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VOICE OF SENIOR CITIZENS



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AGEING IN NEPALI PRESS

Advocacy
Social Support
Active Ageing
Development
Emergency
Elder Abuse
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UPCOMING EVENTS

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AGEING IN NEPALI PRESS

(May 1 – 31, 2015)



Donate for the psycho social counseling

And

Livelihood of older people

AGEING IN NEPALI PRESS

(May 1 – 31, 2015)

ADVOCACY

Ageing Nepal participates in global thunderclap event action/2015

Ageing Nepal

Kathmandu, May 22, 2015

Ageing Nepal in partnership with HelpAge International participated in the Thunderclap event of action/2015ALL AGES on 22nd May 2015. Various activities were performed on the day with the main message of *LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND* in the context of SDGs and its targets. On the occasion, Ageing Nepal team visited different OAHs, elderly groups and local NGOs working for the wellbeing of elderly. Social media and other communication network were used to spread the message of action/2015ALLAGES.



HelpAge International teams up for addressing post-earthquake issues in Nepal

Ageing Nepal

Kathmandu

HelpAge International Nepal Office organized a get-together event on the evening of 25th May 2015 where Teams from the London based Headquarters, Kathmandu based South Asia Regional Directorate and national partner organizations



together had the opportunity to exchange views for developing common understanding about the post-earthquake situation and plan for relief and rehabilitation works in the future. On the event, Mr. Krishna M. Gautam, Chairperson of Ageing Nepal, seen with the Board Member Mr. Sola D. Mahoney and the CEO Mr. Toby Porter.

SOCIAL SUPPORT

Support Provided

Following events took place for supporting the elderly.

S.N.	Supporter	To Whom	Reason	What	How much	When (1-31 May)	Where	Source
1.	WHR ¹	Elderly Victims of three VDCs	Earthquake Relief	Cash amount	7,500 each	9	Sipadole, Balkot and Gundu of Kathmandu	Annapurna
2.	Villager	Elderly couple	Reconstruction of a shelter	House	One	23	Pachthar	E-kantipur

¹WHR: Women for Human Rights is a NGO.

ACTIVE AGEING

Pride of independent living

Ageing Nepal and Brajesh Thapa

Nir Bahadur Gurung, 80, got retirement from Indian Army and returned home in Nepal long time back. He cannot have any government facility, including the Old Age Allowance, because he lost all his legal papers including the certificate of Nepali citizenship. He is living alone and has no family. This lonely old man is living in a rented room in house of a distant relative and collects garbage for his independent living. He is maintaining pride of his lone life being independent though working as a garbage collector at the age of 80.

Active elderly

Kantipur

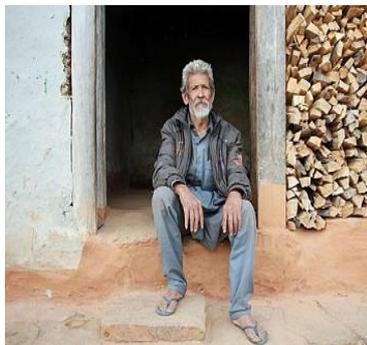
Gorkha, May 14, 2015

Marsing Gurung, 66, of Larpark, has become an example for the whole village. In the crisis situation of earthquake he actively played the role of a leader to support and help the victims. He mobilized village youth for rescue and relief operations. He also managed food for the villagers who left the village for safety to live in mountain top (Gupsi dada) which is far away from any settlement. He also said that the earthquake of April 25 has made the village unsuitable for living.

Civil engineer of Dolakha

Kantipur

Dolakha, May 20, 2015



Chitra Bdr. Shivabhakti, 78, of Dolkha is staying in his own house though all his family members left the house after the earthquake of 25th April. Mr. Shivabhakti is popular as a civil engineer in the village as he has constructed 150 houses in Dolkha as a labour. He believed if house is made by good material with full requirement than earthquake can't destroy and he is confident that the earthquake cannot destroy his self-made house.

DEVELOPMENT

Demand of house

Kantipur

Lamjung, May 11, 2015

Sanumaya Tamang, 61, of Illampokhari-6 lost her husband during the earthquake. She received Rs. 40,000 from the District chief Mr. Shrawan Kumar Timalina to meet expenses for the funeral of her dead husband. The District Chief has also assured her to give Rs. 100,000 as a relief amount. Mrs. Tamang has been asking for a house rather than money, where she can live rest of her life.

