11. Near Real Time Flood Inundation Mapping & Flood Hazard Zonation

NRSC/ISRO has been mandated with monitoring and mapping the flood inundation during floods/cyclones in the Country using satellite remote sensing data in near real-time. This has been done since 1995 and provided several maps addressing the support management issues for flood disasters.

Methodology

Flood inundation mapping is carried out using optical and microwave of the best available spatial resolution from national and international satellites. Spectral analysis of optical data for identifying the flood inundation feature is the principle for using optical datasets. The backscatter coefficient is a significant parameter for understanding the flood inundation feature in microwave SAR datasets. Flood hazard zonation maps are prepared using long-term satellite-derived flood inundation GIS layers and analysis of river gauge levels across ~20 years, and hazard information is derived. It will be helpful in non-structural/structural measures for preparedness and mitigation in flood-affected areas. Atlases completed for Assam, Bihar, Odisha, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh States, and Uttar Pradesh are in progress.

Utilization: Disaster Management Support Group (DMSG), Remote Sensing Applications Area, NRSC, ISRO is responsible for executing near real-time flood inundation mapping in the Country and dissemination to the users. Near real-time flood inundation maps and value-added products are prepared and disseminated to the MHA, NDMA, SDMA's State Remote Sensing Applications centers, concerned line departments, etc., through NDEM and Bhuvan geo-portals.Near real-time flood inundation maps are helpful for the line departments for planning the relief and rehabilitation activities and also to know the overview at the disaggregated administrative level for damage estimation.

Disaster Risk: Over a period of time, National Remote Sensing Centre, ISRO, has created a repository of extensive data on the floods & cyclones in different areas of the Country. These historical flood maps, generated by NRSC, ISRO, are helpful for the identification of flood hazard areas. Flood hazard maps are one of the critical non-structural methods of flood damage mitigation and a crucial input for disaster risk reduction. These maps help plan developmental activities, construction of relief, rescue, and health centers, and planning flood-tolerant crops in floodplains. NRSC will take up disaster risk assessment studies on a pilot scale.



Resourcsesat-2 LiSS IV Image in part of Cachar district, Assam State, during June 2022 showing flood inundation areas

