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Loss of lives this monsoon

Baglung	29
Banke	26
Gulmi	19
Rautahat	12
Bajura	11
Darchula	9
Bardia	9
Ramechhap	9
Sindhuli	8
Baitadi	8
Dang	8
Pyuthan	7
Salyan	7
Mahottari	7
Kailali	6
Kaski	5
Udayapur	5
Jajarkot	5
Siraha	5
Kalikot	5
Arghakhachi	5
Saptari	5
Jumla	4
Surkhet	4
Makwanpur	4
Jhapa	4
Chitwan	4
Dhanusha	3
Sunsari	3
Morang	3
Bhojpur	2
Panchthar	2
Nawalparasi	2
Sarlahi	2
Parsa	2
Palpa	2
Bara	2
Bajhang	1
Tanahun	1
Sindhupalchowk	1
Lalitpur	1
Myagdi	1

(As of 12th September, 2007)

Four buried, two swept away in Sindhuli**Two more died in Bhojpur**

Four persons died in separate landslides and two others were swept away in floods in Sindhuli district Monday. Dhan Bahadur Khatri, 85, of Sirthauli VDC-7 and his wife died when a landslide buried their house Monday. Landslides and flooding claimed four more lives at Ladabhir VDC. Two persons died in landslide and two were swept away by the flooded Kamala River. They are yet to be identified.

About 100 households at wards no. 3, 5, 6 and 8 in the VDC have been displaced to nearby Dudhauri VDC.

In Bhojpur, Devi Kala Rai, a five-year-old daughter of Ash Kumar Rai from Dovane VDC-8 died as their house collapsed with the landslide triggered by the incessant rainfall. Jimani Rai, 30, the wife and a two-year old son were injured in the incident. Meanwhile, Sushila Rai, 26, of Basikhora VDC-1, died after the Akhuwa river swept her away while coming to Bhojpur from Falate of Dhankuta.

Similarly, the landslide has eroded hundred ropanis of land belonging to a dozen of locals at Kudak Kaule-8. A police team has been deputed to collect the exact record of the damage. Even some families in Kulung VDC have been displaced and lands buried due to landslide.

*(Posted on 12th September, 2007)***Sunsari and Saptari at risk****Saptakoshi meanders towards west**

Saptakoshi river is posing inundation threats over Sunsari and Saptari district after it meanders towards west. Saptakoshi river has already eroded 20 meters of number 13 spur located at Barahchhetra of Sunsari. If the river breaches total area of the spur, southern VDCs of Sunsari, seven VDCs of Saptari and even some areas of neighbouring Bihar state of India would come under the immense risk of inundation. Following incessant downpours, Saptakoshi has changed its direction towards west from the east.

According to the engineer Mohan Bhattarai of Water Induced Calamity Control Office Sunsari, as the river flows in full spate, risk is relatively high. Saptakoshi river has even started to breach 18 number riverbank and has already eroded 75 meters so far. It was constructed with the support of Chinese government.

Local people has urged government to initiate more for preventive measures. Three spurs and 1200 meters long embankment have been built for the cost of NRs 64 million at Sukrabare.

(Posted on 12th September, 2007)

Major Displacements

Saptari	10000 family
Siraha	6000 family
Mahottari	3700 family
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 12th September, 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



MISSING LINK: Foreign and local visitors passing through a makeshift bridge as the 50-metre length of the Butwal-Narayangadh road section of Mahendra Highway was swept away by floods recently. (Gopi Gyawali/TRN, 9th September)

Flood victims need urgent aid : relief agencies

Serious flooding in the lowland Terai region of southern Nepal has subsided after nearly three months of torrential rain, but there is an urgent need for humanitarian relief for those affected, as IRIN reported on 11 September.

Hardest hit was the Terai, especially in western and central areas, according to Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS), the leading local organisation responsible for relief distribution. "The most vulnerable are the farmers who have lost their arable land and crops," said Sanjeev Kafle, head of the NRCS disaster unit. The Terai is Nepal's main agricultural area and serves as a bread-basket for the country's estimated 27 million people.

