



Chennai Floods, 2023

Situation Report

7th December, 2023

INTRODUCTION

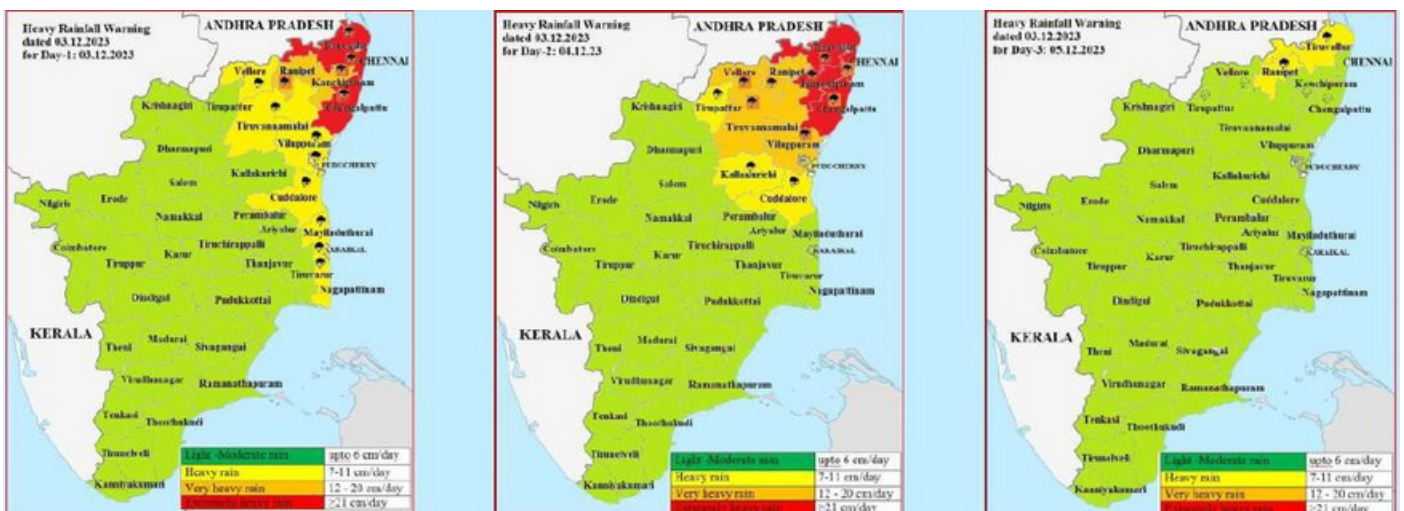
The deep depression over the Bay of Bengal escalated into the cyclonic storm 'Michaung,' which caused substantial rainfall in Chennai. According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), robust winds with a maximum sustained speed of 80-90 kmph, reaching gusts of up to 100 kmph, have been anticipated on December 5, coinciding with the projected landfall of Cyclone Michaung along the coast.

The genesis of this event traces back to November 29 when the India Meteorological Department (IMD) identified a well-defined low-pressure area in the southwest Bay of Bengal. The prognosis anticipated its evolution into a depression by November 30, deepening further into a significant depression by December 2, and ultimately intensifying into a cyclonic storm by December 3. Subsequent IMD forecasts outlined the system's trajectory, indicating a northward movement towards the coastal regions of Andhra Pradesh. This trajectory was projected to bring forth heavy rain and formidable winds to areas in north Tamil Nadu on December 3 and 4, running parallel to its coast. The anticipated climax was the system's land crossing between Nellore and Machilipatnam, envisaged as a cyclonic storm featuring winds of 80-90 km/hr, gusting to 100 km/hr.

Cyclone Michaung brought forth heavy rain and formidable winds to areas in north Tamil Nadu on December 3 and 4, running parallel to its coast. Approximately 39,000 people were affected and 41,459 people sheltered in 373 relief camps in Tamil Nadu. Lots of people were displaced and had to be shifted to relief centers. In Chennai, On 5th December 2023, 43 relief centers were reported to be operating by 5th December and 20 deaths were recorded in various incidents, including drownings and electrocutions by 8th Dec 2023.

In the recent report by THE WIRE, residents in the affected areas of the oil spill are facing various physical ailments that results from contact of hazardous oil and air. The major health concern in that area are skin and eye irritation as well as dizziness. Immediate humanitarian assistance is crucial, including evacuations, providing shelter, food, clean water, and medical aid to the affected population.

IMD - SUB DIVISIONWISE WEATHER WARNING



SITUATION OVERVIEW

Rescue teams have been mobilized to evacuate affected residents grappling with stagnant water and power outages in various areas. Some power disruptions are precautionary measures due to submerged cables, and efforts are underway to restore normalcy. On December 4, amidst Michaung-triggered rains, the Indian army orchestrated a successful rescue mission, saving approximately 300 civilians from flood-ridden areas like Mugalivakkam and Manapakkam. A dedicated team of 135 personnel, armed with boats and flood relief supplies, spearheaded the rescue operations. Chennai's airport suspended operations until the morning of December 5, leaving 21 aircraft grounded and around 1,500 passengers stranded in the terminals. IAF Chetak helicopters have been deployed for flood relief, and 162 relief centers, including 43 in Chennai, are operational. Relief material was airdropped in areas such as Adyar and near Chennai Harbour. Schools and colleges remain closed, with ongoing efforts to resume operations.

