



The **7.6 magnitude earthquake close to Muzaffarabad** and the rising number of casualties (almost **47,000 so far reported killed**) have dealt a devastating blow to Pakistan. President Pervez Musharraf has appealed for greater international help in the relief effort. Rescue teams and aid has been arriving from Britain and other countries for the at least **65,000 injured survivors and up to estimated 3 million left homeless**. The President said "No country has the capacity to immediately deal with a tragedy of such large magnitude - when confronted with such a situation [most] countries try to airdrop relief goods."

The early rescue operations were hindered by the bad weather conditions and the remote mountainous terrain but the relief effort gained momentum after the arrival of additional heavy lift capability helicopters including 5 Chinooks from the US Base in Afghanistan. In the second week, the emphasis is shifting from the rescue effort to providing relief and planning for reconstruction and rehabilitation.



Last Friday, after the Juma prayers, The President and the Prime Minister participated in special Dua (Prayers) offered for the victims of the earthquake. They prayed to Almighty Allah to rest the departed souls in eternal peace and grant patience and courage to the survivors, and save the nation from future calamities.

The worst affected areas are in Azad Kashmir and NWFP. The towns and villages that suffered the greatest

devastation lie mainly along the Neelum, Jhelum and Khghan valleys, and include Muzaffarabad, Bagh, Rawalkot, Balakot, Batagram, Habibullah Khan, Sortir, Lamina, Saropa, Chakoti, Gari, Dupatta, Pir Chinari, Billgra, Sarwan, Pandu, Hatian Balla, Ghor, Dhani, Ging, Pangkot, Patika Noser, Paras, Kakiwar, Jareed and Allanpur.

The collapse of almost all school buildings into piles of concrete has resulted in a large number of deaths in the 4 to 12 age-group. Pupil enrolment was up to 90% in some of these areas: that is why it is being said that an entire generation in the region has been wiped out.

The UK was the first foreign country to dispatch a rescue team 15 strong which assisted the local relief workers at Margalla Towers in Islamabad. It has also sent another team of 88, went to Muzaffarabad for rescue and relief operation. The foreign teams included 708 medical workers and 850 rescuers. These teams came from UAE, Switzerland, China, France, Japan, Iran, UK, Turkey, Germany, Russia, Malaysia, Spain, Poland, Italy, Azerbaijan, Singapore, Jordan, Hungary, Poland, Sweden and South Korea. A medical from France with a field hospital was deployed in Rawalkot. The team from Spain, carrying a mobile hospital of 240 beds was deployed in Bagh. Teams from Turkey, Germany, and UK carrying mobile hospitals were despatched to Muzaffarabad. Teams of Rescuers from UAE, Jordan, China, and Japan along with sniffer dogs were deployed in Balakot, Mansehra and Batagram

Immediate needs continue to be pre-cooked food (Halal), high energy biscuits, survival rations, drinking water, water purification tablets, antibiotics, typhoid medication, fracture-related kits, First Aid Kits and non-food items such as tents, blankets, mattresses and plastic sheets. Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) will carry relief goods for the earthquake-affected people from all its stations in its global network free of charge. PIA is operating extra flights to meet the rush of people intending to go to the affected region to meet and take care of their relatives.

The Government has moved two Divisions of the Army into NWFP and Azad Kashmir and are setting up five forward staging posts at Bagh, Muzaffarabad, Mansehra, Rajikot and Balakot for facilitation and distribution. Major General Farooq Ahmed Khan has been appointed as the Federal Relief Commissioner with responsibility for the coordination all relief effort.

Casualties are still being received by the hospitals in Islamabad. To date, 13,000 have been treated out of an estimated 65,000, which require treatment. There are reports that in the Panjkot valley, an estimated 11,000-12,000 are awaiting surgery. 22 international field hospitals are either functioning or on their way to Rawalakot, Chakoti, Rawalpindi, Mansehra, Muzaffarabad, Bagh, Battagram and Gharhi. More field hospitals are in the pipeline. Many of the injured have complicated crush wounds and infections. Mobile teams are treating infected wounds and gangrene as well as Acute Respiratory Tract Infections, due to cold weather. Cases of diarrhoea have also been reported. WHO and UNICEF are responding but clean water and sanitation as well as health services remain urgent requirements, especially in outlying areas. Medical evacuation through airlifting is continuing. Shelter is now a high priority: hundreds and thousands of winterised tents are needed as well as blankets and sleeping mats and bags.

