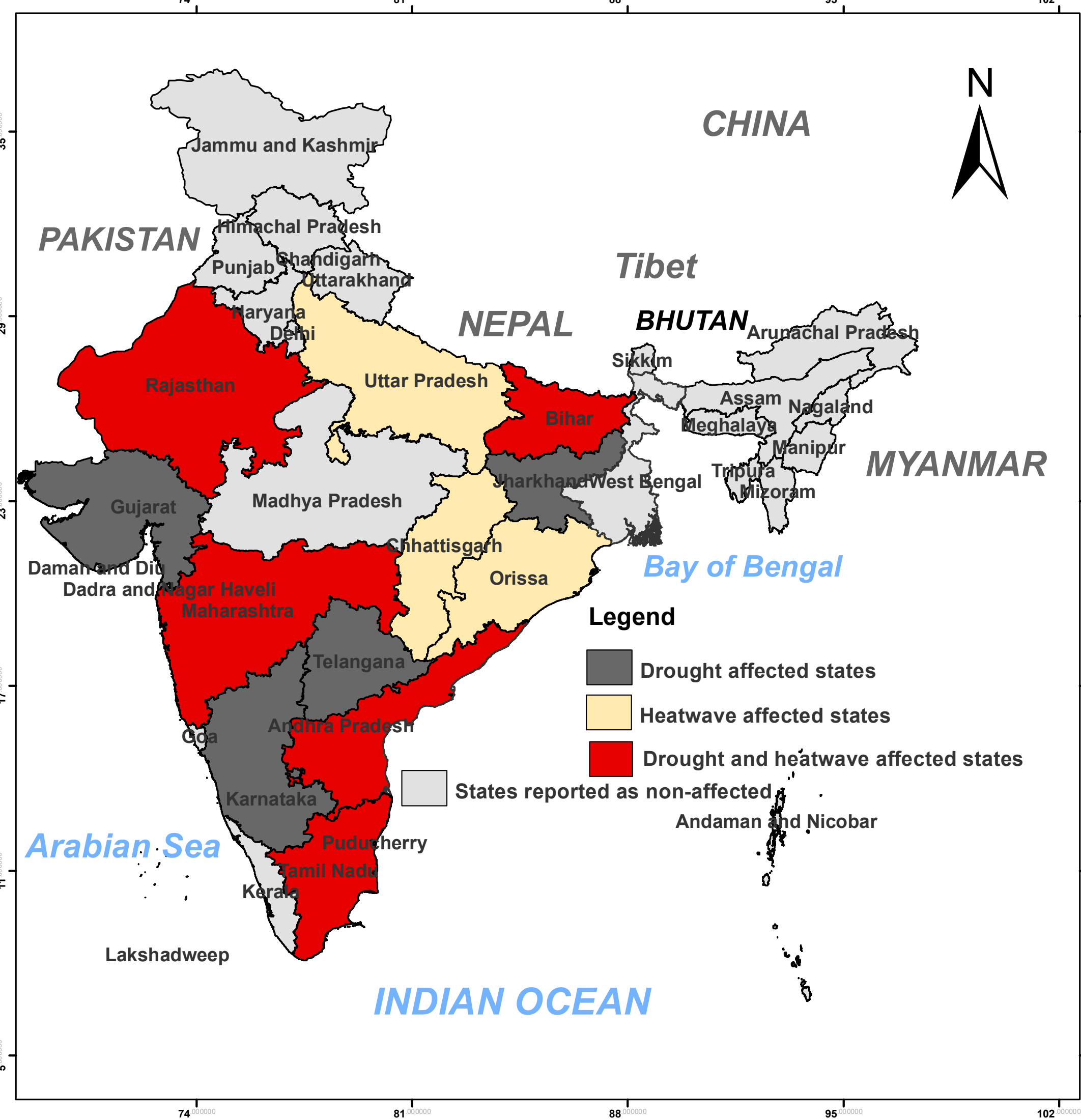


Map showing affected states



Impact of the Situation



09 STATES AFFECTED BY DROUGHT

Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Maharashtra, parts of the North-East, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Telangana.



NO. OF CASUALTIES REPORTED DUE TO HEATWAVE

- 303 people have been admitted to government hospitals for heat-related problems in Maharashtra.
- 02 dead in Maharashtra.

