

3rd Situation Update MONSOON FLOOD 2017



Pakistan

August 31st, 2017

1. Current Situation

At least 40 dead; army called in as Karachi administration gives up in biggest metropolitan city of the country. Large swathes of Karachi are underwater due to a prolonged period of rainfall that started on Wednesday night and continued through Thursday. Horrifying scenes were witnessed across the city as cars, motorcycles sank underwater and the bodies of dead animals floated through the streets. Death toll has raised to 137 all over the country. This year has been urban flood instead of rural flood in past.



Meanwhile, a 150-foot breach in Thaddo Dam led to a massive amount of water gushing out and flooding the outskirts of Karachi. The district administration is receiving help in the rescue operation from Pakistan Navy. Usman Khaskheli Goth and Amir Bux Goth, housing 6,000 residents, along with Saadi Town were reportedly flooded as a result of the breach. After a video of the breach surfaced on social media, the government took action and the district administration sought the Pakistan Navy's help in the rescue operations. Evacuation of the residents has started and the operation is under way.



(The Thaddo Dam is a retention dam built near Karachi on the Malir River for storing rainwater.)

Major thoroughfares were flooded in posh localities such as Defense Housing Authority and Clifton. A balcony collapse was also reported in the Pakistan Chowk area in which five sacrificial animals were killed.

The rain was accompanied by power supply interruptions in many areas of the city as around 80 K-Electric (K-E) feeders tripped across the city. According to K-E Communications Director Sadia Dada, restoration work on around 40 tripped feeders did not start until Thursday evening as many of the areas were submerged due to urban flooding.

The heavy rainfall severely disrupted transport in the city including flights at Jinnah International Airport. In view of the weather conditions, the education department declared Thursday a holiday at all schools across the province.



Epidemics has been breakout in Peshawar city of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province. Emergency has been declared by provincial authority and responding to the needs. There is panic situation as 3,900 patients include three doctors are diagnosed with Dengue and are under treatment at various hospitals in the province.

Significant rainfall reported in last 24 hours is; Karachi 97 mm, Jhang 70 mm,

Hyderabad 64 mm, Kakul 51 mm, Thatta 46 mm, Sukrand 45 and Nawabshah 43 mm. PMD forecast for next 24 hours predicts widespread rains / thunderstorms associated with gusty winds, isolated heavy to very heavy falls in Lower Sindh (Mirpurkhas, Hyderabad & Karachi Divisions (NDMA & PDMA). *Weather advisory source:*
<http://www.pdma.gos.pk/new/Docs/warning31817.pdf>

2. Government Response

Prime Minister of Pakistan Mr. Shahid Khaqan Abbasi has taken notice of situation in Karachi and directed all stakeholders to response to needs of people of Karachi.

Chief Minister (CM) Murad Ali Shah telephoned the provincial ministers and chief secretary from Saudi Arabia to give them necessary instructions to address public grievances during the heavy rain.

As monsoon rains continued to lash the city on Thursday, Karachi Deputy Mayor Arshad Vohra requested the Pakistan Army's assistance for rescue and relief activities. "The Karachi administration requested the army to assist them in managing the impact of torrential rain in the city," Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said in a statement on Thursday. The army, the military's media wing added, is extending its full assistance and water extraction pumps have been dispatched. The Army chief has also directed that all possible assistance be provided to help citizens, it said.



Pakistan Navy is also assisting the city administration. According to a navy spokesperson, the navy is providing water pumps to drain several areas of the metropolis, and has also sent boats and divers to assist in rescue operations.

The heavy rainfall severely disrupted transport in the city including flights at Jinnah International Airport.

National and Provincial Disaster Management Authorities (N/PDMAs) has declared the rain emergency in Karachi.

An anti-dengue campaign was also launched by Government in the area. Keeping in view the current dengue outbreak, ministers have geared up and started preparing further strategies in this regard.

3. Caritas Pakistan Response

Caritas Pakistan is helping communities through volunteers and Disaster Management Committees (DMCs) in evacuation. National Secretariat Mr. Amir Robin Emergency Response Team member has stationed in Karachi to facilitate the diocesan unit. Caritas Pakistan Karachi has sent a team to affected areas for rapid assessment in close coordination with Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA).

A Skype meeting organized by National Secretariat attended by Caritas Karachi team and ERT member. Current situation of rain emergency and role of DMCs and other volunteers was appreciated. For the future working it was decided that Caritas Pakistan team will be continue working in close coordination with PDMA Singh and other government authorities a focal persona was assigned the role of coordination. Communication & information center has been established.

Taking into account the scale of rain emergency in Karachi and other part of country and Dengue situation in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Caritas Pakistan decided to launch Emergency Appeal.



Caritas Team has visiting affected for fact finding, rapid assessment and initial planning purpose. Following areas have been visited;

- Shahbaz Goth
- Yousaf Goth
- Sarij Colony
- Gadap town

Caritas Team:

- Mr. Mansha Noor Executive Secretary
- Mr. John Rehmat Diocesan Program Officer
- Mr. Javed Masih Field Officer



- Mr. Sarfraz Anwer Social Mobilizer
- DMCs volunteers

Caritas Pakistan has mobilized funds to provide relief to the rain affected families in affected slums areas of Islamabad and Rawalpindi. Trocaire has been generous to support to 300 families, distribution will take place in first week of September right after Eid ul Azha (Muslim Festival).

Caritas Pakistan team is in communication with government officials in Peshawar and has conducted meeting with stakeholders to discuss the response strategy.

A meeting was also conducted with Parish priest of Peshawar and He has requested Caritas Pakistan to respond with spray, awareness campaign and mosquito nets and repellent.

3.1 Community Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM)

Active roles of Disaster Management Committees (DMCs) have been appreciated by government authorities. DMC members and volunteers are assisting civil defense department of Karachi in evacuation from low lying areas.

Caritas Pakistan has been implemented Community Based Disaster Management Authority (CBDRM) supported by Caritas Italy, Austria and Japan in two towns Bin Qasam and Kemari since 2012.

3.2 Immediate Needs;

Caritas Pakistan team has highlighted following immediate needs of the communities;

Needs of the Rain affected areas

- Food / Dry Ration
- Bedding material (iron bed, mattresses, pillows, bed sheets)
- Hygiene kits
- Kitchen items
- Mosquito nets
- Mosquito repellent

Needs in Dengue affected areas in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

- Anti-Dengue spray in affected and vulnerable areas
- Mosquito nets
- Mosquito repellent
- Hygiene Kits
- Dengue Awareness Campaign
- Fee Medical Camp

4. Communication & Media

Local, national and international media is giving coverage to damages in Karachi and Dengue affected Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province. Coverage given by CNN and BBC has put authorities in pressure to respond in efficient manners.

Caritas Pakistan in constant communication with government authorities at district and provincial level and disseminating the information further to communities.

Caritas Pakistan has shared the information and plan with Caritas Member organizations in country.

5. Future Plan

- Relief distribution for affected families in Islamabad and Rawalpindi will start right after Eid Holidays
- Caritas Pakistan will launch emergency appeal to respond to monsoon flood emergency 2017.

For more detail

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