

**Situation Report: #01**

**Place: Odisha and West Bengal**

**Type of event: Cyclone YAAS**

**Date of Reporting: 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021 (11:30 PM)**

**Present Situation:**

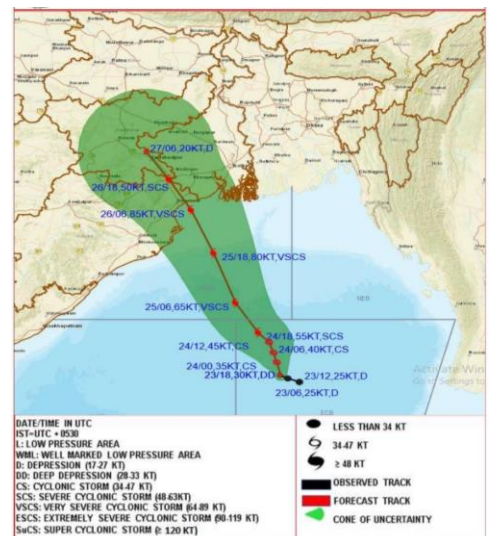
<sup>1</sup>The cyclonic storm “YAAS” (pronounced as “YAAS”) lay centred at 22:30 hrs IST of the 26th may, 2021 over south Jharkhand near latitude 22.3°n and longitude 85.9°e, about 100 km west north west of Baripada and 130 km south south-east of Ranchi. It is likely to move further north-westwards and weaken gradually into a deep depression during next 2 hours over Jharkhand.

**Forecast Rainfall:**

**Odisha:** light to moderate rainfall at most places with heavy to very heavy rains at a few places over north interior Odisha during next 12 hours.

**West bengal:** light to moderate rainfall at most places with heavy to very heavy rainfall at isolated places over Medinipur, Jhargram, Bankura during next 12 hours.

**Jharkhand:** light to moderate rainfall at most places with heavy to very heavy rainfall and extremely heavy falls at isolated places during next 24 hours



**Cyclone “YAAS” post landfall situation:**

Cyclone YAAS made landfall at 9 am close to Remuna Sadar block between Balasore town and Dhamra. The landfall process lasted for four hours and the cyclone will get into Mayurbhanj district after passing over Balasore, said Special Relief Commissioner Pradeep Kumar Jena.

Addressing media persons here today, Jena informed that two persons have reportedly been killed after coming under the branch of a tree which fell amid strong winds at Anandpur and Nilagiri today. The confirmation of these incidents from the Collectors of Balasore and Keonjhar is awaited, said Jena.

The cyclone inflicted maximum damage in Nilagiri region where a number of trees have uprooted. Due to the cyclone, North Odisha experienced heavy rains and highest rainfall 304mm, was recorded at Kusumi in Mayurbhanj district. Overall, 36 stations received rains in between 110 to 304 mm rainfall. Similarly, 50 to 100 mm rainfall was recorded at 37 blocks of the State, said Jena.

The rains might trigger flash floods in some regions close to the seacoast in Balasore and Bhadrak district. Till 3 pm, the impact of the cyclone will be the maximum in these two districts. Rains and torrential winds will also have a major impact on Mayurbhanj district.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik informed the people of Odisha that multiple teams are working towards speedy restoration pertaining to damages inflicted by Cyclone YAAS. Taking to Twitter the CM said that restoration work is underway in full swing to ensure early resumption of normalcy in the areas affected by Cyclone YAAS in Odisha.”

<sup>1</sup> IMD Bulletin No 27 – 23:30, 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021



CMO twitter handle



Source: ommcomnews.com, SRC twitter handle and



## NDRF, ODRAF, FIRE personnel in action to restore the damages occurred due to cyclone YAAS

### Cyclone YAAS impact in Odisha

- As Cyclone YAAS made landfall in Balasore district, leaving behind a trail of devastation, flattening kuchha houses, uprooting trees and electric poles, causing rivers to swell.
- Two persons have reportedly been killed after coming under the branch of a tree which fell amid strong winds at Anandpur and Nilagiri today. The confirmation of these incidents from the Collectors of Balasore and Keonjhar is awaited
- Seawater entered several villages at Chanua village in Balasore district while waterlogging was reported from several villages in the area where seawater gushed in, submerging roads and huts near the beaches.
- A few thatched houses have been swept away due to heavy rains and strong winds in Balasore districts' Kasafal GP. Water inflow has been reported from Chaumukha village in Baliapal block. People in this area have been cut off due heavy water flow on the roads, said reports.
- Relief and restoration work is underway across the affected parts of Odisha as the extremely severe cyclonic storm YAAS devastated Balasore, Bhadrak, Jagatsinghpur and Mayurbhanj districts.
- Multiple teams of ODRAF, NDRF, Odisha Police, fire personnel and PWD swung into action once Cyclone YAAS landfall was complete. Rescue operations are still underway on a war-footing. Road connectivity has snapped at several placed due to uprooted trees and electric poles. Most were restored in Balasore while work is underway at other parts.

