

Dear Honorary Secretary: Dr. Tony Kempster,

Please convey my greetings on behalf of APF (India) to the members of APF (UK).

I request you to pass on this brief account of flood of Krishna River that has produced Natural devastation and Humanitarian Crisis loosing of belongings and livelihoods especially of the poor people, along with other sections of the society in some districts of Andhra Pradesh, especially Guntur District. I earnestly request you to pass on my humble request through our Anglican Peacemaker to our honourable members individually to respond to this humanitarian crisis, especially for poor, generously, and to extend their support through APF India on behalf of the members of APF (UK), opening their hearts and palms.

Without warning and unexpected a flood of the Krishna River due to heavy rains in its catchments areas in the States of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh that submerged Kurnool and brought to halt of human activity except to flee to higher places in and around Kurnool city from 2nd to the 5 October continuously for 3 days that brought record breaking huge amounts of water into the river since 60 years of recorded history. It caused loss of human lives, live stock along with public and private property immeasurably. Although it caused great deal of loss of property on either side of the Krishna River banks, The flood brought huge amounts of water to the sea for continuous three days from 5 to 7 October caused more loss in low lying areas of Guntur and Krishna Districts along the river banks, as the River enters into Bay of Bengal through these two districts. The people in these island villages of these districts gripped in fear of their lives and loved ones, leaving aside their belongings. Flood bunds of the River were breeched and broken causing immense loss to the cattle, agriculture crops and to the habitats that brought huge deposits of sand and unwanted mineral deposits into the richly fertile lands, causing hardly repairable loss, where poor people earn their livelihood as agricultural labourers. The Army, fire, police brigades and public health personnel were ordered into emergency and relief operations.

The Andhra Evangelical Lutheran Church of Synod opened an emergency relief camp at Repalle, a sea side town where some early Lutheran Christian Missionaries worked spread gospel along with education for girls especially, and health and medical services equally.

This flood devoured some human lives along with the belongings of the poor in Kurnool district especially in the city, where River Tungabhadra joined River Krishna. The water came into the city which horrified the inhabitants, leading to evacuate the city to higher places.

The total loss of public and private property along with human and livestock, although is estimated to some extent, but to my mind it is immeasurable. The Government of Andhra Pradesh and The Government of India declared it as a National Calamity, and extended it financial support considerably. The several poor people responded to the eventualities of the flood devastation. Also the corporate and other bodies, besides philanthropic entities, philanthropists responded in sharing relief activities.

Although, the Governments, other bodies, and philanthropists responded to the emergency relief operations overwhelming generously, still there is immense need to respond to address this Nature's devastation. We, the members of the local parish of Andhra Evangelical Lutheran Church, contributed to relief operations to our best possible, and is envisioning for greater involvement in relief and rehabilitation activities.

Immense thanks in advance for accepting my request on behalf of the members of APF India.

In peace,

John Nagella

Secretary, APF India