

## Editorial Team

Chief Editor: Deepak Acharya  
 Assistants: Bhaskar Aryal  
 Santosh Joshi  
 Media Consultancy Nepal  
 Email: media\_con@wlink.com.np  
 P.O. Box. 75  
 Bharatpur, Chitwan, Nepal

## Loss of lives this monsoon

Baglung	24
Bajura	11
Gulmi	7
Salyan	7
Banke	6
Dang	4
Mahottari	2
Sindhuli	2
Siraha	2
Chitwan	1
Udayapur	1
Morang	1
Dhanusha	1
Ramechhap	1
Saptari	1

## Major Displacements

Saptari	10000 family
Siraha	5000 family
Mahottari	3700 family
Bardiya	2500 family
Parsa	2000 family
Sunsari	1000 family
Banke	750 family
Dhanusha	550 family

Sources : Media reports/MCN

## Eastern Havoc, Nepal



Villagers crowd into boats to be evacuated to safer areas in Rautahat, July 27, 2007. (AP photo/Shiva Puri)



A man walks through the flooded village of Rajbiraj, July 27, 2007. (Reuters photo)

## Our Words

Disaster Watch is a joint initiative of Media Consultancy Nepal and ActionAid to stay vigilant and to disseminate accurate and updated information on water induced disaster of Nepal. Due to the primary causes of co-ordination gap, inaccessible to disaster sites, it is always challengeable to acquire appropriate information on disaster.

We would try to surface the prevailing scenarios of the disaster, scale of its hazards, key needs of the affected and at risk people. We would render our best effort to raise the issues behind the scenes such as situation on disaster preparedness, laxity and problems. Disaster Watch will be a peephole to view the disaster landscape of Nepal. We hope this attempt will aware and influence the governmental and non governmental sector actors related with disasters. Similarly, we expect the media professionals will also have an advantage from this website.

We will have privilege on availability of information, pictures and related contents. We seek information, suggestion and feedback from the viewers.

## Highlights

Government warns against water borne and vector borne diseases in flood-hit areas.

Eight VDCs of Sarlahi are turned into islands deprived of any means of transport due to flooding.

Hundreds of childrens of more than 12 inundated VDCs of Sunsari are suffering from Pneumonia and gastro-enteritis.

Nepalgunj is facing a power blackout for the fourth consecutive days.

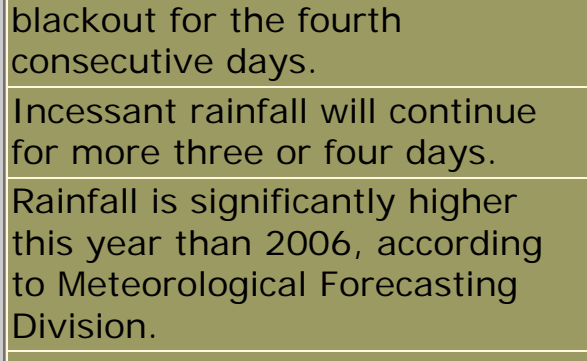
Incessant rainfall will continue for more three or four days.

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.

Amidst the monsoon rainfall, the patients of viral fever is surging in Jhapa, Parsa and Saptari districts.

## Asia Watch



People wade through a flooded road after heavy rains in the eastern Indian state of Bihar July 25, 2007. (Krishna Murari Kishan/Reuters)

BEIJING, July 27 (Reuters) - More rain is expected to bring further chaos to China's drowned southwest, where many have already lost homes, livelihoods and loved ones. Rescuers dropped relief supplies to hundreds of people in Indonesia's Sulawesi region on Friday after days of torrential rain triggered landslides and floods. About 85 people have died and nearly 8,000 people displaced from their homes in central Sulawesi. A relief official said authorities had not been able to pull out many bodies because of a lack of heavy machinery and equipment.