A 50 bed hospital has been established by the Army in Muzaffarabad to provide initial medical treatment. Over 4500 injured have been shifted to Combined Military Hospitals Rawalpindi, Abbottabad, Jhelum, Kharriar and Gujranwala in helicopters. 70 trucks loaded with relief goods were airlifted from Chaklala Airbase for distribution among needy people of affected areas. Total 44 helicopters participated in operation including MH53 (US Navy), MI-17, Chinook (US), Black Hawk (US), CH53 (Germany), Pakistan Navy's Sea King, C-13, Bell 412 and Puma. An Army relief helicopter crashed last Sunday, killing all 6 people on board.

Public and Private sector in Pakistan are generously contributing towards President's relief fund. Last Friday, the **Prime Minister received Rs. 93.1 million in donation** from the following public and private sector organisations: Hyundai Motor Co US \$ 300,000/-, Kia Motors US \$ 100,000/-, NESPAK Rs 1.5 million, PPIB Rs. 100,000/-, KESC Rs. 2 million, NPCC Rs. 2.5 million, WAPDA Rs 13.5 million, SECP Rs. 10 million, Pak-Libya Holdings Rs. 10 million, Lakhra Coal Rs. 26,000/-, Asia Petroleum Rs. 1 million, Overseas oil trading Rs. 500,000/-, BP Pak exploration Rs 12 million, Occidental Rs. 12 million and Orient Petroleum Rs. 4 million.

The Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) has announced an initial contribution of Rs30 million in support of the earthquake relief being provided by the government which will be matched by **Habib Bank Limited** with a further Rs30 million donation towards the President's Relief Fund. AKDNs two helicopters in Pakistan have been working flat out to provide relief to the effected areas.

The State Bank of Pakistan and **Muslim Commercial Bank (MCB)** have each donated Rs200 million to the President's Relief Fund. MCB will deliver Remittances from abroad to the earthquake victims without any charge.

The **National Insurance Company (NIC)** has announced a contribution of Rs50 million towards the President's relief fund. NIC employees had also contributed their one-day basic salary to the relief fund.

Over 20 organizations from the country have established relief camps, which include the Al-Khidmat Foundation, Dewan Salman group, Red Crescent Pakistan, Faizan-e-Madina, Edhi Foundation, Al-Rasheed Trust, Abbotian Medical Association, Young Federation Mirpur-Abbottabad, Pakistan Baitul Mal and others.

USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

The High Commission for Pakistan has compiled the following comprehensive list of telephone numbers in the UK and in Pakistan for the earthquake relief effort.

United Kingdom

I. General Helplines

High Commission for Pakistan, London	020 7664 9284	07946 476 616
Consulate General of Pakistan, Manchester	0161 2 251 786	07940 924 764
Consulate of Pakistan, Birmingham	0121 2 362088	07813 214 219
Consulate of Pakistan, Bradford	0127 4 661114	07790 807 326
Consulate of Pakistan, Glasgow	0141 4295335	

II. The President of Pakistan Relief Fund

020 76649217 020 7664 9241 0796 0277670

III. Medical Teams and Shipment of Medicines

Antibiotics, Typhoid Medication, Fracture-related Kits, First Aid Kits, Water Purification Tablets, Surgical Instruments and Self-contained Field Hospitals

020 7664 9219 020 7664 9222 07789 710 533 07810 615950

IV. Shipment of Relief Goods

Tents and Plastic Sheets, Blankets and Mattresses, Pre-cooked tinned food (Halal), High Energy Biscuits and Survival Rations

020 7664 9220 020 76649256 07919 833992 07843 558674

V. Community Liaison for Fund Raising

020 7664 9209 020 7664 9208 020 7664 9215 07859 828 247
07950 057 634 07903 946048

