

SITUATION REPORT-1 Landslide in Sikkim

Date: 14th June 2024 (Fri) Time: 12:00 PM (IST)



Damaged Houses North Sikkim Source: Media

SITUATION UPDATE AND RESPONSE

- Six more people were killed and two others wounded due to massive landslides triggered by excessive rainfall in North Sikkim.
- The death toll in the state from the recent spate of rainfall and landslides is now nine, with three deaths reported on Monday.
- Around 2,000 tourists are stranded in the state as of Thursday evening.
- Mangan district, the northernmost region of the state bordering China, is the worst affected.
- Around 50 houses were damaged in Mangan, and livelihoods are also severely affected in the area.
- A massive landslide has struck areas around Mangan and various locations in North Sikkim due to incessant rainfall since yesterday, causing loss of lives, destruction of houses, and displacement of families.
- The state has registered 250mm of rain in the last 13 days, resulting in 54% excess rainfall compared to the normal 162mm between June 1 and June 13.
- The new bridge near Sangkalang, built by the Army and Border Roads Organisation after a glacial lake outburst, was completely damaged, cutting off connectivity between upper and lower Djongu, Chungthang, Lachung, and Lachen.
- The northern part of Sikkim is facing electricity issues as electricity poles were swept away.
- Mobile network services were affected in North Sikkim; the district administration has requested an SDRF team with rations to be sent to Mangan.
- The overflowing Teesta River has inundated the Melli Stadium in south Sikkim, leaving several people homeless.
- North Sikkim is completely isolated due to landslides on National Highway 10, which connects the region to Kalimpong in West Bengal.
- The towns of Dzongu, Chungthang, Lachen, and Lachung in Mangan district, known for popular tourist spots like Gurudongmar Lake and Yunthang Valley, have been cut off from the rest of the country.

Statistical Overview



Severely Affected District: Mangan (North Sikkim)



Total number of Causalities: 09 (Six more killed recently, three deaths reported on Monday



No. of Injured : 02



Tourists stranded – 2000



Houses Affected -50 (Mangan)



Roads cut off: National Highway 10, impacting connectivity between upper and lower Djongu, Chungthang, Lachung, and Lachen



Electricity poles: Swept away in northern Sikkim Mobile network services: Affected



Affected areas: Melli Stadium, Dzongu, Chungthang, Lachen, Lachung, Pentok, Bringbong



GOVERNMENT PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE

Weather Alerts:

- An alert for heavy to very heavy rainfall in all six districts of Sikkim has been issued until the morning of June 18.
- A red alert was in place for Mangan district on Thursday.
- Over the next few days, an orange alert has been issued for Gangtok, Geyzing, and Mangan districts.

Government Response:

- The Sikkim government has initiated measures for relief and to provide basic necessities.
- A relief camp has been set up at Pakshep for displaced people.
- Mangan District Magistrate Hem Kumar Chettri convened an urgent meeting with all the heads of various departments to mitigate the situation.

HUMANITARIAN PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE

- Bhavishya Bharat team is actively monitoring the situation and providing medical support in Mangan District
- Sphere India is coordinating with local NGOs to document the impact and response efforts at ground level; however, limited connectivity in the region has hampered communication, leaving other organizations unable to reach their teams and are entirely focused on search and rescue operations at this point.
- Emerging Needs in Mangan District as per Local Organizations: Medicine, Restoration of electricity, Livelihood support who lost animals, and Shelter kit



Damaged and muddy road due to a landslide triggered by a flash flood in North Sikkim



NOTICE

This is for information to all concerned that as per the ground report around 1200 domestic and 15 foreign tourists (Thailand:2, Nepal:3, Bangladesh:10) are stranded in Lachung. Mangan District due to road blockages caused by heavy rainfall and landslides. The stranded trunds

The stranded tourists are all safe & sound. The local authorities have requested all the stranded tourists to stay put in their respective place of stay and avoid taking any risks.

Further, it is to clarify that there is adequate stock of food supplies & rations to cater to all the stranded tourists.

The office of the Chiel Secretary, Government of Sikkim has already initiated talks with the concerned Ministry, Government of India for airlifting of all the tourists subject to clear weather conditions.

Alternatively, if required the tourists shall also be evacuated by road. Tourism & Civil Aviation Department, Government of Sikkim is working in close co-ordination with the concerned District Administration, Police Department & the Tourism official at Mangan District along with the local Tourism Stakeholders for safe evacuation of the tourists.

Department assures to extend all possible support and assistance to the stranded tourists during this period of distress due to natural calamity. It is to further clarify that only Lachung is cut off from the State, rest all other parts of Sikkim is open and safe for travel.





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Source of Information Media, Social Media, Sphere India WhatsApp Group, Bhaavishya Bharat

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