

Proceedings of Meeting (18.06.2013)

Venue: Plan India Office, Dehradun, Uttarakhand

An emergency meeting on current disasters in Uttarakhand was convened by Inter Agency Group (IAG) at Plan India Office, Dehradun on 18.06.2013 at 3.00 PM. The aim of the meeting was to assess the situation and to plan for mobilizing the resources to mitigate the situation on an urgent basis.

Mr Madan M Doval welcomed the participants and briefed the Charter of IAG and the updated the participants on IAG activities.

He has updated the current situation of disaster in Uttarakhand.

1. First status report was compiled and posted on 17.6.13
2. We have received quick responses from various individuals for rescue and relief of their relatives who are affected.
3. We have received the call from OXFAM and Save the Children for updating them for need/ damage assessment. I have assured them to inform the updates regarding our activities.
4. The situation is that the information regarding remote areas is completely missing.
5. Road network and mobile (Communication) network has been damaged.
6. 350 building collapsed across the state. (Source : State Control Room)
7. 1000 animal loss (Source : State Control Room)
8. 44 person died and 44 injured seriously. (Source : State Control Room)
9. There is no figure on missing people. (Source : State Control Room)
10. 75000 pilgrimage are stranded in all four Dhams (Source : State Control Room)
11. 6 Choppers are rescuing the people (Source : State Control Room)
12. 10000 food packets are being sent for relief (Source : State Control Room)
13. Govt. has announced the helpline numbers – Uttarkashi -01374226126, 226461, Tehri – 01376-233433, Chamoli – 01372-251437, Rudraprayag – 01364-233727. 1077 is toll free number for helpline toll free numbers. There is no information on other districts. (Source : State Control Room)

R K Mukherjee has shared that:

1. In Uttarkashi and Maneri – Matli and Tiloth are badly affected areas.
2. In Tiloth Road and bridge are washed away.
3. ITBP center, Matli Uttarkashi has suffered badly.
4. Bhatukasaur (Near Maneri in Uttarkashi) four houses are washed away.

5. Didsari village, Uttarkashi is almost devastated.
6. In Ongi village, Uttarkashi four hotels are vacated due to flooding, 125 pilgrims are stranded there and have taken shelter in the village.
7. A dharamshala (Dilli wali Dharamshala) is washed away. Sources say that a stampede occurred due to breaking of stairs, which has caused drowning of about 60 pilgrims.
8. Sukkhi band, Bhatwari, Uttarkashi lying on the national highway is washed away.
9. In Harsil, Bhatwari, Uttarkashi there is severe damage. Pipe lines are damaged and there is no drinking water.
10. In Narayan Bagar, district Chamoli four houses are washed away.
11. In Tharali, district Chamoli around 100 m road is washed away.
12. In Jaujivi, district Pithoragarh - 6 houses are washed away
13. Mathkot, district Pithoragarh – Several houses are washed away
14. Dharchula , district Pithoragarh - Several houses are washed away
15. Bedubagad, Augustmuni, district Rudraprayag – 2 hotels are washed away. The water is flowing over the national highway (Rudraprayag - Kedarnath).
16. In district Rudraprayag on Kedarnath national highway between Silli and Chandrapuri 140 houses are washed away and another 100 are badly affected. No information is available on human casualties.
The local are saying the muck of the dam was deposited along the river which has diverted the course of water. The vehicles (Buses and dumpers) are washed away which caused damage to bridges at Silli, Rudraprayag. The debris (Buses, trucks, dumpers, tree and muck) has deposited near Bedubagar, Augustmuni and has diverted the course of water towards town.
17. Casualties are higher at Rambara. 60 people are washed away with water from Vasuki Tal. However, there are unconfirmed reports from various sources claiming more casualties that might reach upto 1000.
18. Kedarnath trek has got severely damaged. Approximately 4500 people are stranded in Kedarnath only. Sources are conforming on rescue operations started by the government.
19. In Kedarnath, unconfirmed reports are claiming that the entire infrastructure has got severe damage. Even the Kedarnath temple has also been reported damaged.

