



THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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MUSK GOES WITH TWITTER POLL, TO SELL TESLA STOCK

Twitter poll with 3.5 million votes backed Elon Musk in drama of selling a 10th of his stock, 58% in favour and 42% against

WAS A MEGA TAX LIABILITY THE TRUE REASON?

Regardless of the poll result, a stock sale may have been inevitable. The mercurial billionaire said the share sale idea was a reaction to a political push to make the ultra-rich pay taxes when prices of stock they hold go up. But analysts say Musk, whose wealth is mostly held in Tesla shares, has \$10 billion in taxes coming due to stock options that expire next year

TESLA SHARES SLIDE AFTER POLL RESULT

At Monday's opening bell, Tesla's stock plunged by 6.4% in the US. Musk is known for rolling markets with ill-advised tweets. Tesla's market value recently crossed \$1 trillion, making Musk, its CEO, the world's richest man as he is the largest shareholder with 17% stock. Musk hasn't disclosed the date of the share sale

\$20 bn

ESTIMATED VALUE OF 10 PER CENT OF ELON MUSK'S HOLDINGS IN TESLA

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VILUPPATTUR • SENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAYANPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KODAIKANDE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHIRANDEWAR • SHIVMOGGA • MANGALURU • TRIPATI • TRIPUR • TRINELVELI • SANGALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPUR • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • KARANGAL • TACEPILGUDOM • NAGAPATTINAM • THIRUSUR • KALABURAGI

Four killed; red alert issued to more districts as depression set to head to north TN coast

Chennai braces for more rains

SV KRISHNA CHAITANYA @ Chennai

FOUR people have died in rain-related mishaps the last 24 hours in Tamil Nadu, as the State and its capital struggle to cope with the onslaught of rains. Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) on Monday warned that isolated extreme heavy rains (21 cm or more) are likely in Chennai later this week with the low pressure area forming over southeast Bay of Bengal expected to intensify into a depression and head towards north TN.

A red alert has been issued for Chennai, Chengalpattu, Sanchiepuram, Tiruvallur, Cuddalore, Villupuram and Pudukcherry. Meanwhile, SRO's Sriharikota radar, although old, was made fully operational to address Chennai's radar crisis.

While Chief Minister MK Stalin, for the second consecutive day, visited rain-affected spots in the city and distributed relief, revenue Minister KKSSR Ramachandran old reporters that in the 24 hours ending 6pm on Monday, 17 districts received rains. The average rainfall was 14.2mm with Chennai district receiving the maximum of 67.08mm. In Sanchiepuram, Tiruvannam-

lai, Chengalpattu, and Tiruvallur, 314 persons have been sheltered in 10 relief camps. In Chennai, Corporation Commissioner Gagandeep Singh Bedi said 41 boats are on standby for rescue operations. Residents were asked to stock up on groceries and avoid travel.

On Monday, several parts of Chennai remained inundated, although only 2cm of rain was received, while nearly 10,000 cusec of water is released from reservoirs in and around the city. Torrential rains lashed Villupuram, Pudukcherry and Kallakurichi districts in north coastal TN, which in Tiruchy residents in low-lying areas faced flooding. As dams across the State brim, alerts were sent to 12 districts as the Mettur dam, receiving inflows of around 27,000 cusec, is likely to reach full capacity on Tuesday.

Meanwhile, M Ravichandran, secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences told TNIE that of the four radars in TN region, Sriharikota and Karaikal are now fully operational. "We have sufficient coverage. Sriharikota radar can cover the entire Chennai region and Karaikal radar has dual range, both short and long range," he said.

CONTINUED ON P5



Here are the key stats about the rain, as announced by minister KKSSR Ramachandran

37 districts in Tamil Nadu received rains in last 24 hours

14.2 mm average rainfall across TN

67.08 mm Chennai received the max rainfall

346.1 mm received by TN from Oct 1 to Nov 8 - 43% more than normal rainfall (241.2mm)



(Clockwise from top) Residents cross the half-constructed bridge over Kosasthalayar river. A lady provides food to street dogs stranded due to deluge in Pudukcherry. A flooded GN Chetty Road | P JAWAHAR, PATTABIRAMAN, R SATISH BABU

₹200 cr for flood mitigation in T Nagar down drain?

NIRUPAMA VISWANATHAN @ Chennai

ALTHOUGH a whopping ₹200 crore has been spent to mitigate floods in T Nagar under the Smart Cities Mission in the last three years, the city's first monsoon showers seem to have pushed that money down the drain.

A large portion of these funds were spent on area-based

development programme.

In T Nagar, the Chennai corporation has spent over ₹110 crores to construct storm-water drains during 2019-2021 and under area-based development of Smart City Mission, nearly ₹80 crore was spent to restore the Mambalam canal to help dispose rainwater in the area to mitigate floods.



However, these expensive projects turned out to be in vain as the Corporation staff are now forced to remove the bunds which were constructed as part of the Mambalam restoration project to enable drainage of water. Officials said it was a temporary measure and that the bunds will be reconstructed after the rains.

For the second consecutive day, the GN Chetty Road which is also covered under the area based development of the Smart Cities mission, was waterlogged.

"We thought the water would have drained off GN Chetty today as it has in the rest of the city but it hasn't. I hope it drains off quickly because I take that road to work everyday," said Guruprasad K.

785 HOUSES

WERE DAMAGED ACROSS TAMIL NADU SINCE OCTOBER 1

2,400 huts/damages since Oct 1

Fishermen advised not to venture into sea from November 9 to 12

FOUR persons lost their lives in last 24 hours in rain-related incidents

314 PERSONS were given shelters in 10 relief camps in Kancheepuram, Tiruvannamalai, Chengalpattu, and Tiruvallur districts

Water released from Chennai's reservoirs

Lake	Cubic feet
Poondi reservoir	4,069
Cholavaram	1,215
Puzhal	2,191
Chembarambakkam	2,144
Veeranam	434
Therovi Kandigai	90

INSIDE TOMATO PRICES SHOOT UP TO ₹100 DUE TO SHOWERS | P2 FLOOD ALERT ISSUED AS PONNAI ANAICUT OVERFLOWS | P3

RAFALE PROBE

Fake invoices for kickbacks to clinch deal?

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

THE Rafale kickbacks scam took a new turn on Monday with French investigative journal Mediapart claiming that bogus invoices were used by manufacturer Dassault Aviation to funnel at least 7.5 million euros in commissions to a middleman to clinch the fighter jet deal with India.

