Most Devastating Natural Disasters of 2019: Cases in India

CEECC Team

1. **Bandipur Forest Fire:** In between February 23-25, 2019, a massive forest fire broke out in the Bandipur National Pak. The Sentinel-2 satellite data of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) estimates say that around 15,443.27 acres of forest land were found but due to the fire blaze in the National Park.

Photo credit: The News Minute

2. **Cyclone Fani :** In between April 26-May 6, 2019, an extremely severe cyclone (speed of around 175 kmph) named 'Fani', means hood of snake in Bangla hits the coastal region of Odisha. Reportedly, it affected more than 1 million people and caused infrastructure damage of around Rs. 596 billion. Including eastern India and Bangladesh, around 89 people lost their lives in this severe storm.

Photo credit: Quartz

3. **Bihar Flood :** In between August-September 2019, severe flood affected around 8.8 million people in 13 districts of Bihar. Around 130 people died in the flood and caused damage of around Rs. 8.85 million.

Photo credit: Gulf News

4. **Karnataka Flood :** In August 2019, the southern Indian state of Karnataka was greatly affected by a monsoonal flood. Reportedly, around 61 people lost their lives and 15 were found missing across 22 districts of the state. More than 40,000 houses were affected and caused infrastructure damage of around Rs. 495 billion.

Photo credit: The Economic Times

5. **Kerala Flood:** In August 2019, heavy rainfall caused a severe flood and affected 14 districts of Kerela. Series of landslides worsen the situation and declared Red Alert 9 districts of northern and central Kerela, Orange Alert in 3 districts of central Kerela, and Yellow Alert in 2 districts of southern Kerala. Around 121 people lost their lives and affected over 2 lakh people.

Photo credit : The Financial Express

6. **Assam Flood :** In July 2019, the eastern Indian state of Assam was extremely affected by a monsoonal flood. Reportedly, around 52.6 lakh people, 1.64 lakh hectares of crop area of 30 districts were severely affected. Around 91 people lost their lives and 2400 Indian Rhinoceros, some of the other endangered species, in Kaziranga National Park were badly affected.

Photo credit : NDTV.com

7. **Bihar Encephalitis Outbreak :** In June 2019, around 150 children lost their lives due to a serious outbreak of Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) in the Muzaffarpur district of Bihar. In subsequent months, more cases and deaths were reported mainly due to Hypoglycemia. The cause of the outbreak is still unclear but malnutrition, poor hygiene, inadequate health facilities, lack of awareness are considered as major contributing factors. The famous Lychee fruit toxins are also cited as a plausible cause of AES.
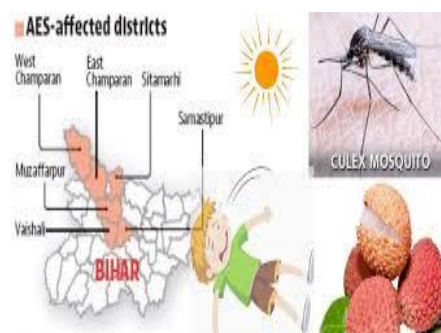

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