

Jajarkot Earthquake

Situation Analysis Report - 07

November 10, 2023

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154^(84F / 70M)

Deaths



364

Injuries



26557

Completely Damaged Houses



35455

Partially Damaged Houses



23

Cow and Bull



286

Goat and Sheep



35

Buffalo



1180

Poultry

Livestock Damage

Estimated Damage Rs. 37,293,172

(Overall Impact of EQ Till Nov 10)

Item	Total Qty.
Blanket	19,202
Blanket (Cotton)	2,680
Tent (Home)	132
Mattress	2,267
P-Foam	4,496
Sleeping Bag	1,154
Tarpaulin	22,279
Child friendly Kit	5
Health Kit	200
Medical tent	3
New born incentive Kit	25
Noodles	1,620

(Distributed Relief Materials in Jajarkot Till Nov 10)

Security Personnel Mobilized

375

APF

811

Nepal Army

915

Nepal Police

This report highlights the challenging conditions in Jajarkot District following an earthquake, with worsening weather exacerbating the plight of residents. Rains and snowfall have made life difficult for people living in makeshift shelters, leading to a need for warm clothing and reliable shelter. Quality concerns in relief distribution have emerged, as exemplified by Gyanu Lamichhane's dissatisfaction with the substandard foods item she received. Sirpachaur Village, at an altitude of 2200 meters, faces similar challenges with most homes damaged and residents suffering from cold, lack of nutritious food, and health issues like pneumonia and PTSD. The situation is critical, with immediate need for better shelter and aid.

In response, the DAO Jajarkot has been actively providing financial assistance and relief materials to the affected families. Despite logistical challenges, significant efforts have been made to distribute essential items like blankets, tents, mattresses, and food. Additionally, the installation of a seismometer in Barikot Municipality-2 by the National Earthquake Monitoring and Research Center will enhance earthquake monitoring and preparedness. The report underscores the resilience of the affected people and the authorities' commitment to relief and recovery in the face of natural disasters.

1. Jajarkot Facing Rain, Cold, and Darkness

In Jajarkot District, things are getting really tough. After an earthquake, the weather is getting colder every day. On November 10th, it rained a lot at night. This made things worse for people living under simple plastic sheets. Their clothes, food, and other stuff got wet from the rain. It's also snowing in the higher areas, which means it's going to get even colder. But, most of the people don't have enough warm clothes to stay warm under their basic shelters. To make matters worse, there's been no electricity since November 10th. The phone towers are running out of power. The Nepal Electric Authority is working hard to fix the electricity problem. They are trying to get to the place where the problem is to get the lights back on and help everyone.

2. Quality Concerns in Relief Distribution

Gyanu Lamichhane, who lives in Upper Thapple village in Bheri's ward no 3, showed she was really unhappy with how relief aid was being given out. She made her feelings clear by throwing away some lentils that were given to her by the local ward office. This act of throwing away the lentils was her way of saying she wasn't happy with the poor quality of the food she received. She even tried to give these lentils to her goat, but the goat wouldn't eat them, so she ended up discarding them. This incident shows there's a problem with the kind of help people are getting. It points out that the people in charge need to make sure the food and other items they give out are good enough and meet the needs of the people affected. Some people, like Gyanu, are not satisfied because the quality of the aid items is not up to the minimum standard guided by Sphere and other humanitarian standard.



Woman Throws Away Substandard Lentils from Aid

3. Cracked Homes and Cold Nights in Sirpachaur Village at the Altitude of 2200 Meters

Sirpachaur village in Barekot Municipality's ward no 1, located about 2200 meters high, has around 150 households severely affected by recent disasters. Most of the houses are damaged, forcing residents, including the elderly, children, women, and the people with disability, to sleep under tarps provided by the NRCS and the municipality. Each affected family received 25 kg of rice, two tarpaulin, two blankets, and a large fiber blanket for relief.



However, the harsh cold, lack of nutritious food, warm clothing, and proper sleep are causing health issues

like pneumonia, cold coughs, and fever. A local, Health Worker Padam Rokaya, noted that some residents are showing signs of PTSD and anxiety. Jagman Thapa Mager, 75, shared that his family of nine is living in a tent. With strong snowfall approaching, they urgently need warmer shelter. Other areas in Barekot Municipality are also dealing with damaged houses, with some receiving basic aid like tents, blankets, rice, and medical supplies. The Principal of Birendra Aaisworya Secondary School, Gorakha Singh, mentioned that nearly all school buildings are damaged, complicating plans to reopen by November 20. The school serves around 1100 students, and there is a immediate need for large tents and temporary learning center to continue classes.

