

Wednesday, 13. May 2015

Yesterday there were a total of seven significant earthquakes, three of which were very strong and an even according to press reports, the magnitude reached 7.3. This again led to many demolitions of houses casualties. Even at night at 2:05 the earth trembled very noticeably. The whole family runs out of the house and is a few seconds later outside on the street next to the neighborhood.

The entire city looked panicked; there were already people sleeping in the tents and to add to this there were people also wanting to sleep outside in the tent rather than in their houses. People sleeping in the doorways, hallways, were the common scenario around. In between all these we still had courage to sleep inside the room. People here do not know when really they could enter inside their houses.

The epicenter of the most recent earthquake was said to be directly in Kathmandu. Already nearly for an hour the dogs kept on barking and people were in panic. After sometime the dogs got finally quiet and we decided to go back to sleep.

But again at 3:15 we felt tremors again. We ran to the front door, but then fortunately it got over. Although there was a huge discussion over not sleeping inside the house, we slept inside the house totally exhausted.

Kritan got a call from his friend Biswas. He told him that a 15 year old patient Alisha is in the hospital and she was in need of some emergency medication and her family didn't have enough money to buy them. The hospital also didn't give her the medicines the reason might be that there were simply no more medicines in the hospital or that one didn't one to gives the medicines accounting to her low chances of survival.



Kritan do not want to just accept it and he decided to buy the drugs. For various reasons he could not easily find the drug. He was little angry and so we decided to collect money to purchase the medicines in a pharmacy. Together we went to the hospital and handed over to the medicines to the doctor in the ICU, the doctors administered the drugs immediately to her.

These drugs were sufficient for six days. The 15 year-old girl was four days under a pile of rubble and suffered several broken bones. Her kidneys were no longer working optimally according to the doctor. It looks very bad for them as well. We believed that they were not giving up so easily and wanted to still fight for her.



While travelling around in Kathmandu, we saw new debris of collapsed houses, which were caused by the earthquake that occurred the previous day and again this led to the narrowing of the roads.

Later, we took part in a meeting at the German Embassy. The THW coordinates the activities of German workers. They marked GESINAS activists still missing on their list, because I had read their email only partially and didn't reply the emails. Now they were delighted to know that we were doing well. They also reported that the recent earthquakes had claimed no German workers.

The different teams reported on the activities from the last days and also about the plans for the coming days. The district Sindhupalchok where we were on Monday is

mostly cut off from the outside world due to landslides. Risk management team suggested not to travel to certain specified locations due to possible landslides and falling rocks. This of course would be too much of risk.



In some affected areas a few basic facilities are available. People who wanted to leave for a affected area would be responsible for ownself. Furthermore, they said many hotels had been destroyed in around the affected areas.

Then we visited Ulrich and Chris, to discuss about the distribution of PAULs, which possibly would arrive soon and also hopefully without any problem soon from the customs. The house in which they were at the beginning, was no longer habitable, and so they were living in a large community tent with 30 other people.

Nearby are skyscrapers that still look very good, but probably still have to be demolished, because they have become unstable by the earthquake and its aftershakes.

Translator: Kritan

More news: www.gesinas.net