### **Indian Express**

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#### Thiruvananthapuram, Monsoon Fury, Deaths

# State grappling with numbers; 9 deaths reported in 24 hours

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @T'Puram** 

THE Revenue Department's control room on monsoon-related calamities has pegged the death toll so far this Southwest monsoon season at 116, even as the Met Department warned that heavy to very heavy rainfall is likely to continue till Monday.

According to the control room, nine more deaths have been reported over the past 24 hours. Ten persons have been reported missing since the onset of monsoon on May 29. There is disparity in the death toll data released by various agencies. According to the statistics reported by the State Disaster Management Authority to the Ministry of Home Affairs, the death toll till 3 pm on Thursday stood at 110.

But government officers say that not all of these deaths are due to notified disasters, but are indirectly related to them. At present, 564 relief camps are operational in the state. In all, they currently house 25,469 families. Alappuzha district has the highest number of families relocated to relief camps.

## PMO instructs MHA to take urgent action

The Prime Minister's Office has instructed the Union Home Affairs Ministry to take urgent action on the state's representation on the rain-related havoc, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan's office said on Thursday. The all-party delegation which met Prime Minister Narendra Modi had submitted a representation in this regard. The PMO has asked the MHA to take necessary action at the earliest. As per the representation, 965 villages have been affected by rain-related calamities.

According to the latest figures, crop loss has been reported in 15,619.42 hectares. The loss has been estimated at ₹200 crore. As many as 391 houses have been destroyed in the heavy rain and flood, and 10,316 damaged, according to the Revenue Department.