



SITUATION REPORT No. 5 FLOODS 2008

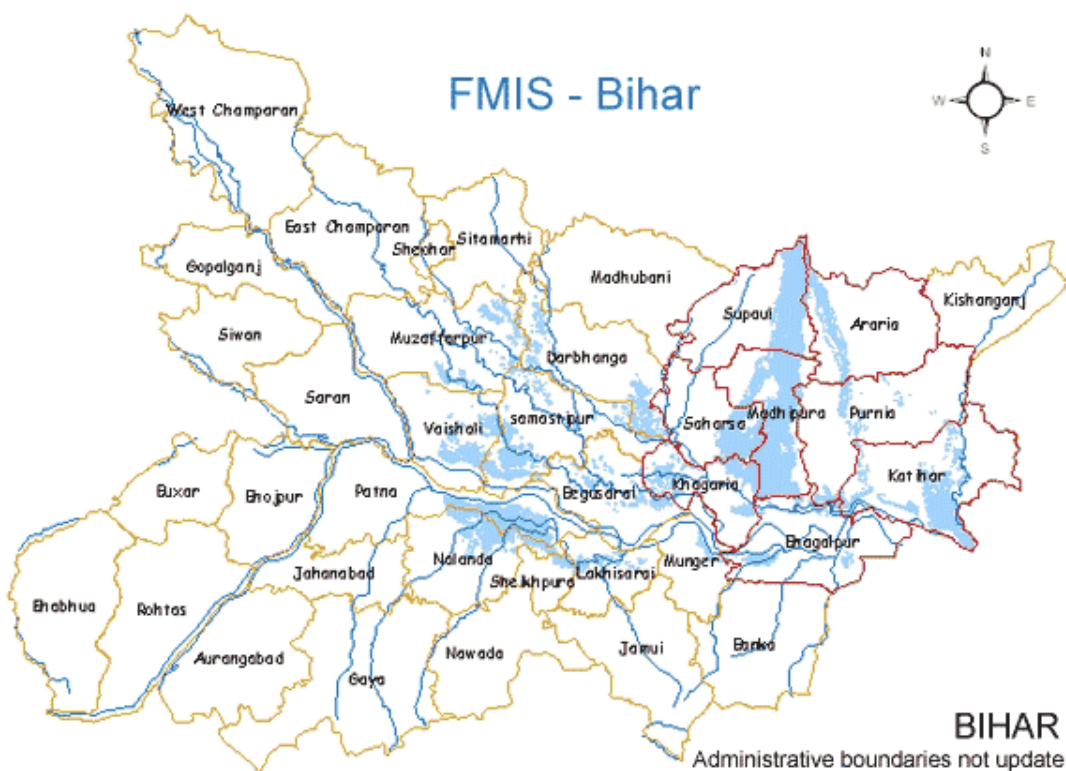
OVERALL SITUATION

The humanitarian situation in **Bihar** continues to be very grim. As of 15th September, one more district – Kishanganj - is affected, bringing the total number of affected districts in Bihar to 17. The five worst affected districts are Supaul, Madehpura, Araria, Saharsa and Purnea. While the first three districts are flood affected, Saharsa and Purnea are comparatively less affected, but are hosting a large number of the displaced population from the neighbouring affected districts.

The water level in the flood affected areas has been receding as Kosi River is in a falling trend, with not much rains in its catchment areas. However, rainfall predicted for this month in Bihar, could lead to further flooding, thus affecting the relief activities by agencies.

In addition to the floods in Bihar, annual rainfall continues to cause floods in **Assam** and **Uttar Pradesh**.

MAP OF FLOODS IN BIHAR





DAMAGE DETAILS

BIHAR

As of 15 Sept, the damage details in the state of Bihar are (central government figures):

- Population affected – 4,349,000
- No. of human lives lost - 125
- No. of districts affected - 17
- No. of villages affected – 2,451
- No. of livestock/ cattle lost - 131
- No. of houses destroyed (fully) – 319,025
- Cropped area affected (in ha) – 290,000

As of 16 Sept, the damage details in worst affected districts are (district government figures):