Suresh Sathapathi, CASA shared that:

1. To raise the fund and other material for relief the situation analysis and need analysis is required urgently. However under current situations there are blink possibilities to move in the field. Immediate response is quite difficult. The only route to reach Rudraprayag is via Kotdwar and Pauri. But the problem to go beyond Rudraprayag to

access the remotest pockets where severe damage occurred as there are many landslides that affected the road communication network in that area.

2. The only possible way is to coordinate with the govt.
3. The way out to reach the information is to contact the IAG members in the field to get some authenticated information. Where IAG members are not available some reliable persons can be contacted to assess the current situation.
4. The first initiative is to identify the person to gather the information.

Few Resource Persons who can share the information are :

- Jagdish Bandarwal, Ukhimath - 9012492811
 - Ramesh Khanduri, Chamba/Rudraprayag- 9568471326
 - Anil Dangwal, Uttarkashi – 9411385431
 - Devesh Kothari, Chamba/Jaunpur – 9412970443
 - Laxman Bisht, Tharali – 9412324995, 8126633395
 - Laxman S. Negi - 8126770351
5. Members agreed that immediate response is not possible unless a picture of the situation is achieved.

R K Mukharjee

1. Is there any possibility of keeping the records of pilgrims approaching the Chardham Yatra in future?
2. Is there any possibility to keep the record of disaster response team along the yatra trek for future actions and quick responses?

Suresh Balodi, Plan India

1. In Pilang, district Uttarkashi a cloud burst occurred this morning (18.6.13) and 6 houses are reported completely damaged.
2. The Village Jadau, Uttarkashi has suffered badly and shifted completely to nearby Chhanis (Temporary settlements of the villagers). No information on human and animal loss so far.

Laxman S Negi, Joshimath (Over Phone)

1. In Pandukeshwar 60-70 person washed away of which 40-50 are tourists. About 250 two wheeler, 20 four wheeler are also reported washed away.

Major Outcomes of the meeting:

1. Urgent need for updated information on impact of disaster
2. We need to widen the contact base throughout the state
3. Response will be coordinated strongly under one umbrella after situation analysis and need assessment (short term and long term) by the IAG.
4. The agencies interested in responding to situation should be allocated the areas/regions for taking actions on the basis of need assessment.
5. Internal communication must be strengthened to make response quicker and authenticated.
6. The individuals sharing the information must be acknowledged by revealing the source of information for two reasons, one for appreciating the individual and to be on safer side.
7. One page situation analysis form should be developed (Already developed).
8. Funds for logistics and travelling of teams to conduct rapid assessment should be arranged/managed. However, CASA representative assured to cover the cost of visits for IAG members willing to participate in the survey.
9. All members agreed that an appeal to state government should be sent for declaring the disaster as National disaster. SPHERE India is also requested to advocate the issue at National level.
10. It was decided that the annual membership fee for IAG is to be deposited to the accounts of CASA and all the members were requested to submit their fees immediately to the accounts directly or through coordinator IAG. Mr Suresh Satahpathy will share the account details to all the members through mail.

MM Doval

Coordinator, IAG, Uttarakhand

Format for Rapid Assessment

1. Area/location
2. Number of people directly affected
3. Number of Casualties
4. Number of people missing.....
5. Number of people injured
6. Number of people displaced
7. Number of relief camps and operated by

-
8. Number of people living in relief camps.: Total
- MaleFemaleChildren.....
- Pregnant women.....Elders.....
9. Number of houses damaged – Completely Partially.....
10. Number of Shops/Hotels/Restaurant damaged
 Completely Partially.....
11. Damage to infrastructure (types)
 Schools.....
 Hospitals.....
 Footpaths.....
 Road.....
 Electricity
 Mobile Towers
 Water Supply pipe lines
 Any other infrastructure.....

12. Number of Animals lost –

13. Number of Cattle shed damaged – Completely Partially.....

14. Loss of Agricultural land (ha).....

15. Immediate needs

a. Food/milk.....

b. Shelter.....

c. Water.....

d. Medicine.....

e. Light.....

f. Communication

g. Restoration of electricity

h. Cloths