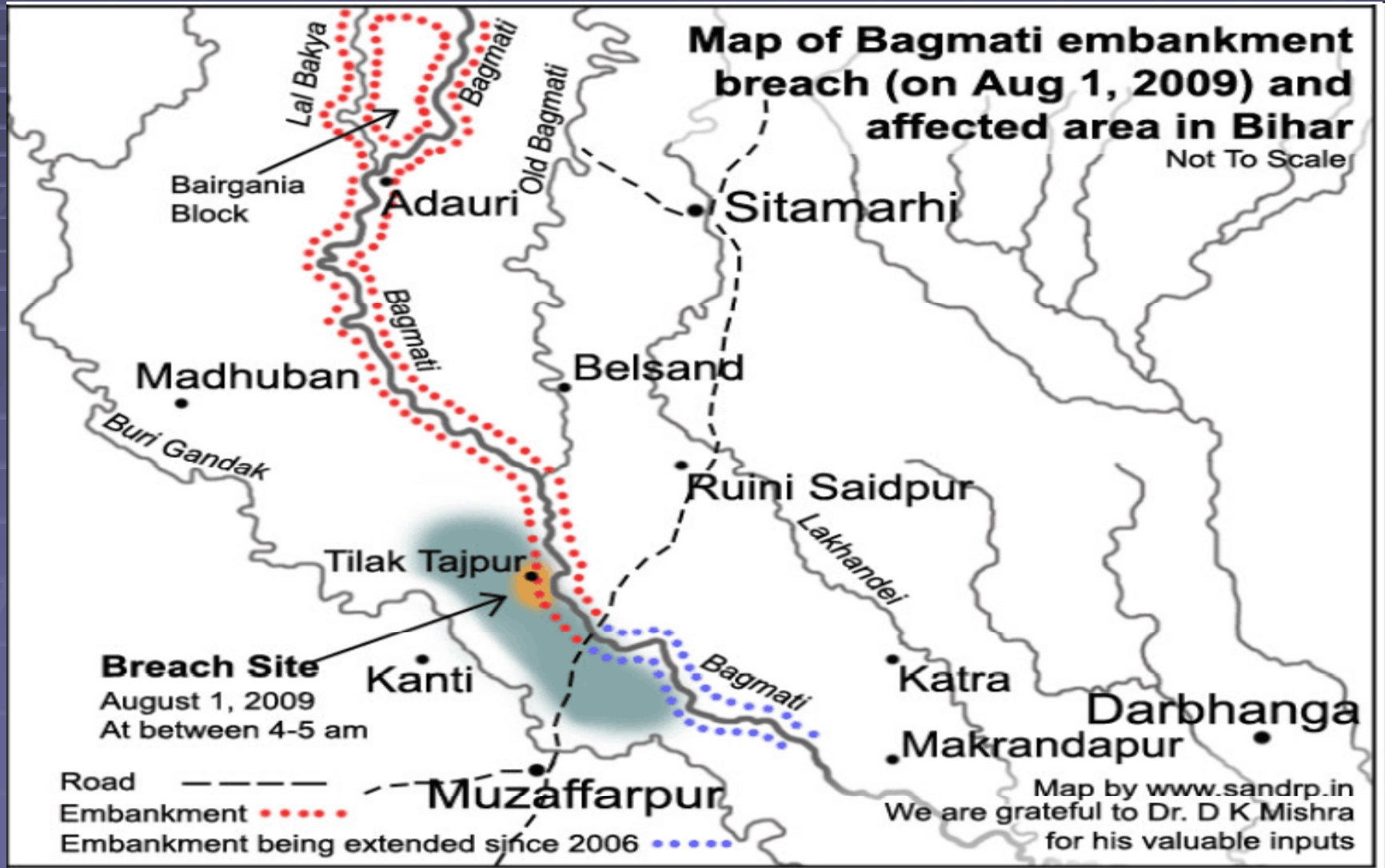




# BIHAR

A State of Self Induced Tragedy

# FLOOD PRONE AREAS...



## ABOUT NORTH BIHAR...

- North Bihar has an area of about 5.4 million hectares
- Playfield of ten major rivers – Ghaghra, Gandak, Burhi Gandak, Adhwara group of rivers, Bagmati, Kamla, Bhutahi Balan, Kosi, Mahananda, and Ganga.
- 16.5 per cent of the total flood affected area of the country is in Bihar
- 57 per cent of the total floods affected people in the country belong to Bihar. Out of which 76 per cent reside in north Bihar
- In between 1979 and 2006, floods of varying intensity have ravaged Bihar on an annually recurrent basis affecting on an average an area of 1.39mha, a human population of 7.71million and a livestock population of 1.55million per annum.
- Crop losses have been on an average to the tune of Rs 1423.33 million per annum and that of public property to the tune of Rs 568.30 million.
- Loss of human lives has been on an average of 210 per annum and that of livestock at 680 per annum.