Pakistan

VI. Government helpline for relatives of those affected

+ 92 51 9261255 and + 92 51 9260500

VII. Federal Relief Commissioner - Major General Farooq Ahmed Khan

Tel: + 92 51-9209591(toll free) +92 51 9209563 and +92 51 9222373

Fax: +92 51-9204197, +92 51 9201603, and +92 51 9008537

VIII. Relief Commissioner for NWFP - Mr. Shah Sahib

Tel: +92 91 9210338, +92 91 9210513 and +92 91 5271216 and Fax: +92 919210201

IX. Relief Commissioner for Sindh - Shed Anwar Haider

Tel for Karachi: +92 21 9202630 and +92 21 5852772

Tel for Hyderabad: +92 22 9200573

Fax for Karachi: +92 21 9203407

Fax for Hyderabad: +92 22 9200569

X. Relief Commissioner for Balochistan - Mr. Shahbaz Khan Mendokhel

Tel: +92 81 9201045 and +92 81 9201934

Fax: + 92 81 9201720

XI. D.G Relief Operations Punjab- Mr. Irfan Ellahi

Tel: +92 42 9210554 and +92 42 5730807

Fax: +92 42 9210555, +92 42 9211652

E-mail: pdirfan@yahoo.com

XII. The Emergency Cell of the Cabinet Division has asked philanthropists, NGOs, social organizations and individuals to deposit their donations for the earthquake at the following address:

The Emergency Cell Warehouse

Plot No.5 near railway carriage factory

Sector 1-11/4

Islamabad

Tel: +92 51 9257244, +92 51 9208100 and +92 51 9202528

How to Donate

Contributions to disaster Relief can be sent to “**The President of Pakistan Relief Fund**” through United National Bank Limited or Habib Allied International Bank plc.

Habib Allied International Bank plc Account Number 1081660,
Sort Code: 60-95-11.

Electronic transfers can be made through **United National Bank Limited** at NatWest Account Number 32634412, Sort Code 60-19-27

Alternatively, you can send a cheque made payable to “**The President of Pakistan Relief Fund**” to The Pakistan Society, 8 Harriet Walk, London SW1X 9JH.
Tel: 020 7235 9914

United Kingdom Response

HM The Queen, the Prime Minister and the Foreign Secretary have sent messages of support to The President of Pakistan. **United Kingdom Government has pledged a contribution of £13 million** towards relief effort (including £1 million contribution from DFID Pakistan). Rapid UK Team 1 (15 people) returned to UK on 14 October. The remaining Search and Rescue teams who were working in Muzaffarabad returned on 16 October. 5 personnel from UK Fire Services have stayed in Muzaffarabad to provide coordination advice and support and 4 Rapid UK Team members will remain in Islamabad to support local effort for another week. **The UK teams made fourteen live rescues.**

The **UK Ministry of Defence have sent 3,150 Halal operational ration packs and water** from the British Forces in Afghanistan to Islamabad. A **further 19,950 vegetarian ration packs will be dispatched** from Defence stores at Bicester for transportation to Ramstein, Germany and onward by NATO airlift to Pakistan. All ration packs and water will be provided to the World Food Programme for distribution. An RAF C-17 is also expected to transport two Puma helicopters from Seville, Spain to Islamabad. The civilian helicopters will be used by the International Committee of the Red Cross for medical evacuations and the transport of relief supplies in Azad Kashmir. The RAF has a further four C130 aircraft on 48 hours standby at RAF Lyneham to assist in the aid operations.

UK is also providing **3,700 winterised family tents, 30,000 tarpaulins, 40,000 sleeping mats and 14,000 water jerry cans** from its storage facility in Dubai.

Oxfam, Islamic Relief and other UK-based NGOs responded quickly as they were already on the ground with existing operations in Pakistan. **Oxfam** raised around £50,000 within the first hour and it would be providing 60,000 tents and 300,000 blankets, jerrycans and basic hygiene kits. **Islamic Relief** has pledged £2 million to pay for tents and supplies to be delivered to Muzaffarabad. **Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC)** has launched a consolidated appeal for 13 UK NGOs and so far have raised over £15 million. The Pakistani community in the UK have so far raised over £3 million. A British Pakistani art collector coordinated the gift of 12 paintings for auction at Bonhams (New Bond Street) on 13 October and raised £35,000 for the Pakistan Red Crescent and the President of Pakistan Relief Fund. **Graham Layton Trust** is raising money for the three emergency eye hospitals they set up at once in the effected region.

Message from HM The Queen

In a message to Pakistan's President, General Pervez Musharraf, the Queen said: "I was shocked to hear of the devastating earthquake which has caused such destruction and loss of life in Pakistan. I send my heartfelt sympathy to you and the people of Pakistan, especially to the bereaved and injured and all who have been affected by this terrible disaster."

