



Sphere India
National Coalition of Humanitarian Agencies in India

Joint Rapid Need Assessment Report

Bengaluru, Karnataka

Heavy Rainfall & Urban Flood

May 2022



Heavy Rainfall & Urban Flood JRNA Report

Bengaluru - Karnataka

May 2022

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Acknowledgement

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We would also like to acknowledge, with deep gratitude, the guidance, cooperation and support extended from EFICOR, HCLF, UNICEF, in the preparation of Urban Flood JRNA Report.

And, above all, the communities of affected areas of Bengaluru, Karnataka, who, even amidst the adversities took out time and patiently provided answers to all the questions put to them, without any reservations.

Sphere India

28th May, 2022

About JRNA and Disclaimer

As per Sphere India Standard Operating Procedures, adapted to address the emergency situation, a Joint Rapid Needs Assessment (JRNA) was conducted across the heavy rainfall and flood affected areas of Bengaluru, Karnataka; data collection was conducted through secondary sources, field visits, personal interviews, key informant interviews, observations, and information provided by local CBOs. The organizations engaged in response have also shared their observation notes to incorporate in the report. Also, on ground information was collected using smart phones through data collection mobile application and collated by core team taking due consent from the affected population. The aim was to gather information on the impact of urban flood on the community members and understand their recovery needs, collate and analyze the findings, and disseminate the information to the State, National and International level agencies.

Disclaimer

The interpretations, data, views and opinions expressed in this report are collected from various sources including Government led institutions, line departments, field assessments by volunteers and team members deployed by Organizations who took initiative in Humanitarian Assistance activities and from secondary media sources. It does not necessarily carry the views and opinions of Sphere India or any humanitarian organization as a collective directly or indirectly. It is interpreted only for assessment purpose.

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1. Background

Karnataka experienced torrential rainfall on May 12-13th leading to Bengaluru recording its coldest day in the month of May in 50 years as the maximum temperature plunged to 23°C. IMD Bengaluru attributed that the heavy rains are due to the strong westerlies blowing towards the coast of Karnataka and Kerala at 1.5km above sea level, presence of upper air cyclonic circulation at 3.6-5.8km above sea level in Lakshadweep and a north-south trough extending 900m above mean sea level from Madhya Pradesh to Tamil Nadu across interior Karnataka¹.

The Ministry of Home Affairs reported that 5412 people were affected in 299 villages from 28 districts in the State with 5 deaths (Lightning – 3, Drowning -2). In the state 90 houses were completely and 1950 partially damaged due to the thunderstorm and heavy rainfall. The government opened 8 relief camps accommodating 4453 affected people².

On 17th May, Bengaluru experienced urban flooding in many of its localities due to the heavy downpour. IMD Bengaluru reported the city received 114mm rainfall at a few places and above 50mm at many places on May 17 night. Some schools declared a holiday for students on May 18 following the heavy rain.

STATION NAME	MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE (DEG CEL)	MINIMUM TEMPERATURE (DEG CEL)	RAINFALL (MM)	RELATIVE HUMIDITY (%)
BENGALURU CITY	27.6	20.2	114.6	93
BENGALURU INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT [KIAL]	30.2	20.3	65.6	100
BENGALURU H.A.L. AIRPORT	28.4	19.5	86.4	98

FIGURE 1 SOURCE: IMD BENGALURU

¹ <https://www.firstpost.com/india/explained-why-karnataka-is-battling-torrential-rain-as-north-suffers-from-harsh-heatwave-10696471.html>

² Ministry of Home Affairs, Disaster Management Division, Situation Report regarding Flood/Heavy Rainfall from 18th – 21st May, 2022.

Families living in low lying areas struggled to remove rain water that gushed into their houses. There was waterlogging reported in many parts of Bengaluru. Several roads in the city were damaged and witnessed traffic snarls at many places. The Chief Minister of Karnataka announced a compensation of Rs 25,000 to families living in houses that were flooded.



FIGURE 2 BENGALURU CITY - FLOOD AFFECTED. SOURCE: THE HINDU

Sphere India with support from local organizations conducted a Joint Rapid Need Assessment (JRNA) in highly affected areas of Bengaluru. From the affected population, a sample of total 113 households were assessed from the affected wards. Key informant interview with local administration were also conducted to understand the situation and needs at community and institutional level.

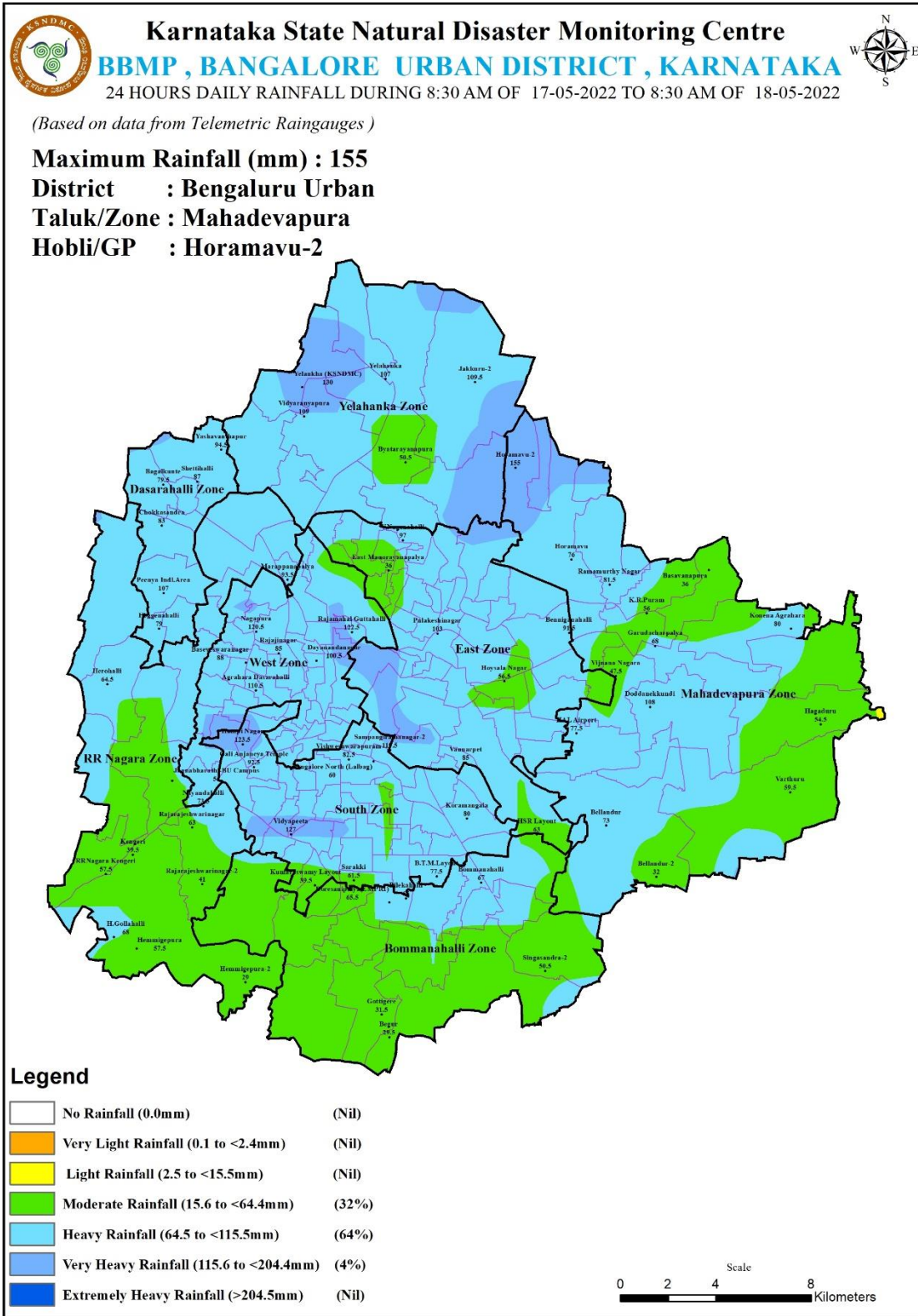


FIGURE 3 24HR RAINFALL ON MAY 17TH. SOURCE: KSNDMC

1.2. Key Findings of JRNA

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH):

Key concerns related to WASH are a) limited or no access to water storage containers – 21%, b) limited or no access to hand washing facilities – 17%, c) limited or no access to bath space with privacy – 11%, d) Damage to toilets – 11%, e) damage of liquid waste disposal system – 10%, etc.

Shelter, Settlements and Non-Food Items:

Most of the surveyed households live in temporary structures which are highly vulnerable to rain, wind and flood. The poor structures, cracks in walls and roofs affect the communities in slum, low-lying areas majorly even during low-intensity hazards. 73 respondents reported that they need to repair their houses which have been damaged due to the rainfall.

