



Flood Hazard Atlas

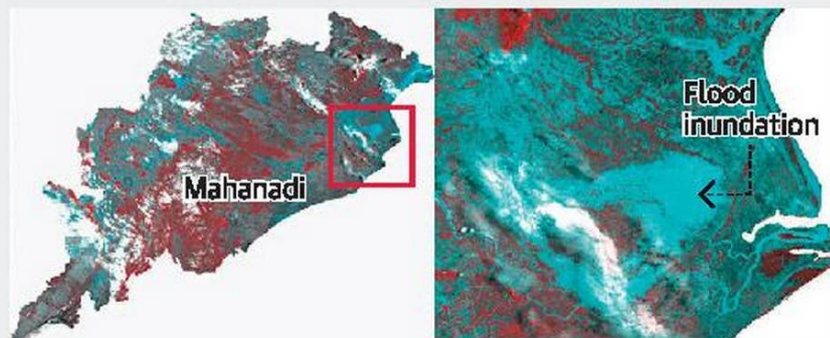
Odisha has released a unique flood hazard atlas on the basis of **historic flood inundation** captured through **satellite imagery** over the period from 2001 to 2018.

- **Flooding in Odisha:** Vast areas of the state are inundated when there is flooding every year in major rivers like the **Mahanadi, Brahmani, Baitarani, Subarnarekha and Rushikulya**.
 - Some of the rivers like the **Vamsadhara and Budhabalanga**, also cause **flash floods** due to instant run-off from their hilly catchments.

Clear picture

The atlas will help the authorities in several ways

- To systematically plan flood control measures
- To control developmental activities on floodplains
- To carry out relief and rescue operations
- To plan relief shelters and health centres



A satellite image of the flooding in Odisha ■ ISRO

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- It is the mapping and zonation of an area prone to frequent flooding, the mapping is done on the basis of the data of the past few years. [The National Remote Sensing Centre \(NRSC\) of the Indian Space Research Organisation \(ISRO\)](#), Hyderabad does **flood hazard zonation**.

Benefits of Flood Hazard Atlas

- **Better preparedness:** A more **concise focus** on the effects and impacts of the flooded area is possible during the early **planning stages**.
- **Risk reduction or mitigation techniques** can be recommended for the same portion of the study area.
 - **Location, severity, or frequency** of hazard can be done more easily.
- **Proper assessment of area:** A study area or a sub-area can be expanded, reduced, or deleted.

Study areas can be divided into sub-areas requiring more information, additional assessments, or specific reduction techniques.

- **Risk evaluation:** A more realistic evaluation of risks to new development is possible. Appropriate hazard reduction techniques can be more easily developed to deal with an emergency situation.
- **Rehabilitation planning:** It could be initiated in advance with proper coordination among different central and state agencies.

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