

Oct. 2010



CARE FOR COWS

I N V R I N D A V A N

SRI YAMUNA FLOODS

MUD, MUD, MUD

ANOTHER AMPUTEE





Care for Cows in Vrindavana
is inspired by His Divine Grace
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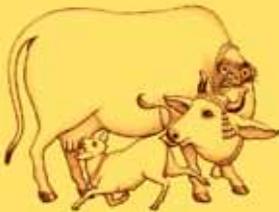
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CARE FOR COWS

IN VRINDAVANA

careforcows.org

Jaya Sri Guru! Jaya Sri Gopala!
Jaya Sri Go Mata!

Dear Friends,

Peacefulness is a symptom of *sattva guna*, the mode of goodness. Cows are by nature peaceful. Man, under favorable circumstances can be peaceful, but under unfavorable circumstances fails to be.

Environment has a great effect on the behavior of man yet seems to have less of an effect on cows. Anyone who has visited India has seen how a cow can sit in the street amidst hectic traffic and ruminate with half-closed eyes just as serenely as if she was in a remote pasture.

Cows are peaceful despite the injustices man has foisted upon them. They are fixed in peacefulness.

This past month of heavy rains we saw how our herd tolerated having their space reduced by more than half, the extreme discomfort of standing in mud for hours at a time and of having no dry place to sit.

Since we are largely affected by our environment, one of the great benefits of cow protection is that their peacefulness wears off on us. Being around cows makes one peaceful, and peacefulness is one of the basic ingredients in the recipe of happiness. Makes you wonder who's protecting who?

The CFC Staff

Care for Cows in Vrindavan is a Charitable Trust registered in India, USA, Holland and Switzerland.

~ PORTRAIT OF THE MONTH ~



~ FLOOD VICTIM ~



SRI YAMUNA FLOODS H

Due to heavy rains, both the rivers Ganga and Yamuna were in full flood. Heavy rains in the mountains and in particular Haryana forced the government to open the flood gates in dams causing excess water to be released into the already swollen Ganga and Yamuna Rivers. On several occasions, more than seven hundred thousand cusecs of water were released from the Hathinikund barrage (Dam) in

Haryana. The water level rose to an unprecedented danger levels in Delhi, causing some suburbs along its course to be flooded. I

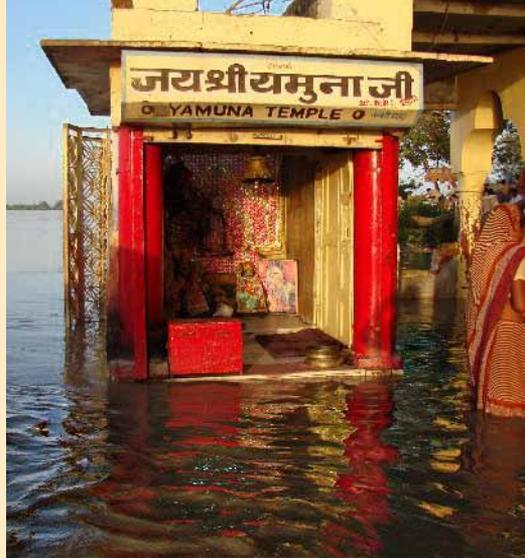
n the last 40 years, this region had witnessed floods in 1967, 1971, 1975, 1976, 1978, 1988, 1995 and 1998, the flood in 1978 being the highest and most damaging. However, this year's flood is said to be similar in extent.

It takes about two days for



HER BANKS

by Krsna Chandra Dasa



water to come from the mountains to Delhi and about another day for it to reach Vrndavan, swelling Yamunaji, causing her to spill her banks and flood into low lying areas of Vrndavan Town.

