

# 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 جمعيات الصليب الأحمر والقمر الأحمر

## PAKISTAN: EARTHQUAKE

17 February 2004

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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 over 180 countries.

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### In Brief

**This document is being issued for information only. The Federation is not seeking any funding or other assistance from donors for this operation at this time.**

### The Situation

At least 24 people were killed when an earthquake, measuring 5.7 on the Richter scale, hit several cities in Pakistan including parts of the North West Frontier Province (NWFP), Azad Kashmir and Islamabad on 14 February. The earthquake's epicentre was 200 kilometres northeast of Peshawar.

The worst hit areas were the Kaghan valley, Knosh and Mansehra district where some 206 houses were completely destroyed and a further 200 partially damaged. In Allai Tehsil the earthquake caused a landslide which buried vehicles killing 12 people. Due to heavy snowfall in the valley the main road has been blocked, severely hampering relief efforts.

Two earthquakes of mild intensity jolted Mansehra and its adjoining areas again on 15 February, which caused panic and fear among people. However, no loss of life and property has been reported.

### Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) responded immediately to the disaster by sending the NWFP branch disaster preparedness officer to the affected area for an initial damage assessment and to ascertain the need for immediate relief. This was facilitated by the close working relationship between the local administration of the affected areas and the NWFP branch.

The branch has arranged for the urgent dispatch of some Rs 245,000 worth of relief items to Mansehra district including 34 tents, 300 blankets, 150 kerosene lamps, 50 kitchen sets, and 20 sleeping bags. Distribution of relief goods started on 16 February.

For a full description of the National Society profile, see [www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)

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