On December 6, the chief minister visited affected areas, distributed relief materials, and inspected drainage efforts. A plea for interim flood relief of ₹5,060 crore has been made to the central government. Subways are closed due to waterlogging, but airport operations are unaffected. Southern Railway has adjusted train services, partially resuming suburban services with reduced frequency on specific routes.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh visited Tamil Nadu to assess the flood damage. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has directed the release of ₹450 crore, the second installment of cyclone relief funds, through the Union Home Ministry to Tamil Nadu.



RAPID ASSESSMENT BY DOCTORS FOR YOU TEAM

In response to the dire situation, the Doctors For You team took prompt action by visiting the flood-affected areas in Chennai, conducting observational assessments, and interacting with the affected people to comprehend their challenges and needs better. The team recognized an urgent requirement for humanitarian aid, including medical assistance, nutrition, clean water, and sanitation facilities, to address public health emergencies and support the resilience and recovery of the affected communities.





S.no	Location	Observations
1.	Vannipakkam village, Minjur Block, Thiruvallur District	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Houses have been fully in water for almost 5 days. People leaving in mud houses, facing concerns from leaches and other health problems. Some of the people mentioned about getting skin disease, which if not treated earlier it can lead to aggravation in their health condition. 2. People also mentioned about need of Medicine and a camp to support the patients with health conditions
2.	Murichambedu village, Minjur Block, Thiruvallur District	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Localities affected by floods requested to get support for the food, grocery items, shelter items and basic items of survival needs, that has been damaged or washed away in flood water 2. People reported have skin rashes, cough and cold problems
3.	Ennore to Thiruvotriyur Road -Erular Colony	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Flood water is stagnated in some areas. The problem is severe due to oil spillage and sewage water. Given the severity, it might take 3 months to clear the area. Skin disease is reported more by the people with other health conditions
4.	Vyasarpadi, Koovam River belt	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Area is close to koovam sewage river Belt. Flood water is drained out but the area is still dirty because of waste and sewage collection/retention 2. Because of which there is threat of vector borne diseases due to mosquitos problem, it can lead to Dengue, Malaria, etc 3. Majority of the peoples were found to be affected by the fungus problem and having skin disease because of sewage water 4. More health promotion activities to be held to sensitise people on outbreak of any diseases or prevention from the diseases
5.	Thiruninravur, Thiruvallur District	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Still water not drained out. There is threat of vector borne diseases. People reported fungus, skin infections, cold, diarrheal cases. 2. The area is far from the hospital, so it take long for patient to get to the hospital for treatment
6.	9 th Street, Semmancheri	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. People mentioned support for the food items, grocery items, and medicines for common cold and fever.
7.	Kalaingar street, Kamaraj Nagar, Avadi	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fungal issues as health problem
8.	Cente 2, Gandhi Nagar, Sholinganalur	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. People requested support for food items and medical health camp for patients
9.	Anganvadi, Gandhi Nagar backside, Sholinganalur	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Water still not drained out and health problems are reported because of that



PROPOSED INTERVENTIONS

HEALTH CAMPS

- Deployment of medical rapid response team
- Free Health Check Ups
- NCD Screening (Hypertension, diabetes, etc)
- Free Medicines
- First Aid
- Doctors consultations

MATERNAL & CHILD CARE

- Antenatal health services
- Post natal health services
- Healthcare to children below 5 years of age

HOSPITAL CAPACITY BUILDING

- Critical medical supplies to the government hospitals/health care center as requested by the government

MENTAL HEALTH

- Counselling by the counsellors using offline or online or helpline number

NUTRITION KITS

- Family Food Packets/Rahat Kits comprising of ready to use eatable items such as Grams, Biscuits, Jaggery, Peanuts, Rice flakes, Puff rice, etc) or
- Dry Ration Kits
- Nutriton suppliments for pregnant womens and children under 5 years

WASH KITS

- Comprising of Bucket, Mug, Bleaching Powder, Chlorine Tablets, Soap, Detergent, Toothpaste, Tooth Brush, Antiseptics, Bandage, Sanitisers, etc

SHELTER KITS & REHABILITATION

- Tarpaulin sheet, Blanket, Bedsheets, Torch, Candle, Match box, Mosquito Net, Mosquito Coil, etc

DIGNITY KITS

- Especially for Women comprising of Sanitary Pads, Marking Cloth/Towels, etc

FLOOD AFFECTED AREA - IN PLAN - FOR HEALTH RESPONSE

Zone 1 (Thirvottriyur), Zone 2 (Redhills), Zone 4 (Kodungaiyur), Zone 5 (Royapuram, New Washermenup, Kasimedu, Muthailpet, Chindaraipet, Triplicane, Ayanavaram), Zone 6, (Elephant Gate, Thazhambor, Thiri vi ka Nagar), Zone 7 (Ambattur, Koratur), Zone 8 (Arumbakkam, Villvakkam), Zone 9 (Mandaveli, Marina, Cholaimedu, Mylopore), Zone 10 (Saidapet, Kodambakkam), Zone 13 (Velachery), Zone 14 (Perungudi, Pallikaranai), and Zone 15 (Chemmenchery, Perumbakkam, Kannagi Nagar, Thoraipakkam, Ezhil Nagar) are proposed to be covered for Chennai Flood 2023 interventions.

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