EMERGENCY

Earthquake damaged OAH

Annapurna post

Tanahu, May 1, 2015

The April 25 earthquake and subsequent aftershocks damaged houses of elderly living in the Devghat area. When Devghat area development committee members visited OAHs in the area to collect details of the damage caused, 60 years old Saraswati Bhakta told about everything that got buried in the collapsed house and also that she hadn't eat anything since 2 days. Though government is mobilizing District Natural Disaster Rescue Committee in the affected area for rescue and relief operations, no one visited Devghat OAH so far. There are 20 and 92 houses in the area that are fully and partially damaged, respectively.

The plight of elderly after earthquake

Annapurna

Kathmandu, May 1, 2015

A group of elderly living in the Nijananda OAH of Dakshinkali became homeless after the powerful earthquake of 25th April. Twenty eight elderly people were taking shelter in that OAH but now they are compelled to live under the open sky. They told with great grief that

they were thrown by their family members now earthquake added more pain. They said they are waiting for the relief materials since 5 days but no one has come yet, neither family members nor the relief team. Director of OAH, Ram Bdr. Thapa, 59, complained that “we are ignored by the relief team.”

We need shelter more than food

Kantipur

Chitwan, May 2, 2015

Lothar-4 village of Chitwan is situated in the middle of the hills. The earthquake has made the village a risky place to live in. The land has developed many cracks that can turn the whole village into rubbles anytime because of high chance of landslide after the earthquake. The villagers are seeking help and they demand not food but a safe place to live in. Seventy years old Bhimlal Chepang requested with trembling voice that he hasn't sleep after April 25th. Though he is hungry too but the main concern is how to survive than what to eat. He added “The Katuwal hill can bury our village anytime.”

Live evidence of two powerful earthquakes

Annapurna post

Bhaktapur, May 3, 2015

Ratna Maya Prajapati, 95, faced both massive earthquake of 1943 and 2015. She shared that she was 13 years old when 1943 earthquake occurred. In that time she was rescued by her brother after 3 hours from the rubble of her house. Likewise, recently occurred earthquake also injured her leg and her face swelled for a week. She lost her relative and neighbours in both earthquakes. But in 1943, she suffered than this due to the lack of food and shelter. There were no relief material, rescue team and foreign aid in that time, she added.

Similarly, there are some elderly who experienced destruction of the both earthquakes. Whenever people visit to their place, they eagerly shared the story of 1943 earthquake and start to compare between the two.

Villagers are waiting for food

Kantipur

Sindhupalchowk, May 3, 2015

Aaeti Tamang, 89, of Bhotsipa-9 VDC was separating mixture of sand and millet which was taken out from her collapsed house. She said that there is no food to eat and no one came to provide anything. Likewise local Sundar Tamang, 79, is also suffering from the same problem. He grieved that he cannot take out anything from his destroyed house and he is sustaining by begging for food from the neighbors. But how long it can be possible? He asks. All villagers of Bhotsipa, Sindhupalchowk are waiting for the relief material from the government.

Child and elderly at risk

Kantipur

Gorkha, May 9, 2015

Senior citizens and children are most vulnerable group in the emergency situation. Eighty seven years old Subhadra Gotame of Tandrang could not sleep after the earthquake of April 25. The condition of asthma patient Ms. Gotame become worse after she was compelled to live in the tent. Likewise, infant and child are also suffering a lot. The Prime Minister Mr. Sushil Koirala visited the village. Udhav Timalina, organizer of District Natural Disaster Rescue Committee, said to the Prime Minister Sushil Koirala that in the emergency situation elderly, children and women need psycho social counseling along with relief materials.

Chefang back to his cave

Kantipur

Makwanpur, May 11, 2015

Jaypati Chefang, 103, of Makwanpur district is compelled to return back to cave after massive earthquake destroyed his house which was gifted by the government 15 months ago. Now he is back living in a cave again but this time with his 17 years old grandson Deepak. They received tent, food and other relief materials which was not enough so far. When VDC secretary, Arjun Acharya visited him in the cave, he requested for the old age allowance which he hasn't got yet. Mr. Jayapati has been living in a nearby cave all his life and was offered to live in a house only 15months back. House made by god is stronger than the house made by people, remarked Mr. Chefang while returning to the cave as his house was destroyed by the earthquake.