Foreign Secretary, Jack Straw said:

"I am very distressed to learn about the effects of the earthquake in Pakistan this morning. My anxieties are all the greater because so many British people of Pakistani heritage come from the area affected or have relatives who live there. We are offering help to the Pakistani Government and are ready to respond to all requests. I have already spoken to Foreign Minister Khurshid Kasuri and said Britain stands by during this time of need".

The Prime Minister, Tony Blair's statement in full:

"I was appalled to hear of the terrible destruction caused by yesterday's earthquake in Pakistan. I should like to pass on our condolences to the families of those who have lost loved ones in this tragedy. We are immensely proud of our close ties to Pakistan, made even closer by the large population of British citizens, who trace their origins to the Kashmir region.

Such ties make the growing number of casualties even harder to bear. Our thoughts go out to all Pakistanis. I am pleased that there are already British search and rescue teams on the ground helping to locate survivors. We stand ready to provide more assistance, as and when required.”

Statement by the Secretary of State for International Development (Mr. Hilary Benn) to the House of Commons on 10 October 2005

“With permission, Mr Deputy Speaker, I would like to make a statement about the earthquake in south Asia. On Saturday 8 October at just before nine o'clock in the morning (Pakistan time), an earthquake struck measuring 7.6 on the Richter scale. Its epicentre was in the area of Muzaffarabad in Pakistan administered Kashmir, about 95 kilometres north-east of Islamabad. It caused widespread damage and a significant number of deaths and injuries.

I would like to tell the House about the action taken by the Government and others in support of those affected by this disaster, but first, I am sure that all Members will wish to express their profound sadness at the loss of life. Our thoughts are with all those families, both in the countries affected, and here, who have lost loved ones in this terrible tragedy.

This was a major earthquake with tremors felt as far afield as Afghanistan and India, followed by a series of frightening aftershocks. The latest official figures indicate that 20,000 people have lost their lives and 44,000 have been injured. However, given the scale of the destruction and the fact that some areas have not yet been reached, the number of deaths is expected to rise further. There have also been a small number of deaths reported in Afghanistan, and 750 people now confirmed dead in north India, although unconfirmed reports indicate a significantly higher loss of life there, with 80% of houses in Uri and the surrounding district severely damaged. India has not sought international assistance. The greater loss of life, however, has been caused by the devastation in Pakistan-administered Kashmir and the North West Frontier Province. Conditions there are difficult for relief workers, with bad weather and problems with access and communications due to landslides. Fifty percent of the buildings in Muzaffarabad and 60% in Balakot appear to have been destroyed.

Across the affected areas the Pakistan authorities, the Pakistan Red Crescent Society and local people have been working tirelessly to support survivors and the injured. As always in disasters, it is local people who have led the effort to save lives. The Government of Pakistan has set up a National Response Centre and a Relief Fund.

When the earthquake struck, the UK immediately offered assistance, and as soon as a request for help was received, the Department for International Development activated the search and rescue teams which we had already put on standby. The first search and rescue team of 12 people, provided by the non-governmental organisation RAPID, left the UK in the early evening. They were the first international team to arrive in Pakistan, and a DFID humanitarian adviser went with them to facilitate their arrival and to begin coordinating efforts on the ground.

At 2am (GMT) on Sunday, an aircraft chartered by DFID left East Midlands Airport carrying 75 search and rescue experts from the Fire Brigades of Grampian, Lancashire, Lincolnshire and Manchester, the International Rescue Corps, and dog rescue teams from BIRD and CANIS, together with a further team from RAPID. The flight included a four person DFID team to undertake assessment and co-ordination. The remaining space was loaded with blankets and other supplies. The British High Commission and DFID's Pakistan Office helped the teams get into action immediately on arrival yesterday. The first RAPID search and rescue team was deployed to a collapsed tower block in Islamabad to help in the hunt for survivors. The second RAPID team and CANIS, with dog support, later joined them. The other search and rescue teams were flown to Muzaffarabad by the Pakistani military where they have been looking for survivors in collapsed schools. The UK search and rescue teams have already made an important contribution and rescued a number of people.

