The floods in Odisha has claimed the lives of 22 people so far. A total of 3256 villages under 896 gram panchayats in 112 blocks were hit due to the massive flood resulting in the wake of incessant rainfall due to back to back low pressures in the Bay of Bengal.

**Full moon day kept repelling the floodwaters from entering the sea**

The flood situation in Odisha continued to remain grim as thousands of villages in Jajpur along with Kendrapara and Khurda continued to remain waterlogged as the tidal waves in Bay of Bengal due to full moon day kept repelling the floodwaters from entering the sea.

The flood has affected at least 1.4 million people across 20 districts of the state, but the districts of Jajpur has been the worst hit. Several villages continued to remain dark as electricity substations were submerged in floodwater. The district which was fighting the rage of Baitarani river and its tributaries for the last few days, is gradually getting back to normalcy. However, 13 out of the 29 flood affected panchayats are still fighting to stay afloat in this terrible flood situation.

Villagers whose houses were washed away by floodwaters have been forced to stay in temporary huts on river embankments. With hand pumps and ponds contaminated by flood water, villagers have little drinking water. As many don’t have an LPG connection, villagers are finding it difficult to arrange dry firewood to cook their food.
CYSD's Response to Floods 2020

- 10 Volunteers oriented to conduct sanitation drive at identified villages of Dimiriapal, Routsahi and Ratnagiri
- 200 families identified who have not received any support from any quarter.
- Dry food distributed in the villages of Masoori and Machhuasahi villages
- Free kitchen conducted in four villages i.e Nathpur & Daleisahi of Dharapur GP & Bilbali & Harijan Sahi of Bilbali GP.
- 1000 Khechudi (cooked food) pockets distributed in the GPs of Mandari & Serapur.
- Halogen tablets & ORS Powder distributed among 100 families of different villages.
- People of Dimiriapal, Routsahi and Ratnagiri villages have reported their health issues for redressal in priority basis.
- Like minded NGOs have been identified in Jajpur district and Bari block to deepen the relief and rehabilitation activities.

Farmland paddy saplings got rotten and buried under heap of soil & muck

The flood has devastated Jajpur district the most by snatching away a year’s food reserve of the residents with over 75,737 hectares of farmland getting submerged and sand-cast in the floodwater. The Bari block of the district with 29 panchayats has been severely hit by flood. Over 4,000 hectare of farmlands are lying submerged along in Gamu, Serpur, Mandari, Ratnagiri and Chandanpur Panchayats of the Block.

As a result, the paddy saplings have got rotten or buried under heap of soil and muck on the farmland. Their loss is so glaring that the poor farmers will not be able to make up for the loss no matter how much effort they put up to recover from the loss. The farmlands are still lying submerged in floodwater despite water level declining in Brahmani and its tributaries. Many have been rendered homeless as the flood has washed away their thatched and mud houses. There are even several Panchayats which are still lying inundated in floodwater.

The farmers do not have any food stock at home or crops on their farmland as they had invested all their earnings from last year’s paddy sale on their cultivation.
Ruined economy of Jajpur gets double setback

Before the unending distress of Corona pandemic, the claw of flood has further pushed people into unimaginable suffering in the district of Jajpur. All ten blocks in the district have been badly affected by floods. The situation in all ten blocks still remains grim as over four lakh people of 530 villages under 124 gram panchayats have been affected in the flood caused by the Brahmani, Baitarani, Kharasrota, Kani, Budha and Kelua rivers. Many villages of Bari, Rasulpur, Dasarathapur, Binjharpur and Jajpur blocks of the district have been cut off from the rest of the world.

Road link between the district and blocks headquarters have been cut off as these roads are under neck deep water caused by the floods. Breaches in embankments of Baitarani, Brahmani, Kharasrota, Kani and Kelua rivers were reported at 24 different places in Bari, Rasulpur, Jajpur, Dasarathapur, Binjharpur and Dharmasala blocks areas thereby causing extensive damage of property and suffering to people.

Highlights

Flood Package declared by Chief Minister:

- Cooked/dry food will be provided to the people at shelter homes 50 K.G rice and Rs.500 to families severely affected by flood.
- Polythene sheets to be given to affected households to cover damage houses.
- Assistance for clothing and utensils House damage assistance to be given after assessment of damage within 15 days.
- Assistance to be disbursed within next 7 days
- Cattle feed assistance to be given to dairy farmers
- Exemption of fees for vaccination and treatment of animals in affected areas.
- Free animal check up camps in affected areas
- Assistance to be provided as per SDRF norms

Distribution of Relief Materials by Civil Society Organizations:

- Samaj Relief distributed dry food in Binjharpur area of Jajpur district.

OUR PARTNERS

www.cysd.org