These payments to Sushen Gupta were reportedly made between 2007 and 2012 during the Congress-led UPA rule at the Centre. Till the time of going to press, there was no reaction to the report from either the defence ministry or Dassault.

Mediapart alleged that both the CBI and the Enforcement Directorate had documents to establish the kickbacks in 2018 but chose to sit on them. "This was in the context of the French firm's long and ultimately successful attempt to secure a 7.8 billion-euro-deal in 2016 to sell 36 of its Rafale fighters to India," it said.

The journal had in July reported the appointment of a French judge to lead the highly sensitive judicial investigation into suspected corruption in the inter-governmental jet deal. In the past, both Dassault and the Indian defence ministry had denied allegations of corruption in the contract. And the Supreme Court in 2019 had dismissed petitions seeking a probe into the charges of kickbacks.

11 early morning... IMD has forecast rain of varied intensity over some southern, interior and delta districts on November 9. In the system fizzles out because of weak northeasterly winds. But they may be mostly light spells," an IMD official said.



A temporary rain shelter at a school in Egmore; a flooded pathway in K.K. Nagar; a man carries his child near the Sembakam lake; a flooded house in Kolathur

all water from Avadi flows into Korattur, Retteri... We need to find alternative measures if need to de-log these areas next monsoon."

After 14 years, Kudamurutti river floods residential areas in Trichy



FULL FLOW: Heavy flow of flood water in the Kudamurutti river at PWD's aqueduct near Kuzhumayee Amman temple in Trichy on Monday. (Right) People from low lying area in Lingam Nagar in Trichy move to safe places in a vehicle

Deepak.Karthik@timesgroup.com

The heavy rainfall in the catchment areas of the Kudamurutti river, which originates from PWD's aqueduct, has led to the waterbody breaching and inundating several residential areas in Trichy city. Similar situation prevailed in the Koraiyar river also. After 14 years, river breaches were reported at multiple locations of the two rivers in the city.

The Koraiyar river that originates from Thenambadi in Pudukkottai district collects the run-off water en-

route and at the PWD's aqueduct near Kuzhumayee Amman temple behind Trichy district collectorate. The surplus water from Koraiyar takes a new name as Kudamurutti and runs for 6km through the city to merge with the Cauvery. The heavy rain in the catchment areas such as Manapparai and Viralmalai flooded the Koraiyar at E. Pudur and enhanced the water flow in the Kudamurutti. The Kudamurutti inundated Fathima Nagar, Lingam Nagar and Ramalinga Nagar in Trichy city. Around 25,000 cusecs of water was discharged into the Kuda-

murutti. A walkway to Kuzhumayee Amman temple was completely submerged.

The PWD that monitored the water flow said that Trichy Corporation had facilitated many discharge outlets in residential areas to recede the inundation in recent years, another cause for the increased flow besides the surplus rainfall. "The situation is under control as there is no further rain both in the city and in the catchment areas. We expect the flow in the Kudamurutti to reach normalcy by Tuesday," an official source with PWD said.

IN NUMBERS

WATER DISCHARGE IN RIVERS/CANAL (in cusecs)	FLOW CAPACITY
> Uyyakondan 200	Uyyakondan 750
> Kudamurutti 25,000	Kudamurutti 55,000
> Koraiyar 25,000	Koraiyar 55,000
> Cauvery 14,000	Cauvery 1 lakh
> Kollidam 10,000	Kollidam 2.5 lakh
FLOODED AREAS	
Lingam Nagar	
Fathima Nagar	
Ramalinga Nagar	
E Pudur	
Karumandapam	

Weakened bunds were strengthened to stop breaches.

As Kudamurutti is taking copious quantities of water, the district administration has released 10,000 cusecs of water into the Kollidam river, a major flood carrier running parallel to Cauvery. After inspecting the inundated areas, district collector S Sivarasu urged people not to take baths, swim, wash clothes and take selfies in the rivers. The Cauvery and Kollidam are not at the risk of flooding since Trichy has not received very heavy rainfall, officials said.

'Encroachments cause inundation in Trichy'

Times News Network

Inspecting the discharge of 10,000 cusecs of Cauvery water to the Kollidam river at Mokkombari barrage on Monday, Trichy district collector S Sivarasu said that there is no flood threat to Trichy. However, the district collector said encroachments in the suburban areas and waterbodies have caused the hardships and inundation in the city.



Trichy collector S Sivarasu inspecting Mukkombari barrage in Trichy on Monday

"We desilted the waterbodies, but encroachments are there. As a permanent solution, we will evict the encroachments on canals after draining the water. Public need not panic as there is no threat of flooding due to rainfall," the district collector said. He added that Cauvery water was diverted to Kollidam at Mukkombari so that the Cauvery river will not be overburdened.

There is also a separate inflow from the Bhavani, Amravati and Noyyal rivers to the Cauvery. The district collector also said that nine water tanks in Thuraiyur have reached full capacity after a period of 20 years.

Travellers to Chennai cancel tickets

Following the adverse weather condition in Chennai, a section of passengers have cancelled their planned trips to the state capital. Around 10% of the reserved tickets in every Chennai-bound SETC bus were cancelled on Sunday. According to SETC, passengers who had confirmed tickets have cancelled their tickets late on Sunday, following the news of heavy rain and inundation in parts of Chennai. "We operated around 100 buses on Sunday, the fleets were adequate as many people cancelled their tickets at the last moment," an official with SETC said. Meanwhile, private buses also witnessed a substantial fall in bookings to Chennai. A significant number of passengers to Chennai also cancelled their plans. Apart from the public transportation users, people who had planned their trips even in personal vehicles have postponed their plans. Lure, no came ta, cae in habita, caut



Karur district collector T Prabhushankar inspects a check dam across the Amaravathi River

close watch at the water level as water has been released from Amaravathi dam.

LESS TRAVEL, MORE VIGIL

Officials asked to monitor rain situation

Following the incessant rains, the district collectors of the central region have expedited the preparatory works to face the monsoon. Sirkazhi and Tharangambadi taluks in Mayiladuthurai recorded 31 mm rainfall for the last 24 hours which ended at 6am on Monday, while Kollidam and Manalmedu in the district received 28.4 mm and 22 mm rainfall. Kudavasal in Tiruvur district reported 27.2 mm rain while Tiruvur received 15.6 mm rain. Karur district collector T Prabhushankar visited Thirumukkudal, where the Cauvery, Bhavani and Amaravathi rivers merge, and instructed officials to have a

Rain skips southern districts

Though rains lashed Chennai and a few other districts in the western and central region, most parts of the southern districts did not receive much rain on Sunday and Monday. Except for Peraiyur, which received 18.1 mm rainfall, zero rainfall was recorded in the 19 other rain gauges in Madurai district.

