

# Situation Report - 01

## Lightning and Thunderstorms in India

**Date: 02<sup>nd</sup> May 2023**

**Time: 03.00 PM**



Source: Hindustan Times

### Background:

Lightning and thunderstorms recently caused widespread destruction in various parts of India. The severe weather resulted in the loss of many lives and damage to agriculture in the region. The impact of the thunderstorms has been significant and devastating.

## SITUATION UPDATE AND RESPONSE

- **One person was killed and nearly 50 were injured** in a lightning strike in Bengal's Bankura district during a public meeting on Sunday (30<sup>th</sup> April) evening. As many as seven critical patients were shifted to Burdwan Medical College Hospital for better treatment.
- **17 people, including 4 minors**, died in Assam last week due to lightning and storm.
- Following incessant rain in several parts of Telangana on 30<sup>th</sup> April a 48-year-old herdsman was struck by lightning and died on the spot and paddy crops were partially damaged in Chinashankarampet, Kolcharam, Rangampet, and Appajipally in Medak district.
- West Bengal witnessed moderate rain on Thursday (April 27) and reported **14 deaths**, four from the Purba Bardhaman district, two each due to lightning strikes in Murshidabad and North 24 Parganas.
- A total of **14 people** have lost their lives in Uttar Pradesh since April 27 due to lightning, out of which 6 people lost their lives in yesterday's lightning (01<sup>st</sup> May).
- Untimely rains and thunderstorms wreaked havoc in Sahebganj and Pakur districts of Jharkhand. **6 children** tragically died in the lightning strike and half a dozen others were injured.

### SITUATION UPDATES

(in NO.)



Human Lives Lost - 57



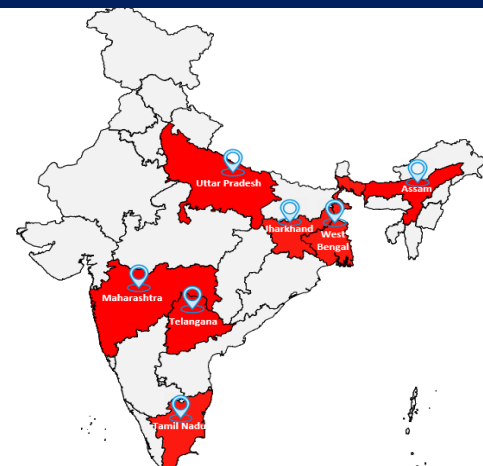
No. of Injured persons - 58



Livestock affected - 70 (Maharashtra)



Affected agricultural land - 312 hectares (Maharashtra)



- A 55-year-old woman working in a firecracker factory at V Ramalingapuram in Tamil Nadu's Virudhunagar district died after being struck by lightning on Thursday(27<sup>th</sup> April).
- Thunderstorms in Maharashtra's Chandrapur district over the past three days have killed **three people and injured two others**, while untimely rains have damaged **312 hectares** of crops, officials said on Wednesday(26<sup>th</sup> April).
- According to the Chandrapur district administration, **65 livestock** were killed due to lightning strikes, and five livestock were injured.



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## DURING LIGHTNING

**Do's** .....

-  Always keep the earthing working to avoid damage to electrical equipment.
-  Cut down or trim trees that may be in danger of falling on your home.
-  Administer CPR (Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation), if needed.
-  If you are outside, seek refuge in a car or grounded building when lightning or thunder begins.



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## DURING LIGHTNING

**Don'ts** .....

-  Don't touch plumbing and metal pipes. Do not use running water.
-  Don't take shelter near/under trees. Spread out; don't stand in a crowd. Stay clear of Water Bodies.
-  Don't use metallic objects; stay away from power/telephone lines.
-  Stay away from windows and doors; stay off verandas.

## HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

### Government Preparedness and Response



#### Preparedness

- IMD has predicted Light to moderate fairly widespread to widespread rainfall/snowfall with thunderstorm/lightning/gusty winds (wind speed 30-50 kmph) very likely over Northwest India during next 2 days, over central and East India during next 3 days, over South India during next 4 days, and over North East and West India during next 5 days.
- IMD has also predicted Thundersquall (wind speed 50-60 kmph) very likely over Uttarakhand on 02nd & 03rd May

#### Response

- The West Bengal government has announced financial assistance of Rs 2.5 lakh to the relatives of a man who died in the lightning.
- DRF has released a number 040-29555500 for assistance in Telangana



#### Source of Information:

IMD, Times of India, NDTV, Deccan Chronicle, India Today, Hindustan Times, The Print, The news India express, D T Next, Telangana Today, News 9 live, IAG West Bengal, IAG Uttar Pradesh, IAG Jharkhand



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