According to a recent joint flood assessment report by the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Food Programme (WFP) and Save the Children Alliance, the worst impact was on livelihoods and housing. The report said the poorest, most marginalised and landless communities - like the Dalits, Madhesi, Tharu, Muslims and Janjati - were worst affected.

The fact that vegetable prices had more than doubled was also putting basic food items beyond the reach of these people, and they needed urgent aid, relief workers said.

Aid agencies are concerned food security might worsen in the coming months. They point out that up till now the affected population has been borrowing heavily to satisfy their food needs.

More suffering to female-headed households

Also badly affected were female-headed households. They need urgent help especially to repair and rebuild their homes, said NRCS officials. "The women already have difficulty making a living to support their families and are now tending to suffer more," Vincent Omuga, humanitarian affairs officer with the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Nepal, told IRIN.

"Relief and humanitarian agencies are working actively to provide support to these families to restructure their lives," Omuga said, adding that cooperation with government aid efforts was also good.

According to UN agencies and Save the Children Alliance, half of the displaced families have now returned home, but local relief workers fear they have, in fact, nothing to return to. **(IRIN)**

(Posted on 12th September, 2007)

HK provides emergency relief

Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) government approved a grant of HK\$1.2 million (US\$154,000) from the Disaster Relief Fund to Hong Kong Red Cross to undertake relief project for flood victims in Nepal.

The newly approved grant raises Hong Kong's relief to flood victims in South Asia to HK\$6.26 million (US\$803,000) after its two disbursements in August totaling HK\$5.06 million (US\$650,000) for emergency relief to flood victims in Bangladesh, India and Nepal.

(Posted on 12th September, 2007)

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 continually appeared to be the main stumbling blocks for the relief activities.

Thus, the disaster response of 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

Disaster toll higher this monsoon

Loss of NRs. 229.98 million

The death toll caused by landslide and floods was significantly higher this summer as compared to the last three years. According to Home Ministry, altogether 185 people have already lost their lives in the calamities triggered by incessant rainfall as of Monday evening. However, media reports that the death toll crosses 250 when including floods and landslides induced fatalities.

Officials are apprehensive that the number could go even higher as the monsoon this year is still on its course in Nepal. Home Ministry statistics showed that flood and landslide claimed a total of 114 lives last year while the toll stood at 141 and 131 in the two years before that, respectively. Officials said most of the deceased were killed by landslides.

Baglung, Gulmi, Baitadi, Darchula and Banke districts are among those with high death toll due to landslide this year. Altogether 29 people were killed in Gwalichaur area of Baglung district alone this summer. Officials informed that flood and landslide completely destroyed 18,753 households while another 29,335 others were left partially-damaged.

The ministry has estimated that the loss caused by water-induced disaster this year amounted to Rs 229.98 million as of 10th September.

Thir Bahadur GC, under secretary at Natural Disaster Section at the Ministry, said the Ministry on its part has released some Rs 80 million to affected districts to carry out relief and rehabilitation works. This does not include the amount spent by non-government and donor organizations.

Landslide and flood have been the major woes for Nepal every year. Experts attribute this to failure on the part of government to adopt precautionary measures and ad hoc basis of disaster preparedness work.

Flood and landslide alone had resulted in loss of properties worth over Rs 228.62 million last year. Likewise, the estimated loss caused by water-induced disaster stood at Rs 131.56 million and Rs 219.28 million in the previous two years.

(Posted on 11th September, 2007)

Following floods 2 more died of diarrhea

Two more children died due to an outbreak of diarrhea in Saptari district following floods and landslides. Three-year-old Rina Kumari Ram, daughter of Devji Ram of Bisahariya VDC-3 and Jhallu Sada Musahar's son Rabindra Sada, 4 of Komdhepura-6 died recently due to lack of proper treatment for diarrhea. With this, diarrhea has claimed 16 lives in the district this year.