- 90% of the roads of the Balasore that were blocked by trees. Power supply in major areas will be restored before evening.
- The Regional Meteorological Centre at Bhubaneswar issued a red warning and predicted "heavy to very heavy rainfall in 9 districts of Odisha after Cyclone YAAS landfall in Balasore district".
- "Heavy to very heavy rainfall at a few places with isolated extremely heavy fall very likely to occur over the districts of Balasore, Bhadrak, Jajpur, Kendrapada, Jagatsinghpur, Cuttack, Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar and Dhenkanal," the Meteorological Centre said and issued a red warning for the districts.

Source: online media

#### **Cyclone YAAS impact in West Bengal - CM review meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

- Embankment breached - 134 CM of WB
- Loss of Agricultural products due to intrusion of saline water
- More than 1 crore people are affected
- To stop electrocution and loss of life electricity boards are instructed power cuts during high tide
- More than 3 lakh houses are damaged
- Officials of Irrigation Department are cautioned by the CM WB, Asked them to explore sustainable solutions. CM instructed the Irrigation officials to take up immediate actions for repairing the Embankments.
- More than 15 lakh people are evacuated
- Huge loss in the fisheries sector
- Task Force formed Disaster Management/ Irrigation/Forest & Environment/Agriculture/ Finance for Embankment Management
- CM has requested the Health Secretary to monitor the health issues in the Shelters. People should not suffer from dysentery, vector borne diseases etc. Even in post cyclone period care should be taken
- Safe drinking water should be ensured till the tubewells are completely uninundated. PHED has been given special instruction.
- CM suggested for strong vigilance at night on 26th May because of her worries for high tide
- Rehabilitation and Reconstruction will be done.
- In low lying areas miking is advised so that people should not go out from their shelters.
- Loss assessment will be done after 72 hours

#### **<sup>2</sup>South Bengal**

##### **Districts Covered: South 24 Parganas, North 24 Parganas & East Medinipur**

In East Midnapore which is located closest to Balasore, the wind speed may reach up to 155 - 165 kmph gusting up to 185 kmph. In some areas, such as Gosaba Island in the Sunderban delta, block administration has evacuated pregnant women and shifted them to 'mother hubs' on Monday. The government has deployed 36 heavy duty pumps at seven places in Calcutta, North 24-Parganas and South 24-Parganas to ensure that the areas don't get waterlogged, more than 150km of river embankments, mainly in South 24-Parganas and North 24-Parganas, were breached during Amphan but their restoration was delayed as and could not take construction material to the affected areas because of inundation following the breach in the levees. As the repairs were delayed at many places like Namkhana, Kakdwip, Sagar, Patharpratima in South 24 Parganas and Sandeshkhali and Hingalganj in North 24-Parganas, hundreds of villages were submerged for several weeks. Villagers had repaired some of the breached embankments on their own but that was not good enough to prevent inundation caused by high tides even after the cyclone.

As the IMD images show that the cyclone is moving in the north-west direction, in all likelihood, the cyclone could make a landfall between Paradwip in Odisha and Digha in East Midnapore. If that happens, it could create a disaster as river embankments in East Midnapore were overlooked after Amphan as it had no impact in the district. In brief, South 24-Parganas is a much-prepared district now compared to East Midnapore. The

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<sup>2</sup> Situation Report # 3 by Sphere India

government will keep monitoring the situation 24x7 from Nabanna and the administration is working to evacuate 15 lakh people.

## North bengal

### Uttar Dinajpur-

Due to lack of proper maintenance, the banks of several rivers including Kulik in Raiganj are breaking fast. If the repair work is not started before the heavy rains in the coming monsoon season, the locals are fearing that the dam of the river will suddenly break and the populated area will be inundated. The North Dinajpur district administration is concerned about this. According to district administration sources, the Irrigation Department will be informed to check the current condition of the river dams. In fact, the Kulik river dam has been built from Abdulghata in Raiganj to Pazol in Itahar. Due to lack of care, the soil on the banks of the river is falling. There are seven rivers in the district under a 112 km dam. Kulik, Sui, Mahananda, Mrs., Nagar, Tangan, Syriana. There are 29 sluice gates. But the infrastructure of the rivers is so weak that at any time the water of the river will flow into the rural areas through the part of the dam. Extreme levels of flood danger were announced in at least two places. The areas were being inspected jointly with the local administration. Work will be done to identify the areas that are prone to erosion. The inspection work will be completed soon. Boulder will be given or any other scheme will be worked. Whereas such action will be taken. Initiatives have been taken to build several paved stairs on the banks of Raiganj Kulik river. Besides, repair work of sluice gates will be started in Itahar.

