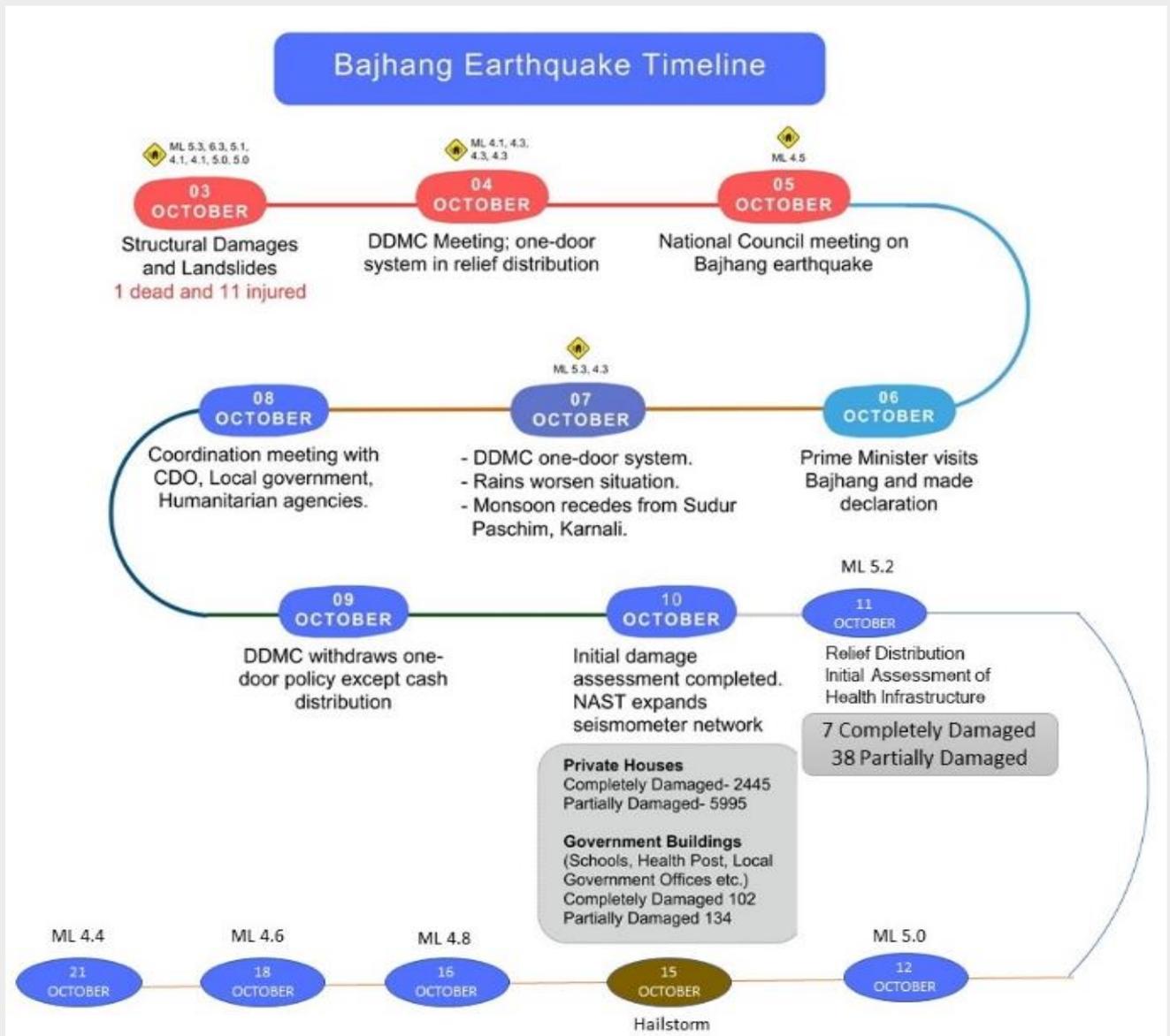


# Bajhang Earthquake



## Situation Analysis Report (Weekly)

October 29, 2023



## Inside this report

### **1. Monsoon Withdrawal and Post-Monsoon Scenario**

In the 2023 monsoon season, Nepal experienced a delayed departure of the monsoon by 13 days, with its onset and exit dates deviating from the usual schedule. Despite this, the country received only 88.5 percent of its average annual rainfall during the four months of June to September, according to the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM). A press conference organized by the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) reported that the extended monsoon season resulted in various natural disaster-related incidents, including landslides, flooding, heavy rainfall, and lightning strikes, leading to 92 fatalities, 30 missing persons, and 168 injuries. Furthermore, the DHM forecasts above-average rainfall and temperature for October to December, emphasizing Nepal's vulnerability to the climate crisis, which has caused multiple extreme weather events such as excessive rainfall, dry spells, and above-normal temperatures in recent years.