Sakarpura, Bisahariya, Komadhepura and other flood-hit villages are those affected. About 300 persons have been affected with diarrhea and viral fever in these villages. Over a dozen serious patients have been receiving treatment at Zonal Hospital Rajbiraj.

(Posted on 11th September, 2007)

Relatives received bodies

Relatives of the five deceased persons, who had died after Dhansar rivulet swept

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.

Highlights

A policeman at the Kirne Post, Surke Majhi, has gone missing in the Tamakoshi river of Sindhupalchowk district. Majhi had gone to the river to take bath at 1:30 pm on Tuesday, but never returned, DSP Surendra Mainali said. (12th Sep)

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)

away a wedding vehicle on Sunday, received the bodies. The five--three women and two men of Kathmandu were killed when the microbus that was carrying members of a marriage procession from Dhankuta to Kathmandu was swept away by the raging stream. However, the bride and groom, along with three others, were rescued.

(Posted on 11th September, 2007)

Marriage procession microbus swept away

Five killed, bride and groom safe

Five persons of a marriage procession drowned and five others were rescued when the microbus they were travelling in was swept away by the flooded Dhansar Khola in Rautahat Saturday night.

The bus was heading towards Kathmandu from Dhankuta for a marriage. The bus was carrying 10 persons, including groom Raju Shrestha and bride Simala Shrestha. The five had tried to come out of the vehicle after it was swept away. Those, who remained inside the bus, were rescued by police and local people.

The microbus was swept away as soon as it entered the river water behind a bus of Agni Travels. The microbus occupants screamed for help when the current began sweeping the vehicle away. Bus passengers pulled bridegroom Raju Shrestha, bride Simla Shrestha, Raju's mother Uma Shrestha, driver Anil Tamang and microbus owner Chet Bahadur Air to safety, but the other five microbus passengers could not be saved as the vehicle had already gone far out into the river. Early morning, locals and area police personnel began a search and found bodies of the five persons some 10 to 13 km away from the incident site.

Those, who were died are: Narottam Rajbhandari and Sami Rajbhandari of Tahachal, Jayanti Joshi of Maharajgunj, Jivan Joshi of Patan and Indrani Prasain of Chapali, said Superintendent of Police Yogeshwor Romkhami.

(Posted on 10th September, 2007)

Floods threat 700 families in Udayapur

Houses of 700 families in four wards of Sundarpur VDC in Udayapur district have been endangered by the flooded Sway River. The banks were partially damaged by the rains in Sharawan (July/August) and the heavy rain of August 25 completely collapsed the banks and cut down more than 10 bighas land forcing 100 families to safer places. The river damaged about 300 metres embankment and standing crop in more than 150 bighas have been destroyed, turning it desolate land.

Rana Bahadur Magar, a small farmer, lost all his 15-kattha land. "It was everything that I had and a means of livelihood for 14 members of the family. Not it has turned into a wasteland." The villagers also fear the Triwuga River which, they say, can enter into the villages any time. Already more than 100 bighas fertile land had been washed away by river, Jagat Ram Chaudhary, a local, said.

Every monsoon, the two rivers become a bane to the village, locals say. It needs a big project with and heavy fund to control flooding, villagers said. They said if permanent embankment were not constructed, the villagers will have to leave the area as landless. Dhan Pati Archi said nobody is taking interest to tame the rivers.

(Posted on 10th September, 2007)

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)

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)

Highway blocked for consecutive fourth day

The Butwal-Tansen section of Siddhartha Highway has remained closed from the past four days after a landslide on Chure hill damaged the road near Siddha Baba Dham in Dobhan VDC of Palpa.

Similarly landslides have blocked the Mahendra Highway at Daunney and Bhootkhola of Nawalparasi district and passengers had to walk long distances. DSP Basant Thapa at the Western Region Traffic Police Office said there are landslides at different places on the highway.

