Situation Overview Highlights:

Humanity Road activated its disaster desk on Thursday November 15, 2018 in advance of landfall of Cyclone Gaja in India. This situation report number 1 provides helpful links and situational information based on early indications in social media.

Cyclone Gaja, which made landfall near Vedaranyam in Nagapattinam in the wee hours of November 16, has claimed 45 lives across the state, according to a statement released by the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on Sunday. The cyclone, which went on to affect many other districts, including Thiruvarur, Thanjavur, Pudukkottai, Dindigul and Trichy, created a huge loss of property. [source](source)

Health minister C Vijayabhaskar, a native of Pudukottai said the district has not faced such a monstrous cyclone since 1960. “In the last half a century, we have not seen such a ferocious cyclonic storm,” he said and appealed to the people to assist the rescue operations. [source](source)

Twitter handles
@Humanityroad
@DisasterAnimals
@jAIDdog
@DAFNReady

Facebook pages
Humanity Road
Animals in Disaster

About Humanity Road: Founded in 2010 as a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation, Humanity Road is a leader in the field of online disaster response. Through skilled and self-directed work teams, Humanity Road and its network of global volunteers aim to provide the public and disaster responders worldwide with timely and accurate aid information. Providing such information helps individuals survive, sustain, and reunite with loved ones. For more information, please visit [www.humanityroad.org](http://www.humanityroad.org).
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Situation Overview
As of November 18, 2018

- “Over 800 people are staying in the camp at Thalainayar and it is not easy to get the food. Further, with just two toilets, people especially women are finding it difficult to use them. We are not able to get drinking water. Children are crying for milk,” he said about the situation in the camp. However, chief minister Palaniswami has denied any shortage in either food supply or amenities. “There is adequate supply of provisions and food is supplied properly,” he said.

- 347 electricity transformers have been destroyed and 3,559 kms of electricity transmission wires have been snapped in the cyclone, thereby cutting the power supply in the affected areas. A total of 12,532 officials from the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board have been deputed on the ground to restore power.

- In order to help people with health issues, 372 medical camps and 1,014 mobile medical units have been set up in the affected regions.

Significant Updates (most recent first)

18 Nov
- Cyclone Gaja, has claimed 45 lives across the state, according to a statement released by the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on Sunday. The cyclone, which went on to affect many other districts, including Thiruvarur, Thanjavur, Pudukkottai, Dindigul and Trichy, created a huge loss of property.
- 70 livestock and several goats, poultry and deer have also died due to the cyclone.
- Supplies of water, milk and food were being distributed to the people affected by the calamity.
- Estimated 30,000 electricity poles were broken, and 105 power sub-stations affected. About 10,000 personnel have been sent to the cyclone-affected coastal districts to repair the installations.
- Estimated 127,000 trees were uprooted by the strong cyclonic winds that touched a maximum speed of about 120 kmph.

17 Nov
- 1,77,500 people have been housed in over 351 camps.
- 1,27,000.+ trees have been uprooted.
- Milk was asked for and it has been despatched.
- Livelihood of the common people, including farmers and fishermen has been severely hit.
- Coconut trees over thousands of acres of farmland have been uprooted.
- Death toll from cyclone ‘Gaja’ has reached 33.

16 Nov
- Chief Minister Palaniswami said relief work will be taken up on war-footing and that the work was already underway.
- Over 81,000 people have been evacuated across coastal Tamil Nadu.

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Page 3 of 15
Four teams each from the National Disaster Relief Force and its counterpart in the state are working in Nagapattinam. 9,000 first responders are also working to rescue people. Source

Cyclone Gaja makes landfall in Tamil Nadu: CM Palaniswami has announced an ex gratia of Rs 10 lakh from the Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund for the families of the deceased source

As of Nov 16 12.10am 76,290 people evacuated to Safety in Nagapattinam and other Coastal district - Via Tamil Nadu Disaster Management Authority source

Over 30,000 rescue personnel are kept on standby by the state government and all educational institutions in Puducherry and Karaikal regions will remain closed today. source

Two Indian Naval ships Ranvir and Khanjar are standing by to proceed to the most affected areas to undertake humanitarian aid and distress relief,” a Navy official was quoted saying by PTI. Helicopters, Dornier aircraft and one P8I aircraft are also on standby to undertake reconnaissance, rescue and casualty evacuation, the official added. source

15 Nov

As of November 15, 2018 at 22:00 IST Around 12,000 people have been evacuated across coastal Tamil Nadu ahead of landfall by the cyclone Gaja source

