

Disaster Management



1. Vision: The new Government emphasised in the first Cabinet meeting to prioritize the system of disaster management and for this purpose brought three different Departments of Disaster Management, Fire and Emergency Services and Civil Defence under one Minister so that it becomes easy

for him to effectively coordinate in crisis and ensure holistic disaster management. A direct outcome of this merger is running of the State Control Room in the Writers' Buildings 24X7 on all days of the year with staff from the Departments of Civil Defence and Disaster Management.

2. Achievements:

Allocation of funds for Ex-gratia Grant in Natural Calamity, Economic Rehabilitation Grant, Construction of Rescue Shelters and Construction of Relief Stores was hiked considerably during last one year over previous years.

Comparative statement of the schemes during 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12:

Sl. No.	Item	2009 - 10		2010 - 11		2011 - 12	
		Budget provision	Fund released	Budget provision	Fund released	Budget provision	Fund released
1	Ex-gratia Grant: Natural Calamity	524	454.7	115.5	392.5	400	1204.4
2							
3	Economic Rehabilitation Grant	107.82	81.07*	143.29	88.12*	337.29	236.42*
4	Construction of Rescue Shelters	72	54*	90	57.5*	228	228
5	Construction of Relief Stores	36	26.59*	55	41.25*	174	115.36*

*25% budget cut by Finance Dept.

A. Crisis Management –

- Supplied the following relief materials to various districts during 2011-12:

Tarpaulin pieces	Spl.GR Rice	Dhuti pieces	Saree pieces	Lungi pieces	Children Garments sets	Woolen Blanket pieces	Salwar Kameez pieces	Punjabi Pyjama pieces	Wrapper
724000	4982 MT	292000	259500	226500	259000	232000	256400	76400	220000
41.22 crore	8.71 crore	4.23 crore	5.96 crore	2.71 crore	6.53 crore	4.87 crore	5.13 crore	1.74 crore	4.22 crore

- **Earthquake Memorandum:** A Memorandum was sent to the Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India, for getting fund from the National Disaster Response Fund in view of the earthquake, which occurred on 18th September in South Sikkim and caused major damages to the hilly areas of the district of Darjeeling
 - **Assistance to Sikkim after occurrence of Earthquake on 18.9.2011:** 2000 food packets comprising cheera, gur, bread/biscuit, match box, candles and small medicine kits were airdropped by Airforce helicopters in North Sikkim on 19th September, 2011. 10000 food packets comprising Maggie noodles, biscuits, milk powder, match box and medical kits were again airdropped on 20th September. 50000 pieces of tarpaulin sheets were also positioned at Siliguri for dispatch to Sikkim.
 - **AILA:** Provided House Building Grants (i) of Rs. 88 crore in connection with AILA, 2009 to the District Magistrate, South 24 Parganas and (ii) Rs. 33 crore for making payments of all claims in respect of AILA to the District Magistrate of North 24 Parganas,
 - **House Building Grants:** Provided House Building Grants of (i) Rs. 20 crore and Rs. 5 crore respectively in connection with earthquake to the District Magistrates of Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri, (ii) Rs. 4,62,500 in connection with subsidence in the coal mine areas to the District Magistrate, Burdwan and (iii) Rs. 111.85 lakh to the District Magistrates of eight districts of Darjeeling, Birbhum, Purba Medinipur, Cooch Behar, Burdwan, Dakshin Dinajpur, Nadia and Purulia on account of fire
 - **Ex-gratia Grant:**
 - (i) **Man-made calamity-**
 - AMRI:** Provided Rs.273 lakh to 91 families of AMRI fire victims. The State Government also decided to offer Government job in either Group C or D category to one willing member of the unfortunate victims of AMRI fire incident. Proposals for employments have been received with recommendations from the District Magistrates of Burdwan, Hooghly and Director of Disaster Management
 - Sainthia Rly. Accident:** The previous Govt. announced compensation but did not sanction fund. The present Govt. has sanctioned Rs. 186 lakh to 62 families of Sainthia Rly. Accident victims
 - Ganga Sagar Mela victims:** Provided Rs.6 lakh to 3 families of Ganga Sagar Fair pilgrims who died by road accident during 2011-12 and Rs.1 lakh for one case of 2010-11
 - Death of Indian Fishermen by Bangladeshi Pirates:** Provided Rs. 6 lakh to 3 families of 3 fishermen who were murdered by Bangladeshi pirates
 - Illicit liquor consumption victims:** Sanctioned Rs.344 lakh for 172 families of Sangrampur to the District Magistrate, South 24 Parganas (
 - (ii) **Natural Calamity:** Provided Rs. 366.4 lakh for death due to natural calamities to 199 families and Rs. 22 lakh to 11 families of earthquake victims,
 - **Supply of relief clothings through MLA Quota:** Supplied 1,75,200 dhuties, 87,600 lungies, 262800 sarees, 65,700 sets of children garments for both girls and boys, 73,000 sets of salwars and kameezs, 1,75,200 wrappers, 65,700 sets of half-sleeve punjabi and pyjamas and 1,47,500 tarpaulin sheets to the District Magistrates for supply to the Hon'ble Members of West Bengal Legislative Assembly before the Id and Durga Puja festivals.
 - **Sanction from the State Disaster Response Fund:** Rs.15903.16 lakh was sanctioned by the State Executive Committee from the State Disaster Response Fund to favour various Departments of the State Government for emergency repair of roads, embankments, school buildings, minor irrigation installments, drinking water schemes, for supply of Input subsidy, fodder, concentrate, purchase of Search & Rescue equipments, upgradation of disaster response network service of the PWD, etc.
 - Provided fund to the Resident Commissioner at Delhi for conducting Search and Rescue operations outside the State.
 - Simplified the constitution of the Four- member Joint Team for inspection of houses damaged by natural calamities for sanction of House Building Grant
- B. Welfare sector –**
- **Normal Gratuitous Relief:** Sanctioned 12763.368 MT Normal Gratuitous Relief in wheat to all districts and Rs. 164.62 lakh in cash to KMC for distribution among 1,77,269 beneficiaries as NGR in wheat and cash,
 - **Leprosy-Gratuitous Relief:** Sanctioned 837.36 MT Leprosy-Gratuitous Relief in rice to five districts of Purulia, Paschim Medinipur, Hooghly, Bankura and Burdwan for distribution among 5815 beneficiaries
 - **Cash GR:** Sanctioned Rs. 56 lakh as Cash/Starvation Gratuitous Relief to all districts.
- C. Disaster Management sector –**
- **SMS based Early Warning System:** Developed SMS based Early Warning System

