

## Editorial Team

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## Loss of lives this monsoon

Baglung	29
Banke	23
Gulmi	19
Bajura	11
Darchula	9
Bardia	9
Ramechhap	9
Baitadi	8
Pyuthan	7
Salyan	7
Mahottari	7
Rautahat	7
Kailali	6
Dang	5
Udayapur	5
Jajarkot	5
Siraha	5
Kalikot	5
Jumla	4
Surkhet	4
Jhapa	4
Arghakhachi	4
Dhanusha	3
Sunsari	3
Morang	3
Chitwan	3
Makwanpur	3
Saptari	3
Sarlahi	2
Sindhuli	2
Parsa	2
Palpa	2
Bajhang	1
Bara	1
Panchthar	1
Tanahun	1
Sindhupalchowk	1
Myagdi	1

(As of 7th September, 2007)

## Major Displacements

Saptari	10000 family
Siraha	6000 family
Mahottari	3700 family

## Narayani burst banks, highway blocked

Narayani River along Chitwan district which has been comparatively quiet this monsoon finally broke its patience. Swollen Narayani River on Thursday, inundated dozens of villages after it burst banks and entered the villages in the district.

The flooding triggered by heavy rainfall has also blocked the Nawalparasi section of East-West Highway. Floods swept away a 10-metre long section of the highway at the Choramara jungle area in the district, bringing traffic on the Narayangarh-Butwal section to a halt. Landslides have damaged and blocked the highway at Daunne hill. According to the road department, at least two days required to resume.

Large parts of Ramgram municipality and VDCs like Pithauli, Argyoli, Kolhuwa, Narayani, Kawasoti, Shivmandir, Gaindakot, Paklihawa, Guthiprasauni, Pratappur, Bhujhawa and Rampur Khadauna are submerged. Eight Musahar families of Bote Tole in Argyoli VDC were displaced after floodwaters from the Narayani River entered their settlement and have been shifted to safer places. Around 32 families of Logai in Pithauli VDC -8, and 20 families of Narayani VDC have also been displaced.

Floodwaters have also swept away the optical fibre of Nepal Telecom from the highway. Most of the telephones in Nawalparasi district have gone on the blink.

(Posted on 7th September, 2007)

## Twelve dead bodies recoverd from river

Twelve bodies have been recovered from the river after a fatal boat capsized on Wednesday in Banke district. Most of the dead and missing persons are children and women. 20 others are still missing in the incident

Local police had confirmed that 42 people from Baijapur, Nawalpur were sailing through the river on their way to Gowarpur of Kachanapur in the ill-fated boat. Eight of the passengers swam to safety while locals rescued two girls.

The rescue operation has been affected due to the flood in the river. Some rescued persons were taken to the Bheri Zonal Hospital, Nepalgunj for treatment, said the hospital sources. Among the dead, two have been identified as 17-year-old girl Hira Thapa and the daughter of one Suresh Basnet of Baijapur. The mother of the deceased girl is also missing.

Meanwhile flood in the Kathoha river swept away Baldev Chaudhari, 35 of Inarwasira-7 on Thursday while crossing the river. The flood in the Bangari River swept two houses of Mahendra Hajara and Bhantu Hajara at Bhulahi Bharwaliya-8 on Wednesday night.

(Posted on 7th September, 2007)

## Two dead in Makwanpur

Landslides and floods propelled by incessant rainfalls since Monday in Makwanpur district following heavy rainfalls had injured three and killed two people.

