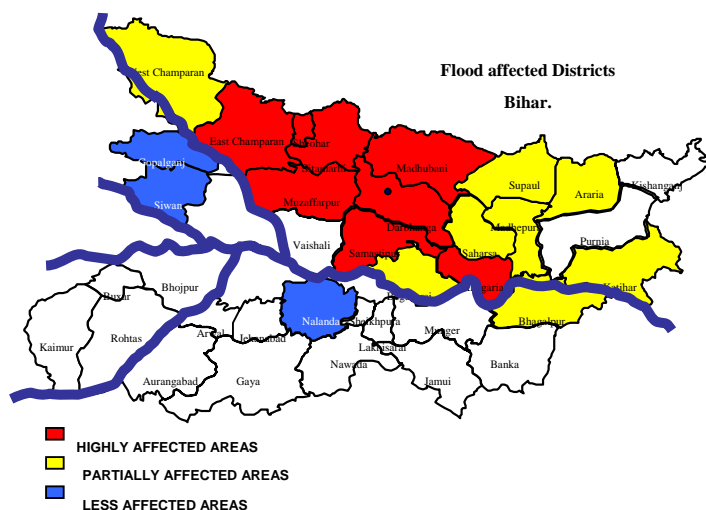


UNICEF SITUATION REPORT INDIA FLOODS - EXTERNAL 10 AUGUST 2007

HIGHLIGHTS

- As per Government estimates, as on August 9, floods in India have affected 34.87 million people. As many as 28,706 villages have been affected and 262,743 houses have been fully damaged. Another 480,265 houses have suffered partial damage.
- The Central Government has already provided Calamity Relief Funds amounting to Rs. 1292 crores (about \$ 320 million) to the affected state governments. A similar amount is due to be released in September.
- Bihar state is the worst hit and the flood situation continues to be grim. The water level in major rivers- Ganga, Budhigandak, Baghmati and Kosi, is receding but they are still flowing above the danger level at many places. Over all death tolls due to floods in the state 160. The stagnant water poses a serious threat to about 14 million people in these states.
- In Uttar Pradesh, the death toll has increased to 170. Though there is no forecast of rains in catchments of flooded rivers in coming few days, there is a possibility of heavy rainfall in late August and early September.
- The flood situation in Assam in north east India is under control. Gujarat and Orissa have had heavy rains and floods in some cities in the last few days but overall the situation is under control.
- UNICEF staff members are regularly assessing the flood situation in the affected areas. Apart from items already pre-positioned which have been provided to the flood affected people, UNICEF is up-scaling the humanitarian response in UP, Bihar, Orissa and Assam.
- Inter-agency meetings are taking place in the affected states on a regular basis. UNICEF is playing a lead role in coordination with NGOs, INGOs and government agencies.

BIHAR



Situation

- The flood situation in Bihar has improved with major rivers maintaining a receding trend. No discharge of flood water from the Valmiki barrage in Nepal in the last 3 days has brought relief for the people of the flood affected districts of Bihar. There has not been any significant rain in the catchment area of the northern districts of Bihar in the last few days.
- The number of people affected is about 14 million (including 1.5 million children of below 5 years) in 19 districts in North Bihar due to stagnant water in the affected areas. These districts are Muzaffarpur, Sitamarhi, East Champaran, Saharsa, Supaul, Madhubani, Darbhanga, Katihar, Samastipur, Sheohar, Nalanda, Khagaria, Madhepura, Araria, Begusrai, Patna, Gopalganj, West Champaran and Bhagalpur. The worst affected among those are flowing 8 districts: Muzaffarpur, Sitamarhi, East Champaran, Madhubani, Darbhanga, Samastipur, Sheohar, Khagaria.

UNICEF RESPONSE

- UNICEF has provided 1,800 life straws to the most vulnerable communities for safe drinking water in flood-affected districts.
- UNICEF rushed five trucks with relief materials to flood affected districts based on the request of the district administration in the last 2 days. Supplies have been despatched for Samastipur, Madhepura, East Champaran, Saharsa and Supaul districts. The supply includes polythene sheets, PUR sachets for purification of water, bleaching powder, ORS, Jerry Cans, Candles, Matchboxes and IFA tablets. This will benefit about 30,000 affected people, mostly women and children.
- Additional rapid assessment has been conducted in Madhubani and Sitamarhi district.
- 50 Medical Teams consisting of two doctors each are conducting health camps in the flood affected districts and mass measles immunization drives for most vulnerable children up to 10 years of age.
- UNICEF is supporting the Government in setting up a surveillance system for early detection and management of outbreak of diseases. 600 cases of fever have been reported in Khagaria. UNICEF has placed medical focal teams in 10 districts and examined 21,000 patients in last three days.
- UNICEF is continuing the flood relief activities through its NGO network in 11 districts namely Muzaffarpur, Sitamarhi, East Champaran, Madhubani, Darbhanga, Samastipur, Sheohar, Khagaria, Supaul, Saharsa, Sheohar and also through Mahila Samakhya in 4 districts namely Madhubani, Darbhanga, Supaul and Sheohar.
- The URS-IAG met on August 10, 2007 to review the response plan and mapped the district wise response of different INGOs and international agencies. INGO and international agencies informed that they have completed the assessment and they would support about 70,000 families in terms of dry food, water and temporary shelter.



