

# RELIEF & REHAD FORBIHAR-FLOODS-VICTIMS-2017

Undertaken by: JAMIAT ULAMA-I-HIND

# **A GLANCE AT RELIEF & REHAB WORK**



#### Rehabilitation

Survey conducted in 1100 villages

Construction of 410 houses Further 250 houses under-construction



Relief

48,000 food packets distributed in 1000 villages

Medical camps set up at 5 places

On Eid al-Adha, 717 large animals (Cattle) and some small animal (Sheep or Goat) scarified.

# **DEVASTATING FLOODS**



On August 13, 2017, a devastating flash-flood struck 19 districts of North Bihar particularly Seemanchal region that left an unimaginable trail of destruction and loss of lives. The magnitude of destruction was so enormous and huge that a number of human habitats were completely obliterated from the map. Disaster management officials estimated that 1.71 crore people were badly affected by the flood. It was not easy to estimate how many people died in the floods and its aftermath. However, the state government has put death figure of 514. Furthermore, 8.50 lakh families have become homeless as their houses were completely swept away in the floods. The area never saw such raging fury of Nature. In Araria district alone two lakh persons lost their dwellings. The intensity of the flood was so intense that on the very first day it rendered 10 million people roofless forcing them to take refuge under the open sky. Hundreds of villages virtually turned into ponds and lakes. It was not a natural calamity but a sort of curse/ torment of the Almighty God. It seems that some unseen forces turned over the land from beneath. It's a fact that 76 % of currently flood-affected regions are known-flood prone areas. Flood is a routine and normal thing for the inhabitants of these regions and they are also very well-versed in coping with the flood situation every year. However, this year, the flood-fury was so intense and strong that the people of the area never experienced before.



In the night of August 13, 2017, the dam built on the famous river of Seemanchal known as "Mahanada" got cracked. Because of night darkness, inhabitants of the area did not fathom the lurking catastrophe that was going to engulf them. When they got awakened from the sleep, they found themselves under the water as their homes have been turned into pools. It was a horrible situation as they have never imagined facing such a drastic situation. They had no option but to flee from their homes to save lives. In the mayhem, many children, aged-people and sick did not rescue themselves and became the victim of the flood. When the dreadful night over and dawn descended, there were dooms everywhere. People were forced to take shelters in their homes' roofs, trees, and other elevated-places. The area has reverberated with screams of distress as people have been cut-off from the neighboring areas. Roads and bridges have been swept away in the floods rendering the region inaccessible.

# Jamiat begins relief and rehabilitation work



The General Secretary of Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind Maulana Mahmood Madani came to know the horrible scenes of flood devastation through the print and electronic media and other sources. The visual footages of flood victims' begging for food to fill their empty stomachs moved him and he instructed his relief team to rush the area immediately for the help. Right away, Maulana Madani established contacts with the office bearers of Jamiat Ulama-i-Bihar and directed them to rush to the flood-affected area immediately for relief and rehabilitation work. He had a telephonic talk with Maulana Mohammad Qasim, President Jamiat Ulama-i-Bihar, Maulana Mohammad Nazim, General Secretary Jamiat Ulama-i-Bihar and Mufti Javed Iqbal (Kishanganj) Vice President Jamiat Ulama-i-Bihar etc. He asked them to help the flood-victims and do the relief works on war footings. **On August 17, 2017, Bihar Flood-Relief Committee was set up.** The committee has done immediate arrangements for providing food items to the flood-victims who had taken shelter in refugee camps set up in Purnia, Araria, Katihaar, and Kishanganj and places. On the very first day, 1,000 food kits were distributed among the victims. The food kits stuffed with rice, pulses, flour, gram, *choora*, dates, mustard oil, sugar, tea leaves, salt, biscuits, milk powder, matchbox, and candles etc. The central office of Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind has assigned the task to Maulana Hakimuddin Qasmi, Secretary, Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind, Maulana Mohsin Azam Qasmi and Qari Naushad Aadil to oversee the relief activities in the flood-affected areas. In the meantime, Arshad Meer, President, Jamiat Ulama, Surat, Gujarat and Haji Sufiyan Khan and others went there along with a team of volunteers to assist the relief works.