4. Rain and Snow Challenge Post-Harvest Storage in Earthquake Hit Area

Karnali Province is currently experiencing changing weather patterns due to the influence of western winds. Several areas, including Lumbini, Karnali, and Sudurpashchim, have been witnessing rainfall. There's a possibility of snowfall in the higher mountainous and Himalayan regions. The weather in Karnali Province, is expected to remain cloudy until Monday, with prospects of rain and snowfall, particularly on Sunday and Monday in the higher altitudes. Earthquake-affected areas like Jajarkot and Rukum West in Karnali Province are also experiencing rain, adding to the challenges faced by the people living in temporary shelters like tarpaulins. The ongoing rain, coinciding with the post-harvest season, has posed a significant challenge for grain storage. With the traditional storage facilities like Bhakari at the household level being destroyed, people are struggling to protect their grains and other food items from the rain and snow. This situation has created an urgent need for waterproof, hermetic bags to ensure that the harvested grain and other foodstuffs are kept safe and dry during this difficult period.



5. Under-Resourced Yet Undeterred Nepal Police in Earthquake Hit A

Central Police Spokesperson, Deputy Inspector General (DIG) Kuber Kadayat reported 21 police units and 17 government buildings have been affected. Out of the 10 units in Rukum, 5 have been fully damaged. Shockingly, a total of 25% of the police units are now without their own buildings. Despite these challenging circumstances, security personnel have been displaying remarkable dedication by actively participating in rescue and relief operations.



6. The Unseen Scars of a Child Affected by Earthquake

Smarika Shahi, an 11-year-old, is facing deep mental trauma following the loss of her mother in the earthquake. Her mother, a teacher at School in Bheri Municipality, tragically passed away on a night Smarika was at her maternal home. Currently, her father is receiving medical care in Kathmandu. Smarika's days are filled with grief; she often visits the ruins of her house, aimlessly wandering and crying, mourning her mother's absence. This situation highlights the critical need for psychosocial counseling, an aspect often overlooked in the aftermath of earthquakes. Smarika's experience highlights the importance of addressing the emotional and mental health needs of those affected by such disasters.



7. DAO's Disaster Relief Efforts and Immediate Needs

The District Administration Office (DAO) Jajarkot has committed to provide financial assistance to families affected by the earthquake in Jajarkot. For each family that has lost a member due to the earthquake, an initial amount of Rs. 2 lakh will be provided, An additional Rs. 1 lakh will be given for each additional death within a family. This financial support is intended to alleviate the hardships faced by the affected families. 23,000 tarpaulins has been dispatched so far from the One Door Relief collection and distribution center, Jajarkot and still there is an urgent need of about 15,000 to meet the minimum demand. The Assistant CDO of Jajarkot stated that the helicopters had to use to send relief stuff to Nalagad-1 and 13



because of the geo-physical situation of the places. As of 10th November 2023, a total of Rs. 6,291,260 has been collected in the “*Bhukampa Prababhit Rahat Kosh Jajarkot 2080*”. The responsibility for managing these funds falls under the jurisdiction of the Disaster Management Committee. Additionally, the District Disaster Management Fund holds a substantial amount exceeding 5 crore.

To facilitate the distribution of relief funds, the DAO has issued a call for applications. The affected families are required to submit their applications, along with necessary documents and police verification. As part of the emergency relief fund, each family with up to 5 members will receive Rs. 15,000 while families with more than 5 members will be provided Rs. 20,000. This financial aid is aimed at supporting families in their recovery efforts following the earthquake's impact.

8. A Seismometer Has Been Installed In The Vicinity Of Barikot Municipality-

The National Earthquake Monitoring and Research Center has upgraded earthquake monitoring by placing a seismometer near the epicenter of the recent Jajarkot earthquake. This seismometer was set up in Jajarkot's Barekot rural municipality-2, Rokaya village. Dr. Lok Bijay Adhikari, a senior seismologist, stated that the seismometer's placement aims to provide precise data about ongoing aftershocks. With 42 devices across the country, this new seismometer is a crucial addition, especially given the recent trend of earthquakes. This advanced device accurately locates earthquake epicenters and determines earthquake magnitude. Placed in Ramidanda, it will aid in locating the epicenter. Addressing a monitoring gap from Humla to Jumla, Mugu, and Rukum, this seismometer is strategically placed at the epicenter to enhance earthquake data reliability. The technically advanced seismometer will record even minor earthquakes below magnitude 2 near its location. Initially buried underground at a secure location provided by the rural municipality, its installation may be extended if earthquakes persist. It not only monitors earthquake shocks but also gathers data on seismic activity, energy buildup, and earthquake tendencies.



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