

SITUATION UPDATE AND ANALYSIS: RAUTAHAT FLOODING

Prepared by: Campaign Nepal for Research and Development | As of 30 September 2024



This situation updates and analysis has been prepared by Campaign Nepal based on the Initial Rapid Assessment (IRA) conducted by the District Disaster Risk Management Committee (DDRMC) and local governments. Today we participated in the meeting of DDRMC to discuss the IRA and ongoing efforts and response to the situation.

OVERVIEW:

As of 30 September 2024, the flood situation in Rautahat district remains critical, despite receding water levels in the Lalbakaiya and Bagmati rivers. A total of **14,003 households** have been affected, with **9,541 households displaced** across the district. The floods have claimed the lives of four individuals, including two children. Extensive damage to homes, infrastructure, and agricultural lands has been reported, while the risk of waterborne diseases is rising among the displaced populations.

INITIAL RAPID ASSESSMENT (IRA) TABLE

Municipality	Households Affected	Households Displaced	Damage	Other Losses
Gaur Municipality	1,100 (Wards 1-9)	500	80 houses completely damaged, 350 partially damaged	Agricultural crops destroyed, fish ponds washed away
Durga Bhagwati Municipality	1,500	1,000	900 houses completely destroyed	Agricultural crops destroyed, fish ponds washed away
Yamunamai Municipality	60 (Wards 1-5)	39	No major structural damage reported	Agricultural crops damaged, fish ponds washed away
Rajdevi Municipality	1,770 (Wards 1-9)	900	No major structural damage reported	Agricultural crops damaged, fish ponds washed away
Ishanath Municipality	3,200 (Wards 1, 2, 3, 9)	500	No major structural damage reported	Agricultural crops destroyed
Paroha Municipality	9	9	No major structural damage reported	Agricultural crops damaged
Rajpur Municipality	2,500 (Wards 1, 2, 8, 9)	1,000	Partial house damage in Wards 4, 5, 6, 7; roads damaged	Agricultural crops destroyed, roads damaged
Garuda Municipality	100	50	No major structural damage reported	Agricultural crops damaged
Total	14,003	9,541	Over 1,000 houses completely or partially destroyed, roads damaged	Significant agricultural losses district-wide

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ANALYSIS OF AFFECTED AREAS

The data presented on the table from the IRA illustrates the widespread impact of the floods across Rautahat district, affecting both urban and rural areas. The following key insights are drawn from the data:

1. Gaur Municipality

Gaur, the district headquarters, has been one of the worst-hit areas, with **1,100 households affected** and **500 displaced**. The municipality experienced severe structural damage, with **80 houses completely destroyed** and **350 partially damaged**. Agricultural fields were also submerged, and fish stocks from local ponds were washed away, severely affecting livelihoods.

2. Durga Bhagwati Municipality

Durga Bhagwati has faced catastrophic damage, with **1,500 households affected** and **1,000 displaced**. The flood destroyed **900 houses completely**, marking the highest level of damage in any municipality. The destruction of agricultural crops and fishponds has further compounded the economic strain on the residents.

3. Rajdevi Municipality

In Rajdevi, **1,770 households were affected**, and **900 households were displaced**. Although no major structural damage was reported, the loss of agricultural crops and fishponds represents a significant setback for the largely agrarian community.

4. Ishanath Municipality

Ishanath Municipality saw **3,200 households affected**, one of the highest in the district. However, only **500 households were displaced**, likely due to better flood preparedness in certain areas. Extensive crop destruction has left farmers vulnerable, with severe damage to local food security.

5. Rajpur Municipality

Rajpur has been severely impacted, with **2,500 households affected** and **1,000 displaced**. Although structural damage was relatively less concentrated (partial damage in some wards), the flooding has cut off road connectivity, impeding relief efforts and isolating residents.

6. Smaller Municipalities:

- **Yamunamai Municipality** and **Garuda Municipality** experienced more limited effects compared to other areas. Despite this, **fish ponds were washed away** and agricultural crops were severely damaged, leaving residents vulnerable to food insecurity.
- **Paroha Municipality**: Only **9 households** were affected, but the municipality still faced agricultural losses.

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7. Displacement and Vulnerability

The number of **displaced households (9,541)** is alarming, with displaced populations spread across multiple municipalities. These communities are at heightened risk of **waterborne diseases**, as stagnant floodwaters remain in several areas. The need for temporary shelters, clean drinking water, and sanitation is critical to prevent a potential public health crisis.

8. Livelihood Losses

The loss of agricultural crops and fish ponds, reported in almost all municipalities, signals a significant threat to food security and livelihoods in the coming months. This could lead to long-term economic hardship for affected households, many of whom rely on farming and fishing for sustenance and income.

ONGOING RESPONSE AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Rescue Operations and Evacuations**

Security forces and volunteers continue to evacuate residents from severely affected areas. However, many communities remain cut off, particularly in Rajpur and Gaur municipalities, due to damaged road infrastructure.

- **Health Concerns**

There is a growing risk of **waterborne diseases** as displaced populations continue to live in flood-affected areas without access to clean drinking water and sanitation facilities. Immediate health interventions are needed, including the provision of medical teams and disease surveillance.

- **Agricultural Support**

Given the extensive loss of crops, immediate agricultural support and compensation for farmers should be prioritized to avoid further economic decline in the district. The restoration of fish ponds and the replanting of crops should be part of longer-term recovery efforts.

- **Infrastructure Repairs**

Roads and other infrastructure damaged by the floods need urgent repair to ensure that relief efforts can reach isolated communities and restore normal economic activities.

Campaign Nepal is working closely with local authorities and stakeholders to continue monitoring the situation and mobilizing relief efforts in the affected areas. For more information or to offer assistance, contact us at: contact@campaignnepal.org | 9851140675