Health

Functionality and access to health institutions for the vulnerable communities have been affected due to the rainfall. Few of the respondents (8) reported that there have been some kind of illness reported after the rainfall like fever, fungal infection, etc. 64 respondents have received some kind of health support from the government after the rainfall.

Education

Educational services have been affected due to rainfall and disrupted. Moreover, damage to educational materials by the heavy rain is reported from the slum and low-lying areas. The households require financial support for continuing the education of their children.

Food Security & Nutrition, Livelihood

45% of the respondents reported concern on availability of food materials and 14% reported the financial concerns to procure food items when available.

Protection

The key concerns related to protection are a) security issues due to shelter damage – 43%, b) Absence of light in the evening – 25%, c) displaced – 17%, d) limited access to menstrual hygiene – 2%, e) living in relief camps with limited privacy – 2%, f) limited access to security mechanisms – 2% and g) increased domestic violence – 2%.

2. OVERVIEW OF JOINT RAPID NEEDS ASSESSMENT REPORT

2.1. Timeframe

TABLE 1 TIMEFRAME - JRNA

Timeline	Activity
17-18 th May, 2022	Heavy Rainfall in Bengaluru
25-26 th May, 2022	Orientation to Enumerators on tool and JRNA process
26-27 th May, 2022	Data Collection
27 th May, 2022	Data analysis
28 th May, 2022	JRNA Report

2.2. Methodology:

Based on the emergency situation, Sphere India coordinated with its existing NGO partners working in the affected areas of Bengaluru. It was decided to conduct a Joint Rapid Needs Assessment to identify the urgent, mid-term and long-term needs of affected community based on Food & Nutrition, Health, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Education Shelter, Livelihood, and Protection, and to flag out the vulnerability of affected community to access the basic services and entitlements in urban areas.

The JRNA involved joint efforts from Member organizations in the affected areas of Bengaluru facilitated by Sphere India with the field support from local NGOs, Government led institutions, line departments providing support and necessary information & data.

Volunteers were oriented to carry out data collection using household and key informant interview tools in these affected districts. The collected data got analyzed by the Sphere India team, and the draft report was reviewed by the respective sectoral experts. The reviewed and then revised report also incorporates the inputs and insights shared by the Sectoral committee leads.

During JRNA, urgent needs of affected communities have been identified through direct data collection from the field, government's damage assessment reports, pre-disaster information from respective line departments, and secondary data from various sources, media reports and discussions with grassroots functionaries. Data was collected based on the indicators of the specific tools/questionnaires used during the interviews/ discussions. The methodology was based on:

- a) Structured one-to-one interviews with affected households (ensuring prioritizing of random households from most affected villages giving equal representation to all sections of the local community).
- b) Key Informant Interviews with the authorities at the respective local administrations.
- c) Secondary data from IMD and various media sources to examine the observation and facts.

2.3. Rational behind the Sampling for Assessment:

The sampling sizes were determined based on secondary data information available from government reports and media sources. Affected areas were chosen from different Taluks of Bengaluru. The wards were selected on the basis of the impact data, vulnerability, heavy rainfall and having thorough discussion with the local NGOs and in consideration of their situational awareness and impact of the event. The households for the survey were selected in a way that ensures the participation of vulnerable groups like migrants, elderly people, PwDs, children and marginalised communities living in low-lying areas, near to drainages, slums, etc.

2.4. Primary Data Collection

The primary data collection process was initiated by conducting household surveys and key informant interviews from Jigani, Peenya, Vivek Nagar and K R Market, covering households and local administrations. The questions were designed to grasp the needs and challenges in the sectors like Food and Nutrition Security, Shelter, Protection, Health, Livelihood, Education, and WASH. Household level questionnaires have been filled through the KoBo Collect Tool, wherein the format was designed by national level experts, and has also included suggestions from the local humanitarian actors. In order to keep the assessment neutral, unbiased, and reflective of the ground reality, local volunteers were engaged, physically visiting and recording responses from the affected population.

TABLE 2 HOUSEHOLD SURVEY

No. of HH Surveys	Community			
	SC	OBC	Other	No answer
113	59	21	9	24



FIGURE 4 GLIMPSES FROM FIELD DATA COLLECTION

2.4 Primary Data Analysis

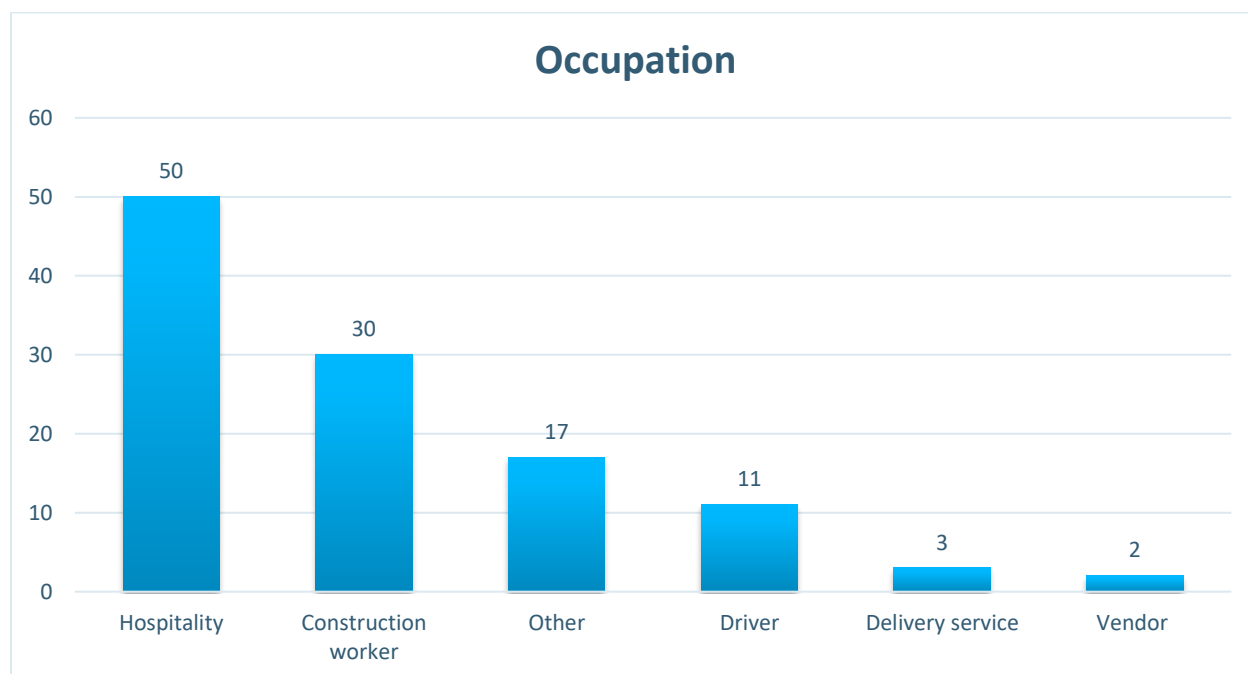
Quantitative Data Analysis

Once data was collected from KoBoCollect Tool, Sphere India team carried out data cleaning and data analysis using Microsoft Excel. The key findings were analyzed and highlighted in the form of graphs and charts to provide a better understanding of the emerging trends to the readers.

3. SECTORAL ASSESSMENT & RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1. RESPONDENT'S PROFILE

To understand the impact of heavy rainfall and urban flood the respondents from urban areas were chosen based on numerous parameters. The respondents were majorly the vulnerable communities living in low-lying areas, slums which also includes the migrant population. They were majorly affected due to disruption in livelihood, damage to shelters, etc. The occupation of the head of the households are listed in the below graph:



GRAPH 1 OCCUPATION OF RESPONDENTS

The major number of respondents were engaged as hospitality workers which includes caretakers, housemaids, etc. followed by construction workers, drivers, delivery service, painters, tailors and vendors.

The religion of the respondents are Hindu - 99, Christian – 8 and 6 other. Among them 59 are SC, 21 OBC, others -9 and 24 didn't responded/knew their caste.

