

SXC's Response to the Flood Disaster

Dispatch # 5

18th August 2017

1. SXC's Extension Team #2 (Ref. Dispatch # 4) that went to respond to an SOS call from Chitwan sent in their report late last night. Here is a summary of it:

- It took around 4 hours for Team #3 to reach the designated place at the border of Chitwan and Parsa district.
- The access roads to the village were blocked and the team had to stop frequently and help clear the road to reach the place.
- The village of 45 houses was destroyed by the floods; some of the families could not even save their clothes.
- All the households have moved to a safer place which is about an hour walk away from their actual village.
- At the new place, they are put up in a government school.
- The local people there are sharing their food items with the displaced people.
- No relief has reached the place so far; when our team was returning, they saw a Sumo going to the place with a few relief materials.
- Some of the people sheltered in the school do not even have change of clothes.
- Anything that we can give would be great help to them.

SXC Base Team has responded immediately. Under the leadership of Vishnu Rana, the Head of IT - family packs were procured and food items were purchased. The relief materials were dispatched at 8 am from the college. Rameshwor Suwal, Lecturer - IT is leading the team. The relief materials – especially food and clothing- will be a comfort to them for a full week.

Our team will also do a need assessment keeping the long term rehabilitation of those 45 families; all of them are sukumbasis.

Once again, thanks to Fr. Michael, CST for helping our team with his vehicle to go around the flood affected areas and for his warm hospitality which touched the hearts of our students.

2. Our students have occurred permission from the Mayor of Maadi for distributing the relief materials to this particular group of people.

3. We have news from Extension Team #3 that went to Biratnagar with relief materials for 300 households. After a long and arduous journey, they arrived the place at 11.00 pm. All the necessary permissions have been acquired for the distribution of the materials. The distribution will take place today.

4. Initial reports from the Jesuits from Sadakbari/Simulbari in Jhapa are trickling in:

As per the information from Fathers Amrit and Amit, tarpaulins/ tirpal were distributed in Sadkabari and Simalbari area today. Some other groups have distributed the food materials already through VDC's. According to Sr. Nalina (Nurse) we could provide 100 mosquito nets and 100 water filters in Sadakbari and Simalbari area. According to Fr. Victor people need rice, dal and other food items for some months. Many houses have been washed out therefore, people need building materials to repair. A few years ago, Jesuits helped to built around 60 houses and the pillars and the platforms are OK but the walls have gone and people need some materials to build walls. Bamboos and wooden planks can be used if they can not afford cement and bricks.

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