Water level in Vaigai dam climbed to 67.53ft on Monday morning from 66.83ft on Sunday morning. The second flood warning will be given once the level crosses 68ft.

Superintendent of police of Madurai district V Baskaran on Monday inspected the preparations by police personnel to tackle distress during the monsoon.

Dindigul district collector S Visakan declared a holiday for schools in Kodaikanal due to the anticipated rains. The collector also ordered the closure of the state highway from Kodaikanal to Periyakulam through Adukkam as there are chances of landslides.

Many parts of Kanyakumari district received good rains in the afternoon. Perunchani (45.4 mm), Chittar I (42.6 mm), Chittar II (36.6 mm), Pechipparai (32.4 mm) and Myladu (31.2 mm) recorded rainfall in just two hours.

Ramanathapuram (12.68 mm), Sivagangai (10.26 mm) and Virudhunagar (4.28) recorded rainfall in 24 hours till 8 am on Monday. Rain damaged 13 huts in Virudhunagar.

Farmers worried over crop loss

Times News Network

As the Mettur dam is fast filling, farmers who have raised samba in around 10 lakh acres in the delta districts expressed concern that their crops will be damaged, if the rain continues for a few more days. In some areas, the samba transplantation work has also been affected, farmers said.

Salem district collector S Karmegam on Monday said that Stanley reservoir in Mettur will likely reach its full capacity (120ft) by Tuesday. The water level in the dam, on Monday, stood at 118ft.

Samba paddy crops transplanted in most parts of Thanjavur, Tiruvur, Nagapattinam, Mayiladuthurai, Pudukkottai and Trichy districts have been affected due to the incessant rain. Agriculture fields with standing crops have been inundated in several areas in the districts and farmers have been draining rainwater from the fields.

District collector Dinesh Ponraj Oliver said that 640 waterbodies including lakes in the district have attained their full capacity. Officials have identified 195 spots that are vulnerable to breaching, the collector said. "To face any such eventualities, 45,145 sandbags are made available. Re-

gional level monitoring officials were asked to have constant vigil," the collector said.

As major parts of Tiruvur district is a drain basin, rivers such as Marai Koraiyar, Par Kanthaparitcha and Ke yaru carry rainwater lead to inundation of several sands of paddy crop in



Standing paddy crop inundated in Ammapet

district, district secretary Tamil Nadu Vivasangam affiliated to Masilamani said.

Due to bad weather high tides, around 3,000 ers did not venture into on Monday in Nagapattinam district. District collector Arun Thamburaj has fishermen not to venture the sea for two days.

Karur district collector Prabhushankar inspected the Amaravathi river; few other waterbodies

Animal activists launch rescue operations, set up helplines

Priya.Menon@timesgroup.com

As the city continued to experience heavy rainfall on Monday, animal welfare activists were busy conducting rescues, rescuing stranded animals and setting up helplines.

Arun Prasanna, founder, People for Cattle in India (PFCI) says volunteers had been busy since Sunday. "On Monday, we rescued three dogs abandoned in Kovilambakkam. They had been tied to a portable generator on the road," he says, adding that the pets were later returned to the owner. "Haunted by memories of the 2015 floods, people are panicking and moving to safer locations, leaving their pets behind. In West Mambal-



am, someone abandoned their dog on the street and someone alerted us so we were able to rescue it."

Dawn Williams, general manager, Blue Cross of India, says their helpline has been constantly buzzing. "On Sunday, we went by boat to Korattur to res-

cue a dog from an old that had partially collapsed on Monday we re- and in Madipakkam t been stranded on a sm of ground surrounded ter," he says.

Animal welfare : Dinesh Baba has been calls about abandoned puppies. "Many puppy been abandoned on the near garbage dumps ar call us for help," he sa

Activists are also vets, volunteers, boats plies ready. The helpline: PFCI - 982 Dinesh Baba: 9841588 5pm), BMAD: 8012634 tya: 9176047608, Bay 994048880, Blue Cross 967297978



CAUVERY BREATHES EASY AS KOLLIDAM SHARES BURDEN

10K cusecs was released into Kollidam on Monday evening; people along banks of the river were asked to move to safer places

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Tiruchy

WITH Mettur Dam nearing its full capacity, as much as 10,000 cusecs of water from Cauvery river was released into Kollidam river at Mukkombu barrage (Upper Anicut) on Monday evening around 6 pm. Residents living along the banks of Cauvery and Kollidam rivers were asked to move to safe place anticipating floods.



1077

district disaster control room

Message 93840 56213

For grievances TN-Smart service

101 Fire helpline

1070 State disaster control room

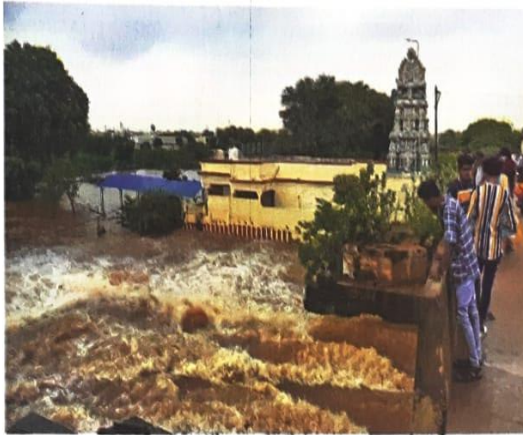
along with those from other canals and rivulets in the district, drain into the Cauvery, the inflow to the river was reduced. The waters from Cauvery was diverted to Kollidam.

Speaking to TNIE, Collector S Sivarasu said, "In order to maintain the water level at Cauvery, excess water was diverted to Kollidam. The situation is closely being monitored."

Due to flooding in Uyyakondan canal, the waters entered the premises of Kulumay Amman Temple which is located near it. The temple was closed for visitors. Locals came to the spot to witness the gushing waters and clicked selfies. To avert any untoward incidents, police personnel were deployed.

The district administration has issued a ban on bathing, swimming, and fishing in the Cauvery and canals along it. Public are also prohibited to take pictures in dangerous and vulnerable locations.