(Posted on 10th September, 2007)

Death Toll from landslides reached five

The death toll in the landslide at Sedibagar in Sarkangkot VDC 7 of Kaski district reached five on Sunday. Sher Bahadur Nepali, 45, of Sedibagar who was injured in the landslide that occurred on Friday died while undergoing treatment at Pokhara Western Region Hospital.

Earlier, four persons died on the spot when the landslide hit Sedibagar and Gyarajati in Sarangkot village development committee. Over 48 families were displaced.

(Posted on 10th September, 2007)

More eight added to disaster death toll

Recurring disaster led incidents are continuously taking lives in different parts of Nepal. Downpours started from second week of July is regularly triggering ravages. On Saturday, floods and landslides hit Kaski and Nawalparasi districts of Nepal which have killed at least six persons. One each lost their lives in Makwanpur and Chitwan district.

Four persons were killed and over 120 families have been displaced by landslides at Pokhara and nearby Sagarnkot VDC in Kaski district. Two persons each died near the Lake Side area in Pokhara and Sarankot VDC. The dead are Nara Bahadur Kunwar, 55, and Rekha Timilsina, 15, the residents of Seri village near the Lake Side, and Bishnu Maya Thapa, 50, and Murali thapa, 85, of Sarankot VDC-8, the local police said. Landslides falling down from nearly 500 metre height from the Gasti hill swept away 15 houses and damaged another dozen houses at Seri. Nearly dozen were injured in the landslides there.

Among the injured, four are undergoing treatment at the local Manipal and Western Regional Hospital in Pokhara. Among the injured, Sher Bahadur Nepali is in a critical condition. A huge human casualty was averted as the people left their houses as soon as the Seti River started to overflow. Many houses at the banks of the Seti River have been waterlogged. The floods have swept away dozens of cattle.

Locals said that they had never seen such deadly floods and landslides in their life. They are taking shelter under the open sky in a nearby jungle and other safer places. The Red Cross-Kaski has started providing relief packages to about 50 affected families. Properties worth millions of rupees have been destroyed. Even electricity-poles have been damaged at many parts of the sub-metropolis. Hundreds of passengers are stranded after landslides blocked Pokhara-Baglung road at Himcha.

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 have been 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)

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.

Meanwhile, two people died in another two separate incidents in Nawalparasi. One Lal Bahadur Nepali, 65, of Deurali VDC-5 died when swollen Keru River swept him away while another Sukmaya Bika, 25, was buried to death in landslides at Raikabhanjyang in Rakuwa-1 VDC.

A girl of Churiyamai VDC in Makwanpur district died after a log crushed her to death on Friday. A log crushed 18-year-old Urmila Bamjan from Ratmate of the village development committee to death, police said, adding she died on the way to the Hetauda Hospital.

In Chitwan, a seven year-old Ujjawal Lamichhane who was a student of grade I at Jyotinagar-based Jaman Singh Rastriya Primary School drowned to death in the Anjanatal stream on Friday evening. Ujjawal fell into the stream from a guava tree in the field.

(Posted on 9th September, 2007)

Highway blockage continuing

The Siddhababa section of the Siddhartha Highway is yet to be cleared after the landslides blocked the road three days ago. After the small dozer could not remove all the landslides, passenger buses and all other vehicles bound from and to Butwal from Palpa, Gulmi, Syanja, Pokhara and Arghakhachi have been grounded in Butwal. According to Police Inspector Dipak Shrestha, they expect to clear the road by Sunday afternoon.

Butwal-Narayangarh stretch of the Mahendra Highway also remains blocked for the last three days.

In Sindhuli, the construction of the BP Highway in the section of Sindhuli-Banepa has been hindered with the frequent heavy rainfall at its final stage. Although 28 km of roadway is completed in Sindhuli, it has been difficult to continue the construction as the landslide occurs with the rainfall. It seems almost impossible to finish the construction on time though aimed to be accomplished six months before the estimated time. The roadway is being constructed with the help of the government of Japan.

