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Government of India
Ministry of Agriculture
Department of Agriculture & Cooperation
KRISHI CONTROL ROOM
www.ndmindia.nic.in

# Flood Situation Report - 2001 (Based on the reports received from concerned Departments/State Govts.)

# Impact of Southwest Monsoon - 2001:

- "Several parts of the Country receive heavy rainfall during the South West Monsoon resulting in floods, landslide, loss of human life and cattle, disruption of all communication network, damages to houses and property and dislocation of normal activities.
- "During the last season of Southwest monsoon, many parts of the country witnessed heavy floods / rains and thousands of human life and cattle lost. The flash floods in Himachal Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, UP, Bihar, West Bengal etc. took hundreds of human lives and caused immense damage to properties during 2000.
- "Keeping in view the past experience during June-September during the Southwest monsoon, States/UTs and concerned Central Government Departments/ Ministries were requested to take necessary precautionary/preventive measures and advance planning to combat any serious situation.

## IMD's forecast & report:

- "India Meteorological Department (IMD) has Stated that there was good pre-monsoon rainfall activity over most parts of the Country during this year. The cumulative rainfall for the period March 1, 2001 to May 31, 2001 has been normal to excess over 27 meteorological subdivisions of the country.
- "IMD's long range official forecasts for the rainfall during 2001-Southwest monsoon season are as follows:
- a) In 2001, the rainfall for the Southwest monsoon (June to September) for the country as a whole is likely to be normal, thus making the year 2001 the 13th normal monsoon year in succession. The normal is defined as rainfall within + 10% of its long period average.

- b) Quantitatively, the rainfall over the country during the season is likely to be 98% of its long period average with an estimated model error of +4%.
- c) Over the three broad homogenous regions of India, the rainfall for the season is likely to be 100% of its long period average (LPA) over Northwest India, 96% of the LPA over the Peninsula and 100% of the LPA over Northeast India with an estimated model error of +8%.

## Seasonal Weather Report:

"During the period from June 1 to August 1, 2001, 26 out of 35 meteorological subdivisions covering 75% districts and 83% area of the country received normal to excess rainfall. The country as a whole received 499.4 mm of rainfall against the normal value of 476.5 mm (5% above normal).

"The seasonal rainfall during the period 01-06-2001 to 01-08-2001 was EXCESS in Orissa (+67%), Jharkhand (+23%), East UP(+29%), West UP(+20%), Haryana, Chandigarh & Delhi(+47%), Punjab(+62%), J&K(+34%), West Rajasthan (+29%), East Rajasthan(+29%), East MP & Chhattisgarh(+30%). Seasonal Rainfall was DEFICIENT in A&N Islands (-33%), Arunachal Pradesh(-33%), Assam & Meghalaya(-22%), Sub-Himalayan West Bengal& Sikkim(-25%), Konkan & Goa(-21%), Marathawada(-33%), North Interior Karnataka(-49%), South Interior Karnataka(-22%), Rayalaseema (-35%). In other sub-divisions the rainfall was NORMAL.

(For details on IMD's forecast please visit www.imd.ernet.in)

Reports from Central Departments:

# Agriculture & Coopn.

- " KRISHI CONTROL ROOM:
- "The Control Room in the Nodal Department is operational round the clock for monitoring the flood situation etc., in the Country during the Southwest Monsoon.
- "The Secretary of the Nodal Department, Special Secretary & Central Relief Commissioner and the Joint Secretary & Additional Central Relief Commissioner assessed the flood situation and the rainfall position in the Country regularly.
- "Meeting of the Crisis Management Group (CMG) under the Chairmanship of Central Relief Commissioner on 31st July 2001 and National Crisis Management Committee(NCMC) under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary on 18.7.2001 were held to assess the flood situation in the Country.
- " All Central line Departments viz., Defence, Home, Railways, Health Food & Public Distribution, Drinking Water Supply, Water Resources, Petroleum & Natural Gas, etc. were contacted regularly to assist the concerned State Government for rescue & relief operation in the flood affected areas.
- "The position is assessed on the basis of reports received from State Government and other Central Departments, and a daily report is prepared and put on the web site for general awareness & information.

