



Informal Sector Service Centre (INSEC)

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For Human Rights and Social Justice

Nepal Earthquake 2015 Update: Day 21

Date: May 15, 2015

Last Update: 2200 hrs

Human Casualties (Source: Ministry of Home Affairs)

Death: 8,485

Injured: 16,808

The series of aftershocks, including the May 12 one which measured more than 6 on Richter Scale following the April 25 Great Earthquake has disrupted the public life that was limping back to normalcy. The Ministry of Home Affairs has said that the Great Aftershock has claimed 117 lives injuring 1928. The big aftershock has incurred more damage in the districts of Sindhupalchok, Dolakha and Ramechhap. The earthquake and the landslides triggered by the earthquake have led a village in the verge of displacement. About 5 thousand people from Tatopani to Liping of Sindhupalchok have been displaced to Kathmandu and other places. The quake victims have begun searching for safe places to stay rather than waiting for relief.

There are exemplary works carried out in support of quake victims by NGO sector. An NGO has handed over 60 temporary shelters made from corrugated iron sheets to quake victims in Bhaktapur while children of Mahottari have sent relief materials to quake victims of adjoining district Sindhuli.

At a time when the distribution of tarpaulins have not been properly managed even though three weeks have passed after the great earthquake, the government claim to distribute corrugated iron sheets to quake victims within mid-July seems highly unachievable. The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has said that during its monitoring it found that relief was not distributed as required and that relief materials were sent to only urban places. The NHRC also drew the government's attention in relief distribution. Unruly activities and incidents of tarpaulins meant for distribution to quake victims being found from godowns of businessmen owing to lack of necessary management have surfaced. Such activities carried out by responsible individuals not only obstruct relief distribution, but also create a situation where victims might turn aggressive. Mistreatment meted out by CA member of RPP to Kavre CDO and manhandling of VDC secretaries are some instances. It is urgent that initiations be taken from political sector to discourage such incidents.

Highlights

- Resham Bahadur Lama, CA member of RPP, mistreated Sudarshan Prasad Dhakal, CDO of Kavre and broke his glasses in front of the Ram Chandra Paudel, member of Parliamentary Special Committee and Vice-chairperson of NC.
- Locals assaulted Gokule VDC secretary Shambhu Prasad Sapkota for not coming into contact even when the quake had caused many damages in the village.

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- The District Police Office said that 17 people have been killed in Sindhupalchok by the big aftershock of May 12. The landslides triggered by earthquake displaced all residents of bazar from Larcha to Liping in Tatopani VDC. Out of 5774 locals of the VDC, 3500 have been displaced, according to VDC secretary Dambar Bahadur Shrestha.
- A woman died of cardiac arrest in Palpa due to the May 12 aftershock.
- District Disaster Relief Committee (DDRF) of Udaypur said that it concluded distribution of relief to quake victims in all 40 VDCs and 3 Municipal areas.
- INSEC Pokhara found that quake victims of Rupkot and Thumki VDCs in Kaski did not receive relief materials.
- The death toll from May 12 aftershock has reached 12. Yogmaya Shrestha, 83, of Chanakhu VDC-5 was the latest to have died from the tremor.
- District Administration Office of Dang said that 4.8 million rupees were collected from the district and deposited in the Prime Minister's Disaster Relief Fund.
- Various workers' organizations, parties have collected 2.4 million rupees for the quake victims.
- 7.8 million rupees have been collected from Dhankuta and deposited at the PM Disaster Relief Fund through the DDRF.
- Government employees of Udaypur have contributed 5 million rupees at the PM Disaster Relief Fund.
- Two policemen have been deployed in all VDCs of Udaypur for collection of details of damages incurred by the earthquakes.
- 60 temporary shelters built by Humanitarian Organization Astha Nepal in Gamcha and Tarkhagal of Dadhikot in Anantalgishwor Municipality were handed over to the earthquake victims of the area.
- INSEC handed over construction materials to local Human Rights Watch Group to provide support to most-affected earthquake victims of Jharuwarashi and Chapagaun in Lalitpur. Bijaya Raj Gautam, Executive Director of INSEC handed over nails, hammers, ropes and other construction and hygiene materials to the officials of Human Rights Watch Group, urging them to support the victims of earthquake in time of grief.
- District Administration Office of Arghakhanchi said that 684 people of the district were displaced by the earthquake.
- District Administration Office of Dailekh has deposited 1.1 million rupees to the PM Relief Fund.
- 18 youths who were stranded after the May 12 aftershock in Gorkha have been rescued. The youths had set for rescue works in northern rural VDCs of the district.
- 3227 kilos of rice, 224 kilos of lentils, 1556 kilos of potato, 665 kilos of wheat, 65 kilos of onion and other food items have been collected by children as part of the District Education Office Mahottari's initiative to collect relief materials (Mutthidan). The relief materials will be sent for the quake victims of adjoining district Sindhuli.

For Details: <http://www.inseconline.org/>

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