

Ministry of Home Affairs
Disaster Management Division
(National Emergency Response Centre)

Brief regarding Cyclonic Storm “NIVAR” over southwest Bay of Bengal as on 24th November, 2020 at 1830 hrs.

1. IMD Forecast

- a) The **cyclonic storm ‘NIVAR’** over southwest Bay of Bengal moved westwards with a speed of 07 kmph during past six hours and lay centred at 1430 hrs IST of 24th November, 2020 over southwest Bay of Bengal near about 370 km east-southeast of Puducherry and 420 km south-southeast of Chennai. It is very likely to intensify further into a severe cyclonic storm during next 12 hours and into a very severe cyclonic storm during subsequent 12 hours.
- b) It is very likely to move west-northwestwards for next 12 hours and then northwestwards. It is very likely to cross Tamil Nadu and Puducherry coasts between Karaikal and Mamallapuram around Puducherry during 25th November 2020 late evening as a very severe cyclonic storm with a wind speed of 120-130 kmph gusting to 145 kmph.

Heavy Rainfall Warning

Fairly widespread to widespread rainfall/thunderstorm activity very likely over coastal and north interior Tamilnadu, Puducherry & Karaikal during 24th to 26th November and over south coastal Andhra Pradesh, Rayalaseema during 25th to 26th and southeast Telangana during 26th November, 2020. Isolated extremely heavy rainfall activity also very likely over coastal & north interior Tamilnadu & Puducherry (Pudukottai, Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Karaikal, Nagapattinam, Cuddalore, Ariyalur & Perabalu districts during 24th and Kadalur, Kallakurchi, Puducherry, Villupuram, Tiruvannamalai, Chengalpattu to Ariyalur, Perambalur and Karaikal districts during 25th) and over Nellore and Chittoor districts of Andhra Pradesh on 25th and over Rayalseema & southeast Telangana on 26th November, 2020.

Damage expected over and Action suggested:

(a) Damage expected over Nagapattinam, Myladuthurai, Cuddalore, , Villupuram & Chengalpattu districts of Tamilnadu and Karaikal & Puducherry:

- Total destruction of thatched houses/ extensive damage to kutcha houses. Some damage to old pucca houses. Potential threat from flying objects.
- Bending/ uprooting of power and communication poles.
- Major damage to Kutcha and Pucca roads. Flooding of escape routes. Disruption of railways, overhead powerlines and signalling systems.
- Widespread damage to standing crops, plantations, orchards, falling of green coconuts and tearing of palm fronds. Blowing down of bushy trees like mango.
- Small boats, country crafts may get detached from moorings.

- Visibility severely affected.

Damage expected over Tiruvarur, Kanchipuram, Chennai, Tiruvallaur districts of Tamilnadu and adjoining Andhra Pradesh:

- Damage to thatched houses/ huts with possibility of roof tops being blown off and unattached metal sheets may fly.
- Damage to power and communication lines.
- Damage to Kutcha and some damage to Pucca roads. Flooding of escape routes.
- Breaking of tree branches, uprooting of trees. Severe damage to banana and papaya trees, horticulture and crops & orchards. Large dead limbs blown from trees.
- Major damage to coastal crops. Damage to embankments/ salt pans.

2. Steps taken by Central Government:

- i. Situation is being closely monitored 24x7 by Central Government at highest level.
- ii. Cabinet Secretary chaired a meeting on 23.11.2020 of the National Crisis Management Committee (NCMC) to review the status of impending Cyclone through video conferencing with the Chief Secretaries of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry.
 - The Chief Secretaries of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry briefed the NCMC about their preparedness and mentioned that the authorities are fully prepared to meet any eventuality. They also informed about the coordination with the NDRF and other agencies to meet this challenge.
 - DG, India Meteorological Department made presentation on the present situation and mentioned that the status is being shared with the concerned State Governments. He mentioned that the impending Cyclone is going to affect coastal areas of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry between 24th to 26th November, 2020.
 - The Cabinet Secretary mentioned that we all are aiming at zero loss of life and early restoration of normalcy in the affected areas. He mentioned that the advisories to fishermen not to go into the sea should be strictly implemented. People living in 'kutcha' houses may be advised suitably according to the situation, he added.
 - Secretaries from Home, Power, Telecommunication, Civil Aviation, Shipping, Health Ministry, Chairman, Railway Board,