In China, the toll is far higher, with more than 500 people killed across this country in floods this summer. Meteorologists forecast more downpours for the Guangxi region and the provinces of Yunnan, Guizhou and Sichuan where floods and related disasters have already taken a heavy toll. "The possibility of landslides and mud and rock flows is high and preventive measures should be taken," the centre said on its Web site(www.nmcc.gov.cn). This year's monsoon has also caused widespread flooding in South Asia and Indochina, straining disaster relief agencies.

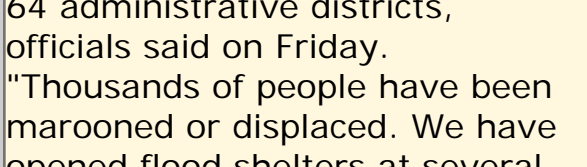
## FLOODWATERS SPREAD

In Bangladesh, monsoon floods continued to spread, inundating vast areas in 30 of the country's 64 administrative districts, officials said on Friday. "Thousands of people have been marooned or displaced. We have opened flood shelters at several places and are bracing for the worst," said Ibrahim Khallil, an official in Sirajganj district, one of the worst-hit areas north of the capital Dhaka. Across the border in India, incessant rains over the past week have displaced hundreds of thousands of people in the east and northeast, destroyed crops and damaged bridges, officials said on Friday.

In the eastern state of Bihar, 21 people have died and hundreds of thousands of villagers have seen their houses washed away. Road and rail networks have been disrupted by heavy monsoon rains over the past three days. Rivers in the northeast -- including the Brahmaputra that also flows through Bangladesh -- have burst their banks. Floodwaters have submerged paddy fields and destroyed houses.

"The situation is grim," said Bharat Chandra Narah, flood control minister for Assam state. Weeks of rain in China's mountainous southwest, along to the upper reaches of the Yangtze river, have made floods peak in Wuhan, capital of the central province of Hubei, state media said. Authorities in Hubei had mobilised tens of thousands of people to check embankments as the Han River, a main tributary that converges with Yangtze, was also swollen. But as parts of China battle floods and landslides, others are suffering from a heatwave and drought.

## Supported by



## Five children swept away:

Among the series of tragic incidents, five children of Nawalparasi districts were swept away this morning. All of them belongs to the same family. They were drowned by Ramkhanda Khola of Sanahi VDC and were still missing. Southern VDCs of Nawalparasi are hard hit by the floods.

In another report, torrential rainfall starts to awash Rupendehi district. 75% areas of the Bhairahawa are inundated today. Posted on 12:30 PM, 29th July

**Death numbers increasing:** Seven persons sheltering from the rains in Janardan Sharma's house at Pheidiya in Hasra VDC-7 of hilly Gulmi district were buried alive when a landslide hit the house Saturday noon. An eyewitness Kashi Ram Neupane said they had barely been inside for 10 minutes when a mudslide fell on the house from 30 metres above. Those killed have been identified as Devi Prasad Neupane, Sita Neupane, Saraswati Neupane, Maya Neupane, Durga Neupane, Sabitra Neupane and Radha Gharti, said Gulmi DSP Dilip Chaudhari.

A woman and a man, both unidentified, were swept away at different places in Dang district. In Sindhuli district, Bhes Bahadur Khadka of Ratnawati VDC was swept away by Sunkoshi River Saturday, while Vanarasi Devi of Banachauri VDC died in a house collapse. In Mahottari district, Dular Sada of Jaleshwar municipality-11 died when his house collapsed.

Poisonous snakes are being swept into human settlements by the flood waters. On Saturday, Kunji Mahat and Kanchan Mahat of Harminiya, Dhan Bahadur Magar of Kohalpur in Banke district died of snakebite. Durga Chaudhari of Banke's Bankatwa died of snakebite Friday night. In Siraha, Bishnu Mahar, 40, of ward 1 in Majhaliya VDC and Pramod Mukhiya's 8-year-old granddaughter Rinku Kumari were swept away when the Kamala River breached its embankment and swept away houses. Posted on 29th July, 2007

**Monsoon misery rampant:** The Home ministry Saturday said that the incessant floods in Terai have directly affected about 86,000 persons from 16,000 families. The ministry said a meeting was held among home minister KP Sitaula, UN representatives and other national and international NGOs and decided to cope with the situation collectively. The meeting has decided to provide relief materials to the flood-affected people through Nepal Red Cross Society in coordination with the Natural Calamities Disaster Management Committee.

