



**UPDATE 3**

**DATE: July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

**SITUATION**

According to Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) there is a warning for isolated heavy to very heavy rainfall over Gangetic West Bengal, Orissa, Jharkhand, north Chattisgarh, west Uttar Pradesh, west Madhya Pradesh, Haryana and east Rajasthan in the next couple of days.

So far 55, 48,899 people have been affected in 3205 villages of 26 Districts primarily in Assam, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Kerala and Karnataka. The total economic loss is to the tune of Rs. 1047 (lakhs).

In Uttar Pradesh heavy rains are continuing in western districts affecting normal life. 61 human deaths have been reported in the State since July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008. All major rivers in the State are reported to be rising steadily with Ghagra in Ayodhya having crossed the danger mark.

In Assam 3,09,481 people are reported to have been affected in the State. Five mobile health camps continue to be in operation in the affected areas for providing medical care. River Brahmaputra, Burhidhing, Dikhow Desang and Jiabharali are flowing above danger levels at various locations.

**RED CROSS ACTION**

**NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS**

The National Headquarters is negotiating with the International Federation and Partner National Societies (PNS's) for replenishing its disaster preparedness stock. The need has been felt as last year it used plenty of stocks during the flood period. Hence, diminishing stocks need to be refilled.



'Southwest monsoon so far has engulfed the lives of 359 people across the country. The number is likely to exceed. But we should aim at containing it. We shall succeed in the mission if our country raises adequate human resources in disaster management. IRCS is attempting to fill in the gaps by adding skillful human resources through its one year Post Graduate Diploma Course in Disaster Preparedness and Rehabilitation. Admissions to the third batch of the course have recently been opened.

**STATE BRANCHES**

**ASSAM**

The Honorary Secretary of the IRCS Assam state branch has directed the district branch Secretaries of the affected districts to assess the relief requirement and send the report to the state headquarters. Red Cross members and volunteers, community health workers and first aiders are working in coordination with the district authorities.. Due to paralyzed communication system the entire assessment process is disturbed and delayed. Trained Red Cross volunteers are taking precautionary measures to ward off the spreading of any kind of epidemic that usually strikes affected communities after heavy floods. Local Red Cross volunteers are rendering their services in the camps and shelters. No report of outbreak of any disease in endemic or epidemic form from any part of the State has been reported so far.

	<p><b>WEST BENGAL</b></p> <p>The West Bengal state branch deployed four medical teams in one of the worst flood affected districts, i.e. Paschim Medinipur. 100 volunteers and two SDRT members have been mobilized to assist the doctors. Halogen tablets, ORS and bleaching powder are being distributed amongst the vulnerable population. The branch is also carrying out relief activities.</p> <p><b>ORISSA</b></p> <p>A team of a four core members of the Inter Agency Group (IAG) is visiting the flood affected District of Balasore on July 10-11, 2008 to assess the situation. A report would then be submitted to the State branch.</p>
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**Working in Partnerships**

The National Headquarters of Indian Red Cross Society is coordinating and sharing information with the communication and disaster management unit of International Federation, India office, International Committee of the Red Cross and the Partner National Societies in New Delhi.

**SOURCE OF INFORMATION: National Disaster Management , India & IRCS State branches and National headquarters Disaster management team**