through the IT Dept. for alerting the mobile users in the districts of the State of the advent of natural calamities like tropical cyclone, tsunami, earthquake, etc.

- **Strengthening the capacity of Search and Rescue Teams** : (i) Rs. 50.65 lakh was sanctioned to Commissioner, Kolkata Police and Rs.257.62 lakh to the Director General of Police, West Bengal, for procurement of Search and Rescue equipments from the SDRF, (ii) Rs. 26 lakh was sanctioned to the District Magistrate, North 24 Parganas as the cost of Search & Rescue equipments from 13th Finance Commission grant, (iii) Rs.14.45 lakh was sanctioned to the District Magistrate, Cooch Behar for undergoing aquatic disaster management training from Rastriyo Life Saving Society from 13th Finance Commission grant and (iv) Rs.24.85 lakh was sanctioned to the District Magistrates for procurement of Micro Phone sets as part of early warning dissemination system from 13th Finance Commission grant
- Capacity Building of the State Govt. employees, members of the community, NGOs and three-tire PRI institution: (i) Rs. 25.20 lakh was sanctioned to all District Magistrates and Rs.5.75 lakh to the State Institute of Panchayat and Rural Development(SIPRD) and Institute of Local Government & Urban Studies (ILGUS) for undertaking capacity building trainings on disaster risk reduction, (ii) Rs. 13.896 Lakh was sanctioned to the District Magistrates of Purba Medinipur and South 24 Parganas for undertaking Tsunami Risk Management Training, (iii) Rs. 52 lakh was sanctioned to the District Magistrates of Purba Medinipur, Birbhum, Howrah, Hooghly and Darjeeling for undertaking activities under State-funded Disaster Risk Management Programme from 13th Finance Commission grant
- Developed Audio spots and jingles for telecasting and broadcasting purpose @ Rs.1,22,506 from 13th Finance Commission grant
- Published State Disaster Management Policy
- Published Disaster Management Manual
- Revised State Disaster Management Plan for 2011-12
- Sent Perspective Plan to the Ministry of Home Affairs, GoI for sanction of Capacity Building Fund of Rs.20 crore for the years from 2011-12 to 2014-15 @ Rs.5 crore as provided by the 13th Finance Commission; Ministry of Home Affairs

sent sanction for Rs. 500 lakh at the fag end of the financial year

- Developed one documentary of disaster management titled “Chitto Jetha Bhoy Shunya” for screening in all villages of the district of South 24 Parganas.
- Reconstituted the State Disaster Management Authority by inducting two new members , i.e. the Ministers-in-Charge of the Depts. of Food and Power
- Developed some IEC materials:

D. Capacity Building Initiations –

- **Construction of Multi-purpose Cyclone Shelter:**
- **Prime Minister’s National Relief Fund (PMNRF):** With fund from the Prime Minister’s National Relief Fund, National Disaster Management Authority engaged two central Government PSUs namely (i) Engineering Projects (India) Ltd. and (ii) Hindustan Steelworks Construction Ltd. to construct 50 multipurpose cyclone shelters @ 15 in coastal Blocks of South 24 Parganas, 15 in five Blocks of North 24 Parganas and 20 in six coastal Blocks of Purba Medinipur. Construction work started in 15 sites of all three districts in the first phase.
- **National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project (NCRMP):** World Bank Team comprising three members paid a visit to this State during 26-28 March, 2012, met with State Govt. representatives and visited some sites in South 24 Parganas under National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project, under which 150 multipurpose cyclone shelters @ 75 in eight coastal Blocks of South 24 Parganas, 45 in five cyclone Blocks of North 24 Parganas and 30 in six coastal Blocks of Purba Medinipur have been proposed for construction. Sanction of the project will follow shortly.
- **Integrated Coastal Zone Management Project:** Revised proposal for construction of 25 multipurpose cyclone shelters in the coastal Blocks of South 24 Parganas have been submitted under this project. World Bank is expected to make an appraisal.
- District Magistrates were provided fund for procurement of 50 computers for 50 Block Disaster Management Officers as preparatory step for introduction of on-line communication system in the Department