The Central Team visited following States to assess the deficient/scanty rainfall situation during the current monsoon period in the Country:

18th July 2001 - Maharashtra; 28th July - Kerala and 31st July - Karnataka. On the 6th August 2001 the Central Team would visit Andhra pradesh to assess the situation.

# Railways:

#### ORISSA:

- "Report of damage to track, railway bridges and breaches reported in some parts of Orissa. Normalcy restored. Train services restored to all destinations.
- "Repair of breaches and tracks undertaken on war footing and repaired, except one bridge in JSG SU sector which is expected to be repaired by 15th August, 2001.
- " Free of freight charges: Sanction accorded as a special case for transportation of Polythene, Tarpauline, Tents, Clothing, Food Articles & Medicines for relief work allowed free of freight charges as a special case.

Central Water Commission: (Dt. 06.8.2001)

- "No Unprecedented flood situation now, where previous highest flood level has been surpassed.
- "High flood situation where level is above danger level but within 0.50 m of AFL reported in river Bagmati at Benibad, Bihar with falling trend.

## Moderate Flood situation:

- " In Assam, River Brahmaputra at Dhubri & at Dibrugarh, and River Beki at Road Bridge were flowing above danger level with rising trend.
- "In Bihar, River Burhi Gandak at Rosera was flowing above danger level with rising trend. River Ganga at Colgang and River Burhi Gandak at Lalbeghiaghat were flowing above danger level with steady trend. River Kosi at Baltara & at Kursela, River Burhi Gandak at Khagaria, River Adhwara Group at Kamtaul, River Gandak at Revaghat and River Bagmati at Benibad were flowing above danger level with falling trend.
- "In Uttar Pradesh, River Ghaghra at Turtipar and River Rapti at Gorakpur (Birdghat) were flowing above danger level with rising trend. River Ghaghra at Ayodhya was flowing above danger level with falling trend.
- " In West Bengal, River Ganga at Farakka was flowing above danger level with steady trend.

#### Health:

#### Orissa:

- Total population affected is about 50 lakhs
- · Gastroenteritis/Diarrhea (progressive) incidence 30287 : Death: 31
- · Snakebite (progressive) incidence 157 Death: 15
- Suspected Malaria cases incidence 13186 Death: 10
- Incidence of Jaundice (progressive) incidence 47 Death: 1
- Food poisoning at Jagatsinghpur incidence 20 Death: 1
- State Government has opened up round the clock Control Room of DGHS (0674-401230 and 400446)

- 100 Medical teams dispatched
- Chlorinated drinking water, bleaching powder and halogen tablets supplied
- Central Control Room established in the office of the Regional Director, A control room has been established in the office of the Regional Director, Health & F.W. at Bhubaneshwar on the instruction of DGHS to monitor the flood situation and coordinate with the State health authorities regarding any assistance from the Dte. G.H.S. MOHFW.
- Director, EMR is in regular touch with the State health authorities to take stock of the situation. State health authorities are requested to convey their requirement for any medicines supply and technical expertise.
- A team consisting of Director, EMR and 2 public health experts from NICD visited the flood-affected areas from 21st to 24th July, 2001 to assess the field situation and requirement of drugs by the State Govt. The guidelines on public health measures to be adopted to contain outbreak of any disease in the flood-affected areas were handed over to the State health authorities.
- The team demonstrated testing of free chlorine in the drinking water to the doctors deployed in the field. Reagents were also handed over to them.
- On the request of the State Govt. a team consisting of 2 experts from NICD left on 29th July, 2001 for Bhubaneshwar to assist the State health authorities in diagnosing the incidence of leptospirosis in the flood affected areas and advise.
- Telephonically Asstt. Director of health services, Govt. of Orissa was contacted. He informed that the 21 Jaundice cases reported ( 16 from Balasore and 5 admitted in SCB Medical College, Cuttack were reported prior to flood) are not related to the present flood.
- Supply from the Central Govt. Medical Stores (Dte. G.H.S.)

Item Quantity requested by the Quantity dispatched till 27.7.2001 by the State Govt.

Halogen Tablets 50 lakhs 50 lakhs (completed on 27.7.2001) ORS packets 10 lakhs 10 lakhs (till 30.7.2001)

- Director General of Health Services is reviewing the situation daily on the reports received from the control room of the State Govt. and office of the Regional Director for Health & F.W. Bhubaneshwar.
- State Government's requirement of 15 lakh Halogen tablets was acceded by the Ministry of Health.

