

Jajarkot Earthquake

Situation Analysis Report - 04

November 7, 2023

Editor: Dr. Raju Thapa, DPNet



153 (83F / 70M)

Deaths



357 (211F / 134M)

Injuries



1170

**Completely Damaged
Houses**



7166

**Partially Damaged
Houses**

Source: Lok Bahadur Devkota, PEOC

Items requested from District Administration Office - Jajarkot

Item	Quantity needed
Blanket	10000 pcs
Bed Sheets	10000 pcs
Mattress	10000 pcs
Rice	10000 sack
Lentils	10000 sack
Oil	500 box
Salt	1000 kg
P-Foam (Mat)	5000 pcs
Tarpaulin	10000 pcs
Tent	1000 pcs

Livestock Damage in Jajarkot



10

Cow and Bull



138

Goat and Sheep



15

Buffalo



859

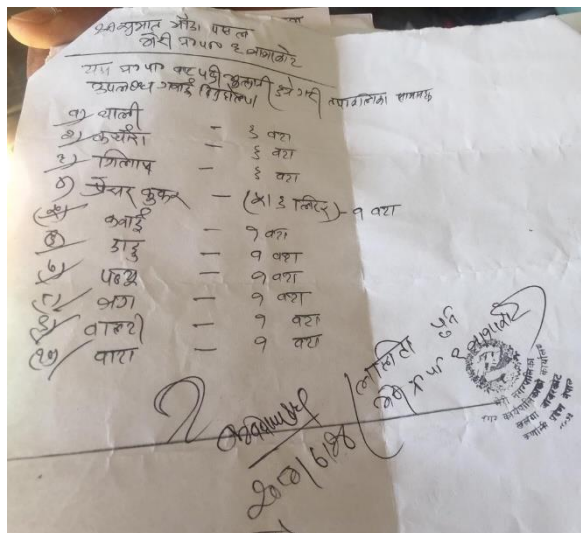
Poultry

This situation analysis report highlights the impact of the recent earthquake, detailing the immediate and ongoing relief efforts, as well as the challenges faced by the affected communities. Some Local Governments like Bheri Municipality have initiated a Cash Voucher Assistance (CVA) in Bheri Municipality to assist those impacted, focusing on the purchase of essential cooking utensils. The government has been implementing a one-door policy to streamline relief distribution and prevent misuse of resources. Market functionality remains stable in Khalanga, Jajarkot, with a steady flow of daily consumables, and relief distribution has been strengthened by aid agencies including the provision of medical supplies, tents, and blankets. The report also highlights the significant damage to the livelihoods of the people, affecting cattle farming, agriculture, and beekeeping, which are primary sources of income in the region. President Ram Chandra Paudel visited the affected districts to oversee relief efforts, emphasizing the government's commitment to aiding the impacted areas. Educational infrastructure has suffered immense damage, with hundreds of school buildings and classrooms destroyed, and a high child casualty rate has been reported, reflecting the vulnerability of children in disaster scenarios.

In addition to physical aid, there is an urgent need for psychological support for the affected individuals, especially children, who have been traumatized by the loss and devastation. The situation calls for the immediate construction of shelters, provision of food and medical supplies, and the establishment of child and women-friendly spaces to ensure the well-being and recovery of the affected communities. The report also highlights with a call for gender-inclusive measures in disaster risk reduction and emphasizes the necessity of continued support from both governmental and non-governmental agencies to rebuild and restore the regularity of life in the earthquake-stricken areas.

1. Cash Voucher Assistance Started

In response to the functioning markets, local authorities have initiated a cash voucher system to aid those impacted by the recent earthquake. Bheri Municipality has implemented this program, distributing vouchers this afternoon specifically for the purchase of necessary cooking equipment. Cash vouchers proving to be an effective method of delivering relief, offering a valuable lesson for development agencies and governmental bodies in planning and preparing for future disaster relief efforts. This approach not only facilitates immediate assistance but also supports the local economy and provides flexibility for the recipients to meet their unique needs. Such initiatives highlight the importance of adaptable and responsive support systems in times of crisis. Detailed updates on this initiative's progress and its impact on the community will be provided in subsequent situation reports.



