

## ITBP donates 1.75cr for Leh victims

**New Delhi, Aug.28:** Shri Ranjeet Kumar Bhatia, DG, ITBP handed over a cheque of Rs-1.75 crore to **Shri Prithviraj Chavan, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office** to extend a monetary help of rupees 1.75 crore to flash flood affected people of Ladakh. It is a donation to **Prime Minister's National Relief Fund**. Indo-Tibetan Border Police today came forward to help victims of cloud burst disaster of Leh which left more than 200 dead and many more homeless. **With such a gesture, the ITBP today became the first security force in India to have contributed funds for the victims in Leh.**

**Interacting with media** Shri Prithviraj Chavan, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, said “ **On behalf of Prime Minister I thank DG, ITBP, and entire family of ITBP for this generous gesture .”**

**Minister also said that dwelling units of processed bamboo panels are being built by Bamboo mission of his ministry at Leh .DG ITBP also informed that ITBP is also planning to use bamboo dwelling units at its mountainous border. The minister assured all assistance from his ministry.**

Jawans of ITBP have donated a part of their salary for Prime Minister's National Relief Fund. “The donations have been deposited in proportion to individuals' salaries, It is our humble contribution towards rehabilitation and reconstruction related to the devastation caused by the cloudburst in Leh (J&K) in the month of August 2010” said Director General, ITBP, R.K.Bhatia in the national capital today. Being deployed at high altitude in extreme cold conditions themselves , jawans of ITBP can feel the agony and problems of victims of Leh disaster.

As winter arrives early in Leh, all the houses destroyed in the Aug 6th devastation are required to be reconstructed within the next two-and-a-half months. ITBP is helping locals in clearing, restoration and construction of houses of victims. In Leh, the ITBP arranged for food, clothing and drinking water for the victims in its relief camps and residents of Choglumsar and Sabu villages. Despite the fact that ITBP buildings were also damaged and its jawans were also injured, they provided their own accommodation for the affected homeless villagers.

On Aug.6, around midnight, a cloud burst occurred in catchment area of Sabu nala and at about 0100 Hrs the fast flowing muddy water, debris and slush hit Sabu and Choglumsar village, ITBP campus and nearby downhill areas.

Leh has turned the highest Disaster ground. Carrying relief and rehabilitation work at altitude of more than 11500ft in the cold dessert and difficult climatic conditions of Leh is very difficult and dangerous. ITBP had established free food stalls and thousands victims got quality food and water from these stalls. ITBP launched an extensive search and rescue work at the same time. All the battalions of ITBP under command of Sector DIG(LEH) of ITBP pressed their Integrated Search and Rescue team in the relief work.

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