

BIHAR FLOOD 2008

weeklyreport

EMMANUEL HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

❖ SEPTEMBER 8 - 12, 2008 ❖

Situation Report :

3.3 million people continue to suffer due to the devastating floods in the state of Bihar. According to sources, over 9.87 lakh people have been evacuated to safer places by the army, navy and National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) personnel. The flood waters have started receding but at the same time there is a threat of an outbreak of diseases. The districts of Supaul, Saharsa, Araria, Madhepura, Katihar and Purnea are the worst hit areas in the state. Facilities like water and electricity supply have been disrupted. Transportation is difficult as roads are damaged and railway tracks in several places have been submerged under water. Villages, farmlands and fields that were once safe are now totally inundated by the floods. The government has opened a number of relief camps in these districts. Food and other relief material are being distributed to the panic stricken villagers through these camps. People are migrating from Bihar to other industrial places like Ludhiana and Delhi in search of petty jobs.

Loss of Agricultural land



The floods have affected the economy of the state in a very adverse manner. The flooding of the River Kosi has led to a major loss in the Agricultural output in the state of Bihar. More than 70% of Bihar's 90 million people rely on the land. Sources say that 250,000 acres (100,000 hectares) of farmland is under water.

Deteriorating health conditions

The flooded areas in Bihar provide an ideal environment for the spread of diseases and epidemics. The state is facing a major risk of an outbreak of water borne, vector borne and communicable diseases. Hygienic conditions in these areas are getting worse each day. People use the same stagnant water to wash clothes and utensils and to bathe and sometimes even to drink.





EHA Immediate Relief

EHA responded immediately to the unprecedented floods in Madhepura and Saharasa, and is providing food and medical relief to the flood affected people. EHA is working along with the DMs and other partners in providing relief. EHA hospital in Madhepura - Madhepura Christian Hospital is in the forefront of the relief activities.

In **Madhepura District**, EHA relief team is currently providing cooked meals to 3500 people in Bellgor camp and 1000 people in Sonapur camps daily. Over the last two weeks EHA has provided 27000 meals to the flood affected people.

EHA is also distributing food supplies to the affected families. Over the last week, 810 dry food packets were distributed.

EHA also started medical relief camps to provide medical care to the people suffering from diarrhea and other water-borne diseases in the camps and villages. Over the last few days, 700 people were given medical treatment.

In **Saharsha District** EHA is running two community kitchens in Patwaha and Lagma blocks. The EHA run mobile medical camps provided medical care to 150 people in Patwaha and 700 people in Lagma.



For Details Contact:

EMMANUEL HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
DISASTER MANAGEMENT & MITIGATION UNIT
808/92 DEEPALI BUILDING
NEHRU PLACE - 110019
phone: 011-30882008/2009

email us at:
centraloffice@eha-health.org

daily updates at:
www.eha-health.org