

# Law, Kerala residents wait for some relief

However, many people in several parts of Ernakulam district and interior Chengannur in Alappuzha district continue to wait to be rescued

**THIRUVANANTHAPURAM:** As rescue operations in Kerala on Monday entered its final stages, the biggest challenge before the authorities in the flood aftermath turned into managing the over 5,500 relief camps housing more than 7,00,000 people across the state.

The weather looked promising with no major rainfall expected in the state. Many people though continued to wait for rescue to arrive in several parts of Ernakulam district and interior Chengannur in Alappuzha district.

The death toll stands at 370.



## 4,320 people rescued from Kodagu

**KODAGU:** About 4,320 more people have been rescued till Monday morning from flood-hit Kodagu district in Karnataka, as the rescue work entered its final stage in search of nearly 50 persons reported missing or stranded, an official said. "The rescue work has entered its final stage. The 4,320 who have been rescued earlier have been shifted to 41 relief camps in the district," a Karnataka state disaster management authority said.

Teams from the Indian Army

# 106 die in one day in flood-hit Kerala, massive air rescue on

2.2L Homeless, Monsoon Toll 324, Tweets CM

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Kochi/Thiruvananthapuram:** Rain-battered Kerala remained in a state of siege on Friday, with officials saying as many as 106 lives were lost the previous day, taking the death toll in floods and landslides to 173 since August 8.

Around 2.23 lakh people from more than 50,000 families are currently homeless and living in 1,568 relief camps across the state.

After two days of incessant downpour, the rain eased a bit on Friday. The Met office said although the overall rainfall in the state was likely to decrease in the next few days, some pockets

**FULL COVERAGE: P 4, 9, 10**

could continue to get heavy showers.

Although more than 82,000 people were rescued on Friday, with the NDRE Army, Navy and Coast Guard coordinating their efforts, emergency helpines and social media were flooded with desperate pleas from individuals and groups marooned without food and water.

Nearly all rivers in the state continued to be in spate. Several areas, particularly in Pathanamthitta district, remained marooned with scores of Navy helicopters conducting repeated sorties to evacuate thousands to safety.

Authorities said 1,084 people were airlifted on Friday. Air rescues were the only option for people stranded in inaccessible areas.

Chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan tweeted that 324 people had so far died of weather-related causes since the

## ARMY, NAVY, COAST GUARD PITCH IN



Navy personnel airlift a marooned couple in southern Kerala on Friday

Aug 8-15		Aug 16		Aug 17	
Excess Rain: 255%		Excess Rain: 915%		Excess Rain: 424%	
Normal	Actual	Normal	Actual	Normal	Actual
98.4mm	349.7mm	13.5mm	137mm	14.5mm	76mm

Rainfall figures are state wide averages

### Rescued by Navy chopper, woman delivers child

A heavily-pregnant Sajita Jabil, marooned in her house in flood-hit Ernakulam district, went into labour on Friday with no help in sight. She was carefully airlifted from her rooftop by a Navy helicopter in an operation that lasted 30 minutes and taken to the Navy Hospital at the Southern Naval Command, reports Vikram Vinod. She gave birth to a baby boy. Both mom and child are fine. **P 9**

start of the monsoon season.

In a WhatsApp video that went viral, a stranded woman with her six-year-old child was seen crying for help. "We have no food or water. Please help us," she kept pleading. Several other moving images were being

circulated, like that of a heavily pregnant woman being airlifted on Friday morning by a Navy rescue team from a water-logged place near Aluva, one of the worst-hit towns in the state. She later gave birth to a baby boy and both mother and child are

### 10 times higher than normal rain in a single day

In the span of one week (August 8-15), Kerala received 3.5 times higher than normal rainfall. Thursday was one of the wettest days when the state was battered with 137mm of rain, more than 10 times the normal for the day, reports Amit Bhatnagar. On the same day, Idukki district recorded 266mm, 13 times higher than normal rains. Kerala has now had nine straight days of incessant rains. **P 9**

reportedly safe and sound.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was expected to reach the state late on Friday night. He is likely to undertake an aerial survey early on Saturday.

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## AP gov't employees donate ₹20 crore

Andhra Pradesh government

## Kerala crore to

More than 2.20 lakh people extent of devastation; help

THE ARMOUKOCHI RELIEF CAMP IN KOCHI

VINOD KUMAR MENON

While the flood waters have receded and rescue operations are in their last stages, the Kerala government faces its biggest challenge yet: bringing the state back to normalcy. At the moment, the state is still struggling to bring together monetary resources. The chief minister, Pinarayi Vijayan, said, "We are struggling for monetary resources. Neighbouring states like Telangana, Maharashtra, Delhi, Tamil Nadu and the public at large have so far helped us get around ₹200 crore. This is the amount required to rescue the lives of over 2.20 lakh affected people."

Officials attached to the CMG added, "The state has lost entire paddy fields and the loss of human life has been estimated at more than ₹50. Luckily, all schools, colleges and universities are shut for 20 days. Some school structures are damaged and may need major repairs."

The officer added, "Cyber criminals are using the social media platform to spread rumours and fake messages. The chief minister has already directed the state police to take the strictest action against such 'cyber offenders'."

**Snakes, muck inside houses**  
With houses being submerged in flood waters for set over a week, most of those affected continue to stay at the various camps set up across the state. Those who dared to venture back to check on their homes, were shocked at what they found. The muck that reached first and second floors of some places. The bodies of dead animals and pets were found in the houses. There were snakes, too, inside a lot of the houses, which people

killed. Potatoes inside houses were rotting. Another problem is the phlegm that has dried up. The state has 400,000 houses. The state disaster management authority said. Teams from the Indian Army