@IndiaRedCross is in a state of alert. Ramanathapuram District Collector Veera Raghava Rao said, “Around 70 State Disaster Rescue Force trained police personnel, 45 Indian Red Cross volunteers and 60 disaster response guards have been readied. source

Nagapattinam, Thiruvarur, Thanjavur, Pudukkottai, Sivangaga, Dindigul, Theni, and Madurai are areas of critical alert source

National Links

- India Government
  - Website https://www.india.gov.in/
  - Twitter https://twitter.com/govtofindia_?lang=en
  - Facebook https://www.facebook.com/NationalPortalIndia/

- Prime Minister of India:
  - Website http://pmindia.gov.in
  - Twitter https://twitter.com/PMOIndia
  - Facebook https://www.facebook.com/PMOIndia

- National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA):
  - Website http://ndma.gov.in
  - Twitter https://twitter.com/ndmaindia
  - Facebook https://www.facebook.com/NDMA.in/

- National Disaster Response Force (NDRF):
  - Website http://ndrf.gov.in
  - Twitter https://twitter.com/ndrfhq
  - Facebook https://www.facebook.com/HQNDRF

- India Meteorological Department:
  - Website http://www.imd.gov.in
  - Twitter https://twitter.com/Indiametdept,
  - Facebook https://www.facebook.com/India.Meteorological.Department/

support@humanityroad.org       www.humanityroad.org       Support our work
● Indian Army:
  ○ Website https://indianarmy.nic.in/index.aspx
  ○ Twitter https://twitter.com/adgpi
  ○ Facebook https://www.facebook.com/Indianarmy.adgpi/

● Indian Coast Guard:
  ○ Website https://www.indiancoastguard.gov.in/
  ○ Twitter https://twitter.com/IndiaCoastGuard
  ○ Facebook https://www.facebook.com/theindiancoastguard/

● Indian Navy
  ○ Website https://www.indiannavy.nic.in/
  ○ Twitter https://twitter.com/indiannavy
  ○ Facebook https://www.facebook.com/IndianNavy/

● Indian Air Force
  ○ Website www.indianairforce.nic.in
  ○ Twitter https://twitter.com/IAF_MCC
  ○ Facebook https://www.facebook.com/IndianAirForce/

● Ministry of Health and Family Welfare:
  ○ Website http://mohfw.nic.in/
  ○ Twitter https://twitter.com/MoHFW_INDIA

● Corporate Disaster Resource Network (CDRN India)
  ○ Website http://www.cdrn.org.in/
  ○ Twitter https://twitter.com/CDRNIndia

● Indian Red Cross Society
  ○ Website http://www.indianredcross.org/
  ○ Twitter https://twitter.com/IndianRedCross
  ○ Facebook https://www.facebook.com/ircsofficial/

● Humanity Road
  ○ Website: https://humanityroad.org
  ○ Twitter: https://twitter.com/humanityroad
  ○ Facebook https://www.facebook.com/humanityroad

● Accessible India
  ○ Website http://accessibleindia.gov.in
  ○ Twitter https://twitter.com/MSJE_AIC
  ○ Facebook https://www.facebook.com/AccessibleIndia

● Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities
  ○ Website http://www.disabilityaffairs.gov.in/content/
State and District Links

Tamil Nadu

Tamil Nadu Disaster Management Authority
- Website https://tnsdma.tn.gov.in/
- Twitter https://twitter.com/tnsdma
- Facebook https://www.facebook.com/TamilNaduSDMA/

Chennai Government
- Website http://www.chennaicorporation.gov.in/

Chennai Police
- Facebook https://www.facebook.com/Chennai.Police/timeline

Nagapattinam
- Website https://www.nagapattinam.nic.in/

Tiruvarur
- Website https://tiruvarur.nic.in/

Thanjavur
- Website https://thanjavur.nic.in/

Pudukkottai
- Website https://pudukkottai.nic.in/

Sivaganga
- Website https://sivaganga.nic.in/

Dindigul
- Website https://dindigul.nic.in/

Theni
- Website https://theni.nic.in/

Madurai
- Website https://madurai.nic.in/
Emergency Numbers
Police Control Room 100
Accident Helpline 108
Fire and Rescue 101
Ambulance 102
Disaster Helpline 1077

Help Lines
State Helpline 1070
District Helpline 1077
National Disaster Management Authority - Disaster Helpline - 011-1078

Maps and Situational Awareness
- Storm track map http://www.gdacs.org/contentdata/maps/daily/TC/1000529/ECDM_20181113_TC_GAJA.pdf
- Storm track map http://www.metoc.navy.mil/jtwc/products/io0718.gif

