

## Bengaluru Floods

### What is the issue?

In overnight rainfall, areas in Bengaluru were inundated raising again the old questions about the reasons behind the flooding.

### How much rain has Bengaluru received in August 2022?

- The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has said that in August 2022, Bengaluru received 370 mm of rainfall, falling only a little short of the all-time record of 387.1 mm of rainfall.
- Since June 2022, the city has received 769 mm of rainfall, departing significantly from the average of 425 mm in this period.
- In the last decade, the August of 2017 and 2011 were very wet whereas other years were dry.

### What is the reason for the flood?

*Urban flooding refers to the inundation of property in a built environment, particularly in more densely populated areas, caused by rain falling on increased amounts of impervious surfaces and overwhelming the capacity of drainage systems.*

- **Rainbow Drive Layout Flood-** Rainbow Drive Layout Area was created near a drain that was used primarily for irrigation.
- Over a period of time, the buildings which were constructed close to the layout raised their height, thereby making the area a “soup bowl”.
- The excess water from the surrounding villages is being directed to the Rainbow Drive Layout.
- **Outer Ring Road Flood-** Chief Minister Bommai found that the major reason for the flooding of the area was the encroachment of stormwater drains.
- The width of the drain had come down from 30 feet to 4 feet.
- Lack of infrastructure is one of the biggest reasons why ORR floods every year.
- There are quite a few engineering flaws in the development of the road such as the lack of culverts.
- The flyover on ORR doesn't have any water harvesting system.

### How is the administration addressing the flood?

- Legal procedures are being looked after which the properties encroaching on the drain would be demolished.

- An order was promulgated for the construction of a drain on a public-private model that will carry rainwater from the Layout to the Sarjapur culvert.
- With the change in the topography of the area, a new drain design is being looked into.
- **Need of the hour-** [Standard operating procedures \(SOP\)](#) listed by Urban development ministry at various stages of preparedness ghas to be followed.
- Development needs to be climate-smart by preventing any further worsening of the hydrological patterns in cities.
- Existing construction on lake beds and other water bodies needs to be removed or redesigned to allow flood drainage along natural water channels.

## References

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