UTTAR PRADESH (U.P.)

Situation

- No rains reported; water continuously receding. All rivers flowing either at static level or below danger level. Though there is no forecast of rains in catchments of flooded rivers in coming few

days, there is always possibility of heavy rainfall in late August and early September. This requires continued preparedness.

- Total population affected is 2.5 million (500,000 approx. children 0 - 14 years of age). Out of these, 165,000 have been displaced, including 30,000 children 0 - 14 years.



- So far, no report of any large scale incidence of water, vector borne and other flood related diseases.
- Total deaths reported so far stands at 170.
- There are reports that about 50% of the displaced families (approx. 40,000) from 1394 marooned villages have moved back to their houses.

UNICEF RESPONSE

- Partnerships have been developed with 'Art of Living', National Cadet Corps and Indian Academy of Pediatrics (IAP).
- Two teams have gone to Bahaich and Barabanki today to set up health/relief camps in these districts.
- Two more camps have been set up in partnership with 'Art of Living' in Gorakhpur district. At least 250 persons have benefited from these camps. The latter organization has distributed food items, clothes, medicines and provided medical services through reputed doctors.
- 18 doctors on contract with UNICEF have been deployed in affected districts to work with district administration and evolve partnership with NGOs and other organizations.

ASSAM

Situation

- With no rainfall reported during the last 24 hours, no further flood related adversity has been reported in the state.
- Almost 6.67 million people have been affected by the floods in Assam. 26 out of 27 districts have been affected by floods in Assam. There have been 37 human casualties and 10,091 houses have been damaged. At present 146,621 people are living in 669 relief camps. Majority of the inmates in relief camps are women and children.
- Inundated areas still have stagnant water which puts the population at risk of waterborne diseases. Moreover, given the concentration of population in the camps & temporary shelters, there is also the risk of measles epidemic.

UNICEF RESPONSE

- Co-ordination with State administration and partner NGOs on rapid response. UNICEF is assisting the state authorities in health and sanitation sector.
- UNICEF has arranged for supplies of items worth \$ 79,000 so far in Assam. These include Mosquito Nets, PUR sachets, ORS, Water testing kits, Jerry cans, sanitary pans, water distribution kits and recreation kits.

ORISSA

Situation

- Rains are continuing and rivers in Orissa are either flowing above danger levels or may do so in the next few days. Road communication has been cut off between districts in South of Orissa. As per Government estimates, around 1.5 million people in 1,825 villages in Jajpur, Rayagada, Gajapati, Ganjam, Kalahandi and Cuttack districts are presently affected by heavy rainfall and flood.
- Fears of outbreak of post submergence enteric diseases are looming large in Cuttack where 150 Cases of diarrhea have been reported by local media after rain waters have receded.

UNICEF RESPONSE

- In collaboration with UN agencies and NGOs, UNICEF is closely monitoring the situation. Planning is being done for further pre-positioning of supplies. UNICEF is actively assisting the authorities in preparing contingency plans for containment of disease outbreaks and early restoration of disrupted services like immunisation and restoration of safe drinking water supply.
- A plan for preparedness, raising awareness at the community levels and building capacities for timely response has been developed by UNICEF which would focus on interventions in Health, Nutrition, Water & Sanitation and Education sectors.

GUJARAT

- With the revival of monsoon in Gujarat, Porbandar, Junagadh, Jamnagar and Rajkot districts, were lashed by heavy rainfall in the past one week. Around 800 villages had been flooded in these districts. Jamnagar and Veraval cities continue to reel under floods on the second consecutive day on Thursday.
- The situation is under control. Army, which had been called for relief and rescue operations, has been withdrawn. 100,000 people have been evacuated to safer places. Cash doles and family kits distributed to the affected population by the District Administration.
- No request has been received by UNICEF so far from the State for any assistance.

The situation in other states is Normal.