Shelters and Evacuation Centers
17 Nov
- Around 2,49,083 people have been evacuated and housed in 493 cyclone evacuation shelters across the state. Around 200 people from Vizhundhamavadi village near Nagapattinam have resorted to a road blockade protesting lack of food supply in the relief camps. source

16 Nov
- People were evacuated from low-lying areas and sheltered at over 300 relief centres in six districts including Nagapattinam, Pudukottai, Ramanathapuram and Tiruvarur, reported news agency PTI. Source

15 Nov
- As of November 15, 2018 at 22:00 IST more than 6000 relief camps have been opened and eight rescue teams have been put in place. source

Health and Hospitals
Status of Hospitals
17 Nov
- In order to help people with health issues, 372 medical camps and 1,014 mobile medical units have been set up in the affected regions. source
- A lakh of people had benefited by medical camps to prevent epidemics in affected regions, source

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Hospital Lists
● Chennai Hospitals [https://www.mapsofindia.com/chennai/hospitals-in-chennai.html]
● Nagapattinam Hospitals Website List and addresses
● Frontline Eye Hospital Website [https://enabled.in/wp/frontline-eye-hospital-chennai/]
  Phone 044 24338299, 044 24338399

Special Needs Populations

Status
16 Nov

● Families of the deceased will be provided a solatium of Rs. 10 lakh each from the Chief
  Minister's Public Relief Fund (CMPRF). Source
● Those with severe injuries will be provided with Rs. one lakh each while people who had
  sustained simple injuries will get Rs. 25,000 as relief, he added. Source

Useful Links

KickStart Cabs-Inclusive Cab service for Persons with Disabilities
● Website [https://enabled.in/wp/kickstart-cabs-inclusive-cab-service-for-persons-with-disabilities/]
● Phone 91-8105600445

DaVita Kidney Care (India)
● Website [https://www.davita.in/about-davita.php]
● Phone 9740426060

DaVita India Kidney Dialysis in Chennai
● Website [https://www.davita.in/chennai-dialysis-center.php]
● Phone +91 97404 26060

Jaipurfoot – BMVSS Chennai [Artificial limbs, Polio Calipers, Hearing Aids, Wheelchairs]
● Website [https://enabled.in/wp/jaipurfoot-bmvss-chennai/]
● Phone 044-26693982, 26692813, 26692539

Mukti Freedom From Crutches [Artificial limbs, Hands and Feet, Polio Calipers, Braces]
● Website [https://enabled.in/wp/mukti-freedom-from-crutches/]
● Phone (091) (044) 22346973 / 22343124

Madras Dyslexia Association
● Website [https://www.mdachennai.com/]
● Phone 04428156697
● Twitter [https://twitter.com/MDA_Dyslexia]
- Facebook [https://www.facebook.com/MadrasDyslexiaAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/MadrasDyslexiaAssociation)

**AUTISM SOCIETY OF INDIA**
- Phone + 91 11 4054 0991, + 91 11 4054 0992
- Facebook [https://www.facebook.com/actionforautism.nationalcentreforautism](https://www.facebook.com/actionforautism.nationalcentreforautism)

**D.O.A.S.T. Integrated Therapy Centre for Autism Chennai, Tamil Nadu**
- Website [https://enabled.in/wp/autism-therapy-chennai-doast/](https://enabled.in/wp/autism-therapy-chennai-doast/)
- Phone Landline 044 42172828,044 42103636, 044 42026688
- Cell 9600 168 157 , 9790 822 456

**We CAN-Autism**
- Website [http://wecanindia.org/contactus.html](http://wecanindia.org/contactus.html)
- Phone +91 44 42862221
- Facebook [https://www.facebook.com/wechallengeatismnow/](https://www.facebook.com/wechallengeatismnow/)

**Sense International [helps people who are both Deaf and Blind]**
- Phone +91-79-2630 1282
- Twitter [https://twitter.com/senseindia](https://twitter.com/senseindia)
- Facebook [https://www.facebook.com/discoversense](https://www.facebook.com/discoversense)

**Navjeevan – Blind Relief Center**
- Website [https://enabled.in/wp/navjeevan-blind-relief-center/](https://enabled.in/wp/navjeevan-blind-relief-center/)
- Phone 91 – 877-2239992

**National Federation for the Blind, Tamil Nadu**
- Website [http://www.nfbkarnataka.org/index](http://www.nfbkarnataka.org/index)
- Phone +91-80-23484794 / +91 - 9916368800

**Athma Hospitals of Mental Health, Tamil Nadu**
- Phone 0431 - 2740452, 2740929, 080125 22135

**Sakalawara Community Mental Health Centre (SCMHC)**
- Website [https://enabled.in/wp/sakalawara-community-mental-health-centre/](https://enabled.in/wp/sakalawara-community-mental-health-centre/)
- Phone 080-27837071