Reports from States/UTs.:

BIHAR: (Dated 0.08.2001)

<sup>&</sup>quot;Flood occurred on 20.7.2001 and again from 1st to 3rd August, 2001.

<sup>&</sup>quot; Seven Districts viz Gopalganj, Samastipur, Begusarai, West Champaran, Sitamarhi, Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga districts affected.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>"</sup> 22 blocks, 330 villages affected.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Human lives lost 2.

- 7.12 lakh population affected.
- " Area affected 0.71 lakh hectare
- " 0.55 lakh hectare cropped area affected.
- " Rs.10.13 crore worth crop damaged.
- 21,329 houses worth Rs. 2.15 crore value damaged.
- " Rs.2.60 lakh worth public properties damaged.
- 13 Relief Centres, 13 health care centres, 9 veterinary centres functioning.
- 455 country boat deployed. 67 metres polythene distributed.
- " 279.75 guintals gratuitous relief distributed.
- 5.14 quintals ready-made food distributed.
- " Rs.0.72 lakh cash doles distributed.
- " Air dropping of 20,000 packets in Gopalganj.

CHHATTISGARH: (Dated 02.08.2001)

#### Flood:

- "Flood occurred on 9.7.2001 because of rainfall in Dhamtari & Kanker Districts
- "Dhamtari recorded 135.70 mm & Kanker 142.80-mm rainfall on 09-07-2001.
- "Intense and incessant rains in the catchment area of Hasdeo river on 23-07-2001 created flood situation.

# Impact & Damages:

#### Area

- " 9 districts affected by flood.
- "Dhamtarti, Raipur, Mahasamund, Janjgir, Raigarh, Kanker, Surguja, Korea and Korba are affected districts.
- 52 Talukas, 2241 villages affected by flood.
- " 77067 hectare crop area affected.

## Life & Property

- 2.55 lakh pupulation affected.
- " 13 human lives lost.
- " 1107 cattle lost.
- " Rs.45.49 worth crop damaged.
- 7160 houses worth Rs.7.52 crore damaged.
- " Rs.56.37 crore public properties damaged.
- "Total loss estimated to be at Rs.127.77 crore.

# State & Central efforts:

- " Affected people evacuated and placed in relief camps. Food and other amenities provided by the District administration.
- " Collectors empowered to grant ex-gratia relief and other necessary assistance to the affected population.
- "State level Control Room operational round-the-clock (Tele No.0771-221273). Control Rooms also functioning at all district HQrs.

- " CM, Chhattisgarh made an aerial survey of the flood-affected areas."
- " Ex-gratia relief of Rs.73.81 lakh disbursed to the affected persons.

HIMACHAL PRADESH: (Dated August 03, 2001)

## Floods

- · Heavy Rains / Floods.
- The first excessive rainfall occurred on 17th and 19th July, 2001 in Mandi district. Flash floods on 22nd July, 2001 in district Kullu due to cloud burst. Flash floods in Chhota Bhangal and areas of Baijnath sub division of Kangra district on 29th and 30th July, 2001 and in Sutlej river on the night of 31st and 1st August, 2001.

# Impact & Damages:

- Area 6 out of 12 districts affected.
- Solan, Mandi, Hamirpur, Kullu, Kangra and Una are affected districts.
- 843 hectares total area affected.
- 315 hectares cropped area affected.
- · Life & Property 31,885 population affected.
- 18 human lives lost.
- 168 cattle lost
- Rs. 232.55 lakh worth crops damaged.
- 231 houses worth Rs. 54.31 lakh damaged.
- Rs. 20.27 crore worth public utilities damaged.
- Total damaged estimated at Rs. 23.13 crore.
- Infrastructure 3-foot bridges in Palaum sub division and one bridge each at Luhani Khad and Binwa Khad damaged. Total PWD loss assessed at Rs. 3.95 crore.
- 184 water supply schemes and 19 irrigation schemes worth Rs. 2.52 crore damaged.
- State Electricity Board loss estimated at Rs.8.65 crore.
- Forest Department damaged Rs. 0.44 crore.
- Loss to public property such as Agriculture land, block development, education, cattle head, cow sheds, commercial buildings and different minor works estimated at Rs. 2.70 crore.
- Major loss to Binwa Hydro Electric Project at Utrala and Baner Hydro Electric Project at Jia.
- Estimated period for Binwa project has been put up as six months.

