



contribute ₹25 crore to the disaster-struck area. They will be consulting the state government and selecting power projects to rebuild Uttarakhand.

The employees of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) gave up their one day's wage for the cause, contributing a total of ₹3 crore. NTPC has also deployed a helicopter for the rescue operations and has shown willingness to the Union minister of power to set up a relief project worth ₹10 crore. "NTPC stands by the people of Uttarakhand and extends whole hearted support to them. As a responsible corporate citizen NTPC extended modest contributions in the hour of crisis," said Arup Roy Choudhury, chairman and MD, NTPC.

Coal India has contributed ₹50 crore from its current year's CSR budget to the chief minister's relief fund. The employees of Western Coalfields, which comprises of five Central Trade Unions and Coal Mines Officers' Association have contributed their one day's salary which is about ₹5 crore for the cause. Bharat Coking Coal has made donations worth ₹20 crore to the CM's Relief Fund and ₹7 crore to the PM's Relief Fund. Mahanadi Coalfields and Western Coalfields have also contributed ₹5 crore to the PM's Relief Fund.

The Airport Authority of India is working with the Uttarakhand government to reconstruct the destroyed infrastructure. The employees of Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL), the Food Corporation of India (FCI) and BSNL have chipped in by contributing their one day's salary for the

flood victims. FCI has also increased the percentage of wheat allocation to the state. Public sector banks including State Bank of India (₹2 crore) and Bank of India (₹1.5 crore) have also helped in the rehabilitation process.

Indian Oil has provided logistical support in addition to contributing ₹2 crore. Hind Copper has donated ₹2 crore. ONGC, BHEL and Bharat Petroleum have also donated ₹1 crore each.

Private sector aid: Amongst the private-sector companies, Sir Ratan Tata Trust and Navajbhai Ratan Tata Trust have deployed three camps. On a short term basis, the Trust has provided 5,000 water purification plants, 5,000 solar lanterns, truck-mounted reverse-osmosis units, prefabricated tents, blankets and food packets. On a medium term basis, the Trust has been involved in rebuilding residential homes.

The Confederation of Indian Industries has sent rescue teams to Rudrapur and Chamoli districts of Uttarakhand. They have also provided temporary shelters, water purifiers, solar lanterns, torches, blankets, and warm clothing for the survivors.

ITC, Nestle, and Britannia have sent food and relief material. HCC is participating in the relief work by helping in clearing debris off the road. DLF has contributed ₹50 lakh for the relief work.

Private sector banks such as ICICI has donated ₹15 crore, while Indian Overseas Bank has provided relief material. "Our hearts go out to the bereaved families and those who

UTTARAKHAND

Helping hand

As the tragic stories of the catastrophe which struck Uttarakhand continue to unfold, the prime minister has appealed to the people for generous donations to support the victims. India Inc which is often criticised for ignoring the plight of the impoverished has not been apathetic to Uttarakhand. Corporate honchos along with the Bollywood community have been large-hearted in lending a hand to the disaster victims.

Amongst the public sector units, nine power companies are going to

Business India

Helping hand



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have been displaced from their homes due to the tragic natural calamity in Uttarakhand. The nation now faces the task of reconstructing Uttarakhand, while continuing to provide relief and care to those who are still suffering under the impact of this tragedy. We at the ICICI group are committed to playing a role in nation-building by providing assistance to those most in need of a helping hand, through our own initiatives as well as in partnership with the Central and state governments," said Chanda Kochhar, MD and CEO, ICICI Bank.

The Jaypee group and Jindal Steel and Power Corporation have contributed to ₹5 crore to the CM's Relief Fund. The Jaypee group had also deployed a helicopter for the rescue operations. The Honda group (₹3 crore) and Maruti Suzuki India (₹1.56 crore) have also pitched in.

Mobile network service providers such as Vodafone, Bharti Airtel, and BSNL have lent a helping hand by providing emergency communication services to the disaster struck zone. Vodafone has donated ₹75 lakh

and has supplied food packets.

The Emami group has restored livelihoods by offering jobs to ten of the affected families. "As a responsible corporate citizen, we feel that it is the duty of India Inc to come forward and stand by the side of these helpless victims and their families," said R.S. Agarwal, joint chairman, Emami group. The Emami Foundation has donated ₹3 crore for the cause and has also deployed volunteers to help out with the relief work. The Emami Chisel Art Gallery has also organised an art exhibition, the proceeds of which will be donated to the Uttarakhand relief work.

The Mahindra group also donated ₹1 crore. "The unprecedented human tragedy in the Devbhoomi calls for a quick response in terms of relief for the stranded pilgrims and the unfortunate residents of the affected areas. This is a token donation from our company in response to the appeal by the state government," said Anand Mahindra.

The employees of Star have also contributed their one day's salary for the rehabilitation and the company

has promised to match the amount given by the employees. In association with the NGO Goonj, Star has also launched a series of promotional advertisements along with its TV actors to encourage public participation in the relief work. Infibeam, an online ticketing agency has given out 5,000 free bus tickets and discounted air tickets between Delhi and Dehradun for the transport convenience of senior citizens.

Amongst individuals, Pune-based Avinash Bhosale, businessman (₹2.5 crore), Aamir Khan (₹25 lakh), Hrithik Roshan (₹25 lakh), Amitabh Bachchan (₹11 lakh), Harbhajan Singh (₹10 lakh) and the Dalai Lama (₹3 lakh) have also donated. The jawans of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and Central Industrial Security Force have also given their one day's salary which totaled up to ₹18 crore. The Border Security Force has adopted the disaster-hit villages. Moreover, Tihar jail (₹20 lakh) and the rag-pickers of Delhi which are a part of a network called 'Badhte Kadam' (₹20,000) have also chipped in.

♦ SEEMA KHINNAVAR