3.2. WATER SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

Overview

The condition of water, sanitation and hygiene assessed helped to understand the prior vulnerabilities of the affected communities as well as to compare it with the post-rainfall events. Due to heavy rainfall the drains were overflowing in many areas which led to inundation of houses, deposition of mud, garbage and other waste materials in the localities of the community. Limited water storage containers, access to hand-washing facilities, etc., were some of the key concerns of the affected surveyed population,



FIGURE 5 COMMUNITY MEMBERS DEPENDENT ON WATER STORAGE CONTAINERS FOR THEIR DAILY NEEDS (LEFT), BLOCKED DRAINS NEAR TO THE HOUSEHOLDS (RIGHT)

Assessment Findings

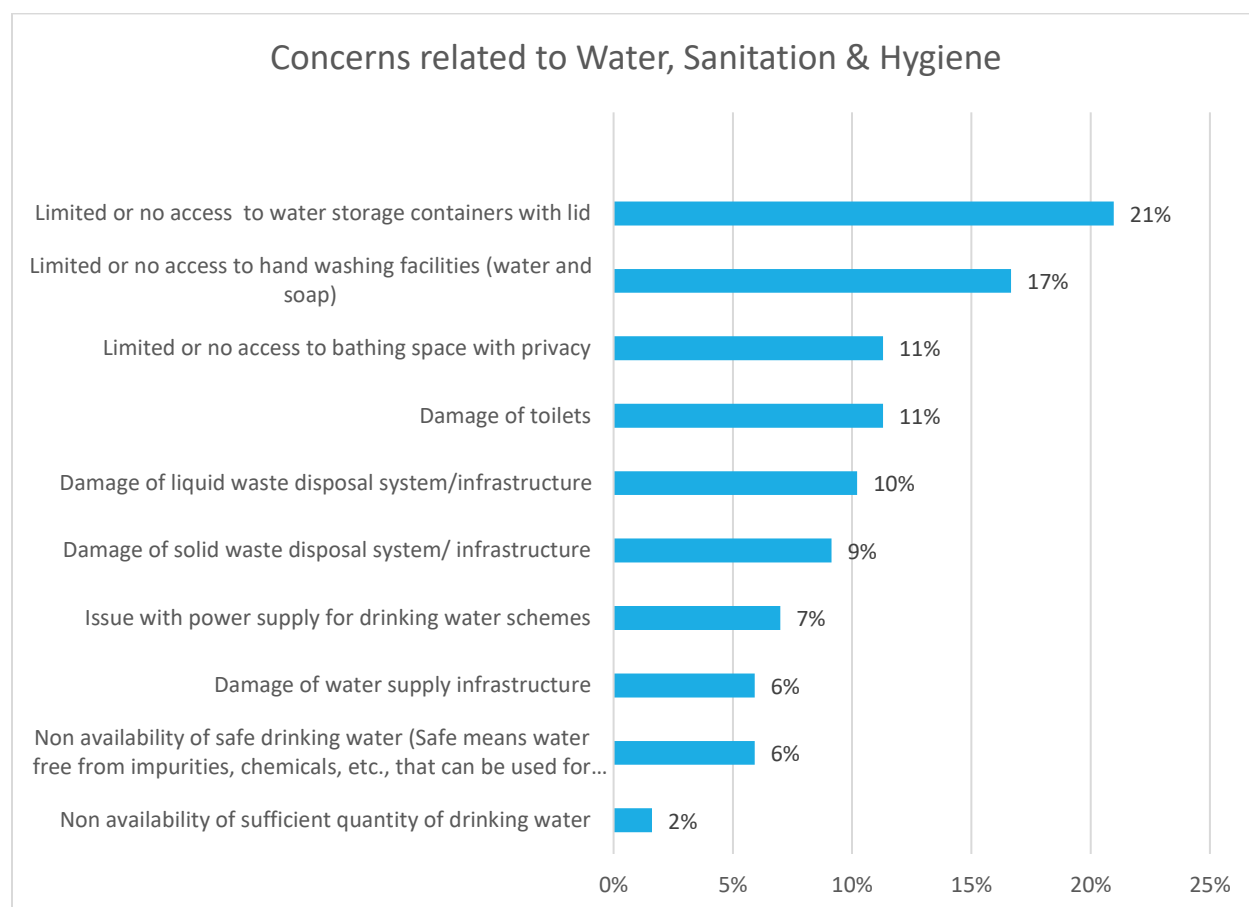
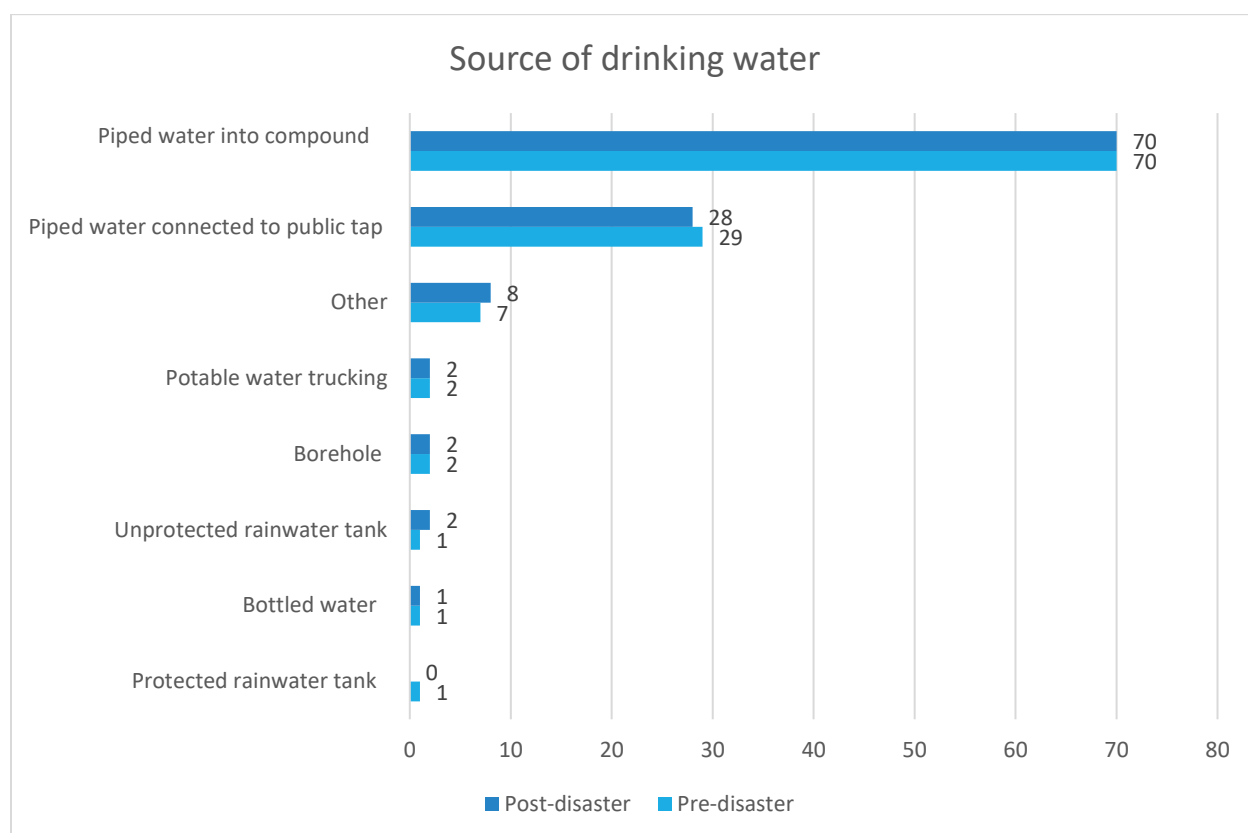


FIGURE 6 CONCERNS ON WASH REPORTED BY HOUSEHOLDS

The concerns related to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) are as follows:-

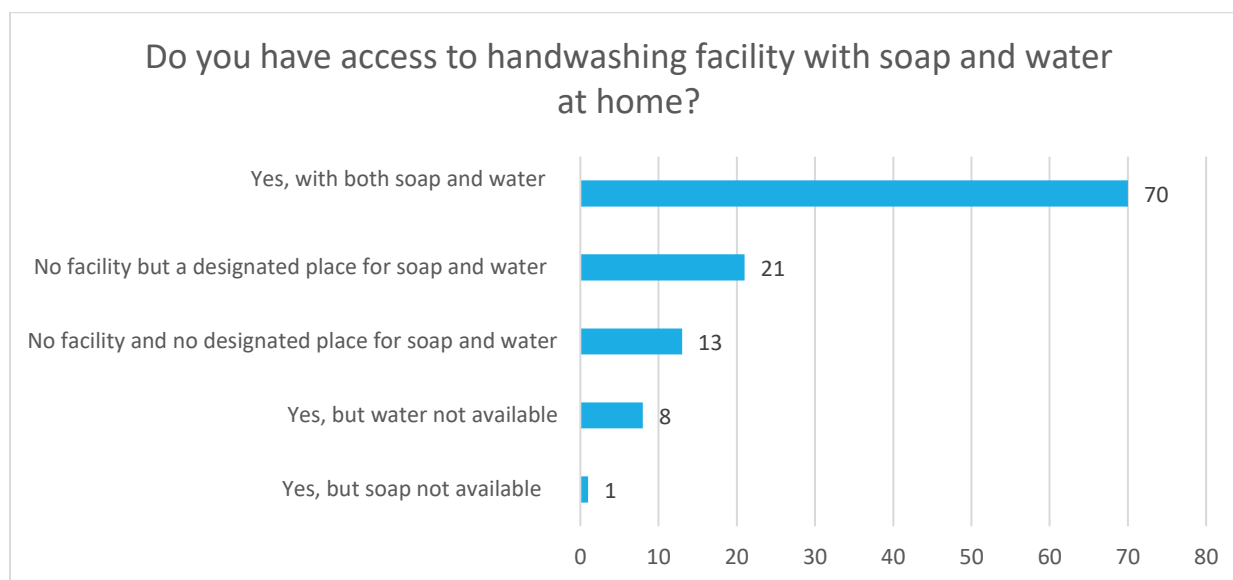
- Limited or no access to water storage containers – 21%
- Limited or no access to hand washing facilities – 17%
- Limited or no access to bath space with privacy – 11%
- Damage to toilets – 11%
- Damage of liquid waste disposal system – 10%
- Damage of solid waste disposal system – 9%
- Power issues affecting water supply – 7%
- Damage of water supply infrastructures – 6%
- Non-availability of safe drinking water – 6%
- Non-availability of sufficient drinking water – 2%



GRAPH 2 SOURCE OF DRINKING WATER: PRE AND POST HEAVY RAINFALL

The source of drinking water in the aftermath of heavy rainfall didn't change. But the pre-existing vulnerabilities, access to facilities continue to be a problem for the community.

