

# Assam floods: 6 more dead as toll since May mounts to 52

At least seven districts of Arunachal Pradesh cut off due to landslips; eight persons, including two children, killed in rain-induced landslips and floods in Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura

**The Hindu Bureau**  
GUWAHATI

At least six persons, including two children, drowned on Thursday, taking the death toll in two waves of floods in Assam since May to 52.

Officials of the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA) said the water levels of the Brahmaputra and other rivers dipped marginally on Thursday, but the flood situation continued to be grim with 21.13 lakh forced to abandon their homes.

More than 39,300 people from the flood-hit areas have taken shelter across 247 relief camps. "Western Assam's Dhubri and northern Assam's Darrang are the worst affected districts where 6.49 lakh and 1.9 lakh people have been displaced," an ASDMA spokesperson said.

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said the breaching of at least eight strategic embankments worsened the flood situation, which was caused largely by heavy rainfall in Arunachal Pradesh and Bhutan.

The impact has been felt in the 1,307.49 sq. km Kaziranga National Park and



Villagers with their cattle and belongings move to safety in Kamrup district of Assam on Thursday. ANI

Tiger Reserve where the floodwaters killed 31 animals – 30 hog deer and one otter pup.

Forest guards, however, rescued 82 animals, a two-month-old rhino among them. "The situation, however, improved in the last 24 hours with 95 of the 233 anti-poaching camps now under water up to 5 feet. The number of camps inundated on Wednesday was 179," a park official said.

Heavy rainfall also caused havoc in other northeastern States. Officials in Arunachal Pradesh

said at least seven districts in the central and eastern parts of the State had been cut off due to landslides caused by flash floods. The affected districts include Lohit, Changlang, Anjaw, and East Siang.

During the last 48 hours, eight persons, including two children, were killed in rain-induced landslides and floods in Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura.

## Relief measures

The Chief Minister on Thursday said the State's flood situation was "under control" but everything de-

pendent on the weather conditions during the next few days.

The affected people are being provided relief and plans are being drawn up for their rehabilitation along with the repair of damaged infrastructure, he said.

"The situation is under control but everything depends on the weather. If there is no further rain in Arunachal Pradesh and South Tibet, the situation will improve, but it might worsen if there is more rainfall," Mr. Sarma stated. (With PTI inputs)