



*Ham akhele hi chale the , Jaanave manjil magar !
Loag milthe gaye aur kaarva badtha gaya !!!*

Meaning: We (AID – Bihar) came here with less support and contact keeping in mind to help the needy people, but we received lot of local support who made our work possible and successful in all kinds' of relief works.

RELIEF

Commencement of Relief work:

On 18th August 2008 night, Bihar faced a major disaster that it had never seen in its history, when the Koshi River was diverged from its regular path. The flood-affected districts are Supaul, Saharsa, Madhepura, Purnea, katihar, Araria and Khagaria. This major flood vanished, almost every thing that come its on path.

A team of four members headed by Mr.Dharmendra of AID- Bihar reached Saharsa on 3 Sep-2008 with food packet consisting of Channa, chuda, milk powder, mixture, salt, chocolate, saree, match box, candle, towel, etc in 112 sacks.

The team was able to extend its support with **food packet** to 5 relief camps, these are:

- (a) ***Koshi Peedith Relief Committeee Camp***, at Saharsa railway station
- (b) ***Madhepura distict camp*** under the in charge of Mr.Ganesh manav and Mr.Krit Narayan Yadav
- (c) ***Triveniganj block camp, Korea Patti Panchayat camp*** of Supaul district under the in charge of Mr.Rajesh and Mr. Amit
- (d) ***Beldhaur block camp***, under the in charge of Mr.Sailendra, Mr.Vinay and Mr.Maheswar in Kagaria

The team initially started its work with the main objective to support relief camps and villages directly. The team focused more, in supporting camps since it was difficult to reach village through boat and due to lack of availability of boat, but still we managed to reach in Beldhaur and Triveniganj were most of the villages were affected.

Now, the team is successful in providing its support, continuously in three camps with milk powder and biscuit, which are Beldhaur, Triveniganj and Saharsa till date.

Our Relief work:

AID-Bihar started its work on full fledge with its team consisting of 12 members from 8-sep-2008, who came down to Saharsa from Arwal district and Dehari block of Rohtas district of Bihar.

From 11th September 2008, the team has reduced its relief work in camps to increased its relief work more in village keeping the main objective as,

- (a) To reach such village where the govt., and no single people has reached, which took lot of groundwork for the team in preparing list of villages and victims.
- (b) Ensure the victims identified, get the relief material with the help of volunteers, Ngo's and local coordinators.

AID India and Goonj jointly were able to reach 4018 families 13/9/08 to 25/9/08 in 16 villages of Beldhaur and Pathargat block that are,

S.no	Village	No. of families reached
1	Bhajanpatti	255
2	Visanpur	300
3	Kapasia	300
4	Sakhauri	250
5	Vijaypur musori	73
6	Bhoganpatti	500
7	Akha	350
8	Rukamania	100
9	Koyilatamar	160
10	Bhind toli	250
11	Kadava vasa	201
12	Bholadas tola	267
13	Khehar mandal	300
14	Govas	502
15	Kanjeri	100
16	Vishunpuri	110
	Total	4018

AID India has independently reached more than 4000 families and provided food packet, old cloths and milk powder in villages that are,

S.no	Village	No. of families reached
1	Eksatbasa	155
2	Mahinath nagar	238
3	Thelihar	313
4	Koriyapatti panchayat	826
5	Jadiya panchayat	645
6	Daparka panchayat	734
7	Barakurva	135
8	Bhuthipool	200
9	Murvallah	56

10	Goongi	97
11	Haji nagar	83
12	Pilvaha panchayat	213
13	Mirjawa Panchayat	308
14	Manganj	226
15	Rajbandha Musahari	93
16	kachra	107
	Total	4429

Madhepura camp is been supported by AID India, wherein our team is providing the essential food items such as Channa, Chuda, Milk powder, Chawal, Salt choka (potato rice) from 6th September. The camp was later supported with Kichdi, cooked rice from 20th September.

Now, our team has strengthened; in terms of contact, support from local, human resource for relief work. At present, the team has outreached its relief work in 8 camps apart from village that are,

- [i] Koshi People's Relief Committee camp – Saharsa, railway station
- [ii] Madhepura
- [iii] Zeromile – Belldhaur
- [iv] Sarpriya – Belldhaur
- [v] Triveniganj Block H.Q
- [vi] Koriyapatti
- [vii] Dhabiayahi
- [viii] Jadiya

In reach of Muslim community :

Eureka team is providing food items such as milk powder, biscuit and mixture to muslim community people, both for Afthari (morning food) and Shehari (evening food), since its being Ramzan month for them and people practice their religious fasting in Saharsa, Beldhaur, Madhepura, Triveniganj.