Meanwhile, Maulana Mahmood Madani issued an appeal to philanthropists and charity organizations for providing monetary and material help to the flood victims. It is to be mentioned here that Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind did not wait and quickly began relief and rehabilitation work after the flood-wrecked havoc in the area. Mohammad Muslim, Treasurer of Jamiat Ulama Kishanganj unit donated Rs 5 lakh for distribution of food items including biscuits among the flood victims. He also devised ways and means for removing water-logging from the low-lying areas. He also sent foodstuff for three consecutive days to the 150 students stranded in Sarsawat Vidhalya, an RSS run school, on humanitarian ground. It sets a shining example for communal harmony and compassion. The principal of the school expressed his gratitude and thanks to Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind.



During relief and rehabilitation operation, the office bearers and cadres of Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind visited 1100 villages and distributed food kits to about **48000** families. Details of food kits distribution are mentioned below:

# **Relief Centers**

Eight relief centers were set up in places like (1) Kishanganj (2) Madhepur (3) Azam Nagar (4) Mur (5) Mujgawan (6) Darul Uloom Zakariya, Harmpur, Baaisee (7) Araria (8) North Deenajpur.

Names and contact Numbers of the assigned persons to the relief centers mentioned here:

1	Relief Committee Patron	Maulama Qari Usman	President,JUH
2	Relief Committee Patron	Maulana Mahmood Madani	General Secretary ,JUH
3	President Relief Committee	Maulana Qasaim	President, Jamiat Ulama-i-Bihar
4	Convener	Mufti Jawed Iqbal	Vice President Jamiat Ulama-i-Bihar
5	Supervisor	Mohammad Nazim	General Secretay Jamiat Ulama-i-Bihar
6	Members	Maulana Hakimuddin Qasmi	Secretary, Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind,
7	Members	Maulana Mohammad Ghiyasuddin	President, JUH Kishanganj.

# **District Relief Committees**

#### Kishanganj

Maulana Mohammad Ghiyasuddin Mufti Monazir Nomani Maulana Mohamad Khalid Anwar Maulana Maaruf Mr. Mohammad Muslim

#### Araria

Maulana Bazlur Rahman Haji Dr. Abid Hussain Qari Naushad Adil Mufti Athar Qasmi

#### Purnia

Maulana Mohammad Imtiyaz Qasmi Maulana Abu Saleh Mufti Shamsh Tauheed Hafiz Mohammad Tayyeb Maulana Arif Husain

#### Katihar

Haji Shahbaaz Alam, Mufti Najmul Hoda, Maulana Badruddoja Mufti Mansur, Madhepura, Maulana Minhaj Asghar

#### West Deenajpur

Maulana Islamudin, Maulana Maroof Qari Abdullah Hafiz Saiful Islam

### Qurbani (Animal Sacrifice) in Flood-hit areas on the Occasions of Eid-Al-Azha

On 21 August 2017, Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind announced that it would make arrangement for offering Qurbani (animal sacrifice) in flood-hit areas and in relief camps. In this connection, Maulana Mahmood Madani issued statements and advertisements in newspapers for drawing the attention of philanthropists and wealthy people to do Qurbani (animal sacrifice) in flood-affected areas and earned the rewards of Allah Almighty. Praise be upon to the Almighty Allah, because of Jamiat volunteers' diligent work as many as 717 animals were sacrificed. Besides this, under the supervision of Maulana Qasaim, President Jamiat Ulama-i-Bihar, and Maulana Mohammad Nazim, General Secretay Jamiat Ulama-i-Bihar, in other districts including Champaran, Supaul and Madhubani etc Qurbani was offered.



#### Sad Day of Eid-al-Adha

Eid al-Adha was observed on September 2, 2017, but the nightmares of the floods were not subdued in the minds of flood-survivors. Thousands of Muslims, who lost everything in the calamity, were still in distress as they remained trapped in water. On the eve of Eid al-Adha, Jamiat's team has distributed kits in water-logged areas of Azamnagar in Katihaar. One could gauge the helplessness of these people as they told the Jamiat team that no help or relief came from the state government for 17 days since the flood-wrecked havoc in their area.

They expressed gratitude and thanks to the Jamiat people who gave them relief for three times. The Jamiat delegation, which visited Azamnagar, Katihar, comprised of Maulana Hakimuddin Qasmi, Secretary Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind, Mufti Jawed Iqbal, Vice President Jamiat Ulama-i-Bihar, Maulana Moazzam, Maulana Maaroof Karkhi and local Islamic scholars.

