



**GOVERNMENT OF KERALA  
DISASTER MANAGEMENT (A) DEPARTMENT**

No.DMA1/131/2019/DMD.

Thiruvananthapuram,

Dated: 15.06.2020

From

The Principal Secretary to Government.

To

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56. The Member Secretary, KSDMA, Observatory Hills, Vikas Bhavan P.O, TVM

Sir,

Sub :- Monsoon preparedness and Emergency Response Plan 2020 and Relief Commissioners Conference - minutes forwarding -Reg.

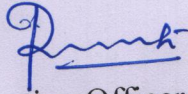
Ref:- Minutes of the meeting held on 20.05.2020

Inviting your attention to the reference cited, I am directed to forward herewith a copy of minutes of the meeting regarding Monsoon preparedness and Emergency

Response Plan 2020 held on 20.05.2020 for your kind information and further necessary action.

Yours faithfully,  
**Bindu V.R.**  
Under Secretary  
for Principal Secretary to Govt.

Approved for issue



Section Officer

Copy to : PA to Principal Secretary (Revenue & DM)  
CA to Additional Secretary, Disaster Management Department  
Finance Officer, Disaster Management Department

**Minutes of the Meeting held on 20/05/2020 11.00 am at the Durbar Hall,  
Government Secretariat, Thiruvananthapuram under the chairmanship of the  
State Relief Commissioner for  
MONSOON PREPAREDNESS 2020**

The meeting started at 11.00 am with strictly maintained Covid19 protocol. The State Relief Commissioner in his introductory remarks mentioned about the Orange Book prepared by State Emergency Operations Centre of KSDMA which was circulated to all departments and stakeholders vide Ltr. No. SEOC/729/2020/SDMA-KSDMA dated 13-5-2020. He briefly described State's advancements in the field of Disaster Management in last one year. State Resource centre (SRC) elaborated on making use of the LSGD DM Plan by other departments.

Director IMD explained the forecast of South-West monsoon. He has informed that the onset of monsoon over Kerala is expected to be on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2020 as per IMD's model outputs. He said that monsoon in general in the country is expected to be normal. Quantitatively seasonal rainfall over the country will be 100% of the Long Period Average rainfall which is equal to 88 cm.

Principal Secretary, Science and Technology informed that, even though the IMD's seasonal forecast predicts a normal rainfall, by observing a pattern change in the previous years the scientific community believes that there may be extreme events to happen. So the state has to anticipate a flood scenario and prepare well for the season.

The Member Secretary, KSDMA explained the major updates in the 'Orange Book 2020'. He has pointed out that the weakness of this year is the Covid-19 scenario and the strength is the Local body level DM plans which is a major achievement over the past year which contains local level information including evacuation plans, resources, Hazard maps etc. LSGs of the state has prepared the Emergency Response Teams (ERT's) as well. Both of these achievements at local level will bring a paradigm shift in the field of disaster response and management in the state. He also presented the Directorate of Volunteerism (Sannadham) as a next pillar built in the state, last year. Sannadham with more than 3 lakh volunteers will be a major value addition to assist the responses and relief activities. The SannadhaSena team may be used for Disaster Relief Activities. Two more active and trained official volunteer groups are active in the state; ie, 'Civil Defense' with around 7000 volunteers under Fire and Rescue Services and 'ApadaMithra'

volunteer group which is managed by KSDMA with 200 volunteers in Kottayam District. These groups are well trained with help of State Fire and Rescue Services and are operational. KSDMA informed that the review meeting held by Hon'ble Chief Minister described the needs of four types of buildings for operating relief camps which is given in detail in the Orange Book.

KSDMA requested all the departments to contribute their suggestions to the draft Orange Book 2020 before 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2020, if they have not brought any suggestions as of now. He informed that Orange Book 2020 will be published on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2020 with inputs that are received until 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2020.

