

DAILY PT POINTERS

18th July, 2024



HEADLINES OF THE DAY



PIB : GS 2- Government Initiatives

Ministry of Railways

84,119 Children rescued by RPF under 'Operation Nanhe Farishtey' in last seven years

Posted On: 17 JUL 2024 3:06PM by PIB Delhi

Over the past seven years, the Railway Protection Force (RPF) has been at the forefront of an operation named 'Nanhe Farishtey' – a mission dedicated to rescuing children in need of care and protection across various Indian Railway Zones. During last seven years (2018- May 2024), RPF has rescued 84,119 Children who were at risk in stations and trains, preventing them from falling into harm's way.

'Nanhe Farishtey' is more than just an operation; it is a lifeline for thousands of children who find themselves in precarious situations. The data from 2018 to 2024 illustrates a story of unwavering dedication, adaptability, and resilience. Each rescue is a testament to the RPF's commitment to safeguarding the most vulnerable members of society.

The year 2018 marked a significant start for 'Operation Nanhe Farishtey.' In this year, the RPF rescued a total of 17,112 children, including both boys and girls. Out of 17,112 children rescued, 13,187 were identified as runaway children, an alarming number of 2105 were found to be missing, 1091 children as left behind, 400 as destitute, 87 as kidnapped, 78 as mentally challenged and 131 as street children. This year 2018 set a strong foundation for the operation, highlighting the urgent need for such an initiative.

During 2019, the RPF's efforts continued to bear fruit, with a total of 15,932 children, including both boys and girls were rescued. Out of 15,932 children rescued, 12,708 as runaway children, 1454 as missing, 1036 children as left behind, 350 as destitute, 56 as kidnapped, 123 as mentally challenged and 171 as street children. The consistent numbers showcased the persistent issue of children running away and needing protection.

The year 2020 was challenging due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which disrupted normal life and significantly impacted the operations. Despite these challenges, the RPF

News

- In the last seven years Railway Protection Force (RPF) has rescued 84,119 Children under 'Operation Nanhe Farishtey'.

Operation Nanhe Farishtey

- It was started in 2018 by the Railway Protection Force.
- 'Nanhe Farishtey' — meaning Little Angles — is an operation dedicated to rescuing children in need of care and protection across various Indian Railway Zones.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

Ind Exp :GS2- Government Initiatives (Page -1)

News / Health And Wellness / A vaccine for every child: How a govt portal is set to change immunisation map

A vaccine for every child: How a govt portal is set to change immunisation map

Part of a quiet digital revolution that is set to change the way maternal and child healthcare is delivered across the country, U-Win is likely to be launched on August 15.



News

- U-Win, the government's new childhood vaccination management portal is likely to be launched on August 15.

About

- It is expected to be a game-changer for primary healthcare, marking a transition from the existing vaccination cards that ASHA and other healthcare workers update manually to a completely digital platform that will maintain records of the vaccination journey of every child in the 0-5 age group.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

Ind Exp :GS2- Government Scheme (Page -5)

News / India / Centre plans Rs 1.9-lakh crore 4th phase of rural road scheme

Centre plans Rs 1.9-lakh crore 4th phase of rural road scheme

The move is part of the 100-day agenda of the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD).



News

- The Centre plans to launch the fourth phase of its flagship rural road scheme, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), to connect 50,000 habitations having population above 250 in plain areas and and 100 in special category states with all-weather roads.

About

- The move is part of the 100-day agenda of the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD).

Pradhan Mantra Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)

- It was launched in the year 2000 with an objective of providing all-weather road connectivity to all eligible unconnected habitations in rural areas of country.
- It is a centrally Sponsored Scheme.
- The Ministry of Rural Development is the nodal ministry for this scheme.

Ind Exp :GS 1- Geography (Page -13)

Behind heavy rain in large parts of India: monsoon trough shift, westerlies

ANJALI MARAR
BENGALURU, JULY 17

LAST WEEK, at least 80% of India received rainfall, with heavy to very heavy spells lashing Assam, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Gujarat, the coastal areas of Maharashtra and Karnataka, Kerala, and Lakshadweep.

Much of this rainfall has been brought by the monsoon, which covered the entire country by July 2. Since the start of July, there have been multiple favourable weather systems that have led to an increase in rainfall activity — by keeping the monsoon either active or vigorous — over several regions. These include southern peninsular, east, northeast, and central India.

What factors are causing more rainfall?
There have been two main contributors

to the enhanced rainfall. One is the continuous incoming of moisture-laden strong westerly winds from the Arabian Sea.

The other is the position of the monsoon trough — a semi-permanent, low-pressure area extending between Pakistan and the Bay of Bengal during the monsoon season — which usually oscillates north-south within the season. Whenever it moves towards the south of its normal position, as it has done in the present case, more rainfall can take place in central, eastern, and peninsular India. When it shifts towards the north, the Himalayan foothills are likely to receive more rainfall while the rest of India sees a drop in the rainfall.

Apart from these two factors, other weather systems have also contributed to the enhanced rainfall. These are:

- The persistence of an off-shore trough — a shallow trough of low pressure, which develops along India's coast during the monsoon — between south Gujarat and

WETTEST, DRIEST STATES & UNION TERRITORIES

Wettest states/UTs*			Driest States/UTs*		
State/UT	Rainfall (mm)	Rainfall departure (%)	State/UT	Rainfall (mm)	Rainfall departure (%)
Goa	2241.9	49	Chandigarh	147	-50
Sikkim	1042.9	49	Manipur	250.8	-46
Andhra	232.5	43	Himachal	139.8	-39
Meghalaya	1512.4	23	Punjab	87.5	-38
A&N Islands	776	23	Haryana	84.8	-36
Karnataka	386.6	15	Mizoram	653.8	-35

* (Jun 1 - Jul 17). Source: India Meteorological Department (IMD)

north Kerala for more than a week now.

