

Government of Bihar  
Water Resources Department

Enclosing a copy of Flood Control Order 2021 which says that all the officials have to collectively address the situation arising in the flood period. Negligence and omission of any responsibility at any level can result in terrible consequences. Therefore, there is a need to be vigilant at every level. The instructions contained in the flood control order must be meticulously and responsibly complied by all officials and their respective subordinates.

At the same time, subordinate officers should also be instructed to make every effort to remove impediments in the ongoing flood control works and to give full support to the technical officials in flood protection works. Stringent disciplinary action should be taken against the irresponsible

officials and every effort should be made to keep up the morale of those authorities who are wholeheartedly dispensing their responsibilities.

Some important works before the flood period such as repair of vulnerable sites in flood protective embankments, repair of roads in potential areas affected by floods, prevention of epidemics. For arranging medicines, it is absolutely necessary to complete all arrangements in advance of the flood.

It is requested that the instructions contained in the attached flood control order should be strictly followed and will have to be done.

Flood Control Order 2021

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Flood Control Order 2021

1. General

1.1. Under the Water Resources Department (WRD), six Additional Chief Engineers (ACEs) are posted at the regional level, who are working in various fields for the purpose of implementing and safeguarding the flood control schemes. In order to provide flood protection by the Water Resources Department, flood protection schemes have been prepared on many rivers. It will be the responsibility of the concerned main constituents to compulsorily carry out the inspection of strengthened vulnerable sites before June 15, 2021, for the protection of the embankments falling in their respective areas to avoid accidental breaches in case of a flood situation

1.2.As in previous years, the concerned Chief Engineers (CE) are expected to issue flood surveillance rules to their subordinate officers for flood control by May 1, 2021, which includes the details responsibilities of officials ranging from CE to Junior Engineer (JE) level

1.3.In the Flood Surveillance Manual, it should be clearly mentioned what kind of necessary arrangements should be made for the protection of flood control works and about the duties and responsibilities of the officials during the flood season. The CE will ensure that the Superintending Engineer (SE), Executive Engineer (EE), Assistant Engineer (AE), JE and other employees who are deployed on surveillance work are alert to take appropriate action in the event of a flood emergency and with dedicated sense of their responsibilities. Any negligence / laxity by them will be taken seriously by the government

1.4.The CE will have full control and supervision over the protective works under the regional officials during flood, so that the breakage,

holes and damaged parts made by mice are completed before 15 June, 2021 to save from any kind of structural damage leading to floods. The CE will ensure that the flood control and impeding machinery remains in a very strong and attentive condition so that the flood can be effectively dealt with

1.5. Information about problems arising because of the emergency situation must be sent to the Secretary, WRD/ Engineer in Chief, WRD, Patna, in the shortest possible time for which CE must connect through the nearest police/ departmental wireless facility, fax and E-mail (fmcwrd@gmail.com) for this work

1.6. The CE will also report on the arrangements made for flood-safety works and update on the progress of the work will be provided along with photos and videos

1.7. The CE will emphasize in-depth study of the flood surveillance rules to his subordinate officers along with its adoption and use of the instructions given from time to time, so that the flood control works can be carried out smoothly

## 2. Central Flood Control Cell-Assistance Center and Regional Flood Control Cell- Help Center - Regional Flood Control Room

2.1. From June 15, 2021, the Central Flood Control Cell - Help Center - Regional Flood Control Room will start functioning in the Irrigation Building at the Secretariat and will be continuously operational for 24 hours till October 31, 2021. This period can be extended if there is an emergency situation. The Regional Flood Control Room will also start functioning at the headquarters directly under the Chief Engineer during this period. Information about flood related information will be given continuously and periodically to the Central Flood Control Room, Patna. The Chief Engineer, Planning and Monitoring, Patna, will keep its direct control over the Central Flood Control Cell-cum-Assistance Center, Patna. The Central Flood Control Cell -Help Center, Patna will work under the charge of Superintending Engineer, Flood Control Program and Monitoring Patna Zone. They will also have the right to demand the help of employees and vehicles from any other Chief Engineer /

Superintending Engineer / Executive Engineer in the event of flood.

