

NCHD Relief Efforts on the Move

Recent violent rains have claimed over 1400 lives in different parts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, with more than 1.2 million people stranded due to heavy deluge in various parts of the province. These have been termed as the worst flash floods of this century and have caught the province and the district governments unawares. Gigantic efforts are required at once to evacuate these hapless people and live stock to safer abodes, and accommodate them into interim camps. They need clean drinking water and food, besides essential medicines to ensure that no epidemic scourges the area.

NCHD, being present in all the 144 districts of Pakistan, has acted in close coordination with the district administration and other stake holders through its network to play its leading role in organizing relief operations in the affected districts.



Charsadda: DG NCHD, Mr. Zulfiqar Ahmed had visited Charsadda and met with the Law Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, MPAs, DCO and EDO Health, Charsadda. On EDO's request, the DG committed that NCHD shall provide 6 vehicles to EDO Health Charsadda in Mobile Teams for 7 Days and set up 4 Medical Teams comprising of 4 doctors, 4 Medical Technicians, 4 LHVs and 4 EPI technicians. Some of the medical Camps have also been organized through local representatives. 02 boats were also immediately provided to Charsadda for rescue operations, which later on were sent to Nowshera to join in the rescue and relief efforts. Charsadda has been divided into 4 zones in order to provide basic facilities of food, medical treatment and shelter to the flood affected communities.



The DG then met with the DCO Charsadda in lieu of the strong linkage between NCHD and the District Government. He appreciated the deployment of 16 medical units, and assured that a 2-week campaign will be arranged to provide medical facilities on need basis. NCHD is facilitating these medical camps through its staff, teachers, volunteers and vehicles, while medicines have been donated by Provincial government and WHO. So far, NCHD has provided medicines worth Rs. 400,000/-.

The DG then visited the Medical Camp at Ghari Hamid Gul Mian, Charsadda, and met with the 200 patients being treated at the camp by the doctors there.

Nowshera: Nowshera District has 47 Union Councils, out of which 24 have been severely and 23 partially damaged as per opinion. NCHD had provided 2 boats along



with 15 of its volunteers to assist in rescue and relief operations in line with the District Government and Pak Army; while two other joined in from Charsadda on 1st August to assist in rescue and relief operations. These boats have since then saved 2,400 people, including women, children and older persons. NCHD and Pak Army are jointly conducting rescue activities in District Nowshera; while Pak Army has appreciated the efforts of NCHD in rescue operations.

NCHD's mobile medical camp was set up at ASC Colony, Nowshera on 2nd August where 148 flood affectees were treated and given free medicines. Camps in the village Kheshko, Shah Gul Baba and Jalozai were set up on 2nd and 3rd August, to bring medical relief to more than 1600 people. Another medical camp was conducted at Camp Koroona, Taro Jabba of district Nowshera on 3rd of August 2010 where a hundred patients were treated and were provided with free medicines particularly for skin and diarrhea infections.

The DG visited Nowshera on 3rd August to review the progress of NCHD relief work in the area.

NCHD has established Volunteer Information Desk at Armored Colony, Nowshera, to provide assistance to effected people, and free medical camps at various locations at the close of rescue activities. The team is also providing medical health care to 600 patients and drinking water and medicines to about 12000 IDPs.



Dinner was also served to the flood affectees at the Government Polytechnic College – Kandare, Nowshera.

Free Medical Camp for Flood Affectees: A working team of NCHD visited its medical camps today. Dr. Tariq Mehmood held the Free Medical Camp for Flood Affectees arranged at Polytechnic College of Technology in Nowshera. It has been observed that the common diseases reported were diarrhea, chest and skin infections. Therefore, water purification tablets were also given to the Diarrhea affected patients.



The medical camp was also visited by Azam Khan Hoti, Ex- Federal Minister, Secretary Health KP, Commissioner Mardan and EDO Health Mardan. Miss Shahida Wahid, Chairperson Hoti Foundation Mardan, also visited the NCHD Medical Camp where a total of 379 patients have been treated so far. The camp also holds surgical facility and 15 surgeries have already been successfully conducted. Hoti Foundation Mardan also donated medicines of Rs. 15000 estimated cost and Hand Fans for NCHD Medical Camp.

All visitors appreciated the efforts of NCHD.

NCHD had provided 3000 bottles of mineral water to the affectees initially worth Rs. 20,000/- , while 1000 water coolers and clean drinking water is being provided by tankers since 3rd August 2010.

NCHD Swat has established an emergency cell, and has procured medicines of Rs. 100,000/-, while medicines worth Rs. 50,000/- have already been mobilized. 4000 Water purifying tablets (Aqua Tabs) have been obtained from WHO and 9000 bottles of mineral water have been obtained. However, relief is still desperately required in shape of medicines, food, blankets and tents for the flood affectees. Reports about collection of donations have been received from more than 50 % of the districts.



Control rooms have been established in Sindh due to early flood warning. Soon NCHD will establish its relief camps in Upper Dir and Malakand, while relief operations have been initiated in Gilgit-Baltistan from 4th Aug. 2010.

Internal Donations: All the staff of NCHD has decided to contribute their one-day salary to address to the needs of their brethren in these times of distress, while the Chairperson herself has donated her entire month's salary in lieu of these donations. Staff of NCHD Sindh province has already announced the donations of Rs. 375,000/- for relief operations.

NCHD genuinely feels that our efforts would not have had been a success without the very valuable and rich contribution from the worthy donor community of Pakistan and from abroad.