

INFORMATION BULLETIN



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

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INDIA: FLOODS

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in 185 countries.

In Brief

This Bulletin (no. 03/2007) is being issued for information only, and reflects the situation and the information available at this time. The Federation is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors for this operation at this time.

For further information specifically related to this operation please see [contact details](#) on the last page.

The Situation

The south-west monsoon has been active during the months of June and July, across India, and heavy rainfall has caused floods in different parts of the country. The following information has been extracted from the situation update by the United Nations Development Programme and the Indian Red Cross Society's (IRCS) state branch reports.

In total, 187 people have lost lives in separate incidents of flooding. The flood condition continues to prevail within the Ganga-Brahmaputra-Meghna river basin in the states of Assam and Bihar. Six rivers are flowing above the high flood levels, 21 rivers are flowing at danger levels, with a moderate flooding trend, and about eight rivers are flowing in a low flood trend. The upper catchment areas of the rivers Bagmati, Budhi Gandak and Koshi, in Nepal and Bihar (India), are flowing above the warning levels.

Bihar

Two deaths have been reported during the 48 hours prior to reporting, from Sitamarhi and East Champaran districts. A total of 1,615 villages in 12 districts (with a population of about 414,300 people) of the state are reported to have been affected. National highway 77 is submerged.

Assam

Thirteen districts have been affected. Bailey bridge over Dilli River near Kamrup has been washed away disrupting traffic movement between Sonari and Namrup. The ring bundh of Buridehing River near Khowang has developed a breached; in Nalbari district all chas (isolated land masses) villages have been submerged and erosion of land has been reported at Nambazchar and Kalarchar, Kurihamari, Bhangnamari Kalarchar areas.

Electricity network has been disrupted in Nalbari and also in areas along the right bank of Noona River in Jabaribati (Ghograpar circle). In Dhubri national highway 31 connectivity between Sonamukh and Salkocha and Bilasipara sub-division area remains to be cut off. The roads connecting Goalpara via Dubapara is submerged; in Kamrup breaches have developed along left embankments of River Puthimari at Khatpara/Harijora in Bakasa subdivision area. Road connectivity remains disrupted along Nagarbera road, Pijuopara Jamdai road, Lampara

Goroimari road; in Kamrup 50 houses have been damaged; in Morigaon road connectivity remains disrupted. Jhanjumukh road of Teok circle remains submerged in Golaghat.

Uttar Pradesh

Eastern parts of Uttar Pradesh the rivers Ghaghra, Rapti, Gandak, Saryu and Sarada are flowing above the warning levels, affecting 788 villages and 5 districts : *Sravasti, Bahraic, Maharajganj, Barabanki and Basti*. Other districts experiencing a rise in river levels: Pilibhit, Faizabad, Sant Kabir Nagar and Siddharthnagar, Maharajganj, Shahjahanpur, Gonda, Balrampur, Khushi Nagar, Sitapur, Gorakhpur. During the past 48 hrs 13 deaths have been reported from Sravasti, Basti, Bahraic, Faizabad, and Maharajganj.

Arunachal Pradesh

Rivers Siang, Sibo Korong, Lohit, Nao-Dehing, Digaru, Kamlang, are flowing above the warning levels. The affected districts are Lohit (Danglat, Changliang) West and East Siang (Pasighat), Upper Subansiri,(Gusar,) and Upper Siang.

Kerala

During last 24 hrs 20,793 people have been affected in Kottayam and Thrissur districts. There are possibilities of reported cases with viral fever in Malappuram district.

West Bengal

Nine districts are affected by flash flood in the state. The districts are Howrah, Hooghly, Bardhaman, Birbhum, Bankura, Puruliya, Paschim, Midnapur, Purba midnapur and 24 Parghanas. There are 9,315 villages were affected and 45 people have been reportedly lost lives. More than 1.8 million people have been affected in the state.

Forecast

As per the IMD forecast widespread rainfall will be active over Gangetic plains & northeastern states during next 2-3 days (2nd August). Coastal areas of South Gujarat, Kerala would also receive widespread rainfall during next 3-4 days (4th August). Over southwest Bay of Bengal & adjoining coastal areas of north Tamil Nadu and south Andhra Pradesh widespread rainfall is likely to occur over Tamil Nadu and south Andhra Pradesh during next 2-3 days (3rd August) .