#### State Efforts

- CM, HP along with Cabinet colleagues and Speaker, HP Vidhan Sabha visited the affected areas.
- A sum of Rs. 5 crore for the relief works to restore normalcy in the devastated region already sanctioned.

- Rescue and relief operations are going on full swing.
- Estimation of accurate losses still going on.
- Memorandum from the State Government to Central Government as on 31.7.2001 sent on 6th August, 2001.
- Total loss of the State submitted as Rs. 23.14 crore.
- State Government requested for additional financial assistance of Rs. 11.93 crore from the NCCF.
- Central Government keeping constant watch on the situation in the State.

# KERALA: (Dated July 27, 2001)

- "The Southwest monsoon had set in Kerala on 25.5.2001.
- Districts affected 14. Villages affected -1352. Families affected 38694.
- "Human lives lost 120. (89 adults & 31 non-adults). Injured 94 (Adults -92 and Non-adults -2). Missing 7
- " Houses fully destroyed 1533 Houses Partially destroyed 21361 (Total Damage Rs.12.77 crores)
- " Crop loss Rs. 158 crores approximately
- "Relief camps opened 1068 and camps continuing 16 (490 families are now in relief camps).
- " Families evacuated 32420.
- "State Government sanctioned Rs 100 lakhs each to all the District collectors for immediate temporary relief.
- " Union Agriculture Minister visited Trivandrum, Kerala on 14th July 2001.
- " Centre keeping constant watch on the situation.
- " Memorandum submitted by State Government.
- " Central Team visiting Kerala on 28.7.2001.

## ORISSA: (Dated 02.08.2001)

## Floods

- Heavy Rains / Floods.
- Floods occurred on 10.7.2001 and again on 27th July, 2001.
- Discharge from Mahanadi system was more than its carrying capacity.
- Floodwaters started receding in all areas.
- All rivers flow below danger level and considerable recession in the floods.

## Impact & Damages:

- Area 24 out of 30 districts affected.
- Angul, Bolangir, Balasore, Bhadrak, Boudh, Cuttack, Ganjam, Jagatsingpur, Jajpur, Kalahandi, Kendrapara, Khurdha, Koraput, Malkangiri, Nabrangpur, Nayagarh, Nuapada, Puri, Rayagada, Sonepur, Jharsuguda and Sambalpur, Bargarh and Deogarh are affected districts.
- 216 Blocks, 2650-Gram Panchayats, 35-Urban level Blocks, 17630 Villages affected.
- 8.85 lakh hectares crop area affected.

- Life & Property 93.41 lakhs population affected.
- 98 human lives lost.
- 14183 cattle lost
- Rs. 61.46 crore worth crops damaged.
- 2,40,152 houses damaged.
- Infrastructure Damages to Railway bridges/network/tracks Repaired. No report of damage to Telecommunication network / power installations.

# State Efforts:

- Council of Ministers under the Chairmanship of Chief Minister met immediately to take stock of the flood situation and review the relief and restoration measures.
- State Government sounded RED ALERT. People living in low-lying areas were advised to move to safe areas.
- District officials maintained utmost vigil and took all immediate measures to handle the situation.
- Patrolling intensified in all embankments. Warning issued to view the damage to embankments as serious.
- Air dropping of food materials closed with effect from 30.7.2001, last being on 29th effecting a total dropping of food materials of 582.90 MTs.
- Army contacted/approached more than 3 lakh marooned people. Deployment of Army personnel for relief and rescue operation has been withdrawn. 81 platoons & 2 sections OSAP, 97 platoons & 2 sections of APR and 2176 Home Guard engagement continues
- All Government boats put into rescue & relief operation. Boat deployed by Army and Navy withdrawn. 1258 Motor vehicles of different kinds have been requisitioned and supplied for rescue & relief operation.
- Some people of Kendrapara, Puri & Jajpur districts remain in shelters and in safer places as their villages are still surrounded by flood water due to slow release of flood water to sea.
- Free kitchen arrangements discontinued in many places. However, Free kitchen arrangement still continued in the districts of Jharsuguda, Puri, Jagatsinghpur, Kendrapara, Jajpur due to slow receding of flood waters.
- 3199 MT of cattle feed despatched to 17 districts by MD, OMFED till 01.08.2001. 200 MT rice bran supplied. Total live stock affected is 42.76 lakh. Animals treated is 2.31 lakh. Preventive vaccination taken up in cases of 5.261 lakh animals.
- 1 lakh halogen tablets per district distributed alongwith other essential medicines and vaccines to prevent spread of epidemic.
- Health care measures (despatched all essential drugs along with 2.57 crore halogen tablets & 61.55 lakh of ORS packets) taken.
- Towards containment measures 233887 wells, 3668 houses, and 1522 Ghats have been disinfected. 32847 patients treated. 17078 contact cases and 371952 minor ailments treated.
- 226 additional doctors, 111 paramedical workers, 22 Attendant and 17 medical students deployed to different districts.

