

RF/DM-3/LAT-4/SUDHA

(4)

FAX - 5.10.1993

EARTHQUAKE REPORT

THIS IS FIRST ATTEMPT TO SPOT REPORT AFTER 4 HRS IN LATUR. COLLECTED INFORMATION AND EXPERIENCES FROM OXFAM STAFF. PROJECT PARTNERS AND VOLUNTEERS : STILL VERY HAZY OVERALL PICTURE. MOST OF INFORMATION BELOW RELATES TO LATUR DISTRICT AND LITTLE INFORMATION ON OSMANABAD DISTRICT.

AA. IMPACT.

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NO NEW CLEAR INFORMATION ON THIS. APPROX. 56 VILLAGES WITH 1,25,000 PEOPLE IN 2 DISTRICTS BADLY AFFECTED. ESTIMATES OF DEATHS VARIES BETWEEN 15,000 AND 30,000 PLUS. NUMBER OF PEOPLE INJURED AND DISPLACED NOT CLEAR.

BB. SECTORAL ASSESSMENT.

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1. FOOD: THERE WERE SUPPLY PROBLEMS ON 30TH SEPT & 1ST OCT. BUT LARGELY O.K. SINCE 2ND OCT. GOVT. SUPPLIES POURED IN. DISTRIBUTION AND COOKING PRODUCTS IN SOME VILLAGES. GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED REGULAR RATION SCHEME BUT DETAILS NOT CLEAR.

2. WATER: NO MAJOR PROBLEMS FROM VILLAGES WHERE OXFAM PARTNERS ARE WORKING. WHERE VILLAGERS RESETTLED AT DISTANCE FROM OLD VILLAGE GOVT SUPPLYING BY TANKER. STILL UNCLEAR HOW MANY BORE/OPEN WELLS DAMAGED. AFPRO & AFARM ASSESSING AT PRESENT.

3. DISPOSAL OF DEAD BODIES: ON 30TH SEPT. & 1ST OCT. SOME BY VILLAGERS /RELATIVES FROM 2ND OCT ARMY + POLICE HELPED. MOST DEAD BODIES CREMATED / BURIED.

4. CLOTHING: NO MAJOR PROVISION. HAVE SALVAGED AND HELICOPTERS DROPPED SUPPLIES.

5. SHELTER: VERY DIFFICULT ON 30TH SEPT. & 1ST OCT. BUT FROM 2ND OCT. IN VILLAGES OXFAM PARTNERS WORKING VOLUNTEERS USED SALVAGED MATERIALS (POLES TIN SHEETS ETC.) FROM 3RD SEPT. POLES TARPOLINE SHEETS ETC. STARTED COMING IN FROM GOVT.

6. MIGRATION: SOME LANDLESS FAMILIES HAVE LEFT AFFECTED VILLAGES TO STAY WITH THE RELATIVES OUTSIDE.

7. AGRICULTURE: MAIN CROP OF JOWAR (SORGHUM) READY FOR HARVEST IN 4 WEEKS. CROP AVERAGE/GOOD. CONCERN ABOUT WATERING AND PROTECTING CROP AND, IN VILLAGES WITH HEAVIEST DAMAGE, OVER WHO WILL HARVEST.

8. MENTAL HEALTH : LOSS OF LIVES
TRAUMATISED. SOME BEREAVED IN DEEP SHOCK. MANY

CC : GOVT. RESPONSE

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NOW MASSIVE. BOTH CIVIL AND MILITARY. BUT EXCEPT FOR MAIN/ROADSIDE VILLAGES LIKE KILLARI LITTLE DONE BEFORE 3.10. NOW ARMY RESPONSIBLE FOR DISPOSAL OF DEAD BODIES AND SEEING PROPERTY/JEWELLRY SAFE AND SOME BEGINNING WORK. CIVIL DISTRICT AUTHORITIES APPOINTED 5 OFFICERS EACH VILLAGE FOR FOOD, SHELTER, WATER RESPECTIVELY. GOVT MACHINERY WORKING AGAIN SHOWN BY ONE VILLAGE WHERE VET CAME TO TREAT CATTLE, ENGINEERS CAME TO PUT UP SHELTER AND ELECTRICITY RESTORED ON 3/10

BUT GOVT OFFICERS IN SOME VILLAGES STILL RELYING ON NGO VOLUTEERS FOR FOOD DISTRIBUTION/COOKING AND ORGANISATION OF SHELTER.