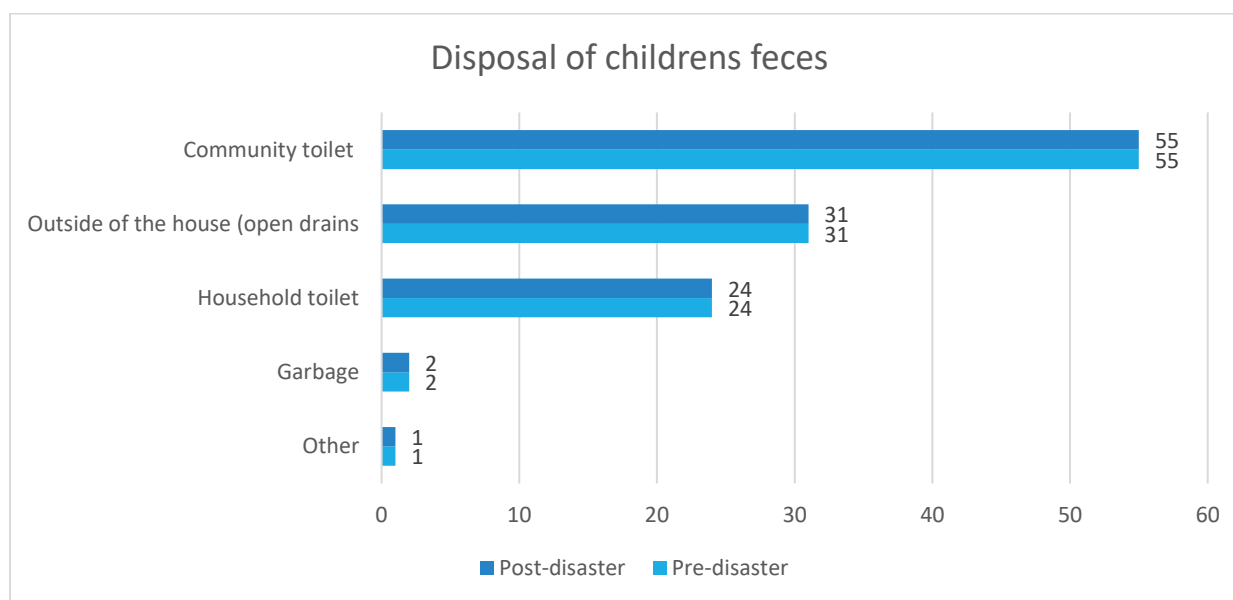
Treatment of water before cooking and drinking – 61% of the surveyed households treat their water, while 27% do not. 11% of the respondents are not aware about whether the water is treated or not in their households. The non-treatment of water before cooking and drinking is due to absence of facilities, lack of resources and unawareness.



GRAPH 3 ACCESS TO HANDWASHING FACILITY

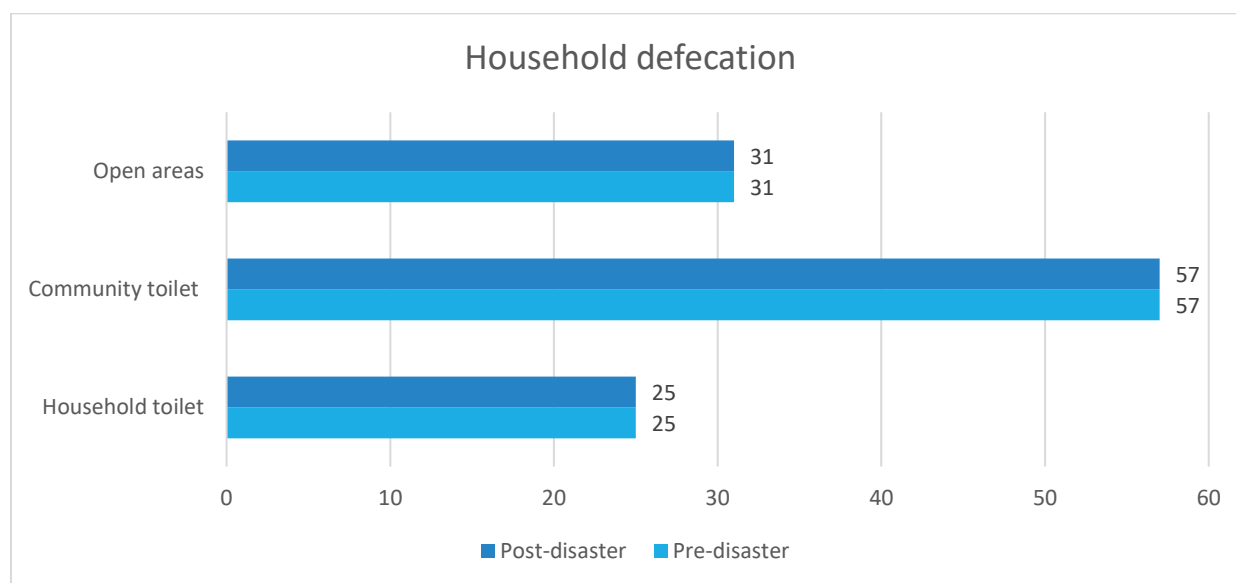
Access to handwashing facility

- Access to facility with soap and water – 70
- No facility but a designated place – 21
- No facility or designated place – 13
- Accessibility to facility but absence of water – 8
- Accessibility to facility but absence of soap – 1



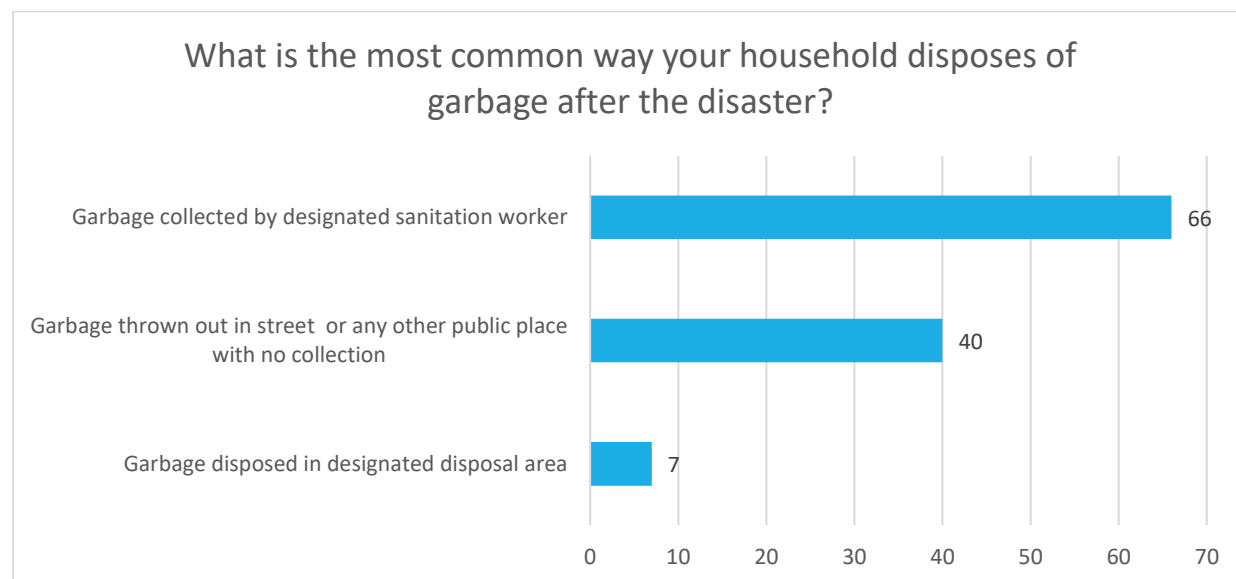
GRAPH 4 DISPOSAL OF CHILDREN'S FECES

Disposal of children's feces – The surveyed respondents majorly depend on community toilets for disposal (55), followed by open drains (31), HH toilets (24), garbage (2) and other methods (1).



