMA on a joint strategy plan for cyclone operations.

How we work

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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