Landslides hit at least three houses at Kandrang village in Chhatiwani VDC-4 leaving one man died and three injured. Similarly, floods swept away at least one person at Khumaltaar-6, of Hetauda Municipality. None of the dead have been identified. The floods lashed and destroyed at least seven houses, including a local school, and affected more than one hundred other houses at Kandrang and

Bardiya	2500 family
Dhanusha	2050 family
Parsa	2000 family
Rupendehi	2000 family
Sunsari	1000 family
Banke	750 family

**Total displacement: 48000 family**

**Total affected population:**

**Around 4 lakh 72 thousand (as of 6th August, 2007)**

*Sources : NRCS, Media reports/MCN*

### Disaster Related Reports

- [NRCS Bulletin 21st Aug, 2007](#)
- [WHO SITREP \(5-19th Aug,2007\)](#)
- [OCHA Situation Report,13th Aug](#)
- [WHO SITREP \(4-12 Aug,2007\)](#)
- [Sink or Swim \(Oxfam Int\)](#)
- [DM Report \(MCN\) 2006](#)
- [NRCS Bulletin 29th July, 2007](#)
- [Baglung Landslides Report, 2007](#)
- [Flood scenario of Saptari,2007](#)
- [Report on relief, Mahottari,2007](#)

### Snapshots



**ROAD FLOOD: Incessant rainfall on Wednesday created a pool at the Jamal Road in Kathmandu.**

*Photo: Rajesh Dhungana/TRN*

### Our Words

The monsoon rage is not over yet. Incidents of flood and landslides are still taking lives, dislodging people and rendering thousands into terrible ordeal. Despite of several appeals by national and international humanitarian organizations, relief supply activities are being obstructed. Intermittent protests and strikes by dissident groups throughout the country and political, ethnic interest induced unrest in Terai, are continuingly appeared to be the main stumbling blocks for the relief activities.

Thus, the disaster response of

surrounding areas.

*(Posted on 7th September, 2007)*

## Support from Nepalese diaspora

As a part of the global Non Resident Nepalis Association (NRNA) effort to support the flood victims in Nepal, the Nepali Americas Council (NAC) on Wednesday collected US\$2,300 and sent it to the NRNA office in Kathmandu. The NRNA headquarters will arrange for distribution of the relief fund.

The money was donated by Calgary Nepali Community Association, Canada, Friends of Nepal, New Jersey, America Nepal Women's Association (AWNA) and many individuals. NAC said it will send more support in the next few weeks.

Meanwhile, NRN Australia has also collected Australian \$3212.50 (as of Sept 06) for the flood victims. According to a statement by them, they have appealed to all Nepalese residing in Australia for cash donations to the Flood Victims Relief Funds in Nepal.

*(Posted on 7th September, 2007)*

## At least seven died on boat capsized

### *Slim chance to find missing alive*

At least seven persons drowned and 26 others went missing in Banke when a boat on the Rapti river capsized Wednesday at Govarpur Ghat in Kanchanpur VDC-1. The boat passengers from Baijapur were going towards Govarpur village in the VDC to watch a Lakhe dance programme. The survivors said boat overloading and flooding in the river resulted in the accident. The boat had a maximum capacity of a dozen persons.

"There is slim chance of finding the missing alive," said Damodar Rokaya, who helped rescue some of the survivors and took them to Bheri Zonal Hospital. "The boat was overloaded," said Karmi Thapa, 15, of Baijapur, one of those rescued. "It was tilting. It suddenly overturned due to the strong current." She also said that her elder sister Mina and Nisha Chaudhary and Samjhana Chaudhary are among the missing.

Deputy superintendent of police Uttam Karki said the bodies of seven passengers were retrieved, while a search is on for the missing persons. He added that there were more than 40 persons piled on the boat. The rest of the passengers managed to swim to safety, he said. Most of the missing were women and children. Tika Giri and her son were identified among those dead.

Ten persons from the family of Jaluram Tharu of Belaspur of Baijapur VDC, two from the family of Prem Giri of the same VDC, two from the family of Khem Bahadur Basnet of Kanchanpur VDC, six persons from the family of Bhagiram Tharu, of Nawalpur village in Baijapur VDC-1 and two persons from the family of Dandbir Nepali of Baisa village of the same VDC are missing. Laxmi Pariyar from Lalpur of Baijapur-9 and Karmi Thapa were rescued by locals. Laxmi said the boat sank in the middle of the river when water flooded it.

Police teams are engaged in searching for the missing persons. The mishap site lies three kilometres from Agaiya of Banke district.

