Sewa International Coordinates Rescue of 100 People from Hospital Rooftop

"Please help…. No response from the authorities" was the distress call received at 3:10 pm EST, August 18 by Sewa International volunteers in the US. Over 100 people had been stranded on the rooftop of the Thiruvalla Chethenkery Government Hospital in Chengannur, Kerala, with no food or water. The stranded victims had spent hours trying to contact the authorities, to no avail. Some of them needed urgent medical treatment, and the flood waters were rising by the hour, as was their anxiety and desperation.

On receiving the request on the Sewa Hotline number, volunteers in the US contacted the Tiruvalla Indian Military Naval Team hotline through our volunteer team on the ground in Kerala and also shared the GPS coordinates. The Naval Team communicated that they were getting a big boat ready for the rescue. Within an hour they got back with the good news -- the rescue operation was successful, with no casualties. Across 10,000 miles, with real-time communication by a team of dedicated Sewa volunteers, one hundred people were rescued from impending tragedy.

Kudos to these dedicated volunteers.

Representative picture