Thousands of families are displaced, hundreds of houses have collapsed as the Terai region remains inundated. Morang, Sunsari, Saptari, Siraha, Sarlahi, Jhapa, Udayapur, Dhanusha, Mahottari, Bara, Parsa, Rautahat, Rupandehi, Nawalparasi, Banke, Bardiya, Kailali, Kanchanpur, Dang and several other districts continue to reel under the impact of floods. Relief materials, drinking water, provisions and medicines are in short supply. Flood-affected people are living in constant fear of epidemics breaking out. Many are already suffering from skin itch and swelling in the legs.

The Maoists combatants of third division cantonment, Chitwan are struggling with illness caused by contaminated water. According to the division, around 700 combatants are affected by fever and diarrhoea. Nepalgunj town is facing an acute shortage of drinking water. All groundwater sources are contaminated. The weather office recorded 205.05 mm of rain here over the past 24 hours. Rescue teams have been unable to provide relief materials to the people trapped across the Rapti river. The whole of town in mid-western Nepal center has been submerged under 5 feet of water due to poor drainage system following torrential rains for days.

A helicopter used by the United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN) is being used to monitor the situation as the government has been unable to charter choppers for emergency operations so far. Nepal Army has continued its rescue operations and bringing relief packages to the areas most affected by the floods. In a press statement issued Saturday, the NA stated that MI-17 and ALH choppers of the army has been used to distribute 2500 kg of food materials received by Nepal Red Cross, medicine to purify water, utensils made up of plastics and 100 life-jackets for rescue purposes in Dhanusha and Mahottari districts. The army's SKY Truck plane has also been used to rescue flood victims in Nepalgunj. Four boats and 4 boat-drivers have been deployed from the capital to the area, the army's Directorate of Public Relations informed in the statement.

Similarly, the NA forces have been deployed for rescue operations in Dharmampani of Jhapa, Topahama in Saptari, Guhar River of Dang, Suryapatawa, Karnali bridge, Magaragadhi, Bargaau, Jogigau, Baragadha, Betahani of Bardiya and Bahjani and Thapagau of Kailali.

In Mahottari jail, the 204 prisoners have had nothing but beaten rice to eat for the past two days. A passenger bus bound to Ghorahi from Tulsipur was swept away by flood in Gwar River on Saturday morning. The police and local residents were able to rescue the passengers. In Mahottari district, Ratu, Bighi and Madaha Rivers have affected 30 VDCs, the Natural Disasters Rescue Committee informed.

Similarly, around three thousand houses in nearly a dozen VDCs including Bhutaha, Narasingh, Satterjhoda in Sunsari district are flooded. Meanwhile, about six houses have been buried under landslides in Parbat district. As the danger of landslides looms large upon the residents of ward number 4 and 5 of Pang VDC, two dozen families have left their homes. A local school building was buried in a landslide in Bhayaladada village in Udayapur district. In Gulmi district, a dozen houses were flooded in Rupakot and Gaudakot VDCs leaving about 50 families homeless. Hundreds of children in more than one dozen VDCs inundated in the wake of incessant rainfall in Sunsari district are suffering from pneumonia and gastro-enteritis.

In Bara district, around 200 people have been rescued by their neighbours at Kailaiya Sunday morning. They are taking shelter at a government building. Eight houses in Margawa VDC are also inundated. Similarly, some houses at some VDCs such as Simara, Raipur and Silautiya in the Marchawar region in Rupandehi district have also submerged.

