

Emergency Relief and Rehabilitation

Uttarakhand Flash Flood and Landslides rehabilitation programme for Persons With Disabilities

Project Goal: The overall goal of the Flash Flood and Landslides response programme of Asha Bhavan Centre in Uttarakhand is to rehabilitate the disaster affected persons with disabilities.

Project Overview

On 16th June 2013 a heavy rainfall was occ urred due to cloud blast, which implies a devastating flood and landslides named 'Flash Flood' in the districts of Uttarkashi, Chamoli, Pauri Garhwal (commonly known as Garhwal), Rudraprayag and Tehri Garhwal in the state Uttarkhanda, India.

Uttarkhanda is the state in the north of India. The state is around 350 km from New Delhi, the capital of Republic of India. It was well connected to other states of India through road, rail and air. Uttarakhand is a holy state commonly known as 'the land of deities'. R eligious Hindu pilgrims visit these places from times immemorial. On that particular day nearly 70000 pilgrims were touring Kedernath and Badrinath temple when the flood occurred. Not only Hindu pilgrims, nature lovers all over the world visit tourists' spots of Garhwal Himalaya to enjoy it scenic beauty. Due to heavy rainfall in the catchment area of Himalayan glaciers a lake adjacent to Kedarnath temple submerged and overflowed causing a Flash Flood and washed away all houses surrounding Kedarnath temple. Villages and towns like Rambara, Gourikund, Rudraprayag, Garhwal and Srinagar are totally washed away. Dead bodies of countless people and domestic animals are seen floating in the gargling waters of Mandakini and Alakananda Rivers causing water pollution of Holly Ganga. Officially deaths of two thousand people are confirmed so far and according to Speaker of State Legislative Assembly, Mr. Govinda Singh Kunjwal, nearly 10,000 are missing and traceless.

In June 2013, the North India states of Uttrakhand and Himachal Pradesh, some regions of West Nepal and their adjoining areas experienced heavy rainfall that triggered devastating floods and landslides. Parts of Haryana, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh and some parts of Western Tibet have also experienced heavy rainfall. As of 29th June 2013, more than 1000 people have died with many more missing. More than 1.6 million people of the above mentioned five districts are worst affected in the Flash flood and Landslides. Estimated 2232 houses and 154 bridges have damaged in that devastating flood. 1520 roads (Local, State Highways and National highways) are also destroyed. Government figures show road links have been hit in 4200 villages. Of them, 1335 remain disconnected.

Major Cause Identified

from 14th to 17th June 2013, the state received heavy rainfall, which was about 375 percent more than it standard rainfall during a normal monsoon. This caused the melting of Chorabari Glacier at the height of 3800 metres, are eruption of Mandakini River.

Affected Area and People (Estimated)

600 villages covering of 5 00,000 people of 23 districts were affected from the near by state Uttar Pradesh. The other state, Himachal Pradesh is also lost life and property in this devastating flood.

This overwhelming natural calamity caused unprecedented destruction by rain witnessed in Uttrakhand state of Indian Republic, which was attributed by the development professionals to do developmental activities for the sake of unfortunate people.

We as a humanitarian organisation dedicated for the most unfortunate citizen of our state, the persons with disabilities who have the least possibility to save life and their belongings wish to serve them with your generous support. So we would like to appeal to our like minded of Asha Bhavan Centre to step out for the homeless, jobless and distressed most vulnerable section of the community.

Project Objectives:

- To make profile of persons with disabilities affected villages of Rudraprayag district.
- o To provide need based mobility aids and required appliances to the persons with disabilities
- o To provide livelihood support to the persons with disabilities, and
- Capacity building of physical management for persons with disabilities.



Disaster Response Major Activities:

- □ Rapid assessment by team Asha Bhavan on and from 9 th July to 16 th July 2013
- □ Regular contact with District Nodal Officer, Disaster Management, Rudraprayag, Uttarakhand
- ☐ Meeting with District Administrator on 4 th September 2013 to sketch plan for Rehabilitation work for the disaster affected people.
- □ Rapport building and networking in different level by Disaster Management Officer (DMO), Asha Bhavan Centre on and from 19th November 2013 for proper implementation of Disaster Response Programme (DRP).
- ☐ Recruitment of paid volunteers to implement the programme in field level.
- □ Organize disability and proper orientation workshop at Rudraprayag on and from 6 th December 2013 to 8 th December 2013.
- □ Start of work for indepth assessment by 6 volunteers with special guidance of Disaster Management Officer (DMO), Asha Bhavan Centre.



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