In addition to this assistance, DFID Pakistan immediately provided financial help in order to buy vital emergency supplies. Also on Saturday we agreed a grant to the World Health Organisation to enable them to send emergency health and trauma kits to support 40,000 people for 3 months.

Shelter is an urgent priority as night temperatures fall. We are providing 1,000 winter tents and 10,000 tarpaulins to Islamic Relief from our existing stocks in Lahore. These are being trucked to Muzaffarabad as we speak. We are also sending additional tents and blankets from our stocks in Dubai, and we will fly out 19,000 blankets from our Marchington store also for distribution by Islamic Relief.

The US Government are providing 5 Chinook and 3 Black Hawk helicopters today to help move people and supplies in the affected areas. This will make a significant difference to the relief effort. DFID is currently looking at options for further such assistance in conjunction with the EU and UN.

I have today informed the Disasters Emergency Committee that the Government will meet the cost of transporting any relief supplies from the UK to Pakistan. Total UK assistance so far in the first 48 hours, including through the EU, is already over £1 million and that will increase as we provide further financial support to the relief effort. We will continue to do everything we can to help.

Acting as the EU Presidency, we are liaising with European Member States in offering help, and the European Commission yesterday announced some £2.5 million for emergency assistance. We are working with the United Nations, and with other agencies, such as the Red Cross and Red Crescent, as well as with the Pakistani authorities, and the United Nations is expected to launch a Flash Appeal for emergency relief assistance later today.

Many people in the Pakistani community in Britain have friends and loved ones in the disaster area. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office sent out on the first relief flight a Rapid Deployment team, which has set up an Operations Centre in Islamabad to assist British nationals. A FCO helpline in London is assisting concerned relatives. So far, there have been no reports of any British casualties.

Mr Speaker, the response from within Pakistan and around the world shows the best of human nature at a time of crisis. The UK will continue to play its full part in helping to ensure that those who have suffered so much in this terrible tragedy get the help and succour they need over the coming days and weeks."

Secretary of State for Defence, John Reid said:

"I am pleased that UK Defence can play its part in the international relief effort to Pakistan by sending supplies and providing airlift. The Ministry of Defence is in close consultation with DfID about further possible UK military assistance and stands ready to provide additional help if required."

International Response

US President George W. Bush ordered Pentagon to send eight helicopters including 5 Chinooks to Pakistan for emergency rescue operations in remote areas. **USAID** has pledged \$50 million for relief and reconstruction (\$14 million committed). **Two US navel vessels have reached Karachi carrying additional helicopters and amongst other items, heavy plant machinery.** Three star General and 40 person headquarters is managing the operation. Disaster Assistance Response Team (20 persons) is deployed. US army medics on Sunday were preparing to airlift a **56-bed mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH)** from Germany to Pakistan within the next few days for what could be a long stay to help wounded earthquake survivors.

Six-person **NATO** team arrived in Islamabad on 14 October. NATO has opened an air bridge for the transportation of disaster relief from EAPC (European Atlantic Partnership Council) nations to Pakistan. These countries have offered the possibility to utilise Alliance transportation capability to bring assistance to Pakistan. International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), based

in Afghanistan, has sent C130 relief flight with rations and water. **Poland** will send 140 soldiers to take part in a NATO-led reconstruction effort. The soldiers will be part of a six-month NATO mission due to begin next week and expected to cost some \$6.4 million (5.4 million euros).

Japan has announced \$ 20 million aid for quake-victims. 40 percent of the total aid would be released immediately, while the remaining is to be given after bilateral talks. 26 member rescue team is working in quake-hit areas and another 100 member rescue team is on its way. The Government of Japan has also committed 2 helicopters to be manned by the personnel from the Japanese Self Defence Forces for dropping relief supplies and excavating people from the affected areas. **Pakistan expressed gratitude to the Japanese government for providing aid in difficult hour and condoled death of 3 Japanese in collapse of Margalla Tower in Islamabad.**

King Abdullah II of **Jordan** paid a brief visit to Pakistan last Friday evening, as part of his tour of the Islamic countries in Asia. He assured all assistance to Pakistan in this hour of need. Jordan has sent two plane loads of relief goods and more assistance from the country was on the way. Earlier in the day, Prince Rashid Bin Al Hassan of Jordan also called on the Prime Minister to discuss relief efforts. Prince Rashid, the son of Prince Hasan Bin Talal and Princess Sarvath, personally escorted a mobile hospital on October 10. He supervised the entire process of setting up the 25-bed hospital in Rawalakot, which is manned by a support staff of over 50, including 11 doctors.

