

DREF 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

INDIA: FLOODS

DREF Bulletin

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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 186 countries.

In Brief

This DREF Bulletin is being issued based on the situation described below reflecting the information available at this time. CHF 250,000 (USD 207,641 or EUR 151,515) was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to respond to the needs in this operation and to replenish disaster preparedness stocks distributed to the affected population.

This operation is expected to be implemented over 3 months; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation by 8 February 2007. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: Up to 1,294 people have lost their lives and 14 million more are affected by the south-west monsoon in India, which has been active throughout June and July. Across the Ganga-Brahmaputra-Meghana river basin, more than 12 million people are affected in the states of Assam, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh alone. Through its extensive network of branches, the Indian Red Cross Society has been active in distributing relief items since the start of the floods, providing for the daily needs of disaster-hit families.

For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please access the Federation's website at www.ifrc.org

Background and current situation

The south-west monsoon has been active in whole of June and July across the country. The floods continue to prevail within the Ganga-Brahmaputra-Meghana river basin in the most-affected states of Assam, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. A total of 1,294 lives have been lost in the country since the first wave of floods and about 14 million people are affected (source: ministry of home affairs). Please refer to the attached infographic map for more details.

Flood levels at four rivers remain high, while 20 rivers at a danger level with moderate flood trends. Presently, all the rivers in Bihar are below the danger level, except for the Ganga river at Kahalgaon district. The upper catchments areas of river Bagmati, Budhi Gandhak, Gandhak and Koshi in Nepal and in Bihar are flowing below the danger mark and are continuing their downward trend, but are still at the warning stage.

Bihar: No significant rainfall has been reported in the state during last 24 hours. Water has started receding from most of the rivers. Nevertheless, more than ten million people have been affected across 21 districts. A total of 738 relief camps have been functioning housing more than 25,000 people. In addition, state authorities have been running 238 cattle camps.

The government has started dropping food packets through helicopters in the affected districts of east Champaran, Darbhanga, Madhubani, Samastipur and Begusarai. Some 212 medical teams have been

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deployed in the affected districts. Almost 3,764 boats have been deployed to carry out relief and rescue operation. The state government has also released an ex-gratia amount of INR 189, 630 (approximately CHF 5,600) for the affected population.

The state government has requested the central government to provide assistance and has also asked the public sector to supply plastic sheeting to the affected. In response to the Bihar state government's plea, the Chhattisgarh (a neighbouring state) mobilized 30 truck loads of plastic sheeting.

Uttar Pradesh: Light to very light rainfall has been reported in some parts of the state during the last 24 hours. Water has started receding from most of the rivers; the most affected districts are Gorakpur, Shravasti, Bahraich, Maharajganj, Balrampur, Basti, Gonda and Barabanki. A total of two million people have been affected in the state, spread across 2,665 villages (source: disaster management division, ministry of home affairs). Up to 160 relief camps are running presently, housing almost 160,000 people. The army was called in to assist, including the engineers division, and it has been carrying out a search and rescue mission in the state. More than 1,986 country boats have been deployed for search and rescue operations.

Assam: Very light rainfall had hit Assam and in limited parts of the state in last 24 hours. Up to 5,862 villages in 26 districts are reported to have been affected in the state. About 665 relief camps have been functioning, housing almost 128,606 people. An additional 282 temporary relief shelters accommodating almost 332,412 people are also in operation. Ferry service between Diburgarh and Dhemaji has been initiated partially.

Orissa: Heavy to very heavy rainfall has been reported from the state in the last 24 hours in some places: Puri (22 cms), Bhubaneshwar (19 cms) Nimpada (18 cms) Kotagarh (17 cms) and Kakatpur (16 cms).

Kerala: Light to moderate rainfall has been reported in some parts of the state during the last 24 hours. Up to 76 relief camps are still functioning housing more than 11, 909 people. Five national disaster response forces continue to be mobilized.

