

As you are aware, the North-east Monsoon is the major season for rainfall in our State during the months of October to December. This season is associated with formation of low pressure areas and cyclonic storms resulting in heavy to very heavy rainfall, which may result in serious damage to life and property. Adequate and timely preparatory works have to be taken-up to prevent loss of life and property in the event of such calamities.

District Disaster management plans have been prepared by the District Disaster Management authorities headed by the District Collectors. The Superintendents of police are members of the authority. Police department in coordination with the other stakeholders of the District Administration needs to play a key role in the ensuing monsoon.

In the wake of our experience of the heavy rains during the North East monsoon of 2015, it is imperative that Police personnel are trained, equipped, briefed and kept in readiness for deployment at short notice during the ensuing monsoon.

I request you to prepare an Operational Plan in line with the responsibilities assigned to your Department in the District Disaster Management Plan so as to respond to any type of disaster in accordance with Disaster Management Act 2005.

The plan shall cover, but not be restricted to the following points:-

1. Identification of suitable Police personnel and preparation of a Deployment plan with special focus on utilising the services of Armed Reserves, TSP and other Special forces. This should correspond to the District and Taluk Disaster management plans in all districts and Village Disaster Management plans prepared in coastal villages under the Coastal Disaster Risk reduction project. (CDRRP)
2. Training needs to be imparted to these selected personnel to take up Rescue, Evacuation, Crowd Control and to assist in Relief operations. Training modules developed for SDRF may be used for this purpose. Mock drills may be conducted jointly with Revenue Department officials and other stake holders on disaster preparedness.
3. Vulnerable areas should be identified and Jurisdictional officers should be made responsible for keeping the entire machinery in a State of high alert and for undertaking emergency rescue, evacuation and relief operations. All officers and personnel shall be available and easily accessible for deployment at short notice. They shall avoid going on leave.
4. The Police Control room should be linked to the District emergency operations centre (DEOC) and shall constantly be updated regarding weather predictions and field conditions. A senior police officer should be posted in the DEOC 24/7 during the monsoon season. A communication plan containing contact details of all deployed and key personnel shall be prepared and be available with all and especially in DEOC and the control room.
5. Prepare an inventory of equipment necessary and available to be utilized during the monsoon. Ensure that equipments and machineries are properly maintained and are in working condition. All Police vehicles and other transport shall be kept in readiness for deployment.
6. Prepare a Traffic plan detailing routes and measures to keep them open during the Monsoon so that Personnel and Equipment can be moved to necessary areas for Emergency Rescue and Relief.
7. Police shall maintain law and order and ensure transportation and certification of casualties.
8. Community should be mobilised for ensuring immediate response to disasters by involving local volunteers.

Necessary instructions may be issued to all Field Police Officials to work in close coordination with other stakeholders in the District administration and take all necessary actions in case of any eventuality. They may also be sensitized on the importance of assigned responsibilities, making it clear that stringent action will be taken if any laxity is found.

With the culmination of all these measures and your initiative, I expect that the State will be better prepared to cope with the exigencies of the ensuing monsoon.

Issued By:- DIPR, Secretariat, Chennai- 9