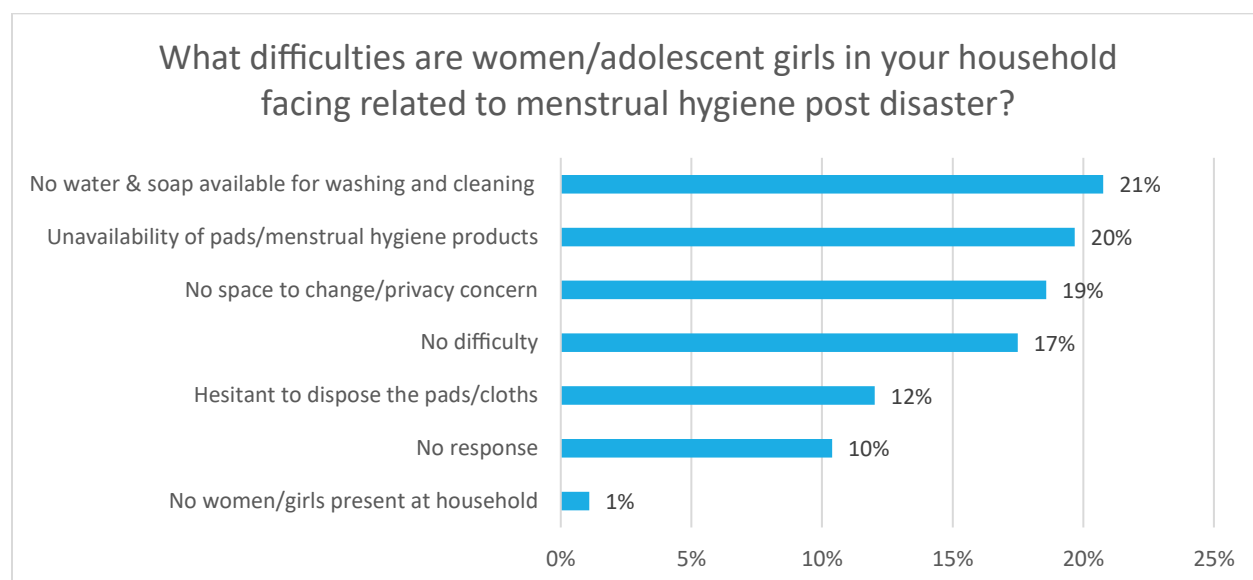
GRAPH 5 HOUSEHOLD DEFECACTION PRACTICES

Household defecation – Community toilets are used by 57 HHs, open areas/drains by 31 and household toilets by 25.



GRAPH 6 DISPOSAL OF GARBAGE

Functionality of garbage collection – 35 respondents reported its not functioning in their area. While 95 respondents reported that there are no garbage collection bins in their locality.



Waste water in locality after heavy rain – 64 respondents informed that there were visibility of solid waste/waste water in their household vicinity (source of waste water is from – 1. Open dump yard – 42, washing water – 16 and drainage - 6).

Recommendations

Short term for immediate response

- Distribution of water storage containers in vulnerable areas with limited access to safe storage containers for water,
- Temporary toilets in areas where open defecation is practiced,
- Awareness of treatment of water before cooking and drinking to communities in slum, migrants, etc.
- Vector control goods such as mosquito nets, sprays, coils, etc. should be provided in the affected areas to safeguard them from vector borne diseases,
- Awareness on safe disposal of children's feces in slums, low lying areas, etc,
- City Municipal body needs to clean community drains and dispose sludge regularly especially in the low lying areas.

Medium term recommendations for recovery

- Power backup plans to ensure water supply during extreme events,

- b) Rainwater harvesting and storm water runoff control measures need to be revised/implemented as necessary,
- c) Early Warning System to the last mile with steps to be taken to ensure water storage,
- d) Ensure garbage collection and its safe-disposal.

Long term and resilience building

- a) Clearing debris from drains for smooth flow of water during high rainfall

3.4. SHELTER

Overview

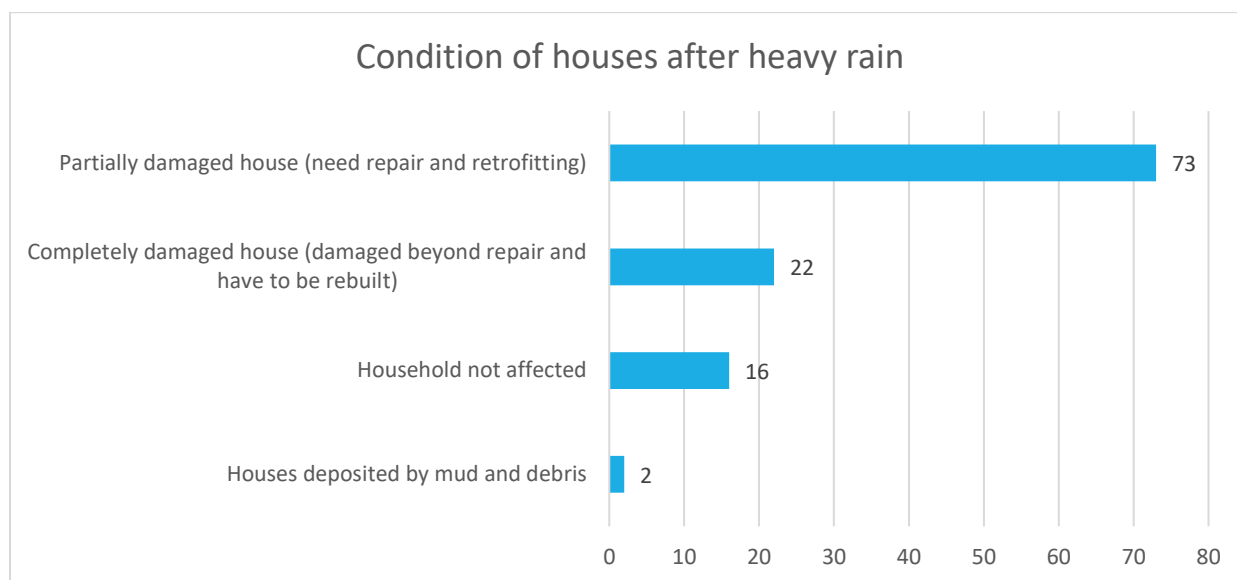
Most of the surveyed households live in temporary structures which are highly vulnerable to rain, wind and flood. The poor structures, cracks in walls and roofs affect the communities in slum, low-lying areas majorly even during low-intensity hazards.



FIGURE 7 ROOF OF SURVEYED HOUSEHOLDS

Assessment Findings

House structure – Among 113 respondents, 106 live in temporary structures built of sheets, aluminium, etc., which are highly vulnerable and at risk of damage.



GRAPH 7 CONDITION OF SURVEYED HOUSES AFTER HEAVY RAIN

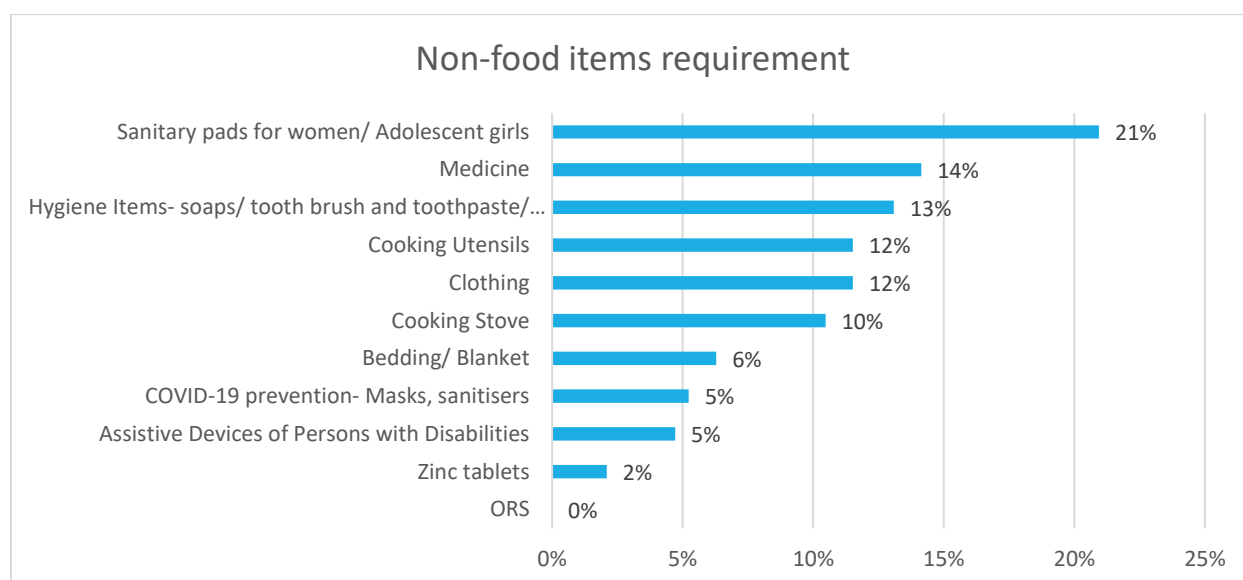
Many of the respondents reported that their houses have been partially damaged (73), completely damaged (22) or deposited by mud and debris (2).