Forecast

The low pressure area formed on 5 August on the northwest Bay of Bengal moved westward and intensified in to deep depression at 23:30 hours. The depression is moving towards the north-west and under its influence, heavy to very heavy rains are predicted. More rainfall is predicted over costal Orissa and north Telengana region.

Response of other agencies

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF): Carried out assessments in all the affected states in response to the needs identified, i.e. food, shelter and other primary health care. The UNICEF has distributed 300,000 water purification sachets in Assam. In close coordination with the district authorities, the UNICEF has distributed family hygiene kits, oral rehydration salt (ORS) packets, bleaching powder, tarpaulin sheets, water storage tanks, iron folic acid (IFA) tablets, Jerry cans, torch lights, halogen tablets, weighing scales, notebooks, pencils, erasers, vitamin A tablets and raincoats.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP): Supports the authorities with its staff to carry out operations and to initiate interagency coordination.

The Sphere India: Under this flagship 12 agencies have come together in Patna and Delhi to participate in these forums and share information.

The Evangelical Fellowship of India Commission on Relief (EFICOR) is presently works in three districts of Bihar supporting food, drinking water and tarpaulin distribution. These have been taken up after an assessment. The organization is targeting 3,000 – 6,000 families.

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The MDA is active with its partners and is present in 11 blocks of Muzaffarpur city. Through its 40 grain banks and pre-positioned stock, the organization will target 2,000 families.

Medicines Sans Frontier is focusing on health issues, keeping in line with its core objectives, and would be working closely with the Bihar state branch society.

The Church's Auxiliary for Social Action (CASA), along with its partners, will respond to the needs in four districts in Bihar and presently will be targeting 6,000 families.

Concern Worldwide, along with its partners, is present in two districts of Bihar. The focus area would be livelihood restoration and in extreme cases, some temporary shelter.

World Vision is present in two districts of Bihar.

Oxfam, an international non-governmental organizations (INGO), is operating in three districts of Bihar along with its partners and is targeting 15,000 families. It is presently using two fast rescue boats (FRB) in addition to country boats for the rescue work. Other support includes first aid, water and sanitation, education and temporary shelter and dry food rations. Key intervention would be in the area of public health. Based on assessment planning, relief has been carried out for Sitamarhi, Madhubani, and Darbhanga districts, and the INGO has already responded to the needs of 1,000 families.

ActionAid is also present in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

All branches in the affected states have been working round the clock to provide services to the most vulnerable, which include Assam, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. All the district branches in the flood-hit states have been active; this has been reported in Disaster Management Information System (DMIS) entries and information bulletins as well.

To date relief provided by the IRCS national headquarters is:

SN.	Name of the state	Relief material provided
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Cotton blankets – 4,500 Bed sheets – 2,000 Female clothing – 2,000 Male clothing – 5,000 Mosquito nets – 5,000 Plastic buckets – 4,500 Kitchen sets – 4,500 Cash assistance of CHF 7,070 for operational expenses.
2.	Gujarat	Cotton blankets – 3,000 Bed sheets – 3,000 Female clothing – 3,000 Woollen blankets – 3,000 Towels – 3,000 Kitchen sets – 3,000 Tarpaulin sheets – 2,000 Clothes as available Cash assistance of CHF 5,656 for operational costs.
3.	Assam	Non-food family packs – 2,000 (which include male and female clothing, bed sheets, mosquito nets, kitchen sets, plastic buckets, blankets and cotton towels) Cash assistance of CHF 7,070 for operational expenses.
4.	West Bengal	Male and female clothing – 2,000 each.

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		Blankets – 1,000 Mosquito nets – 1,000 Kerosene stove – 200 Children’s clothes for boys and girls 700
5.	Kerala	Mosquito nets – 7500 Bed sheets – 5000 Cash assistance of CHF 5,656 for operational expenses.
6.	Tripura	1000 non-food family packs have been distributed.
7.	Bihar	10,000 non-food family packs have been provided to the state branch.
8.	Orissa	Cotton blankets – 4500 Female clothing – 10,000 Male clothing – 4500 Mosquito nets – 4500 Kitchen sets – 4500 Towels – 4500 Tarpaulin sheets – 3000
9.	Madhya Pradesh	Non-food family packs – 2,500

The three states of West Bengal, Gujarat and Tripura were provided with relief material, as these states were hit by the first wave of floods. The state branches had responded efficiently, so the IRCS national headquarters used this distribution to replenish their disaster preparedness stock.

The Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS) has been coordinating nationally and at the state level with government authorities and the United Nations (UN) through various forums and exchanges of information. Furthermore, the IRCS disaster management centre has been vigilant of the situation at all times, sharing information within the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement at regular intervals. The IRCS action has been covered comprehensively in previous information bulletins. The Indian Red Cross Society has also been updating the flood situation vis-à-vis the Society’s response on its website www.indianredcross.org.

On the 16 and 17 July, the Indian Red Cross Society had a national level disaster management review meeting, in which each state spoke at length on its strengths and weaknesses. Eleven targeted states participated in the programme.

The planned response

The IRCS national headquarters is presently looking at a plan to combat the floods. It is structuring a national response on the current situation, based on detailed plans of action from the affected state branches that the IRCS national headquarters has forwarded to the Federation secretariat. An initial amount of CHF 19,801 has been advanced by the IRCS national headquarters to the Assam, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat states to meet their operational expenses.

The Federations India office has been closely liaising with the IRCS national headquarters since the beginning of the disaster and has been playing a crucial role in coordinating with various components of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement.

The India office has also agreed to lend support to the relief activities of IRCS in the following categories (also see the budget breakdown below).

- Dry rations (rice, pulses, beaten rice, jaggery and tea leaves)
- Replenishment of about 3,000 non-food family packs distributed during the emergency (as disaster preparedness stock) following Federation procurement procedures and looking at the best local and regional sourcing options.
- Operational cost for implementing this plan.

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The respective state branches identified 30,000 beneficiaries (including 3,000 families for non-food family packs and another 3,000 for the distribution of dry rations)

Figure 2: Estimated budget for the DREF request

Items	Quantity	Unit cost (CHF)	Total (CHF)
Non-food family pack	3,000	55	165,000
Beaten rice	30, 000 kg	0.45	13,500
Rice	30, 000 kg	0. 43	12,900
Jaggery	6000 kg	0.68	4,080
Pulses	6000 kg	1.02	6,120
Tea leaves	1500 kg	4.24	6,360
Inspection cost			20,000
Operational cost			22,040
		Grand total	250,000

1 CHF = INR 35.35

In the forthcoming DREF update, more details will be produced on the basis of further assessment of this ongoing disaster.

How we work

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.

The Federation's Global Agenda

The International Federation's activities are aligned with under a Global Agenda, which sets out **four broad goals** to meet 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.