### **2. Damage from Post Monsoon Rainfall in Earthquake-Affected District**

Immediately following the official end of this year's monsoon on October 15, unexpected rainfall occurred in various regions, including Sudurpaschim Province, Nepal. The DHM reported varying levels of rainfall, with 8.8 mm in the Kathmandu Valley and the highest amount of 30.1 mm in Dhangadhi, Kailali district. Simara, Bhairahawa, Nepalgunj, Dadeldhura, and Dipayal also experienced rainfall. Additionally, the mountainous region of Darchula saw heavy snowfall and hail. These unanticipated weather events led to damage to crops like Millet, Paddy, and Soybean, which were ready for harvest. The situation was exacerbated by earthquakes and landslides, impacting grain storage and livestock housing. With no proper storage options for their harvest, affected farmers incurred additional losses due to the recent rain and hailstorms. In response, DPNepal, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development (MoALD) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), organized a virtual discussion focused on addressing the seismic events in the Bajhang district, including a 6.3 magnitude earthquake and a preceding 5.3 magnitude quake, which severely affected grain storage and livestock housing. More details about this event can be found at <https://dpnet.org.np/news/detail/discussion-program-on-bajhang-earthquake-agriculture-resilience>, and the video recording is available at <https://youtu.be/OpOsWjIQmsg?si=ZQzl8TOeqVOUYtOp>

### **3. DDMC Meeting Decided to Accept Support and Provide Relief to Family Who Lost Their Family Member**

During a meeting held on October 18 in the District Disaster Management Committee (DDMC) of Bajhang at the District Administration Office (DAO), significant decisions were made to support families affected by the Bajhang Earthquake. Specifically, Mr. Jay

Bahadur Dhami, the son of the late Ms. Guni Devi Dhami, who tragically lost her life in the earthquake, will receive government relief support amounting to 2 lakhs. The meeting also addressed the need for accurate data and revised the figures related to the number of damaged houses, reflecting an increased count. Furthermore, the committee resolved to gather information about damaged water supply facilities resulting from the earthquake. Notably, a crucial decision was taken to assess potential damage caused by future earthquakes and to establish stockpiles within local governments, enhancing preparedness for future disaster events.

#### **4. Earthquake Damage Data Still Updating, Need for Rapid Technical Verification**

The local government, in collaboration with the District Disaster Management Committee (DDMC) in Bajhang, has been periodically verifying and releasing damage data, which has undergone several updates. These revisions may be attributed to ongoing aftershocks or the necessity for more precise technical validation. According to the information provided by the DDMC on October 13, 2023, a total of 2445 residential houses were fully damaged, 6084 houses were partially damaged, and 3524 houses incurred some level of damage. Additionally, 123 government buildings were fully damaged, while 152 government buildings were partially damaged. Following updates introduced on October 19 during a meeting (see decision below), the total count of completely damaged houses increased to 2895, and partially damaged houses reached 6140. The meeting also resolved to revise the data for Chabbispathivera and Khaptadchana Rural Municipalities.

#### **5. Status of Relief Distribution and Trouble in Cash Distribution**

The District Disaster Management Committee (DDMC) has decided to modify the one-door policy for relief distribution, permitting the involvement of NGOs, INGOs, and the Red Cross at the local level in all aspects of relief distribution, except for cash distribution. This adjustment comes in response to delays and challenges experienced under the previous policy, particularly concerning cash distribution. Various organizations, including DCA, USAID, and NNSWA, have emphasized the need for immediate response efforts and the importance of expediting life-saving measures, but the one-door policy has hindered these efforts. The Nepal Red Cross Society, with support from organizations like IFRC, ARC, DRC, and SRC, is planning a Cash Distribution Plan for various assistance categories but is also encountering difficulties due to the one-door policy. In an effort to overcome these obstacles, Mr. Rishi Raj Acharya of the Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MoFAGA) highlighted their work to streamline cash aid distribution through local governments, aiming to ensure timely and effective support for disaster-affected communities while collaborating actively with local authorities.

#### **6. Community-Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) Platform Partners' Consultative Meeting**

Following a series of earthquakes in Bajhang, a Community-Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) Platform Partners' Consultative Meeting convened on October

12, 2023, at Singhadurbar, Kathmandu. This meeting brought together government organizations, development agencies, NGOs, and the Red Cross Society to discuss their collaborative efforts with local governments. The meeting stressed the importance of swiftly integrating all affected families into a comprehensive rapid recovery process. This initiative aimed to provide crucial support to those who had lost employment, assisting them in establishing livelihoods through activities like livestock rearing, agriculture, and small cottage industries. Simultaneously, efforts were directed toward strengthening local infrastructure, including improving access to clean drinking water, enhancing schools, and developing road networks. International cooperation was recognized as essential, with international development partners, the Nepal Red Cross Society, DpNet and various organizations urged to contribute to recovery initiatives. A one-door system was introduced to enhance coordination and prevent duplication of efforts. Additionally, the Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MoFAGA) was designated as the facilitator for intergovernmental collaboration, ensuring a seamless and efficient recovery process for affected families. These decisions collectively constituted a well-coordinated approach to address the challenges and needs arising from the Bajhang earthquakes.

