

Pakistan floods kill 116, affect over 7.5 lakh

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Islamabad: At least 116 people have died and more than 7.5 lakh affected across Pakistan due to devastating floods triggered by monsoon rains, as authorities struggled to reach thousands stranded by swollen rivers.

National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) said efforts were being made to reach out to victims, who number at least 752,274.

The military and other agencies have shifted nearly 450,000 people to safer places.

But officials warn of more difficulty should the unrelenting downpour continue.

Fifty nine people have died in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, 22 in Punjab, 20 in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, 10 in Balochistan and 5 in Gilgit-Baltistan, according to NDMA.

The disaster relief agency said at least 61 people were injured in flood-related incidents, which included 26 in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa and 24 in Balochistan.

The seasonal rains, that began last month, continued to lash several areas of Pakistan and have triggered floods in many areas, damaging 2,747 houses.

Pakistan government has set up 481 relief camps and 150 medical camps. The government said it has provided over 32,000 tents, 2009 tones of ration, 1,500 tarpaulins and 8,467 blankets to flood victims.

Monsoon rains usually start in Pakistan in mid-July and continue until the end of August.

The monsoon last year killed nearly 400 and inundated thousands of acres of farmland.

- PTI