The Relief Mechanism of AID- Bihar (Eureka team):

The overall coordination is carried out by Dharmendra (AID – Bihar coordinator), Mr.Sanjay and Mr.Shankar.

- The team tries its maximum to reach the unreached place with relief material and community participation.
- The team identifies affected village of remote place with help of local people and prepares a list of people affected most and are given coupon (in some villages) for which relief material are provided in 1 or 2 days.
- Now, all most 80% of our team's relief works are carried out with help of local community (villagers) support. In addition, Eureka team is now, identified as a unique organization with its systematic working approach in relief operation, while other organization working in flood affected area in Bihar get into trouble and their

relief material either get stolen or people get into quarrel while distributing relief materials.

Our mechanism has helped the Eureka team to reach people with relief materials with safety and sense of satisfaction.

An interesting experience shared by Dharmendra: It was on 27/9/08 evening, when I reached Gwas village of Beldhaur block with volunteers from Naminathji Jain foundation. Our boat went against water current with fully loaded of relief materials but we took risk to reach village without knowing that water receded in villages were we planned to distribute material. Our boat got strucked in muddy soil and we had walk nearly 1 hr to three villages carrying relief material, putting hard effort to reach the people and distributed in a well manner, as they were given coupon in earlier visit. The team after three hours in field returned at night and there was no light. Even the boatman struggled to reach to the mainland.



Eureka team in challenging task



AID- Bihar: In coordination with other Ngo's

With Goonj: Eureka team joined its hand with Goonj (NGO) from 9-sep-2008 in relief work. Goonj provided food packets. The ingredients of food packet are,

Rice	4 kg
Dhaal	3 kg (3 different type of dhaal, each 1 kg)

Sugar	1 kg
Channa	2 kg
Chuda	3 kg
Biscuit	5 packet
Candle	5
Match box	1



Eureka had been supporting Goonj in sending food packets, especially in which the ingredients are less or shortage. Even more, the team is supporting Goonj in terms of transporting and packing of food packets with help of village volunteers from those affected were there materials have to be distributed. It simultaneously strengthens community participation and support in AID India's relief work.

With Pratham: AID – Bihar provided accommodation facility to Pratham volunteers from 12th Sep to 26th Sep 2008, who were engaged with children in government camps, with the main objective to help to government teachers in taking class in camps through group activity and fun games, thereby maintaining continuous schooling of all children belonging to flood victim family. The volunteer team has reached almost all the camps along with unicef volunteers.

With Naminathji Jain foundation: Knowing our systematic work, Naminathji Jain foundation from Mumbai through Goonj Ngo contacted AID – Bihar for material distribution. Their main aim was to distribute food packets to 2350 families, and it happened on 26th and 27th Sep with our coupon system of distribution.



With Jindal foundation: our team received a helping hand in relief work by Jindal foundation – Mumbai, which provided 33 bags consisting of mixture, biscuit and old clothes that was later distributed in villages.

Field experience shared by Mr.Prabhat (AID Bihar – volunteer): I was distributing relief materials in Beldhaur, following the coupon given earlier by us in the village to flood victims. However, problem rose when a group of people, interfered our work and made a big fuss that, we are giving relief materials as we wish. These people also brought police,

who finally allowed our work to carry on, after enquiring the situation. There our team was applauded for its best system of distributing materials even in difficult situation. This could not be the case if, we had not have listed the flood affected families in our pilot visit.

MEDICAL TEAM

Mobile Hospital: AID India started its medical team on 5-sep-2008. A mobile hospital (on jeep) was initiated by Indus Creative Vision an Organization headed by Mr.Shankar of Saharsa in collaboration with our team, with an understanding that it will provide 1doctor (either from private or govt. deputed), 1 pharmacist and we shall provide vehicle, diesel, volunteer and medicine.

This mobile hospital was successful with one mobile hospital consisting of 1 doctor, 1 assistant cum pharmacist and 2 volunteer from 5/9/08 to 15/9/08, were in from 11th to 13th September two mobile hospital was on roll.

