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Disaster relief emergency fund (DREF) India: Cyclone Phailin

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation n° MDRIN013
GLIDE n° [TC-2013-000133-IND](#)
Operation update n° 1
21 October 2013

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross and Red Crescent emergency response. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of National Societies to respond to disasters.

Period covered for this update: 14 to 18 October 2013

CHF 500,000 has been allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the National Society in delivering immediate assistance to some 15,000 families (75,000 beneficiaries). Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary:

Government report dated 15 October 2013 states that over 12 million people have been affected by cyclone Phailin in Odisha and Andhra Pradesh state respectively, while the number of disaster-hit villages across 17 districts jumped to more than 18,000.¹ The greatest impact of the cyclone was felt in Ganjam district of Odisha state, where it experienced extensive water logging in villages. The death toll due to the impact of the cyclone has risen to 46. Over 300,000 houses have been either partially or fully damaged by the cyclone and floods in Odisha. Heavy rain in the aftermath of cyclone Phailin, which struck the Odisha coast on 12 October 2013 has triggered massive floods. A total of 647 villages still remain marooned in Odisha State in the five northern districts of Balasore, Mayurbhanj, Bhadrak, Jajpur and Keonjhar.



IRCS mobilized staff and volunteers to assist the cyclone affected populations. **Photo:** IFRC.

Communication links remain vastly disrupted by strong winds. Road access is still being restored. The power infrastructure in Odisha and Andhra Pradesh states has been badly hit due to the cyclone. The chief minister of Odisha state has requested the prime minister for technical support of central power sector units for restoration of the power infrastructure in the state. At the moment, over 300 experts are being hired by the Union Power Ministry to assist in the restoration of electric supply in both Odisha and

¹ http://zeenews.india.com/news/odisha/odisha-floods-1-21-crore-people-affected-647-villages-remained-marooned_883769.html

Andhra Pradesh states.

Over 625,408 hectares of standing crops have been destroyed by gushing waters causing an estimated loss of INR 24 billion (CHF 353 million) paddy crops destroyed in Odisha and Andhra Pradesh. While the total loss arising out of the devastation unleashed by the cyclone has been pegged at more than INR 30 billion (CHF 411 million) in Ganjam district of Odisha state alone. In this district, fishermen have suffered massive losses as their nets, boats and catamarans have been damaged. Livelihoods have been badly impacted in affected areas that would require plans and strategies for short, medium and long-term support for recovery of livelihoods and services, and rehabilitation of infrastructure.

The Odisha State chief minister has requested the prime minister of India to release an advance of INR 10 billion (CHF 147 million) in addition to the corpus of INR 15 billion (CHF 221 million) available in the State Disaster Response Fund for 2013-14 for immediate relief and recovery. The Odisha State chief minister has announced cash amount of INR 500 (CHF 7) and free ration for the coming two months to affected population.

Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS), with the support from IFRC, has deployed national disaster water and sanitation response team members to operate three water purification units in Odisha State to provide safe drinking water. IRCS has mobilized additional water purification units to address acute shortage of drinking water. Relief and shelter materials like blankets, tarpaulins, kitchen sets, stoves, water buckets, saree (female clothing), *dhoti* (male clothing), towels, mosquito nets, etc, have been dispatched from IRCS national headquarters (NHQ) to the affected areas. About 2,500 IRCS volunteers are assisting communities and working ceaselessly for the relief distribution.



Women were particularly vulnerable in the aftermath of cyclone, some are pregnant or have children to care for. **Photo:** IFRC.

Partners who contributed to this DREF operation include the Austrian Red Cross, Belgium Red Cross and government, Canadian Red Cross and government, DG-ECHO, Netherlands Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross and government as well as allocation from the Tsunami Residual Fund.

[<click here for the DREF budget; here for contact details; here to view the map of the affected area>](#)

The situation

Torrential rains and flooding continue in the states of Odisha, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh and Bihar following the aftermath of severe cyclone Phailin. The extreme weather has wrecked crops, uprooted trees and blew off homes, affecting more than 12 million people in total, including the worst hit state of Odisha and Andhra Pradesh which the number of affected population stands approximately 12 million (refer to table below). The worst affected districts in Andhra Pradesh are Visakhapatnam and Srikakulam districts, and in Odisha state are Ganjam and Barhampur, Puri, and Khurda districts.

