



# Prashanthi Council

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## Floods in North India

From June 14-17 2013, the states of Uttarkhand and Himachal Pradesh in Northern India suffered devastating rainfall, floods and landslides. Over 100,000 people have been rendered homeless and over 1,000 people have died as a result of this. About 70,000 pilgrims and tourists have been stranded. Although some have been rescued, tens of thousands are still trapped and need to be rescued. Food and essential supplies have to be transported to starving and suffering survivors. Roads, homes, water supply, medicines, transportation channels and basic infrastructure need to be rebuilt, supplied and established.

### Current Relief Efforts

The Sathya Sai Service Organization in India began delivering relief to the affected areas immediately following the disaster. A two-phase relief operation is currently underway. The first phase provides assistance to pilgrims and villagers who have been evacuated from the affected areas. Generous amounts of food, blankets, clothes, medicines, cell phones and water proof tents are being distributed. In addition, post-disaster counseling is being provided for the victims. Numerous relief centers have been set up and these centers not only cater to the victims, but also to their relatives and friends who are trying to locate and find their loved ones.

In the planned second phase, villages will be adopted and infrastructure developed to deliver complete holistic care to fulfill the needs of the local population. A detailed survey of the villages will be conducted and a rehabilitation plan developed respecting local ecological, safety and environmental compatibility. Orphanages and shelters will be constructed and staffed as needed.

### How We Can Help

Many Sathya Sai devotees and officers of the Sathya Sai International Organisation have already expressed a desire to help in the ongoing relief efforts and actively participate in the noble work. The Sathya Sai International Organisation has vast experience in disaster relief operations, which it has successfully conducted in several countries. Since the time the floods began their destructive rampage, I have been in touch with the All-India President of the Sathya Sai Organization, Mr. V. Srinivasan regarding relief efforts. Mr. Srinivasan graciously welcomed the support of the Sathya Sai International Organisation. However, at present, the Sathya Sai Trust of U.P., India, is not authorized to receive foreign funds directly for the relief projects.

The Sri Sathya Sai World Foundation (SSSWF) is a registered non-profit charitable organization in the U.S.A., which directly supports the work of the Sathya Sai Organization throughout the world including India. Therefore the SSSWF, which has established channels to support the work of the Sathya Sai Organization in India, now is ready to help them in their relief efforts. Those wishing to contribute to the Sathya Sai Organization for the ongoing relief efforts in Uttarkhand, may kindly send their check to Sri Sathya Sai World Foundation.

These funds will be directly given to the legal entity of the Sathya Sai Organization in India to help with their continuing relief efforts.

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Those Sathya Sai devotees and National Sathya Sai Organizations who participate should do so with the knowledge and guidance of their respective Zone Chair so that we can ensure proper accountability of receipt and disposition of funds. For wire transfer to Sri Sathya Sai World Foundation the wire instructions are as follows:

**Domestic wire transfer instructions**

ABA/Routing#: 026009593

To: Bank of America, N.A.  
100 West 33rd Street  
New York, NY 10001

Account: 6550113516  
Name: Merrill Lynch  
Merrill Lynch Account: 6LX04058

**International wire transfer instructions**

SWIFT-BIC: BOFAUS3N

Credit to: MERRILL LYNCH  
Bank of America N.A.  
100 West 33rd Street  
New York, NY

Account: 6550113516  
Name: Merrill Lynch  
Further credit to name of: Sri Sathya Sai World Foundation, Account#: 6LX04058  
225 S. Lake Ave  
Pasadena, California 91101  
(626) 356-2013

**Kindly send the detail address and email of the donor when sending wire transfers to SSSWF.**

If you are sending a check please make the check payable to “Sri Sathya Sai World Foundation” to the address given below:

P.O. Box 660995  
Arcadia, California 91066-0995  
USA

This is the time for support and cooperation with our Indian brethren to bring relief and peace to the large community in Northern India devastated by the floods and landslides. We will continue to keep you informed of the progress of relief efforts. Let us all pray for Bhagawan’s grace to be showered upon all those who are suffering from this natural disaster and to bless us with the wisdom and strength to serve those in need.

Jai Sai Ram,  
Lovingly in the service of Sai,  
Narendranath Reddy MD  
Chairman, Prashanti Council