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MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND PLANNING

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Date }

National Budget Circular No: 152

To All Secretaries to the Ministries

**Guidelines for Provision of Relief to the Public in an Emergency Disaster Situation and
Restoration of Damaged Areas**

01. This Circular is issued in accordance with the Cabinet Decision dated 11.05.2011 to streamline the disaster relief activities by overcoming the problematic issues which had arisen due to duplication of relief, rehabilitation and restoration programmes implemented in the respective districts by different ministries in an emergency disaster situation.

02. The Circular No. 2007/10, of 01.10.2007 related to relief, rehabilitation and restoration activities in an emergency situation, issued by the then Ministry of Resettlement and Disaster Relief Services, and the Circular No.2011/1 dated 08.02.2011 issued by the Ministry of Disaster Management and all other circulars related thereto, are hereby rescinded and the provisions stipulated in this Circular will be effective from 11.05.2011

03. The responsibility of managing an emergency situation will be delegated among relevant ministries as follows:

- i. Supply of emergency disaster relief - Ministry of Disaster Management
- ii. Short term and small scale disaster rehabilitation activities - Ministry of Economic Development
- iii. Large Scale restoration works of damaged infrastructure by a disaster - Relevant line ministries

04. Provision of Immediate Disaster Relief

The provisions required to provide immediate relief for disaster victims will be allocated to the Ministry of Disaster Management and be released to the Government Agent /District Secretary of the disaster stricken areas on their request. The Ministry of Disaster Management will issue necessary instructions on the documentary requirements and the procedures to be followed by the Government Agent/District Secretaries in relation to disbursement of relief and coordination activities.

05. Rehabilitation Activities

5.1 The provisions required for the following rehabilitation activities in relation to the upliftment of livelihood etc. of victims in an emergency disaster situation will be allocated to the Ministry of Economic Development. Having obtained the additional provisions from the Treasury, on estimation of the damages in each district, the provisions will be released to the Government Agents/ District Secretaries of the disaster stricken area based on their requests. The amount of relief payable at each disaster situation should be in accordance with the details given in Annexure 01.

- Restoration of self employment
- Provision of cultivation subsidies
- Rehabilitation of dwelling houses
- **Reconstruction of damaged small scale rural infrastructure facilities (rural roads, minor irrigation tanks, anicuts, small bridges etc.)**

5.2 In providing subsidy to restore self employment, the Ministry of Economic Development should release the provision as per 4 (viii) of the Annexure to this Circular to the District Secretary having coordinated with the relevant line ministries such as Agriculture, Fisheries, Livestock etc., pertaining to the livelihood, and with the Provincial Council. Identification of beneficiaries should be made on the recommendation of the District Secretary.

5.3 Where a damage is caused to a cultivation due to an extensive disaster situation, the District Secretary shall pay the financial assistance/subsidy as per 4(vii) of the Annexure to the recommended beneficiaries having taken in to consideration, the nature of the cultivation, value of the anticipated harvest and the extent of the land. The Ministry of Economic Development shall release funds to the District Secretary for this purpose.

5.4 While provision will be allocated to the Ministry of Economic Development in respect of housing subsidy as per the 4(ix) of the Annexure of the Circular, such activities should be carried out through the Government Agents/District Secretaries having coordinated with the programmes implemented by the Ministry of Housing and Common Amenities . The maximum amount payable shall be recommended by the relevant District Secretary on a case by case basis, depending on the ownership, the nature of the house etc. as the case maybe.

6 Large Scale Reconstruction Activities

The responsibility of reconstruction of large scale infrastructure facilities damaged in different districts of the country in an emergency situation shall be the relevant line Ministry. After estimation of the cost for the reconstruction of damage infrastructure facilities in each district, the relevant line Ministry should use the existing provisions and additional provisions may be obtained from the Treasury if so required.

7. In an emergency situation, which is not covered in this Circular, appropriate instructions will be issued by the Treasury, based on the intensity of the disaster. If any further clarification in this regard is required, the Director General, Department of National Budget should be contacted. (Telephone Number 2484665)

Sgd. P.B. Jayasundera
Secretary
Ministry of Finance and Planning

Copies : 1. Secretary to the President
2. Secretary to the Prime Minister
3. Secretary to the Cabinet
4. Auditor General
5. All District Secretaries

Annexure 01.

The nature of disaster relief is determined based on the intensity of the disaster as the case may be.

Extensive Disasters

The relief categories to be provided in an extensive disaster situation where life, social and economic activities have collapsed and severe damage has been caused to human life, property, livelihood and infrastructure facilities in a broader area due to a natural calamities such as floods, drought, storms, landslides, tsunami, earthquake, etc. are as follows:

Cooked meals, dry rations, financial assistance to cover funeral expenses, assistance to obtain medical treatments, kitchen utensils, tools and equipments, cultivation subsidy, housing subsidy, and subsidies for small scale self employment.

2 Minor Disaster

Following categories of relief will be provided in case of a loss of life or minor damage to property/cultivation of a smaller number of people in an area due to lightning strikes, explosives or attacks by wild animals.