Table 1: Summary of damages/losses in Odisha and Andhra Pradesh states

SN	Facts and figures	Odisha	Andhra Pradesh	Total
1	Population affected as of 15 October 2013	approx. 11.98 million	approx. 139,000	approx. 12 million
2	No. of death as of 18	43	3	46

	October 2013			
3	No. of districts affected	17 districts	3 districts	20 districts
4	No of villages marooned/affected as of 18 October 2013	18,117 villages	345 villages	18,462 villages
5	No. of relief shelters/camps	75 Red Cross shelters for 110,400 people	125 other camps are operational where 129,000 people took shelter	/
6	No. of person evacuated	approx. 1 million	approx. 700,000	approx.1.7 million
7	No. of houses damaged	approx. 250,000	750	approx 250,750
8	Crop area affected	621,184 hectares	NAs	approx 621,184 hectares

As seen from the table above, the impact was enormous particularly in Odisha state. A total of 11.98 million people of 18,117 villages under 148 blocks of 2,015 *gram panchayats* (basic unit of administration) and another 43 urban bodies in 17 blocks were affected due to the cyclone, as well as floods which has hit 17 out of 30 districts in the state. Nearly half of Baripada town in the neighbouring Mayurbhanj district has also been submerged. Some 50 to 60 villages in Ganjam district which bore the maximum brunt of the storm have been completely submerged, stranding nearly 10,000 people. Power services have been wrecked in Ganjam district, while tens of thousands of homes partially or completely destroyed.

In Odisha alone 75 Red Cross cyclone shelters have been used for accommodating 110,400 people before the cyclone made landfall. The cyclone shelters were decided with separate living areas and latrine facilities for men and women. Services provided in the cyclone shelters included food, safe drinking water, and basic first aid.

First round of distribution of relief items to the affected people would continue in the next two to three weeks. The *tehsildars* (revenue administrative officers) have been requested by the chief minister of Odisha state to complete enumeration of the damages and submit a report for further action. Response teams from the Indian Army, Navy and Air Force, besides central disaster management agencies, were deployed for massive rescue and relief operations in the region. Air-dropping of food packets has started in Balasore district as accessibility by road is still a challenge.



Pregnant lady seeking refuge at the Indian Red Cross cyclone shelter which also offered medical services.
Photo: IFRC.

Coordination and partnerships

Both the government and India Red Cross Society (IRCS) have geared up their relief efforts in the impacted cyclone areas. IRCS has played an important role in integrating and assist with the government's evacuation operations in both states of Odisha and Andhra Pradesh. A

n Inter-Agency Group meeting was held in the Odisha State Red Cross branch office on 16 Oct 2013. Other coordination meetings will be held when required in the coming days.

On 14 and 15 October 2013, IRCS Secretary General called for an emergency meeting with various Red Cross Movement Partners to review the current operation and update on current operations and future plans for the Cyclone Phailin. An operational plan in complementary to the DREF operation is under discussion with an initial intention for relief stock replenishment and to support activities in water, sanitation and hygiene promotion. The plan will be incorporated in the revised India Development Operational Plan (DOP) 2013 as well as rollover to DOP 2014.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Joint IRCS and IFRC assessment team has been deployed in Odisha state from 14 to 17 October 2013 to some of the most affected communities in Ganjam and Puri districts.

As seen by the assessment team on the ground, mobile towers have collapsed cutting off communication links in many areas in Odisha state. Due to power failure, piped water system is non-functional. Even in block headquarters water is being distributed by tankers. It has been seen that many families are not boiling water before drinking. Many people are defecating in the open, and they are washing their hands with sand and water after defecation. With flood waters gradually receding, water logging is found in many villages. Vector control measures are urgently needed to prevent them from becoming breeding grounds for mosquitos.

According to the assessment, the immediate needs are:

- Means for emergency shelter, it could be achieved by providing tarpaulins.
- Basic necessities, could be achieved by providing family packs (Red Cross family packs include *dhoti*, *saree*, blanket, bucket, bed sheet, mosquito net, kitchen set, and towel).
- Safe drinking water.
- Sanitation and hygiene knowledge to prevent disease outbreak. This could be done by strong promotional intervention. Priority especially in Ganjam district which is the worst hit area.



IRCS's boat ferrying stranded populations from villages where by their houses were damaged by the cyclone.
Photo: IFRC.

Relief distributions (basic non-food items)

Outcome: The immediate basic non-food items and temporary shelter needs of the 15,000 cyclone affected families (75,000 beneficiaries) are met through distribution of family packs and tarpaulins.

