

Flash Update – Badakshan Earthquake #1

Islamabad, 26 October, 2015

A powerful earthquake struck Badakshan Province in Afghanistan today and also affected a large area of Pakistan. According to the US Geological Service the magnitude 7.5 quake struck at 09:09 UTC (UTC), was 196 kilometers (121 miles) deep, and the epicenter was 82 kilometers southeast of Feyzabad, Afganistan in the Hindu Kush mountain range. Considerable shaking was felt in Khyber Paktunkhwa (KP), the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA), Pakistan Administered Kashmir, Punjab, and Balochistan as well as in the capital Islamabad.

Initial media reports indicate at least 110 people have been killed in Pakistan with 94 of those fatalities occurring in Khyber Paktunkhwa (KP). An additional 1000 are reportedly injured. The Chief Minister of KP has declared an emergency as a precautionary measure and provincial and district authorities are currently conducting damage assessments. Hospitals are on alert in KP to receive the estimated 600 injured.

United Nations agencies are mobilising emergency stocks as a preparatory measure in case support is required. The United Nations and its humanitarian partners stand ready to support the Government’s ongoing relief effort for the people affected by the earthquake and mobilize any support, if requested.