In order to maintain the water level at Cauvery, excess water was diverted to Kollidam. The situation is closely being monitored - S Sivarasu, Tiruchy Collector



Water gushing out of Uyyakondan canal sluices on Monday. The Kulumay Amman Temple located nearby was closed after the water entered the premises. Residential areas nearby were also inundated | BY ANISH KUMAR



Residents of Lingam Nagar & Rajalakshmi Nagar shift to safer places | BY ANISH KUMAR

Rain worsens plight of those in low-lying areas

JOSE K JOSEPH @ Tiruchy

THE plight of residents in low-lying areas were worsened with heavy rains continuing on Monday. Areas such as Lingam Nagar, Gandhi Nagar, Ganapathy Nagar, Akilandeswari Nagar, Selva Nagar, GS Nagar witnessed heavy water logging. Though some areas are usually prone to water logging, the water level rose to more than expected, residents said. Those residing on the banks of Uyyakondan canal too expressed fear about the water level rise. Corporation officials however said their team was on high alert and were taking efforts to ensure people's safety.



ally the rainwater will recede in our areas in three or four hours. But if it takes heavy rain overnight it takes more time. Therefore, I sent my elderly mother to my sister's residence to avoid inconvenience."

Shiva Kumar, of Akilandeswari Nagar, urged the civic body to come take steps to prevent water logging in his area.

Meanwhile, Corporation Commissioner PMN Mujibur Rahuman, said, "Our team is continuously monitoring the water level in low lying areas, including Lingam Nagar, which is one of the areas prone to heavy water logging. We expect the waters to recede by evening. In Gandhi Nagar, we have distributed food packets. Our team is taking all steps to ensure the safety of residents."

A senior corporation official said, "Four areas are prone to heavy water logging and 27 areas are vulnerable to flooding. We are keeping high alert. There is no need to panic."

42 stranded residents rescued

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Tiruchy

A surge in water flow at Uyyakondan canal led to inundation of residential areas in Kulumay and Pandamangalam on Monday. The district has been witnessing continued heavy rains for the past three days, causing water logging at several places.

The waters were waist-high and above two-feet at some places, leaving residents stranded. The Fire department personnel rescued as many as 42 people in Kulumay and Pan-

damangalam areas and shifted them to safe locations.

Speaking to TNIE, Karunakaran, Assistant District Fire Officer, said, "Using inflatable boats and life jackets, the fire personnel rescued 42 people, including children, in the two residential areas."

Banupriya, District Fire Officer said that troops in all 9 fire stations in the district have been mobilised and kept ready to tackle any emergency situations. Additionally 20 trained commandos are deployed for swift rescue operations.



Over 3K cusecs released from Aandankovil check dam in Karur

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Karur

"COLLECTOR" T Prabhushankar inspected the Aandankovil check dam as over 3,000 cusecs of surplus water was released from the dam.

The Amaravathi dam in Tiruppur district received an inflow of 2,000 cusec due to incessant rain in the catchments of the dam. As a precautionary measure a total of 2,017 cusec was discharged into the river. Following this, the Collector, along with PWD officials, inspected the check dam across



Collector T Prabhushankar inspecting Aandankovil check dam | EXPRESS

the Amaravathi river at Aandankovil Panchayat, where 3,000 cusec was released.

Talking to media persons, he

capacity through rainwater harvesting. There are 107 ponds under the control of the Panchayat Unions, of these, six ponds are 75 per cent full, 83 ponds are 50 per cent full and one pond is 100 per cent full. There are 833 ponds under the control of the panchayats, among them three pools are 100 per cent full, 151 pools are 75 per cent full and 392 pools are 50 per cent full."

He further said, "The revenue department, PWD, DRDA and other officials are monitoring the situation 24x7. District

administration has been taking all measures to avoid damage of properties and prevent any life loss. As on Monday an elderly woman died in Karur after she was struck by lightning and 50 houses were damaged due to heavy rains. No livestock loss has been reported till now. Relief has been provided to all rain affected areas here."

He asked the Agriculture department officials to ensure that farmers drained water from their fields and assess the damage to the crops.

Pudukkottai Collector visits affected areas

Pudukkottai: Heavy rains that lashed Pudukkottai on Sunday night and Monday morning caused water logging at low lying areas and submerged crops in areas like Kunnandarkoil in Virulimalai. Farmers in the village blocked Virulimalai Manapparal Road for more than an hour. Collector Kavitha Ramu visited the affected areas, including Vengalank Lake in Kulathur, and took stock of the measures being taken. ENS

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

09th November: Sagittarian patterns hover helpfully, encouraging adventurous energy and raw creativity. In my opinion many

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)
Continue to play for time and don't let anyone else force the pace. This is a very special moment for you as far as your personal creativity is concerned and

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)
You are now officially in a period of maximum domestic uncertainty. Let me tell you now that friction is only develop if you be 15

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
Get down to some serious work as soon as you can by sunset. I don't mean that it shouldn't be fun, but that anything you do now will be tied in to

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
Once you've dealt with financial matters, probably no more than routine shopping, you'll be free to let your mind wander. Overseas contacts

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)
To be forewarned, as they say, is to be forearmed. It's therefore important to point out that even though you are eating

VIRGO (Sept 24 - Oct 23)
The following applies to your life over the next two months, so don't forget it: you are increasingly likely to feel exasperated or undermined and will tend

LIBRA (Sept 24 - Oct 23)
The day seems to be divided into two halves, and you can swing to extremes either favouring self-indulgence or putting the employees

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 22)
Don't complain if you have been disappointed financially. There will be plenty of chances to make up for it later on, perhaps within a few days. Actually, all you have to do is

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 - Dec 22)
It's bound to be some time before you can fully recover from past disturbances, but, in almost exactly one week, you should be able to move the needle in the

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)
Others may make outrageous gestures, but you ought to be the one to call time on reckless financial adventures. Every single move you make

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)
While one very important planet, Saturn, urges you to dig your heels in, this could be a risky strategy. For the most twelve weeks, you should be able to

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)
Simply put, you just can't continue starting to realize. You should soon be able enough to make your own arrangements and put the rest of your health

CHENNAI STAYS IN WITH FINGERS CROSSED

Thunderstorms With Heavy Rain Forecast For City, TN Districts on November 10, 11

U.Tejomayam
@timesgroup.com

The rain over the weekend was only the prelude. India Meteorological Centre has issued an orange alert for Tuesday (November 9) forecasting thunderstorms with heavy rain in the city and many districts triggered by a low pressure system.