Outputs:

- **15,000 families (75,000 beneficiaries) received basic shelter items.**
- **5,500 families (27,500 beneficiaries) received basic non-food items.**

Proposed Activities:

- Deployment of NDRT/NDWRT/SDRT/volunteers to conduct needs assessments.
- Verify/prepare lists of beneficiaries, and identify distribution points.
- Mobilization of stocks from available warehouses – taking into consideration the destroyed infrastructure and difficult access.
- Distribution of tarpaulins² as temporary shelters or repairing of damaged houses for 15,000 families.
- Distribution of family pack³ including basic relief items to 5,500 families.
- Replenishment of the distributed stocks.
- Regular monitoring and technical advice by IRCS national headquarters and IFRC.
- Conduct Lessons Learnt workshop after the completion of the operation.

Progress against outcome:

- IRCS has immediately mobilize the following items from their warehouses to the affected areas.
- Distribution of relief items is in progress. Priority is now given to the vulnerable families whose houses were completely damaged by the cyclone. Further actions will be taken based on assessment and coordination findings.

² The current plan only provides one tarpaulin (instead of normally two) per family to seek more coverage of families as the needs showed. Once more resources and access is available, the number of tarpaulins provided to each family will be reviewed and may be adjusted.

³ One family pack includes mosquito nets, saree, dhoti, bucket, kitchen set, cotton blanket, towel and bed sheet.

Table 2: Summary of relief items dispatched to Odisha and Andhra Pradesh state branches as of 14 October 2013

SN	Type of relief items	Odisha	Andhra Pradesh	Total
1	Bed sheet	4,000 pcs	1,000 pcs	5,000 pcs
2	Cotton blanket	4,000 pcs	1,000 pcs	5,000 pcs
3	<i>Dhoti</i>	4,000 pcs	1,000 pcs	5,000 pcs
4	<i>Saree</i>	4,000 pcs	1,000 pcs	5,000 pcs
5	Kitchen set	4,000 pcs	1,000 pcs	5,000 pcs
6	Mosquito net	4,000 pcs	1,000 pcs	5,000 pcs
7	Plastic bucket	4,000 pcs	1,000 pcs	5,000 pcs
8	Towel	4,000 pcs	1,000 pcs	5,000 pcs
9	Kerosene stove	4,000 pcs	1,000 pcs	5,000 pcs
10	Ladies garment (blouse)	685 pcs	1,000 pcs	1,685 pcs
11	Tarpaulin	1,500 pcs	1,000 pcs	16,000 pcs

- The DREF allocation will be used to replenish the items IRCS distributed as per the operation plan.
- An Emergency Control Room continues to operate at the IRCS NHQ as the operation centre to monitor the situation and gather information from the ground.
- Presently, 2,500 Red Cross volunteers are assisting communities in post cyclone relief and rescue operation. IRCS, an auxiliary to the government assisted in the evacuation of the at-risk populations to safer place.
- Odisha state branch plans to utilise its trained pool of community based volunteers for the relief and rescue operations. Around 500 to 1,000 State Disaster Response Team (SDRT), District Disaster Response Team (DDRT), National Disaster Response Team (NDRT), First Medical Responders (FMRs) and life members of the branch are engaged in various areas of the relief and rescue operations. The relief distribution will be monitored and coordinated by five state branch officials. Additionally, at least five to ten persons (for technical support) to be deployed by IRCS NHQ to assist state branch in its relief efforts.
- IFRC logistics personnel have been mobilized to support the cyclone relief operation.
- FMR/ first aid/ community based disaster risk reduction (CBDRR) actively involved in the relief camps organized in Kaviti, Sompeta, Kotha and Kalingapatnam villages in Andhra Pradesh state.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Outcome: The risks of water and sanitation related diseases have been reduced through access to safe drinking water, appropriate sanitation and hygiene promotion.

Outputs

- **Increased access to safe drinking water to the 5,000 cyclone affected people.**
- **Improve hygiene knowledge and behaviour of the 5,000 cyclone affected people.**
- Detailed assessment to identify villages for intervention.
- Mobilize and installation of water treatment units once location identified and condition allows.
- Establishing water distribution system.
- Training volunteers on Hygiene Promotion.
- Hygiene promotion activities to affected community by the IRCS volunteers.
- Monitoring of use of household level water treatment and storage.