In similar incident before, five students of Saraswati Lower Secondary School of Rukum district drowned to death after a boat they were rowing in Syarpu Lake at Bafikot capsized on 26th August. The boat capsized from same reason as fresh Banke mishap, it was overloaded beyond capacity.

*(Posted on 6th September, 2007)*

Nepal sound serious as the victims are deprived of basic requirements and delay in rescue operations. For instance, five hundred displaced flood victims of Kailali district are downcast with governmental and non governmental agencies as they are being deprived of water (Disaster Watch- 30th August report). Emergency relief materials are inadequate comparing with multitude of disaster victims in several districts, as media reports. The UN World Health Organization (WHO) has also stressed on increasing risk of diarrhoeal and vector borne diseases after flood situation.

The discrepancy between flood and landslides victims in terms of response and recovery can be easily noticed. Apparently, landslides areas are geographical far and remote. Moreover, the institutional strength of related organizations such as NRCS in those districts are not well enough to furnish adequate support. Thus, the landslides victims are being overlooked there. The scourge of disaster is not less for them, instead its tougher due to the irrecoverable property demolition. The magnitude of the affected population from landslide may not be as that of flood but victimized are utterly ravaged.

Nepal is on the eve of festive season. Teej, festival of Nepalese women has already knocked the door, which will be followed by Dashain and Tihar. On one hand, disaster victims are starving for two square meal but on other hand rest are making merry on festivals. Disaster victims will be not in festive mood this year, but at least they should be ensured on having basic requirements: appropriate food, safe drinking water and shelter before they will be transferred into resilience mode.

## One killed in Chautara landslide

One died and one injured as they buried in the landslide in Liping bazaar of Tatopani VDC of Sindhupalchok district. Container cleaner Chyangba Tamang of Ramche-3 died as the landslide covered him along with the container (Na 3 Kha 4147) at the premises of Tatopani custom office.

According to the Area Police Office Barabise, driver Bijaya Kumar Chalise, who sustained minor injury, went home after the treatment at local health post. Meanwhile in Gulmi, the flood in the Dahare river of Johang VDC of Gulmi district following the incessant rainfall swept away a loaded jeep today.

The Jeep registered with the Number Lu. 1 Ja 1158 was sank in the Dahare river at first but later the river swept it away while heading to Ridi from Bhuwachidi of the district. The river has been sweeping away at least one vehicle each year.

*(Posted on 6th September, 2007)*

## Flood wreak havoc in Rautahat

### Bridge swept away, transportation halted

In Rautahat, inundation triggered by ceaseless rainfall swept away Dhunsar bridge located in the area bordering Rautahat and Bara districts, Wednesday. Transportation along the area is completely halted after the flood dislodged the bridge. The flood also eroded over 100 meters of riverbank where the woods of the dismantled bridge had piled.

Passengers bound for various destinations including Kathmandu are stranded. Telecommunications in and around Chandraniga-hpur VDC is out of service as the flood also swept away the optical fiber lines. The flood has also swamped over 12 villages of the district. Floods demolished 10 houses in Karkach Karmach and 9 houses in Maryadapur VDCs on Wednesday.

Similarly in Rasuwa, landslide looms over villages of Haku VDC-9 following heavy rain in the past few days. The landslides have disrupted drinking water supply in ward number 4, 8 and 9 of the VDC, while landslide at Koktan area has put nearly 300 households at risk. Similarly, landslide swept away a sports hall, three watermills and a wooden bridge at Dada Gaun VDC-7.

*(Posted on 6th September, 2007)*

## Two thousand flood victims starved

Residents of Holiya VDCs, who were displaced due to flooding in the Rapti river, are now facing starvation and diseases. Two thousand people of at least 320 households located at Chhitaipurawa, Simarahana, Tepari and Ghodiyapur villages of ward Nos 4, 5 and 6 at Holiya VDC were displaced after floodwater gushed into their households. They are taking shelter in local schools, relatives' houses and in India.

