

THE STUDENT'S PRESS

AUGUST'2025

MONSOON FLOODS 2025 States Most Affected and Their Recovery Plans

The monsoon season of 2025 has triggered one of the most severe flood crises in the recent times in northern India. In August, many states have suffered heavy rainfall, consequently, many rivers swell beyond the danger level. States like: Punjab, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and even the national territory New Delhi suffered massive losses due to Yamuna River. The rain instigated flash floods and landslides leaving thousands of people homeless and disturbing normal life.

The floods entered as a horror story in the lives of people living in Punjab as more than 1,400 villages went under water, leaving homes and fields completely submerged. Over 3 lakh acres of farmland i.e. Punjab's main source of income, were lost to the floods, hitting farmers the hardest. In total, nearly 3.5 million people were affected, many of them lost not only their homes but also their livelihoods and the crops they relied on for survival.



Devastating Flood and Landslide

Amritsar and Pathankot, districts of Punjab witnessed worst flood in the decade. The impact was great when it was witnessed that more than thousands of people were forced to leave their homes. In Himalayan region like Uttarakhand, a sudden cloudburst, brought floods, taking away as many as five lives and nearly 100s people missing. During the peak rainy season, district of Himachal Pradesh suffered badly, where deadly landslides cut off villages, claiming several lives.

Meanwhile, in Jammu & Kashmir, swollen rivers overflowed their banks, sweeping away roads and devastating apple orchards — the backbone of the region's economy.

The incident in August sparked urgent relief across nation. Yamuna River flowing in New Delhi, rose above the danger mark impacting the lives of thousands of people living to move out because of safety concerns. Despite being the worst-hit state, NGOs in Punjab established community kitchens, providing hot meals to displaced families, reflecting the caring and united nature of humanity.

Financial Aid and Government Support

"India is a land of harmony, where each state stands ready to help other", this statement has been truly honoured by Haryana government, who open handily, stepped up with a generous offer of ₹5 crore each to Punjab and Jammu & Kashmir. Ropar, the district of Punjab saw floods exposing cracks in waterworks and irrigation canals, increasing the work of engineers, who has to do the repair work so that people can restart doing their work and earn penny for their livelihood. In Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, government authorities hurried to clear debris from highways and reopen vital supply routes. Across all affected states, the call to 'Build Back Better' mission grew stronger, with plans for cleaning the riverbeds and make better and effective flood-preparedness. August was remembered not only for its destruction but also for the first hopeful steps toward recovery.

Lessons from August 2025

This August's monsoon proved how a single month of heavy rain can steal the lives of innocents, wipe out livelihoods, and impacting the states majorly. As truly said by Doyle Jackson - "When the nature speaks, it speaks loud and clear", and this time all of us has experienced this. The game of disaster starts right from Punjab's flooded district, followed by Delhi's overflowing Yamuna and then Uttarakhand's lethal cloudburst.

At the difficult times, states like Haryana showed immense support. The swift action of rescue teams and the Centre's interventions highlighted India's strength in coming together during crises. The recovery steps taken in August will decide how well these states rebuild. August 2025 should be remembered as a month of disasters, that are not just events of destruction; they are lessons from nature, urging us to build stronger and wiser for the future.

Along with floods across the country, frequent cloudburst incidents worsened such situations. In early August, Uttarakhand's Dharali village suffered a severe cloudburst that caused flash floods strong enough to destroy homes and block roadways. Likewise, Rudraprayag and Chamoli witnessed cloudbursts that triggered rapid floods and landslides, devastating entire villages. These were some of most catastrophic in the Himalayan area in recent years.

Assam is severely impacted, with over 5.36 lakh people affected across 22 districts due to overflowing rivers – especially the Brahmaputra and Barak. These floodwaters disrupted transport network, submerged agricultural lands and damaged thousands of homes. In Jammu & Kashmir, the rapid landslides and flooding claimed the lives of dozens, including tragic landslide near the Vaishno Devi pilgrimage route, where about 33 people lost their lives. Northern Punjab also reported severe floods that trapped around 200 students inside a school. These instance demonstrates how nature's catastrophic force spares no one.

Frequent floods and downhill landslides in northeastern states like Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh are creating sustainability challenges in ecologically sensitive areas. Even southern states like Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu are suffering from waterlogging and drainage difficulties.

FROM DESTRUCTION TO REBUILDING: HOW STATES ARE COPING WITH THE MONSOON FLOODS

This year, the monsoon in India arrived with unusual intensity, bringing massive challenges to various states. While rainwater is vital for agriculture and reservoirs for the livelihood of people, the extreme conditions also caused widespread destruction across the country. Various states faced extreme downpours, disrupting millions of lives and testing the resilience of the administration.

States Worst Hit by the Monsoon Floods 2025

This year, some of the most affected states included Jammu & Kashmir, Assam, Uttarakhand, Bihar, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha. As per reports of Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), Jammu & Kashmir experienced 725% above rainfall than the norm for August. It destroyed low-lying river basins and steep terrain and triggered landslides and flash floods.

A Step Towards Recovery: How States are Rebuilding After Floods

Following severe floods, governments with NDRF and SDRF launched rescue and relief operations. Shelters were set up in schools and public buildings, with food, water, and medical aid provided. Health teams curbed disease risks, while financial support aided victims and farmers. States also improved warning systems and reviewed urban drainage to strengthen future flood preparedness.



Conclusion: A Test of Strength and Wake-up Call

This year's monsoon highlighted India's vulnerability to climate shifts, exposing weaknesses in infrastructure while showcasing resilience through coordinated responses. The floods remind us of rising risks from extreme weather and unpredictable rainfall. Building resilience requires climate-friendly policies, sustainable development, preparedness, and proactive planning—going beyond recovery toward long-term adaptability and protection for future generations.