

Michaung: PM Modi asks MHA to release fund to Andhra, Tamil Nadu

SITUATION REMAINS GRIM IN PARTS OF CHENNAI

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OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: Union Minister Amit Shah stated that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has instructed the Ministry of Home Affairs to release in advance the second instalment of the Center's contribution to the SDRF—Rs 450 crore for Tamil Nadu and Rs 493.60 crore for Andhra Pradesh—in view of the floods caused by Cyclone Michaung.

In a post on X, Shah said the Prime Minister has also approved the first urban flood mitigation project of Rs 561.29 crore for 'Integrated Urban Flood Management activities for Chennai Basin Project' under the National Disaster Mitigation Fund (NDMF), which also includes Central assistance of Rs 500 crore.

The severe cyclonic storm Michaung has affected Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. Though the extent of damage



People being rescued and shifted to a safer place amid floods after heavy rainfall in the aftermath of Cyclone Michaung, in Chennai, on Thursday

PTI

is varied, many areas of these states have been inundated, affecting standing crops, the minister said.

"To help the state governments with the management of relief necessitated by the cyclonic storm, PM @narendramodi ji directed the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) to

release in advance the Central share of the 2nd instalment of SDRF (State Disaster Response Fund) of Rs 493.60 crore to Andhra Pradesh and Rs 450 crore to Tamil Nadu," he said.

The Central government had already released the first instalment of the same amount to the two states, he added.

Highlights

- » Shah said that the Central government had already released the first instalment of the same amount to the two states
- » Michaung left behind a trail of destruction in Andhra Pradesh, damaging roads, uprooting trees and killing livestock
- » Chennai, Kancheepuram, Chengalpet and Tiruvallur in northern Tamil Nadu were inundated

and killing livestock.

According to data shared by the Chief Minister's office (CMO), nearly 40 lakh people from 194 villages and two towns were affected by Michaung's impact. As many as 25 villages have been inundated in the state.

In another post, Shah said Chennai is facing major floods for the third time in the last eight years.

As a representative of the Central government, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Thursday undertook an aerial survey of flood-hit northern Tamil Nadu and held discussions with Chief Minister M K Stalin on the extent of damage caused by Michaung.

Chennai, Kancheepuram, Chengalpet and Tiruvallur in northern TN were inundated after being hit by the cyclone.

The state government has already sought an interim Central relief of Rs 5,060 crore.

"I pray for the safety and well-being of all those affected. We stand with them in this crucial hour and will ensure the situation normalises at the earliest," Shah said.

Michaung left behind a trail of destruction in Andhra Pradesh, damaging 770-kilometre roads, uprooting trees