Earlier, floods swept away foostuffs they had stored in their households. They have also run out of beaten rice provided by the Nepal Red Cross. Omkar Yadav of Chhitaipurawa, who is taking shelter with nine family members at a local school, said, "We now have nothing left for eating. Perhaps, we will die of starvation." He urged the government to arrange food for them soon. Bijaya Prasad Gaudiya of Holiya-5 Simarahana said, "Food is our urgent demand; shelter comes next." "We have nowhere to turn to when our children demand

## Highlights

Tribhuvan Highway, one of the major roads linking capital with other parts of the country had damaged at the Naubise-Simbhanjyang stretch due to the landslide since Thursday. (7th Sep)

The Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers has received Rs. 500,000 from Employees' Provident Fund, for the victims of disaster. (6th Sep)

Landslides occurred at Laghuwa of Tansen-Tamghas road section has disrupted vehicular movement since Tuesday. Passengers bound for Gulmi are left stranded. (5th Sep)

74-year-old Bhim Bahadur Pakhrin of Padampokhari VDC drowned in the flooded Rapti river, Monday. The elderly man was swept away by the current while trying to cross the river. (4th Sep)

In Banke district 2,500 flood-hit locals of Holiya VDC have started coming down with many diseases as they have not been provided any relief material as yet. Locals complained that the foodstuff provided by the Red Cross Society was also inadequate. (4th Sep)

As a post flood consequence, fever patients are crammed in district hospital of Syangja. At least 60 patients of fever used to come for the checkup daily. (3rd Sep)

A landslide triggered by three days of heavy rainfall has blocked the Kusma-Baglung section of Pokhara. (1st Sep)

The cases of encephalitis and meningitis viral fever are rapid in Nepalgunj aftermath of flood and inundation. Till now four persons were died of encephalitis and more than 30 were affected. (30th Aug)

As a consequence of flood triggered circumstances, at least 60 persons are affected from viral influenza in Narayan Khola VDC-3 of Sarlahi district. (30th Aug)

food."

Diseases, including diarrhoea, pneumonia, flue and fever, are gripping flood victims. Ram Bahadur Bahun of Holiya-5 Chhitaipurawa said lack of proper food and shelter have rendered them ill. In the first phase, local administration and Red Cross have distributed tents and beaten rice for 208 households, said head of the Red Cross in Nepalgunj Ishwor Regmi. He also said that second phase of distribution of relief materials will begin soon. (*The Himalayan Times*)

*(Posted on 6th September, 2007)*

## Landslides kill five in Kalikot, Palpa

Three members of a family died after they were buried under a landslide's debris at Rakhu VDC in Kalikot district on Tuesday morning. A 42-year-old man Jayaram Budha and his sons 18-year-old Manasara and 12-year-old Tapendra died in the landslide triggered by rainfall. Ten houses are likely to collapse due to the landslide. The cattle belonging to the family was also buried under the landslide.

Some 25 Nepal Army personnel from neighboring Kotwada base camp have spread in the area to search for the missing people. The village is located some four hours away from district headquarters Manma.

Meanwhile, two teenage girls died and two others were injured in a landslide at Juthapauwa-3 Chahala on Tuesday afternoon. Bishnu Khadka, 11, and five-month-old Tirsana Kunwar of Baldenggadhi-4 died in the landslide. Asmita Kunwar of Baldenggadhi-4 and another were injured.

*(Posted on 5th September, 2007)*

## Worst disaster hit after decades in Rupendehi

Rupendehi district has witnessed worst disaster hit after decades as locals said. Rupendehi is western terai district and commercial, educational hub of the region. At least 500 households in ward numbers 8, 11 and 13 of the Butwal municipality were displaced due to the flooding in Tinau river occurred since Sunday night.. Incessant rainfall has disrupted life at Sundarnagar, Pabitrnagar, Durganagar, Pragatinagar, Ekatanagar, Hattisud, Budhhanagar and Majhauwa areas of Butwal. The flooding is assumed to be the worst disaster to hit the area after devastating flood of 1981.

