



NRNA HUMANITARIAN CRISIS MANAGEMENT – NOVEMBER 2015

NRNA IS RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES

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NON RESIDENT NEPALI ASSOCIATION
Kathmandu, Nepal



NRNA Humanitarian Crisis Management – November 2015



Overview

Nepal was just beginning to overcome the devastating earthquake early this year but yet in less than 6 months it was struck by again another man-made, unimaginable crisis; created by the blockades to its southern borders.

While people were celebrating and joyous and hoped for prosperous Nepal following the promulgation of its constitution. Regrettably, this happiness did not last long due to blockades of transits from India created by some political differences between political parties. Following this, agitating parties have been picketing the Nepal-India borders closing all trading points from India including fuel, food and medicines.

Initially, this blockade was labelled as ‘fight between the two moustaches’ and everyone hoped this to cease soon or at least by the innocent public but, after weeks of agitation there is no sign this will end soon.

Experts estimates that economic loss and livelihood from this crisis will be much higher than it was from recent earthquake. If prolongs further, this will create a great shortage of life-saving medicines, food, livelihood and can create an epidemic of sick and helpless resulting unwarranted death similar to war.

NRNA is trying to find ways to assist Nepal at this time of need. This in mind, a Crisis Management Team (CMT) was formed. The aim of this team was to assess current situation created by blockades and to come-up with possible actions for NRNA so, it can help to lessen the sufferings of our countrymen.



Needs Analysis

Various meetings were held with both governmental and non-governmental experts to find out the ground reality, its affects to assess the urgent need that was created by current crisis so NRNA can develop an action plan and, or package to lessen the sufferings of our fellow countrymen. Following various recommendation and suggestions, it has become apparent that there will be a huge shortage of life-saving drugs if not actioned urgently. Therefore, the team recommended the following to action.

Our Response:

- 1) Form a NRNA Emergency Crisis Management Team in Kathmandu;
- 2) To issue a statement resonating current crisis and NRNA's views;
- 3) To provide life-saving drugs for short term so it gives Nepal government some time to organise themselves; and
- 4) To continue national and international campaign for Humanity for hope and positive outcome.

Our actions so far:

- 1) Emergency Crisis Management Team was formed in Kathmandu containing following members:
 - i) Shesh Ghale
 - ii) Ranju Thapa
 - iii) Jamuna Gurung
 - iv) Kul Chandra Gautam
 - v) Dr. Ganesh Gurung
 - vi) Dr. Bhagawan Koirala
 - vii) Rajani Pradhan
 - viii) Shishir Bhatta
 - ix) Indra Ban
- 2) Issued another press release on 10 November 2015, see attached a copy
- 3) The team is currently working with the GON, medical distributors, airlines, cargo and packaging companies for procurement, logistics and administration. We expect this to be sorted out and medicines to be handed over to the GON by 24 November (at least the first lot of drugs).
- 4) We have already engaged and briefed a well-known Advertising agency to come up well addressed, impactful message and a template to raise awareness amongst all stakeholders on humanitarian grounds; We expect this to be completed by 24 November. Once received we will circulate to all stakeholders to promote and share in social media and other media.



APENDIX

Date: 6th November:

Assess current blockade in Nepal to come up with possible action for NRNA to lessen the suffering of our countrymen. The President suggested to initiate the meeting to Ranju Thapa with Dr Ganesh Gurung and Kul Gautam to discuss about the current situation to prepare proactive work before president arrives in Kathmandu.

- Situation was still confusing due to blockade at Nepal's southern border.
- Discuss on how NRNA can involve to support Nepal and Nepali on such humanitarian crisis.

Date: - 8th November

ICC President Shesh Ghale arrived in Kathmandu at 1:00 PM.

- **1st meeting with NPC VC Yubaraj Khatiwada** at 2:30PM – He suggested to bring petroleum and other supplies via freight if possible by NRNA and he will support in any condition in this regard.
- **2nd Meeting with Foreign secretary Shanker Bairagi** at 3:00Pm – He also suggested the same as Yubraj Khatiwada in regards to petroleum and advised to campaign internationally by staying within diplomatic norms and can take support with international agency including Indian citizens living abroad, Embassies and consuls.
- **3rd Meeting with Hami Nepali campaigners** at 4:00PM - Discussed about their campaign rally to aware Nepali people and government “Jaga Kumbhakarna”. NRNA decides to join individually rather than through organisation.
- **4th Meeting with Dr Ganesh Gurung, AC Sherpa, Shyam Tamang, Jamuna Gurung via skype and Ranju Thapa including ICC President– 1st Crisis Management team (CMT) meeting** was held and discussed. This team came up with action to support on emergency medicine supplies to save humanitarian crisis.