#### **7. Earthquake Continues to Strike**

According to the National Earthquake Monitoring & Research Center, there are a total of 601 shocks (as reported on October 17) in Bajhang followed by a seismic event on October 3. There are 20 earthquakes of more than 4ML, 7 earthquakes of more than 5ML including 1 foreshock of 5.3ML, and 1 main shock of magnitude 6.3ML.

#### **8. Request for Stratified Aid to Prioritize the Poorest in Bajhang's Earthquake Recovery**

The Ministry of Land Management, Cooperatives, and Poverty Alleviation has been conducting a survey to identify households in poverty, collaborating with local governments to categorize these households into three levels: extremely poor, moderately poor, and generally poor, using a specific questionnaire. DpNet has acquired the survey data for households in the Bajhang district from the Ministry. We are now calling on development partners and relevant stakeholders to integrate this data into their support strategies for earthquake-stricken households in Bajhang. Particularly, households classified as extremely poor that have suffered complete housing damage should receive prioritized assistance. Additionally, even those extremely poor with partial damage should be considered for aid based on their economic fragility. This process must be coordinated with local government authorities to build consensus and ensure effectiveness. Adopting a targeted approach that accounts for economic vulnerability during the relief and recovery phases will set a precedent for managing aid in future disasters. Moving away from a uniform distribution (blanket approach) of resources to a needs-based approach will not only address the immediate needs of the most vulnerable but also optimize the use of relief and recovery resources. The details poor household survey data can be accessed at <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1-e8boIKGBnIsWykvfeTKAkIYWxt8vp0o>

## Situation Analysis and News in Details

### 1. Monsoon Withdrawal and Post-Monsoon Scenario

#### **Monsoon Withdrawal with Significant Loss and Damage**

On October 15, 2023, the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM) declared that the monsoon had exited the country 13 days later than the usual departure date. Typically, June 13 and October 2 mark the monsoon's onset and exit dates in Nepal. However, this year, the monsoon entered the country on June 14, one day later than the average date. In a departure from the norm, the country received only 88.5 percent of its average annual rainfall during the four months of June, July, August, and September, according to the DHM.

National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) organized a press conference to assess the loss and damage caused by the monsoon this year. Tragically, 92 people died in various natural disaster-related incidents across the country during this monsoon season. Additionally, 30 people remain missing, and 168 sustained injuries in these incidents. Mr. Dhruva Bahadur Khadka, the spokesperson for the NDRRMA, reported that this monsoon season saw a significant number of landslides, with 459 incidents recorded. There were also 142 instances of flooding, 168 cases of heavy rainfall, and 113 incidents of lightning strikes. This year's monsoon lingered in Nepal until October 15, marking a 13-day delay, and despite receiving less rainfall, many areas experienced landslides and floods following heavy rain.

#### **Average Post-Monsoon Rainfall**

According to the DHM's climate section, most parts of Nepal are likely to experience above-average rainfall and above-average maximum and minimum temperatures between October and December. Their forecast suggests a 35-55 percent chance of above-average rainfall during this period. Evidence indicates that maximum temperatures in Nepal are rising more rapidly, at a rate of 0.05 degrees Celsius per year, than minimum temperatures, which are increasing at 0.03 degrees Celsius per year. The DHM also reports a 35-55 percent chance of above-average maximum temperatures and a 35-65 percent chance of above-average minimum temperatures during this period, though the likelihood of above-average rainfall varies by location. For instance, Sudurpaschim Province may experience above-average maximum temperatures with a 35-45 percent chance, and above-average minimum temperatures with a 55-65 percent chance. Similarly, Sudurpaschim Province may see above-average minimum temperatures with a 35-45 percent chance.

DHM had initially forecasted below-average rainfall during the monsoon season. Nepal is considered one of the most vulnerable countries in the world to the climate crisis and has witnessed multiple extreme weather events in recent years, including excessive rainfall in a short time, continuous rain for several days' post-monsoon, dry spells, droughts, below-average precipitation, and above-normal temperatures in winter.

## 2. Damage from Post Monsoon Rainfall in Earthquake-Affected District

On October 15, 2023, this year's monsoon officially ended, but on the following day, October 16, many areas, including Sudurpaschim Province, experienced unexpected rainfall. According to the DHM, several regions recorded varying levels of rainfall. In the Kathmandu Valley, there was 8.8 mm of rainfall, while Dhangadhi in Kailali district received the highest amount at 30.1 mm. Simara in Bara district recorded 23 mm, Bhairahawa had 20.4 mm, Nepalgunj received 11.4 mm, Dadeldhura got 10.3 mm, and Dipayal had 10.2 mm. In addition, the Darchula district in the mountainous region experienced heavy snowfall and hail.



