

REPORT OF THE FLOOD RELIEF ACTIVITIES OF RECCA SEWA SOCIETY UNDER PHASE 3 & 4

The unprecedented floods disrupted normal life in Kerala necessitating large scale relief operation. RECCA SEWA SOCIETY, like other social organizations, also participated in remarkable relief operation. A detailed report of the activities carried out till then were presented in the executive committee meeting held on 4th September 2018. At that time phase 1 of our activities was over and phase 2 were in progress. Under phase 1 & 2 we distributed essential medicines, disinfectants like bleaching powder and Phenyl in bulk quantities to various district medical offices of affected area, installed 10 Nos. of solar powered battery chargers and also supplied 70 Nos. power banks offered by CISCO. We also distributed about 40 kits containing note books, pen, paya etc. in Kadungalooore area

PHASE 3

Visit to kuttanad area brought to light the immediate requirement of essential food materials like rice, sugar, tea, pulses etc to the people whose surroundings were still under water. So we decided to distribute kits of these essential items to those people in and around Kuttanad area. Under the name "Operation Kuttanad" we distributed, with help from Hashim, M K Balakrishnan, and groups of volunteers under leadership of Fr. Anup from Puthuppally church and Fr. Roni from Chennakari church, about 600 kits on 6th September. A second batch of 600 kits was distributed in Pulinkunnu area on 8th September with help through local police authorities. The materials for these kits were arranged by Hashim at much reduced rate. The total cost for the kit distribution is Rs. 4, 41,461 /-

PHASE 4

Survey of the most affected area as part of relief operation brought to notice that people lost most of the belongings. The condition of the low income groups is deplorable. They need 100 % support. The small scale agriculturists, mainly middle income group who had a reasonable good life were also affected badly. They not only lost or damaged their household items, but their agriculture crops were damaged severely and there is no scope of income in next six months. The social status prevents them from asking others for help.

One of the mostly needed item in almost all areas are mattresses which are irreparably damaged due to flood water, and no agency was distributing it. Also availability is less due to demand and also cost is high for the low and middle income groups. Our Bellezea group in Bangalore recognised this as one of the most urgently required item, identified a good manufacturer who agreed to supply on priority at very reasonable cost. Each mattress of size 4 inch costs only Rs. 290/- and a truck load can carry about 300 Nos. Assessment of requirement in each affected area is done by our members/ volunteers, Mr. P J Thomas of Chalakuddy area, Mr. Salil of NITCCA 94 of Alwaye, Parur , kalady area, Mr. Balakrishnan and Hashim of Kuttanad and surroundings. The schedule of distribution is as follow

1. First load distributed around Alwaye, Parur, Kalady area on 10th September 2018. Distribution coordination was done by Mr. Salil.
2. Second load of mattresses were distributed in Kuttanad area by Mr. Hashim on 16th September.
3. The third load was distributed in Kuttanad area on 21st September. Distribution coordinated by Mr. Balakrishanan.
4. The fourth load was distributed on 24th September. 50 nos given to an old age home at Athirappaly route by Mr. Saju , 100 nos at Chalakudy by P J Thomas, balance about 200 Nos at Koonamavu by Nejeeb, Alwaye by Ajitha, and Parur by Allen and all coordinated by Salil of NITCAA 94.
5. Considering the huge demand we are planning to have the fifth load to be distributed in Kuttanad area around 28th and a sixth load to be distributed at Alwaye parur area next week. With that we plan to conclude the Phase 4 activities.

Here we wish to mention about driver Appu. Our Bellezea group specially mentioned that compared to other drivers Appu, Truck No KL 44 A 566, was the most cooperative who singlehandedly went through the narrow and crowded streets of Bangalore and collected the medicines from three or four locations without any complaint. That is why for mattress distribution exclusively Appu is engaged. Similarly driver Mr Ratheesh who delivered medicine at Trichur, also needs a mention. On Uthradam day when none of the drivers were ready to take a trip, Ratheesh, who was engaged in cleaning his water tank filled with mud caused by the flood, came without any hesitation. All the trucks in the first day of distribution of medicines were arranged by Mr. Mohandas, President of NITCAA through his contacts.

Apart from the mattresses distribution there was an urgent demand for large quantity of Doxycycline tablets in Kuttanad area. To this, our Bangalore Bellezea group arranged about one lakh nos. of Doxycycline tablets and delivered to Dr. Anil.

Mr. Anil Nair of NITCAA 94 is trying to arrange some quantities of used but working computers and audio-visual systems from CISCO. These can be of good use to schools where these are damaged due to flood. Hard discs and operating systems are to be provided for them. Salil has identified some requirements from Parur area and Hashim has identified some requirements from schools in Kuttanad area. The modalities are being worked out and if possible we will start it as our Phase 5 operation

All these activities could be taken up by SEWA SOCIETY only because of the whole hearted donations and support from its members, members from NITCAA USA, NITCAA 94, NITCAA Singapore, Bellezea Housing Society Bangalore, Kerala Engineers Association in North America, St. Gregarious Church Bensalem, South Jersey Malayalee Association, AIMA Australia and other well-wishers. Apart from this the local volunteers, Church authorities, Police officials, local people all helped us a lot in carrying out the distribution without any complaints and trouble. RECCA SEWA SOCIETY expresses our deep appreciation and thanks

After completing our flood relief activities we will be presenting a comprehensive report. In this report we will be specially highlighting all those who have contributed, participated or helped us in any way in the flood relief activities. Also a consolidated statement of receipts from individuals and organizations and total expenditure will be attached.

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SECRETARY
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