The people of Bihar can communicate any information and complaint related to the subsequent disaster / contingency / seepage / piping / erosion/ willful etc damage to the embankment, to the 24 hours and 7 days functional toll-free number 18003456145 or through the 'Hello WRD' mobile app. Prompt action will be taken in relation to the complaint received through call or mobile app in the help center

2.2.If necessary, the Regional Superintending Engineer, Executive Engineer, Under Divisional Officer in charge of flood control works can organize the control room at their level in consultation with the concerned Chief Engineer and can also set up control rooms at affected locations. So that the flow of dialogues will continue at a rapid pace with the state-level headquarters

2.3.The guidelines for Central Flood Control Room, Patna is attached as Appendix - "A". The officers and employees working in Central Flood Control Cell, Patna will strictly follow these directives and

ensure compliance. Guidelines for the Regional Flood Control Cell will be prepared like the Central Flood Control Cell, Patna for its operations at the field level under the Chief Engineer/ Superintending Engineer / Executive Engineer

2.4. At times lack of coordination between the district level general administration officials and departmental regional officials becomes difficult/challenging at the time of floods, due to which the instructions/directions/interventions from the headquarters is expected to solve the problems that can be easily resolved at the regional/district level. All Regional CEs will depute sufficient number of experienced JEs in the Flood Control Cell in each district. The deputed officer in the Flood Control Cell must have telephone numbers of all departmental officials, along with an inventory of flood materials available at the district level

### 3. Patrolling/ Surveillance

3.1. In flood season, it is necessary to maintain a strong surveillance system to protect the embankments and to keep vigil at vulnerable

locations. The officers will conduct thorough inspections in accordance with the processes, duties and responsibilities of the officials as defined in the Flood Surveillance Manual issued by the Chief Engineer, of the embankments falling in their respective jurisdictions, to effectively counter the conditions arising due to seepage, piping, erosion, etc. in the embankments. Precautionary measures should be taken expeditiously and timely with a view to avert any disaster or prevent an increase in it, so that vulnerable sites can be protected.

3.2. During the flood period (June 15 till October 31, 2021), there is a plan to deploy additional home guards as armed or lathi forces for tight security of embankments located on various rivers of the state. The Regional Engineers / staff of the WRD will carry out regular patrolling of the embankments, structures etc. as before to keep a constant vigil

3.3. Old vulnerable sites of various embankments have been identified based on past experiences. It is necessary that all the CEs of the flood

zone should make an updated list of such vulnerable sites and circulate them immediately to the concerned sub-divisional officer and district-level officers. It is also necessary that the precautionary measures for the safety of such sites should be completed before the forthcoming floods. Apart from this, it is also necessary that special attention should be paid to these vulnerably sites, so that any situation can be dealt with appropriately and firmly. The list of vulnerable sites should be sent to the Chief Engineer, Planning and Monitoring, Irrigation Building, Patna by June 1, 2021, showing the maps in five copies along with the names of the rivers and embankments

3.4. Day-night vigilance is necessary at all the vulnerable sites mentioned in section 3.3 and of important spurs that have encountered the river's intense flow in the past, such as the Kosi's afflux dam in Nepal, etc. It is directed that, two employees of class IV category, should be permanently deputed between June 1, 2021, and October 31, 2021, at these vulnerable sites and important spurs. These

employees should also be given a register in which clear information about the current status of the river and the impact of the river on flood protection works will be recorded. It will be the responsibility of supervisory officer (SO) to ensure the attendance of the appointed employees at these two locations and to keep the highest officials informed about it. The SO will check the veracity of the entries by the class IV employees in the register regarding the river, its flow and impact and thereafter sign the document.

3.5. Problems such as damage inflicted on the embankments by villagers should be dealt effectively and swiftly, although such incidents happen occasionally. For such incidents not to happen, it is important that necessary precautionary measures should be undertaken by deputing armed police teams for intensive patrolling. The CE, SE/ Executive Engineer (EE) shall put a requisition for armed police forces to the SDO or the District-level Officers/ District Magistrate (DM) for the police force to be deployed for patrolling. The DM and the SDO will extend all possible assistance by deputing

the armed forces promptly. If any law-and-order situation arises at the time of maintenance, upkeep, and protection of the embankments, then the DM will take appropriate action without delay. District administration and technical officers will maintain constant contact and ensure coordination in the area, so that emergencies can be properly dealt with.