The unexpected hailstorms and rainfall in earthquake-affected districts caused damage to crops such as Millet, Paddy, and Soybean, which were ready to be harvested. This further worsened the situation, as these weather events were followed by earthquakes and landslides induced by the seismic activity, impacting grain storage and livestock housing. With no proper storage options for their harvest, affected farmers faced additional losses due to the recent rain and hailstorms.

In response to these challenges, DPNepal organized a virtual discussion focused on Bajhang Earthquake Agriculture Resilience. This collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development (MoALD) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) aimed to address the recent seismic events in the Bajhang district, including a 6.3 magnitude earthquake and a preceding 5.3 magnitude quake, both of which severely affected grain storage and livestock housing. The details of this news can be viewed at: <https://dpnet.org.np/news/detail/discussion-program-on-bajhang-earthquake-agriculture-resilience> and the video recording can be viewed from: <https://youtu.be/OpOsWjIQmsg?si=ZQzl8TOeqVOUYtOp>.

## 3. DDMC Meeting Decided to Accept Support and Provide Relief to Family Who Lost Their Family Member

In a recent DDMC Bajhang meeting held on 18 October in the DAO Bajhang decided to provide support to the family who lost a family member in the Bajhang Earthquake (see image below). Specifically, Mr. Jay Bahadur Dhama, the son of Ms. Guni Devi Dhama who lost life in the earthquake, will receive 2 lakhs from the government as relief support. The meeting revised the damage data as per the request of concerned local governments to ensure accuracy. With this, the number of damaged houses has been increased.

The meeting also decided to collect information about water supply facilities that were damaged by the earthquake. Additionally, the meeting made a decision to assess the potential damage that will be caused by future earthquakes and to maintain stockpiles in local governments to better prepare for potential disaster events.

**निर्णयहरू**

**निर्णय नं.१**  
 विगतमा जिल्ला विपद् व्यवस्थापन समितिको बैठकले गरेका निर्णयहरूको विवेक एवं समीक्षा गरियो ।

**निर्णय नं.२**  
 मिति २०८०।०६।१६ गते आएको भूकम्पबाट प्रभावितहरूको लागि नेपाल कम्युनिष्ट पार्टी (विस्तार) बाट मिति २०८०।०६।२९ गते यस कार्यालयमा प्राप्त नगद राहत रु.१ लाख जिल्ला विपद् व्यवस्थापन समितिको कोषमा जम्मा गर्ने र १०० थप कम्बल हाललाई जिल्ला प्रशासन कार्यालयमा भण्डारण गर्ने निर्णय गरियो ।

**निर्णय नं.३**  
 मिति २०८०।०६।१६ गते आएको भूकम्पमा परी यस जिल्लाको जग्गुवही नगरपालिका वडा नं.११ बस्ने मुनी देवी धामीको मृत्यु भएकोमा आवश्यक राहतको लागि निजको छोरा जय बहादुर धामीले मिति २०८०।०६।२९ गते यस कार्यालयमा निवेदन दिनु भएको हुँदा निजलाई विपद् पिडित उद्धार तथा राहत सम्बन्धि (सातौं संशोधन) मापदण्ड, २०७७ बमोजिम रु.२ लाख राहत उपलब्ध गराउने निर्णय गरियो ।

**निर्णय नं.४**  
 बहाइ उद्योग बागिय सघ, चैनपुर बहाइको च.नं.२७ मिति २०८०।०६।३० को राहत हस्तान्तरण विवरण सम्बन्धी जानकारी प्राप्त भयो ।

**निर्णय नं.५**  
 खसडछाना गाउँपालिका गाउँकार्यपालिकाको कार्यालय बहाइको च.नं.२३६ मिति २०८०।०६।२९ को पक्का उक्त गाउँपालिकामा २६५ भूकम्प प्रभावित घर परिवारहरूले NFR २६५, भौटा सेट २६५ र Baby Kit २६५ प्राप्त गरिसकेको र मटा गाउँपालिका गाउँकार्यपालिकाको कार्यालय बहाइको च.नं.३५२ मिति २०८०।०६।२९ को पक्काट समेत उक्त गाउँपालिका राहत सामग्री वितरण सम्पन्न भएको व्यहोरा बैठकमा जानकारी भयो ।