Around three dozen houses have been submerged in Rupendehi. Eleven more houses have been swept away by flooding Kamal River in Jhapa. Around two hundred houses at Dharampur are at risk, and 45 families have been rendered homeless. Posted on 29th July, 2007

## Landslides killed seven

Landslide killed seven members of a family in Gulmi today. According to the reports, the landslides buried a house of Devi Neupane in Hantara VDC -7 at 1 PM this afternoon. The deceased were reported to be a member of same family. The details are yet to be confirmed. Posted on 6:00 PM, July 28

**Eastern Region:** Districts like Sunsari, Morang, Saptari, Siraha, Bara, Rautahat, are the worst hit. Life across the Terai region remained paralyzed for the fifth consecutive day. Security personnel in the region are ready to undertake rescue operations in the stricken areas. A 30-year-old woman was killed Friday when her roof collapsed on her while she was still asleep at Khadihani VDC-4 in Dhanusha district. Similarly, 50-year-old Tarawa Uraun drowned to death in Banigama VDC-3 in Morang and 45-year-old Gyan Bahadur Karki also died when his house was flooded while he was still asleep in Biruwagathi VDC-6 in Parsa. Mukund Upadhyaya, 60, of Saraswar-3 of Siraha district was swept away by the Kamala river Friday as he was returning from Saraswamath Temple.

In Janakpur, the Kamala River has flooded more than three dozen villages. At least one hundred houses in Mushalman Tol and Mushahar Tol are under water. The swelling Koshi River has encroached on to nearby villages leaving thousands of people stranded. Authorities have opened 35 dam doors of the Koshi River barrage. The Koshi River administration has declared an emergency. More than 1000 households have been waterlogged in Sunsari and more than a dozen industries have been shut down. The torrential downpour has destroyed hundreds of rice fields. Thousands of farm lands have been swept away by the Triyoga River in Udayapur and hundreds have been left homeless. In Rautahat, the Bagmati river swept away three houses at Gadau VDC, caused the collapse of over 300 temporary houses and displaced 30 persons. Over 200 houses collapsed in nine VDCs and Gaur municipality. Relief materials will be distributed there after listing the victims. In Sarlahi, 142 houses were flooded, while 161 houses collapsed, police said. Flood in the Bagmati river has hit 61 houses, including a border police post in Balara VDC-2. In Bara, 11 days of rain has affected 98 VDCs and one municipality. Floods submerged 50 houses in Batara.

A landslide in Madimulkharka village of Sankhuwasava district demolished three houses and displaced 15 persons Friday. A landslide in Thonthong village of Dolakha also displaced 10 households and swept away a primary school building. Posted on July 28

**Mid Region:** In Nawalparasi, flood waters from the Narayani river have inundated Kolduwa, Sehari, Bhitapur and Amaltari villages. Floods also swept away houses in Rampur, Khadauna, Shujahawa, Pratappur and Semari villages. Non-government organisations distributed life-jackets and boats to locals of Sitapur and Sehari VDCs on the banks of the Narayani river. Landslide in Shivapur VDC of Kapilvastu swept away a truck that was heading for Nepalgunj from Butwal at Chorkhola Thursday night, the driver and his helper sustained minor injuries. Posted on July 28

**Western Region:** The whole of Nepalgunj town center has been submerged under 5 to 6 ft of water. All educational institutions, power supply, traffic, businesses and government offices have completely closed. Rescue operations have been affected due to lack of relief equipment. All flights from Nepalgunj to the mid and western regions have been halted. The city is facing an acute shortage of food items. Rains and floods caused 101 houses to collapse in Nepalgunj municipality, Kamdi and Bankatwa VDCs. Due to waterlogging, Nepalgunj bazaar is closed and consumer items are in short supply. As power supply has been cut off since Thursday morning, local newspapers in Nepalgunj didn't hit the stands today. FM stations also stopped transmission, while government offices and schools were closed.