Shelter support – 39 respondents received support for repairing their houses after the heavy rainfall. 80 respondents informed they require additional support for repairing their houses as they live in vulnerable conditions due to leakage of roofs and walls, cracks in buildings and poor condition of structures. Such conditions have been affecting the other facilities and utilities in the households adding to their risks.

Displacement due to heavy rainfall – Among the 113 respondents, 10 were displaced. The households shifted themselves majorly to the houses of their relative/friends.



FIGURE 8 CRACKS IN WALLS



Recommendations

Short term for immediate response

- a) Temporary arrangements to safeguard the communities living in vulnerable houses with cracks and leakage through rooftops considering the monsoon,
- b) Ensure that COVID-19 protocols are followed in the temporary shelters,
- c) Provision of finances and capacity building to those who have lost their houses- fully or severely damaged,
- d) Need for cheap, safe rental housing, financed by the government to cater to the needs of the migrant labour.

Medium term recommendations for recovery

- a) Awareness programs for mid to long term support to rebuild resilient houses.

Long term recommendations for recovery

- a) Build designated inclusive shelters for evacuating the communities at risk during emergencies

3.5. HEALTH

Assessment Findings

Functionality of health services – Some of the respondents reported that the functionality of health services was affected as a result of heavy rainfall.

Diseases reported – 8 respondents reported that their family members have been experiencing illness after the heavy rainfall. Some of the respondents reported that there have been spread of fungal/bacterial infections after the heavy rainfall in their households as well as in their locality.

Health support – 64 respondents received some kind of health support from the government after the heavy rainfall which includes health checkups, kits, etc.

Recommendations

Short term for immediate response

- a) Monitoring for outbreak of diseases in the affected areas,
- b) Access to health care services like routine immunization and outpatient consultations must be ensured,
- c) Pregnant women must be treated with priority. Special care should be given to PwD, elderly and children in terms of accessibility to health services,
- d) COVID-19 care centres and quarantine facilities must be made available to the community. Monitoring of COVID-19 must be strengthened in affected areas,
- e) Proper awareness to COVID-19 & other communicable diseases must be given to the community in local language.

Medium term recommendations for recovery

- a) The functionality of health centres must be maintained and reasons of non-functionality must be looked after as there are chances of outbreak of diseases immediately after floods which requires medical attention. Basic hygiene promotion can be done to reduce risk of communicable diseases,
- b) Removal of sludge and other waste must be done properly to reduce risk of long-term diseases.

3.6. EDUCATION

Overview

The educational services have been affected as a result of the heavy rainfall and the respondents have reported that the education of children have been disrupted. Damage to educational materials have also been reported as a result of the heavy rainfall in some of the surveyed areas. As there are financial issues for the communities living in vulnerable areas they require support for continuing education of their children.

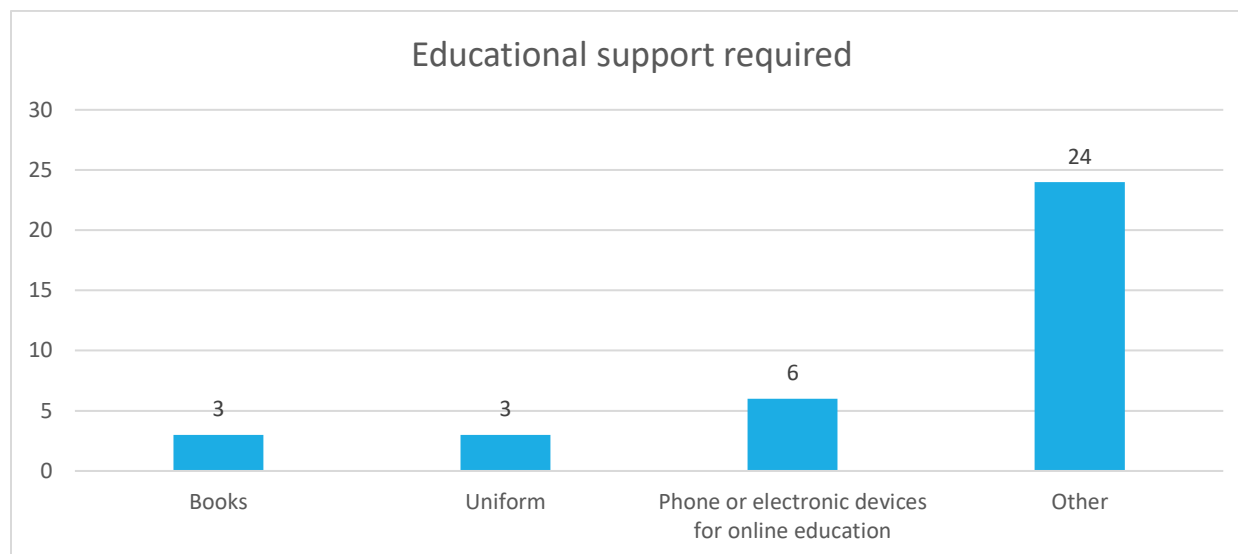


FIGURE 9 ASSESSMENT WITH CHILDREN IN AFFECTED AREAS

Assessment Findings

Functioning of educational institutions – 29 respondents informed that the educational services are not functioning. Many of the respondents also informed about the issues related to continuing their children’s education due to financial issues.

Damage to education materials at households – 36 respondents reported that they require support for their children to continue education and 11 respondents reported damage to educational materials due to heavy rains.



The support required for the affected surveyed communities for education are largely financial support for their children's education and getting admission to schools.

Recommendations

Short term for immediate response

- a) Immediate creation and distribution of education kits for the continuation of education,
- b) Establishment of temporary educational centers/online classes wherein children can continue receiving education,
- c) Prompt disinfection of school buildings and cleaning up of debris.

Medium term recommendations for recovery

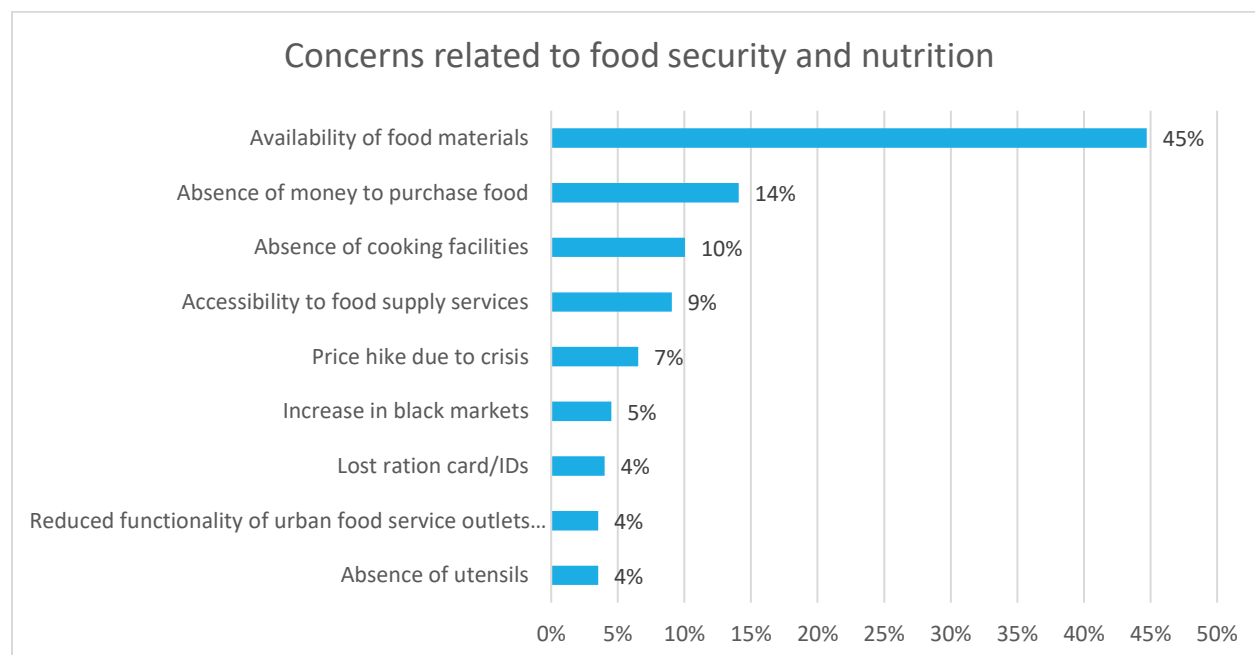
- a) Implementation and practice of the comprehensive school safety policy,
- b) Adequate steps undertaken by School Board in collaboration with the Government to come up with a strategic plan to tackle the dual challenge of COVID and the Floods in Bengaluru,
- c) Establishment of Child Centered Disaster Risk Reduction strategy in the context of school education.