**निर्णय नं.६**  
 मिति २०८०।०६।२६ को निर्णयानुसार यस जिल्लाको खसडछाना गाउँपालिकामा २४५ घर पूर्ण क्षति तथा ७८० घर आंशिक क्षति र छविसेपाधिभेरा गाउँपालिकामा १५० घर पूर्णक्षति कायम भई समितिबाट पारित गरिएको सम्बन्धमा छविसेपाधिभेरा गाउँपालिकाको कार्यालय बहाइको च.नं.२३५ मिति मिति २०८०।०६।३० को पक्काट थप २४६ घर पूर्ण क्षति र खसडछाना गाउँपालिकाको कार्यालय बहाइको च.नं.२३९ मिति २०८०।०७।०२ को पक्काट थप २०४ घर पूर्ण क्षति र ५६ आंशिक क्षति भएको भनि लेखी आएको हुँदा जिल्लाको क्षतिको विवरणको पूर्णसूचिमा समावेश गर्ने निर्णय गरियो ।

**निर्णय नं.७**  
 मिति २०८०।०६।१६ गते आएको भूकम्पका कारण जिल्लाका स्थानीयका मुद्दान एवं गण्डा नगरपालिका क्षेत्रको भएको सम्पत्तिका धारिणी मुद्दान पूर्वीनिर्माण तथा सार्तको लागि फर्कन क्षतिको विवरण जिल्ला विपद् व्यवस्थापन समितिमा उपलब्ध गराउन जिल्लास्थित स्थानीय तहमा लेखी पठाउने निर्णय गरियो ।

**निर्णय नं.८**  
 मिति २०८०।०६।१६ र २० गते आएको भूकम्पले गरेको क्षतिको समीक्षा गर्ने आगामी विवरणमा घट्टन सबै विपद्का घटनाहरूबाट हुन सक्ने क्षतिको संकेत आकलन गरी जिल्लास्थित सबै स्थानीय तहहरूले सोझै तर्फ तथा राहत सामग्रीको उचित व्यवस्थापन गर्ने निर्णय गरियो ।

#### 4. Earthquake Damage Data Still Updating, Need for Rapid Technical Verification

The local government, in collaboration with the District Disaster Management Committee (DDMC) in Bajhang, has verified and published the final damage data on multiple occasions. However, this data has been subject to updates, possibly due to ongoing aftershocks or the need for more precise technical verification. According to data received from DDMC on 13 October 2023, 2445 residential houses were fully damaged, 6084 houses were partially damaged and 3524 houses got some level of damage. And 123 government buildings got fully damaged and 152 government buildings got partially damaged. With the updates added on October 19, the meeting (see decision below), the total number of completely damaged houses has reached to 2895 and partially damaged houses to 6140. The meeting decided to revise the data of of Chabbispathivera and Khaptadchana Rural Municipalities.

### निर्णय नं.६

मिति २०८०।०६।२६ को निर्णयानुसार यस जिल्लाको खसडछान्ना गाउँपालिकामा २४५ घर पूर्ण क्षति तथा ७८० घर आंशिक क्षति र छविसपाथिभेरा गाउँपालिकामा १५० घर पूर्णक्षति कायम भई समितिबाट पारित गरिएको सम्बन्धमा छविसपाथिभेरा गाउँपालिकाको कार्यालय बझाङको च.नं.२३५ मिति मिति २०८०।०६।३० को पत्रबाट थप २४६ घर पूर्ण क्षति र खसडछान्ना गाउँपालिकाको कार्यालय बझाङको च.नं.२३९ मिति २०८०।०७।०२ को पत्रबाट थप २०४ घर पूर्ण क्षति र ५६ आंशिक क्षति भएको भनि लेखी आएको हुँदा जिल्लाको क्षतिको विवरणको पूर्वसूचिमा समावेश गर्ने निर्णय गरियो ।

Public/government buildings such as schools, health posts, local government offices etc. remains same as before (see revised summary in the following table). The meeting has also decided to gather information of damages to drinking water supply systems and other infrastructures.

Table: Infrastructure Damage (based on 19 October update)

SN	Name of Local Government	Private Houses		Government Buildings (Schools, Health Post, Palika Offices etc.)	
		Completely Damaged	Partially Damaged	Completely Damaged	Partially Damaged
1	Masta Rural Municipality	410	924	17	34
2	Chhabispathivera Rural Municipality	396	789	6	17
3	Durgathali Rural Municipality	184	384	0	0
4	Khaptadchhanna RM	449	836	13	2
5	Thalara Rural Municipality	664	408	17	15
6	Kedarsyun Rural Municipality	206	848	23	0
7	Jayaprithivi Municipality	482	853	29	28
8	Bungal Municipality	73	489	9	18
9	Saipal Rural Municipality	0	18	0	12
10	Surma Rural Municipality	0	233	0	5
11	Talkot Rural Municipality	25	358	9	12
12	Bitthadchir Rural Municipality	6	0	0	9
<b>Total</b>		<b>2895</b>	<b>6140</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>152</b>

Data Source: Respective municipalities and DDMC meeting minutes

जिल्लामा भएको कुल क्षति												
मानवीय क्षति			नीचि घरक्षति			चौपाया क्षति			सरकारी कार्यालय		अन्यक्षति (जलविद्युत, शौचालय, सामुदायिक भवन आदि)	कैफियत
सुत्पु	घाइते	बेपत्ता	पूर्णक्षति	आंशिक क्षति	सामान्य	सुत्पु	घाइते	बेपत्ता	पूर्णक्षति	आंशिक क्षति		
१	२१	०	२४४५	६०८४	३५२४	६	३	०	१२३	१५२	५०	

*[Signature]*  
 सहायक प्रमुख जिल्ला अधिकारी

The fluctuation in data and the delay in technical verification is hindering the smooth execution of relief actions and will likely impede recovery efforts in the future.

