

PROPOSAL FOR KERALA FLOODS - A REPORT

Kerala is experiencing the largest disaster of flood and land slide since 1924. The torrential rain since 10th May in sporadic places in Kerala and continuous rain since August first week accumulated huge rain water in several dams. Finally, on 10th August 34 of 42 dams were opened by the Kerala government. The state government informed electronic media, print media and used public-address system to inform all those who were to be affected regarding release the water. The river basin areas and houses were submerged with released water from the dams. Due to continuous rain, many hilly areas had devastating landslides. Many houses were fully damaged, many lives lost and agricultural land severely damaged due to the floods and landslide.







Total population of Kerala State: 17,455,506

One million people have been displaced, many of them taking shelter in thousands of relief camps across the state.



Around 350 lives were lost and the Government has calculated the total loss to be USD 300,000,000. Around 10,00,000 people had to seek refuge in relief camps and around 3000 relief camps were set up across the state in schools, Colleges, community halls, churches, mosques, temples etc.



Thirteen districts in Kerala were affected due to floods.

There is an urgent need for food aid as well as for logistical means to carry out the distribution of food and other relief items in the flooded areas. In order to prevent deterioration of the nutritional status of the most vulnerable population, these families require continued relief assistance.

Providing food items is not only for the people sheltered in relief camps but also for those who will be returning to their homes once the water levels recedes. Most of the vulnerable communities including tribal communities have lost forest land, their only sources of food and income. Due to the loss of harvest in the rural areas, in a period of two to three months from now, this lack of food production might generate a deficit in the food security conditions and have a potential negative impact on daily livelihood.

Agricultural activities have been severely affected by the floods. It is therefore important to help restore livelihoods through the promotion of short-term emergency agricultural activities (distribution of seeds, agricultural inputs and tools). There is severe shortage of cattle fodder. Most of the grazing lands were affected as they were submerged under water. Many people living in villages and other areas using well water for drinking find their water to be contaminated and unfit for drinking due to the accumulation of waste. Children have lost their educational materials. So there is need of providing study materials including uniforms to them. Many toilets were fully damaged by floods and landslides creating sanitation and health issues.

The Government along with the help of NGOs and the people is trying its best to handle the situation of the huge losses suffered and imminent issues once those living in relief camps try to get back to their destroyed homes.

Areas where SWYAAs can contribute:

The SWY Alumni across the world can contribute funds for the rehabilitation work that include restoration and ongoing sanitation work of houses, wells and toilets (requires huge amount of cleaning tools and materials), help the school going children with buying books, pencils, pens and other stationary materials, and help in providing food items and clothes to support the families till they get on their own feet.

We are planning to conduct a survey at some of the worst affected areas where our EXPYs are living, adopt some deserving families and concentrate in providing relief materials and manual help to help them get back on their feet and get to their normal lives at the earliest possible. In this work we would be joined by the “National Service Scheme” (NSS) Volunteers of colleges in these areas.

We plan to work in Thrissur district in Kerala with 400 families to support the school going children with buying books, pencils, pens and other stationary materials, and help in providing food items and clothes to support the families.

SWYAA-India appeals to SWYAA-International & AAs to donate and contribute for Disaster Relief Activities for Kerala, India.

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