Rekha MC, chairperson of the Settlement Development Committee at Hattisud said she had witnessed a similar scale flooding in 1981 when the whole of Daure Tole, now a bus park, was swept away.

River water flooded into the settlements because of weak embankment. The flood has also destroyed the embankment built by the people. Secretary at ward number 8 of Butwal Municipality, Urmila Shrestha said that the almost half of 600 squatters sheds at Sundarnagar of Khayardhari area at ward no. 8 have been flooded away.

Locals of several settlements around Tinau riverbanks who were displaced by flooding in the river have started facing acute shortage of food and shelter. Although Red Cross Society and Chamber of Commerce and Industries provided foodstuffs and other relief materials on Monday, the victims continue to starve in these areas.

Following the inundation on Monday, many homeless locals are taking shelter at nearby bus stops, temples, sports hall and the building of Chamber of Commerce

Seven thousand residents of Kusma, district headquarter of Parwat, are suffering from water scarcity as the pipe line of main supply center was swept away by the landslide. (25th Aug)

The Thai government has extended an assistance of Rs 3.9 million for flood victims on Friday. (25th Aug)

The Women Foundation (WF) on Thursday provided shelter boxes worth Rs 10 million to 129 flood victim families of Balaha Sabhara VDC at Dahanusha. (24th Aug)

Marwadi Service Trust, Birgunj handed over relief materials worth NRs. Five lakh Rupees to NRCS Parsa chapter. (23rd Aug)

NRCS Makwanpur distributed relief materials to 16 flood displaced family of Dhiynal VDC. (23rd Aug)

All Banks and financial institutions of Chitwan together ventured to solace disaster victims and collected NRs Sixty Thousand Five Hundred. Money was handedover to NRCS Chitwan. (23rd Aug)

Five thousand houses were damaged in Bardia due to the flood of Babai and Karnali river. Out of them 144 houses were fully damaged. (22nd Aug)

Janapriya Campus of Pokhara announced free education in all faculties to the flood and landslides victims of Guaulichaur and Jaljala of Baglung district. (21st Aug)

Eighty percent of the farms in Dhanusha and Mahottari districts havebeen washed off by flood. (20th Aug)

Hotel Association of Nepal (HAN) has provided Rs.225,525 to flood victims through Kantipur Flood victim Relief Fund. (18th Aug)

Road links between rural areas and district headquarters Gaur, Birgunj have been respectively severed in Rautahat and Parsa district. (18th Aug)

700 people are displaced from Rajapur Tapu in Bardia, fearing of flood. (17th Aug)

and Industries. Others have been forced to stay under the open sky.

Administrative officer at the Butwal Municipality, Krishna Prasad Gyawali said a committee was formed on Tuesday, under the coordination of the municipality, comprising representatives of Butwal chamber of commerce and industries, NGO Federation and Nepal Red Cross Society, to assess the damage and to distribute relief materials.

*(Posted on 5th September, 2007)*

## Mass exodus fearing landslide

In Kaski, over 30 houses in different villages were damaged of incessant rainfall. Villagers of 15 households in Hemja VDC had vacated their homes on Monday. Thirty-three other households are at risk.

Similarly, family members of 17 households were shifted to safer places Tuesday morning, as a crack appeared in the land following a landslide at Paharepani and Mandhredhunga of Kaskikot VDC-8 in Kaski earlier night. According to technical assistant at Kaskikot VDC Indra Bahadur GC, they were shifted with the help of locals, police and leaders of various political parties.

The torrential rain Tuesday further affected Lekhnath and Dhumpush VDCs. Rainfall has displaced over 100 locals of the villages so far. According to locals, more houses in the villages were on the brink of being swept away.

Similarly, in Khotang, landslides triggered by continuous rainfall have displaced locals of nearly 10 homes in Hauchaur VDC-4 and 5, Tuesday. The displaced are taking refuge at their neighbors' homes.