In Baitadi, Baitadi-Darchula road section obstructed for last more than two months has resumed from Saturday. Satbanj-Gokuleshwor road section of Baitadi district has obstructed from the last week of June due to the landslide triggered by the heavy rain. Locals of Darchula have to use Indian road for transportation for last two months following the obstruction of road caused by landslide at Srikot.

Local people, transport entrepreneurs and police have been clearing the road for last three days following its obstruction. In Sankhuwasabha, Local people faced trouble for the movement due to the landslide that took place between ward no.4 and 7 of Chepua VDC, remote part of the district. People of Kimathanka and Chepua VDC have experienced difficulty in their movement following the obstruction of road due to the landslide.

Movement has been obstructed in the VDC, some 40 km far from the district Headquarter for last two days when the clearance of landslide was not possible due to the incessant rain.

(Posted on 9th September, 2007)

One more body found of boat tragedy

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.

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 carryout 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.

The body of one more victim of the Govarghat boat tragedy in Rapti River that occurred recently was recovered on Saturday. Most of the victims were from Belaspur village of Baijapur VDCs 1 and 2. Locals found the body of a young woman near Maduwa of Kachnapur VDC and informed the police, said Banke deputy superintendent of police Krishna Hari Sharma. DSP Sharma said that the woman had not been identified as her relatives were yet to arrive.

The bodies of 15 of the 28 who drowned on Wednesday in Rapti River have been recovered while those of 13 others are still untraceable. There was one man among the victims while the rest were women, young girls and children.

(Posted on 9th September, 2007)

Floods displaced 16 families in Kanchanpur

Some 16 families from the south-east of the district have been displaced due to the river flood caused by the incessant rainfall for the last four days. As the flood in the Sanbora river flowing through Jhalari Pipaladi eroded the nearby places, the locals of Ranipur from the Pipaladi-4 have been displaced.

The displaced are taking shelter at a nearby Janaki Community Forest with the help of locals. Moreover, the river erosion quickened by the flood at Thursday night has swept away their homesteads with maize and other cereals. Even the whole village is in risk of erosion. Forty-eight other households are being displaced as the river flood is still vehement.

Meanwhile, the same river has eroded Jonapur area of Pipaladi-5 which made five families shift away and six other are to leave the place soon. Not only the crops but also their houses are being destroyed and swept away by the river. The locals expressed their plight that none from any sectors has heeded for their relief and rescue.

In Shankhuwasabha, twenty households of Hatiya-8 of Shankhuwasabha district have been displaced due to the landslide caused by the incessant rainfall. The landslide occurring for the last two days at Namose of Hatiya made the households leave their houses and take shelter to their neighbours.

(Posted on 9th September, 2007)

Minister surveyed flood hit areas

Finance Minister Dr Ram Sharan Mahat today surveyed the floods-hit areas of Bardiya district. He sought information on the damage caused by the floods and sought details of the havoc wreaked by the Babai River.

In a memorandum to Dr Mahat, locals pointed out the urgent need to build embankments along the Karnali and Babai rivers in order to prevent floods and land erosion. Dr Mahat assured them that the work of building embankments would be prioritised.

(Posted on 9th September, 2007)

ERD to support three flood ruined districts

Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) is supplying emergency assistance to people affected by severe flooding in three districts in Nepal.

ERD is partnering with Action by Churches Together (ACT) International to

Asia Watch

Waterman chants new mantra to tackle Bihar floods

By IANS

Bihar could get rid of annual floods in three years by adopting decentralised water management, 'waterman' and Magsaysay Award winner Rajendra Singh said Monday. 'Decentralised water management is the need of the hour to get rid of floods in Bihar. It will be a cost-effective measure which can replace the need for construction of dams and embankments,' Singh told IANS.

Floods in Bihar have claimed over 650 lives and affected 21 million people this monsoon. The natural disaster has damaged roads, including national highways and embankments, in the state. The floods have destroyed standing crops worth Rs.8.28 billion and damaged 521,441 houses, according to officials. 'It is for the Bihar government to decide whether they will go for a cost-effective model for a permanent solution to floods or opt for a high-cost model for a temporary measure,' Singh said.

