

Humanitarian Situation Report (SitRep 7)

Kerala, India Floods 2018 (21st Sept, 1630 HRS)

Instructions: This Situation Report should be compiled in case the overall social, political, military or humanitarian situation changes in your country.

Country: India

Contact Person: Rama Rao, Program Manager – DRM, Mobile: +91 98183 92578

1. Overall description of the significant change in the situation at the national level (i.e., social/political/military situation, weather patterns, or events in a neighboring country affecting your country situation)

Kerala is experiencing the largest disaster of flooding and landslides after 1924 in the state. The death toll has climbed to nearly 500. The deadliest deluge in close to a century has dealt a severe blow to the scenic state, wrecking its tourism industry, destroying standing crops in thousands of hectares and inflicting huge damage to infrastructure.



Monsoon rain caused the worst floods in Kerala and forced close to 3 per cent of the state's 35 million people to take shelter in relief camps.

Even a month after Kerala witnessed an unprecedented deluge, at least 2,500 persons are still living in relief camps in the state. At present, there are 80 relief camps in the state in which 787 families, comprising 2,457 people, have taken shelter. Thrissur district has the maximum camps at 45 with 1,348 people, followed by Idukki with 332 in nine camps. Alappuzha district, among the worst affected, has six camps with 260 people, state disaster control room sources said.

Kerala has suffered a loss of Rs 40,000 crore as per initial estimates in the rains that ravaged it last month, state industries minister EP Jayarajan said. The Kerala government has sent a memorandum to the Home Ministry giving details about the loss of human life, properties, infrastructure and crops and sought about Rs 4,700 crore as compensation.

With mercury levels rising and abnormal drying up of rivers and wells reported in flood-hit Kerala, the state government has decided to conduct scientific studies on the post-flood phenomenon in the state. Chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan has directed the State Council for Science, Technology & Environment to carry out studies on the phenomenon after floods across the state and suggest possible solutions to the problems.

Other updates:

The flood which caused a loss of Rs 336 crore to the Cochin International Airport is likely to push the commissioning of the Kannur International Airport Ltd to next month.

The tourism sector, which is the major revenue earning sector of the district, is on the road to recovery. The bookings of houseboats are increasing and tourists are coming in from other states as well as abroad.

Sources:

<https://www.news18.com/news/india/month-after-kerala-deluge-over-2000-still-lodged-in-relief-camps-1881609.html>

<https://www.news18.com/news/india/kerala-suffered-losses-worth-rs-40000-crore-in-floods-says-minister-1875807.html>

<https://www.news18.com/news/india/kerala-seeks-rs-4700-crore-compensation-from-centre-after-worst-floods-in-century-1876765.html>

<https://www.news18.com/news/india/rivers-wells-dry-up-in-flood-hit-kerala-govt-orders-study-1875769.html>

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/states/kerala/2018/sep/21/kerala-floods-one-month-after-kannur-airport-commissioning-likely-to-get-delayed-1874965.html>

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/states/kerala/2018/sep/17/kerala-floods-one-month-after-tourism-sector-in-kerala-shows-signs-of-slow-recovery-post-floods-1872927.html>

Estimates of humanitarian impact:

17,455,506 Total population of Kerala State			
5,411,712 Population Affected including approx. 2,164,684 children			
NA Indirectly affected (limited loss) Transportation links cut off and no power supply in some parts of the state	83.16 billion rupees Estimated loss of private and public properties	1.04 million Population displaced with urgent unmet humanitarian needs residing in 2,770 Relief Camps (total 5,645 established till date)	400 Fatalities in the state due to landslides and flood.
Worst Affected Districts		07 (Idukki, Palakkad, Wayanad, Kannur, Ernakulum, Kottayam & Pathanamthitta)	

(Source: Media and Sphere Rapid Assessment Reports)

2. Description of the current humanitarian situation in ChildFund operational areas (including name of the program areas and number of sponsored/enrolled children and families affected)

ChildFund does not implement subsidy / grant projects in Kerala. However, considering the need is extending relief and rehabilitation support to the affected children and families in Wayanad district of Kerala.

3. Description of actual or possible impact on ChildFund programs and operations

Not applicable.

4. Description of planned, desired or ongoing ChildFund response

The floods have left thousands of children vulnerable and in need of immediate support. Looking at the situation in Kerala, ChildFund India's SMT and selected members of NERT had an emergency meeting on 17th August 2018 and decided that it

will be appropriate to respond to this disaster which has affected hundreds and thousands of families. Below are key updates on ChildFund's response to the floods:

- Secured IO's approval to respond in Kerala, which is a non-program area
- ChildFund India has completed rapid needs assessment during 21-23 August. Based on the needs assessment, ChildFund has launched the humanitarian response targeting 25 villages in Wayanad district of Kerala for a period of 6 months with the following key interventions:
 - 25 Child Centred Spaces (CCSs) to benefit at least 1,250 children for 3 months. CCSs will be used to provide psychosocial support to women and adolescent girls at the community level.
 - Compact Family Kits to support 2,500 vulnerable households consisting of approx. 12,500 population including 5,000 children.
 - 3,000 Education Kits to support children in the affected areas.
 - Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) activities will be launched to mitigate ill health, waterborne and other communicable diseases. Repair and Restoration of water points is an important relief and early recovery activity.
 - Establishing / Strengthening Community Based Child Protection Mechanisms will be an integral part of the response in the target villages.
 - Livelihood support to 1,000 vulnerable families to restore their lost livelihoods. Emerged as a need and could be taken up depending on the resource availability.

Overall Progress of the response so far:

- ChildFund has deployed its Emergency Response team from 20th August 2018 to Wayanad district. The team members have completed rapid needs assessments and started distributions.
- 200 family kits have been distributed to equal number of families benefitting 1170 population. The kit consists of hygiene items, mosquito net, tarpaulin and household utility items.
- 503 individual education kits have been distributed to 503 school going children who have lost their education materials due to floods.
- Four Child-Centered Spaces (CCSs) have been started in four locations where normalising/play activities are being conducted for 200 children. Additional 16 CCSs will be established next week in 16 different locations.
- One day training to 20 CCS volunteers was completed and the volunteers are registering children in new locations.
- Procurement of additional 1000 family kits is in progress. Delivery is expected next week and accordingly further distributions will be planned. Beneficiary selection has already been completed for the said kits.
- ChildFund India mobilized USD 118,463 (@70 INR / USD) from different donors including ChildFund Alliance members as listed below. There are several proposals still in pipeline. ChildFund also mobilized airlifting of relief kits from different parts of the country with support from AirAsia.

Name of the donor	Total Committed Amount (INR)	Total Committed Amount (USD)
ChildFund Korea	4,900,000	70,000
ROCA	253,000	3,614
ACCIONA	500,000	7,143
Britannia	939,390	13,420
Charities Aid Foundation (CAF)	1,700,000	24,286
Grand Total	8,292,390	118,463

5. Coordination mechanisms set up by the government and/or United Nations that ChildFund has participated in:

ChildFund participate both national and state level coordination activities organised by Sphere. On 19th September, Sphere India with support from UNICEF and UN agencies has organised a state level emergency coordination meeting at Trivandrum – the state capital of Kerala. The meeting was attended by the Ministers from Kerala government and appreciated the efforts of the NGOs in relief and recovery activities. The Government will undertake Post Disaster Needs Assessment where NGOs and UN will be involved and conducted jointly.

Photographs from the field:



ChildFund Korea representative at the CCS established in Wayanad



Activities being conducted at the CCSs established in the affected areas