

The State Disaster Management Plan

Section- IV

"Build Back Better"

11.1 Background

11.2 Policy Statements

11. "Build Back Better"

11.1 Background:

Rehabilitation provides best opportunity for integrating disaster prevention and mitigation with development planning. It is an opportunity to build back better, that is, recreating a settlement which is wholesome from individual, familial, social & economic point of view. For that following fact have to be kept in view:

- i) that in rehabilitation we shall be dealing with people physically and mentally at a loss. They shall be people grossly disturbed and grievously dispossessed.
- ii) the place shall be in bad shape and the old habitation partly ruined and mostly damaged and, therefore, dangerous.

Therefore, rehabilitation has to begin with psychological counseling, generous materials support and creation of situational togetherness coated with harmony and goodwill. In Response situation hard work and dedication is thrust upon even those who are lethargic and dishonest to a cause. But in Rehabilitation situation there is disturbing calm and all passion spent in the workforce as well as in victims. As such, those who are by nature hard working and committed are required to be put on the job during rehabilitation period.

In rehabilitation situation government has to begin with playing the role of a provider and end by playing the role of a facilitator. It has to withdraw when confidence, will power and self determination among the victims have been restored.

In rehabilitation the **first step** is construction of houses that have to be made with the hazard profile of the area in view, the need of the target groups in mind, on the one hand, and the minimum requirements for a comfortable living, on the other.

The **second step** is to create some source for livelihood for the settlers. Unless the habitation is wedded with a source of livelihood, people are bound to leave the shelter to settle where they could earn two times meal.

Thus, the essentials of rehabilitation could be summed up as:

- i) Care and attention to victims through provision of goods and services and psychological treatment.
- ii) Restoration of essential services such as communication, water supply and power supply.
- iii) Provision of housing to humans and shelter to animals
- iv) Creation of income-generating activities for people to earn their livelihood.
- v) Creation of schools and health care centres and sanitation facilities
- vi) Strengthening of environmental infrastructure
- vii) Facilitating people's participation in their own welfare.

11.2 Policy Statement:

The following policy statements shall be observed with due care and attention:

- i) The rehabilitations work shall be planned on the basis of the Assessment Report on the nature, extent and intensity of damage caused by the disaster.
- ii) The planning shall also include in the Rehabilitation plan the prevention and mitigation measures for other hazards that the area is susceptible to.
- iii) The rehabilitation, reconstruction and recovery efforts shall aim at restoring the affected structures to a condition better than what existed before the disaster.
- iv) In the reconstruction and resettlements efforts also the involvement of various stakeholders –governmental bodies, non-governmental bodies, non-governmental organizations, private institution and international agencies shall be solicited.
- v) The rehabilitation shall be used as an opportunity for integrated development in the form of creation of livelihood option, protection of environment building and strengthening of physical, social and economic infrastructure and orientation of people to behave as citizens and not as subjects.
- vi) Till the completion of the rehabilitation exercise, the service and infrastructure to which people had access to during the crisis period shall be maintained.
- vii) The process of rehabilitation shall be made participative, sustainable and self-supporting. The communities shall be involved at all the stages of rehabilitations.
- viii) The ‘local’ and ‘global’ good practices shall be woven in the policy framework in order to make rehabilitation a community based disaster management initiative.
- ix) Due weight-age shall be given to the contextual problems, developmental priorities and gender issues at the time of implementation of the reconstruction process.
- x) Priorities in favour of vulnerable groups (orphans, females heads of family, handicapped or differently abled) with the aim of reinstating and mainstreaming them into economic and social life shall be duely supported.
- xi) In the above regard, the rehabilitation process shall also take into account the psychological effects of exposure to violence, particularly on children and women.
- xii) In the reconstruction exercise all the legal provisions building codes, fire protection related provisions, certification and other cross-cutting issues shall be taken care of.
- xiii) Decisions on all priority sectors shall be taken bearing in mind that institutional strengthening, reconstruction of infrastructure as well as restoration of supply of essential goods and services shall be linked to production, notably agriculture, health / sanitation, primary education, access to land etc.
- xiv) Towards the completion of the rehabilitation process, the system of free distribution of goods and service shall be removed in a phased manner.

- xv) On the whole, the principles of sustainable community development shall be followed that consist of
- Promote and support sustainable agriculture
 - Support local business
 - Protect water resources
 - Conserve energy and support renewable energy initiative
 - Preserve green space
 - Generate awareness and education on sustainability
- xvi) About roads and other civic amenities the following principles shall be followed :
- Adequate drainage and sewerage system
 - Well developed system of connecting roads
 - Transportation facilities
 - Communication system such as postal, mobile, telephone services
 - Proximity of social infrastructure, education, health banking etc.
- xvii) On the health front, primary health care centres designed to meet all basic needs for healthcare shall be included in the plan :
- xviii) Following approaches and steps underlying the livelihood perspective shall be taken :
- rational and planned growth of agriculture and cottage industry
 - Creation of employment opportunities
 - Special programmes for the youth, woman and physically handicapped.
 - alternative cropping pattern, irrigation and water harvesting techniques
 - Social forestry
 - Promotion of skilled labour through training
- xix) All construction work—houses, infrastructure, roads and bridges shall be built hazard-resistant.
- xx) All rehabilitation and reconstruction plan shall be projectised in detail keeping in view the cost-effectiveness in terms of input and output so that funding arrangements could be made on project basis
- xxi) Immediately after the damage assessment has been done and based on that rehabilitation plan has been prepared, the designated government agency shall approach appropriate national and multilateral agencies for funding the same.

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