Assistance to cover funeral expenses, to obtain medical treatment, provision of kitchen utensils, tools & equipments for employment, cultivation subsidy, housing subsidy, and small scale self employment assistance.

3. Eligibility for Disaster Relief

3.1 Supply of Cooked Meals

In case of an extensive disaster situation, cooked meals should be provided to all who stay in temporary welfare centers away from their residence irrespective of limitations such as income, age and permanent residency .

3.2 Dry Rations

When a situation demands the provision of dry rations, the issuance of dry rations should be commenced immediately. The cooked meals should be provided for an equal period of time in respect of families staying at homes or houses of their relatives without coming to welfare centers and families staying in temporary welfare centers due to the disaster.

3.3 Assistance for Funerals

Funeral assistance shall be provided to the spouse or the immediate next of kin of the deceased due to the disaster and he/she should confirm the relationship with the deceased. The divisional secretary should make the payments after obtaining the death certificate of the deceased and a declaration of funeral expenses.

3.4 Expenses related to those sustain injuries in a Disaster

The amounts payable in respect of those sustain injuries in a disaster should be determined based on the medical report and the recommendations. In recommending this payment, the Divisional Secretary should satisfy himself, having perused the medical certificate, documents related to the treatment and the relevant bills. Where the treatment is obtained from a government hospitals this payment should not be made.

3.5 Draught Relief

Drought relief is provided where two seasons could not be cultivated or crops damaged due to draught. The amount provided as draught relief is announced by the National Disaster Relief Services Centre for each respective situations. Where the draught relief is not specifically determined, dry ration should be provided as per 4 (ii) of the Annexure of the circular.

3.6 Relief in respect of those lost at sea

The details in respect of fishermen lost at sea should be sent to the Ministry of Disaster Management by the Divisional Secretary along with the recommendation of the Secretary of the relevant ministry in charge of the subject of fisheries, and the dry ration as per 4(ii) of the Annexure should be provided to the dependants of the deceased for a period of 03 months funds for this shall be released to the District Secretary. Having Considered the fact that the last fisherman has returned or a source of income has been generated for the family within the above period, the issue of dry ration should be stopped.

3.7 Cultivation Subsidy

Cultivation subsidy should be provided considering the nature of the cultivation and the value of the anticipated crop, and limited to a maximum of one acre. In respect of lands less than that in extent the subsidy will be paid proportionately.

3.8 Self employment assistance

Where a self employment of a law income earner is totally destroyed by the disaster and his source of income has totally ceased and no source of income is available, a subsidy to rebuild his destroyed self employment could be provided. While the provisions should be granted as per 4(viii) of the Annexure for this purpose the identification of the beneficiaries should be made on the recommendation of the district secretary.

3.9 Housing subsidy

Housing subsidy is paid for repairs to or reconstruction of one residential house destroyed by the Disaster. This subsidy will not be provided where the applicant has another house to reside in or business places or public buildings. This subsidy should be paid only in instances where the monthly income of the applicant's family is Rs. 3,000 or less. When a problem arises whether a temporary or permanent house the maximum amount payable may be determined as an individual case pertaining to the applicant based on the nature and the title of the house as per 4 (ix) of the Annexure and the identification of the beneficiary should be made based on the recommendation of the District Secretary. This subsidy should not be paid to re-built houses located in disaster prone areas.

04. Extent of Relief payable

Category of Disaster Relief	No	Category of Subsidies	Amount to be paid Rs.	Responsible Ministry for the Implementation
Immediate Disaster Relief	i.	Cooked meals		The Ministry of Disaster Management via District Secretaries
		Allowances per person per day	150.00	
		Time and approval	Up to 03 days by the Divisional Secretary. Beyond that the Govt. Agent/District Secretary can approve 04 days	
	ii.	Dry Ration (Maximum per week)		
		Per individual	385.00	
		Family of 2 members	490.00	
		Family of 3 members	595.00	
		Family of 4 members	700.00	
		Family of 5 members	805.00	
		Time and approval	Up to 07 days to Divisional Secretary. Beyond that the Govt. Agent/District Secretary can approve up to 07 days. Time and approval of providing subsidies to the lost at sea - para 3.6 of the Annexure 01 should be followed	
iii.	Aids for kitchen wears	1,500.00		
iv.	Aids for vocational instruments	3,000.00		
v.	Funeral expenses (per individual)	15,000.00		
vi.	Expenses of the casualty by disaster	(maximum limits) 10,000.00		
Disaster Rehabilitation Relief	vii.	Subsidies for cultivation	(maximum limits) 25,000.00	The District Secretary by the Ministry of Economic Development
	viii.	Aids for self employment	25,000.00	
	ix.	Aids for Housing Rehabilitation For a completely damaged house	(maximum limits) 100,000.00	
		For a partly damaged house	(maximum limits) 50,000.00	
Establishment of Disaster Infrastructure	x.	Restoration of the relevant infrastructure	Existing provisions or additional provisions	Relevant line ministry