*(Posted on 5th September, 2007)*

## Cholera epidemic : just rumour

The Epidemiology and Diseases Control Division (EDCD), Department of Health Services, has said no case of severe outbreak of cholera was verified throughout the country last month. It has further stressed on under control situation of cholera in the country.

Dr Bindeshwar Prasad Yadav, focal point for diseases and out break control at EDCCD, said that no severe cholera epidemic has spreaded and the information regarding outbreak of cholera, also called gastroenteritis (GE), were verified as mere rumours.

"Except for the case of Rautahat in June and the several outbreaks of gastroenteritis in the valley in June and July, no critical situation has been recorded so far," Yadhav said, adding that minor cases are reported now and then, but they are not outbreaks.

Yadhav, who recently returned to the capital after visiting flood-hit villagers in the Tarai districts, said that the disease was under control even though they feared gastroenteritis outbreaks due to the floods.

*(Posted on 5th September, 2007)*

## 170 houses swept away, 1000 displaced in Rupandehi

Floodwaters from the Tinau river swept away over 100 houses built on the banks

Flood of Susta river, Nawalparasi forced to displace one hundred family. (17th Aug)

Flood victims in Bardiya demonstrated in front of the Red Cross Society Thursday alleging that it was biased in distributing relief materials. (16th Aug)

Thirty thousand villagers of six villages in Rautahat are at risk due to the swollen water of Bagmati, LalBakiya and Jhanj river. (17th Aug)

Flood victims in Bardiya demonstrated in front of the Red Cross Society Thursday alleging that it was biased in distributing relief materials. (16th Aug)

Landslides induced by the continuous rainfall for two days obstructed Baitadi-Darchula stretch of Dashrath Chandra highway (15th Aug)

An engine steamer of Geruwa river of Bardia fell into the flooded water Monday. A conductor of steamer, Rajesh, went missing whereas 10 passengers were rescued. (15th Aug)

For the demand of relief materials, flood victims of Mahottari are regularly demonstrating in district head quarter Jaleswor.

32 districts of Nepal, out of 75, are affected by flood and inundation, according to the Home Ministry.

The lawmakers of Banke and Bardia, worst flood hit districts, asked the government to think about the impact of dams and barrages constructed by India along the border.

Staffers and the management of Spice Nepal Private Ltd, provider of Mero Mobile, have dispatched relief materials worth NRs. 426000 for flood victims.

Rainfall and flood destroyed seventy five percent of vegetable crops in Rupandehi.

in Mahottari, Madhesi Maitri Kendra, a civil society in the district working for the welfare of flood victims, postponed providing free-of-cost meals to victims, citing fatigues of their volunteers and lack of funds.

of the river at Khayardhari, Majhuwa, Pragatinagar and Devinagar in Butwal Municipality. The swollen river burst banks and swept away around 104 houses on Monday morning. Over 1,000 households have become displaced and 500 houses are completely waterlogged. The flooding even damaged over 12 concrete-built houses.

According to the locals, they were forced to vacate their homes at midnight Sunday after floodwater from the Tinau suddenly meandered into their areas. Although the flood has not claimed any human casualties so far, most of the families lost their belongings and foodstuffs. They somehow managed to evacuate their homes and hasten out of the area. The displaced were forced to remain drenched throughout the night as no rescue teams reached them. Many of the families are sheltering at the nearby bus stop after becoming displaced. However, separate teams of the Nepal Police, the Armed Police Force and even traffic police personnel reached the area Monday morning to rescue the locals.

According to police, Similarly, flooding in the same river swept away nearly 70 homes and the police post at Bethari of Gonaha VDC, Rupandehi district. Over three dozen houses at Chodki of Bangai VDC were also flooded out.

Meanwhile, landslide along the Sidhhababa section of the Palpa-Butwal highway caused by incessant rainfall buried a jeep Sunday. No casualty was reported in the incident.

Meanwhile, a report from Kaski district said 18 houses collapsed last night at 1,2 and 3 wards of Hemja VDC of the district due to incessant rainfall. The displaced house-owners are taking shelter in their neighbour's houses.