**Chaitanya Trust Home For Disabled {Adult}**
- Website [https://enabled.in/wp/chaitanya-trust-home-for-disabled/](https://enabled.in/wp/chaitanya-trust-home-for-disabled/)

[support@humanityroad.org](mailto:support@humanityroad.org)    [www.humanityroad.org](http://www.humanityroad.org)    [Support our work](#)
- Phone +91 – 44 – 65219717

Aarrvins Home [Children]
- Website [https://enabled.in/wp/aarrvins-home/](https://enabled.in/wp/aarrvins-home/)
- Phone 91 9995761539

Good Life Centre [Children]
- Website [https://enabled.in/wp/good-life-ashram/](https://enabled.in/wp/good-life-ashram/)
- Phone 91-044-283484

Muscular Dystrophy Association India
- Website [http://www.mdindia.net/](http://www.mdindia.net/)
- Phone +91 99520 05 299

German Leprosy & TB Relief Association
- Phone +91 11 4306 0990
- Twitter [https://twitter.com/glra_india1966](https://twitter.com/glra_india1966)
- Facebook [https://www.facebook.com/glraindia](https://www.facebook.com/glraindia)

Amar Seva Sangam, Tamil Nadu
- Website [https://www.amarseva.org/index.php](https://www.amarseva.org/index.php)
- Phone 91-4633-249170 / 249180
- Twitter [https://twitter.com/amarseva](https://twitter.com/amarseva)
- Facebook [https://www.facebook.com/Amar-Seva-Sangam-201245449949441/](https://www.facebook.com/Amar-Seva-Sangam-201245449949441/)

Sri Arunodayam
- Website [https://sriarunodayam.org/](https://sriarunodayam.org/)
- Phone +91 94449 15803
- Twitter [https://twitter.com/sri_arunodayam](https://twitter.com/sri_arunodayam)
- Facebook [https://www.facebook.com/sriarunodayamtrust/](https://www.facebook.com/sriarunodayamtrust/)

The Spastics Society of Tamil Nadu
- Phone 91 - 44 - 22541651, 22541542
- Twitter [https://twitter.com/SPASTN](https://twitter.com/SPASTN)
- Facebook [https://www.facebook.com/SPASTN](https://www.facebook.com/SPASTN)

Indian Council For Child Welfare Tamil Nadu
- Phone 044- 2626 0097 / 2628 2833
Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department

- Website: [http://tnsocialwelfare.org/pages/view/about-us](http://tnsocialwelfare.org/pages/view/about-us)
- Phone: +(91)-44-24351885
- Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/tnsocialwelfare/](https://www.facebook.com/tnsocialwelfare/)

List of Tamil Nadu District Differently Abled Welfare Offices

- Website: [https://enabled.in/wp/tamil-nadu-district-differently-abled-welfare-offices/](https://enabled.in/wp/tamil-nadu-district-differently-abled-welfare-offices/)

Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities (CCPD)

- Phone: 23383907

Commissioner, Disabilities, Govt. of Tamil Nadu

- Phone: (044) 24719945(O)

Commissioner, Disabilities, Department of Women & Child Welfare of Puducherry

- Phone: 0413-2220884

Accessible India

- Website: [http://accessibleindia.gov.in](http://accessibleindia.gov.in)
- Twitter: [https://twitter.com/MSJE_AIC](https://twitter.com/MSJE_AIC)
- Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/AccessibleIndia](https://www.facebook.com/AccessibleIndia)

Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities

- Website: [http://www.disabilityaffairs.gov.in/content/](http://www.disabilityaffairs.gov.in/content/)
- Twitter: [https://twitter.com/socialpwds](https://twitter.com/socialpwds)

The Association of Learning Disabilities of India

- Website: [https://enabled.in/wp/association-learning-disabilities-india/](https://enabled.in/wp/association-learning-disabilities-india/)
- Phone: + 91 487 2336817

Directory of lawyers – working in the field of disability law


List of Senior Care and Retirement Homes

- Website: [https://www.cybo.com/IN/thiruvarur/senior-care/](https://www.cybo.com/IN/thiruvarur/senior-care/)
Schools
Status of Schools
16 Nov
● Schools and colleges will remain shut on Friday and offices and business establishments were asked to relieve employees early. The Anna University has postponed its exams. [Source]