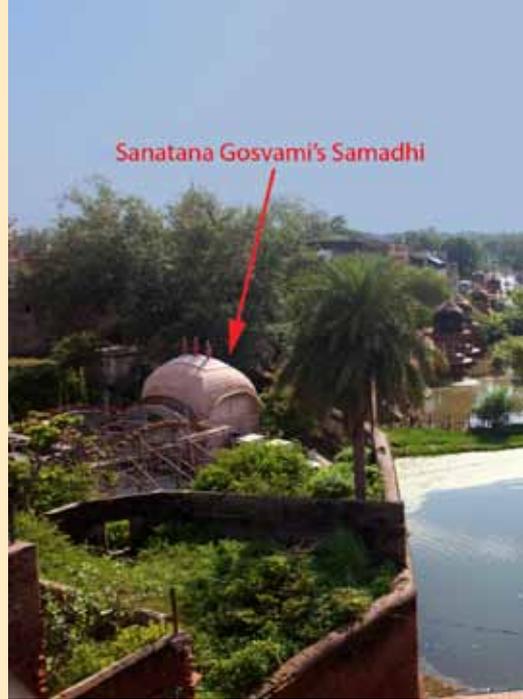
The unfortunate aspect of the Yamuna flooding to this scale is that these waters wash away many of the crops growing along the flood plains which will end up making the cost of food rise on top of already heavily inflated and unregulated prices. This, coupled



with the loss of homes and furnishings, will go on to make many thousands of struggling residents of the Holy Dham suffer even more.

The waters rose further due to more water being shed from the dams. Dependent on rainfall in the upper regions and should the heavy rainfall continue, we can expect more flooding in the near future but as it stands the water levels are dropping.

Many Indians are seeing this flood as an act of God and are upset that the Government is moving slowly in providing the much needed aid to the many suffering people affected by the flood.

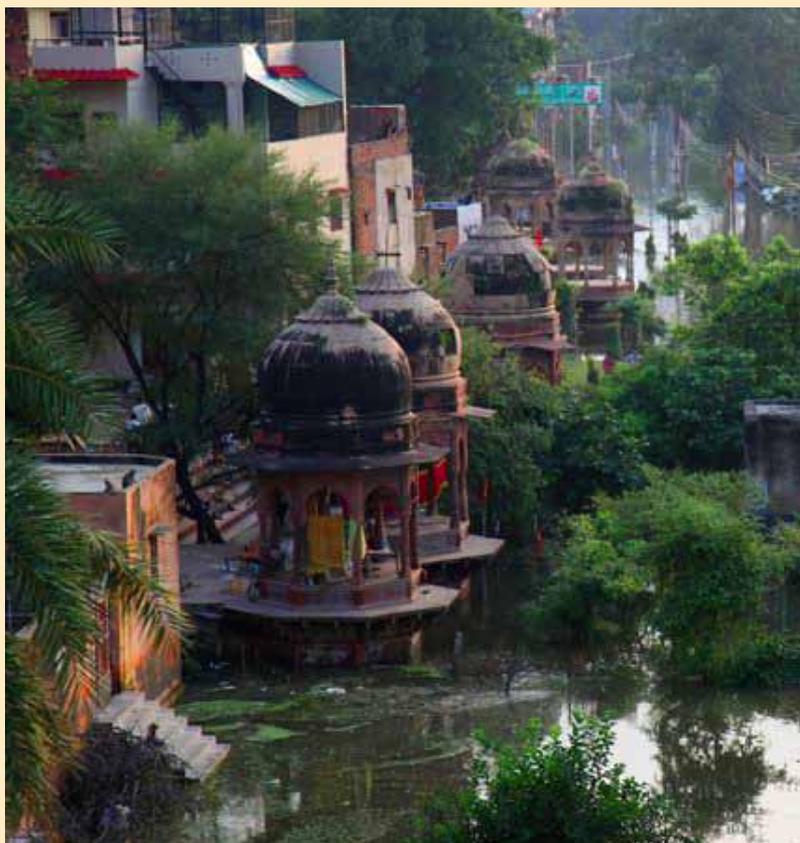


**View of the flood plains
opposite Madan Mohan Temple**

The residential area opposite Madan Mohan Temple



Parikrama Marg at Madan Mohan Temple



The old ghats along the parikrama Marg are once again filled.