The Nungambakkam weather station (city), with 141cm so far this year, has already surpassed its annual normal rainfall of 140cm, while Meenambakkam (132cm so far) is inching towards its quota of 138cm.

The rain forecast for November 9 may increase on November 10 and 11 with heavy to very heavy and isolated extremely heavy spells.

The city private forecasters said, may get a break from heavy rain on November 9 before it picks up pace on November 10 and continues through November 11. For the next 48 hours, thunderstorms with moderate rain, heavy at times have been forecast over some city areas and the suburbs with the skies remaining generally cloudy. Maximum and minimum temperature will be around 26 degrees C and 24 degrees C.

"The system is approaching the coast as a depression," said N Puviarasan, director of IMD's Area Cyclone Warning Centre.

The low pressure area is likely to form under the influence of a cyclonic circulation over southeast Bay of Bengal and adjoining south Andaman Sea extending up to 5 8km above mean sea level. "It is likely to move west-northwestwards, concentrate into a depression and reach north Tamil Nadu coast by November 11 early morning," IMD said.

IMD has forecast rain of varied intensity over some southern, interior and delta districts on November 9. In-

tensity may increase on November 10 and 11 with rainfall ranging from extremely heavy to heavy over many parts of the state including Chennai and neighbouring districts.

On Monday, Nungambakkam and Meenambakkam recorded 14.5mm and 14.8mm till 7.30pm. The northeast monsoon has so far left 632.2mm and 520.4mm in the two stations since October 1, an excess of 226.4mm and 116.9mm. Tamil Nadu recorded 346.1mm against a normal of 241.2mm in the same period. Chennai subdivision registered 547.9mm against 392.5mm (40% excess), while neighbouring Kanchipuram recorded 17%, Tiruvallur 31% and Chengalpet 34% excess.

Mahesh Palawat, Skymet Weather chief meteorologist, tweeted that Chennai got 415mm between November 1 and 8, against the average of

SEMBAKKAM



374.4mm for November, the wettest for Chennai.

Blogger Pradeep John said models showed the system may move a few hundred kilometres into the land before losing strength. "There won't be any break in rainfall. We will continue to receive rain even after the system fizzles out because of weak northeasterly winds. But they may be mostly light spells," an IMD official said.



MISERY UNABATED: (Clockwise from top) In Pattalam, people try to wade past a flooded junction; several parts of Pallikaranai are still submerged; a two-wheeler rider tries to locate the road in an inundated stretch in Madipakkam; destitute children receive food at a temporary rain shelter at a school in Egmore; a flooded pathway in K K Nagar; a man carries his child near the Sembakkam lake; a flooded house in Kolathur

Pics: L R Shankar, B A Raju, C Suresh Kumar, A Prashap & R Ramesh Shankar

Faulty drains add to civic woes

Komal Gaurham & Ram Sundaram | TNN

Areas like T Nagar, Ahwarpet, Pullianthope, Velachery, Kolathur, Korattur, and Perambur remained waterlogged even after Sunday evening when the rain relented not because there were no drains but because they were either not constructed with the proper gradient, slope and invert levels or blocks weren't cleared.

This, said Jayaram Venkatesan of Arappor Iyakkam, proved the city hadn't learned any lessons after the 2015 deluge. "Thousands of crores were spent on projects after 2015 and because the implementing agencies were corrupt and the officials didn't monitor the projects well, we are facing a similar deluge: fear now."

Many Public Works Department maintained water bodies such as the Velachery surplus canal weren't widened and de-silted despite residents writing to the department in September.

On Sunday night, newly laid culverts on EVR Periyar Salai, near the new police commissioner's office, were of little help as only two of the five meant to drain water at 1,100 cubic feet per second (cusecs) were constructed. So, the excess rainwater could not reach the Buckingham Canal.

In some areas, the disposal points weren't linked as per the natural drain course such as on Nelson Manickam Road. "It is a fact that Oteri Nallah, Thanickachalam canal, Kothungaiyur canal are always overflowing during rain. If we connect all the drains to these canals, how will the water drain," asked a corporation official.

Corporation built drains in areas such as Korattur and Korattur didn't function as they were connected to the main drain on elevated Inner Ring Road.

Mullai Nagar was flooded because the Kodungaiyur canal breached and not because of heavy rain. All areas that weren't supposed to drain into the canal were connected to it. In T Nagar, the civic body didn't focus on the Mambalam canal and removed the blocks only on Monday in Velachery, drains were connected to the lake that always overflows instead of to the Adyar river.

A corporation engineer said the civic body would take corrective steps in the next monsoon. For instance, all water from Avadi flows into Korattur, Rettiari and Kolathur. We need to find alternative measures if we need to de-log these areas next monsoon.

YEARLY RITUAL: Vehicles waded past a flooded road in K K Nagar on Monday



Which Risk Of

A survey UBS show the high bubble, f and Mon confined

THE TIMES OF INDIA, TRICHY, NOVEMBER 9,

A new C Madurai

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Madurai: The number new Covid-19 cases reported in Madurai dropped to Monday, which is the since Saturday. The district has added less than 15 in a day for the tenth day. Madurai had 12 recoveries and the number of cases in the district peaked at 140.

Trichy reported 32 cases on Monday, up from Sunday, and is the highest in the central region. It reported 116 new cases, 1,802 active cases. Trichy 386 active case and discharged 37 patients on Monday. 68 new cases were reported in the ten southern districts of Tamil Nadu. Monday, with Kanyakumari (22) recording the highest was followed by Madurai (11). The eight other districts in the region added less than 10 cases each. With only one case each from Thanjavur and Virudhunagar recorded the least in the region.

Ramanathapuram Tirunelveli (6), Dindigul

Man appealing against order rejecting plea to redact name

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: Madurai: The Madurai court on Monday ordered notice to the high court registry on an appeal by a challenging an order of a single bench which has reduced his name from judgement copy of the court, which had acquitted him from a criminal case.

The man who was for rape and cheating convicted and sentenced to a trial court in 2011. His assets valued at Rs 7.38 crore as against gross NPA of Rs 2.99 crore. In 2017, he was granted the second chance to venture into business.

single bench had ruled that the court must allow the criminal to remain in the state until standards were set. The court's decision to reduce the name of the person on the list is a step towards transparency.