ARMY/POLICE CONCERN TO KEEP OUT HORROR TOURISTS AND MANY ILL COORDINATED RELIEF CONVOYS MEANS ACCESS NOW VERY DIFFICULT SOME AREAS.

DD: OXFAM RESPONSE TO DATE

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AS MANY OXFAM PARTNERS FROM MARATHWADA REGION OF MAHARASTHRA WERE COMING FOR MEETING AT AMBEJOGAI. TO KNOW ABOUT THE QUAKE AREA, RELATIVELY EASY TO COORDINATE INITIAL RELIEF EFFORTS. ANIL AND OXFAM HAVE BEEN FULLY BEHIND A COORDINATION COMMITTEE OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES UNDER BHUMAMPGRASAT SAHAYAJA SAMITGHI (EARTH QUAKE VICTIMS RELIEF COMMITTEE) STARTED WITH 13 MEMBERS OF WHOM ALL OXFAM PARTNERS ARE EX-PARTNERS. ALL FROM MARATHWADA REGION BUT NONE FROM EARTHQUAKE REGION. NOW EXPANDED TO 35 MEMBERS OF WHOM 15 OXFAM PARTNERS. DR. LOHIA OF MAH 110 CHAIRMAN. MAIN TASK OF COMMITTEE HAS BEEN TO MOBILISE AND DEPLOY 240 VOLUNTEERS MOSTLY FROM 4 OXFAM PARTNERS - MAH 110, 169, 182, 166. OTHER PROJECT STAFF (2 - 3 FROM EACH ORGANISATION) ALSO WORKING. THOUGH ANIL AND VINITHA PLAYING KEY ROLE IN FACILITATION. THE LOCAL NGO COMMITTEE WILL CO-ORDINATE THE RELIEF WORK.

FIRST GROUP OF 90 VOLUNTEERS WENT OUT ON 1/10 TO SIRSAL AND KILLARI PATI (CROSSROADS) AND RETURNED ON 3.10. AT KILLARI PATI CAMP/BASE SET UP FOR DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD STUFFS AND RELIEF MATERIALS TO SURROUNDING VILLAGES VOLUNTEERS HAVE RECEIVED

DETAILS OF VOLUNTEER SERVICES :

SIRSAL : 765 HOUSES, 83 TOTALLY COLLAPSED REST UNSAFE. 17 DIED AND 38 HOSPITALISED VOLUNTEERS DID FOLLOWING UP TO 3.10.

- HELPED VILLAGES SALVAGE VALUABLES FROM DEBRIS.
- SET UP 21 TEMPORARY SHELTERS
- COOKED AND DISTRIBUTED FOOD
- SET UP DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM FOR RELIEF SUPPLIES.

- AT REQUEST OF VILLAGERS DISTRIBUTED CLOTHES DROPPED BY HELICOPTER.

WHEN 1ST BATCH OF VOLUNTEERS LEFT ON 3/10. VILLAGERS PLEADED WITH THEM NOT TO LEAVE, SUGGESTING THEY ALSO EFFECTIVE COUNSELLING/KEEPING UP MORALE.

MANAGEMENT OF VOLUNTEERS WELL ORGANISED BY COMMITTEE. VOL. KNOW WHAT THEY ARE DOING AND PURPOSE UNLIKE SOME OTHER VOL. DRIFTING AROUND AIMLESSLY.

120 VOLS LEFT ON 3/10 FOR 6 VILLAGES WHICH DISTRICT COLLECTOR ALLOCATED THE COMMITTEE FOR RELIEF WORK. MAH 110, ALSO, SEPARATELY, ALLOCATED FURTHER 5 VILLAGES.

THOUGH GOVT MACHINERY NOW FUNCTIONING, LOCAL GOVT OFFICERS STILL RELYING ON VOLUNTEERS FOR MUCH OF ACTUAL WORK ON FOOD DISTRIBUTION AND COOKING, SHELTER, DISTRIBUTION OF OTHER RELIEF ITEMS.