- Relief materials (Rice 31055 MT; Chuda 3744.38 MT, SKO 17886 KL, 50000 polythene pieces, 9773 tents and 900 numbers canvas) distributed to different districts.
- Funds distribution: State Relief Commissioner has released Rs.55.77 crore in different districts out of CRF for flood relief work. Rs.400/- per beneficiary authorised for sanction as financial assistance, immediately.
- NGO Activities: CARE, Ramakrishna Matha, Project Aparajita, Indian Red Cross, EFICOR, UBSS, UNDP, World vision of India, OXFAM, Basundhara, SNEH, Concern World Wide AID, People's Forum, LWS, CPSW, ORRISSA, PRAY, PECUC, Open Learning System Centre for Child and Women Development, etc., are engaged in relief & rescue work.

# Central efforts:

- Hon'ble Prime Minister of India visited Orissa and made an aerial survey on 29th July, 2001. He complemented the Chief Minister and State Administration for prompt and effective action and placed on record his appreciation for the good work done by the Defence personnel.
- PM assured the Central Government's commitment to stand by the people of Orissa and the State Government at this hour of crisis.
- Ministries of Power, Transport and Urban Development to take steps for assisting the State Government for restoration of power and transportation utilities and in providing of loan through HUDCO for rebuilding houses for people Above Poverty Line (APL).
- As a sequel to the PM's decisions on Orissa floods, the meeting of Crisis Management Group (CMG) was convened on 30th July, 2001 under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary & Central Relief Commissioner, DAC.
- The high level Team headed by Agriculture Minister visited Orissa on 19.7.2001 for aerial survey of the flood situation
- Meeting of National Crisis Management Committee (NCMC) was held under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary to review the flood situation in the State on 18.7.2001.
- Krishi Control Room in the Nodal Department is operational round the clock for monitoring the flood situation.
- 967 Army personnel with 40 heavy vehicle, 11 light vehicle, 6 ambulance and 500 life jackets deputed. 47 Army boat and 16 light boat put into service.
- 6 defence helicopters spared for air dropping of food packets.
- Dept. of Agriculture and Cooperation keeping constant touch with State Government, Ministry of Defence, Water Resources, IMD, Road Transport & Highways, and other line Departments.
- Ministry of Water Resources is monitoring water level in dams.
- Railways: Sanction accorded for transportation of Polythene, Tarpauline, Tents, Clothing, Food Articles & Medicines for relief work allowed free of freight charges as a special case.
- Railways / Road Transport & Highways keeping a watch.
- State Government's requirement of 15 lakh Halogen tablets was acceded by the Ministry of Health.

- Secretary Health reviewing the situation twice a day.
- Constant touch with State Government.
- A team of Doctors (2) from NICD visited the State from 21-24 July, 2001 to assess the situation.
- Coast Guard sent 4 teams to assist the civil authorities in distributing food packets and providing medical aid to marooned personnel, and a mobile medical team is treating patients suffering from gastroenteritis, fever, skin diseases and other infections / diseases. Over hundred marooned villagers have been rescued from villages in Kantapada and Narijung & Kendrapada Districts. More than 300 people attend to by the medical and 5000 food packets distributed over the past week.
- · Financial Assistance:
- 1) Hon'ble PM announced on 18th July 2001, an initial amount of Rs. 100 crores for relief / rescue operations. During his visit PM announced an additional relief of Rs. 435.00 crore by way of additional 3 lakh tonnes of rice (estimated cost of Rs. 210 crore) under Food for Work Programme and 1 lakh additional Indra Awas Yojana Units(estimated cost of Rs. 225 crore) for rebuilding houses for people BPL.
- 2) Entire central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for 2001-02 amounting to Rs.86.21 crore released in May 2001.
- 3) Assistance of Rs. 49.62 crores approved from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) in the wake of drought.