### 5. Status of Relief Distribution and Trouble in Cash Distribution

The District Disaster Management Committee (DDMC) has decided to revise the one-door policy for relief distribution, allowing the involvement of NGOs, INGOs, and the Red Cross at the local level in all aspects of relief distribution, except for cash distribution. These organizations have

प्रदेश आपतकालिन कार्य संचालन केन्द्र धनगढी कैलाली ।

जिल्ला विपद् व्यवस्थापन समिती बझाङ्गद्वारा स्थानिय तहहरूलाई बितरण गरिएका राहत सामग्रीहरूको विवरण

S.N.	LEAD AGENCY	IMPLEMENTING AGENCY	MUNICIPALITY/RM	WARD	RELIEF ITEM DESCRIPTION	NUMBER OF RELIEF ITEMS DISTRIBUTED	HOUSEHOLDS REACHED	TOTAL NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES REACHED	ACTIVITY STATUS	ACTIVITY START DATE	ACTIVITY END DATE	NOTES
1	Save The Children	Multipurpose Development Society (NPS)	Jayapithi Municipality	Ward 4, 5, 9, 10	Shelter kits-200, Hygiene kits-200, Dignity kits-41, Kitchen Utensils-41, School kits-14, ECCD kits-7	503	200	3,228	Completed	7th Oct 2023	12th Oct 2023	disaggregated data missing
2	Plan International Nepal	Local Government(LGs)	Khaptad Chhanna Gaunpalka	Ward 1, 2, 3, 4	NRFI Sets-265, Baby Kit-30, Kitchen kit-265	560	265	683	Ongoing	10th Oct 2023		data upto 12th oct, baby kit 14 excluded,
3	Nepal National Social Welfare Association(NNSWA)	Local Government(LGs)	All Paikas	All wards of 12 LGs	NFI kit-100	100			Completed		4th Oct 2023	item sent through Ministry of Internal Affairs and Law
4	World Vision International Nepal(WVIN)	Progressive Youth Society(PYS), Bajhang and Daiti Help Society(DHS)	Jayapithi Municipality	Ward 6,7,8	NFI kit-300, Food item-153	300			Completed	10th Oct 2023	15th Oct 2023	verification required
5	World Vision International Nepal(WVIN)	Progressive Youth Society(PYS), Bajhang and Daiti Help Society(DHS)	Kedarsyun RM	All wards					Completed	10th Oct 2023	15th Oct 2023	
6	United Mission To Nepal(UMN)	Progressive Youth Society(PYS), Bajhang	Thalara Gaunpalka	Ward 9	NFI kit-200	200			Completed	10th Oct 2023	15th Oct 2023	
7	Humanitarian Partnership Platform(HPP)	Progressive Youth Society(PYS), Bajhang and National Environment and Equity Dev. Society(NEEDS) Nepal	Jayapithi Municipality, Thalara, Talkot, Mastia and Khaptad Chhanna RM		NFI kit-94, Kitchen utensil-50	82			Ongoing	10th Oct 2025		
8	Humanitarian Partnership Platform(HPP)	National Environment and Equity Dev. Society(NEEDS) Nepal	Bungal Municipality	All wards of 12 LGs	Tarpaulin-76, P Foam-152, Bucket and jug-76, Blankets-76, Dignity kit-15, Rope-76	471	76		Ongoing	18th Oct 2023		beneficiary missing
9	WFP	Local Government(LGs)		All wards of 12 LGs	BP-5 energy biscuit	84 cartun	48	371	Ongoing	11th Oct 2023		data upto 14th oct
10	Nepal Red Cross Society(NRCS)	Nepal Red Cross Society, Bajhang	Jayapithi Municipality	Ward 11	Tarpaulin-6, Blanket-12, P Foam-23, Nylon rope-18	50			Ongoing	6th Oct 2023		data upto 14th oct
11	Nepal Red Cross Society(NRCS)	Nepal Red Cross Society, Bajhang	Talkot Gaunpalka	Ward 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	Tarpaulin-25, Blanket-25, P Foam-25, Nylon rope-75	120			Ongoing	6th Oct 2023		
12	Nepal Red Cross Society(NRCS)	Nepal Red Cross Society, Bajhang	Chhabis Pathichera Gaunpalka	Ward 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	Tarpaulin-154, Blanket-152, P Foam-300, Nylon rope-450	146	141		Ongoing	6th Oct 2023		
13	Nepal Red Cross Society(NRCS)	Nepal Red Cross Society, Bajhang	Sapal Gaunpalka	Ward 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Tarpaulin- Blanket, P Foam- Nylon rope-	25			Ongoing	6th Oct 2023		
14	Nepal Red Cross Society(NRCS)	Nepal Red Cross Society, Bajhang	Bithadchr Gaunpalka	Ward 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9	Tarpaulin-6, Blanket-12 P Foam-12, Nylon rope-18	7			Ongoing	6th Oct 2023		

