Kids NEWS

Heavy rains cause floods

By Nadia Fazlulhaq

Heavy rains from the South West monsoon have caused much trouble to thousands of people in the country. Disasters triggered by rains such as landslides, floods, lightning strikes, trees and rock fall and strong winds have killed nine people, damaged numerous houses and displaced large numbers and affected over 70,000 people.

The Meteorology Department, that forecasts the weather, says Colombo, Gampaha, Kalutara, Galle, Matara, Hambantota, Ratnapura, Kegalle, Kandy, Matale, Nuwara Eliya, Puttalam and Kurunegala districts are worst affected by the present showery weather. Anamaduwa area in Puttalam district had the highest rain fall of 353.8 millimetres last week (Over 100 mm is considered heavy showers).

During thundershowers and winds, the Meteorology Department warned people to seek shelter indoors and never under trees, to avoid being in open areas such as parks and paddyfields, to avoid using wired telephones and electric appliances such as televisions, avoid using open vehicles like bicycles and to be watchful of fallen trees and power lines.

The Disaster Management Centre warned people living in landslide prone mountainous areas to be watchful as many houses have been damaged and roads blocked from rocks and trees falling and landslides.

Because of the heavy rains to the hill country, the water levels of Nilwala, Gin, Kalu, Kelani and Mahaweli rivers and of Attanagalu and Ma-Oya are rising, putting people living near river banks at risk.

Members of the security forces are engaged in rescue operations and distribution of food and necessities to the affected areas.

Pix by M. A. Pushpa Kumara

Correction

Pic by Ravindra Ranasinghe

The photograph shown above, which was the Funday Times cover picture on May 6, 2018, was taken by Ravindra Ranasinghe and not by Gamini Mahadura as inadvertently stated. We regret the error.

Santa Fe attack: Ten people killed in school shooting

Emergency services outside the school

May 20, 2018

There has been a serious gun attack at a high school in Santa Fe in Texas, America.

Ten people have been killed – eight students and two teachers – at Santa Fe High School. Thirteen others at the school were injured, with two in critical condition.

The attacker was a 17-year-old called Dimitrios Pagourtzis, a student at the school. He has been arrested and charged with murder.

Police have also said they found explosive devices in the area around the school site.

CBBC Newsround