Chir Ghat where Krsna stole the gopis clothes



One of the roads to Loi Bazaar from

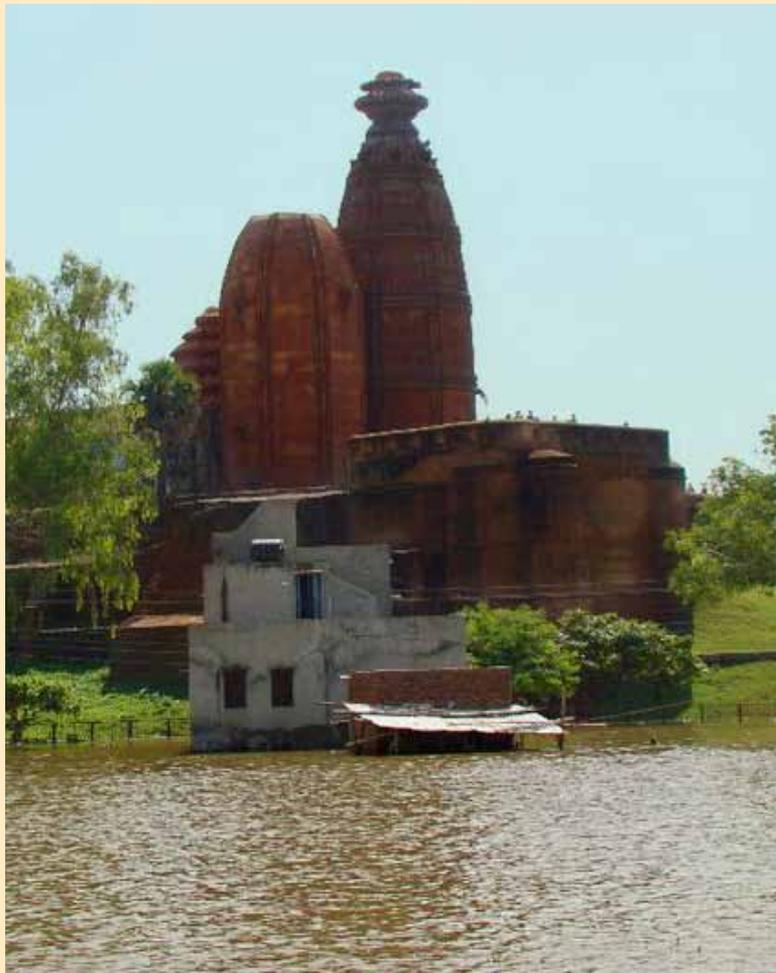




Chir Ghat



Flooded residents opposite Madan Mohan Temple





Vrindavan Parikrama Marg



Kes





Parikrama Marg near Gopinath Bhavan



i Ghat





Many villages in the Vrindavan area flooded and the residents were forced to vacate their homes with their personal belongings, cows, buffaloes and goats.

RIGHT: Much of the wheat hay is stored in straw cylinders in the fields surrounding the villages. The loss of this cow fodder has already driven up the price of hay to unprecedented prices.



Herds of buffaloes now graze in the Raman Reti area and gather on unused land in the evening to rest.



As of October 1, 2010 the waters are receding and it is expected that we will be back to normal in ten to fifteen days.





Vrajabasis offering prayers to Sri Yamuna at Kesi Ghat



The evening arati to Sri Yamuna has to be offered two hundred meters upstream from Kesi Ghat

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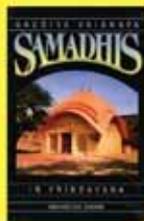
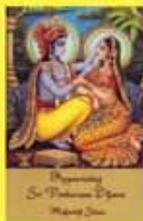
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**MUD, MUD, MUD
EVERYWHERE MUD**





While the flood waters of Sri Yamuna reached within two hundred meters of Care for Cows, She did not bless us with a visit. Still it seemed that the heavy monsoon rains would never end.