*(Posted on 4th September, 2007)*

## Risk of post-flood diseases increasing : WHO

The UN World Health Organization (WHO) in Nepal in a new report has said it is concerned about the increasing risk of diarrhoeal and vector-borne diseases in the country due to recent floods and landslides.

According to the WHO report on 3 September entitled Emergency Health Action in Nepal, there is no major disease epidemic as yet, but government officials said there was cause for concern, as the risk of disease is associated more with post-flood situations like displacement, availability of safe water and sanitation facilities. Disease outbreaks are also affected by overcrowding, the underlying health status of individuals and the availability of health care services. WHO warned that contaminated water meant there was a heightened risk of the spread of diarrhoeal-related diseases, including dysentery, cholera, typhoid and gastroenteritis. There was also a high risk of vector-borne diseases like malaria and Japanese Encephalitis (JE) due to waterlogged areas, which have posed a major challenge and even hindered access to the worst affected areas, the report said.

Outbreaks of communicable diseases are common every monsoon in Nepal, but this year's diarrhoea and cholera were worse in Rautahat (110km southeast of Kathmandu) and Kalikot (700km northwest of Kathmandu), said WHO. Government health officials said they regretted they were unable to prevent 39 deaths for lack of staff and medicines at village health centres.

"This incident sadly illustrates the importance of a functional peripheral health system, community-based surveillance, early warning, prompt control measures and health education," said the report.

WHO said this year's flooding was much worse than in the last two years. "It is

Armed Police Force (APF), Nepal handover NRs 2.5 million for disaster victims on 2nd August.

55 VDCs of Mahottari is affected from flood. Properties and infrastructures worth NRs 70 million has been lost.

Dharampur VDC of Jhapa suffered a loss of NRS 30 million.

Home minister advised the local administration to form an all sided team to carry out relief and rescue operations.

Danda dam and embankment unilaterally made by the Indian government inundated 6 VDCs of Rupandehi district.

Rainfall is significantly higher this year than 2006, according to Meteorological Forecasting Division.

Lawmakers blamed Indian dams for floods in the contiguous areas of Nepal.

## Asia Watch

### CRWRC to feed 50,000 flood victims

*(Reliefweb, Switzerland)*

Fifty thousand lives capsized by floods in India will eat two square meals a day after a \$275,000 proposal for food aid penned by the Christian Reformed World Relief Committee ([www.crwrc.org](http://www.crwrc.org)) was given the green light on Friday, August 31, 2007.

"Sometimes the scale of a disaster can be overwhelming," says Ken Little, CRWRC senior relief project manager. "I am very encouraged that we can provide this important emergency food package to these families."

Indians in the Bihar districts of Sitamrhi, Supaul and Samastipur - 80% of whom are Dalit poor - will receive staples such as rice, wheat, beans, salt and oil as early as September 10.

It is intended that the food aid will also provide a sense of food security so impoverished families can avoid borrowing money or selling possessions just to stay

too early to write off the risk. The monsoon season is not over and endemic diseases continue to claim a heavy toll in remote districts," the report said, adding that there had been increased cases of viral fever, acute respiratory infections, eye and ear infections and skin ailments.

### Insecurity

"The political situation is worsening and there are often strikes and a very insecure environment," said Ram Hari Shah, a local health worker in Mahottari, 130km south of the capital. There have been violent protests in the Terai region of southern Nepal, according to local non-governmental organisations (NGOs). Health workers are afraid to visit some villages as they fear they might be attacked. WHO agreed that strikes and civil unrest had made it difficult to conduct rapid assessments and deliver emergency relief. Health officials said more attention was being given to villages which were safer to get to such as those in the mid-west rather than those in the central-southern and eastern regions, where there had been more violence.

*(Posted on 4th September, 2007)*

### Mother and Son killed in Ramechhap

Two persons of a family were killed on Monday in Ramechhap after their house collapsed due to incessant rainfall at Snagutar in Ramechhap district. Sushila, wife of Top Bahadur Pradhan, Sushila and their son Kamal of Mayeri in Banki VDC died after the house tumbled down Monday morning.