- The intermittent development of a wind shear zone — where winds move with different velocities and directions — between central and peninsular India.

- The development of a low pressure system over the west-central Bay of Bengal, off the Odisha coast, on Monday. The system moved over Chhattisgarh and adjoining Vidarbha on Tuesday, and over south-

east Madhya Pradesh on Wednesday.

What is the current rainfall status?

The IMD's rainfall statistics indicate that the all-India rainfall went from 242 mm on July 9 to 305.8 mm on July 17. The country's rainfall stands at 97% of the normal for this time of the season.

Overall, 17 states have either received normal or above-normal rainfall this season. But there are a few states and UTs, such as Odisha, Haryana, Chandigarh, Himachal Pradesh, and Jharkhand, along with high-rainfall recording states such as Kerala, Nagaland, Manipur, and Mizoram, where the rainfall has been deficient, so far. This is also because normal values for July rainfall in many of these states are high.

Since July 13, some heavy rainfall events have been recorded along the country's west coast, especially in the Konkan, Goa, ghat areas of Madhya Maharashtra, coastal Karnataka, and Kerala. Uttarakhand, west Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, and West Bengal have

also received heavy rainfall.

What is the forecast?

The southwest monsoon will continue to remain active throughout this week over the southern peninsula, the Himalayan states, and in eastern India. A fresh low pressure system will develop over the northwest Bay of Bengal around Friday, and its likely landward movement will keep the monsoon momentum high. As a result, rainfall will persist over eastern and central India during the next five days.

The monsoon trough will remain towards the south of its normal position during the next four to five days. This can lead to very heavy to extremely heavy rainfall (115 mm to 204 mm in 24 hours) in regions such as Kutch, Saurashtra, Konkan, Goa, coastal and south interior Karnataka — IMD has issued a 'red alert for these areas.

Rainfall activity over large parts of India is expected to be subdued in early August.

LONGER VERSION ON
indianexpress.com/explained

News

- At least 80% of the country last week reported widespread rainfall, with heavy to very heavy spells lashing Assam, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Gujarat, coastal Maharashtra and Karnataka, Kerala, and Lakshadweep.

What factors are causing widespread rains?

- There have been two main contributors to the enhanced rainfall.
- One is the continuous incoming of moisture-laden strong westerly winds from the Arabian Sea.
- The other is the position of the monsoon trough — a semi-permanent, low-pressure area extending between Pakistan and the Bay of Bengal during the monsoon season — which usually oscillates between north and south within the season. Whenever it moves towards the south, as it has done in the present case, more rainfall can take place in central, eastern and peninsular India. When it shifts towards the north, the Himalayan foothills are likely to receive more rainfall but the rest of India sees a drop in rainfall.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

Ind Express (Page – 10) / The Hindu (Page -11) : GS2-
Government Scheme



News / Cities / Mumbai / Maharashtra govt to spend Rs 5,500 crore on internship scheme giving stipend to unemployed youth

Maharashtra govt to spend Rs 5,500 crore on internship scheme giving stipend to unemployed youth

Finance Minister Ajit Pawar announced 'Mukhyamantri Yuva Karya Prashikshan Yojana' during the presentation of Maharashtra Budget 2024-25 in June.



News

- Maharashtra government has unveiled the Mukhyamantri Yuva Karya Prashikshan Yojana - a new stipend-based internship scheme for the State's unemployed youth.

About

- The scheme aims to increase the employability of the youth by providing them with a stipend during an apprenticeship.
- The government will extend Rs 6,000 to those who are 12th pass, Rs 8,000 to those with ITI and diploma and Rs 10,000 for those with degree and postgraduation as a stipend.
- Eligible candidates should be between the ages of 18 and 35 and residents of Maharashtra.
- The internships will for last six months.

HEADLINES OF THE DAY

The Hindu: GS1- Society (Page -8)

On political representation of women | Explained

Have women been fairly represented in Parliament in independent India? Should political parties provide internal reservations to increase women's political participation? When will the 106th constitutional amendment be implemented?

Published - July 17, 2024 11:05 pm IST

RANGARAJAN R.



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News

- In the recently concluded general elections in the U.K., a record 263 women MPs (40%) have been elected to the House of Commons.

About

- The South African National Assembly has around 45% women representation, while the U.S. House of Representatives has 29%.
- The important methods used across the world to ensure higher representation of women are (a) voluntary or legislated compulsory quotas for candidates within political parties and (b) quota in parliament through reservation of seats.

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What about women representatives in independent India?

- The percentage of women MPs in the Lok Sabha had been very low between 5% and 10% till 2004.
- It rose marginally to 12% in 2014 and currently stands at 14% in the 18th Lok Sabha.
- The representation in State Legislative Assemblies is even poorer with the national average being around 9%.
- As on April 2024, India ranks 143 in the list of countries in the 'Monthly ranking of women in national parliaments' published by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, a global organisation for national parliaments.

Steps taken

- The 73rd and 74th amendments of the Constitution in 1992/1993, provided for one-third reservation for women in panchayats and municipalities.
- The Parliament through the 106th constitutional amendment, in September 2023, provided for one-third reservation of seats for women in the Lok Sabha and State legislative assemblies.