

CONCEPT PAPER - FLOOD EMERGENCIES

Introduction/Background: The heavy torrential rains the Eastern Province had for the last two week has caused severe flush floods and affected the entire province resulting in displacement of thousands of families. The flush floods have also caused severe damages to hundred of houses, infrastructure facilities (bridges, link roads, electricity etc) thousands of acres of paddy fields and other crops cultivation including livestock.

Trincomalee district, particularly, the Kinniya, Muthur, Eachchalampathai and Thampalagam DS divisions being the final receiving points of all discharged waters from the other areas, Polannaruwa, Dambulla, Matale and Kandy, have been hardly hit by the floods. Most of low lying areas have been inundated and disconnected from the town. The families living in the low lying areas have been evacuated by the Navy boats to safer areas. Thousands of families so displaced have been kept in the temporary welfare camps, mostly at schools, and the rest of the families have sought refuge/shelter with relatives and friends. 922 displaced families have been housed at 13 welfare camps in Kinniya and 1439 families have been housed 12 welfare camps in Muthur. 400 families in Thampalagam DS division are kept in 07 welfare camps, and around 500 families have been housed 5 welfare camps in Eachchalampathai Ds division. The continuing bad weather also severely affected the day to day livelihood activities of thousands of families, particularly the poor families. The weather conditions still remain bad and if the rain continue the situation would become worse.

Assessment of the flood situation: The Kinniya Vision convened an emergency meeting and appointed an emergency team to assess the situation and prepare emergency response plan to address some of the urgent needs of the displaced families. Accordingly, the team visited the affected areas including all the welfare camps and also the discussed with local authorities. The following have been observed /identified and recommended by the Emergency team:

Emergency response by the Government up to date: All respective Divisional Secretariats have been able to arrange the temporary camps for the displaced people and collected the details of displaced families. They also coordinated with the Navy to evacuate the stranded people from the low lying areas. The main emergency assistance so far provided to displaced families is provision of cook meals, rice, dhal, sugar and oil, only to those who are staying at welfare camps. The families staying with relatives and

friends have been given nothing by the government. Local Authorities also worked with local politicians to clean up the drainage systems and repair some damaged roads to help discharge the waters and to facilitate the transportation. Kinniya Divisional Secretary has informed us that he had contacted many local and international NGOs and requested for assistance to support displaced people. It is reported that so far nobody responded.

Emergency response by the NGOs/Civil Societies: Staff members of some NGOs, SLRC, DRC, Oxfam GB and SCinSL have been visited the flood affected areas and held discussion with local authorities and all are still engaged in initial assessment. No one has so far provided anything to affected families. The local NGO, the Jamath – E – Islami has made a public appeal to donate food and non food items from the public ands are engaged in house to house collection.

Emergency needs identified by the team:

Food items:

1. Rice
2. Wheat flour
3. Dhal
4. Sugar
5. Tin fish
6. Coconuts
7. Vegetables
8. Milk powder
9. Tea
10. Jam
11. Biscuits

Non food items:

1. Tents
2. Plastic mats
3. Bed sheets/.Blankets
4. Soaps
5. Mosquito nets
6. Mosquito coils
7. Sleepers

Special items for children and women:

1. Water bottles
2. Infant milk powder
3. Infant biscuits
4. Hot/rubber sheets for babies
5. Cortex for women
6. Towels
7. children cloths
8. Medicines

Tentative Budget (Budget per week) required address urgent needs:

CODE	Name of Items	Qty/ Type	Unite	Unite price	Sub Total	Total
A	<u>Food Items</u>					
A.1	Rice	Kg	5	70.00	350.00	
A.2	Wheat flour	Kg	2	70.00	140.00	
A.3	Dhal	Kg	1	150.00	150.00	
A.4	Sugar	Kg	1	110.00	110.00	
A.5	Tin Fish	No	2	150.00	300.00	
A.6	Coconut	No	2	50.00	100.00	
A.7	Tea (250 g)	Pkt	2	110.00	220.00	
A.8	Milk powder(500 g)	Pkt	1	300.00	300.00	
A.9	Jam	Bottle	1	175.00	175.00	
A.10	Vegetable Oil - 500g	Bottle	1	400.00	400.00	
					2,245.00	
	Families	Nos	3500	2245.00	7,857,500.00	7,857,500.00
B	<u>Non food Items</u>					
B.1	Tents	No	1	2,500.00	2,500.00	
B.2	Plastic mats	Nos	3	225.00	675.00	
B.3	Bed sheet	Nos	2	400.00	800.00	
B.4	Detrol shop	No	6	35.00	210.00	
B.5	Mosquito coil	Pkt	2	125.00	250.00	
B.6	Plastic buckets	Nos	1	300.00	300.00	
B.7	Sleepers	Pair	3	150.00	450.00	
					5,185.00	
	Families	Nos	3500	5185.00	18,147,500.00	18,147,500.00
C	<u>Special Items for children and women</u>					
C.1	Water - 5 Ltr	Bottle	1	175.00	175.00	
C.2	Infant milk powder- 500g	Pkt	1	400.00	400.00	

C.3	Hot sheer for babies	Nos	1	300.00	300.00	
C.4	Cortex for women	Pkt	2	90.00	180.00	
C.5	Penadol	Box	1	250.00	250.00	
C.6	Detol- 250ml	Bottle	1	190.00	190.00	
C.7	Plaster	Nos	10	5.00	50.00	
C.8	Towels	Nos	1	450.00	450.00	
					1995.00	
	Families	Nos	3500	1995.00	6,982,500.00	6,982,500.00
D	OPRATION COST					
D.1	Transport and Traveling Charges	-	1	100,000.00	100,000.00	
D.2	Packing Charge	-	1	100,000.00	100,000.00	200,000.00
Grand Total						33,187,500.00

Conclusion: The emergency responses by the government so far has not been faster and adequate. The standard approach such as only cook meals for the people who are at welfare camps is not effective enough to address issues faced by the displaced families. Families have been affected in many ways and their needs are different (aged, children, sick, and women and stranded people). Some of the stranded people, Majeed Nagar are unable to leave their village due to the reason of protecting their house hold items and livestock etc. are not given anything so far. They request dry ration since they are not given cook meals but their requests have been turned down, this is one example. No non food items are given by the government, the government should have given at least some urgent items to meet the requirements of children and women. The poor people, the fishermen and daily laborers are finding difficult to get their meals. They are unable resume their routine activities. But nothing has been given to them. The sad part of the story is they are not even feeling the seriousness of such needs.

The response by the local people and civil societies are also very slow and not much has been done by them up to date. Therefore, the recommendations made by our emergency team is a essential and if any donors/individuals are willing to partner with us in meeting the emergency needs of thousands of flood affected people we are ready extend our fullest cooperation in this regard.

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Bank Details:

Account Number :094-1001-4-0000260

Name of Bank :People's Bank, Kinniya.

Branch Code :094

Bank Swift Code :PS BK LK LX 023

Please see the annexure for further information and photos in this regard.

Annexure I Data sheet

Annexure II photos