Date: 9th November

- **1st Meeting with Dr Ganesh Gurung, Kul gautam, Ranju Thapa, Naresh Thapa and Jamuna Gurung** at 8:30AM – **2nd Crisis Management team(CMT)** meeting to discuss further action.
- **2st Meeting with DPM CP Mainali** at 11:00AM - NRNA President briefed on NRNA’s initiatives on current crisis. Minister advised that NRNA has business and trade opportunities to import medication for long term sustainability. He also advised if NRNA can donate electrical ambulance or trade.
- **3rd Meeting with Radhika Aryal** (Joint secretary of MOWCSW) - Requested to campaign on 16 days domestic violence and other activities
- **4rd Meeting with Foreign Minister DPM Kamal Thapa** at 2:30PM - NRNA President handed a letter to DPM Kamal Thapa to provide list of life saving medication. MOFA is going to facilitate with health ministry and provide the immediate list of drugs to NRNA.
- **5th Meeting with Hon. President** at 4:00PM - NRNA President briefed on NRNA's initiative on current crisis and ongoing activities including reconstruction projects.





Date: 10th November

- **1st Meeting with Priminister K P Oli** at 10:00AM - NRNA President Shesh Ghale Briefed PM on NRNA's initiative on current crisis. President empathise on emergency life-saving drugs to donate to public hospitals where medication are shortage and to help to save lives of Nepali people. He briefed that NRNA has been closely consulting with Foreign Minister and Home Minister in this regard.
- **2nd meeting with CMT** at 2:00PM with Dr Ganesh Gurung, Kul Gautam, Jamuna Gurung and Ranju Thapa and Shesh Ghale.
- **NRNA Press release published by President** to media regarding the involvement of NRN and its action on current humanitarian crisis because of blockade.



Date: 11th November

- **1st Meeting with Home Minister Shakti Basnet** at 11:00 AM - Morale support from NRNA is appreciable. He advised us that humanitarian crisis needs to be mobilised through internationalization.





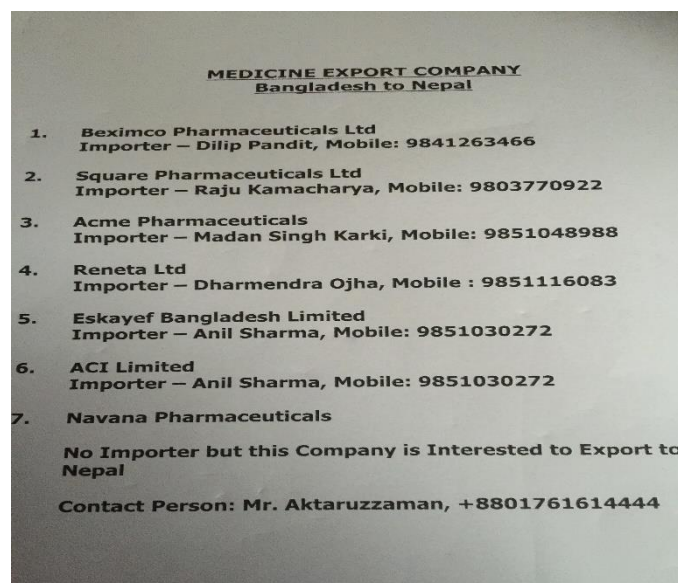
Date: 12th November

- **1st Meeting with DPM Bhim Rawal** at 10:00AM - DPM advised NRNA Delegates to pressure through different embassies in different countries such as Germany, Japan, UK, USA, Russia, Australia and their foreign ministries. He thinks medication distribution through NRNA will symbolise good message to whole Diaspora.
- **2nd Meeting with Health Minister Ram Janam Chaudhari** at 11:00AM - HM advised that top level discussion is going on with high level political parties. List of life-saving medicine were to be provided by Health ministry to NRNA. He mentioned that WHO was also ready to donate medicine to Nepal. He advised that the winter is approaching and people living in area of Saptari to Parsha will be suffering from “Sheet lahar (Cold Wave)” and people may die so if NRNA can donate blanket in this area in this time. However, medicine is high priority in current crisis.
- **3rd Meeting with Bangladesh Ambassador and Dr Ganesh Gurung by President** at 12:00PM – President briefed on NRNA's initiatives on current crisis and he explained that NRNA is trying to supply medicine to the Nepal government for relief and may source those medicines from Bangladesh. Ambassador was ready to help in this regard.
- **4th Meeting with Vice President of Nepal Government Nanda Bahadur Pun** at 3:00PM – NRNA President briefed Vice President on NRNA's initiatives on current crisis.