SN.	Damages	Supaul	Madhepura	Araria	Saharsa	Purnea
Affected Population						
1	No of Blocks Affected	5	11	4	6	9
2	No of Panchayats Affected	73	130	64	59	77
3	No of Villages Affected	243	378	98	169	133
4	Population Affected	893790	1155000	391328	438789	145000
5	No of Families Affected	178758	231000	78266	87758	29000
6	Livestock affected	450000	300000	80000	161000	40000
7	Area Affected (in Ha)	26253	41526	6608	16009	13823
8	No. of houses damage	223446	50326	8269	24522	6739
Casualties						
9	No of Human Deaths	3	34	2	20	1
10	No of Livestock Deaths	7	118	0	3	1
	Name of the affected Blocks	Basantpur, Pratapganj, Raghopur, Chhatapur, Triveniganj	Shankarpur, Purani, Kumarkhand, Chausa, Singheswar, Alamnagar, Murliganj, Madhepura, Bihariganj, Gwalpara, Udakishanganj,	Narparganj, Bhargawna, Forbeshganj, Raniganj(west)	Saurbazar, Nauhata, Patharghat, Sonebarsha, Simiri, Baktiarpur, Banmi Itari	Banmankhi, Dhamdaha, Vaisee, Barhara-Kothi, Amaur, Bhawanipur, Baisa, Rupulli, Krityanand Nagar



ASSAM

As of 12 Sept, the damage details in the state of Assam are (central government figures):

- Population affected – 2,000,000
- No. of human lives lost - 35
- No. of districts affected - 21
- No. of villages affected – 1,524
- No. of cattle/ livestock lost – 4,257
- No. of houses destroyed (partially) – 51,272
- Cropped area affected (in ha) – 135,345

UTTAR PRADESH

As of 15 Sept, the damage details in the state of UP are (central government figures):

- Population affected – 2,537,293
- No. of human lives lost – 946 (Cumulative figures since early June when floods began)
- No. of districts affected - 23
- No. of villages affected – 4,675
- No. of cattle/ livestock lost – 3,436
- No. of houses destroyed (fully)- 5,991
- No. of houses destroyed (partially)– 237,088
- Cropped area affected (in ha) – 268,000

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

BIHAR

As of 15 Sept, the government response is as follows:

- No. of persons evacuated – 1,028,245
- No. of relief camps opened – 359
- No. of persons accommodated in relief camps – 344,588
- No. of health centres opened - 409
- No. of medical teams deployed – 177
- No. of cattle in cattle camps – 54,230 in 161 cattle camps
- No. of boats in service – 3,521
- No. of NDRF teams deployed – 19
- Food packets distributed by the State: Wheat & Rice-60,158.80 Q, Chana-507.10 Q, Chura-6,453.30 Q, Sattu-777.17 Q, Gur-1,013.18 Q, Salt-64.47 Q, Matchboxes-215,311, Candles-377,109 K.Oil-78,162 ltr, Polythene Sheets distributed-121,779. Ready Food distributed by DM – Araria/ Supaul/Madhepura/ Saharsa: 192,116 packets
- Food packets airdropped by the State: 121,892 (Chura-3,659.82 Q, Sattu-1,216.46 Q, Gur-609.56, Salt-609.56 Q, Halozone Tablets-438,680 & Water Bottles – 174,387)
- Cash distributed by the State: 164.31 lakh has been distributed so far.



Government response in most affected districts: (district government figures):

S. N	Activities	Supaul	Madhepura	Araria	Saharsa	Purnea
Relief Camps						
1	No of Persons Evacuated	370000	335110	103692	115945	65000
2	No of Relief Camps opened	47	89	67	86	31
3	Persons in Relief Camp	67497	69360	78878	46799	67058
4	No. of Hand pumps installed	371	260	237	271	268
5	No. of Temp. Toilets construction	365	439	392	480	443
6	No of Health Centers functioning	37	89	46	28	36
7	No of Veterinary Centers functioning	20	30	15	17	29
Air Dropping (4 Helicopters- 289 Sorties)						
8	No of Food Packets Air Dropped	52320	54030	3270	12272	
9	Quantity of Relief Materials Air Dropped	Chura-365,982 Kg. Sattu-121,646Kg, Salt 60,956Kg, Gur—60,956 Kg. Water Bottle-174,387, Halozone Tablets -438,680				
Relief Distribution						
10	No of Polythene Distributed	31312	30412	16222	16807	6425
11	No. of food packets distributed	86563	69360	13315	21160	1406
Resources used						
12	Own Boats in Use	129	56	15	322	199
13	Boats mobilised from other Districts	368	362	74	39	0
14	No of Motor boats in use (Army/ Navy/ NCG/ NDRF/ Others)	224	141	65	21	12
15	Total No of Boats in use	721	559	154	382	211
16	No of NDRF Jawans Deployed	180	180	90	45	360

ASSAM

As of 12th Sept, the government response is as follows:

- No. of persons evacuated – 33,704
- No. of relief camps opened – 178
- No. of persons accommodated in relief camps – 32,067