After 14 years, Kudamurutti river floods residential areas in Trichy

Rain skips southern districts

Though rains lashed Chennai and a few other districts in the western and central regions...

Farmers worried over crop loss

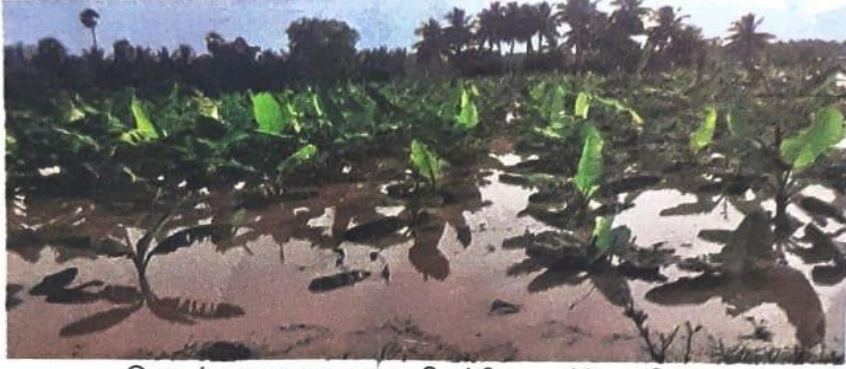
TIMES NEWS NETWORK

As the Mettur dam is fast filling, farmers are worried over crop loss.

Regional level monitoring officials were asked to have a constant vigil on the dam's fast filling, farmers are worried over crop loss.

TN NUMBERS

திருச்சி மாவட்டத்தில் பயிர்கள் சேதம்



தொடர் மழை காரணமாக, திருச்சி புறநகர்ப் பகுதியான கொடியாலம்- புலிவலம் பகுதியில் வாழைத் தோப்பில் தேங்கிய மழைநீர்.



திருச்சி குடமுருட்டி பகுதியில் நெற்பயிரில் தேங்கிக் காணப்படும் மழைநீர்.

திருச்சி, நவ.8: திருச்சி மாவட்டத்தில் தொடரும் மழையால், வேளாண் பயிர்கள் மற்றும் குடியிருப்புகளை நீர் சூழ்ந்தது. இதனால் விவசாயிகள், பொதுமக்கள் பெரும் பாதிப்புக்குள்ளாகியுள்ளனர்.

வடகிழக்குப் பருவமழையைத் தொடர்ந்து உருவான வளிமண்டல மேலடுக்குச் சுழற்சி காரணமாக, மாநிலத்தில் கடந்த சில நாட்களாக பலத்த மழை பெய்து வருகிறது. இதே நிலைதான் திருச்சி மாவட்டத்திலும் நீடிக்கிறது.

ஞாயிற்றுக்கிழமை இரவு மாவட்டத்தின் புறநகர்ப் பகுதிகளில் பரவலாக மழை பெய்தது. இதைத் தொடர்ந்து, திங்கள்கிழமை அதிகாலையில் தொடங்கிய மழை காலை 7 மணி வரை நீடித்தது. மாநகரைப் போன்று புறநகர்ப் பகுதிகளிலும் பலத்த மழை பெய்தது.

நீரில் மூழ்கிய வேளாண் பயிர்கள்: தொடர் மழை மற்றும் மணப்

பாறை பகுதிகளில் பெய்த பலத்த மழையால் உருவான காட்டாற்று வெள்ளம் காரணமாக கோரையாறு, உய்யக்கொண்டான் வாய்க்கால் உள்ளிட்டவற்றில் நீரின் வரத்து அதிகளவில் உள்ளது. இதனால் இந்த பகுதிகளையொட்டி அமைந்துள்ள விவசாய நிலங்களில் வேளாண் பயிர்கள் மூழ்கின.

அந்தநல்லூர், திருவெறும்பூர் ஒன்றியங்களுக்குட்பட்ட 400 ஏக்கர் விவசாய நிலங்கள், பிறபகுதிகளில் பயிரிடப்பட்டுள்ள 700 ஏக்கர் நிலங்களில் நெல், வாழை உள்ளிட்ட வேளாண் பயிர்கள் நீரில் மூழ்கிவிட்டன. திங்கள்கிழமை பெரிய அளவில் மழை இல்லை என்பதால் அவைவடியத்தொடங்கிவிட்டன. அடுத்த இரு நாட்களில் மழை இல்லையெனில் இவை முழுமையாக வடிந்துவிடும். மாறாக, மழை நீடிக்கும்நிலையில் பயிர்கள் அனைத்தும் அழுகும் நிலை ஏற்படலாம் என்கின்றனர் அலுவலர்கள்.



புதுச்சேரியில் விடிய விடிய மழை: சாலைகளில் வெள்ளம்

புதுச்சேரி நவ8: புதுச்சேரியில் ஞாயிற்றுக்கிழமை இரவு தொடங்கி திங்கள்கிழமை அதிகாலை வரை பெய்த பலத்த மழையால் தாழ்வான குடியிருப்புப் பகுதிகள், சாலைகளில் மழை நீர் தேங்கியது. திங்கள்கிழமை பகலிலும் நீடித்த மழையால் பொதுமக்கள் வீடுகளிலேயே முடங்கினர்.

புதுவையில் கடந்த 1-ஆம் தேதி முதல் மழை பெய்து வருகிறது. கடந்த 2-ஆம் தேதி ஒரேநாளில் 110 மி.மீ. மழை பதிவானது. இடையே சில தினங்கள் மழைவிட்ட நிலையில், ஞாயிற்றுக்கிழமை பிற்பகல் மீண்டும் மழை பெய்யத் தொடங்கியது. தொடர்ந்து, மாலையில் பலத்த மழையாக மாறியது. இது திங்கள்கிழமை அதிகாலை வரை தொடர்ந்த மிக பலத்த மழையாகப் பெய்தது. மின்னர், மாலை யிலும் மழை தொடர்ந்தது. பொதுப் பணித் துறை சார்பில், மின் மோட்டார்கள் மூலம் மழை நீர் வெளியேற்றப்பட்டு வருகிறது. எனினும், தொடர்ந்து மழை பெய்வதால் பல இடங்களில் தண்ணீர் தேங்கி போக்குவரத்து பாதிக்கப்பட்டது. புதுச்சேரியில் தொடர் மழை காரணமாக பொதுமக்களின் இயல்பு வாழ்க்கை பாதிக்கப்பட்டு வீடுகளில் முடங்கினர்.