3.7. FOOD SECURITY & NUTRITION, LIVELIHOOD

Assessment Findings

Break in food supply – 12 respondents reported they experienced break in food supply. This was due to shops not functioning in their locality and financial issues experienced by the affected households.

24 respondents reported that their food supplies were damaged due to the heavy rainfall.



GRAPH 8 CONCERNS RELATED TO FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

Concerns related to food security & nutrition

- Availability of food materials – 45%
- Financial issues to purchase food – 14%
- Absence of required cooking facilities – 10%
- Accessibility to food supply services – 9%
- Price hike due to crisis – 7%
- Increase in black markets – 5%
- Loss of ration cards/IDs – 4%
- Reduced functionality of urban food supply shops – 4%
- Absence of utensil – 4%

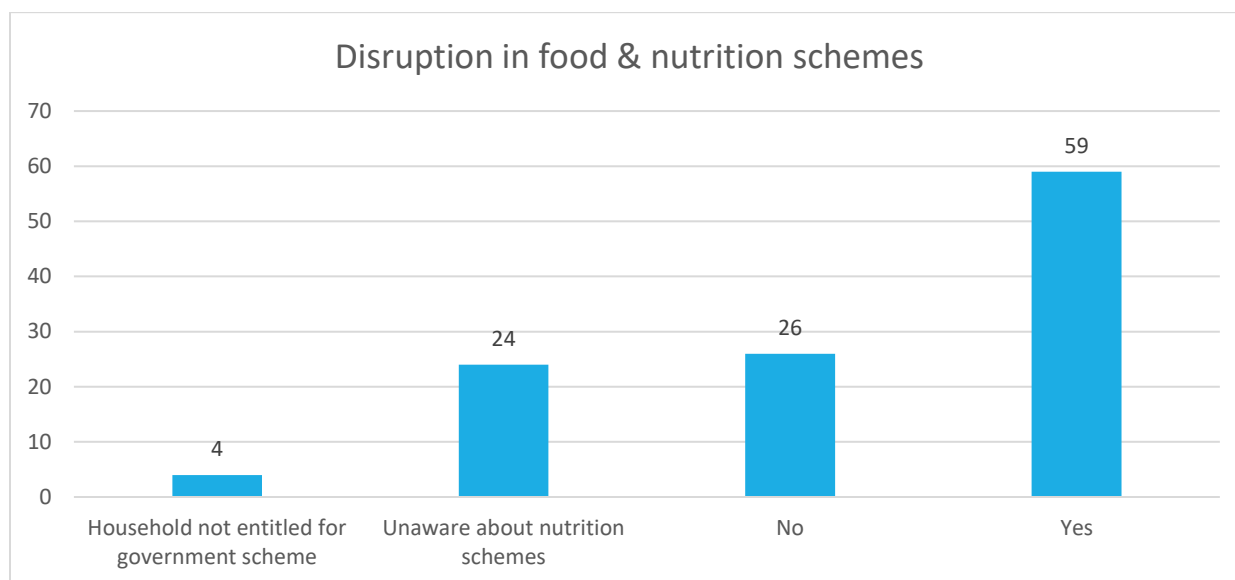


FIGURE 10 DISRUPTION IN FOOD AND NUTRITION SCHEMES

59 respondents informed there have been disruption in food and nutrition schemes due to the event. While 24 reported that they are unaware about the schemes and 4 are not entitled for government schemes.

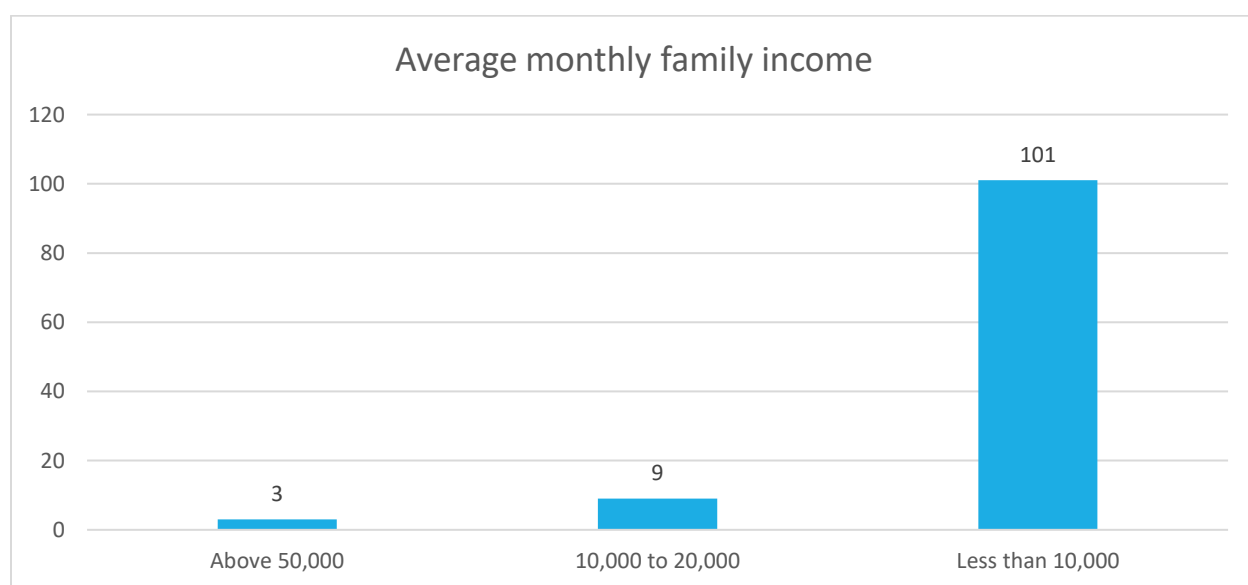
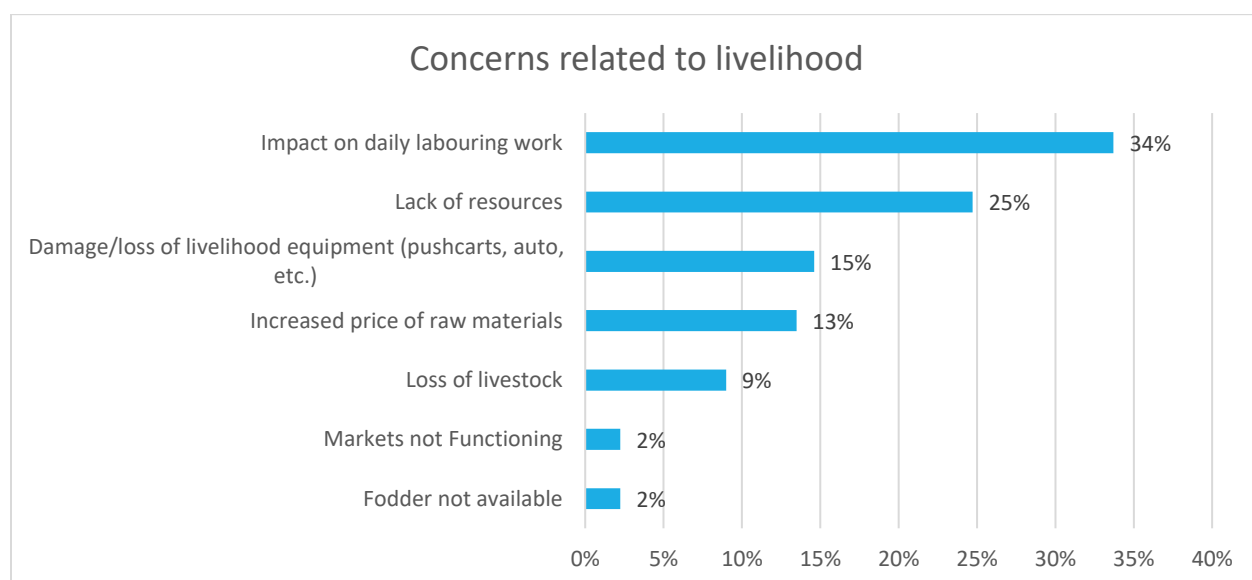


FIGURE 11 AVERAGE FAMILY MONTHLY INCOME

Livelihood affected by heavy rainfall – 19% of the respondents informed that their livelihood was disrupted/affected due to the heavy rainfall.