# **Registration of FIRs for the missing persons**

In the wake of rising death toll in the floods and its aftermath, the office bearers of Jamiat decided of filing FIRs for the missing persons, so that the kith and kin of the survivors can receive dead bodies of their missing relatives and can make claim for the compensation to the government.

#### **Sufferings And Grief Of Flood-Victims**



After water-level receded in the flood-affected areas of North Bihar and Seemanchal region, there was lurking fear of an outbreak of epidemic owing to filth and contaminated water. The office bearers of Jamiat along with other voluntary organizations tired their level best to provide relief to the flood-victims, but they did not have access to many far-flung villages. It was very difficult and risky of traveling even one kilometer as roads were completely wiped out from the surface and water-logging was commonplace in the area. On August 24, 2017, a host of survivors recounted their tales of horror and ordeal. They said we saved ourselves from the fury of the flood but may die because of hunger".

#### Medical camps set up



Medical camps were set up at Kishanganj, Lakhanpur and Marmula Damla. Since there was lurking danger of epidemic outbreak and viral fever due to waterlogging, medical assistance to the flood-victims was an urgent necessity. Thousands of people rushed to these medical camps for taking necessary medicine as a precautionary measure. A host of doctors offered their services to these medical camps.

# **Distribution of food kits in North Deenajpur**

On August 26, 2017, Jamiat Relief Committee distributed food kits in flood-hit areas of South Deenajpur in West Bengal and bordering areas of Seemanchal as it was worst hit by the wave of flood.

**On August 23, 2017, Jamiat Ulama Bihar relief committee held a meeting** in Kishanganj to discuss the relief and rehabilitation work as well as offering the Qurbani (animal Sacrifice). After the meeting, the relief committee sent a team to Bigulbadi, Masjidharh, Chidya, Rahmat Para, Budhimaari, Kamalpur, Dhansona, Katti, Pipaltoda, Chainpur, Buchagaadi, Mujgawan, and Nandiya. The team travelled through water-logged areas, damaged and broken roads and stench-filth atmosphere. In Nandiya and other urban areas, people were virtually facing starvation. They were put in double jeopardy as neither can they flee from their marooned-areas nor they have anything to keep afloat their life.

They have lost their dwellings and their villages turned into a pool of water. When Jamiat team met an elderly person, he broke down. The team witnessed that an elderly woman was trying to make tea with a skimpy quantity of sugar and tea. Her family members told us that they did not eat or drink anything after the flood wrecked-havoc with their lives. They had been struggling for survival. Upon receiving help from Jamiat, tears rolled down on their cheeks. It was just a tale of one survivor as one would come across hundreds of such-heart-rending stories. The Jamiat team was comprised of Maulana Hakimuddin Qasmi, Secretary, Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind, Mufti Javed Iqbal, vice President Jamiat Ulama-i-Bihar, Maulana Maaroof Karkhi, Mufti Abdul Hannan Qasmi and local scholars.

#### **Meeting with District administration**

In September 2017, the office bearers of Jamiat Ulama Bihar relief committee held meetings with the collectors of Kishanganj, Araria, Purnia, Katihar and South Deenajpur. During the course of the meeting, they demanded financial compensation to the farmers for their loss to standing crops, houses and to the kin of the dead with immediate effect. All the collectors, they met, assured for appropriate action in the matter.

# **Disturbing tale of Kumra Moni village**

Dwellings of 63 families in Kumra Moni, Gacha Para and Kishanganj have not only collapsed but these places virtually turned into a pond. Rehabilitation to these hapless family members needed huge financial resources as well hard work and dedication. The Jamiat delegation called on Mr. Pankaj Dixit, the D.M. of Kishanganj and held a detailed discussion regarding the destruction in Kumar Moni village. Mr. Pankaj Dixit not only assured us of quick action but he along with his team accompanied by Mufti Noman Qasmi and Mufti Hanan, members of Jamiat relief committee reached Kumar Moni village for taking stock of the situation. He immediately issued instructions for the land-filling work in the village. On the occasion, Jamiat Ulama Hind announced that it would build a housing colony named as "Jamiat Nagar" in the village after the filling work has been done.