2. One Door Policy

The government has decided to distribute relief through a one-door system, which is aimed at preventing the misuse of relief materials, as per officials. According to government plans, relief distribution will be centralized within three days, and then the assessment of the damage caused by the earthquake will commence. The focus is on swiftly providing temporary housing for those in need.

Development partners and assisting agencies operate within the framework of the DDMC utilizing the centralized "One-door Relief Collection/Distribution Center" located at the DAO in Jajarkot. This center serves as the hub for relief operations. Here, all donated goods undergo a thorough verification process, which includes both manual and digital registration. An Assistant Chief District Officer, Mr. Harish Chandra Sharma oversees the collection and verification of these relief items.



Once the goods are confirmed, they are collected at the center. The distribution process is initiated in response to requests for specific materials from individual communities, as conveyed by their respective representatives. It's important to note that, in emergency situations, some development partners and associations can only transport materials to affected communities after registering with the one-door system. This registration process ensures transparency and accountability in the distribution process, as all materials are recorded in a centralized data system before being dispatched to the communities in need. This system streamlines the relief efforts and helps ensure that the right aid reaches the right people during this critical time.

3. Market Functionality at Khalanga, Jajarkot



Stock of daily consumable products at market in Jajarkot; people buying products

After the recent Jajarkot earthquake, Khalanga's market remains relatively steady and functional, with limited stocks of everyday consumables and a small inventory of disaster relief supplies. Most stores are operating as usual, providing their regular merchandise for purchase. Fortunately, there are no signs of price gouging or illicit market practices, suggesting a fair and

ethical trading environment. The earthquake in Jajarkot has caused a surge in the demand for essential goods, raising concerns about the potential scarcity of these essential items as supplies dwindle due to increased consumption. Some unlabeled and expired rice bags are present. Government authorities have not conducted market monitoring. The available food relief items are somewhat limited, with most affected communities receiving rice bags but needing additional food packages. Market flows smoothly for the daily consumable goods (Food items). Some of the local market vendors are willing to provide amount of food items if they get the demand prior to 2-3 days as they require few days for transportation from markets of Nepalgunj and Surkhet to district headquarters of Jajarkot.

4. Livestock and Agriculture

The earthquake has a devastating impact on the livelihoods of the people in Jajarkot and Rukum, where the majority rely on cattle farming, agriculture, and beekeeping for their income. Over 900 households have been completely destroyed, and over 3,300 households have experienced partial damage,



affecting their agricultural activities and overall economy. Beekeeping, which is a primary income source for many in Bheri Municipality ward no. 1, Maide, has suffered significant losses due to the collapse of bee hives, leading to empty hives and economic instability. In addition to the damage to agriculture, livestock like goats, sheep, and chickens have been buried or collapsed due to collapsed structures, posing a significant challenge for rescue teams. Proper disposal and sanitation measures are essential to address these issues. Traditional food storage structures, including rice, grains, and maize stored in Bhakari, have been destroyed, making it difficult for people to retrieve trapped grains

As per Dr. Sushil Airi, Animal Development Officer, the region has suffered significant losses in terms of animal lives. The recorded casualties are as follows: 10 cows and bulls, 138 sheep and goats, 15 buffalo, and a 859 poultry. These losses have exacerbated the already critical situation, where both humans and animals are struggling to find enough food due to harsh weather conditions and dropping temperatures. Consequently, the immediate construction of shelters and the provision of essential resources, such as fodder and medicine, are of utmost importance. The Berekot municipality houses around 8,000 to 10,000 sheep and goats, and the production of milk and meat is expected to decline in Jajarkot due to limited manpower in the Bheri municipality and a shortage of agricultural veterinary services in Berekot and Nalgad Municipalities. Unfortunately, despite these challenges, the community remains less concerned about insuring their cattle, with most insurance being initiated in the first year and then discontinued. Insurance service providers struggle to reach farmers, and there is a pervasive lack of awareness regarding the importance of livestock insurance among the farmers.



5. President Ram Chandra Paudel, Visits Jajarkot

Honorable President, Mr. Ram Chandra Paudel, visits to earthquake-affected Jajarkot district on November 7, 2023. During his visit to Jajarkot Hospital, President Paudel reached Jajarkot Hospital and inquired about the condition of those injured in the earthquake. Those injured expressed their needs for medical treatment, sustenance, and rebuilding structures. President Paudel reassured them that necessary arrangements, including provisions for food and shelter, would be organized, and he pledged to discuss these requirements with the government.