பள்ளி, கல்லூரிகளுக்கு இரு தினங்கள் விடுமுறை: 1 முதல் 8-ஆம் வகுப்பு வரையிலான மாணவர்களுக்கு



தொடர் மழையால் புதுச்சேரி கடற்கரைச் சாலையில் திங்கள்கிழமை தேங்கிய மழை வெள்ளம்.

களுக்கு பள்ளிகள் திங்கள்கிழமை திறக்கப்படும் என அறிவிக்கப்பட்ட நிலையில், அது ஒத்திவைக்கப்பட்டது. 9-ஆம் வகுப்பு முதல் பிளஸ் 2 வகுப்புகளுக்கும், அனைத்துக் கல்லூரிகளுக்கும் திங்கள், செவ்வாய்க் கிழமை இரு தினங்கள் விடுமுறை அறிவிக்கப்பட்டது. அரசு அலுவலகங்கள் மட்டும் இயங்கின.

ஆறுகளில் வெள்ளப்பெருக்கு: சாத்தனூர், வீரூர் அணைகள் திறக்கப்பட்டதால் தென்பெண்ணை, மலட்டாறு, சங்கராபரணி ஆறுகளில் வெள்ளப் பெருக்கு ஏற்பட்டது. ஆற்றங்கரையோரப் பகுதிகளில் வசிப்போர் ஆழ்ந்து பகுதிக்குச் செல்ல வேண்டாம் என்று வருவாய்த் துறையினர் தண்டோரா மூலமும், போலீஸார் ஒலிபெருக்கி மூலமும் திங்கள்கிழமை எச்சரித்தனர். பலத்த மழையால் செல்லிப்பட்டு படுகை அணையில் திங்கள்கிழமை உடைப்பு ஏற்பட்டது.

முதல்வர் ரங்கசாமி ஆய்வு: மழையால் பாதிக்கப்பட்ட பகுதிகளை புதுவை முதல்வர் என். ரங்கசாமி திங்கள்கிழமை நேரில் சென்று பார்வையிட்டார். வழுவூர் சாலை, ராஜீவ் காந்தி சிலை சந்திப்பு, 45 அடி சாலை, வெங்கட்டாநகர், நூறுடி சாலை, இந்திரா காந்தி சிலை சந்திப்பு உள்ளிட்ட இடங்க

ளில் மழை வெள்ள நீர் தேங்கியிருந்ததைப் அவர் பார்வையிட்டார்.

வில்லியனூர் சங்கராபரணி ஆற்றில் மழை வெள்ளத்தைப் பார்வையிட்ட அவர், தொடர்ந்து, பத்துக்கண்ணு வழியாக ஊகட்டேரி பகுதிக்குச் சென்றார். அதிகாரிகளை கைப்பேசியில் அழைத்த அவர், மழை வெள்ளப் பாதிப்புகளைத் தடுக்க உரிய நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கும் படி உத்தரவிட்டார்.

தொடர் பலத்த மழையால் பாதிக்கப்பட்ட விண்ணிலங்களை மாநில வேளாண் துறை அமைச்சர் தேவ் சி. ஜெயக்குமார் திங்கள்கிழமை மாலை நேரில் பார்வையிட்டார்.



President Kovind presents over 140 Padma awards
 page 8

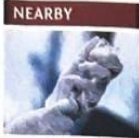


Sldhu hits back at Punjab Advocate General A.P.S. Deol
 page 9



Key party conclave set to cement President Xi's grip on power
 page 11

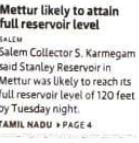
Jadeja, Ashwin set up India's big win as coach Shastri's tenure ends
 page 13



T.N. sees 841 COVID-19 cases, six deaths
 Chennai
 The trend of gradual decline in fresh COVID-19 infections in Tamil Nadu continued on Monday, with the State reporting 841 cases, taking the tally to 27,09,080.
 TAMIL NADU ■ PAGE 4



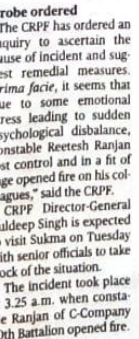
Complete probe against Velumani in 10 weeks
 Chennai
 The Madras High Court on Monday directed the Directorate of Vigilance and Anti-Corruption to complete in 10 weeks its probe in a case booked against former Municipal Administration Minister S.P. Velumani over alleged irregularities in the awarding of civil contracts.
 TAMIL NADU ■ PAGE 4



Mettur likely to attain full reservoir level
 Salem
 Salem Collector S. Karmegam said Stanley Reservoir in Mettur was likely to reach its full reservoir level of 120 feet by Tuesday night.
 TAMIL NADU ■ PAGE 4



4 CRPF jawans shot dead by colleague
 Anup Dutta, P.S. Sidhar, Bhopal/Raipur
 In a case of fratricide, four Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel were killed and three injured when their colleague opened fire on them at the paramilitary force's camp in Maragauda Linglapalli in Sukma district of Chhattisgarh early on Monday. The accused constable has been arrested.



Probe ordered
 The CRPF has ordered an inquiry to ascertain the cause of incident and suggest remedial measures. Prima facie, it seems that due to some emotional stress leading to sudden psychological imbalance, constable Reetesh Ranjan lost control and in a fit of rage opened fire on his colleagues, said the CRPF. Director-General Kulddeep Singh is expected to visit Sukma on Tuesday with senior officials to take stock of the situation. The incident took place at 3.25 a.m. when constable Ranjan of C-Company 50th Battalion opened fire.