People of Holya and Betani VDCs have been marooned due to flood in the Rapti river, police said. Water from the overflowing Babai river flooded hundreds of houses. Mohammedpur, Suryapatawa, Sorahawa, Nyalapur and Belawa VDCs and six wards of Guluriya municipality were inundated, while 40 houses collapsed in Sorhawaa VDC, police said. The flood-hit have been putting up in school buildings. Floods also blocked the Guluriya-Nepalgunj road and knocked down electricity poles. Posted on July 28

**Salyan:** Five persons of a family were killed when a landslide triggered by rains buried a house at Kavrechaun VDC-3 of Salyan district Thursday. The landslide buried the house of Dhal Bahadur Ramjali killing himself, his wife and his three children. In Bajhang, Sita Devi Bohora, 40, of Syadi, died when a landslide struck her house the same day. In Bhukduwa of Saptari, Lalan Das' daughter Mamta, 16, drowned in the Mahuli Khola. Ganesh BK of Bardiya drowned in the Pedani Khola at Khajura, Banke. (Posted on 27th July)

**Banke:** The normal of Banke has remained paralysed since Thursday. Around one hundred families in flooded Nepalgunj have fled their homes after the water level rose up to 4 feet. The town in mid-western Nepal witnessed 151.1 mm of rainfall. According to the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology, the flood in the Rapti River has risen up to 5 feet and 20 cm and is just three meters below the danger level, and the water level is rising further. Moreover, two boats have been sent to the banks of the river to aide the emergency rescue operations.

The residents of Chaupheri village across the Rapti River have urged the local administration to relocate them to safer areas. Six villages of Holya VDC are on the verge of being submerged by the flooding river. As many people living at the banks of the river have been facing floods for years, they have moved to higher areas. More than two dozen displaced families have been forced to take shelter at a pre-primary schools in Salyanbag and 18 families are taking refuge at the municipality building. Dozens of families displaced due to inundations in the town have also been closed since Thursday. Elsewhere in Banke district, 15 families of Titahariya village are taking shelter at a local school as the Rapti River swells.

In neighbouring Bardiya district, the overflowing Babai River has waterlogged hundreds of houses in Mohamedpur and Suryagauri villages. The local administration added floods in Babai and Karnali Rivers have displaced around two thousand people. (Posted on 27th July)

**Dang:** Flood claimed two lives in Dang district Wednesday. Noun Her body Sabitra Gharti of Dang's Dhikpur-2 drowned in the Larena river at forty. Her body was recovered around 400 metres away from her house. The body of 24 year old Nimraj Khanal of Halwar-3, Matera, who was swept away by the flooded Kalakhol was found today, the district police, Dang said. The Ghorahi- Tulsipur and the Ghorahi-Lamahi road sections were blocked Wednesday due to floodwaters. (Posted on July 26)

**Banke:** Most parts of Nepalgunj have been flooded. Roads have been obstructed due rising water levels, in some areas up to 3 feet following continuous rainfall throughout Wednesday. The Nepalgunj bus park area is under water. Around five homes have been badly affected by the water while some owners have been forced to flee their homes. The Tibhuvan Chowk area has been reportedly inundated up to knee level. The locals have asked the government for immediate help. Posted on July 26

**Udayapur:** Thirty years old woman Khutkumari Pulami died of landslide Wednesday nearby her home in Rauta VDC-9, Tarkhola. In other incident, a woman went missing from Wednesday morning, reportedly swept away when she went to bathe in the Sunkoshi River, bordering Sindhuli and Udayapur districts. She has been identified as 24-year-old Angira Khadka of Ratnawoti VDC. Posted on July 26

**Mahottari:** Hundreds of people are rendered homeless. District headquarter Jaleshwar has been waterlogged. Jaleshwar jail has been inundated and prisoners are suffering from water born diseases. People started fleeing from the home towards safer places. Posted on July 25

**Sarlahi:** Southern part of Sarlahi is affected. Water level has been increased. District Administration Office is at high alert for rescue and relief. Posted on July 25

**Rautahat:** Jhanj River is in spate and has submerged dozen of villages. District Police Office informed that a total of 74 houses including 10 in Dharampur VDC-4 and Rajpur Pharahadawa VDC, one in Madhopur VDC, five in Ajargaiwi VDC, five in Inarwa VDC, one in Patharabudhara VDC, nine in Inarwari VDC, nine in Narkatiya VDC, six in Gaur municipality and one in Tikuliya VDC collapsed in the floods and the rains.