### Alipurduar, Coochbehar, Jalpaiguri & Siliguri

The irrigation department, have warned the four districts about the indirect effects and post cyclone situation of cyclone "Yaas". If there is any river erosion, raincut or cracks in the river embankments then it should be treated as like the wartime situation during these few days and should be repaired and reformed as fast as possible. In the river embankment areas of Jalpaiguri district there is miking awareness from the local government bodies. The pre monsoon activities of irrigation department of North bengal was postponed due the lockdown in West Bengal, but in the present context, the Chief Secretary of WB has ordered to resume the work. In Darjeeling District's Siliguri Subdivision, Alipurduar, Jalpaiguri and Coochbehar etc. districts 185 pre-monsoon activities have been started. 118.03 km long & dangerous river embankment area will be saved from strong tidal waves because of those pre-monsoon activities. There are 75 sluice gates in these four districts which are repaired in March, 2021 and these 75 sluice gates also are approved and certified as fit for the monsoon by the irrigation department. The pre-monsoon work will include Teesta, Torsha, Jaldhaka, Dayna, Kaljani, Dharla, Pashra, Manshai and 22 other rivers. Till date 30 pre-monsoon works have been started and process of tender for other 140 pre-monsoon works has been completed, and the tender process for rest of the 31-pre-monsoon works will be starting soon. In all the four districts the awareness through miking by the local bodies for the early warning for cyclone Yaas has already started, the evacuation process is also in progress and the disaster management department will evacuate people before the cyclone hits the land. The fire brigade, electricity department and other emergency service providers are also alerted. The sub centers, primary health centers, district hospitals are given order to take necessary arrangements for the vaccination procedure and it should not be hampered due to this situation of heavy rainfall and cyclone.

(source of the information- Uttarbanga Sambad)

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DIGAMBARPUR GRAM PANCHAYAT				
PATHAR PRATIMA BLOCK, SOUTH 24 PGS				
LIST OF DAMAGED RIVER EMBANKMENT				
SL NO	MOUZA	SANSAD NO	LOCATION	AREA (IN KM)
1	DK. DURGAPUR	IV	FROM MILAN SETU TO BARUR VERI	1
2	PASCHIM SRIDHARPUR	XI	FROM PALER FISHERY TO SUILISH	0.5
3	INDRANARAYANPUR	XV	FROM PARBATIPUR SIMA TO MASJID	1
4	INDRANARAYANPUR	XIV	FROM THE HOUSE OF BHARAT HALDER TO SUILISH	0.3
5	GURUDASPUR	VIII	FROM OLD HOSPITAL TO RAM MAJI	0.1
6	DIGAMBARPUR	VI	FROM THE HOUSE OF KAJAL PRAMANIK TO CHITTA DAS	0.4
7	DIGAMBARPUR	VI	FROM THE HOUSE OF ANUP MAITY TO BYOMKESH KAMILA	0.3
8	DIGAMBARPUR	VI	FROM THE HOUSE OF DINESH DAS TO SAMSHAN	0.4
9	DIGAMBARPUR	X	FROM THE HOUSE OF KALI PADA PRADHAN TO JANGSHUMAN GHORUI	1
10	DIGAMBARPUR	X	FROM HARIR KHETA GHAT TO MAHADEB PANDIT	0.3
11	RAMNAGAR ABAD	XVII	NEAR THE HOUSE OF GOSTHA SARDAR	0.1
12	RAMNAGAR ABAD	XVII	NEAR RAMNAGAR ABAD SUILISH	0.15

**Cyclone and Subsequent flood impact in West Bengal. Photographs from the IGSSS partner on ground and IAG**



## Government preparedness and response

Preparatory activities for YAAS cyclone has started in Mayurbhanj, Ganjam, Balasore, Kendrapada, Bhadrak, Jagatsinghpur, Puri and Keonjhar. As per the report of Special Relief Commissioner, more than 5 lakh people of the villages within 3 to 4 km of the sea, were evacuated in the above-mentioned districts.

SRC, Pradeep Jena, told in the GO NGO coordination meeting on Saturday – 22nd May that we need to check whether the cyclone shelters are well equipped or not with water and other facilities. People coming to any shelter need to follow covid appropriate behaviour and should be given Masks. Thermal scanners will also be provided in each cyclone shelter. Any discrimination (regarding entry to the cyclone shelter) based on caste, tribe status should be immediately reported to the district administration.