3.6. As the DM is the head of the general administration at the district level therefore, to face any situation arising due to floods, hence the DM should be vigilant and well prepared with adequate armed forces to meet any untoward situation at the vulnerable site/s. The DM should ensure the necessary administrative action at vulnerable sites along with the concerned technical officials. If officers of the rank EE from the CE, they will act on it on a priority basis. In this work, the Superintendent of Police (SP) will take action on the basis of priority. In this work, the SP should also be kept in confidence, so that the armed forces required for overcoming any kind of law-and-order can be jointly assessed by the DM and SP

3.7. District officials will ensure that people do not encroach either the embankments or the slopes. All encroachments should be removed in a timely manner, so that all the necessary restoration work can be easily carried out before June 15, 2021, under the supervision of the EE and should be given utmost priority

3.8. From the point of view of flood vigilance, surveillance work and safety measures, a department letter - flood (M) Irrigation-Miscellaneous-37/88-2288 dated September 2, 1988 was issued by the Chief Secretary, Government of Bihar, for the security and patrolling of embankments and their vulnerable sites by the armed forces. It was directed to set up a committee in each district to arrange deputation. This flood order of 1988 was communicated to each DMs and SPs within the state. That year's order is attached as appendix 'B'

The said committee will be working every year, whose chairman and members are as follows

- DM - President

- Senior SP/ SP- Member
- Executive Engineer - Member

(Related to flood control works)

- Work of the district-level member committee related to the disaster management department is mentioned in the above letter of the Chief Secretary. The committee will work accordingly every year so that the encroachment on the embankment can be removed immediately and there is no delay in protecting the vulnerable points of the embankment

#### 4. Public support

4.1. Despite all these facts, the regional officials who are in charge of flood protection works and law and order, can play their important role in securing the embankment security, surveillance and public support as much as possible. Gram panchayats, which are located around the embankment, can prove to be very helpful in providing information related to surveillance work on embankments and probable breach points. District officials should call an emergency

meeting of mukhiyas of such panchayats to assess possible public support during floods. The services of village volunteers and chowkidars must also be reviewed, so that the need for patrolling on embankments and collecting information can be streamlined

#### 4.2. Logistical support

In the event of extreme floods, military assistance should be sought only when the situation is beyond the control of the district administration. Demand for such assistance should be sought by the local civil administration and technical officials only after consulting the state's home department

### 5. Communication of information

5.1. Telephones and wireless devices play an important role in the rapid transmission of flood information. A meeting was held on February 23, 1988, under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary of Bihar, in which the following decisions were taken, which ought to be followed

#### 5.1.1. Flood forecast

- 5.1.1.1. District officials should get timely information from the flood prone areas of Nepal and Bihar concerning the rainfall and floods
- 5.1.1.2. Wireless sets should be kept at the vulnerable locations on the embankments, so that the general public can be alerted about the situation after receiving the update about the status upstream
- 5.1.2. Adequate number of police personnel should be deployed to broadcast wireless communications every two hours
- 5.1.3. Additional arrangements of wireless sets should be made at the time of flood so that additional sets are used in case of a set failure. The Assistant Inspector General (Finance) will ensure action by June 16, 2021, based on the order no with serial 5.01.1 (B), 5.01.2 and 5.01.3
- 5.1.4. In connection with telephone, Chief Engineer, will contact the officials of BSNL to set up phone connections in the vulnerable locations by June 15, 2021. Setting up of the telephone lines and

wireless units will be reported to the Central Flood Control Room, Patna. Officials who are engaged in flood protection works will give information about the installation of telephone lines and provision of wireless units at the nearest police station to the Central Flood Control Room, Patna. They can also use the wireless and the telegraph facilities of the railways from the nearest railway station

5.1.5.A working group on Communication for Disaster Management was formed, whose recommendations have been sent to the Home Secretary and Inspector General of Police by the Chief Secretary's non-official dispatch number 5362 dated December 22, 1997. It mentions that the wireless sets should be continuously working for 24 hours in flood affected areas so that the Central Flood Control Room, Patna will continue to receive regular updates. The Assistant Inspector General (Finance) will ensure action as per order no with serial 5.01.5. The Central Flood