Business and vehicular movement movement of the Sivanagar- Katariya, Gaurda-Samanpur, Matsari-Gaur road sections are halted due to water logging. Agricultural crops of hundreds bighas were damaged. Market prices have been soared up and commodities are in scarce. District Administration Office and Nepal Red Cross Society are providing relief materials. Posted on July 25

**Siraha:** Flood water level is noted to be two feet. It swamped houses, plantation and civil settlements. Over a dozen huts belonging to the Dalit community at Mahisothatole of Siraha-8, collapsed due to heavy rains. Rains have also destroyed dozens of houses at Badervatole and Basbittatole of Siraha-6. Floodwaters from the Khutti river have inundated most of the settlements in Ward no-5 and 6 of Lahan, the Lahan Area Police Office said. Floods in the Sahaja, Gagan and Maunawati rivers have inundated Laxminiya, Sanhaita, Aurahi, Intatar, Hakpada, Chhotakitole, Khiraunar and Patherwa villages. Similarly, waters from the flooded Kamala river inundated a dozen villages, including Phulbariya, Chikana, Bhediya, Manpurtole, Kalyanpur, Bhokraha and Sikron. District hospital is also marred by the flood. Posted on July 25

**Parsa:** Flood in the Oriya and Sakta rivers have inundated eight villages, Viswa, Jayamangalpur, Mirjapur, Samvauta, Laxmipur, Dhobiyatola, Phajatawa, Kheshraha villages in Parsa district. Nepal Red Cross Society and District Police Office is distributing relief materials. But the flood victims were reported to be incensed accusing that relief materials were provided only on Birgunj, pokhariya and Sibariya. Posted on July 25

**Baglung:** Baglung is now hard hit by the post disaster repercussions. 12 th July brunt on Gwalichaur and Jaljala VDCs of Baglung by flood and landslides have claimed 24 lives, injured 14 and 5 individuals are still missing. Recently, 54 families of these two VDCs are displaced fearing of further tragedy. More than 30 families are preparing to leave from their settlements owing to high risk.

Rural vehicular roads of Baglung were damaged. 50 m of Baglung-Burtibang roadsection has been completely swept away and 500 m has been obstructed. Twenty five irrigation canals and 21 water supply structures have been damaged.

These VDCs are at high risk of famine and epidemic. If the District Health Office does not take prompt action to deploy health personnel on the sites, the villages will be sooner affected by diarrhea and water induced diseases. Posted on July 25

**Gulmi:** A torrential rainfall for five consecutive days dominated a dozen rural roads of Gulmi. The road connecting district headquarter Tamghas to the west belt of Chaldi and Simaltari is obstructed. The rural areas have to face the scarcity of daily necessities and commodities. Posted on July 25

**Banke:** After the 16 hours of incessant downpour, 36 house holds of 217 people were totally affected at Bankatawa on 21st July. They were rescued by armed police force and Red Cross Volunteers and subsequently sheltered in schools. They were provided dry food and safe drinking water from the side of Red Cross. They need food support for at least one week. Rapti River bank areas, like HOLIYA, GANGAPUR, BETAHANI, FATTEPUR (near by the Laxmanpur Dam.) are most vulnerable areas. Posted on July 25

**Kailali:** Natural canals and rivers in Kailali are in spate now causing a large number of people to leave their place. As the report till 24th July by NRCS, Kailali, there is great effect in Joshipur - 7 & 3 Lokharpur and Mohanpur respectively and Thapapur V.D.C. ward no 6, khaira by the flood in Kandha and Patharaiya river where all together 70 to 100 families have been affected.

NRCS has mobilized their volunteer of the the area and seeking support from district stakeholders, but due to the flood the areas are not accessible. So, they are possible scenario to get the actual information from the affected areas and the facing problems. Posted on July 24

## Previous Issues

[Issue 1 \(July 26, 2007\)](#)

[Issue 2 \(July 27, 2007\)](#)

[Issue 3 \(July 28, 2007\)](#)