Top Bahadur and daughter Kumari have been seriously injured. They are undergoing treatment at a local health post.

*(Posted on 4th September, 2007)*

### Two persons drowned to death

In Banke district, two persons Phulijhariya Tharu, 24 and Raj Kumari Tharu, 18, of Raniyapur-1 drowned to death in Pedari stream on Sunday morning. The duo was collecting broomsticks near the stream. The dead bodies were recovered at 2 pm afternoon.

Meanwhile water level of Rapti river has been receding. Incessant rainfall of last week sparked flood and forced to displace three hundred villagers of Holiya VDC of Banke. The displaced are being sheltered on local school. District Administration Office is on last stage to translocate them towards safer places.

*(Posted on 3rd September, 2007)*

### Road disrupted, passengers stranded

Goringhe-Sandhikarkha road section has been disrupted from Saturday due to the the landslides at various places. Passengers heading for Sandhikarkha, district headquarter of Arghakachhi district are stranded in Goringhe, Kapilbastu.

Road clearance efforts are going on with the help of dozer.

*(Posted on 3rd September, 2007)*

### Landslide dislodged four family

fed.

CRWRC's food aid for India response is from the Canadian Foodgrains Bank ([www. foodgrainsbank.ca](http://www.foodgrainsbank.ca)). Distribution of the food will be handled by EFICOR, CRWRC's long-time relief and development partner in India.

Food aid for some of the 2.5 million flood victims in Pakistan is also part of CRWRC's ongoing flood relief efforts. A list of 10,000 beneficiaries is expected to be completed by September 15, after which a food-for-work project through local partner Interfaith League Against Poverty (ILAP) will begin in the Southwest area of the Balochistan province.

"Whole sections of villages are gone," writes CRWRC International Relief Manager Fred Knip in an email from Pakistan. "People are starting to move back to where they used to live, taking their tents with (them)."

The record 2007 monsoon season impacted more than 35 million people in India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Myanmar, Cambodia, Thailand, Indonesia, Vietnam, China and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Those most affected have been the poor.

CRWRC is currently active in 30 countries, and has an international reputation for "helping people help themselves."

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Four families of Laxmipur VDC in the district have become homeless after a landslide triggered by heavy rain swept away their houses Saturday night. Many others in wards - 2, 7 and 9 - have also been living in terror due to the probability of further landslides, as minor land slips have been occurring in the area.

The houses of Min Bahadur Kami, Bhime Kami, Jagbir Dangi and Bir Bahadur Bhandari were swept away by landslide. Standing crops in a large swathe of farmland have also been destroyed, victims said.

The victims also said that all their clothes, utensils and foodstuff were also swept away by the landslide. "Locals have been providing us food and some of the victims are living in cowsheds," said Bhandari.

Meanwhile, one house was demolished while 15 others were affected in Singdi village of Pasgaun VDC of Lamjung district due to a recent landslide. Locals there have asked authorities to provide immediate help as a whole settlement in the area has been affected by the landslide.

*(Posted on 3rd September, 2007)*

## Magnanimous contribution from ICIMOD

ICIMOD staff of Nepal and Centre raised Rs 567,352 (approx. US\$ 8,800) as contributions for providing relief to the communities affected by floods in Nepal this year. The contribution was handed over to the Nepal Red Cross with a request to direct these funds towards the four most affected districts of Mahottari, Sarlahi, Dhanusa, and Rautahat, where ICIMOD had earlier conducted case studies on disaster preparedness.

ICIMOD also turned over 20 copies of ICIMOD's publication, *The Snake and the River Don't Run Straight*, translated in Nepali and 50 copies to DP-Net, Nepal for dissemination to organisations working at community level. The publication is a case study on local knowledge for disaster preparedness, with particular reference to flood disasters. The soft copy of these publications are available for download at [www.disasterpreparedness.icimod.org](http://www.disasterpreparedness.icimod.org).

*(Posted on 3rd September, 2007)*

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