been actively engaged in providing relief to disaster-affected communities. The relief distribution efforts have been running smoothly in coordination with the local government and DDMC, as reported by the Provincial Emergency Operation Center. However, there have been significant delays in relief actions due to the one-door policy, particularly concerning cash distribution. NGOs interested in providing multipurpose cash or adhering to the minimum standard expenditure basket have faced challenges in directly distributing cash to the affected community.

Additionally, during a recent discussion organized by DPNet, Mr. Dinesh Gurung from DCA highlighted the importance of immediate response efforts, emphasizing the priority of life-saving measures and immediate assessment and recovery in collaboration with DPNet. He mentioned that the implementation of multipurpose cash, a critical aspect of their emergency response, has been hindered by the government's one-door policy. Mr. Gurung stated that they are working on providing support through a standard minimum expenditure basket to 400 families. Mr. Santosh Gyawali of USAID stressed the need for a government request to involve USAID in the region, as their support is currently directed toward partner organizations, with existing programs continuing in earthquake-affected districts due to a lack of government communication. Mr. Ashok Bikram Jairu, Executive Director of NNSWA, expressed their readiness to provide cash assistance but faced challenges, possibly stemming from the government's one-door policy, resulting in significant delays. He also mentioned their distribution of blankets to 115 families in Masta Rural Municipality, Bajhang, with a specific focus on lactating and pregnant women and vulnerable groups. Their efforts extend to Bajura district, where they distributed 100 non-food items through the Provincial Emergency Operation Center immediately after the earthquake, although the recognition and distribution details of these contributions remain unclear.

According to the Nepal Red Cross Society, they are planning a Cash Distribution Plan for Transitional Shelter, WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene), and multi-purpose assistance with support from organizations such as IFRC, ARC, DRC, and SRC. However, they are encountering difficulties due to the one-door policy and have requested assistance from various ministries to facilitate the process.

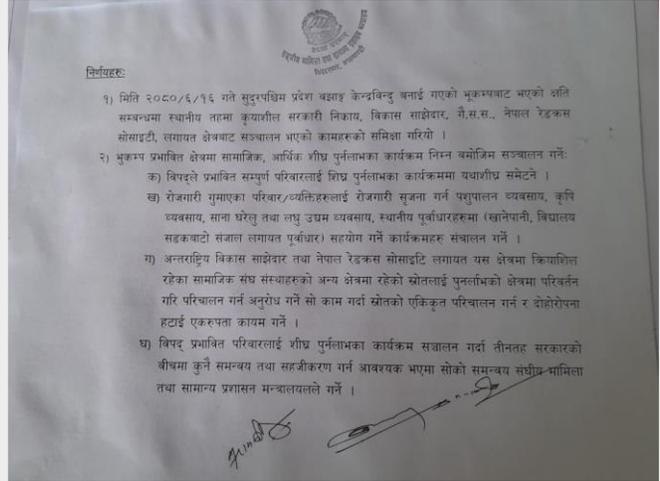
**CASH Distribution Plan for Transitional Shelter, WASH & Multi purpose**

Sector	Target	Districts	Support	NFRI Sets
Transitional shelter (NPR. 50,000)	250 HH	Bajhang & Bajura	IFRC, ARC, DRC & SRC	1500 NFRI Distribution in EQ affected districts and replenishment of NFRI
Cash for MPC for shelter beneficiaries (NPR 15,000)	600 HH	Bajhang & Bajura	IFRC, ARC, DRC & SRC	
WASH for shelter beneficiaries (NPR. 15,000)	250 HH	Bajhang & Bajura	IFRC, ARC, DRC & SRC	
Conditional cash for water tank (NPR. 6,500)	250 HH	Bajhang & Bajura	IFRC, ARC, DRC & SRC	

In a conversation with DPNet, Mr. Rishi Raj Acharya, Under Secretary at the Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MoFAGA), explained that the Nepal Red Cross Society has requested approval from their ministry to provide cash assistance of Rs. 15,000 to over 600 households. Mr. Acharya mentioned that MoFAGA is working to streamline the distribution of this cash aid through local governments. However, they have encountered challenges due to the one-door policy of the District Disaster Management Committee. This policy has created obstacles in the process. Mr. Acharya emphasized the importance of overcoming these obstacles to ensure that the support reaches the disaster-affected communities promptly and promotes early recovery. He underlined that the ministry's team is actively collaborating with local government authorities to address the restrictions associated with the one-door policy and facilitate the distribution of cash support.