The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz of **Saudi Arabia**, has ordered that an air bridge be established with Pakistan to ensure uninterrupted supply of relief goods, including ambulances, tents, medicines, and clothes. The Saudi Red Crescent has announced a donation of dollars 10 million to provide immediate assistance to the earthquake victims. Six planes carrying ambulances, tents, medicines, clothes and other items will be landed at Islamabad airport on Thursday and planes carrying relief goods will continue to land at Islamabad every night as part of the Saudi effort to help its Pakistani brothers and sisters. A modern, fully equipped field hospital with 60 doctors, nurses and support staff is also flown in to provide on-the-spot medical relief to the earthquake victims.

Ukraine's President Victor Yushchenko phoned President General Pervez Musharraf to express solidarity in the wake of last Saturday's earthquake and informed him that a field hospital from the county is on its way to assist Pakistan in relief efforts.

Sri-Lanka delivered 8575 tents, 2 tons of tea and a donation of Rs.25000 to the High Commissioner for Pakistan as their token of goodwill to the people of Pakistan.

Bangladesh has dispatched a plane-load of emergency relief materials for the earthquake affected people. A C-130 delivered blankets, biscuits, winter clothes, candles and medicine.

President of **Cuba** Fidel Castro Ruz in his message to President Pervez Musharraf has expressed his deep condolence and sorrow on the loss of lives in the earthquake. The Cuban Government has offered the services of 200 doctors specialized in natural disasters and serious epidemics along with requisite stock of medicines.

Canada had earmarked Canadian \$ 20 million in support to Pakistan which included the allocation of \$ 1 million to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, and \$5 million for the deployment of two helicopters through the United Nations in support of all humanitarian aid agencies working in the affected areas. As well, an additional \$700,000 will be given to the World Food Program Joint Logistics Centre to provide fuel and staff support to the overall logistics coordination efforts. Canadian soldiers from Afghanistan have flown into Pakistan to assess earthquake relief needs.

The relief goods from **India** include seven truck loads of medicines, 15,000 blankets and 50 tents.

The **World Bank** has offered \$20 million to Pakistan to cope with the devastating earthquake.

Chairman and CEO of the **Coca-Cola** has announced that the company and the Coca-Cola Foundation has pledged \$2 million (Rs120 million) for the earthquake relief efforts under way in Pakistan. 50 per cent of the amount would be deposited in the President's Relief Fund for Earthquake Victims-2005 and the remaining would go to the International Red Cross and the Red Crescent Societies engaged in relief work in affected areas.

UN Flash Appeal was launched on 11 October for \$312 million to help fund life-saving and recovery activities for a six-month emergency period. So far, only 12 percent, that is, \$37 million out of the \$312 million need has been firmly pledged. In comparison, the tsunami flash appeal was more than 80 per cent funded within 10 days after the disaster. UN Secretary General Mr Kofi Annan said "Next week, I will be attending the emergency donors' conference in Geneva convened by the United Nations. We expect results. I urge governments and other organizations to attend at the highest level. There are no excuses. If we are to show ourselves worthy of calling ourselves members of humankind, we must rise to this challenge. Our response will be no less than a measure of our humanity."

Medecins Sans Frontieres is providing medical assistance and relief goods to the victims. MSF teams are focusing on medical treatment, mental health counselling and the distribution of relief and medical supplies to assist the existing response. A team is offering medical assistance in the local district hospital in town of Muzaffarabad, north east of the capital Islamabad. From Muzaffarabad several teams will focus on delivering medical and relief assistance to some areas Azad Kashmir. In both regions MSF is setting up psycho-social support for those who have lost family members, especially children who have lost their parents. Additional doctors, nurses, mental health officers, water and sanitation experts and logisticians are being sent to the affected areas. More supplies are under way from France, Belgium, the Netherlands and are being purchased locally.

The **International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies** is issuing a preliminary emergency appeal for 10.8 million Swiss francs to support some 30,000 families. The funds will be used to provide survivors with food, tents, mattresses, blankets and cooking sets and to support Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) operations.