Indus Creative Vision handed over its concept of mobile hospital to AID-Bihar with an understanding that the team can perform the work in well manner for remaining days, eventually Indus were unable to get doctors, since there was shortage of doctors for flood relief work.

AID India mobilized doctors, medicine from within, and outside Bihar state. With its effort AID-Bihar was able to mobilize a team of doctors from **Lions club of Madras** (Chennai, Tamilnadu) consisting of six Doctors, one pharmacist, three volunteers, which arrived in Saharsa on 18/9/08. AID-Bihar organized Pathargat and Triveniganj Blocks, from19th to 23rd sep 2008. The team finally camp with alarming report, which is given below

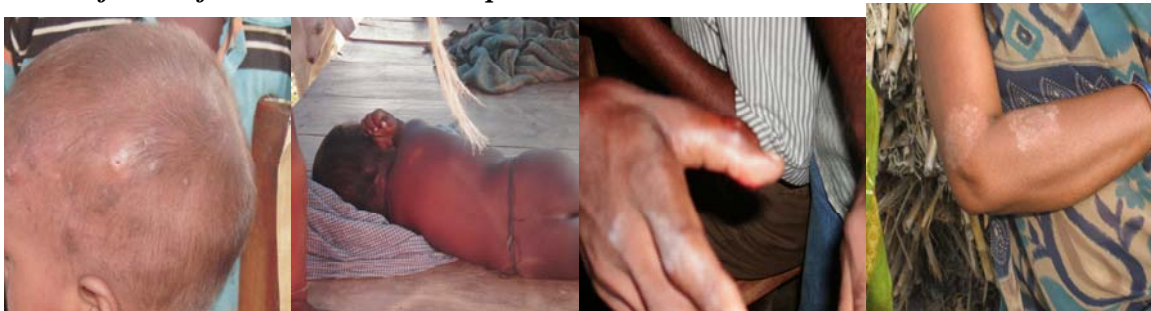
Medical camp status - Report			Doctors team from Lions club Madras, Tamilnadu				
Date	Village	Loose motion (LM)	Upper respiratory infection (URI)	Fever	Skin Infection	other ailments	Total patient seen
19-Sep-08	Kisanpur	142	214	142	71	142	711
20-Sep-08	Tirveniganj	109	162	110	54	112	547
21-Sep-08	Daparka	94	94	56	56	76	376
22-Sep-08	Daparka	92	138	92	46	92	460
23-Sep-08	Mirjwa	132	118	133	166	132	661
							2755

AID-Bihar mobilized medicines from various source apart from buying in market as per the need. The major donors in terms of medicines are Goonj (Ngo) - Saharsa, District administration – Saharsa (Bihar), Lions Club - Saharsa, Mr.Vivek of Delhi, and Lions Club – Chennai. The information regarding, list of medicine and quantity is enclosed attachment.

Lions club doctor's team in Medical camp:



Skin Infection found in medical camp:



Dr.Sai Lakshmi of CIOISA, Chennai:



AID- Bihar medical team with Saharsa District Collector:



Some experience from medical camp:

1. Dr.Sai Lakshmi, referred a victim with severe dehydration to govt. hospital in an Ambulance (108 –EMRI service) which had follow up and client reported to be safe.
2. A delivery case was taken immediately to hospital from the flood-affected village.
3. One village surprisingly reported with very less number of lose motion. The team came to know that govt. had provided water purifier tablet, which had very good impact and the rate of water born disease was under control.
4. Doctors of Lions club of madras did suturing in their medical camp in Triveniganj.

From the desk of Dharmendra:

In the initial stage, our works were independent and we got many new individual friends. Later when we started working with NGO's we came to know new groups and our contact circle enlarged with strong relationship & network.

We started our work with unskilled volunteers, but on later part, we got technical support from Priya Ranjan and Abishek of US and AID-Chennai, who helped us to update our information on website.

Meanwhile Balaji visit made more helpful in strengthening our task. Selva of AID – Delhi also helped in forming the relief team in Bihar.

And person like Vivek (volunteer from Delhi), by seeing our blog (on web) came down to Bihar and stayed with us for 3 days and helped us to streamline our work in more systematic, practical and functional method, in simple way to help the team with the experience he had. Oliver from AID-Chennai helped us in documenting the relief work.

"The sun has not risen in the life of flood affected people, which set on 18th August 2008"