Sindhupalchowk villages at risk

Annapurna post

Sindhupalchowk, May 12, 2015

When generous people visited Napla village of Shindhupalchowk district with relief materials through helicopter, the helicopter was surrounded by children and the elderly. The village become the village of elderly and children after occurrence of devastating earthquake. Some youths were taken by earthquake and some were migrated in search of safety. They expressed their sorrow that due to the earthquake and reoccurring aftershocks there are cracks everywhere. Besides landslides are falling which is creating great risk for the village. When former Prime Minister Mr. Babu Ram Bhattarai visited in the village they requested to shift them in a safer place.

Expectation from British Welfare

Kantipur

Okhaldhunga, May 12, 2015

Former soldier of three-four Gorkha Rifles of British Armu Mr. Chandra Bdr. Sunuwar, 91, recollected his memory of the war. Many friends died in the war but luckily he survived. I am never scared to die but I thought this earthquake will kill me, he said. He was 11 years

old when earthquake hit Nepal in 1943. He said that though this earthquake is less powerful than of 1943 but it was very destructive. His son had brought him and his wife out of the house and now they are living in a makeshift shelter. They have only small tent got as relief package and he has no further expectations to get anything more. He added, I spend 15 years of my life as a British soldier so I have more expectation from the British Welfare.

Elderly face challenges in accessing relief materials

Kantipur

Gorkha, May 12, 2015

Seventy three years old Bharlal Gurung went to Simjung VDC where relief material was being distributed. It required long hours of walk. Hungry, weak and old Gurung arrived but could not pass through the crowd to get near the relief materials. So, he returned empty hand for 2 consecutive days. But on the third day, he became happy when he got some relief material. The relief materials were distributed by Century Tourist Management Group, Pokhara. Mr. Gurung is living with his 63 years physically impaired wife. His house was destroyed by earthquake and food also buried under the collapsed house. After the earthquake they survived by drinking water only. Mr. Gurung use to work as labour knitting Dhoko (basket made by bamboo) and rope before the earthquake.

Aid for Senior citizens

The Himalayan Times

Damauli, May 14, 2015

Earthquake hit senior citizens of Tanahun were granted financial aid by HelpAge International Nepal and Nepal Participatory Act Network with technical support of Community Support Group, Pokhara in the district. As many as 230 elderly victims of Bhanu, Tanahunsar, Rishingranipokhari and Satiswara VDCs were provided Rs. 1.7 million in relief. Community support Group Coordinator Sushila Sharma and Nepal Participatory Act Network Co-ordinator Rajeshwor Hadkhale handed over the cash to elderly denizens. Each victim was provided by Rs. 7,500 at the programme



Elderly rescued alive from the rubbles

Annapurna /Kantipur

Lalitpur, May 15, 2015

Police force rescued centenarian Funchu Lama from the rubble of his house a week after the earthquake. Miraculously he suffered from only minor injuries. He was airlifted to a district hospital around 50 miles north-west of Kathmandu, said local police officer, Arun Kumar Singh.

Likewise, Dhan Bdr. Gole, 82, and his wife, of Chandanpur-6, Lalitpur district were rescued after 16th day of the April 25 earthquake. When police force of Chapagaun and Gotikhel of Lalitpur district jointly visited the house of elderly which is situated at the top of the hill, they saw helpless couple buried in rubble of the house. They were taken to the district hospital after travelling 5 hours by foot and 4 hours by ambulance. Injured Mr. Gole couldn't speak Nepali language as well as they have no money to pay for the ambulance.

Damages at Pashupati OAH add woes of senior citizens

Info Nepal

Kathmandu, May 17, 2015



A total of 230 senior people staying at the Pashupati OAH were shifted to safer place as the OAH got damaged due to the destructive earthquake and its aftershocks. The overcrowding in the new place has added woes to them.

Rama KC, 91, who has been staying at the old age home run under the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare said, "I can't walk properly. I was

sitting against the wall when I felt the first earthquake jolt. I thought it was now a call by the God. But I'm destined to live."

Similarly, 72 years old Lila Bahadur Raut said it had been very difficult to adjust to new congested place. I fear bigger risk here because of the recurrent aftershocks, he added.

Chief of the OAH, Mr. Manoj Kumar Basnet said, "Most parts of the building is damaged compelling the removal of the senior citizens. Most of the senior citizens were however shifted to safer places within the home."

[See more...](#)

Event to entertain elderly mothers

Annapurna

Lamjung, May 31, 2015

Folk singer, Ramji Poudel entertained the elderly mothers of Lamjung district, Siurun on the occasion of Siurum Mahotsav (event). The organizer Mr. Sularam Gurung said the event was

organized with the message of preservation of traditional culture and to encourage tourism for sustainable economic development as well as to support earthquake victims. Elderly mothers actively participated in Rodi (a traditional music event) where they sang songs related to earthquake. Similarly others age group also enjoyed the event overlooking hangover of the earthquake.