Recommendations

Short term for immediate response

- a) Identify groups that have the highest need for nutrition. Reach out to pregnant women and children under 5 years old.
- b) Set up food distribution chains for the people not getting covered under government schemes
- c) Provide cash support to daily wage workers who do not have means of livelihood and have to struggle in buying essential items.
- d) Immediate focus on areas more prone to water contamination and scarcity as those areas will have high risk of undernourishment and future illness

Medium term recommendations for recovery

- a) Provision to incorporate the vulnerable communities in food and nutrition schemes of the government

3.8. PROTECTION

Assessment Findings

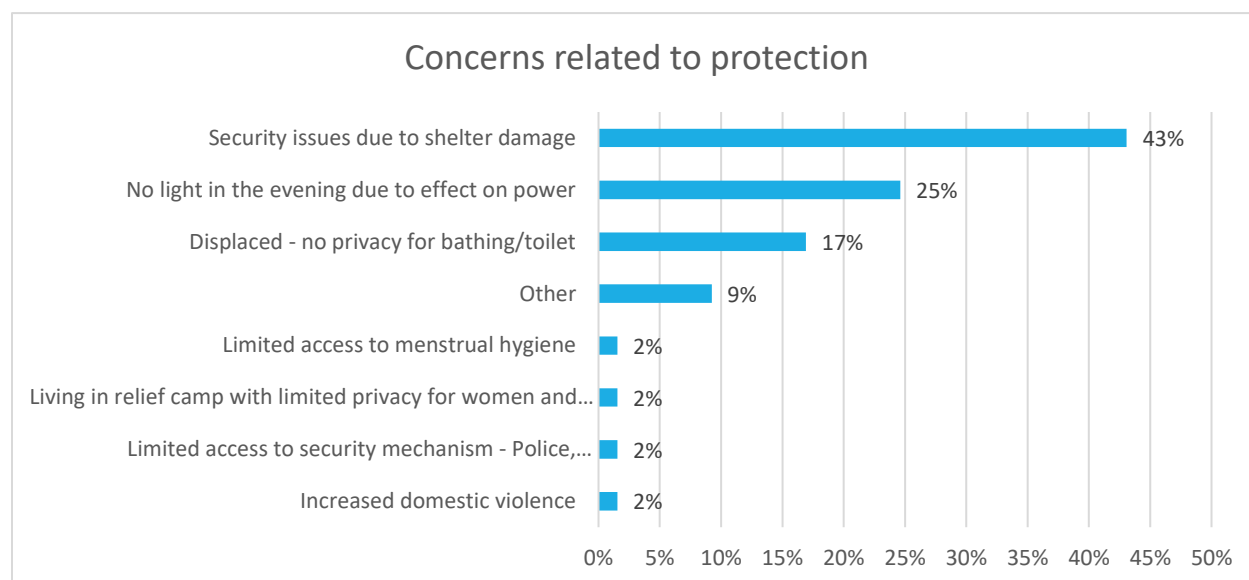


FIGURE 12 CONCERNS RELATED TO PROTECTION

The key concerns related to protection are as follows:-

- Security issues due to shelter damage – 43%
- No light in the evening – 25%
- Displaced – 17%
- Limited access to menstrual hygiene – 2%
- Living in relief camps with limited privacy – 2%
- Limited access to security mechanisms – 2%
- Increased domestic violence – 2%

Recommendations

Short term for immediate response

- Access to safe drinking water, sanitation facilities, menstrual health and hygiene products should be ensured in a camp situation or in areas where people are living in makeshift shelters
- People who have lost legal documents should be identified and should be supported in getting the new ones
- Identification and consultation with the children who are in need of care and protection

Medium term recommendations for recovery

- a) Strengthen the capacities of the communities (women, children, PwDs) on disaster mitigation and reducing the risk of hazard in the context of COVID 19.
- b) The families of children in need of care and protection should be linked with social protection schemes.
- c) Prepositioning of temporary toilet fitting at the panchayats which are highly prone to disasters.
- d) Strengthening or building the capacities of the local government functionaries to identify, map and address the protection needs.

3.9. Relief and Recovery Needs

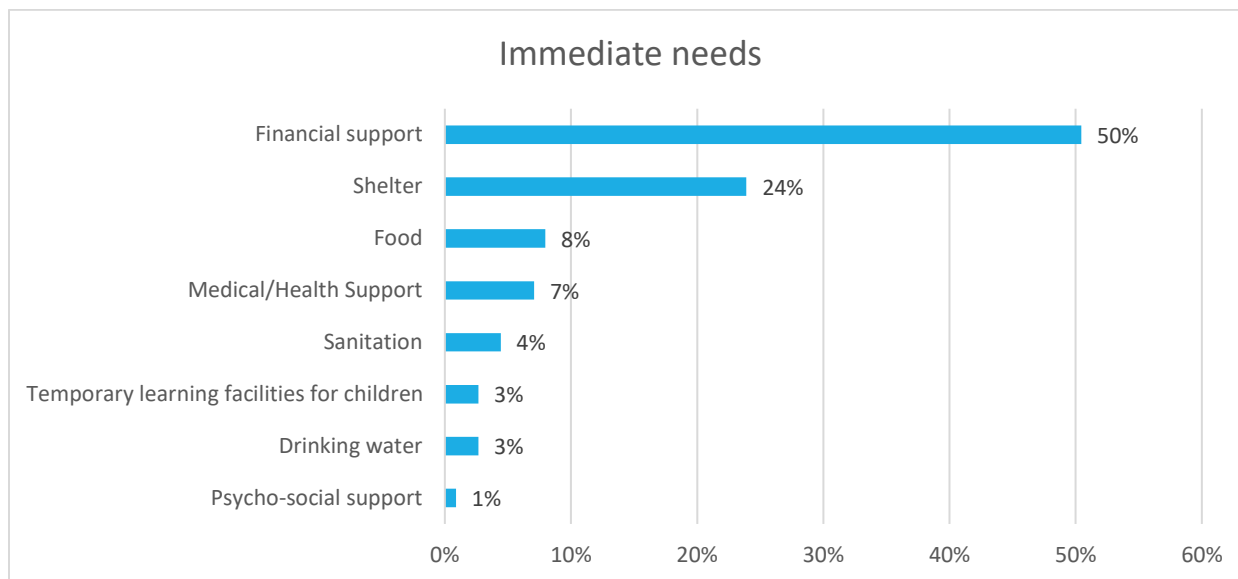


FIGURE 13 IMMEDIATE NEEDS REQUIRED BY HOUSEHOLDS

57 respondents reported that they are in need of financial support. 27 respondents reported that they need shelter while 9 respondents reported the need of food. 8 respondents reported that Medical/health support is an immediate need. 3 respondents responded that temporary learning facilities for children is an immediate need while 3 responded that drinking water is needed. 1 responded reported that psycho-social support is an immediate need.

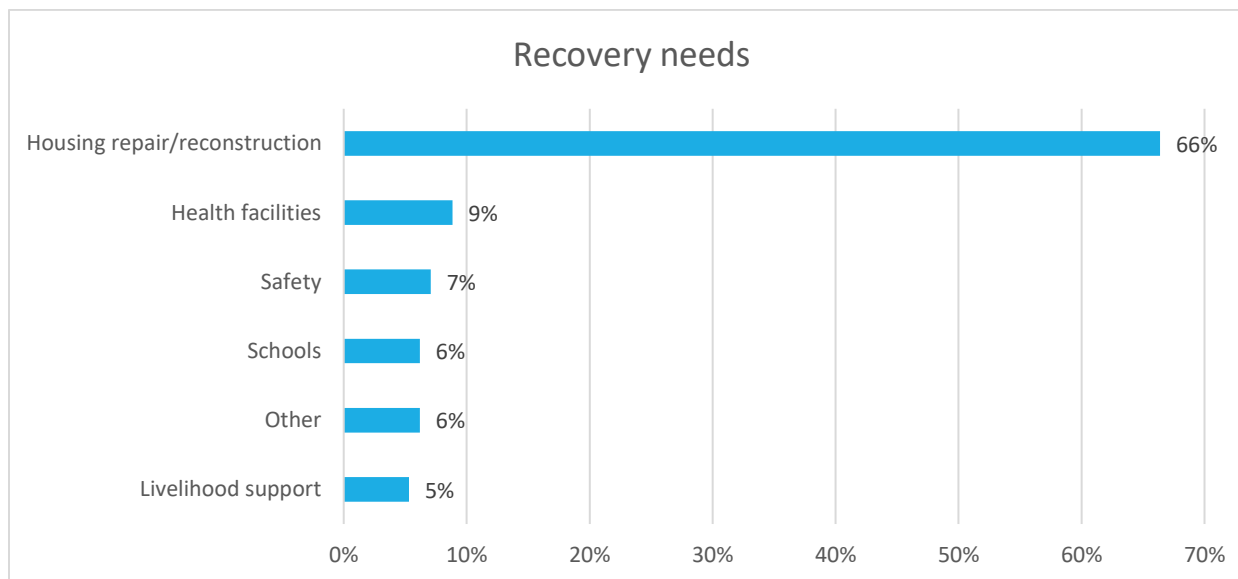


FIGURE 14 RECOVERY NEEDS REPORTED BY HOUSEHOLDS

75 households responded that they need support in housing repair /reconstruction. 10 responded that health facilities should be recovered. 8 households reported safety and 6 reported livelihood support as recovery needs. 7 responded that they are in need of some other needs as part of the recovery.

Annexure

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