



Informal Sector Service Centre (INSEC)

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For Human Rights and Social Justice

Nepal Earthquake 2015 Update: Day 22

Date: May 16, 2015

Last Update: 2200 hrs

Human Casualties (Source: Ministry of Home Affairs)

Death: 8,567

Injured: 16,808

At a time when 8 thousand Nepalis have lost lives, 20 thousand are injured, hundreds of thousands are homeless and more than half of the population is in uncertainty and disaster affected, people indulging in petty interests have surfaced. On the contrary, there are those who commit themselves for the support of quake victims day and night without even considering about their life and property. Sun Bahadur Tamang of Sindhupalchok saved lives of students who were staying in his hotel. There are individuals like Bhim Neupane, former chairperson of Kushadevi in Panauti, Swarnima KC of National College who do not come to light or do not want to come to light. They have demonstrated examples of Nepaliness and humanitarian dignity.

There are news of political cadres selling relief materials, government relief materials being found in godowns of businessmen. Despite the Prime Minister's warning to take legal action against those misappropriating the relief materials, no one has been brought under legal purview. There are no prior bases to ensure people that action will be taken against these miscreants because the government failed to display honest efforts towards its commitment made in the past. It is urgent to assess whether the afore-mentioned reasons have contributed to the lack of interest of other countries and supporting through government mechanism.

Highlights

- The earthquake and aftershocks of April 25, 26 and May 12 have incurred damages to 50 government buildings of Makwanpur, including 13 community schools, 10 police posts, 12 VDC offices, 12 health posts and Livestock Service Office.
- Eight police offices have suffered damage in the April 25 earthquake in Saptari. SP Sishir Kumar Karmacharya of District Police Office said four Area Police Offices, three police posts and one District Traffic Police Office was damaged.
- INSEC Bhaktapur representative handed over hygiene materials to quake victims of Tathali, Saudol, Chyamasingh and Bramhayani. Earlier, INSEC Executive Director Bijay Raj Gautam had provided the materials to INSEC Bhaktapur representative to hand over the materials to most affected victims.
- Quake victims of Saudol in Bhaktapur complained that they have not received any relief support. 41 out of 45 houses in the area have been destroyed by the April 25 and May 12 quake.
- District Administration Office has said that 11 government building and 694 private houses were damaged by the earthquake in Pyuthan.

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- Quake victims of Barpak in eastern Gorkha have started building new houses. Barpak folks are busy in collecting timbers, tin roofs from the debris of the houses. The locals, who are compelled to spend their night in open sky, began rebuilding as it is not confirmed when the government relief would arrive. The earthquake destroyed of more than 1400 houses in the area which was the epicenter of April 25 earthquake.
- The government has been distributing Rs 7000 to those whose houses were destroyed in the earthquake. Assistant at Budhsingh VDC, Chandranidhi Ghimire said that the relief distribution faced difficulty as victims started increasing their households in Nuwakot.
- The earthquake victims of rural areas of Ramechhap have complained of not receiving any relief. This is despite the impression that several stakeholders including District Disaster Relief Center, social organizations, private organizations and individuals are supporting them.
- Ganesh Shrestha, 62, of Deurali VDC in Nawalparasi has died when he fell as he was running away during the aftershock of 5.5 magnitude at 7.27 on May 15. Shrestha was running away from the home when he fell down and lost his consciousness. He was taken to Bharatpur Hospital, Chitwan for treatment where he was declared dead.
- INSEC has found that the fear of the earthquake among the people has increased following the aftershock of 4.2 magnitude which epicenter was Ashrang of Lalitpur. The aftershock triggered a landslide at Kalchebhir of Bhattedanda at 9.35 am adding to the locals' panic.
- The Great Quake and its aftershocks have damaged 171 schools in Tanahun. According to District Education Officer Bishnu Adhikari, 194 classrooms of these schools are completely damaged while 335 classrooms are severely damaged and 386 classrooms are partially damaged.
- District Administration Office Pyuthan informed that it has deposited Rs 6.8 million 34 thousands 658, which was collected for the earthquake victims, at Prime Minister Disaster Relief Fund.
- The death of Nepal Army Captain Tapendra Rawal, who was in a rescue team, has created gloom all over the village. Rawal, hailing from Simada in Narayan Municipality-8 was aboard an American helicopter that went missing on May 12 as it had gone to airlift injured to Kathmandu.

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

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