President Ramchandra Poudel inspecting the structures damaged by the earthquake in Bheri Municipality-3 Upper Thaple of Jajarkot on Tuesday.

The Chief District Officer of Jajarkot, Mr. Suresh Sunar, provided the president with an overview of the extent of damage caused by the earthquake. Additionally, doctor at the hospital briefed President Paudel on the status of the injured.

Further plans included President Paudel's upcoming visits to Khalanga, Ramidanda, Nalagad, and Athbiskot in Rukum West to assess the ongoing relief and rescue efforts. Notably, the President had a scheduled trip to three European countries - France, Germany, and Italy - set for Wednesday. However, due to the earthquake, he decided to postpone this visit on Tuesday. His visit was accompanied by Deputy Prime Minister and Defense Minister Purna Bahadur Khadka, a State Member of Parliament from Jajarkot, and the Chief of Army Staff, highlighting the government's commitment to addressing the crisis. President Paudel's visit aimed to assess the relief and rescue efforts and understand the needs of earthquake victims in the region.

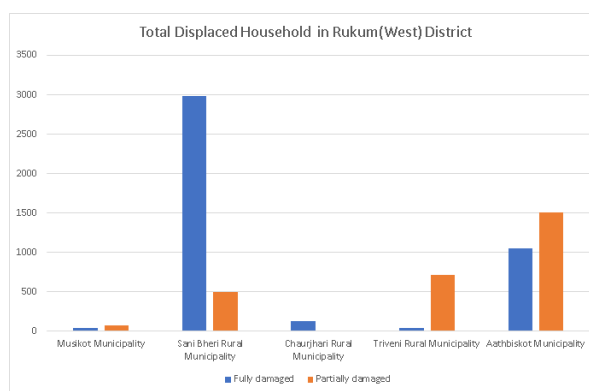
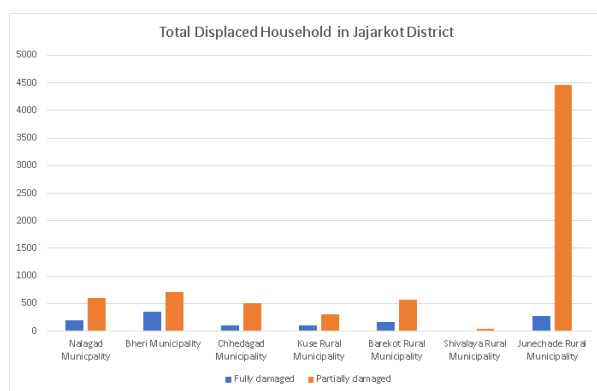
6. Government Relief Efforts

Minister of Energy, Water Resources, and Irrigation, Hon. Shakti Bahadur Basnet, emphasized the importance of immediate relief efforts, such as providing food, warm clothes, foam, blankets, and reliable shelter, following the Jajarkot earthquake. He also stressed the need for a collective, long-term commitment to rebuilding the damaged houses and supporting the families affected by this disaster. Minister Basnet called on government bodies, non-government organizations, institutions, and individuals to come together and provide assistance, highlighting the unity and support required to help those affected by the earthquake in Jajarkot.



Shakti Bahadur Basnet, minister of Minister of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation visiting the earthquake affected areas.

Hon. Krishna Bahadur G.C., the Minister of Internal Affairs and Law in Karnali, mentions there is an existing stock of relief materials in the province government's warehouses. However, due to coordination issues with the Ministry of Home Affairs, the province government faces challenges in effectively utilizing the required equipment in a timely manner. While the quantity of relief materials is sufficient, the lack of adequate transportation means has resulted in delays in the distribution program. Notably, 10,000 tents have been collected from various government and non-government agencies, with 3,000 tents already distributed to earthquake-affected areas, and 7,000 more route. Additionally, there is a plan to complete home reconstruction within one year, emphasizing the government's commitment to addressing the needs of the affected communities.