Wished to return back to the village

Kantipur

Sindhupalchowk, Chautara, May 31, 2015

Villagers of Tatopani, Mygadi who are living in the makeshift shelter of Bhaktapur district after earthquake and reoccurring aftershock were worrying about their village. Sitakanchi Tamang, 72, expressed with frustration that the Kathmandu is not for them and she does not want to stay here anymore. With Miss Tamang others villagers also wished to returned back to the village if government will provide the necessary medicine, food and police security.

Elderly seeking help

Kantipur

Lamjung, May 31, 2015

Sungure Damai, 80, of Udipur worked as a witch doctor for long. He was awarded by a piece of land with small hut by Miss Joshi. He has been living in that land since last 60 years. After the earthquake, son of Miss Joshi is asking for rent of the land. He is forcing Mr. Damai to buy or leave the land. Unfortunately the earthquake of 25th April destroyed his house and he is living in a makeshift shelter with his family. Poor and landless Mr. Damai is asking for a piece of land from the government.

ELDER ABUSE

A total of 4 elders faced abuse in May 2015.

S.N.	Name	Age	Sex	Address	Reason	Culprit	Form of abuse	Status	Date May	Source
1.	Samsher Bhandari	72	M	Chitwan	Family affair	Son	Physical	D	8	Police Report
2.	Badri Baitha	60	M	Rautahat	Land Dispute	NA	Physical	D	14	Police Report
3.	Harmal Dhimi	71	M	Kailali	Dispute	Local	Physical	D	20	Police Report
4.	Rana Maya Limbu	82	F	Badrapur , Jhapa	NA	Grand son	Physical	D	28	Setopati

D = Death, ND = Not dead

NEGLECT

Unattended Death

Three unattended dead bodies of senior citizens were found in April 2015

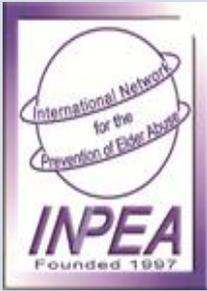
S.N.	Name	Age	Sex	Address	Place of death	Date	Source
1.	Ratna Maya Limbu	82	F	Badrapur, Jhapa	Jhapa	28	Police Report
2.	Pita Devi Bhandari	65	F	Bajhang	Baitadi	27	Police Report
3.	Lana Maya Limbu	82	F	Kakarbhitta	Kakarbhitta	29	Kantipur

ELDERLY IN CRIME

The following table presents senior citizens reported to have involved in unlawful activities in May 2015.

S.N.	Name	Age	Sex	Address	Crime involved	Date	Source
1.	Mahendra Kurmi	60	M	Sarlahi	Illegal Possession of drug	7	Police Report
2.	Mangal Sardar	65	M	Morang	Rape (minor)	8	Police Report
3.	Hariram Malakar	63	M	Kathmandu	Involved in black market	16	Police Report
4.	Mohan Kumar Shrestha	62	M	Kathmandu	Involved in black market	18	Police Report
5.	Kaman Bdr. Thapa	68	M	Dadeldhura	Illegal possession of weapons	18	Police Report
6.	Ram Prasad Acharya	72	M	Kathmandu	Physical abuse	18	Police Report

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<http://inpea.net/>



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UPCOMING EVENTS

S.N.	EVENTS	DETAILS
1.		<p>The Physiological Society is going to organize the conference Ageing and Degeneration – A Physiological perspective on 10th to 11th April 2015 on Edinburgh, United Kingdom.</p> <p>http://www.physoc.org/ageingtopic/ageing-and-degeneration-physiological-perspective</p>
2.		<p>The international training programme is going to held on 22nd to 24th September. This three day training programme will focus on the theme of dementia and memory impairment. This training event is aimed at PhD postdoctoral students and early career researchers. http://www.cardi.ie/ageingq2015</p>
3.		<p>Let's talk about sex conference organized by Alzheimer's Australia Victoria and co-hosted by COTA Victoria on , will promote discussions that aim to improve the health and emotional well-being of older people through recognition of their rights to sexual expression.</p> <p>http://letstalkaboutsexconference2015.com/</p>
4.		<p>International Federation on Ageing 13th Global Conference is going to be held on 21-23 June 2016 at the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre. The program will primarily focus on Disasters in an Ageing World, reflecting on both natural and man-made disasters.</p> <p>http://ifa2016.org.au/</p>

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