#### **Laying Foundation of house for victims**

On September 24, 2017, Maulana also handed over a key of the newly built house to a widow in Lahriya Phulwar, Kishanganj. At foundation stone-laying ceremony for constructing a house to an orphan, Jamiat announced that it would bear all expenses to this hapless child. Mother of this orphan died during the last year flood and in this year's flood, he lost his dwelling too. Maulana asked the members of Bihar relief committee to construct a toilet facility in each house we built.

#### Key handed over to widow and patronage to an orphan



In September 2017, Maulana Mahmood Madani was highly satisfied and relieved after presenting the keys of over 50 and 14 houses to the flood victims. These houses were constructed with the financial help of Jamiat Ulama Khargun, M.P and Jamiat Ulama Ahmadabad, Rakhiyaal unit respectively. Till then 99 houses had been handed over to the flood victims.

The Jamiat delegation comprised of Maulana Mohammad Nazim, General Secretary Jamiat Ulama-i-Bihar, Mufti Mohammad Monazir Nomani, Mufti Hanan Qsmi, Maulana Giyasuddin Qasmi, Khalid Anwar, Arariya, Bazlur Rahman, Mufti Athar Qasmi, Dr. Abid, Maulana Hadeesullah, Purniya, Maulana Imtiyaz, Maulana Abu Saleh, Katihar, Mufti Najmul Hoda, Maulana Badrud Doja, West Deenajpur, Maulana Maaruf, Qari Abdullah, Qari Naushad Adil, Maulana Nawed and others.

#### **Distribution of relief materials among Non-Muslims**

On October 13, 2017, with assistance of central relief committee Jamshedpur, Jamiat Ulama Relief Committee Seemanchal, distributed kitchen sets among 17 non-Muslim families. On the occasion, the patron of Araria District Jamiat, Haji Fazlur Rahman, Mufti Javed Iqbal, Maulana Khalid Anwar Qasmi, Maulana Hadesullah Qasmi, Maulana Shafiq Ahmad Qasmi, Malegaon, Qari Naushad Adil, Master Sarfaraz and Hafiz Wasim Akram and others were present.

#### Survey of flood-affected areas

For doing a comprehensive survey of flood-hit areas, a concerned-person at district and block level was appointed. They formed committees at block level consisting of 15-20 people. On this occasion, Jamiat Ulama, Bihar relief committee laid the foundation stone for a concrete house being built for a widow at village Bhola, block Thakurganj, District, and Kishanganj.

#### JUH Conducts A Survey Of More Than 1000 Flood-Hit Villages

On October 15, 2017, Mufti Javed Qasmi, Convener Jamiat Ulama, Bihar relief committee sent a report to the Jamiat headquarters at Delhi. According to the report, the survey team did the survey of more than 1,000 villages.

During the survey, more than 70,000 forms were circulated for getting feedbacks. The survey form was designed in a manner to gather information of every bit of the affected dwellings. Till October 15 2017, filled survey forms from 1119 villages spread over in five districts of Seemanchal were received at the central office of relief Committee situated at Jamia Hussainiya Farangola, Kishanganj.

#### A chart of surveyed villages of the districts is mentioned below:

S. No.	DISTRICT	TOTAL NOS. OF VILLAGES
1.	Kishanganj	423
2.	Araria	197
3.	Purnia	159
4.	Katihar	161
5.	West Deenajpur	171
	Total No	1011

# **Rehabilitation Work**

It is critical to provide pucca houses to the flood victims. After providing them with relief, Jamiat firmly believes that providing temporary and partial relief to the grief-stricken is not a permanent solution. Therefore, there is a pressing need to carry out rehabilitation work on the basis of long-term planning. In the last few years, the Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind has proved that it could provide durable solutions to the victims of communal riots and natural calamities. As its track record in Gujarat and other places is proven. Therefore, it was felt that in Bihar too, a concrete and long-term rehabilitation plan is needed.

In this backdrop, Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind has carried out a comprehensive survey of the flood-affected areas. It is worth to mention here that before doing the survey, JUH already handed over 99 houses to the needy persons.

#### Major rehabilitation work is Still going on in Bihar

Besides major relief activities, JUH has been successful in providing homes to 410 homeless in various districts of Seemanchal. More 250 houses are nearing completion and it will be soon handed over to the needy persons.



• For FURTHER QUERIES PLEASE CONTACT: •

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