Total displaced Household (HH) in Jajarkot and Rukum (West)

7. Education

The recent earthquake in Barekot rural municipality of Jajarkot district has left an extreme impact on the educational infrastructure, with 92 school buildings severely damaged. The destruction extends to 366 classrooms, 43 toilets, 11 ICT units, 1 library and 4 solar systems. The shock has also resulted in partial damage to 257 school buildings, encompassing 476 classrooms and 90 toilets. The human toll includes the unfortunate loss of one teacher's life, injuries to two teachers, and the tragic deaths of 11 students, along with injuries sustained by 31 others. The scale of the damage underscores the urgent need for comprehensive responses to address the immediate challenges faced by the education sector in the region. To bring the educational system back to the regular routine, temporary learning centres are essential given the current situation. In order to create a strong and supportive learning environment,

psychological support programs should also be conducted in order to assist teachers and students in overcoming the trauma caused by the earthquake.

At least 415 schools are heavily affected in Jajarkot and Rukum West areas. According to the Ministry of Social Development of Karnali Province, 349 schools in Jajarkot and 66 schools in Rukum West have been completely or partially damaged. The Secretary of the Ministry, Bhojraj Kafle, informed that the initial information was received that about 100 schools were completely damaged. Along with the building, some schools' ICT labs, libraries, walls and teaching materials have also been damaged. The ministry has issued a circular to the education development and coordination unit in the district to send the details of the damage from the earthquake-affected districts by Tuesday.

Among those who died in the earthquake, 11 students including a teacher died in Jajarkot and 13 in Rukum West, according to the education unit there. Jajarkot Unit Head Ramesh Malla said that a teacher working in the private school died in the earthquake. He said that 2 teachers and 31 students were also injured. According to Malla, 366 classrooms of 92 school buildings in Jajarkot have been



completely damaged and 476 classrooms of 257 buildings have been partially damaged. The unit reported that 43 toilets were completely damaged and 90 were partially damaged. "Only the preliminary details of the damage to the school have come," he said, "We will take a decision on the operation of the school after the full details are received." There are 432 schools in Jajarkot. According to the unit, the ICT labs of 11 schools, one library, and fences of 7 schools and solar systems of 4 schools were completely damaged.

Rukum West Education Unit Head Tara Prakash Pun said that 3,600 students of 15 schools are affected. According to him, one teacher and one student were injured. 2, 4 and 6 storied school buildings have been completely and partially affected. "Details of the damage are being collected from the local level," Pun said, "Schools were on holiday in between two major festivals. "It is scheduled to operate from November 4. We will decide when and how to operate in coordination with the government. Rukum West has 288 schools in operation. Unit heads have said that alternative arrangements should be made to conduct classes in damaged schools.

8. Alarmingly High Child Casualty Rate in Recent Earthquake Tragedy

The latest data reveals a distressing statistic following the recent earthquake. Almost half of the total casualties resulting from the quake were children, as disclosed by the police. Out of the 157 individuals who tragically lost their lives on the night of November 3, 78 were children. Specifically, Jajarkot accounted for 50 of these child casualties, with an additional 28 in Rukum West due to the devastating quake, reported Deputy Superintendent of Police Santosh Roka.

District police chief Namraj Bhattarai further highlighted that in Rukum West, 28 out of the 52 deceased individuals were children. He emphasized the severity, stating, "Most of those lost in Rukum West were children, including two 10-month-old infants." As per data from the Jajarkot police, out of the 105 deceased individuals in the area, 50 were children, 33 were women, and 18 were men. Meanwhile, in Rukum West, the earthquake claimed the lives of 16 women and eight men.

9. Communication

Many buildings were rendered uninhabitable, Radio Samavesi Awaaj 102 Megahertz has been broadcasting critical information to the public in Rukum West via tents. Despite the challenging circumstances, the radio station has been consistently delivering updates and important details related to the Jajarkot earthquake to the affected people, ensuring that people are informed and can access vital information even while residing in tents. This has been a crucial communication lifeline for the earthquake-affected communities, helping them stay connected and informed during these trying times. The largest internet service provider in the nation, Worldlink, has offered free internet access to the Jajarkot neighborhood that suffered damage by the earthquake. Medicines, rice, oil, pulse, salt, noodles, blankets, and other relief supplies were given to the Jajarkot locals by Worldlink Communications. To ensure the continuity of information sharing in the affected areas, a free call and SMS service has been arranged in Jajarkot, Rukum West, and Rukum East districts for five days starting from Nov 04 2023.



