

Landslide kills nine in Palakkad

Palakkad: A landslide that destroyed three houses at Cherumkadu in Aluvassery near Nemmara in the district early on Thursday morning has left nine persons dead. Fire and rescue services and police are searching for other people possibly trapped in the area, said officials.

Seven of the bodies recovered from the debris have been identified. They are of Gan-

gadhara (55) of Cherumkadu, his wife Subhadra (50), their daughters Athira (24) and Arya (17) and Athira's 28-day-old daughter, Abhijith (25), son of late Unnikrishnan of Cherikad and Anitha (28), said district medical officer Dr K P Reetha.

Law and culture minister A K Balan said that 200 central reserve police and Rapid Action Force personnel have

been deployed in the district for rescue operations.

The Bharathapuzha and Bhavani rivers flowing through the district are in spate. With the Pattambi and Mayannur bridges across Bharathapuzha getting submerged, traffic between Palakkad and Thrissur has come to a standstill.

The opening of shutters of the Malampuzha reservoir by 1.50 meters has flooded Palak-

kad town again, affecting large number of people. The water level in the reservoir has almost touched the full reservoir level (FRL) of 115 meters.

The shutters of all the 12 reservoirs in the district, including Parambikulam and Aliyar, have currently been raised, thus releasing huge quantity of water into the Chitturpuzha and Bharathapuzha rivers.

OVER 24,000 AT RELIEF CAMPS IN WAYANAD



Reshma Eldose

Panamaram, Wayana

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Kozhikode: With respite from rain, Wayanad continued to reel under severe floods for the ninth day on Thursday. The number of flood-affected persons in relief camps crossed 4,000. The unrelenting rain forced KSE to further increase the shutter opening of both Banasura Sagar and Karapuzhi dams which caused further flooding in many parts of six panchayats in downstream areas.

The district administration, on Thursday, opened 28 new relief camps taking the total number of camps to 197 housing

6,382 families. The shutter opening of Banasura Sagar dam was increased from 255cm to 265cm at 11am. Authorities issued an alert that it would be further increased to 285cm in the course of the day. The discharge of 225 cumecs of water from the dam caused flooding in many areas of Padinjarathara, Kottathara and Kavumandom in Vythiri taluk and Anchukunnu, Vellamunda and Panamaram in Mananthavady taluk. The district witnessed 96.67mm rain on Thursday till 3pm.

Navy team rescued 45 tribesmen who were isolated at Kunjome in Thondernad

panchayath. Also, NDRF and Navy teams rescued many families from Venniyode and Karapuzha.

District collector A R Ajayakumar said that more families have been shifted to relief camps as a precautionary measure in view of the flood situation and mud slips being reported at various places.

"The situation is under control. We might have to run the camps for an extended period considering the flood situation," he said. District civil supplies officials said that they have stock of PDS grains to last till the end of the month.

Rain, landslips claim six more lives in Kozhikode

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Kozhikode: Frequent rain and landslips have claimed six more lives in Kozhikode. Six persons including four children were killed in separate incidents.

A father, son duo was killed at Kalpani near Koodaranhi in Kozhikode following a landslide. Thayyil Thodiyil Prakashan (40) and son Praveen (10) were killed as the debris fell on them. Five members of Prakashan's family including two children were rescued by residents.

Two children of the same family were killed as land caved in on a house at Oorkadavu near Mavoor in the district in the wee hours on Thursday. Fathima Nishana (2) daughter of K Shukkur and Thanha Fathima (5) daughter of Mohammed Shammus were killed in the mishap.

The body of Mohammed Yaseen (6) son of Iyyad Chelathur Meethal Mohammadali was recovered from Chettukadavu stream near Kakkodi on Thursday. In another incident, 22-year-old Rasnas Aslam drowned in a waterbody at Pu-



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thurmadam on Thursday.

The death toll in the district has reached 32 this monsoon season with the death of four persons on Thursday. Ten persons lost life in the district on Wednesday and Thursday alone. While two persons in Vadakara taluk were electrocuted on Wednesday, two others including a

child died after falling in waterlogged areas.

According to official figures, 172 camps are opened in Kozhikode district to relocate the flood and landslide victims. Nearly 15,000 persons from 4,750 families are living in relief camps.

Over 5,000 persons have shifted to relatives' houses following land slide and flood situations. Camps are operating in 43 villages in the district.

"The flood situation has worsened in Vengeri and Kakkodi. Many families have been shifted to relief camps," said K Ramla, disaster management deputy collector Kozhikode. The district administration is giving stress to rescue lives, he said.

Water from Chaliyar, Eengapuzha and Kuttiady rivers are overflowing. Many families in Mavoor panchayat, Mukkom, Karassery, Kakkodi and other areas have been shifted to relief camps.

Kozhikode district collector declared holiday for all educational institutions including professional colleges in the district on Friday.

