



Informal Sector Service Centre (INSEC)

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For Human Rights and Social Justice

Nepal Earthquake 2015 Update: Day 23

Date: May 17, 2015

Last Update: 2200 hrs

Human Casualties (Source: Ministry of Home Affairs)

Death: 8,583

Injured: 16,808

Need of Sustained Planning

The high-level team formed by the government to monitor the situation of earthquake victims and relief distribution submitted its report to the Minister for General Administration yesterday. According to the report presented by the high-level team, relief materials have been misused in urban areas while the rural parts have not yet received such goods. The team reached such inclusion following its visit at the quake-affected districts, including Dolakha, Sindhupalchok, Kavrepalanchok.

INSEC representatives have been drawing the attention of concerned stakeholders regarding distribution of relief materials only in places accessible by road and lack of relief in rural parts. Such information have been given prime space in INSEConline.

Though the first leg of relief distribution is said to have been completed after almost end of relief efforts, further challenges might appear in future owing to the lack of disaster management in planned way. Studies conducted by organizations working in environment sector, including ICIMOD hint towards possible landslides in Nepal upon onset of monsoon due to the destabilization in the inner crust caused by the earthquake. The studies also warn of increasing risk of flash flood from glacial lake due to global warming.

Preliminary statistics of earthquake casualties show that the number of women victims is nine percent more. Women also became victims from the point of view of reproductive health. Pregnant women and nursing mothers are compelled to spend nights under the shed of tarps due to lack of shelter. There are more than 1 thousand women in Makawanpur only who have to face such condition. There were 13 stillbirths in the district also, risking the mother's health.

Such women are also at risk as it is difficult to provide maternity service due to the damages caused by earthquake to birth centers and other buildings of health offices. There is a need to devise a separate plan for emergency rescue and support of such women.

Highlights

- A team comprising of CA members along with the staff began monitoring of the post-quake situation in Okhaldhunga. The Parliamentary Special Committee on National Disaster Management, Monitoring and Directives also monitored the relief operations in Lalitpur.

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- District Education Office, Khotang has deposited Rs 119,000 in the PM Disaster Relief Fund. It had earlier deposited Rs 6 million 61,000.
- Freed Kamlaharis of Dang have set off for quake-affected Sindhupalchok with 15 quintals of rice that they had managed to save by skipping their one time meal.
- 99 community schools of Ilam incurred damage by the earthquakes of April 25, 26 and May 12. District Education Office informed that the quakes incurred damages in schools worth 49.5 million rupees.
- The police stations at Ashrang and Gimdi VDCs of Lalitpur have been shifted to alternative places following the damage inflicted by the quake in the buildings. Gimdi police station has been shifted to newly built building of Narayani Secondary School while Ashrang station has been operational from under a tarp.
- District Administration Office, Bajura informed that it deposited RS 1.9 million 62,910 in the PM Disaster Relief Fund.
- District Administration Office, Surkhet informed that 3.1 million 52 thousand rupees collected from various government, non-government organizations and individuals in the district was deposited in the PM Disaster Relief Fund through the District Disaster Relief Fund.
- The April 25 earthquake with its epicenter in the Barpak of Gorkha has claimed 430 lives in the district. District Police Office has said that 24 persons are still missing.
- District Administration Office, Dailekh said that 237 buildings in the district suffered damages in the earthquake.
- 200 community schools of Dang sustained damages in the earthquake of April 25 and May 12. Study has been affected in eight schools as of May 17.
- The relatives of the inmates of District Prison, Dhankuta have demanded safety of the inmates citing the badly damaged prison building. Relatives of 68 inmates submitted a memorandum on May 17 to the District Administration Office complaining its apathy to the threats the inmates are facing. They also staged a sit-in in front of the DAO.
- 47453 houses have been destroyed by earthquake in Ramechhap. Earlier, destruction of 22701 houses by April 25 and 26 were recorded in the district. The destruction of houses crossed 47000 due to the aftershock of May 12, Chief District Officer of Ramechhap Shambhu Prasad Marasini said.

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

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