- State and District Emergency Operation Centre and Control Rooms of other offices are functioning round the clock in three shifts with a senior officer in charge of each shift.
- No. of Shelters identified to house people- 6891 ( Cyclone/ flood shelters- 860, Addl. Shelters- 6031)
- Evacuation Plan has been made for evacuation of people from the vulnerable locations. PRIs and WSHGs will be involved in evacuation and Shelter management.
- One 3 ply face mask to be provided to each evacuee to use it during the entire period of stay in the shelter.
- Cooked food through free kitchen, safe drinking water, lighting with alternate power supply, health & sanitation facilities have been arranged for evacuated people at the shelters.
- Team of 52 NDRF, 60 teams of ODRAF, 206 Fire Service teams and 86 wood cutting teams of Forest & Environment Department (Total- 404 Teams) have been pre-positioned in 10 coastal & adjoining districts for search and rescue and road clearance.
- Collectors have been instructed to make back-up power arrangement/ generators arrangements with adequate fuel at different utility services like Drinking water supply, petrol pumps, health institutions, telecom facilities, electrical grid/ sub stations, police stations and others.
- Adequate power back up/ stock of essential medicines/ food stuff arranged in all hospitals/Covid Care Centres/ Cluster TMCs/ TMCs.
- Collectors have been instructed for alternate arrangement of drinking water during and aftermath of the cyclone.

23:26 PM

More Than 5 Lakh People Evacuated In Odisha: SRC

POSTED BY:- NITESH KUMAR SAHOO

More than 5 lakh people have been evacuated in Odisha, informs SRC

Details of evacuation:

- Balasore: 1,43,000  
- Kendrapara: 1,05,000  
- Bhadrak: 94,000  
- Mayurbhanj: 43,500  
- Jagatsinghpur: 21,000  
- Cuttack: 15,500  
- Puri: 14,000  
- Keonjhar: 10,000

## IGSSS's Preparedness and Response

A meeting of more than 20 NGOs in Ganjam district has been convened on 23rd May, 2021 (Sunday) at 2-4 pm via zoom meeting. The civil society leaders in Ganjam met to discuss issues related to Covid-19 2nd wave and the possible cyclone "YAAS" in the Bay of Bengal on the 26th May, 2021. The discussion includes possible effect of the cyclone in Ganjam coast, preparedness by various authorities and likely cooperation and support by the NGOs during and post cyclone situation to the communities and the district administration.

A Virtual meeting has been organised with the DMT (Disaster Management Team) members of project villages of Khallikotte block of Ganjam district, Odisha on cyclone YAAS preparedness on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2021 by IGSSS.

GO-NGO coordination meeting was organized for cyclone YAAS preparedness with Ganjam district administration and shared about IGSSS plan of preparedness and a 30 members volunteers list was also shared with the administration for timely seeking volunteer support in Khallikotte block of Ganjam district of Odisha.

IGSSS reach out to its NGO partners having presence at low lying areas of Kendrapara district, South 24 Paraganas in West Bengal to take stock of their preparedness on cyclone YAAS (VARRAT and DHARA was contacted for preparedness measures at community level to face cyclone YAAS)



Distirct level GO- NGO coordination meeting



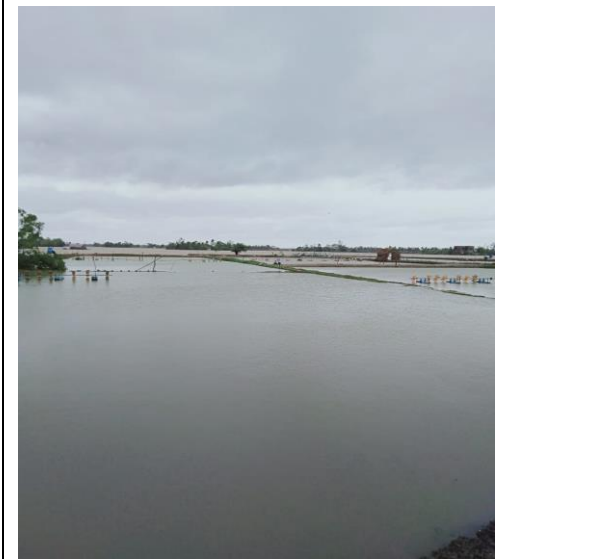
Mike annoucement for evacuation of vulnerable families



Covid19 appropriate behaviour like mask wearing and hand sanitization while entering cyclone shelter in Jamboo village of Kendrapara, Odisha



View of cyclone shelter in Jamboo village of Kendrapara, Odisha



Saline water increases in agriculture land, Vegetable and pisci culture loss, house damage, 4no.s saline bond damage, more impact at Talchua, Rangani, Dangmal, Krishnanagar, Keruanpal and Baghamari GP of Rajnagar Block, Kendrapada, Odisha



Kutchha houses damaged in Rajnagar block of Kendrapara, Odisha

Report Prepared by,

Basant Panigrahi

State Coordinator, IGSSS

**PN: The data keep changing as the information flows from the district so by the time the report is received there might be change in the data.**