

INFORMATION BULLETIN



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

PAKISTAN:FLOODS/ LANDSLIDES

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The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in 185 countries.

In Brief

This Bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the situation and the information available at this time. The Federation is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors for this operation at this time.

Landslides and flash floods caused by continuous rains in the past few days have claimed the lives of 5 people in the village of Gul Dheri in the earthquake-affected area of Garhi Habibulla in North West Frontier Province, while 12 people died earlier in the week in Cheela Bandi, Muzaffarabad district in Pakistan-administered Kashmir. In Gul Dheri, most of the houses in the village have been partially or fully damaged, severely affecting approximately 400 families. The Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) has committed to providing 400 tents for emergency shelter and 400 hygiene parcels to the affected families. In Cheela Bandi, the PRCS sent medical staff and volunteers to assist with the rescue and relief operation. Meanwhile, in Sacha Kalan in the Siran Valley, the PRCS has mobilised the local community to move to safer ground after observing the rising level of the Siran River due to incessant rain.

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The Situation

Monsoon rains in the earthquake-affected area of Garhi Habibulla in North West Frontier Province have caused flash floods and the death of 5 people in the village of Gul Dheri.

Heavy rains which began on the evening of Wednesday 26 July, caused mudslides which altered the course of the river flowing by Gul Dheri. Most of the houses in the village have been partially or fully damaged, severely affecting approximately 400 families.

The relief camp of Kashtra near the village, which houses 110 families, is being threatened by the flooding and will be shifted to Jaba as soon as possible.

Local authorities are attempting to return the river to its normal course with excavators being used to move earth and debris.

Meanwhile the Siran River in the Siran Valley in North West Frontier Province is on the rise, threatening communities close to the river bed. There have been numerous landslides in the Siran Valley which have caused a number of deaths, though details of these fatalities have yet to be confirmed.



Monsoon rains have led to the river near the village of Gul Dheri to break its banks, inundating 400 houses. (Photo Federation/PRCS)

Earlier in the week, 12 people died as a result of flash floods and landslides in Cheela Bandi, in Muzaffarabad district in Pakistan-administered Kashmir.

Continuing rains caused numerous landslides, blocking several major routes across NWFP, Pakistan-administered Kashmir and the Punjab.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

A Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) team of two national disaster response team members and two volunteers made a detailed assessment of the affected areas in Garhi Habibullah on Thursday 27 July.

The assessment revealed 400 families as badly affected in Gul Dheri. Many people retreated to safer ground, but had to sit in the open with no shelter or basic necessities.

The assessment report was fed into a coordination meeting held on 27 July in Mansehra, convened by the government District Coordination Officer. The meeting was attended by several organisations including the PRCS, Federation, UNHCR, International Medical Corp (IMC), Oxfam, and the International Organisation for Migration (IOM).

The Federation/PRCS has committed to providing 400 tents for emergency shelter and 400 hygiene parcels. Each tent and parcel is to supply a family of seven. The parcels consist of: 1,750 ml shampoo; 1,750 grams; seven tubes of toothpaste; seven toothbrushes; six packets of disposable razors (5 per pack); 50 sanitary pads; 16 towels; a nail cutter; 100 grams vaseline; seven 200 gram bars of laundry soap; one pair of scissors. PRCS National headquarters is on standby to provide food packs for up to 400 families. The food packs contain various items such as cooking oil, rice, tea, sugar and flour.

Meanwhile, a PRCS monitoring team in the union council of Sacha Kalan in Siran Valley has today observed the Siran River on the rise as a result of incessant rain. The team of two national disaster response team members and a trained volunteer have been mobilising the local community to move to safer ground. The Team has relayed its observations to the Federation/PRCS field office in Mansehra and these will be shared with the latest inter-agency coordination meeting scheduled for Friday 28 July.

Responding earlier in the week to the tragic landslide at Cheela Bandi in Muzaffarabad district in Pakistan-administered Kashmir, the PRCS sent medical staff and volunteers to assist with the rescue and relief operation. The PRCS team recovered 12 bodies, rescued 5 people and provided medical attention. The local PRCS branch provided tents, blankets and food items to selected people. National headquarters has despatched further supplies of food items of 80 family packs. Each pack is sufficient ration for one week for a family of five.



The flash flood in Gul Dheri has hit homes with devastating affect. The PRCS/Federation is responding with emergency shelter and relief items for 400 families. (Photo Federation/PRCS)

In June, as part of the ongoing earthquake relief and recovery operation, the PRCS/Federation conducted large scale distributions of items to more than 41,000 families who had been assessed as still requiring relief assistance, particularly with the onset of the monsoon. The details of the distributions are as follows:

| Location | No. Families | No. Tents | No. Family hygiene kits | No. Female hygiene kits | No. Bed sheets |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Shangla | 8,000 | 0 | 16,000 | 8,000 | 35,000 |
| Abbottabad | 15,000 | 0 | 30,000 | 15,000 | 58,800 |
| Kaghan | 7,253 | 4,953 | 14,507 | 9,718 | 19,702 |
| Batagram | 5,600 | 3,240 | 11,200 | 5,600 | 19,943 |
| Thakot | 5,200 | 5,200 | 10,400 | 5,200 | 8,400 |
| TOTAL | 41,053 | 13,573 | 82,107 | 43,518 | 141,854 |

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The International Federation undertakes activities that are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to achieve the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- *Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.*
- *Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.*
- *Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.*
- *Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.*

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>