Other agencies action including government

Bihar: 2,719 people have been evacuated while rescue teams equipped with country boats are deployed in Muzaffarpur, Sitamarhi, Supaul, Darbhanga, Sahraha, East Champaran, Patna, West Champaran, Bhagalpur, Katihar, and Madhubani. Relief camps are opened in Muzaffarpur (3), Sitamarhi,(9) Bhagalpur(1), West Champaran(1), Darbhanga(31), Katihar(3), Madhubani(25), in brackets are the number of camps opened in each district.

Medical teams are stationed in Muzaffarpur (10), Bhagalpur (4), West Champaran (4), Darbhanga (2), and Katihar (9), similarly in brackets are the number of medical teams active in each district.

Assam: 195,878 persons have been accommodated in 239 relief camps located at the following districts and after each district the number camps are indicated in brackets Dhemaji, Dibrugarh(10), Nalbari(17), Dhubri (13), Goalpara(15), Bongaigoan (23) , Morigaon(65), Nagoan(7), Sivasagar (18) and 144 temporary relief shelters built along the high embankment areas so far housing 35,751 persons (in Dibrugarh alone 20,743 people have taking shelter). For rescue operation in Dhubri and Goalpara districts the government has deployed trucks and boats.

Uttar Pradesh: teams from PAC and country boats have been deployed for rescue operation in in Sravasti, Basti, Bahraic, Maharajganj almost 317 people have been saved till date.

Kerala: the district administration is still operating 88 relief camps with 13,472 people.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS) has been regularly in touch with its affected state branches. The disaster management centre in the same premises is tasked to keep round the clock vigil on the flood situation and to be in touch with the DM coordinators of the affected states. Further to the initial relief material released by the IRCS national headquarters (details in information bulletin 2).

The Assam state branch has deployed district disaster response team members who are coordinating the search, rescue and relief operation in the affected areas. On the request of the government almost 200 RC skilled volunteers have been deployed in various parts of the country to help the local authorities in providing relief. Moreover about a 1,000 RC volunteers carrying out relief operation in the state. Immediately a sum of INR 5,000 has been released to 20 affected districts to meet the operational cost of relief work and release 2,000 family packs (released by the national headquarters) on the basis of gravity of the problem in each district.

The Bihar state branch is actively involved in search and rescue operation and assisting the local authorities in doing so. The state branch has despatched 1,500 pieces of tarpaulin sheets, 500 kitchen sets and 500 pieces of male and female clothing each has been released and 2,000 assorted clothes.

The district branches have deployed 40 boats. They have distributed 15 metric tonnes of beaten rice and 5 metric tonnes of roasted gram powder. They have also distributed 1000 tarpaulin sheets. In total 300 Red Cross volunteers have been deployed to coordinate the relief work with 14 boats for search and rescue operation and 2,500 people's lives have been saved.

Local Red Cross volunteers are also providing first aid and other medical services particularly in marooned and far of areas, up till date they have provided medical services to 2,500 people. The affected district and sub-district branches are also distributing assorted clothes in large quantity to affected people who have been impelled to migrate to safety.

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 Federation's Global Agenda

The International Federation undertakes activities that 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.