## 6. Community-Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) Platform Partners' Consultative Meeting

After the series of earthquakes in Bajhang, a Community-Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) Platform Partners' Consultative Meeting was held on Thursday, 12 October 2023, at Singhadurbar, Kathmandu, where government organizations, development agencies, NGOs, and the Red Cross Society discussed their actions and collaborative efforts with local governments. The meeting emphasized the need to promptly integrate all families affected by the disaster



into a comprehensive rapid recovery process. This initiative aimed to provide vital support to families and individuals who had lost their employment, assisting them in establishing livelihoods through activities like livestock rearing, agriculture, and the development of small cottage industries. Simultaneously, efforts were directed toward bolstering local infrastructure, encompassing essential services such as access to clean drinking water, the improvement of schools, and the development of road networks. The meeting also recognized the importance of international cooperation in the recovery efforts. International development partners, the Nepal Red Cross Society, and various organizations operating in the affected region, alongside social groups and resources from other sectors, were called upon to contribute to these recovery initiatives. To streamline these efforts, a one-door system was introduced to enhance coordination and ensure that resources were deployed efficiently while preventing any duplication of efforts. Lastly, in cases where coordination was deemed necessary among the three tiers of government, the Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MoFAGA) was designated to serve as a facilitator. This role ensured a seamless and efficient rapid recovery process for families affected by the disaster, underscoring the significance of intergovernmental collaboration in such critical situations. These decisions collectively formed a comprehensive and well-coordinated approach to address the challenges and needs arising from the Bajhang earthquakes.

## 7. Earthquake Continues to Strike

According to the National Earthquake Monitoring & Research Center, there are a total of 601 shocks (as reported on October 17) in Bajhang followed by a seismic event on October 3. There are 20 earthquakes of more than 4ML, 7 earthquakes of more than 5ML including 1 foreshock of 5.3ML, and 1 main shock of magnitude 6.3ML.

Date(AD)	Time	Latitude	Longitude	Magnitude	Epicenter
2023-10-21	13:10	29.60	81.28	4.4	Bajhang
2023-10-18	16:18	29.62	81.19	4.6	Bajhang
2023-10-16	03:41	30.06	80.58	4.8	Darchula - India Border
2023-10-12	20:06	29.49	81.25	5.0	Bajhang
2023-10-11	18:37	29.61	81.19	5.2	Bajhang
2023-10-07	06:47	29.61	81.24	4.3	Bajhang
2023-10-07	06:00	29.58	81.26	5.3	Bajhang
2023-10-05	17:06	29.60	81.23	4.5	Bajhang
2023-10-03	23:58	29.63	81.20	4.3	Bajhang
2023-10-03	22:42	29.41	81.26	4.3	Bajhang
2023-10-03	19:05	29.65	81.19	4.3	Bajhang
2023-10-03	18:31	29.62	81.27	4.1	Bajhang
2023-10-03	11:53	29.65	81.27	5.0	Bajhang
2023-10-03	11:34	29.56	81.16	5.0	Bajhang
2023-10-03	10:46	29.53	81.14	4.3	Bajhang
2023-10-03	10:43	29.59	81.28	4.1	Bajhang
2023-10-03	10:00	29.58	81.10	4.1	Bajhang
2023-10-03	09:28	29.55	81.18	5.1	Bajhang
2023-10-03	09:21	29.59	81.19	6.3	Bajhang
2023-10-03	08:55	29.64	81.29	5.3	Bajhang

## 8. Request for Stratified Aid to Prioritize the Poorest in Bajhang's Earthquake Recovery

The Ministry of Land Management, Cooperatives, and Poverty Alleviation has been conducting a survey to identify households in poverty, collaborating with local governments to categorize these households into three levels: extremely poor, moderately poor, and generally poor, using a specific questionnaire. DPNet has acquired the survey data for households in the Bajhang district from the Ministry. We are now calling on development partners and relevant stakeholders to integrate this data into their support strategies for earthquake-stricken households in Bajhang. Particularly, households classified as extremely poor that have suffered complete housing damage should receive prioritized assistance. Additionally, even those extremely poor with partial damage should be considered for aid based on their economic fragility. This process must be coordinated with local government authorities to build consensus and ensure effectiveness. Adopting a targeted approach that accounts for economic vulnerability during the relief and recovery phases will set a precedent for managing aid in future disasters. Moving away from a uniform distribution (blanket approach) of resources to a needs-based approach will not only address the immediate needs of the most vulnerable but also optimize the use of relief and recovery resources. The details poor household survey data can be accessed at <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1-e8boIKGBnIsWykvfeTKAkIYWxt8vp0o>



*This report has been prepared by DPNet in support of DCA Nepal.*