KSEB reported that KSEB dams are now equipped with EAPs and Rule curves. The Irrigation Department reported that they are awaiting approval of the EAPs and Rule Curves of last 6 dams. Rest of the dams under irrigation department has completed their EAP and rule curves.

Member Secretary requested NDRF, to pre-position 10 teams in Kerala before monsoon. He requested Indian Air force to pre-position at least 2 Aircrafts to the region before monsoon; from last years' experience pre-positioning is a key to handle the crisis over Kerala since Ghat region and its complicated weather will make unwanted delay in air operations during monsoon. KSDMA has prepared a list of 198 helipad locations with latitude and longitude information. They will be shared with Air Force and other forces ASAP.

Following points were discussed and agreed upon:

1. All stakeholders present in the meeting agreed to review the Orange book 2020 and respond with comments if any. If no comments are received until 23-05-2019, the document will be issued and it is binding under the Disaster Management Act, 2005. (Action : All Departments)
2. Indian Army representative expressed his appreciation for Kerala's fight against Covid19. He pointed out the pattern changes in precipitation and the importance of mitigation and preventive measures. Army also had difficulties due to Covid19 and due to which they couldn't conduct some of their pre monsoon reconnaissance. He suggested mapping the population with co-morbidity in the context of Covid-19 would be of significant use. He offered Indian Army's full support and co-operation for Kerala's response activities with their trained men. (Action : Indian Army)

3. It was decided to request that the Indian army battalion at Thiruvananthapuram and the Defence Service Corps at Kannur may be provided with minimum of 10 BAUTs each. (Action : Kerala State Disaster Management Authority)
4. It was decided to request the Indian Air Force to pre position one heavy lift helicopter (Preferably MI 17 V 5or Chinooks) at Thiruvananthapuram and yet another one at Coimbatore for swift deployment in Kerala. This is given the experience of 2018 and 2019 when helicopters found it difficult to cross over Western Ghats during extreme weather. One fixed wing AN 32 may be pre-positioned at Thiruvananthapuram. A minimum of one IL 76 and CJ 17 Globe master may be earmarked for operations in Kerala such that they can be deployed within four hours of request from the State. (Action : Kerala State Disaster Management Authority)
5. It is always noticed that when the state requisitions for support of ground forces, for their deployment the State has to separately request for the services of Indian Air Force. So it was decided to request Ministry of Home affairs to make arrangement. This process may be integrated at the NDMA/MHA level such that the state's request for deployment is received at the NERC or NDMA Control Room and the logistic requirement is ascertained at the central level and necessary logistical support from Indian Air Force is provided. NDMA may consider a centralized portal for the purpose and link it with State EOC's. (Action : Kerala State Disaster Management Authority)
6. It was decided to request MHA that to provide ISAT phones for the Indian Army, BSF, CRPF and ITBP positioned in the state for field to EOC communication. ( Action : Kerala State Disaster Management Authority)
7. It was decided to request the Engineering Task force for pre position In Kerala. At least two teams should be pre positioned in Thiruvananthapuram and another in Kannur to ensure speedy deployment. ( Action : Kerala State Disaster Management Authority)
8. It is decided to request the prepositioning of 10 teams of NDRF in Kerala before monsoon in addition to the two teams positioned in Kerala Regional Response Centre at Thrissur. ( Action : Kerala State Disaster Management Authority)
9. It is decided to request pre-position 2 teams of BSF water wing with amphibian vehicle in Kerala. One Team may be positioned at Kannur and the second one at

Palakkad.

10. It is decided to request permission to use Covid Savdhan for issuing Location Based Disaster Alerts during Monsoon Season (June to December) 2020.
11. It is decided to conduct a separate meeting on Dam Safety measures to be taken on monsoon with concerned departments will be convened by SRC to review the preparedness for appropriate dam management. (Action : Disaster Management Department)
12. After issuing the Orange Book 2020, a separate meeting will be held with the District collectors to ensure that relevant information in the Orange book 2020 and the operating protocols are adequately reviewed and understood at district level.

The meeting ended at 12.30 pm