08 STATES ALERTED FOR HEATWAVE

A. Situation

1. Drought Situation in India

Lack of rainfall and failed monsoon is the primary reason for the current drought like situation in India. The northeast monsoon (October-December), also known as “post-monsoon rainfall” that provides 10%-20% of India’s rainfall, was deficient by 44% in 2018 from the long-term normal of 127.2 mm, as per data from the India Meteorological Department. This compounded the rainfall deficit from the southwest monsoon (June-September) that provides 80% of India’s rainfall and which fell short by 9.4% in 2018, close to the 10% deficit range when the Met department declares a drought.

The drought hit states are Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Maharashtra, parts of the North-East, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Telangana. These states are home to 500 million people, almost 40% of the country’s population.

The situation has worsened in Maharashtra and Karnataka with 80% of districts in Karnataka and 72% in Maharashtra reeling from water scarcity and crop failure which impact the socioeconomic of the people in the form of livelihood loss, unemployment and forced migration. Nearly, 8.2 million farmers are affected by the drought. All major crops, including maize, soy, cotton, citrus lemon, pulses and groundnuts have suffered due to poor rainfall. Farmers did not plant any rabi (spring) crop in Beed, Maharashtra due to water shortage. Around 75% of the crops in Beed have been destroyed due to water shortage

The situation could further worsen farm distress, exacerbate groundwater extraction, increase migration from rural to urban areas, and further inflame water conflicts between states and between farms,

2. Heatwave Situation in India

The risk of heatwave conditions is rising across India. The IMD has predicted that for the next several days till May 13, heat wave conditions are "very likely" in isolated pockets over West Rajasthan, East Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra (Marathwada and Vidarbha region) , Odisha, Chhattisgarh, coastal Andhra Pradesh (Rayalaseema) and Telangana. Dust winds are predicted "very likely" in parts of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi.

Especially for children, the elderly and those with pre-existing medical conditions across these age groups when exposed to heat and sunshine for extended durations get affected. Heatwave in extreme conditions can cause sunstroke, sunburn, dehydration, unconsciousness and many other heat-related illnesses.

In Maharashtra, 303 people have been admitted to government hospitals for heat-related problems. Akola topped with 138 patients, followed by Nagpur (112 patients), Latur (41), Aurangabad (6) and Nashik (6). According to the state government data from March 15 till May 5, two people died in Aurangabad, two in Hingoli and one each in Beed, Dhule and Parbhani due to heatstroke.

B. Government Response:

- The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has been issuing regular heatwaves warning bulletin and alerts.
- NDMA - Do's and Don'ts during heatwaves were disseminated to public through social media.
- Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil-Nadu and Rajasthan have declared many of their districts as drought-hit.
- The government of Maharashtra declared Beed one of the 26 severely drought-hit districts on October 31, 2018, based on ground truthing (a field survey) and various indicators, such as rainfall deficit, reservoir storage, groundwater index, and soil moisture. The average rainfall of Beed in 2018 was 334.70 mm, making water conservation difficult.
- All reservoirs of the affected areas are dry and water tables are down. Of the 5,264 completed large dams, 2,069 are in Maharashtra, which is the highest number of completed large dams, according to the National Register of Large Dams (updated in 2016). And 285 more are under construction.

C. Humanitarian Response by CBOs/NGOs

- Inter Agency Coordination (IAC) and Advocacy committee Meeting Skype Call was organised on 11th April 2019 with active participation of the states IAGs to updates and review the situation.
 - The respective IAGs in the state are closely monitoring the situation, where Bihar IAG has call it 1st coordination meeting on 12th April, 2019 at Patna from 3-4pm to review the current drought like situation prevailing in the state.
 - CARITAS India has carried out quick needs assessment in Maharashtra and Bihar.
 - UNICEF India has provided capacity building training to Govt. Officials in Marathwada in Ouranghabad Division on ‘How to interpret revised drought plan and various provisions of the drought manual.
 - The URS Matrix's - Resource Mapping and Planning for Drought in India 2019 (Bihar, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu) is activated by IAC Committee.
- URS link: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1YUb1kLwNwg5DfRhSGqIExbNi7IFng_bnoq8rzMTOBJU/edit?usp=sharing

D. Emerging Needs

- The Short Term Intervention and LongTerm Intervation needs for drought response are:
- Safe Dinking Water
 - Health and Sanitation
 - Livelihood support
 - Agriculture (Developing resilient agriculture)

Source Of Information:
Media, IAGs WhatsApp Groups and Caritas India

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Disclaimer:

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