



Fast Rural Development Program

Cyclone Biporjoy Situation Update-I

12 JUNE 2023

Once again, the district of Badin in the province of Sindh finds itself in the grip of a devastating cyclone, highlighting the relentless onslaught of natural disasters in the region. As the storm wreaks havoc, it prompts us to ponder whether we, as human beings, are complicit in this crime against nature and who ultimately bears the cost. Looking back to the catastrophic cyclone of 1999, The year 1999 marked a dark chapter in the history of Pakistan as a powerful cyclone wreaked havoc along its coastal regions. On the evening of Thursday, May 19, a powerful cyclone struck Shah Bandar, a coastal region in Sindh. The storm reached category 3, with wind speeds recorded at a staggering 275 km per hour.

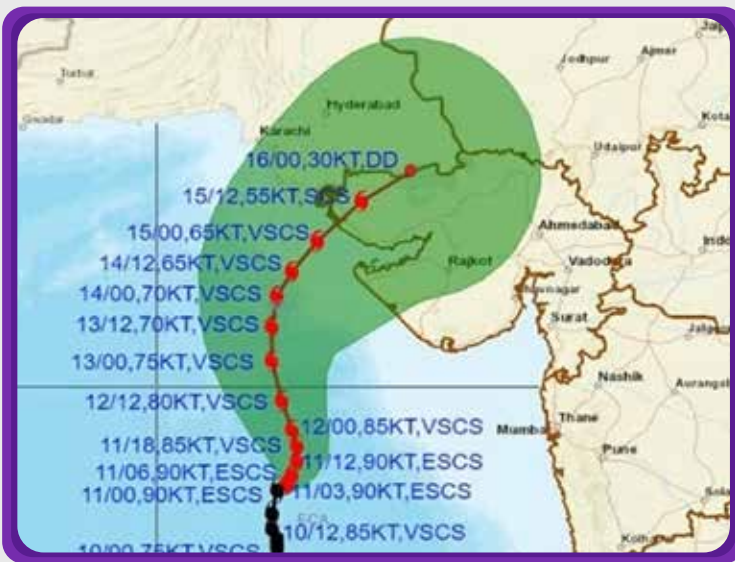


CYCLONE BIPORJOY

As a result, sea waves rose to dangerous heights, reaching fifteen to twenty feet, and saltwater inundated various areas. Tragically, hundreds of people went missing as the storm expanded its reach, and to this day, many remain unfound, alongside millions of displaced coastal residents in Sindh. After three days, the storm finally subsided. According to official figures, the loss of life amounted to six and a half thousand individuals, with over a hundred thousand displaced. Rescue efforts managed to recover approximately 400 bodies, while more than 6,000 missing persons were reported as deceased. During this time, the heavily funded Left Bank Outfall Drain (LBOD) system also contributed to the destruction, as it breached numerous locations due to heavy rains and powerful sea waves. Laar (the coastal area of Sindh), an area particularly affected by the breaches, was completely submerged. Approximately 70% of the standing rice crop, equivalent to about two lakh acres, was destroyed. Over two thousand lakes and fish farms were also devastated, leading to the loss of countless birds, livestock, and other wildlife. This calamity gradually eroded the region's overall well-being. The memory of this storm's intensity still lingers in the minds of the people today, ensuring it will never be forgotten.

Cyclone with its ferocious winds and torrential rains, unleashed its wrath upon the province of Sindh, leaving behind a trail of destruction and immense loss, the affected communities still after twenty-four years continue to struggle to rebuild their lives. Their resilience has been tested repeatedly, enduring not only four subsequent flood emergencies but also the recent COVID-19 pandemic. Now, the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has once again issued an alert, signaling the imminent danger facing coastal communities. While governments may be interested in raising funds and offering support, everyone knows those living below the poverty line, along the coastlines in makeshift homes made from grass and bushes, are left vulnerable. They face the heart-wrenching prospect of losing not only their dwellings but also their lives and their means of sustenance.

The recurring cycle of destruction raises important questions about our collective responsibility towards the environment. Are we, in fact, collaborators and perpetrators of this crime against nature? The consequences of climate change and environmental degradation are becoming increasingly evident, and it is imperative that we address this crisis before it escalates further.