Forecasting Organization, Patna will ensure action as per order no with serial on 5.01.1 (A)

5.2. In the event of a flood, it is possible that the regional officers will be going out of the headquarters for inspection and other necessary tasks, then in such a situation, they will arrange for a successive duty for 24 hours, in which they should mention their whereabouts etc. during the journey so that necessary information may be given to them as and when required

5.3. Even after the WRD has set up a wireless unit for sharing of information, the Assistant Inspector General (Finance) will direct the subordinates attached to different police wireless units to let WRD officials the wireless units to communicate flood related information on a priority basis. All police wireless units in the state will communicate flood related information on priority basis.

5.4. The Assistant Inspector General (Finance) will pay special attention to sending the operators required by the WRD with the necessary accessories for setting up and operating the wireless units and also

ensuring that all the wireless units will become functional from June 15, 2021. The Assistant Inspector General (Finance) will take care for the WRD that the departmental wireless units also work without any problems. Necessary repair work in these units should be completed by June 15,2021. Under the WRD, the wireless instruments which will be damaged during the flood period should be repaired at the police workshop so that the work is not interrupted.

## 6. Flood combating materials

6.1.The concerned CE will take necessary steps to stockpile flood combating materials at the appropriate sites. They will inform the actual requirement of flood combating materials, the quantity of materials collected and the status of the arrangement of the remaining materials to the Central Flood Control Cell, Patna. They will arrange for the receipt of flood combating materials, issue and keeping a proper account of the remaining materials at the storage site of the flood-combating materials so that the investigating officer can satisfy himself with the adequacy and resources of the goods.

District officials will take immediate action to take the workers and materials to the emergency points in flood situations and make them available to the EE of the WRD through trucks and tractors. District officials will also take care that inspection and vehicles for officials related to flood prevention works should not get used for other purposes

## 7. Weekly Reporting

7.1. The CEs will receive weekly reports on the flood situation every Saturday from the SE/ EE under their jurisdiction. The Chief Engineer will send the consolidated report in triplicate to the Central Flood Control Room, Patna, based on the reports received.

7.2. The weekly report should also highlight these points on which side the river's flow is oriented, how much rainfall occurred in the area, continuous gauge reading at various sites, engineering works in flood prone area and status of high tension, railways, and telephone wires damaged and evaluation of other public utilities. In addition,

details of the loss of standing crops and loss of life from the district administration, they will be included in the weekly reports

7.3. When an area gets flooded, a map should be prepared showing the entire area affected by the floods, along with the depth of the flood water (flood levels) during the duration of the flood. For this purpose, the flood affected areas should be divided into four categories, - areas with 20 centimeter (cm), 30 cm, 60 cm, m, 90 cm of flood water. Wherever the depth of flood water is more than special care should be taken in this matter. Maps also show embankments and vulnerable sites where armed forces are deployed

7.4. The Chief Engineer will send the aforesaid weekly reports and flood maps to Central Flood Control Cell, Patna, and communicate the critical reports wirelessly. Postal copies of these reports and copies of flood maps will be sent by the special envoy

7.5. SE / EE will transmit flood communications without wasting time with the help of special envoy through police wireless units/ departmental wireless

7.6. All wireless communication should start as follows. Situation Report

... - «The name of the embankment there (river name) ..... (RD - Is it river discharge?) Here RD has to be mentioned in relation to the river that the report relates. Name of the nearby village ... (name of village) (name of district), thereafter the main detailed report must follow

8. Transport to a safe and secure place

8.1. It has been found that the implementation of the approved schemes

of the field engineers is sometimes interrupted by anti-social elements, due to which the ongoing work gets interrupted. It will be the personal responsibility of the concerned DM to provide protection to the Regional Technical Officers in such a situation so that the progress of work can be maintained. Along with this, they will also provide necessary support to the special teams who are checking the quality and progress of flood protection works

8.2. When there is a serious threat to the security of an embankment, the

CE and his subordinate EE level officials will immediately inform the

situation to the concerned DM and also inform the situation to the Central Flood Control Cell, Patna. It will also be mentioned how many villages will be affected by the potential breach. Thereafter, it will be the duty of the DM to issue immediate flood warnings in the area and to take necessary action for arranging assistance for those affected by the possible floods and for getting them to safe places

