



Informal Sector Service Centre (INSEC)

www.inseconline.org

For Human Rights and Social Justice

Nepal Earthquake 2015 Update: Day 29

Date: May 23, 2015

Last Update: 2200 hrs

Human Casualties (Source: Ministry of Home Affairs)

Death: 8,648

Injured: 16,808

Psychosocial Counselling before Resumption of Classes in Schools

Binay Rai of Bidur, Nuwakot is scared to join school after Bhimsen Secondary School, where he studies, suffered damage in the earthquake. Though his house sustained no damage in the earthquake he fears going upstairs in his house. The fear of quake has gripped him. Condition of teachers and guardians of the quake-hit areas is similar to that of Binay. According to UNICEF, the quake has affected studies of 1 million students. It is essential to resume studies to free the students from fear of quake.

The earthquake has incurred damages to 16 thousand school buildings while destruction of 5 thousand primary and secondary schools have been recorded. The number is estimated to increase as condition of remote areas is still not clear. The debris have not been cleared in damaged schools. Repair works of the damaged buildings have not begun. The aim of teaching will not be achieved if classes are resumed in such condition. It is thus urgent to provide psychosocial counselling before starting the classes.

Highlights

- The parliamentary team of National Disaster Management, Monitoring and Directive, following its monitoring in Bhaktapur, concluded that relief distribution by Nepal Red Cross Society in the district is ineffective and not transparent.
- INSEC has provided relief materials to the quake-affected nursing mothers and pregnant women on Gajuri area in Dhading on May 22. The materials included nutritious foods for the nursing mothers along with mosquito net, biscuits, soap, toothpaste, toothbrush and glass. The relief materials were funded by a fundraising project of Dutch citizen Desiree America called " Wij helpen Nepal! (We help Nepal)".
- The locals of half a dozen villages in Lalitpur are living in fear following the experts' warning of landslides. There have been a number of landslides in Sanochila and Tallagoth of Ikudol, Kutunbesi, Jhanglkot of Ghusel, Kalche of Malta, ward number 3, 4, 7 and 9 of Bhattedanda and the areas around Kanti Highway, after the April 25 earthquake.
- District Livestock Office, Rasuwa has stated that livestock worth over Rs 90 million were lost in the April 25 earthquake.

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- Foreign tourists from Canada, Germany, UK, New Zealand are constructing temporary classes in the quake-damaged school of Gerkhutar in Gerkhut VDC-3, Nuwakot.
- Ramechhap Bazaar, the old district headquarters has been flattened by the earthquakes twice in less than 30 years. The Bazaar was completely destroyed in the quake of 1988 badly damaging most of the office and individual buildings. Then, the district headquarters was moved to Manthali saying the Bazaar had not been inhabitable. The Great Quake has also badly damaged 150 homes of the Bazaar.
- The earthquakes of April 25, 26 and May 12 have flattened 45 schools while 2238 classrooms need to be reconstructed in Sindhuli. Though relatively few lives, i.e. 14 were lost in the quakes, the physical damage in the district is huge.
- District Child Welfare Committee of Sindhupalchok has stated that a total of 1126 children died in the Great Earthquake.
- District Disaster Relief Committee of Mahottari has started distribution of relief materials to quake victims. 2.7 million rupees was distributed to 1 thousand households of the total affected 2259 households. The DDRC also distributed 40 thousand rupees to each families of five persons who died in the earthquake.

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

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