Community Awareness And Preparedness

FLOOD

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MEASURES BEFORE FLOOD

- Make sure that people, residing in flood-prone areas, are fully aware of the dangers of flood.
- Listen to instructions conveyed by media, radio, or local authorities about heavy or prolonged rainfall in your area and follow strictly.
- Discuss among community members about impending dangers of flood and take preventive measures with their support.
- Mark the areas likely to be affected by flood and take preventive actions with support from the Community and local administration.
- Gather information about past incidents of flood, if any, and take protective actions.
- Gather information about high grounds nearby in your area, which can be used as shelter.
- Arrange proper drainage of flood water, and assign responsibility for its maintenance by community members.
- Inspect bundhs/embankments/roads and houses which are likely to be damaged during flood and adopt measures to repair or strengthen them with stones, trees, ballies, and bags, etc.
- Keep essential flood rescue equipment/stores in your possession.
- Estimate requirement and ensure availability, maintenance, and proper securities of boats.
- Ensure proper preservation of portable water and its proper supply to the community during flood.
- Constitute Search & Rescue Teams and develop their capabilities by providing equipment and training.

Constitute medical aid teams, train them and ensure availability of essential medicines with them.
- Keep constant watch on flood water-level be deputing teams and also ensure early warning system.

MEASURES DURING FLOOD

- Do not panic.
- Keep your essential stores, safe & dry.
- Keep in touch with local media, listen to radio and follow instructions strictly.
- Don't consume eatables contaminated by floodwater.
- Don't consume rotten food either kept in house or received from other sources.
- Don't eat meat of dead animals/bird.
- Drink only directly collected rain water after boiling till potable water is supplied/available.
- Don't use water from Wells or Ponds till declared safe.
- Keep children safe and don't allow them to swim or play in flood water.
- Be alert/vigilant against snakes/scorpions and other poisonous insects.
- Don't take vehicle on water flooded road without collecting proper information about its depth/current.
- Leave vehicle and take shelter at high raised ground once trapped in flood water.
- Ensure boats and not over loaded and unattended.
- Avoid unnecessary movement in flood water and in case unavoidable, try to move only on dry and stable land to avoid danger from damaged/naked wire berried underneath water by taking protections from poisonous insects.
MEASURES AFTER FLOOD

• Discuss with neighbors before deciding to return to village/home.

• Don’t follow alternate route but follow defined/marked route.

• Keep updated about latest radio broadcast recording present situation of flood.

• Take care of debris left behind in flood as the poisonous insects generally shelter or sharped edged pieces of glasses etc. may caused injury.

• Use mosquito nets while sleeping.

• Keep distance from area prone the land slide, river bends and houses vacated from security point of view.

• Do not allow children to enter the house once flood water recedes unless/until same is checked and found safe by adults.

• Don’t switch on electrical connections till flood affected house is fully dried up.

Ensure spreading of lime/bleaching powder,

• D.D.T. etc. in and around your house.

• Enure the dead animals/birds etc. are buried properly to avoid spread of epidemic.

• Take medicine/injections and other precautions as advised by local medical authorities.
GUIDELINES TO BE FOLLOWED BEFORE LEAVING THE HOUSE

- React only as per plan prepared by local authority/community.
- Inform neighbor and responsible persons of the community before moving out from the house. Also indicate your destination.
- Keep your valuable and important documents/papers at safety place/custody.
- Keep your furniture & other personal belongings at safe height keeping flood level in mind.
- Switch off the Cooking-Gas, electric and Water supply system.
- Keep all electrical gadgets/appliances at proper height to avoid contact from flood water.
- Ensure all doors and windows of the house are properly closed, bolted & locked.
- Empty the refrigerator/Freezer, remove its plug from the socket and keep its doors opened.
- Carry emergency items/stores specially Radio, Torch, Candle, Matchbox, Medicine etc. while leaving the house.
- Adopt safer routs and take proper care of children, disabled and elderly persons.

EMERGENCY ITEMS / STORES

- Radio & Torch with battery
- Candle & Matchbox (waterproof if available).
- Clean drinking water and non perishable ready to eat food items.
- Medicines for common cold, dysentery, headache, fever etc.
- Waterproof bag for clothes and valuables.

HELP TO DROWNING PERSON

- Never go close to the drowning person.
- Throw rope or stick near him/her and gradually pull once has caught.
- Use trained man for rescue.
- Clear his/her mouth and respiratory system for smooth breathing once rescued.
- Provide mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.
- Open his wet cloth and keep him warm. Shift him/her to nearby hospital.