The Chief Minister, Syed Murad Ali Shah, has directed officials to establish a control room to ensure close coordination with all districts. This directive was issued before officially declaring the emergency, as stated in a press release from the Chief Minister's office. In a separate statement, the NDMA cautioned that sea conditions would be rough to very rough, advising fishermen to refrain from venturing into the sea from May 13 to 20. The statement also indicated that coastal areas of Sindh can expect rain, dust, thunderstorms with heavy rainfall, and gusty winds from May 14 to 16.

Local law enforcement agencies are reportedly

urging people to evacuate coastal areas and relocate to safer places. However, individuals relying on daily wage earnings are finding it challenging to bear the cost of transportation. If the storm makes landfall with the intensity equivalent to a major hurricane, it will bring winds exceeding 100 mph, heavy rainfall, flooding, rough seas, and a significant storm surge, posing a grave threat to the affected areas.

Today while interacting with rural people FRDP realized the plight of the people in Thatta and Badin serves as a stark reminder of the urgent need for comprehensive disaster management strategies and long-term solutions. Immediate relief efforts are essential to assist those affected by the upcoming cyclone, but sustainable measures must be implemented to mitigate future risks and enhance the resilience of vulnerable communities.

As the storm rages on, it is crucial for the authorities, civil society organizations, and individuals to come together and take decisive action. Allocating resources to provide adequate shelter, livelihood support, and psychological assistance to the affected population should be prioritized. Initiatives focusing on climate change adaptation, disaster preparedness, and environmental conservation must be implemented to safeguard our shared future. In the face of nature's fury, we must not forget that we hold the power to change the trajectory of this unfolding crisis. Though we don't share common values, this is time, let us unite, not only to confront the immediate challenges at hand but also to prevent the recurrence of such tragedies through sustainable practices and responsible environmental stewardship. Only through concerted efforts can we hope to heal the wounds inflicted upon our planet and ensure a safer and more resilient future for all.

As an immediate response, FRDP has activated its Emergency Response team, who is at the front and assessing emerging situations, the FRDP has prioritized assisting over 10,000 households in moving to safer locations. FRDP is also raising funds to ensure the availability of essential medicines, provide safe drinking water, and distribute cooked food to displaced communities.



امڪاني طوفان جي پيش نظر سنڌ جي عوام لاءِ اپاء وٺڻ جون صلاحون

متوقع طوفانن کي پيش نظر سنڌ جي عوام کي حفاظتي تدابیر:-

1. متوقع سيلاب کي پيش نظر نشیبي علائقن سے دور رہیں
2. غیر ضروری آمدورفت اور سفر سے اجتناب کریں
3. چھت یا اوپر پڑی بھاری بھارے اشیاء یا سولر پلیٹس، ڈش انٹینا اتار کر محفوظ کریں
4. گھروں کے نزدیک اونچے درختوں کو کاٹ کر ہلکا کر لیں
5. کچی دیواروں اور گھروں سے دوری رکھیں
6. آسمانی بجلی گرنے کے خطرے کی وجہ سے کھلے آسمان تلے رہنے سے اجتناب برتیں
7. گھروں اور مویشیوں کے باڑوں سے نکاسی آب کا نظام درست کریں
8. مویشیوں اور پالتو پرندوں کو محفوظ مقامات پر منتقل کریں، اور گاہے ب گاہے نظر داری کرتے رہیں
9. گھر میں کم از کم تین دن کی خوراک، مویشیوں کا چارہ، جبالانے کی لکڑی، کیروسین والی لائٹیں، ٹارچ تیار رکھیں
10. پینے کے لیے صاف پانی، بچوں کے لیے خشک دودھ ضرور رکھیں
- 11: ریڈیو، ماسک یا لائٹ اور درد، بخار، بیچش اور الٹی کی ادویات، مسرہم پٹی کا سامان بھی رکھیں
12. ہسپتال، ایمبولینس پولیس فائر بریگیڈ ناؤن کمیٹی کے متعلقہ افسر کے نمبرز اپنے پاس محفوظ کر لیں
13. موبائل فون کی بیٹری چارج رکھیں اور فون کا کم سے کم استعمال کرتے ہوئے بیٹری بچا کر رکھیں
14. بجلی کے کھمبوں اور تاروں سے دور رہیں
15. گھپروں سے بچنے کے لیے گھپردانیوں اور لوشن کا بھی بندوبست رکھیں