10. Medical and Health

The psychological distress among the locals is intense with the series of aftershocks, especially in villages awaiting relief materials. The scarcity of medical resources has compelled the regular helicopter transfer of injured patients to Nepalgunj. Despite the presence of a 50-bed district hospital with an intensive care unit, the lack of doctors and necessary supplies has led people to seek medical care in Nepalgunj, increasing transportation expenses and diminishing confidence in the district hospital.



Following the aftershock, nine more injuries were reported, resulting in the referral of two patients to Nepalgunj Hospital while others have been discharged. Four specialized teams are slated to assess health conditions in the affected area this afternoon. UNICEF's donation of two medical tents to Nalgad and Barekot municipalities aims to improve medical facilities, yet the absence of makeshift health tents in the affected areas underscores the ongoing need for more resources to cater to evolving community health needs.

Although the Jajarkot District Hospital's infrastructure seems intact, former hospital head Navaraj Kandel highlights significant challenges: the lack of essential manpower, available beds, and necessary equipment in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) to effectively treat those affected by the earthquake.

11. Gender Disparities and Challenges Faced by Women and Children in Post-Earthquake Scenarios

Relief efforts by local government in Jajarkot claims that they have been distributing high-energy biscuits, and Horlicks but pregnant and lactating women expressed the need for a more diverse and nutritious diet, including cereals, rice, lentils, wheat flour, ghee, mustard, and sunflower oil to support their health and that of their unborn children. Gender disparities emerged in Bheri Municipality, Ward No. 1, 2, and 3, including inadequate toilet facilities, transportation infrastructure, shelter options, and sanitary facilities, making it challenging for women and children to access basic facilities and maintain personal hygiene during their menstrual cycle. Privacy concerns arose due to the shortage of tents, with women often sharing cramped living conditions with men. Immediate community needs include tents, dog tents, nutritious food supplies, sanitary napkins, skin care products, toilet cleaners, diapers, and woolen clothes for babies. Providing secure and suitable toilet facilities, safe shelters, and adequate sanitary resources is essential to ensure equal access to basic amenities for all community members and address gender disparities. Gender considerations in disaster risk reduction and women's empowerment are crucial in promoting gender equality and resilience-building for women and girls. Prioritizing gender-inclusive measures will contribute to a better world for all and mitigate the disproportionate impact of disasters on women and girls.



Lactating women, children and adolescent girls forced to live under tarpaulins and tents

12. Need of Child and Women Friendly Spaces

Children have suffered greatly from the recent earthquake; they make up over 50% of the injuries overall, with the districts of Rukum (West) and Jajarkot being most affected. The disturbing figures for Jajarkot indicate that 51 children—28 boys and 23 girls—have passed away, and another 34—11 boys and 23 girls—have suffered serious injuries. Comparably, the situation is terrible in Rukum West, where the earthquake claimed the lives of 9 boys and 20 girls and injured another 11 boys and 20 girls. These kids require more than just medical care as they urgently require high-nutrient food, adequate housing, warm clothes, and better hygiene and sanitation standards.

In order to prevent further harm and the formation of health-related emergencies, the local government must immediately supply these necessities to the children who are impacted. Numerous children have experienced trauma in the wake of the earthquake, having witnessed horrific incidents and the loss of homes and family members. Therefore, it is crucial for both the local government and various agencies to prioritize and address the emerging situation. The mental well-being of children affected by the earthquake is significantly compromised, given their exposure to distressing events and the presence of dead individuals in their immediate surroundings. The impact is further intensified by the reality that some children have not only lost their homes but also their family members. Recognizing the profound psychological toll



Child staying under tarpaulin sheet

on these young minds, urgent and focused attention is required to provide the necessary support and involvement to help them to handle the trauma and navigate the challenging path to recovery.

14. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

The Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) situation has become a critical concern in the wake of the recent earthquake, posing many challenges in the affected regions. Significant damage to the water infrastructure located approximately 5 km away from the Maide village caused by the dry landslide due to the seismic activity has resulted in interrupted water supplies and possible contamination of current water sources. The risk of waterborne illnesses is increased by inadequate sanitation facilities, which poses a serious risk to public health. UNICEF have provided 1250 hygiene kits, jugs and buckets in Jajarkot district. Same amount of material has also been distributed in Rukum West. The locals claim that it is difficult to provide water to their cattle because of the scarcity of water. The primary issue resulting from this is that the roads in those villages are in such poor condition that trucks transporting relief supplies are unable to enter them. The possibility of environmental contamination has increased due to the damage caused by the earthquake to sewage systems. International organizations, local authorities, and humanitarian groups are working collaboratively to implement these temporary solutions, recognizing the urgency in maintaining basic hygiene standards amidst the post-earthquake.

District	Coordinating Agency	Contact Number
Salyan	SUSWA	9857844550
Rukum West	UNICEF	9858085504
Jajarkot	HELVETAS	9857038727

Contact details for WASH cluster of Karnali Province

15. Relief Distribution and Response

Relief materials received from the Government of India, including items such as plastic tarpaulins, sleeping bags, blankets, tents, and medicines, have been dispatched to the earthquake-affected areas of Jajarkot and Rukum West through coordinated efforts involving the Nepal Armed Police Force and Nepal Police on 6th Nov 2023. Nalagad Municipality lying just an hour distance from headquarter is still facing delays in delivering supplies of food and non-food items to the majority of its wards, although tarpaulins and blankets have been distributed to each family in the affected areas in the first phase.



Women carrying relief materials distributed by local government.

UNFPA Nepal together with Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, UNFPA committed to support affected communities by providing prepositioned items including dignity kits for women, kishori kits for girls, winter kits, tarpaulins, solar lamps etc. Plan International Nepal has deployed a dedicated Emergency Response Team to Jajarkot, working tirelessly to assess the urgent needs of the affected communities through a Rapid Needs Assessment (RNA) in close collaboration with the government and other Civil Society Organizations, gathering vital information to create an effective response plan.



*Plan International team on ground for Jajarkot earthquake.
Photo credit: Deepa/Dipraj*



BlinkNow has provided 100 kits to 100 families, offering blankets, food, and coordinating emergency medical support and ambulance services. Additionally, they are sending medicine, kits, food, and drinking water to the affected people of Jajarkot and Rukum, liaising with local hospitals and District Administrative Offices to fulfill specific supply requirements. They also deploy paramedics, social workers, and counselors to


support patients at the Karnali provincial hospital. Mr. Prasanna Srivastava, Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of India in Kathmandu, officially presented the second consignment of 9 tons of vital emergency relief assistance to the Nepal Government. This consignment includes crucial medical and hygiene supplies, along with tents, sleeping bags, and blankets, to provide essential support to families affected by the earthquake in Nepal.

16. IRA Reports Published

The various IRA reports covering the period from November 3 to November 7, 2023, detailing the impact of earthquakes across various local governments of the earthquake affected districts. It includes information on affected regions, casualties, displaced families, and the destruction of houses. For instance, in Jajarkot, there are 101 casualties and over 20,000 families affected with significant infrastructural damage. The report also lists the needs and gaps such as the demand for non-food items (NFIs) due to increased household damages. The National Red Cross Society (NRCS) and District Emergency Operations Centers (DC/NEOC) have conducted Initial Rapid Assessments (IRAs) and are coordinating relief and rescue operations.

For a detailed report, you can click the link

- [IRA Report Aathbiskot, Rukum Paschim](#)
- [IRA Report Chaurjhaari, Rukum Paschim](#)
- [IRA Report Sanibheri, Rukum Paschim](#)
- [IRA Report Berekot, Jajarkot](#)
- [IRA Report Nalgad, Jajarkot](#)
- [IRA Report Shivalaya, Jajarkot](#)
- [IRA Report Chhedegadh, Jajarkot](#)
- [IRA Report Darma, Salyan](#)


नेपाल सरकार
गृह मन्त्रालय
राष्ट्रिय विपद् जोखिम न्यूनिकरण तथा व्यवस्थापन प्राधिकरण
प्रारम्भिक प्रतिवेदन
बिपद्को प्रकार : भूकम्प
जिल्लाको नाम : रुकुम पश्चिम
घटना घटेको मिति : २०८०/०७/१७
प्रतिवेदन प्रकाशन मिति : २०८०/०७/१९



 मृत्यु १२
 बेपत्ता ०
 घाइते ४७
 विस्थापित १२४६

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