Singh said keeping in view water flow from catchment areas to flood-prone north Bihar districts, bordering Nepal, the government would have to construct small check dams, bunds and water bodies. 'They will break water flow and control floods,' he said. He said the construction of small check dams, bunds and water bodies could be met from funds allotted for irrigation and water management schemes.

'Decentralised water management will also solve irrigation problems,' Singh said. He said construction of big dams and embankments will not solve flood problem in Bihar.

The state government, however, has other measures in mind. Last week, the state government had decided to use a technology first developed by the US to plug

provide emergency relief to families in districts most affected by the floods -- Bardiya, Banke and Kailali in southwest Nepal. ERD's support is delivering critical aid such as food and cooking supplies, blankets, clothing, educational materials for children and pumps for drinking water. Farmers will receive seeds and vulnerable families who are landless, female-headed or include disabled members will be offered livelihood opportunities in small livestock such as raising pigs and rearing poultry.

"Despite the heavy challenges in accessing the flood-affected villages, our local partner will support 3,750 families in 15 villages through the relief stage of this response," said Nagulan Nesiah, ERD's program associate for Asia.

To help people affected by the floods in Nepal, a donation can be made to ERD's "Emergency Relief Fund" online at <http://www.er-d.org/>.

(Posted on 9th September, 2007)

Five more died of flood

Flood caused by incessant rainfall claimed three more lives in Dang and one each in Lalitpur and Bara district Thursday. In Dang, Ram Bahadur Khadka, 45, of Manpur VDC-1 and five-year-old Supriya Pokharel of Hapur VDC were swept away by the flood in separate incidents on Thursday. Khadka drowned in the flood at Chauwa River while Pokharel died after being swept away by a canal while returning home from school. According to police, the dead bodies of the two were recovered on Thursday evening. Flood had killed one Thag Bahadur Rawat of Dhanauri VDC-9 of the same district on Wednesday.

In Lalitpur, a child was killed and four injured Friday at Chapagaon-4 of Lalitpur after a house collapsed due to incessant rainfall in the Valley for the past three days. Five-year-old Pratip Maharjan was killed, while Prakash Maharjan, Sushma Maharjan, Sumitra Maharjan and Reshma Maharjan were injured in the house collapse.

In Arghakhanchi, locals on Thursday found the dead body of 13-year-old Manju Khadka, who had drowned while trying to cross a local stream on her way home on Wednesday. The deceased was an eighth grader at Baidhanath Secondary School in Nunthala VDC.

Baldev Chaudhari, 45, of Inarwasira-8 of Bara, who was swept away by Kathohakhola on Thursday, was found dead in Bashantapurgoth of Inarwasira-7 on Friday, the Bara District Police Office said. Jayaram Chepang, 25, of Bhunglichowk-8 of Gorkha, has gone missing in the Trishuli river. Chepang went missing as he fell into the river while crossing the bridge linking Jogimara of Dhading with Hiklung of Gorkha on Thursday, locals said, adding that they are conducting a search for Chepang.

RSS reports that four persons were hurt and seven houses were damaged at different VDCs of Bhaktapur yesterday due to incessant rainfall. House of Arjun Prasad Pokharel in Chhaling VDC-2 and house of Shyam Prasad Gelal of Jhaukhel VDC were damaged, police said. Two other houses were damaged and two persons were hurt at Changunarayan VDC. The Bhaktapur DDC said Shailendra Sarki and Sukram Sarki were hurt when a house was damaged at Mijartole.

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breaches in river embankments. Impressed by a video footage of the technology used to repair breaches in embankments, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar directed state water resources department secretary A.K. Sinha to contact the US Department of Homeland Security.

A high-level expert committee headed by former National Flood Commission chief engineer Nilendu Sanyal has also suggested using that technology. The technology involves use of prefabricated dams made of metal tripods and self-filling water bladders of high-strength polymers. Such constructs can be airdropped to repair breaches in embankments and roads.

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