

Flood alert sounded as Godavari level rises

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Officials issued the third warning with the water level in the Godavari River touching 55 feet at Bhadrachalam by 7 p.m. on Sunday. The level might increase further, Central Water Commission officials said.

At 6 p.m., the water level at Koida was 26.12 metres, coffer dam 29.35 metres, Polavaram 14.18 metres and Old Railway bridge (Havelock bridge) 17.48 metres. The discharge from the Sir Arthur Cotton Barrage (at Dowleswaram) was 15.23 lakh cusecs.



More than 100 tribal hamlets in West and East Godavari districts of Andhra Pradesh were under knee-deep water. Residents of several habitations in Devipatnam, V.R. Puram, Chintur and other mandals were shifted to safer places. Officials sounded alert in Kukunur, Velerupadu, Polavaram, Chintur, V.R. Puram, Kunavaram and other mandals. National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) and police teams were pressed into service, said Andhra Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority officials.

In Telangana, the swollen Godavari River continued to flow above the danger mark on Sunday, triggering the threat of flooding in the riverside areas of Bhadrachalam Agency.

Road connectivity between Bhadrachalam-Dummugudem-Charla, Charla-Venkatapuram and various important routes along the inter-State borders with Andhra Pradesh and Chhattisgarh was disrupted as the floodwaters surged through the low-level road points at Turubaka, Kudunuru, Alubaka and various other agency areas. As the river turned perilous, the authorities started evacuating people living in the flood prone areas to safer places and ramped up emergency response measures.

The backwaters of the Godavari entered into Kotha Colony and AMC colony besides the areas surrounding the flood bank (Karakatta) in Bhadrachalam. This has prompted the authorities to shift as many as 24 families to a temporary flood relief camp set up at a private school in the temple town.
