

KERALA DISASTER 2018

In July 2018 severe flooding affected Kerala state. It was the worst flooding in the history of Kerala. All 14 districts of the state were placed on high alert. According to the Kerala government, one-sixth of the total population of Kerala had been directly affected by the floods and related incidents.

Over 10000 km of roads were destroyed, and thousands of homes were damaged. Lakhs of people were shifted to the relief camps.

35 out of the 42 dams in Kerala were opened for the first time in history. All five overflow gates of the Idukki dam were opened at the same time, for the first time in 26 years. Heavy rains in Wayanad and Idukki have caused severe landslides and have left the hilly districts isolated. The situation was regularly monitored by the Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan and our Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Causes

Kerala received heavy monsoon rainfall on the mid evening of August 8 resulting in dams filling to capacity; in the first 24 hours of rainfall the state received 310 mm (12 in) of rain. Almost all dams have been opened since the water level has risen close to overflow level due to heavy rainfall, flooding local low-lying areas. For the first time in the state's history, 35 of its 42 dams have been opened.

The state government of Kerala argued in the Supreme Court that the sudden release of water from the MULLAPPERIYAR Dam by the Tamil Nadu govt was one of the reasons for the devastating flood in Kerala.