Progress towards Outcomes:

- IRCS NHQ has mobilized three water treatment units (one NOMAD⁴ and two SETA⁵) to Odisha state branch.
- On request of the Odisha State branch, IRCS NHQ has deployed NDWRT members to operate the SETA water treatment units.
- 3 more water treatment units will be dispatched to IRCS Odisha state branch from Uttarakhand as they have completed their function in the flash flood operation.

Logistics

Logistics support will be provided following IFRC procedures to source and procure necessary relief items and to facilitate the efficient and timely delivery of these items for the success of the operation.

Some items included in the appeal are available in country and will be procured locally following IFRC international procurement standards and quality control. Others might be sourced through the support of the Zone Logistics Unit in Kuala Lumpur.

The primary tasks of the in-country logistics support includes:

- Coordinating with IRCS, program managers, and the zonal logistics unit (ZLU) based in Kuala Lumpur for the timeliest and cost-efficient sourcing option for items required in the operation (see above table)
- Utilizing existing warehousing facilities and vehicles for storage and efficient dispatch of goods to final distribution points.
- Liaising and coordinating with other key actors to ensure that the IFRC logistics processes use all information to be as efficient and effective as possible.

Communication

Odisha state branch has very good linkage with India Meteorological Department (IMD) wherein regular updates are received by the state branch on mobile. These updates are forwarded to the volunteers in Red Cross cyclone shelter surrounding communities.

IFRC Regional Communication and Advocacy Manager was part of the assessment team visiting cyclone affected areas in Odisha who will write and publish web stories and blog. The Communication & Advocacy Manager will also capture video footage and pictures of Red Cross volunteers and affected people.

Initial media monitoring reports between 10 to 17 October captured 226 articles in the international media that make reference to the Red Cross before, during and after the Cyclone Phailin. Main stories included those from AFP, REUTERS, the Guardian, Huffington post, Alert Net, Tribune de Genève, Kuwait times, Le Point, La Republica, Gulf News, La Voz de Frontera, France 24, CBC TV, etc.

SARD Communication Manager is supporting IRCS with international media coverage from the field, including:

- Germany Press
- Al Jazeera
- Pioneer (leading newspaper).
- A web story has been published on IFRC website focusing on the IRCS preparedness efforts which resulted in saving thousands of lives during cyclone Phailin. For details refer <http://www.ifrc.org/en/news-and-media/news-stories/asia-pacific/india/recovering-from-cyclone-phailin-survivors-face-massive-hardships--63582/>

⁴ NOMAD is a portable water purification system capable of producing 5,700 litres per hour of safe drinking water from fresh water sources (wells, lakes, ponds, rivers or floodwaters). The unit comes complete with its own generator, pump and water inlet pickup. It is easy to transport, assemble and virtually maintenance free.

⁵ SETA is a mobile water purification system capable of producing 500 litres per hour of safe drinking water from surface, sea and brackish water as well as river and floodwaters. The unit can be transported by 4x4 vehicles and trailer, including an autonomous generator plan.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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Click here

1. DREF budget **below**
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 3. Click **here** to return to the title page
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How we work

All IFRC 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 the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

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The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
 2. Enable healthy and safe living.
 3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.
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DREF OPERATION