UTTAR PRADESH

As of 15th Sept, the government response is as follows:

- No. of persons evacuated – 57,376
- No. of relief camps opened – 449
- No. of persons accommodated in relief camps – 48,429
- No. of medical teams deployed – 183
- GR paid, if any - Rice- 4,7816.08 Q, Wheat/Aata-3,095.93 Q, salt-2,561.71 Q, K/Oil-1,252,325 Ltr and GR paid Rs.563.99 lakh



UN RESPONSE

BIHAR

- The UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Deputy Country Director (Programmes) on 12 September met with the Chief Secretary of Bihar, the Development Commissioner and other government officials to reaffirm UN's support to the Government of Bihar.
- UNICEF India Country Representative, UNICEF Deputy Director and UNDP Deputy Country Director (Programmes) on 5 September met with the Chief Secretary of Bihar to express the UN's commitment to assist the government and partners to provide relief to the flood-hit people of the state.
- The UN Resident Coordinator has called for a meeting on a weekly basis for all UN agencies to discuss Post-Disaster Needs in the Kosi River Basin.
- At the 4th UNDMT Emergency meeting on the Bihar floods, bilateral agencies and NGOs were invited to share assessments and exchange information. Sphere India has been organising NGO coordination meetings on the Bihar floods which are attended by UNDMT members. The UNDMT and Sphere India are coordinating on holding future meetings.

UNICEF:

- UNICEF has already started providing focused humanitarian response aiming primarily at assisting 125,000 population in five worst affected districts.
- 32 mega-camps for UNICEF interventions in all the five worst affected districts have been finalised in consultation with district administrations: Supaul – 13 camps, Araria – 7 camps, Purnea – 4 camps, Saharsa – 4 camps and Madhepura – 4 camps.
- UNICEF is working closely with the government and partners, with priority in the sectors of health, nutrition, water & sanitation and behaviour change communication. Child protection, education and HIV/AIDS interventions are also being rolled out.
- Two thematic groups (Health and Water, Sanitation & Hygiene - WASH) have been formed at Bihar state level in order to ensure collaborative inter agency effort for effective delivery of flood relief work in which all the NGOs who are working on both the issues, have their representation. Sectoral meetings are held on every Monday.

Health:

- UNICEF has placed at least 2 health resource persons in the flood affected districts to assist respective district administrations in health relief measures.
- The comprehensive disease surveillance and containment plan is in place for early detection and prevention of outbreaks in Madhepura, Saharsa, Supaul, Purnea, Araria, Bhagalpur, Patna (Danapur Block), Khagaria (Beldaur block) districts.
- Considering the potential threat of an outbreak of cholera, UNICEF and state government have jointly initiated certain steps for preparedness and containment. A cholera kit has been stationed at Saharsa District capable of managing 10,000 cases. UNICEF is also facilitating the circulation of technical guidelines for management of suspected cholera and coordinating with the Department of Microbiology of Patna Medical College and Hospital (PMCH) as well as the National Institute of Cholera and Enteric Disease (NICED), Kolkata for the laboratory confirmation.
- Supplementary Immunization Activities for measles/ Vit. A / Oral Polio Vaccination was initiated in co-ordination with government. Till date 5,315 children have been immunised for measles, 2,782 for OPV, 2,993 given Vit A and 195 pregnant women given TT.
- UNICEF and the Government of Bihar are also partnering in an effort to provide essential maternal health services to the displaced populations. UNICEF is supporting this endeavour by providing Maternity tents with midwifery kits. Ten such centres have already been established in areas where displaced families are camping (3 in Saharsa and 2 each in Supaul, Purnea, Araria and 1 in Khagaria. A total of 40 such huts have been planned to be set up over the next month.
- Till date 89 doctors and 77 paramedical have been mobilised from the non-flood affected districts, medical colleges as well as other states by the government with UNICEF providing mobility and support allowances. These teams are working in coordination with the UNICEF Focal Persons and the District Administration.



