

## **Malaysian Volunteers To Help Nepal Quake Victims**

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KATHMANDU, May 23 (Bernama) -- Several Malaysian non governmental organisations (NGOs), institutions and individuals have volunteered in rescue and relief operations in Nepal after the April 25 earthquake and contributed various relief materials to the victims.

According to a statement from the Malaysian embassy here Mercy Malaysia had been providing medical services to earthquake victims in Sankhu since April 28, while medical teams and volunteers from Kelab Putera 1Malaysia and GEC Medial assisted with medical treatment in Kavre and Sindhupalchowk districts from May 2 to 9.

The Malaysian groups and individuals also distributed blankets, tents and dry food items to victims in several worst-hit villages of Kavre and Sindhupalchok and donated medical items, worth about US\$150,000, to Dhulikhel Hospital, it said.

Other Malaysian contribution includes 300 units of tents/tarpaulins and 100,000 doses of ATT drugs with cooperation from Nepalese Ministry of Health and Population; almost 1,200 kg of blankets and dry food, which was donated by several Malaysian entities and Non-Resident Nepali Association (NRNA) Malaysia.

Those materials were handed over to chief district officer of Kathmandu Ek Nath Aryal to be distributed to the earthquake victims.

The transportation and shipments of all these relief items from Kuala Lumpur to Kathmandu had been arranged with the coordination and contribution from the Malaysian National Security Committee and Malaysian-based airlines, said the statment.

Kelab Putera 1Malaysia is donating 10,000 more blankets and 3,000 tents to Nepal in stages - due to the very packed cargo schedules heading to Kathmandu from all regions.

"Half of the items have already arrived and been handed over to the government of Nepal directly to its one stop centre collection unit at the airport, managed by the Ministry of Home Affairs and Nepalese Army," the Malaysian embassy said.

Volunteers from Yayasan Amal Malaysia and several other NGOs also assisted Nepalese authorities and groups in relief distribution and rescue works in some earthquake affected districts, in addition to directly donating various relief and medical items to the communities.

The Malaysian embassy has been assisting and coordinating such efforts with the help from the Nepalese authorities, and is expecting more consignments/contributions from Malaysia to arrive here.

Nepal has hailed the international community including Malaysia for their prompt response and support in rescue and relief works after the April 25 earthquake measuring 7.9 in the Richter scale that killed more than 8,600 people and injured over 21,000.

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