

National Disaster Relief Services Centre (NDRSC)

Progress Report - 2010

Introduction

National Disaster Management Centre was established in 1996 under the Ministry of Social Services and Social Welfare. It came under the Ministry of Disaster Relief Services by the extra ordinary gazette notification No: 1422/22, dated 08/12/2005, in order to plan and implement relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction activities. It was transferred to the Ministry of Resettlement and Disaster Relief Services with renaming as National Disaster Relief Services Center, by the Gazette Notification No: 1482/9 dated 09/01/2007. It functions under the Ministry of Disaster Management with effect from 30/04/2010 with the gazette notification No: 1651/20.

It is located at Bandaranayke Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH), Colombo and function under the policy guidance provided by the Hon. Minister and Secretary, Ministry of Disaster Management. Projects and programmes are carried out through the respective District Secretariats and Divisional Secretariats with the policy guidance given by the Ministry of Disaster Management. Further, Disaster Relief Coordinators function at the district level under the supervision of respective District Secretaries.

Vision

Towards safer Sri Lanka through disaster relief services

Mission

To protect human life, properties, environment and wild lives from both natural and man-made disasters through awareness, prevention, preparedness, mitigation and coordination

Objective

To contribute the national objective of sustainable development through minimized human suffering and loss and damage to the economic infrastructure by promoting and strengthening national capacities for disaster Relief

Key programmes and Activities

Provide short-term and long-term relief measures for affected peoples

Formulate and implement programmes to rescue people from both natural and man-made disasters

Plan and implement projects to minimize disaster impacts (construction of cultivation wells, rain water harvesting, etc)

Coordinate and direct relevant parties to ensure the implementation of reconstruction and rehabilitation activities

Implement rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes to restore livelihoods and economy of people who were affected by both natural and man-made disasters.

Collect process and disseminate information on disaster situations

Conduct awareness programmes for public officers and people on how to face disaster situations and relief mechanism

Coordinate relief operation during emergency

Disaster Relief Services Provided by NDRSC (until end of October, 2010)

Implementation of relief programmes

NDRSC plan, implement and monitor disaster relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction activities. Two major floods, landslides, and droughts were reported in 2010.

1st flood happened in May, 2010 which caused severe damages in Colombo, Gampaha, Kalutara, Ratnapuara, Matara, Galle and Puttalam districts, and 577,264 people were affected. 5,065 people were sheltered temporarily in 205 welfare centers. Further, 24 people lost their lives, 07 injured and 03 persons reported missing. 682 houses were damaged fully and 2,896 were damaged partially. Rs. 135 Mn., was granted to Gampaha, Matara, Colombo, Galle, Kurunegala, Kalutara, Puttalam, Badulla Monaragala, and Kegalle districts to undertake relief measures.

