

Heavy rain batters Karnataka districts

Rivers in spate; a part of NH 75 develops cracks, houses collapse in Shivamogga, Dakshina Kannada



Risky ride: A motorist pushing his scooter through rainwater in the Padil area of Mangaluru on Thursday. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

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Incessant rain has affected life in many parts of Karnataka. As roads are flooded and uprooted trees blocking them, the vehicular movement has been affected. Rivers and streams are in spate and the inflow into reservoirs has been increasing.

The Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre has sounded an orange alert for very heavy rainfall for Chikkamagaluru, Shivamogga and Kodagu districts until Friday morning.

Chikkamagaluru recorded an average of 47 mm of rainfall against the normal of 16.6 mm. Kodagu recorded 59.6 mm in the last 24 hours, while Dakshina Kannada recorded an average 102.8 mm rainfall in 24 hours ending at 8.30 a.m. on Thursday.

The death toll in the landslide which occurred at Panjikkallu village of Dakshina

Kannada on Wednesday night rose to three with two more farm labourers dying of injuries on Thursday. One is still undergoing treatment. The four labourers, all from Kerala, were rubber tappers who were staying in a shed when the landslip occurred.

A portion of the National Highway-75 near Ballupete in Sakaleshpur, being widened, developed huge cracks.

In Kodagu, a person escaped with minor injuries after a giant tree fell on his house. In Dakshina Kannada, 11 houses were partially damaged and two houses were fully damaged.

State Revenue Minister R. Ashok, who was camping in Kodagu, on Thursday visited the rain-affected areas. He announced a compensation of ₹5 lakh to the families of those who died in the landslide.

(With inputs from Mysuru and Mangaluru)