

City doctors rush relief to flood-struck states

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CITY OF ANGELS

Mumbai: The regions of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and the border districts of Maharashtra that were struck by floods are now

going to get some help from doctors of Mumbai. Members of Doctors For You, a social organisation, are preparing to go themselves in flood-struck areas in batches and are collecting essentials that the city can give to the people who have lost everything due to the natural calamity.

"We are waiting for a report from flood-struck areas, so that we know how many doctors are required in which districts. We are planning to start sending batches of doctors to the areas within the week. A truck full of relief material has already been sent to Karnataka last week. Now we are collecting more," said Dr Puneet Sharma, a member of Doctors For You.

Doctors For You, an organisation that was formed three years ago, had also helped last year during flood-relief activities in Bihar, in which they contributed 18 tonne of relief material and sent 110 doctors to various relief camps. The doctors examined more than 1,03,056 patients in a period of six months in the Bihar floods.

"Last year, some people had given tattered clothes, which were unfit for use. One has to realise that when we help the people in need, it should be whole-hearted and not so as to remove waste material from home. When calamity strikes, rich and poor are struck equally. So not everybody is ready to take torn clothes as help," said a doctor.

"As of now, any kind of contribution is welcome. We need medical and paramedical volunteers for a minimum period of a week. Along with clothes, ration, general medicines, bed-sheets, blankets, cooking and water storage utensils, we also need everyday things like baby milk powder, tarpauline and plastic sheets, ropes, lanterns, candles, matchbox, torch and