UNICEF is appealing for an initial \$20 million to provide emergency relief to children and families who survived the earthquake, its first trucks are rolling towards the northern Pakistan town of Mansehra, loaded with blankets, children's clothing, water containers, and plastic tarpaulins. Another convoy is en route from Karachi with water purification equipment, nutritional food for children, soap, shelter supplies, and children's boots and sweaters – all designed to help children in the wake of the disaster. **Almost one in every five people in the affected zone is a child under the age of 5, and nearly half are younger than 18.**

World Food Programme is mobilising urgent relief, including airlift to Pakistan of 120 metric tons of high energy biscuits. The vitamin-fortified biscuits, essential in the early days of a natural disaster when survivors have no means to cook their own food, will provide life-saving energy and strength to some 240,000 victims of the disaster for five days.

The World Bank scrambled teams of disaster reconstruction experts and has doubled its initial commitment to US\$40 million. This amount could run to hundreds of millions in the longer term. The **Asian Development Bank** \$10m, **EU**: \$3.6m, **Australia**: \$10 million, **France**: 40 doctors, medical supplies, sniffer dogs, 20 rescue workers, **China** has pledged \$6.2m of humanitarian aid and last Thursday, handed over \$1m cash to the Government of Pakistan. The Red Cross Society of China, handed over a cheque of \$100,000 to Pakistan Red Crescent Society., 49 rescuers, dogs, 17 tons of equipment, **Turkey**: five teams of rescuers and 11 tonnes of aid, **Russia**: 30 rescuers, sniffer dogs, special equipment, **Germany**: \$60,000, **Kuwait, Qatar** and the **United Arab Emirates** each donated \$100 million, **Ireland**: \$3.6 million and **South Korea**: \$3 million.

The Pakistan Society News

Sir Christopher MacRae who stood down as chairman at the end of June, has agreed to stay on as the Caretaker Chairman until 1 January 2006 when Lt Gen Anthony Palmer will take over. Three new Trustees have joined the Executive Committee: Geoffrey Ward, Gary Waller and Syra Vahidy. Shama Husain has taken over as Secretary from Anne Ali Khan who has retired.

The newly refurbished office of the Society at 8 Harriet Walk is now operational. We are hoping to build up a small library of books relating to Pakistan and would be happy to receive any books that you may wish to donate in this regard.

The **52nd Annual Dinner** held in the Great Hall at Lincoln's Inn on Thursday 16th June 2005 was attended by **231 guests** and was a great success. It had a military theme to mark the 60th Anniversary of the end of World War II. Several WWII veterans of Pakistani origin now living in Britain attended. The Big Lottery Fund gave the Society a grant to cover these costs as well as the music by the Band of the Honourable Artillery Company, and the Piper from the London Scottish Regiment. The piper played music as guests entered the building and at the end of the proceedings played "Blue Bonnet over the Border", Regimental music of the British Light Infantry, The 1 Sind and 11th Battalion the Baluch Regiment. The Brass Band played military music throughout the meal and played the British and Pakistani Anthems for the loyal toast to HM The Queen and The President of Pakistan. Lt Gen Syed Arif Hasan who had flown from Pakistan to represent the President presented **The Pakistan Society Award 2005 to Isabel Shaw, travel writer**. The Guest of Honour was Gen The Lord Guthrie who gave the keynote speech. Other guests included Lady Guthrie, HE Dr Maleeha Lodhi, Lt Gen (Rtd) Ali Kuli Khan Khattak and Mrs Khattak, Field Marshal Sir John Chapple and Lady Chapple, Gen The Lord Ramsbotham and Lady Ramsbotham, Maj Gen Charles Vyvyan and Mrs Vyvyan and Brig Martin Vine and Mrs Vine. As usual the continued support of the Corporate Members and Sponsors played a major role in the success of the event. Please note the date for the **53rd Annual Dinner**. It will be held on **Thursday 15 June 2006** at the same venue at Lincoln's Inn.

The Society's **visit to the International Festival of the Sea at HM Naval Base Portsmouth** in July was an enjoyable experience for members and their guests. The highlight of the day was the guided tour and tea in the Ward Room of **PNS Tippu Sultan**, Tariq-class Destroyer, leading ship of 25th Destroyer Squadron of Pakistan Fleet (formerly **HMS Avenger**, sold to Pakistan 23rd September 1994). The Ship took part in the Fleet Review and the subsequent festivities in Naval Base Portsmouth.