TO DATE OXFAM/PARTNERS (MAH 160 + 169) SPENT APPROX. RS. 3,00,000/- (THREE LAKHS) OR APPROX. 7000 POUNDS (SEVEN THOUSAND POUNDS) ON :

TRANSPORT
VOLUNTEERS FOOD
COOKING UTENSILS
LANTERNS
BUCKETS
SOAP
ACCOMODATION FOR VOLUNTEERS

COMMITTEE HAS MOBILISED LOT OF RELIEF MATERIALS LOCALLY INCLUDING FOOD FOR VOLUNTEERS. ALMOST ALL BASIC ITEMS FOOD SHELTER ETC COMING FROM PRIVATE RELIEF CONVOYS/ GOVT WHICH VOLUNTEERS DISTRIBUTING. TO DATE VERY IMPRESSIVE MOBILISATION AND EFFECTIVE DEPLOYMENT OF VOLUNTEERS, ALLOCATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES ETC., BY COMMITTEE.

EE. GOVT/NGO COORDINATION

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CONFLICTING SIGNALS COMING FROM GOVT. PREDICTABLE GIVEN GENERAL CONFUSION, LARGE GOVT. MOBILISATION AND PRESSURES TO SEND 14 OVERSEAS EXPERTS. ALMOST NO COORDINATION OF GOVT AND NGO EFFORTS TO DATE. ANIL AND DR. LOHIA HAVE MET KEY LOCAL OFFICIALS AND SENIOR POLITICIANS TO EXPLAIN WORK AND GET NECESSARY PERMITS.

FF. NGO COORDINATION

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THERE ARE MASSES OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL INITIATIVES LORRY LOADS OF SUPPLIES FROM INDUSTRIES POLITICAL PARTIES SCHOOLS, NGOS ETC. MANY WILL BE ONE DAY WONDERS. MAJOR PROBLEMS OF CONGESTION/LACK OF COORDINATION ON 2.10 AND 3.10.

COMMITTEE HAS TO DATE GOT MOST OF LOCAL VOLUNTARY AGENCIES ON BOARD. SO SOME COORDINATION. COORDINATION IS GOING TO IMPROVE IN THE COMING DAYS.

GG. OXFAM COMMITTEE WORK AT LATUR

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GETTING STUFF OUT. ANIL USING MAH 110 AT AMBAJOGAI AS FALL BACK BASE AS 1) LINES CLEARER AND 2) CHANCE TO GET OUT OF HYPER ACTIVITY AT LATUR.

HOTEL VENKATESH : 02382 3869
MANAVLOK : 02446 47217

HH. OXFAM PLANS

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- IMMEDIATE SHORT TERM PLANS ARE TO CONTINUE WITH DEPLOYMENT OF VOLUNTEERS FOR NEXT FEW DAYS. FUNDS WILL BE NEEDED FOR ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED IN DD.

-MEDIUM AND LONG TERM DEPENDS ON NUMBER OF FACTORS.

- OXFAM'S OWN ASSESSMENT WHICH ANIL HOPES TO START FROM 6.10

-POLICY DECISION OF GOVT.

-PLANS OF OTHER AGENCIES WHERE AFFECTED VILLAGES TO BE RESETTLED. SOME OFFICIALS TALK OF ALLOWING PEOPLE TO DECIDE, OTHERS OF MOVING THEM OUT OF FAULT LINE/EARTHQUAKE ZONE.

BUT ANIL TENTATIVELY THINKING OF SUPPORTING 2 PARTNERS FOR LONGER TERM REHABILITATION ONE IN 3 VILLAGES, ONE IN 10 VILLAGES. SOME COMMITTEE MEMBERS/OXFAM PARTNERS ARE CLEAR THAT THEY ONLY WANT TO WORK ON RELIEF FOR NEXT FEW WEEKS. BUT TWO ARE CLEAR THEY WANT TO DO LONG TERM REHAB.

INFO FROM OXFAM STAFF AND PARTNERS IN THE AFFECTED AREAS

Berry Par

5/10/93
GP/ml*

SK - 9 looked through his file

Some suggestions

- (1) It may be a good idea to separate articles/papers/reports into a Technical File which is kept in the library.
- (2) The rest of the letters/correspondence, extra copies of notices, minutes can be kept in this file and given an administrative office file No.
- (3) A consolidated report from all the subunits including 'issues' of concerns' and perceptions of different team members and volunteers could make a very good overview document for training and orientation purposes. A checklist of headings could be finalised and then members

information extracted under
each heading from different
reports.

4th Feb 1994

Any Volunteers?

- (4) Are the Newspaper cuttings
filed separately? If so it
could have a Comparison
Number A or B to the Technical
file for easier linkage.

Discuss

actions

RN
10/2/94

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