Airports
Lists of Airports / Links
● Chennai Airport (IATA: MAA, ICAO: VOMM) [https://www.chennaiairport.com/]
● Coimbatore Airport (IATA: CJB, ICAO: VOCB) [https://www.coimbatoreairport.com/]
● Madurai Airport (IATA: IXM, ICAO: VOMD) [https://www.maduraiairport.in]
● Tiruchirapalli Airport (IATA: TRZ, ICAO VOTR) [https://www.aai.aero/en/airports/tiruchirapalli]

Railways
Status
16 Nov
● The Southern Railway cancelled four trains, including three from Chennai to Nagapattinam, Tiruvarur and Thanjavur districts. Four express trains bound for southern districts were diverted. Trains bound for Rameswaram had been stopped at Manamadurai. [Source]

Indian Railways
● Website [http://www.indianrailways.gov.in/]
● Facebook [https://www.facebook.com/RailMinIndia]
● Twitter [https://twitter.com/RailMinIndia]

Maritime / Shipping / Ports
Status
16 Nov
● A dredger that was anchored in Karaikal port ran aground due to the strong winds on Friday, reported PTI. However, no casualties were reported. The dredger 'Veera Prem' belongs to Mumbai-based Mercator Ltd and was dragged for about 60 km from the port before it ran aground, officials told PTI. [source]

Useful Links
[Support our work] [www.humanityroad.org] [support@humanityroad.org]
Communications

Status

16 Nov

- Severe damage to communication and power infrastructure, mainly in Nagapattinam district. [Source]
- The minister said that mobile operators have assured to move ‘Cell on Wheels,’ mobile platforms to provide uninterrupted mobile connectivity to Nagapattinam and Cuddalore districts. [Source]

Useful Links

Department of Telecommunications India

- Twitter [https://twitter.com/DoT_India](https://twitter.com/DoT_India)
- Twitter [https://twitter.com/Secretary_DoT](https://twitter.com/Secretary_DoT)
- Facebook [https://www.facebook.com/DoTIndia/](https://www.facebook.com/DoTIndia/)

Airtel

- Website [https://www.airtel.in/](https://www.airtel.in/)
- Twitter [https://twitter.com/airtelindia](https://twitter.com/airtelindia)
- Facebook [https://www.facebook.com/AirtelIndia](https://www.facebook.com/AirtelIndia)

MTS India

- Website [https://twitter.com/mts_india](https://twitter.com/mts_india)
- Twitter
- Facebook

Reliance Communications

- Website [https://rcom.co.in/](https://rcom.co.in/)
- Twitter [https://twitter.com/RelianceMobile](https://twitter.com/RelianceMobile)
- Facebook [https://www.facebook.com/RelianceMobile/](https://www.facebook.com/RelianceMobile/)

Vodafone

- Website [https://www.vodafone.in/](https://www.vodafone.in/)
- Twitter [https://twitter.com/vodafonein](https://twitter.com/vodafonein)
- Facebook

Power and Fuel

Status
17 Nov

30,000 electricity poles have either got mangled or fallen. [source]
105 substations (electricity distribution stations) have been affected. [source]
10,000 personnel have been rushed to the affected areas to repair them. [source]

16 Nov

- Power supply was disconnected in Nagapattinam and in several other coastal regions in view of the cyclone's landfall. [Source]
- No major damage to electricity infrastructure was reported in Cuddalore. [Source]

Water Systems

Status

17 Nov

- Ten out of 26 Combined Drinking Water Schemes in coastal districts have been set right and people were being provided drinking water. [source]

Pictures and Videos

16 Nov

- Video of rain and winds [source]
- Pictures of damage power lines down and trees down [source]
- Video of very rough sea condition prevails over Tamil Nadu coast. [source]

Rumor Control

- Pamban bridge has been damaged by CycloneGaja don't believe it [source]

Social Media

Hashtags #CycloneGaja, #GajaCyclone #GAJA #tamilnaduweatherman

Traditional Media (TV, Radio, Newspapers)

TV

- DD News source Website | Youtube | Twitter
- Aaj Tak [Source]
- ABP News [Source]
- Zee News [Source]

Newspaper

- Indian Express [source]
- The Hindu [source]
- The Times of India [Source]
- Hindustan Times [Source]
Radio

- All India Radio [source](#)

**Animals in Disaster**

Nov 17

- The cyclone left 102 cattle and 633 goats dead all over Tamil Nadu. As a relief amount, the government will provide Rs 30,000 per cattle and Rs 3,000 per goat that died. [source](#)
- Cattle, goats, and wild animals including deer, have died. [source](#)
- Wildlife sanctuary surrounded by flood, fears that animals might have died [Source](#)

**Volunteers Reporting**

Alice, Amy, Brian, Cat, Chris, Crystal, Kirk, Mukesh