



Rovers active in rescue and relief efforts as heavy flooding hits Pakistan

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In the mid of devastating floods in Pakistan, Rovers including leaders are taking part in the rescue and recovery efforts in the nearest relief camps in the affected areas.

Presently, Rovers and Scout Leaders assist in relief efforts by collecting and distributing food, clothing, medicine and other needs of children and women in close coordination with the government relief agencies and emergency rescue departments in AJK, Punjab, Sindh, Balochistan, Gilgit Baltistan and KPK.

Pakistan Boy Scouts Association National Secretary Capt. (R) Engr. Ali Yameen Qureshi personally visited the places of Sakardu, Gilgit, Muzaffarabad AJK and is now in Karachi (Sindh) providing emergency assistance. Regional Scout Committee member Syed Parvez Ali Shah Jillani is in Sindh where flood is still hitting many villages. Qureshi said Rovers and Scout Leaders who are living in in heavily affected places are working in their own areas as the access problem in reaching to people and bringing them in safety is becoming difficult with the heavy damage on infrastructure and roads.



On 17th August 2010, all provincial secretaries will meet at the national headquarters in Islamabad to plan out how to maximize the services of Scouts in the heavily affected areas.

Reports said that a number of people affected by the floods has risen to nearly 2.5 million, and thousands of people in the provinces of Khyber Pakhtonkhwa (KPK), Punjab, Balochistan, Sindh, Gilgit Baltistan and AJK were displaced including children due to serious flooding, land slide and heavy rains.

At the regional level, the Asia-Pacific Regional Office sent financial assistance to PBSA to mobilise Scouts in the relief work. The assistance came from the APR Scout Aid Disaster Fund established early this year to assist the National Scout Organizations in service-related activities in time of calamities.

-- reports and photos by Pakistan Boy Scouts Association