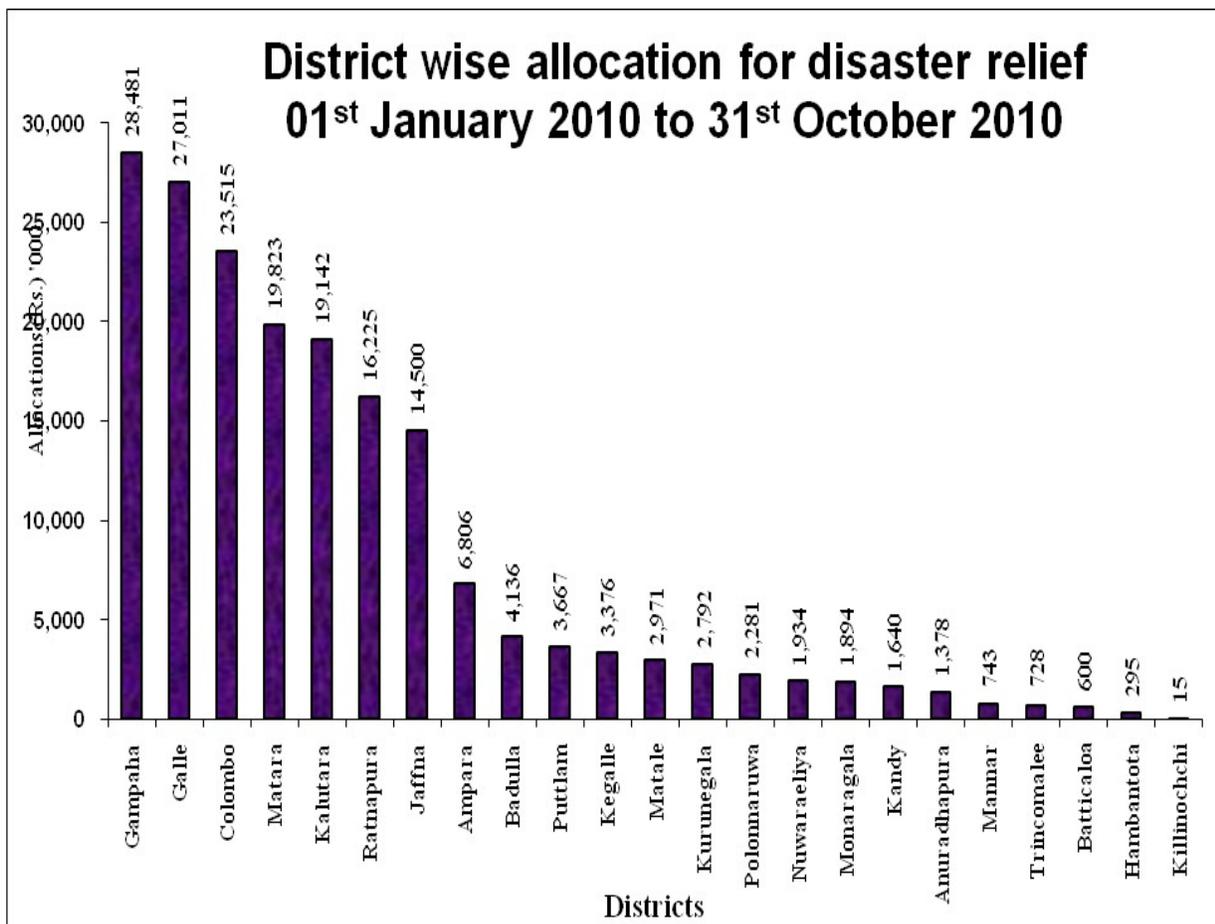
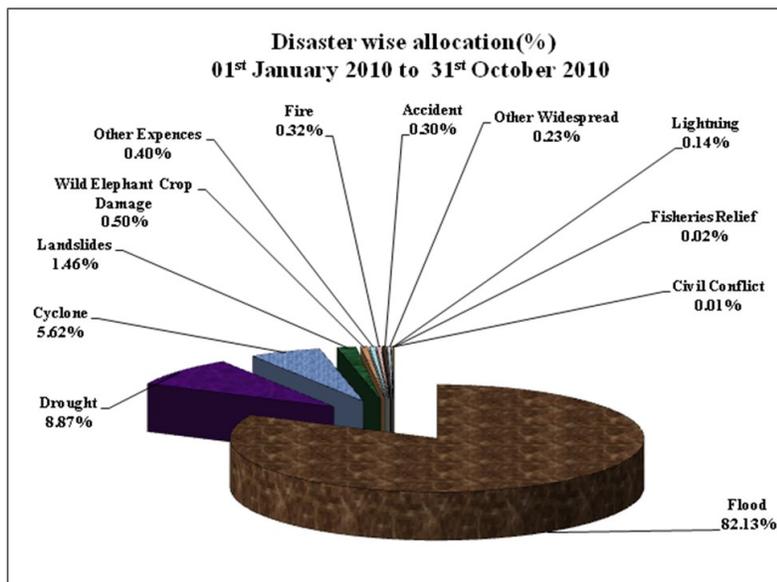


Cyclone affected Nuwara Eliya, Jaffna, Anuradhpura, Mannar, Badulla, Colombo, Hambanthota, Monaragala, Ampara, Polonnaruwa, Gampaha, Kandy and Kurunegala districts several times in 2010. Rs. 5,6 Mn., have been distributed to these districts for relief activities.