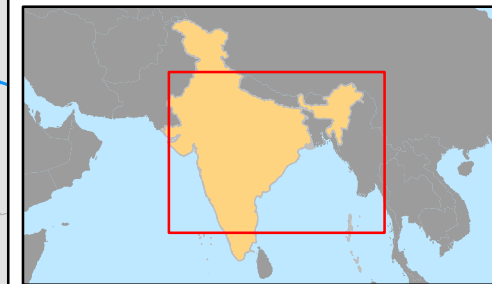
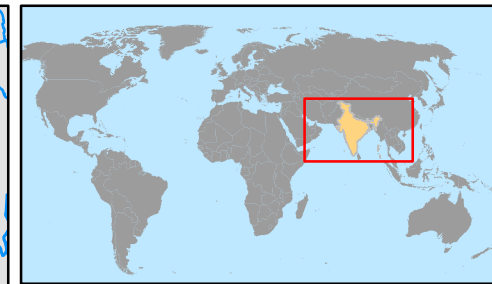
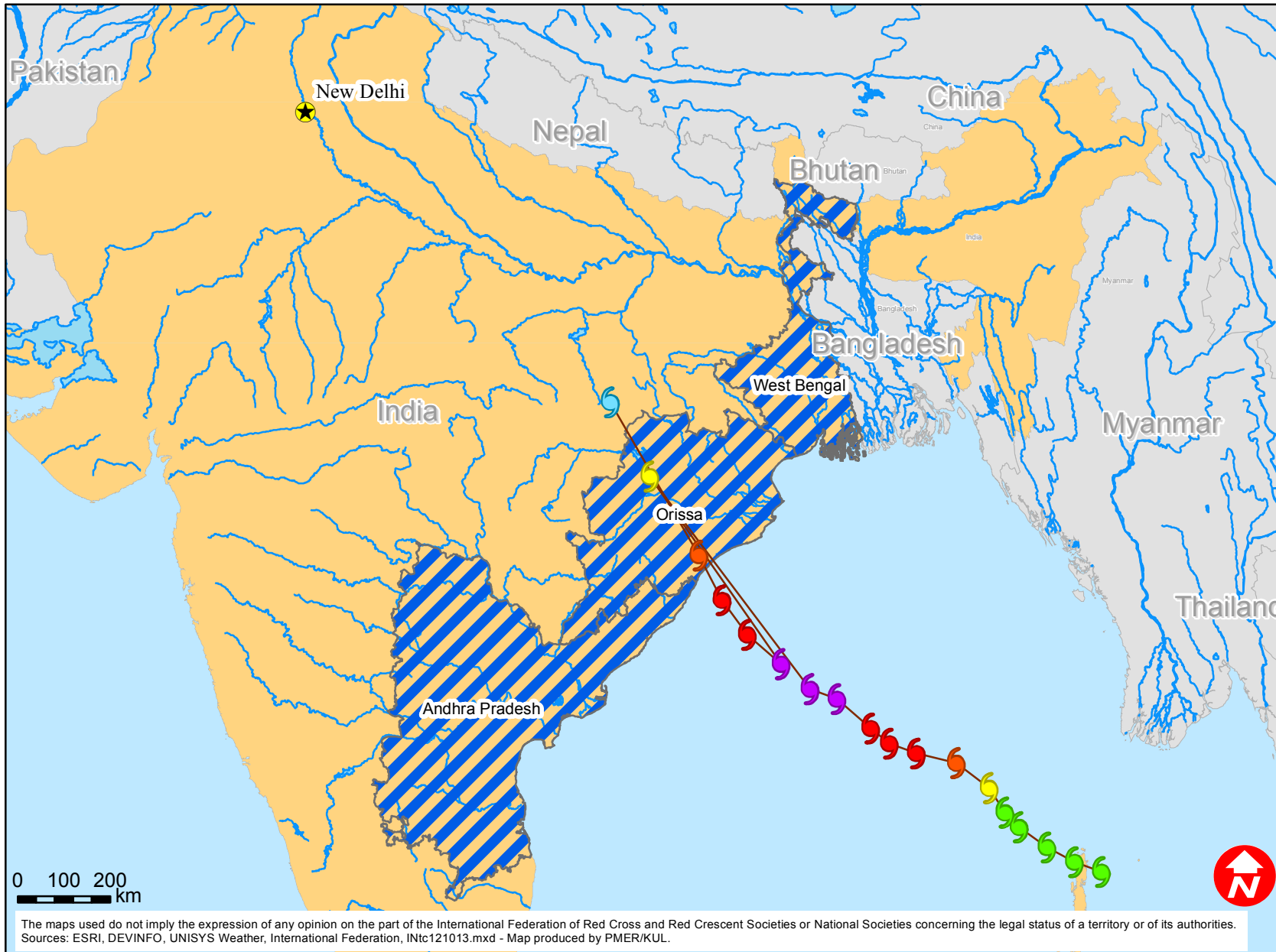
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MDRIN013 India Cyclone Phailin

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	405,975
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	2,344
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	408,319
Transport & Vehicle Costs	12,500
Logistics Services	26,164
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	38,664
Volunteers	11,719
Total PERSONNEL	11,719
Workshops & Training	2,344
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	2,344
Travel	5,859
Information & Public Relations	781
Communications	1,172
Financial Charges	157
Other General Expenses	469
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	8,438
Programme and Services Support Recovery	30,516
Total INDIRECT COSTS	30,516
TOTAL BUDGET	500,000



India: Cyclone Phailin



-  TROPICAL DEPRESSION
-  TROPICAL STORM
-  CYCLONE-1
-  CYCLONE-3
-  CYCLONE-4
-  CYCLONE-5
-  Cyclone Phailin
-  Affected area

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km

The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.
Sources: ESRI, DEVINFO, UNISYS Weather, International Federation, INtc121013.mxd - Map produced by PMER/KUL.