Owing to the raising of the level of the road in front of our facility much water washes in from there and fills the front barnyard. Since we have slow drainage the feeding and resting areas flooded and with the cows sloshing around the mud mixed with cow dung and urine became churned... something like spinach souffle but sticky.

We were warned that the conditions were ideal for an epidemic of Foot and Mouth Disease and/or hoof rot. We tried our best to force other members of the herd to join the 120 who go out to pasture daily but they were reluctant.

Each day our staff would scrape clean the bricked area so the cows could have a semi-dry place to rest at night. But the monsoon rains often came at night, one time for eight hours straight, forcing the herd to stand for hours.

Owing to the installation of the sewage line the road in front of our facility was largely dug up and difficult to navigate. It was possible to get fodder only by horse





cart. Because of the heavy rains fresh buckwheat was often impossible to harvest and consequently getting the daily requirements of food for the herd was a challenge.

The mud was so sticky that it was impossible to wear shoes so our staff had to go barefoot. The 4:00 am feeding was the most difficult to accomplish as often the rain would cause power failures and the staff had to march through mud eight inches deep holding flashlights to reach the feeders. After several days of exposure to mud, our staff members' feet started to crack and get infected. Several of the cows and staff members got fever from the severe exposure to the elements. It is amazing that we did not suffer more serious damage.

Several *goshallas* in the area flooded and cows had to be relocated. Our fellow *go sevak* and friend Ananda Gopal Maharaja had just opened a *goshalla* in Seo Gao (see our March 2009 Newsletter) and invited us to host some cows there. He sent two trucks and we managed to load twenty-nine reluctant residents and move them there. At present there is a temporary facility there and we hope to move more there as construction progress permits.





Ananda Gopal Maharaja's facility is near Deeg, Rajasthan. The area is largely rocky and free from mud. There are eight neighboring villages which provide all the things required for the protection of cows. There is an adjacent 2,500 acre hilly area for the cows to graze on making it quite an ideal natural habitat.





ABOVE: The temporary facility where 150 cows are hosted at present. They are taken out to graze daily. BELOW: Ananda Gopal Maharaja with one of the members of his herd.



ANOTHER AMPUTEE

This month we admitted only three new patients and two of them died. Below is a full-grown cow who was brought to us with her rear legs severely injured. One of them had to be amputated below the hock.

She is unable to get up or stand by herself. We are cleaning the stump regularly and hoisting her up for two hours at a time but she is not showing much improvement.



We admitted an infant Neel Gai (not shown) whose mouth was injured by jakals and he could not nurse properly. He died after three days.

We also admitted the four-month-old bull calf shown to the right and who is featured in the Portrait of the Month.

He was apparently washed out of a neighboring village and got separated from his herd and ended up at our front gate. He was anemic but very charming and we tried our best to revive him but he expired after ten days of care.



Thank You From the Cows



The cows send their heart-felt thanks to those who assisted during September 2010

Abhimanyu Dasa
Abhirama Dasa
Advanced Marketing Centre
Aleksy Tselikov
Alok Shenoy
Amit Goswami
Andrej Sušnik
Anna Palijcuka
Anonymous
Anshul Mehra
Argo Loopman
Arlene Sherbow
Asha Singh
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Venkata Venkateswaran
Vicki Knox
Vikas Shah
Vishal Gohel
Vishvambara Priya Dasi
Vyasapada Dasa
William Yeung
Yajnvalkya Dasa

May cows stay in front of me; may cows stay behind me; may cows stay on both sides of me. May I always reside in the midst of cows. —*Hari Bhakti Vilas* 16.252