In June 2013, North India experienced heavy rainfall that triggered devastating floods and landslides in the states of Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh. As of 20 June 2013, official figures state that more than 100 people have died and with thousands missing and homeless. Damage to bridges and roads left almost 73,000 people trapped in various places.

Swollen river width with an average of 15-20km along the banks of major Yamuna river as viewed by NASA’s MODIS Terra/Aqua images explains the scale of flooding particularly in the highly flood affected states of Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh. On 17 June 2013 the state of Uttarakhand received more than 340 millimeters (13 in) of rainfall, which is 375 percent above the normal benchmark of 85.3 mm rainfall during a normal monsoon. This cloudburst caused heavy floods in Uttarakhand as well as the neighbouring state of Himachal Pradesh. In the city of Dehra Dun, capital of Uttarakhand, this was the wettest day during the month of June in over five years.

Major flood affected districts in Uttarakhand include Harsilwar and in U.P. districts of Meerut, Jyotibh Phule Nagar, Musafirnagar, Aligarh, Badaua, Lakhimpur Kheri, Bhalrath, Ramnagar. The map shows recent flooding in the States of Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh on the river Ganga which were mapped using MODIS Terra/Aqua satellite data (19th June and 20th June, 2013). For the past few days approx. 530 million Indian Rupees worth of crop loss due to flooding. This analysis also used the river line MODIS data from 2012 to show identify flood water only. Please note that water bodies likely reflect an underestimation of all floods affected areas within the map extent due to cloud, atmospheric variations and other reasons. This analysis has not yet been validated in the field.

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