Contact information

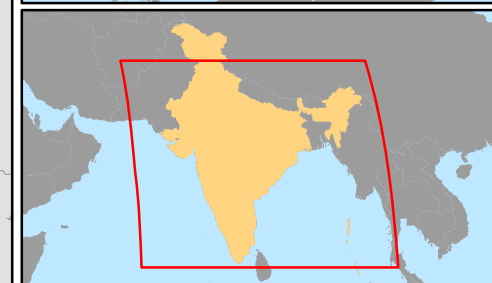
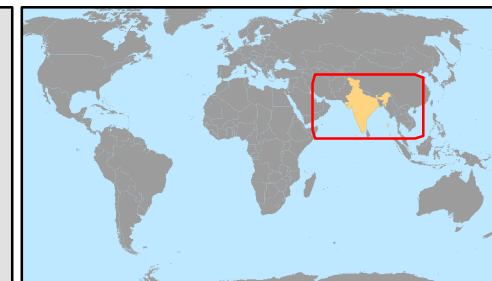
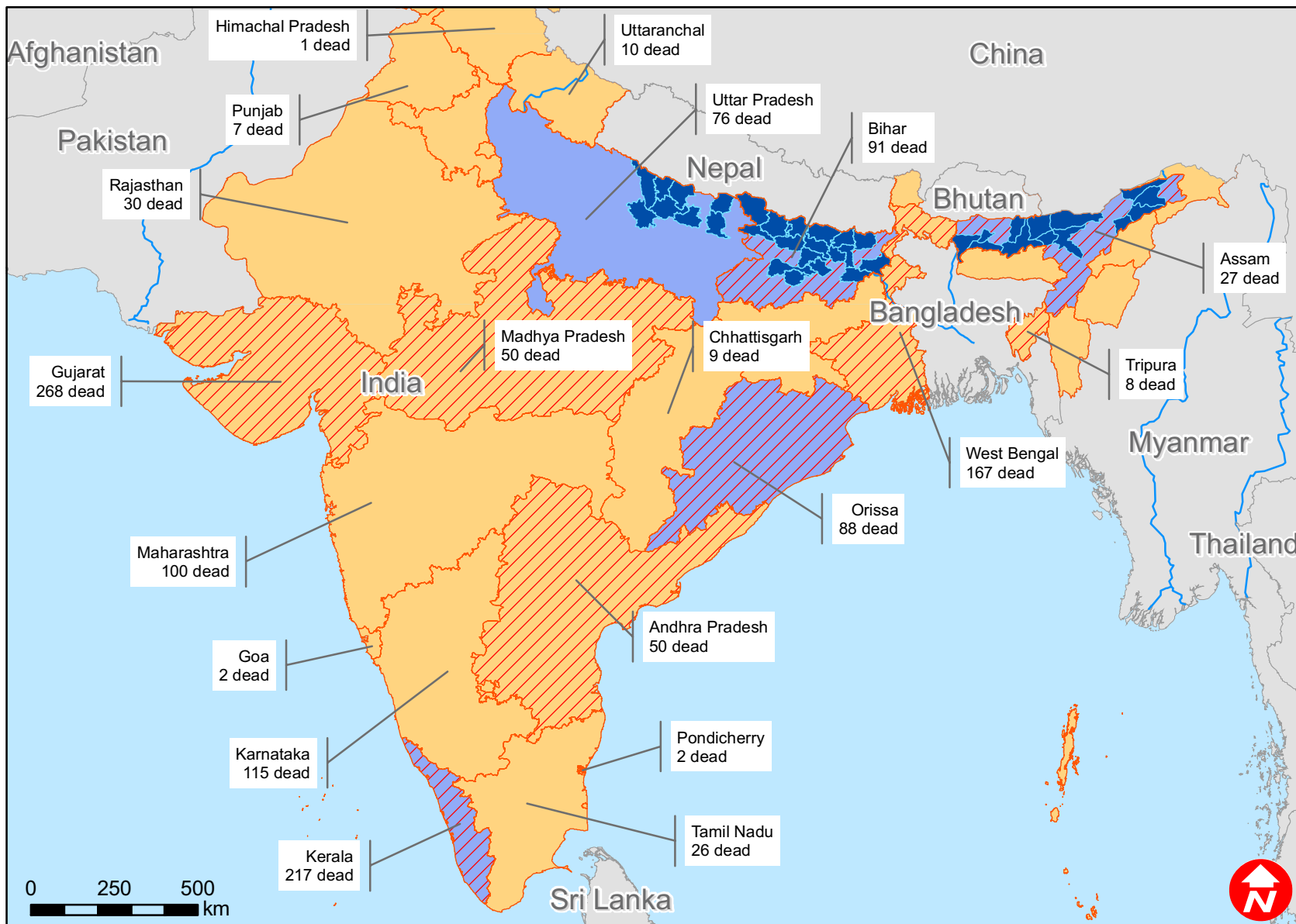
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India: Floods



The South-west monsoon has been active in whole of June and July across the country. The flood condition continues to prevail within Ganga-Brahmaputra- Meghana river basin in the states of Assam, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh

- Affected states
- Most affected districts
- IRCS provided relief in this state