In July, everyone was affected by the **terrorist incidents** in London. The following statement was released to the media and posted on the Society website:

"The Pakistan Society (UK) condemns unreservedly the recent cowardly and barbarous bomb attacks in London. No teaching from the Holy Quran could remotely justify the cold-blooded murder of random innocent victims. By their impious and brutal actions, the perpetrators of these murders have done incalculable damage not only to the reputation of their communities, but also to the good name of Islam in Britain. Those who poison the minds of young people towards such senseless violence must be confronted and stopped."

The Pakistan Society's Forthcoming Events

Wednesday, 9 November 2005

Reception and Briefing on the Earthquake Relief Operation

Time: 6 - 8 pm

Venue: High Commission for Pakistan, 36 Lowndes Square, London SW1

Tickets: £10.

All ticket sale proceeds will be donated to the President of Pakistan Relief Fund.

Tuesday, 15 November 2005

Talk on the Work of The British Council in Pakistan

Andrew Picken, Director British Council Islamabad and Deputy Director Pakistan

Time: 6 for 6.30 pm

Venue: High Commission for Pakistan, 36 Lowndes Square, London SW1

April 2006

The next **visit to the Houses of Parliament** hosted by the former Speaker of the House of Commons, The Rt Hon Lord Weatherill will be in **April 2006**. Details will be announced later.

Thursday, 15 June 2006

53rd Annual Dinner

Venue: The Great Hall, Lincoln's Inn, London WC1

A detailed Events Programme leaflet will be posted to members as soon as possible.

Other Events

An exclusive art auction and dinner is being held on **Friday, 2 December 2005** at the Long Room of Lord's Cricket Ground. It will feature the work of leading Pakistani artists and raise funds to educate underprivileged children. The event is organised by ITACECUK, a registered charity in the UK in collaboration with Sanjan Nagar Public Education Trust (SNPET) which operates a free English–Medium Girls School in one of the poor industrial towns in Pakistan. Prior to the event, a **3 day art exhibition** will be **hosted by United National Bank Limited, 2 Brook Street, London W1S 1BQ**. 2-7 pm on Monday, 28 November and 10 am – 4 pm on Tuesday, 29 & Wednesday, 30 November. **For further information and tickets Tel: 020 7581 4450 or visit website www.itacec.org**

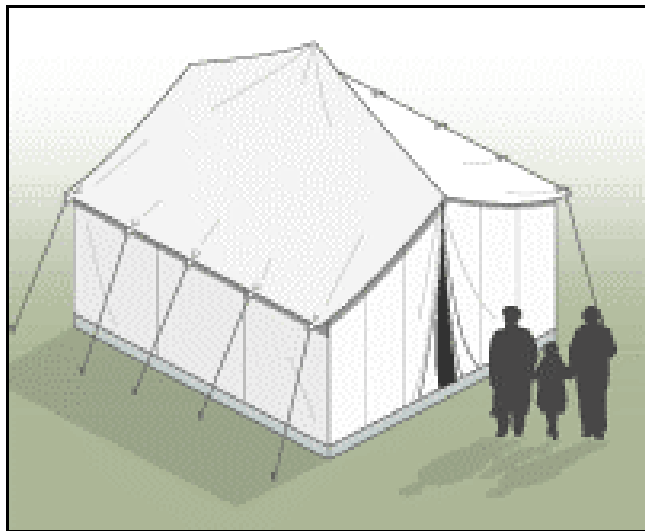
URGENTLY NEEDED

'WINTERISED' TENTS

BLANKETS

SWEATERS

The fast approaching, bitter Himalayan winter will be very difficult period for the earthquake survivors particularly the pregnant women, children and the sick and elderly. Snow is already falling in the upper reaches and will cover the villages by early November. It is very important that these vulnerable people receive shelter, blankets and warm clothing quickly.



- Heavy duty tent designed for long-term use by a single family
- PVC groundsheet sown onto the sides for wind proofing and to retain warmth
- Some types are designed to accommodate cooking stoves
- ICRC estimates that 30,000 such tents are required in Pakistan

If you are able to help, please contact:

The Pakistan Society, 8 Harriet Walk, London SW1X 9JH

Tel: 020 7235 9914

info@thepakistansociety.org.uk

www.thepakistansociety.org.uk