Nutrition:

- Nutrition assessment has been initiated in Araria, Saharsa and Supaul districts covering a population of 40,336 in which 3,050 children were assessed, and 98 identified to be suffering from severe and acute malnutrition (SAM). All SAM children have been enlisted and registered in respective camps for treatment.
- In Araria, 404,885 IFA tablets were distributed to 2,204 child care takers including adolescent girls. The mothers and child care takers are counselled by the trained nutrition team. 17,880 people have been given advice through a mix of IPC and in small groups including pregnant and lactating mothers, adolescent girls and other child care takers.
- 16 tents for temporary Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) (4 each) were sent to Araria, Saharsa, Supaul and Madhepura. Of these 8 have been set up. Orders were issued by District Administration for appointing Anganwadi workers (two per tent) for initiating the activities.
- 75,000 sachets of RUTF (Plumpy nuts) are planned to be used for therapeutic feeding of about 900 children with severe and acute state of malnutrition for a minimum period of 6 weeks. The protocol for supplementation treatment and monitoring and follow up will be completed shortly.
- 16,500 bottles of Vitamin A have been given to the various district authorities. These are to be used for upcoming Vitamin A supplementation round in camps.

Water and Sanitation:

- 21 water tanks of 500 litre capacity and 70 water tanks of 200 litre capacity each have been sent to relief camps. Ten water tanks have been installed. 200 chloroscopes have been supplied to district authorities for testing chlorine levels in the water. 4,240 buckets with lid and mug have been dispatched and more are being procured.
- Training manuals have been developed for hygiene promotion. Four engineers have been deployed in districts and these have initiated water treatment work in relief camps in coordination with government authorities.
- Disinfection of hand pumps has been undertaken on a large scale. Disinfection of 25 hand pumps has been already done in Saharsa, Araria and Supaul.
- NGO and government functionaries have been trained in Saharsa, Madhepura, Araria and Supaul districts for carrying out chlorination of drinking water at user point.
- Meeting of all the agencies working on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) in Supaul district was facilitated by UNICEF in coordination with Public Health and Engineering Department (PHED) on 7th September.
- UNICEF has also offered essential supplies, such as Bleaching powder or Halozone tablets, for ensuring wider outreach in partnership with group members in order to reduce chances of water and vector borne diseases.

Programme Communication:

- One NGO in each of the four districts i.e. Araria, Supaul, Saharsa, Madhepura has been engaged for coordinated and integrated interventions in the identified camps. The NGOs are functioning through Animators engaged to carry out the following activities: community engagement for promotion of preventive health, hygiene, sanitation, safe water and nutrition; counselling of families with diarrhoea, malnutrition and their reporting; mobilisation for vaccination, pregnant women check up and new born care; treatment of hand pumps with bleaching powder; demonstration and promotion of use of halozone tablets, ORS; promotion of hand washing and toilet use and management of IEC materials.
- About 100 Animators across four districts have been trained on Inter Personal Communication (IPC) and community engagement on preventive health, nutrition, hygiene, sanitation, safe water, HIV & child protection in the context of floods.
- Additionally, the Self Help Group network of Women Development Corporation (WDC) has been trained and equipped with materials for sustained social mobilisation interventions on precautions during & after floods emergency.



Education:

- UNICEF is supporting the state and district officials to set up Alternative Learning Space (ALS) in the selected camps. Camp based assessment of children initiated for setting up ALS.

UNDP:

- UNDP personnel under the GOI-UNDP Disaster Risk Management Programme have been supporting the nodal dept. i.e. Dept. of Disaster Management at the state level in information collection and compilation, logistic support, operating the control room, etc.
- At the district level, the District Project Officers have been supporting the District Magistrate's office in coordination of post disaster response activities, information management, report compilation, assisting the district officials in supervising the shelter camps, facilitating NGO coordination etc. Personnel from unaffected districts have been deployed in severely affected district to support the district administration in responding to the situation. In consultation with the state Government this support would be strengthened to meet the information management requirement to facilitate coordination of the efforts of various partners.
- Few programme personnel have been mobilised from Orissa state and deployed in the affected districts.
- NGO coordination for flood response is being facilitated by UNDP in association with BIPARD.
- The Bihar state Government has requested UNDP to carry out damage and loss assessment and prepare a project and implementation plan.

WHO:

- WHO is working with the UN Disaster Management Team, the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, and with the Bihar State Department of Health in responding to this emergency.
- WHO has provided emergency health kits and chloroscopes. The emergency kits can treat up to 60,000 people over three months.
- In addition to the WHO staff located at the centre, around 100 National Polio Surveillance Project (NPSP) personnel working in the state are collaborating with the authorities. The NPSP staff is assisting the district health officials in day-to-day planning and monitoring of medical relief and collecting information about the existing relief camps and functional health care centers.
- The NPSP is carrying out disease surveillance. It is also assessing medical needs at the relief camps to plan and ensure adequate stock and supply of medicines.
- The NPSP staff is assisting in organizing measles, polio and Tetanus Toxoid immunization and administration of Vitamin A supplement and ORS at the relief camps. They are assisting district administration in planning, implementation and monitoring of polio vaccination of children in transit.
- The WHO has provided immunization and various technical guidelines and IEC materials to the state.
- The NPSP is assisting the state in planning and monitoring of chlorination campaigns in coordination with other agencies, using the polio vaccination micro-plans to identify village and community workers. The NPSP is also training health workers in reaching out to the community on general health and sanitation issues.
- The NPSP has offered use of its office space and communication equipments. Its administrative staff is helping the authorities collect, collate and manage health information on a daily basis.
- WHO has provided US \$12,000 to the Indian Red Cross for logistical support in order to facilitate the prompt delivery of relief material, including safe drinking water, tents and clothing.
- WHO is planning to collaborate with VIMHANS and Darbhanga Medical College for training Community Level Workers in providing psycho social support to affected people.