- **5th Meeting arranged with CMT at 4:00PM at Dream of Garden** - After all meeting with government officials, urgent CMT set by the President to outline the situation. Meeting was arranged with Kul Gautam, Dr. Bhagwan Koirala, Shesh Ghale, Jamuna Ghale, Naresh Thapa, Ranju Thapa and Suresh Chitrakar.
 - Discuss on how NRNA can be involved in humanitarian crisis to support Nepal.
 - Highly emergency medication are shortage and people were dying.
 - Discussed to complete the life-saving drugs by Dr Bhagwan Koirala, How we can source those medication? Is there any possibilities to charter from Bangladesh or any country by NRNA?
 - Dr Bhagwan Koirala will compile the list of medication required for all government hospital for a month and will provide to the health ministry so they can forward to the foreign ministry to handover to NRNA.
 - We also decided to explore various options to get the quotation with various distributors on those list of drugs.
 - Collected all the following list of distributors who can distribute medicine in Nepal though Bangladesh or anywhere as emergency medicine is required to save lives.
 - Sent sms and call them to provide their email address so NRNA can request the quotations for the medicine to source to Nepal as NRNA cannot go directly to buy as per the drug authority. It has to be license holder.





13th Novemeber:

- Sent list of drugs in 3 categories to the distributors for 1 month's stock.
 - Emergency life-saving drugs – Priority 1
 - Blood bank requirements – Priority 2
 - Essential drugs – Priority 3

14th November:

- NRNA got updated list from MOFA after health ministry authorised and provide to MOFA.
- Forwarded again those updated list of drugs to those distributors for the quotes.

15th November:

- Met with MOFA Sachib and Upasachib to discuss custom clearance if required. They advised that packaging of drugs should be listed and marked for NRNA. For the customer clearance Health ministry advised that they will hand over the letter to the finance ministry with those list to exempt tax if needed.
- ICC meeting held and discussed regarding this humanitarian crisis and NRNA's involvement on international campaigning.
- 4th CMT meeting with Dr Bhagwan Koirala, Kul Gautam, Ranju Thapa and Jamuna Ghale.

16th November:

- **1st Meeting with Finance minister** in the morning regarding current issue and tax exemption on lifesaving medication providing by NRNA.
- NRNA requested to assure the medication will not be misused and will be fairly distributed.
- NRNA advised ministry that the life of Nepali people is important and it is heading toward humanitarian crisis to support medication to the hospitals. Finance Minister has agreed on this and ready to support in any case.
- **2nd Meeting of NRNA delegates with law Minister** to brief current crisis and NRNA's involvement as well as discussed on law to implement NRN citizenship and child rights if they have unknown father.
- **3rd Meeting of NRNA delegates with tourism minister** and discussed about NRNA's initiative in current crisis and what can we do to support on tourism improvement.
- **4th Meeting of NRNA Delegates with house speaker Onshari Gharti** and briefed on NRN's initiatives on current crisis.



17th November:

- Only 3 distributor came up with the pricing but only for the essential drugs list.
- Yetichem distributor came up with the quotes for emergency lifesaving drug list including essential list but have less stock and need to freight from anywhere.
- Crisis Management Team (CMT) have 5th meeting with Awani group (Add Agency) to brief on blockade the concept to campaign.

18th November:

- CMT set up 6th meeting with 3 distributors (Yetichem, Renta and Ways) to finalise the medication and sourcing criteria.
- Confirmed by other two distributor that YetiChem is large distributor of Nepal and can only able to provide emergency life-saving drugs at this crisis but no one can.
- NRNA is laising on logistics and procuring drugs with multiple distributors and suppliers.
- Department of health has been assisting us on various administrative issues.
- Currently talking to the airlines station manager to expedite the medicine after custom clearance to cargo to Nepal.



19th November:

- NRNA Crisis Management Team (CMT) had 7th meeting with Distributors, Dr Koirala and Kul Gautam for the next step.
- Once medicine is ready to freight to support NRNA for distributors, and it is only possible to bring on Monday flight because of custom clearance of those medicine.
- NRNA is liaising airlines and cargo to expedite to bring medicine to Kathmandu to save life.
- Crisis team also discuss that to make sure that will be handed over to health ministry and it will be handed over to public hospitals ASAP together with NRNA.
- President had meeting with EU Ambassador, Saudi Ambassador and Israel Ambassador to discuss regarding humanitarian crisis due to blockade.

20 November:

- Crisis management team is waiting for the medicine to be custom cleared on Monday evening by the distributors and NRNA will be liaising for the administrative work.