

# Indian Express

19 July 2018

## Thiruvananthapuram, Monsoon Relief, 113 Crore for Relief Work

### GOVT ANNOUNCES ₹113 CRORE FOR RELIEF WORK

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @T'Puram

WITH the Southwest monsoon leaving a grim trail of death and destruction across the state, the government on Wednesday sanctioned Rs 113.19 crore for relief work. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has warned that heavy rainfall is likely to continue till Sunday.

District Collectors have been instructed to disburse the amount being sourced from the State Disaster Response Fund at the earliest, Revenue Minister E Chandrasekharan said. The government has also requested the Centre to despatch two more units of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) to the state to tackle contingencies.

The financial assistance for fully destroyed or damaged houses has been hiked to ₹4 lakh. A maximum of ₹6 lakh will be sanctioned for the flood-affected people who have lost land in the floods and do not own land elsewhere in the state. The local body concerned will also issue permission within a day to the flood-affected to rebuild destroyed houses at the same location.

The government also decided to provide Rs 1,000 each to every family relocated to relief camps. The decision is applicable to all families which were in the camps till 6 pm on July 17, and also to the families which left the camps.

Two NDRF teams are currently deployed in Kottayam and Alappuzha. IMD has warned of heavy to very heavy rainfall and storms in some places in the state between Thursday and Sunday.

#### RELIEF MEASURES

T'Puram	₹9.91 crore	Thrissur	₹2.96 crore
Kollam	₹5.06 crore	Palakkad	₹9.57 crore
P'thitta	₹4.06 crore	Malappuram	₹26.37 crore
Alappuzha	₹10.31 crore	Kozhikode	₹5.88 crore
Kottayam	₹13.77 crore	Wayanad	₹3.18 crore
Idukki	₹3.25 crore	Kannur	₹7.75 crore
Ernakulam	₹5.59 crore	Kasargod	₹5.86 crore

### State wants Centre to send team

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ T'Puram

THE state government has urged the Centre to send a team to assess the total loss due to monsoon-related calamities. In a communication to Union Home minister Rajnath Singh, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said that the monsoon has wreaked havoc across the state for the past two months.

More than 27,000 people affected by floods, landslides and cyclones have been shifted to relief camps. It's estimated that as many as 965 villages have been affected. So far, 103 deaths have been reported. Landslides have been reported from more than 40 regions. While 339 houses have been completely destroyed, more than 8,700 houses were partially damaged. Agriculture loss in an area of around 8,800 hectares has been reported.

Teams from the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF)

have been deployed in Alappuzha and Kottayam districts. In addition, the state has demanded two more NDRF units. Though the defence forces operating in the state are prepared to carry out disaster relief activities, they don't have sufficient equipment and dinghy boats.

Taking this into consideration, boats and other equipment should be provided to defence units in Kannur, Thiruvananthapuram and Alappuzha, the government said. It also pointed at the need for the Air Force unit here to have at least one heavy-lift helicopter.

The CM also reminded about an earlier demand from the state to the Prime Minister for a ₹7,340 crore relief package for the protection of the 190-km coastal belt, put forth in the wake of cyclone Ockhi.

Though the memorandum was submitted in December 2017, the state hasn't received any response so far.