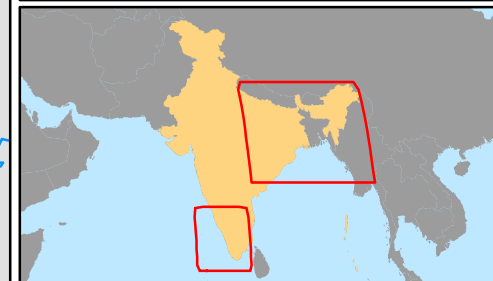
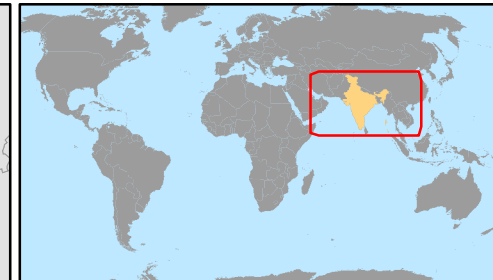
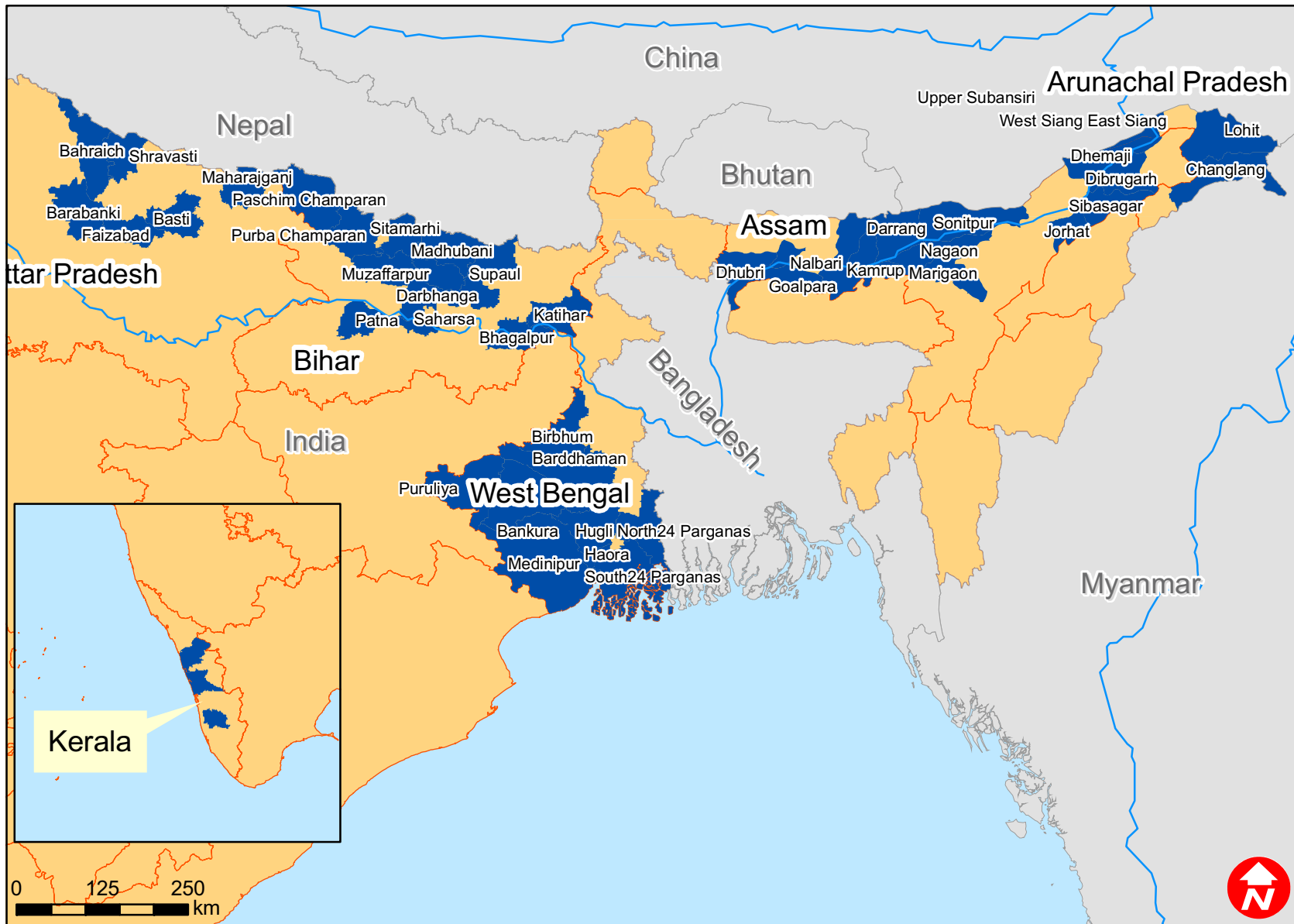
Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- *In India: Indian Red Cross Society, Dr. S.P. Agarwal (secretary general), email: spagarwalsg@indianredcross.org; phone: +91.11.2371.6424; fax: +91.11.23711.7454*
- *In India: India office, Mohamed Babiker (head of India office), email: mohamed.babiker@ifrc.org; phone: +91.11.2332.4203; fax: +91.11.233.4235*
- *Federation South Asia regional delegation in India, Nina Nobel (acting head of regional delegation), email: nina.nobel@ifrc.org; phone: +91.11.2411.1125; fax: +91.11.2411.1128*
- *Federation Secretariat in Geneva (Asia Pacific Department): Christine South (regional officer, South Asia); email: christine.south@ifrc.org; phone: +41.22.730.4273; fax: +41.22.733.0395 or Gokce Balcik (senior assistant); email: gokce.balcik@ifrc.org; phone: +44.22.730.4429; fax: +41.22. 733.0395*



India: Floods



- Districts affected by floods
- Indian states
- Other countries



The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.

Map data sources: ESRI, DEVINFO, Federation