8.3. Thereafter, the Principal Secretary, Disaster Management Department will conduct the operation to ensure that people are assisted and they reach the safe places

## Guidelines for the Central Flood Control Cell, Patna

### 1. General

The Central Flood Control Cell, Patna will be in charge of collecting the flood information and will communicate all the necessary instructions given by the Engineer in Chief to all the officials of the WRD and the district administration. This cell will be operational from June 15, 2021 till October 31, 2021. This period can be reduced or extended according to flood emergency and situation

### 2. Location of Central Flood Control, Patna

Central flood control cell will be located at Sechaye Bhawan, Patna. And the contact numbers are telephone number 0612- 2217782, 2206669, 2217146, and mobile number - 7463889706, 7463889707. The fax unit will also be operational on telephone number 062-2215850

### 3. Work of Central Flood Control Cell, Patna

- 3.1. Keeping of records of the reading of the water level, rainfall data and hydrological data of the rivers received from the regional functionaries and flood forecasting divisions, Government of India, Patna
- 3.2. To communicate the warning data and instructions for taking appropriate steps to mitigate floods if the flood data and water situation received indicate of an impending crisis
- 3.3. Issuing flood warnings to the concerned engineering officers and civil officials when the reading of the river is one meter above the danger mark
- 3.4. Integrating flood data received from various sources
- 3.5. Maintaining contact with all concerned officials regarding flood problems
- 3.6. Providing flood news to AIR and Public Relations Department, Bihar as required from time to time
- 3.7. Providing flood reports to various departments of the state government

#### 4. Management of the operations

Central Flood Control Cell, Patna will be managed and operated by the officials of WRD. The SE will be responsible for the management and functioning of the Flood Control Scheme and Monitoring Zone, Patna cell. This cell will be under the direct control of the CE, Planning and Monitoring, Patna. Engineer-in-chief will supervise the activities of flood control and water discharge, WRD, cell from time to time and ensure the smooth functioning of works at the regional level. The Central Flood Control Cell will work continuously through different shifts during the flood period. the first shift will be from 6.00 am to 2.00 pm followed by 2.00 pm till 10.00 pm and thereafter from 10.00 pm till 06.00 am. Subordinate to the Chief Engineers, CE / SE will be working in the office and one cell each under the EE related to flood control. The following officers / employees will be employed in those cells.

- Assistant Engineer - 1
- Junior Engineer / Staff
- Service Provider - 1

In addition to these shifts there will also be a normal shift, whose tenure will be from 9.30 am to 6.00 pm, which will be functional all days except Saturday and Sunday. Subordinate officers / employees of Flood Control Monitoring Zone can also be called on Saturday and Sunday if required. The other shift will be working without any restriction, whether it is Saturday / Sunday or holiday. In case of any employee engaged in the work of Central Flood Control Cell, there will also be arrangement of leave reserve in normal condition. In the morning, afternoon and night services of the following officers / employees will be employed

- Executive Engineer - 4 (Shift will be in charge)
- Assistant Engineer - 2
- Executive Peon cum Mail carrier - 2

#### Comment

- The adjustment of officers and employees will be done by the SE in charge of Central Flood Control Cell, as per its availability and requirement.

- Under the Flood Control Cell, a wireless cell will also work in three shifts as per requirement and the shift will be determined by SE, Flood Control Plan and Monitoring Zone in charge of cell

## 5. Support

- Cell will be equipped with three other phones
- There will be provision for proper wireless units in the cell
- There will be sufficient number of jeeps and jeep drivers in Cell
- There will also be a provision of additional bicycles as per the requirement
- For emergency lighting situation cell will be equipped with backup lights with generators, emergency lights, torches, umbrellas, raincoat coats etc
- In order to increase the efficiency of the cell, phone and other communication equipments will be provided as per the requirement

Translated from the original document in Hindi by the Water Resources Management Department, Government of Bihar.

Link to original: [http://wrd.bih.nic.in/download/year\\_2021/letter\\_2051\\_m.pdf](http://wrd.bih.nic.in/download/year_2021/letter_2051_m.pdf)