## Current Situation...

Parts of **Sitamarhi district** of Bihar is under the grip of floods with a major breach of 60 meters on the right embankment of Bagmati river near Tajpur village of Runnisedpur block on 1st August' 09.

The breach which is about 6 km up stream of Kataunjha Road Bridge on National Highway-77 has disrupted the road communication between Muzaffarpur and Sitamarhi near Koati (about 17 km from in Sitamarhi) due to overflowing of flood water.

The flood affected villages under Runnisedpur block are - Tilaktajpur, Maanpur Ratnawali, Rupauli, Raipur, Hardiya, Govind Pithaujiya, Mahesha Phadakpur, Kohahi, Badheta, Bishunpur, Siskhiriya, Neuri, Batrauli, Hazipur Basant, Bishanpur, Korlahiya, Moran, Olipur & Gaus Nagar.

## BIHAR FLOOD : An Update Context

The flood situation has worsened in northern Bihar's Sitamarhi and Muzaffarpur districts as relief and rescue operations have been badly hit by continuous rains and rising water levels. The overflowing Bagmati River has submerged several villages and many villagers have been forced to leave their homes to seek a safer shelter. The river had breached its embankment on Saturday. Officials said the flood waters flowed down to Aurai and Katra blocks of Muzaffarpur district worsening the situation. The flood fury was tamed at the breach site at Tilak Tajpur village in Runisaidpur block after a relentless 24-hour work by nearly 800 labourers, who put boulders and nylon crators into the water to plug the breache..

In Aurai block of Muzaffarpur district, where 1.95 lakh people have been affected, flood waters have receded from most areas and people have started returning to their homes. However, it may take a few more days for the people of Katra block and areas under the Hathauri police station to return to their houses.

Mukhiya of Katra panchayat Devendra Sahni told TOI that over 300 displaced families had taken shelter in Sakri middle school and a village haat. He said the situation in Basghatta panchayat areas was extremely deplorable.

## Contd...

Sitamarhi DM Anjani Kumar Verma said on 5 Aug '09 that over 20,000 affected people were still taking shelter on the embankment and roads.

The NH-77 was under two feet water at Kauahi village which disrupted movement of vehicles between Muzaffarpur and Sitamarhi.

Official source said over 50 villages in Sitamarhi and Muzaffarpur districts have been affected by flood waters of the Bagmati. About 30,000 people have taken shelter on embankments and roads near Runnisaidpur.

The DM said the administration had prepared list of 12,639 flood-affected families of Tilak-Tajpur, Barhaita, Madhaul-Sani, Mahesa, Runnisaidpur south and Sirkhiriya panchayats and they would be receiving one quintal of grain and Rs 250 cash from their panchayats starting Wednesday.

CM Nitish Kumar, who along with chief secretary Anup Mukherjee and other senior officials made an arial survey of the flood-affected villages in Runnisaidpur (Sitamarhi) and Aurai (Muzaffarpur) blocks during the day, held a review meeting on relief and rehabilitation on a school campus in Runnisaidpur. The CM is understood to have issued strict instructions to officials to save villagers and provide relief marooned people.

## The status of the major rivers of Bihar as on 2nd August 2009 is as follows:

River name	District	WI (M)	DI (M)	AI (M)	Difference (AI-DL) M	Forecast	Time	Trend
Kosi	Khaghararia	32.85	33.85	33.68	-0.17	33.79	06:00 AM	<b>Rising</b>
Kosi	Supaul	46.75	47.75	47.93	.18	47.86	10:00 PM	Steady
Kamla Balan	Madhubani	49	50	50.5	.5	49.85	04:00 PM	Falling
Mahanada	Katihar	30.4	31.4	30.58	-0.82	30.45	10:00 PM	Steady
Mahanada	Purniya	34.65	35.64	35.00	-0.65	35.9	06:00 AM	Steady
Bagmati	Muzaffarpur	47.68	48.68	49.29	0.61	49.29	06:00 AM	Steady
Ghaghra	Siswan	56.04	57.04	56.06	-0.02	55.94	04:00 PM	Falling
Adhwara Group	Darbhanga	49	50	49.51	-0.51	50	06:00 AM	<b>Rising</b>
Ganga	Muzaffarpur	53.41	54.41	53.38	-0.03	53.45	04:00 PM	Falling

WI = Warning Level; DI = Danger Level; AI = Actual Level



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WHERE NEXT??