SC proposes Lakhimpur Kheri investigation by an ex-HC judge

Court seeks U.P. govt. response, says the probe is not going the way it expected

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
 NEW DELHI
 The Supreme Court on Monday asked the Uttar Pradesh Government's response to a proposal to appoint a retired High Court judge, possibly who served outside the State, to monitor the investigation into the Lakhimpur Kheri murders and violence. The court highlighted an urgent need to "infuse fairness and impartiality" into the probe.
 "The investigation is not going the way we expected... We are here to see that a proper investigation takes place. There is a need to appoint a retired High Court judge to monitor it [investigation] without bias," Chief Justice of India (CJI) N.V. Ramana, heading a Bench also comprising Justices Surya Kant and Hima Kohli, observed.
 Justice Kant said the retired High Court judge could independently monitor the probe till chargesheets were filed. The court refused to entertain suggestions from

Questions raised
 Why did the SC suggest appointing a retired HC judge to oversee the probe?
 ■ SC feels efforts are on to create an impression that the two separate FIRs — on the farmers' murders and the subsequent violence — "overlap"
 ■ Several "eye-witnesses" had come forward saying they wanted to make statements to the police
 about the violence but later changed tack to depose in support of the accused in the farmers' deaths case
 ■ Delay in getting the forensic lab reports
 ■ Police status report in SC did not show all call record details of the accused

some lawyers to order the CBI to take over from the State police. "The CBI is not the solution to everything," Justice Kant remarked.
 Ashish Mishra, son of Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Ajay Mishra, is a prime accused.
 The suggestion for a retired judge came after the court expressed its waning confidence about the fate of the investigation at the hands of the State police.
 After more than a month since the Union Minister's convoy mowed down farmers attending a rally in Lakhimpur Kheri protesting the agricultural laws on October 3, the Special Investigation Team (SIT) has still not got hold of the forensic lab reports. "The lab reports are expected on November 15... We are following up regularly," senior advocate Harish Salve, for the State government, assured.
 The court noted that the

SIT had seized only one mobile phone from the 13 accused persons in the case. The movement of the accused at the time of the incident could be tracked from their phones.
 Mr. Salve responded, "Some accused said they do not have phones"
 Justice Kohli asked, "Is it your statement then that none of the others have mobile phones?" Mr. Salve said accused at times threw away their phones and claimed they do not have one.
 The court pointed out that call detail records of the accused persons' phones were not specifically listed as part of evidence in the status report. Moreover, videos showing the cars in the convoy running over the farmers were yet to be certified for use as evidence in the trial. Mr. Salve agreed that the videos, once certified, would be a "clinching proof" of the presence of the accused at the crime scene.

CBI not investigating Rafale 'kickbacks', claims Mediapart

Middleman paid €75 million by Dassault, it alleges

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
 NEW DELHI
 French portal Mediapart has alleged that Dassault paid at least €7.5 million to middleman Sushen Gupta from 2007 to 2012 through "over-billed" IT contracts with a shell company to secure the €7.87-billion Rafale deal with India.
 It also alleged that despite the existence of related papers since October 2018, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has not yet taken up a probe.
 A response from the CBI to the allegation is still awaited.
 The probe agencies have accused Mr. Gupta of being instrumental in the routing of commissions in the 2010 AgustaWestland VIP chopper deal via Mauritius-based shell company Interstellar Technologies Ltd. and several other such entities.
 In March 2019, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) arrested Mr. Gupta in that



The deal was for the purchase of 36 Rafale jets at a cost of ₹7.87 billion. ■ AFP

Cong alleges duplicity
 The Congress on Monday accused the Modi Government of duplicity saying Mr. Modi had once called the Italian firm Finmeccanica, the parent company of AgustaWestland — now known as Leonardo SpA — "corrupt" but was now ready to trade with the same firm. ■ PAGE 10
 case, based on disclosures made by Rajiv Saxena, who was deported from the United Arab Emirates.
 The latter disclosed that Interstellar Technologies was controlled by Mr. Gupta and another accused, Gautam Khaitan. The funds were further transferred by him to other entities in different countries.
Documents sent to CBI
 According to the French portal's report, the Attorney General's office in Mauritius had sent the documents to the CBI Director on October 11, 2018. In response to a letter of request seeking information in the chopper deal case. A week earlier, on October 4, 2018, the CBI got a complaint alleging corruption in Rafale deal from lawyer Prashant Bhushan and former Union Minister Arun Shourie.
 "His (Sushen Gupta's) Mauritius company, Interstellar Technologies, received at least €7.5 million from the French aviation firm between 2007 and 2012, thanks to IT contracts that were clearly overbilled," said the Mediapart report.
 CONTINUED ON ■ PAGE 8

Flood-hit Chennai braces for intense spell of showers

Many parts of city remain inundated amid intermittent rain

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
 CHENNAI
 For the second day, many parts of Chennai were inundated as intermittent showers continued through Monday. However, the water level had receded at several locations that reported severe inundation on Sunday.
 The city and its neighbouring districts are likely to face more days of intense rain.
 With a fresh weather system brewing in the Bay of Bengal, the India Meteorological Department has issued red and orange alerts particularly for coastal and adjoining interior districts on November 10 and 11 respectively.
 Chief Minister M.K. Stalin continued to inspect various waterlogged locations in the city, including Mullai Nagar in Perambur and Annal Sathy Nagar, for the second consecutive day. He distributed relief materials to residents in Royapuram and Mahakavi Bharathi Nagar and also instructed officials to take swift remedial action.
 Most of the main roads in south Chennai were clear as



Safe exit: A family shifting children in an inflatable bath tub in Chennai on Monday. ■ R. RAGU

the water drained gradually. However, residents of many parts of central and north Chennai struggled with waterlogging for the second day. Pulanthope, Kodambakkam and T. Nagar were among the worst-affected areas. Several localities also had to grapple with long power outages due to the incessant rain.
 According to the Greater Chennai Corporation, water had receded in 140 out of the 317 locations that reported flooding on Sunday. Of the 16 city subways that witnessed flooding, water has been drained in 14 of them and the remaining two

'Post-monsoon' demand led to power deficit: Govt.

Shortfall in output reversed, says Power Ministry

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
 NEW DELHI
 India's power deficit this year 'spiked marginally' to 1.2% due to the 'annual post-monsoon pressure' on output, the Government said in a statement on Monday, asserting that the deficit has been 'near about wiped out' in recent years.
 "The current year, up till October, the (power deficit) has been -1.2%; the mar-

minal spike being attributable to the annual post-monsoon pressure on power output. This is also likely to normalise by the end of the year," the Power Ministry said in a statement, contrasting the figure with deficit levels of up to 16% some years ago.
Vast improvement
 "India had a massive power deficit of -16.6% in 2007-08.

Through the multi-pronged, comprehensive and aggressive interventions of the government, this deficit is near about wiped out, consistently over the last three years: -4% in 2020-21, -7% in 2019-20 and -8% in 2018-19," the Ministry said.
 The Ministry attributed 'this transformation from an acutely power deficit country to a situation of de-

mand being met, except for an extremely marginal shortfall of less than 1%, to several schemes introduced by the government over the past six years 'to address the unhappy situation'.
 "The augmentation to the installed power capacity in the country has been 1,55,377 megawatt in last approximately seven years," it concluded.

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