

Nepal Earthquake - Rescue, Relief, Rehab



Special points of interest:

- * Nepal Earthquake Devastation
- * Rescue, Relief, Rehab
- * Stories that inspire us.
- * Nepal relief numbers
- * ReBuild Nepal -Next Phase.

A major earthquake struck Nepal on April 25 resulting in more than 8600 casualties and 18,000 injured. It seriously affected more than 12 districts and 8 million people. Powerful aftershock on May 12 caused further 150 casualties and thousands more homeless. Around 1500 schools

Scene of Massive destruction in Bhaktapur.

are damaged, hurting student community. More than one-fourth of dead are children below 10 years. A tragedy of this scale was unthought-of by anyone in Nepal and lack of disaster preparedness was evident everywhere. In these des-

perate times of colossal humanitarian crisis, local partners of Sewa International led by HSS Nepal, along with Indian Government/Armed Forces, were among the first responders to the disaster and stepped in to provide rescue/relief to our Nepalese brethren.

Cultural Catastrophe



One of the destroyed temple in Bhaktapur Darbar square.



Scene of destruction in Basantapur Darbar square.

Several Mandirs, Muths and heritage buildings of archaeological/historical importance have been destroyed in quake affected parts of Nepal including Kathmandu.



Massive destruction in Bhaktapur Darbar square

These include Patan Krishna Mandir, Patan Darbar Square, Basantpur Hanuman Dhoka Darbar square, Bhaktapur Darbar square, Taleju Mandir. The loss of historical and culturally important Bhimsen Dharahara 9 storey tower is probably the

worst loss. Only saving grace is that Pashupati-Nath temple shrine is relatively unaffected and is still open to all, giving Nepalese people something to cheer about.

Rescue



Volunteers helping in clearing rubble, checking patients & assisting hospitals.

Our volunteers swung into the rescue and relief work just 3 hours after the devastating earthquake on April 25 and started distributing drinking water, rice, Chevda, snacks and tarpaulins as an immediate relief in

many places of Nepal. They were the first responders in many districts like Bhaktapur to help find survivors. They also worked in tandem with Nepalese govt. rescue team in helping them in clear-

ing dead bodies and providing immediate medical help including baby delivery (see story on following page). A team of Doctors from Arogya Bharati, National Medicos Organization & many other groups, joined the rescue/relief with medicines and medical kits that have saved many lives.

Relief



VedPrakashji, Shyamji distributing relief from Sewa International

Since the deadly earthquake, the relief material is being distributed in all of the 12 worst affected districts of Nepal, with over 90% buildings destroyed in some cases. The volunteers have tried to reach far flung villages in some of these districts which are located at high altitudes like 10000+ feet to provide relief material to the people in dis-

stress. There had been a demand for Tarpaulins for protecting the families from



Relief being distributed by HSS Volunteers in Sindhupalchok on May 12 just before powerful aftershock.

rain/wind/sun and foodstuff like rice, yellow/black gram, biscuits, milk powder etc, which are being supplied by our volunteers through supplies received by air/road/rail

routes. HSS led organizations have successfully deployed more than 1600 local volunteers for the rescue & relief operations and



Our spirited pracharak, Dhruvaji bringing relief to Bhaktapur residents.

have reached more than 300 villages/560 wards till this date in those districts.

Rehab



Tents in Sindhupalchok

The deadly earthquake and powerful aftershocks had created a great sense of panic in the residents of the affected regions. Hundreds of thousands of houses have been destroyed or left unviable, creating huge demand for tarpaulins/tents for immediate shelter. Our volunteers have worked inc-



Tents in Nuwakot

santly to arrange for shelters of the affected people, even in the most remote regions of Nepal. Few times, we had to face people's ire when we ran short of tents/tarpaulins, but our volunteers through the trust that they generated among local people, were always able to convince and ensure shelter



People forced on road in Kathmandu.

for all. With the impending monsoons, there is a need for a temporary shelter which can withstand heavy rains. For that, our organizations are working with Nepal govt. for a working mechanism in order to provide zinc/tin sheets and other materials for temporary shelter.

Stories that inspire....

Bharat — Reason to Smile

I met a team of 8 Doctors representing Arogya Bharati, Haryana state who had an experience to share. The bus carrying these Doctors was headed towards Jalbire, a village close to China border. However, the bus came to a halt due to a landslide. The doctors with the kits of medicines decided to walk rest of the distance to Jalbire, only to find that there was an emergency case awaiting them. A pregnant lady was undergoing labour pains and there was no one to attend. The local Doctor at Public Health Center had directed the lady to Kathmandu



Bharat, baby boy, being given to his proud mom

hospital it being a complicated case. The Team of Doctors swung into action and operated the lady inside the ambulance itself to deliver a baby boy successfully. The new born was named "Bharat" in consultation with the family and father of the boy. It proved to be a moment of joy for the whole village and a time to celebrate amidst devastation.