Jaffna, Hambanthota, Anuradhpura, Manar, Monaragala Ampara, and Polonnaruwa districts experienced drought situation and Rs 16 Mn., have been provided to these districts to provide drinking water.

Nuwara Eliya, Badulla, Mathale, Kegale and Kandy districts were affected by landslide and Rs. 2,6 Mn., worth of relief packages were granted.

Cultivation in certain locations in Anuradhapur, Monaragala, Matale, Kurunegala, Polonnaruwa Districts have been damaged due to wild elephant attack. NDRSC distributed Rs 0. 743 Mn., to the respective district secretariats to pay compensation for the victims.



Maintain Warehouse at Orugodawata to keep stocks for managing disaster situations

A warehouse was set up under the Ministry Social Service in 2005 to maintain relief items for Tsunami. It has been maintained continuously by this Institution and relief equipments such as Tents, Dry Food, Kitchen Utensils, Boat Engine, Cloths are stored to manage emergency situations. Further, water pumps, Water Tanks, and water purification equipments were stored and distributed among the drought places.



Maintain and disseminate Disaster Information

A National Disaster Data Bank was set up under the United Nations Development Project (UNDP) assistance. Computer software of DesInveter and Desconsulter is used for this purpose. Information on floods, Landslides, Fire, Tsunami, and accident are collected and stored. Analytical reports, graphics and maps can be generated by using this Software. Disaster information from 1974 has been stored in this data bank. Data entered by district and divisional level officers. Internet access will be provided to these districts and divisional secretariats to connect and maintain data bank and to update data.

Networking of the National Disaster Relief Services Center with District Secretariats and Divisional Secretariats through ICTA

Objective of this Network is to develop an effective communication system for gathering disaster information through District and Divisional Secretariat during emergency situations. This information can be used to plan, implement and monitor relief and rehabilitation programmes. It is in the last stage and training programme is planned for coordinating officers to make aware the project and provide technical knowledge.

Implementing drought mitigation programmes

NDRSC implements rain water harvesting programme to mitigate drought impacts in selected three divisional secretariat divisions in Monaragala District. Rs. 4 Mn., have been allocated for this project and 100 families will be benefitted. It will be completed and commissioned along with Dayata Kirulla - 2011.

NDRSC distributes Sprinkler Water System, donated by the Chinese Government for the benefit of drought prone farmers. 20 farmer's Organizations have been selected. It will be implemented along with the Dayata Kirulla- 2010.



Further, farmer Organizations in Ampara, Rathnapura, Hambanthota, Puttalam, Anuradhapura, Badulla, and Trincomalee districts also will be distributed Sprinkler Water System.

Conducting training programmes on Disaster Relief Activities

NDRSC implements awareness programme on disaster relief activities to the officers who are directly related to the relief activities. Procedures, programmes, rules and regulations are expected to be implemented from this awareness programme. It was conducted in Polanaruwa district and 323 officers benefitted.

Coordinate Disaster Relief Programmes

National Disaster Relief Services Centre (NDRSC) coordinates with various Government and Non government Organizations to collect and facilitate donations such as dry food, water tanks, tents, sanitary items, water bottles, clothes, etc. UNICEF, Red Cross, LION, SL Navy, Air force, Fire Brigade, IOM and various ministries were coordinated at national level during past disasters. In regional level NDRSC coordinates resource persons and resource organizations for Disaster relief and reconstruction activities such as road clearance, power supply, removal of debris and other related activities.