#### **PUNJAB:**

- "Occurrence flood reported on 25.7.2001.
- <sup>"</sup> 2 out of 17 districts affected viz. Sangrur and Patiala.
- 28 villages affected by flood.
- <sup>"</sup> 24,212 acres crop area affected.
- " Breaches being plugged.

## **UTTARANCHAL:**

- " Flood occurred due to Heavy downpour/cloud burst on 16th July, 2001 in between Guptkashi-Gorikund.
- "Rudraprayag-Kedarnath road was badly affected by landslide and debris flow.
- " 10 Villages affected viz. Dhani, Jamu, Saimkurali, Khat, Khariya, Rail, Ravigaon, Byung, Phata and Tarsali. Four villages namely Dhani, Saimkurali, Khariya, Tarsali damaged.
- " 18 human lives lost, One person injured and 8 persons missing. Out of this 10 are females.
- " 25 cattle lost.
- <sup>"</sup> 26 houses including 04 Government buildings damaged.
- " 13 km road stretch damaged at 16 points ( at 5 locations it is badly damaged)
- \*\* 800-pilgrims affected and 350 pilgrim evacuated.
- "State Government gave quick response to the situation. An Emergency Control Room has been set up at Guptkashi having contact Nos. 0136-407241, 0136-467221.

- " Arrangements to air drop foodstuff and supply other essential commodities, and provision of temporary shelters like tents, tarpaulins for villages was made.
- " Major damages to the electricity and water supply systems in the affected area.
- " Detailed memorandum is being sent by the State Govt. after assessment.

#### **NORTH EASTERN STATES:**

- " Flood occurred following heavy rains from 5th to 7th June 2001 in Assam, Tripura, Mizoram and Manipur.
- "No fresh reports of worsening flood situation in North Eastern States. Floodwaters receded and normalcy returning back.

# ASSAM (04/08/2001)

- " Date of Start of flood 31.7.2001.
- " 12 out of 23 districts affected.
- Dehmaji, Bongaigaon, Kamrup, Darrang, Lakhimpur, Jorhat, Barpeta, Dhubri, Goalpara, Nalbari, Nagaon and Morigaon are affected districts.
- " 483 villages affected.
- " 13,090 hectares crop area affected out of 86,210 hectares of total area affected.
- " Population Affected 1,94,382.
- " Flood situation remains unchanged in many districts.
- "Water level of Rivers flowing above danger level in many districts...
- "Road Communication remains cut-off in many districts."
- " Rail communication and NH 52 still remains cut off.
- " Machine and Country boats engaged for relief operations."
- "Gratuitous relief distributed to the affected people.

# Other States:

 Media reported heavy and torrential rains in some parts of Maharashtra, UP and Gujarat. No adverse situation reported by State Governments. Normal activities disrupted for few days during heavy rains. No report of damage and loss received from State Governments.

## Relief operations by other agencies:

• Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS) undertaken relief measures as soon as the floods occurred. The National HQ is in close touch with the Orissa State Red Cross Branch and the situation is reviewed on daily basis. Materials containing tents, woolen blankets, cloths, towels, tarpauline, kitchen sets, feeding cup, bedroll, assorted clothing for men, women and children sent to West Bengal, Kerala, Orissa and Chhattisgarh. Rs.2 lakh was sent to Orissa Branch for local procurement. Cash Assistance of Rs.1 lakh each to Kerala

and Chhattisgarh and Rs.2 lakh to Orissa was given. An additional sum of Rs. 30 lakh was sent for local procurement for supplying relief material to victims from the International assistance.

• In addition to above 6 million water purification tablets and emergency medical kit containing medicines for gastroentrics, cold, fever etc., separately. International branches viz. Spanish Red Cross, American & British Red Cross offered their assistance.

(S.V. Patil)
Under Secretary
agrindia@krishi.delhi.nic.in
Telephone Nos. 3383476 & 3389453
FAX No. 3384555.