Member Secretary, NDMA, DG, NDRF and representative of Ministry of Defence also informed the NCMC about the arrangements and assistance to the concerned states.

iii. Since 24.11.2020 special message and advisories received from IMD have been regularly shared with States/UT Concerned for taking precautionary and preparedness measures.

iv. Deployment of NDRF

BN	States/UT	Standby Teams	Teams alerted/ pre-positioned	No. of Teams
04 Bn	Tamil Nadu	BHQ Arakkonam	Chennai (RRC)	02
			Madurai	01
			Cuddalore	03
			Chidambaram, Cuddalore	02
			Neyveli, Cuddalore	01
			Mallapuram	01
			Viluppuram	02
	Puducherry		Karaikal	01
	Puducherry	02		
10 Bn	Andhra Pradesh	BHQ Guntur – 08 Teams	Vishakhapatnam (RRC)	03
			Nellore	01
			Nellore	02
			Chittoor	01
Total		08 Teams	Total	22

All teams have reliable wireless & Satellite communications, tree cutters/ pole cutters for post land fall restoration, if need arises.

v.

3. Steps taken by State Governments as on 24.11.2020: -

i. Tamil Nadu:

- i. The State of Tamil Nadu has 4733 nos of Relief Camp in which 1298768 persons can be accommodated. Till now 949 persons have been shifted in 27 Relief Camps.
- ii. District Collectors have been alerted through e-mail and Whatsapp.

- iii. Warning /Alert Message received from IMD communicated to all the Monitoring Officers and other Higher Officials through e-mail and Whatsapp.
 - iv. Instructions issued by the Chief Secretary to Government, Government of Tamil Nadu that Senior I.A.S officers have been deputed to the coastal and most vulnerable districts for monitoring the situation.
 - v. Special instructions to District Collectors:-
 - To make a quick assessment of the need to evacuate people from the vulnerable areas and make necessary arrangements.
 - To ensure that the relief centres comply Covid -19 safety measures.
 - To arrange to shift the people living in weak buildings to safe places.
 - To depute Police and Revenue personnel to monitor the water bodies and sea shore to turn away people.
 - Generators to be arranged for ensuring uninterrupted drinking water supply in the event of a disaster.
- 20 Huts/Houses has been reported partially damaged and 4 fully damaged.

ii. Puduchery:

- i. Persons evacuated: Not yet reported.
 - ii. The bulletins and advisory issued by IMD had been disseminated to all ESF/Line Departments regarding Pre-Cyclone Watch for Puducherry and Karaikal through SEOC.
 - iii. Control room opened by all ESF Teams and Line Departments and manned 24 x 7.
 - iv. A meeting convened on 23.11.2020 at 11.00 AM by Special Secretary (Relief & Rehabilitation) - cum- Director, State Emergency Centre with all ESF Team Leaders/ Line Departments..
 - v. Relief shelters are kept ready.
 - vi. Coast guard is requested to be alert.
- No loss of life/damage to property reported so far.

iii. Andhra Pradesh-

- i. No of persons evacuated – Nil
- ii. Following the video conference by Cabinet Secretary on cyclonic storm on 23rd Nov, 2020, Chief Secretary held video conference with the District Collectors (Nellore, Prakasam and Rayalaseema districts)/Line

Departments on preparedness measures in connection with cyclonic storm NIVAR on 23rd Nov, 2020 at 06.30 PM.

- iii. District Collectors concerned/Line Departments have been instructed to take all precautionary measures to minimize losses/ damages to property and human life.
- iv. District Collectors concerned/Line Departments are being informed and disseminated with information about the status of cyclonic storm from time to time.
- v. Ensure that boats and other equipment of fishermen are moved to safer places and secured.

➤ No loss of life/damage to property reported so far.
