## The Hindu 14 June 2018 Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala Flood, Death, Disasters

## Flood death toll reaches 23

8 houses destroyed, 272 damaged

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Torrential rains unleashed by the Southwest monsoon continued to wreak havoc throughout the State on Wednesday, taking the death toll to 23 and throwing normal life out of gear.

The heavy showers left all the rivers in spate, triggered landslips, inundated low-lying areas and caused widespread damage to crops. The hilly areas took the brunt of the monsoon fury with many places cut off by flood waters.

Two persons were drowned in flood waters in Pathanamthitta district on Wednesday.

The Palakkad district administration sought the help of the Southern Naval Command to trace a youth who was reported missing in the Bharathapuzha river from Parali.

As many as eight houses were destroyed and 272 damaged across the State on Wednesday.

With this, a total of 126 houses have been destroyed and 2,705 damaged since the onset of the Southwest monsoon in Kerala.

By Wednesday evening, 1,163 persons belonging to 322 families were accommodated in 34 relief camps in eight districts.

According to information from the State control room, crops in 793 hectares of land were damaged on Wednesday, taking the extent of damage to 22,918 hectares. The crop loss was being estimated.

In Idukki district, landslips damaged the Kanjar-Wagamon road at many locations.

Heavy rainfall continued to pound Peerumade taluk

- 1,163 accommodated in 34 relief camps in eight districts
- Met Centre issues heavy rainfall warning for parts of State up to Friday

which recorded the highest rainfall of the season (32 cm) on Monday.

One person died and seven houses were damaged in a landslide at Makoottam in Kannur.

The Pathanamthitta district administration opened five relief camps after many low-lying areas of the Upper Kuttanad area were inundated.

With the shutters of the Moozhiyar dam likely to be opened any time, people residing along the river banks of the Pampa, Manimala, and Kakkattar rivers have been cautioned.

The water level in the Idukki and Mullaperiyar dams was rising fast. At the present rate, officials said, the shutters of the Idukki dam would have to be opened before the Northeast monsoon when the inflow peaks.

The water level in the Siruvani and Malampuzha dams in Palakkad were also reaching maximum capacity.

Landslips occurred at Palakkayam and Injiyur in the district

The Met Centre here has issued a heavy rainfall warning for parts of the State up to Friday.

Strong winds and high waves are forecast along the Kerala and Karnataka coasts and Lakshadweep area.

Fishermen have been advised not to venture into these areas.