Program Location India

Program Title Uttarakhand Flash Floods

Situation report 4

Submitted by Caritas India

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Name of Writer Babita Alick, Team Leader, Disaster Management

Situation update

It has been almost 16 days since the disaster occurred in Uttarakhand on 17th June 2013. Rescue works almost come to an end and Relief works have been carried out by the government and various non-government organizations. However the task of extricating bodies from the debris and their disposal in Kedarnath has remained a major tension for the administration with no cremation taking place over the past two days. The number of bodies cremated there so far is still pegged at 36.

Continuous rains have been hampering the relief work every day. Road networks are yet to be cleared for heavy vehicles so that the relief material can be transported and delivered to the disaster affected victims.

Few facts and information

- 842 died including 20 personnel of IAF and paramilitary forces deployed for rescue operations.
- 4,649 persons are missing of which 3,314 are reported missing only in district Rudraprayag.
- 1,05,412 persons rescued though 3000 pilgrims are still stranded in different places.
- More than 50 bodies have been recovered from Haridwar, Bijnor and Bulandsahar.

Government response

State govt. has established relief camps at different sites in district Uttarkashi, Rudraprayag and Chamoli. Relief camps are established in Kedarnath (Guptkashi, Fata & Agastmuni), Joshimath, Srinagar and Uttarkashi area. As per govt. reports approximately 500 pilgrims are stranded in Badrinath, district Chamoli which might be rescued by today.

There will be a joint needs assessment conducted in collaboration with different humanitarian organizations at the ground site. Caritas India will also be a part of this assessment.

Caritas India response

Caritas India team has visited 12 villages and has taken note of the present needs. Presently the road connectivity opened in some of the villages but many are still in accessible. The problem of food still remains a question to solve for the people, as increased price in the local shops, has made access difficult.

The livelihoods of the people are at stake as the daily labourers who depend on carrying loads have no jobs as roads are cut off. The saving is almost over as stated by most of the people whom we met. The team in Rudraprayg were able to reach up to Augustamuni to take the update. In Uttarkashi, the team has visited the most cut off 4 villages and taken note of their needs.

Status of Relief distribution

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Place	Status	Future
Srinagar – pauri	Sanitation kit and clothes were distributed for	Some of the families have not
	70 families	received as they are away from

		the house now.
Uttarkashi	145 families have received food and NFI	On 2 nd 45 families will be given relief and a medical camp will be organised in Sangam setty
Rudraprayag	260 families received material	Rest 140 will be distributed today

- In Uttarkashi and Rudraprayag the list of affected villages received
- As of now Kumar have been able visit Garampani, Ganeshpur, Jowada V and Chuvai he most cut off villages
- The volunteers from Just for You and RUPCHA were sent to field yesterday to start medical camps from 2nd June.

Media and Coverage

Two National Print Media and few vernacular media has covered Caritas India Relief Activities, apart from a number of other online news agency, including UCAN News.

Electronic Media like Aaj Tak (Hindi) ABP (Hindi) national news channels telecasted Caritas India relief activities.

Volunteer Management

Caritas have been able to mobilise up to 200 volunteers on different occasions at various places since June 23, first day Caritas India got down to the field starting at Joshimat of Chamoli districts. More volunteers from Delhi and Mumbai are arriving even as this report gets ready.

Our reach

Nearly 1600 local villagers and upto 10,000 pilgrims at Joshimath of Chamoli district. The government personnel like Assistant district magistrate and local government personnel were contacted and informed about the relief work of caritas India in Uttarakashi. We collected the details of the most affected villages in uttarakashi and planning to reach these villages by employing local workers (Nepalis)

Videos

There are three videos based on Caritas India's assessment, field and site visits, interviews with local affected families, important government personnel.

Please do refer the second attachment, that is a photo update of Caritas India interventions.

We urgently solicit your generous support and help to reach out to the affected families.