

PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU (DEFENCE WING)
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

EASTERN NAVAL COMMAND RUSHES RELIEF TO
SIRIKAKULAM FLOOD VICTIMS

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Eastern Naval Command swung into action yesterday morning on receipt of a request for flood rescue operations from the district, police and railway authorities at Sirikakulam. Naval helicopters and boats carried food packets, medicines and drinking water for the flood victims. Naval doctors and divers were also deployed to render assistance to the marooned persons, according to report received today.

The flood caused by a breach in the Vamsadhara River bank have inundated a large area 30km. North of Sirikakulam. The Madras Janta Express which left Sirikakulam for Howrah on 17 September was marooned as about 4 ft. of water was flowing over the railway track. Naval helicopters lowered 200 kg. of food packets on the roof of the train for the marooned passengers. 500 kg. of food packets were also dropped by naval helicopters for villagers marooned in the affected area. Naval personnel are engaged in the rescue work in conjunction with the local civil authorities. Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command, Vice Admiral M.K. Roy flew over the affected areas to assess the severity of the situation.

YNS/RM