

# Indian Express

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## Kozhikode, Karinchola, Landslide

### Six killed as landslides ravage Karinchola



Rescue workers carrying a body recovered from the mud at Karinchola in Kozhikode | MANU R MAVELIL

**JSTIN ABRAHAM** @ Karinchola

WHAT can one do when a hill comes cashing down? Nothing! This is what happened at Karinchola in Kattipara village in Kozhikode. After repeated landslides, a major portion of the hill came tumbling down, killing six persons - including three children - and destroying four houses. Around 10 people are missing. Search and rescue operations, which continued late into the night, are be-

ing coordinated by the police, fire force and the district disaster management team. A 50-member National Disaster Response Team is helping them.

It was around 6 am that a major landslide occurred in Karinchola. Locals said there were a few minor landslides on the other side in the wee hours. Asiya, who lives near the destroyed houses, said she woke up from her sleep after hearing a loud noise. "I was sleeping on the floor. I

jumped when the whole house shook. I didn't understand what was happening. There was a loud noise. Power was gone and the electric post in front of our house fell down. I rushed to the door and saw the other houses being swept away," she said.

Asiya is yet to recover from the shock. "I became numb for a moment. People had come by that time. They asked me to leave the house. It was then that I came to my senses. I took the children in my arms and left

the place," she said. According to authorities, four houses have been completely destroyed and six bodies have been recovered from the site. The landslide swept away the houses of Abdurahman, Hassan, Eercha Abdurahman and Prasad. Of these, Eercha and his family escaped miraculously as they had left their house soon after hearing a loud noise. Those who were killed have been identified as Abdurahman, 60; Mohammed Jaseem, 5; Dilna Sherin, 9; Muhammed Shahabas, 3; Hassan, 65; and Jannath, 17.

Only two members from Abdurahman's family managed to escape, while his wife and son are missing. Three members from Saleem's family escaped, while he lost two children.

The district administration has opened three relief camps at the Government UP School in Vettiyozhinjathottam, Chundankuzhy School and Kattippara Nazareth School. About 250 persons have moved to these relief camps.

In the wake of multiple landslides in Karinchola, Deputy Collector (disaster management) P P Krishnakutty has declared a red alert in the area on Thursday. The alert was declared as chances of landslides are more in the region.

Ministers T P Ramakrishnan, A K Saseendran, Kozhikode MP M K Raghavan, MLAs Karat Razzack, George M Thomas, P T A Rahim and others visited the site.