Sugreeva — The Inspiring Hero



Sugreeva (in pink shirt), helping with moving dead bodies.

Handling dead bodies is the last act that anyone would like to do, but when there are hundreds of dead bodies to be handled during the calamity, no one would dare to touch. It was the similar story for couple of days at the Teaching Hospital mortuary. Police personnel deployed there preferred to look the other way as the bodies arrived. Yet, a young man stood constantly through the week after terrible earthquake, handling every dead body arriving, embalming as many as one can, packing them with sheets, helping the relatives of the dead to identify

their near & dear who have died, or whatever came his way. Other volunteers were doing their turns, able to work for 2-3 hours at a go and then break while this person continued without break. The hospital doctors and staff were so very impressed that they even offered to employ him which he simply declined. He received an **award** from Hospital due to his extraordinary service. The trauma of handling dead bodies is enormous and yet this young man never complained, no murmur, just performing his duty without expectation of name, fame,



Hospital head presenting award to Sugreeva (with Dhiren[PVP])

money, absolutely nothing. His dedication to the cause is unique, and makes him a true "Karmayogee". When a journalist inquired where he received the training in handling dead bodies or embalming them, he responded that he had never done this job earlier. This was the first time he performed this. He is an activist like many others and is presently a full timer for Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) in Bihar. He might have handled close to 250 bodies in total within a week, a sort of records. This young man is **Sugreeva**, a true hero.

Trust begets Trust



Natives of Chorghare Gavisa, Nuwakote district re-

TeerthRajji giving aid to lady.

sorted to public agitation on the road. The protest stopped the traffic on the road for hours. The villagers had not received any relief material for almost 9 days after the earthquake.

A group of volunteers who were travelling along the route and had to stop, met the protestors and calmed them down with a promise that they would be back with relief within 24 hours.

The villagers were delighted to find the group back in village next day morning with relief material. A pracharak of HSS, Teerthraj

Khanal, led this group and distributed the material. The district Superintendent of Police Sobodh Ghimire applauded the efforts by talking to Teerthraj on phone and guided him to more such places.

One of the beneficiaries in Chorghare Gavisa, Nuwakote was a widow with 9 children who had to take shelter beneath a Banyan tree. All 10 of them lived with little food for almost 9 days. The lady and her kids returned to village after some persuasion and receiving the relief material.

Nepal Relief in Numbers

Partner Organizations



1. Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh, Nepal
2. Jan Kalyan Pratisthan, Nepal
3. Pragyik Vidyarthi Parishad, Nepal

4. Janjati Kalyan Ashram, Nepal
5. Pashupati Shiksha Prasara Samiti, Nepal
6. Vishwa Hindu Parishad, Nepal
7. Sewa International, Nepal

Relief Materials Info [Till 14thMay]

1. Rice 600.00 Quintals
 2. Tarpaulins 20759 Nos.
 3. Blankets 25152 Nos.
 4. Biscuits 37314 packets
 5. Noodles 15208 packs
 6. Gur (Jaggery) 17061 Kgs
 7. Puffed Rice 20799 Kgs
 8. Wheat flour 5800 Kgs
 9. Edible oil 393 Kgs
 10. Sugar 100 Quintals
 11. Salt 1877 kgs
 12. Clothes (new) 483 sacks
 13. Yellow gram (Daal) 915 kgs.
 14. Potato 1600 bags (50Kg each)
- + Water bottles, mats, Candles, Torch-lights, Matchboxes, Umbrella, etc.

Supported Nepal Districts

1. Sindhupalchok
2. Kabhrepalanchok
3. Dhading
4. Gorkha
5. Nuwakot
6. Rasuwa
7. Dolkha
8. Ramechhap
9. Bhaktapur
10. Kathmandu
11. Lalitpur
12. Lamjung

ReBuild Nepal - Next Phase



Sample Tin House(Temporary)

Sewa International Nepal in coordination with HSS and other partner organizations in Nepal, is planning to take up some short term rehabilitation program soon after concluding

the relief operations keeping in mind the ensuing monsoon. Providing a temporary kind of roof is essential like Tin/Zinc sheets and structure to support it. The students community is badly affected with most of the school buildings destroyed in quake. They would be provided support for their education immediately by building community shelters as temporary schools. Sewa International Nepal would decide on the long-term rehab for the benefit of the earthquake affected soon. Sewa International Nepal looks forward to international support from our respected donors in course of



time for the short/long-term Nepal rehabilitation program.

Sample Earthquake Resistant home made from straw for hills (Permanent)

Direct Payments: Sewa UK

HSBC Bank, Shirley Branch, West Midlands
Sort Code 40-41-27
A/C No. 01519026
[Ref: Nepal Appeal]

Birmingham Office: 1100 Stratford Road, Hall Green, Birmingham B28 8AD

Appeal To Our Esteemed Donors for their Continued Support to the cause.