1. هیٺائین وارن علائقن جتي ٻوڏ جو خطرو هجي ان کان پري رهو
2. طوفان وارن ڏينهن ۾ آمدرفت ۽ سفر کان پرهيڙ ڪريو
3. چٽ يا مٿاهين حصن ۾ پيل سولر پليٽون، ڊش انٽينا يا گرو سامان لاهي، هيٺ محفوظ ڪري رکيو
4. گهرن جي ويجهي وارن ڊگهن ۽ گهاٽن وٿن جي چانگ ڪري هلڪا ڪريو
5. ڪچين ۽ ڀريل پٽن ۽ جاين کان پري رهو
6. گھروں جي ڪرڻ جو خطرو وڌيڪ هجڻ ڪري کليل آسمان هيٺ رهڻ کان پاسو ڪريو
7. گهرن ۽ وٿائن مان پاڻي نڪال لاءِ اڳواٽ بندوبست ڪري ڇڏيو
8. چوپائي مال ۽ گهريلو پکين کي محفوظ هنڌن تي منتقل ڪريو ۽ وقت به وقت سار سنڀال لهندا رهو
9. گهر ۾ گهٽ ۾ گهٽ ٽن ڏينهن جو کاڌ خوراڪ، مال جو چارو، ٻارڻ لاءِ سڪل ڪاٺيون، گاسليٽ واري بتي يا سيلن واري هٿ بتي گڏ رکيو
10. پيئڻ لاءِ صاف پاڻي ۽ ننڍن ٻارن لاءِ سڪو کير ضرور رکيو
11. ريڊيو ماسڪ يا لائيز ۽ سور، بخار، دست ۽ الٽي جون دوائون، زخمن جي مرهم پٽي جو سامان پڻ گڏ رکيو
12. اسپتال ايملولينس پوليس فائر برگيد ۽ ٽائون ڪاميٽي جي ذميوار شخصن جا فون نمبر پڻ محفوظ ڪري وٺو
13. موبائل فون جي بيٽري چارج رکيو ۽ فون جو گهٽ ۽ وقت سر احتياط سان استعمال ڪريو ته جيئن بيٽري بچائي سگهجي
14. لائيز جي ٽئين ۽ تارن کان پري رهو
15. مچرن کان بچڻ لاءِ مچردانيون ۽ لوشن ساڻ رکيو

هميشه وانگي اسان جي سموري سٿ هن آفت جي گهڙي ۾ مقامي ادارن ۽ عوام جي خدمت ۾ موجود آهي. ڪنهن به پریشاني ۽ ضرورت موجب ایف آر ڊي پي سان فون 03360244673 تي رابطو ڪريو

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Pre-Cyclone Instructions:




- ✓ Stay updated: Regularly monitor weather updates, official announcements, and local news channels for the latest information on Cyclone Biparjoy.
- ✓ Emergency Kit: Prepare an emergency kit containing essential supplies such as non-perishable food, drinking water, first aid items, flashlight, batteries, and a portable radio. Ensure that your emergency kit is easily accessible.
- ✓ Secure your property: Safeguard your property by securing loose objects, trimming trees, and reinforcing doors and windows. Clear clogged drains and gutters to prevent waterlogging.
- ✓ Evacuation Plan: Familiarize yourself with the nearest evacuation shelters and routes. If authorities issue evacuation orders, follow them promptly and take your emergency kit with you.

During Cyclone Instructions:

- ✓ **Shelter-in-place:** If you cannot evacuate, find a safe area within your home away from windows, doors, and exterior walls. Stay there until authorities declare it safe to leave.
- ✓ **Stay indoors:** Avoid going outside during the cyclone. It's important to remain indoors to minimize the risk of injury from flying debris or falling trees.
- ✓ **Power and utilities:** Turn off electrical appliances and gas connections to prevent accidents. Use flashlights instead of candles or open flames for lighting.
- ✓ **Emergency contacts:** Keep emergency contact numbers readily available and inform your loved ones about your safety.

Post-Cyclone Instructions:

- ✓ **Assess the damage:** After the cyclone has passed, assess the damage to your property cautiously. Be mindful of downed power lines, broken glass, and other hazards.
- ✓ **Report emergencies:** If you require immediate assistance or encounter life-threatening situations, contact the emergency services without delay.
- ✓ **Help your community:** Check on your neighbors, particularly the elderly, disabled, or vulnerable individuals. Offer support and report any urgent needs to the authorities.
- ✓ **Safety first:** Avoid entering damaged buildings or flooded areas until they have been declared safe by the relevant authorities.

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