ASSAM

UNICEF:

- UNICEF continues close interaction with the State Disaster Risk Management Cell, Government of Assam, the Indian Red Cross (IRC) and partner NGO, Rural Volunteers' Centre (RVC). UNICEF also maintains regular contacts with the Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) and the Directorate of Health.



- UNICEF team conducted a rapid assessment in Majuli sub-division on 7-8th September. A smaller-scale intervention is proposed based on the assessment recommendations.
- UNICEF supplies are already being distributed in the flood affected areas, particularly Majuli: 1,000 tarpaulins, 4.5 million NaDCC tablets, 600 jerry cans, 600 hygiene kits, 50 toilets and 2 Tents (to Lakhimpur for a Health service outreach centre).

UNDP:

UNDP personnel at State & District level have been supporting the administration in the monitoring of relief distribution works, control room management and information collection.

RED CROSS ACTION

BIHAR

- Food and medicine distribution, search & evacuation, initial assessments, first aid, health checkup camps, awareness programmes on watsan and hygiene promotion.
- A three member tracing team is being dispatched from the IRCS national headquarters on 16 September 2008 and three more members would join in another two days.
- In Nalanda the district branch has set up a DM control room.
- In Supaul the district branch has distributed 500 family packs. In Supaul 100 family packs were distributed in Sonbarsa block.
- In Bhagalpur four community kitchens are being run by the RC volunteers for migrated people.
- 20 volunteers would be assisting the government in carrying out the vaccination drive of Malaria in Supaul, Saharsa, Purnia and Bhagalpur.
- Distribution of ready to eat food like beaten rice, gram, jaggery
- The state government has decided to start missing people cells and introduced a toll free number to lodge complaints about the people who went missing during the recent floods.
- According to the provisional information, about 80 IRCS volunteers and members are working in the relief operation

ASSAM

- Red Cross members and volunteers, Community Health Workers, First Aiders are working in coordination with the district authority.
- Different health check-up camps are organized in the surrounding areas to cope up with the health related problems.
- Free medicine distribution camps are also organized in cooperation with concerned health departments.
- Awareness camps are conducted in different places relating the chlorination and filtration techniques.
- IRCS, Assam State Branch and Civil administration has also started immediate flood relief operational among peoples of different flood affected districts.
- The state branch has supported 3,000 families in nine districts with family packs worth INR 1.2 million which includes water purification tablets, cooked food and medicines.
- Distribution of rice, lentils, salt
- 1,500 members and volunteers are working in the field, SDRT and DDRT have been mobilised

UTTAR PRADESH

- Distribution of relief materials including dry ration, assorted used and new clothes in two villages of Farrukabad district.



SPHERE INDIA

Sphere India is holding regular NGO coordination meetings in New Delhi for information exchange on the Bihar and Assam floods.

- At the 5th Emergency meeting for Unified Response Action on 16 September, the situation in Bihar and Assam were discussed (among other items). The Sphere Coordinator has been on an assessment mission to flood-affected districts in Assam.
- Mapping of NGOs: Sphere India is regularly updating the organisational matrix of NGOs in districts in Bihar. The criteria of sector will be added in addition to location, current and planned activities.
- Sit Reps & Maps: Sphere India has been sending Sit Reps on the situation in Bihar and Assam and also posting satellite maps (developed by ACTED) on the latest flood images in Bihar on the website <http://www.sphereindia.org.in/>

SOURCES & CONTACT DETAILS

Sources:

- Indian Meteorological Department (IMD)
- Flood Management Information System (FMIS)
- NDM Division, Ministry of Home Affairs
- Bihar Govt Disaster Management website
- UNDP Orissa Office & DPOs
- UNICEF Briefing Note No. 11
- Red Cross Society
- Sphere India website, Sit Reps & meetings

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