An Overview
of
Cyclone Preparedness Program
Bangladesh Red Crescent Society
Background of CPP:
The idea of CPP started in 1965 when the National Society now the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society requested the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) formerly the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to support the establishment of a warning system for the population living in the coastal belt. In 1966 the International Federation and Swedish Red Cross began the implementation of a pilot scheme for Cyclone Preparedness which consisted of warning equipments and was operational in 299 locations.
1970-REQUEST OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

1972-NEW STRATEGY OF PRESENT CPP

1973-CPP A JOINT VENTURE PROGRAMME OF BDRCS AND MoFDM OF THE GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH.
Policy Committee:

1. Hon,ble Minister for F & DM        Chairman
2. Hon,ble Minister for local Govt.   Vice Chairman
3. Chairman, BDRCS                    Vice Chairman
4. Member-1, Ministry of Planning     Member
5. Two Representatives nominated      Members
    the Chairman, BDRCS
6. Secretary, Ministry of F & DM      Member Secretary
Implementation Board

1. Secretary, MoFDM  
2. Secretary, Ministry of Local Govt.  
3. Joint Secretary (Relief) Ministry of F&DM  
4. DG, Relief  
5. DG, Disaster Management Bureau  
6. DG, Bangladesh Rural Dev. Board  
7. Chief Engineer, Public Health Engineering  
8. Deputy Secretary (Relief), Ministry of F&DM  
9. Rep. of Finance Division of Ministry of Finance  
10. Director, Meteorological Dept.  
11. Secretary General, BDRCS  
12. Two Rep. nominated by the Chairman, BDRCS  
13. Rep. of Ministry of Information  
14. Rep. of IFRC (if present)  
15. Director, CPP
GOAL

To minimize loss of lives and properties in cyclonic disaster by strengthening the capacity in disaster management of the coastal people of Bangladesh.

OBJECTIVES

1. To develop and strengthen the disaster preparedness and response capacity of coastal communities vulnerable to cyclones.

2. To increase the efficiency of volunteers and officers.

3. To maintain and strengthen the CPP warning system and ensure effective response in the event of a cyclone.
ACTIVITIES

1. Disseminate cyclone warning signals issued by the Bangladesh Meteorological Department to the community people.

2. Assist People in taking shelter.

3. Rescue distressed people affected by a cyclone.

4. Provide First Aid to the people injured by a cyclone.

5. Assist in relief and Rehabilitation operations.

6. Assist in the implementation of the BDRCS Disaster Preparedness Plan.

7. Assist in participatory community capacity build-up activities.

8. Assist in the co-ordination of disaster management and development activities.
Volunteers Organization:
Unit Committee (12 volunteers)
Union Committee (10 units)
Upazila (Sub-district) Committee (10 unions)

Operational Method:
Depression in the Bay of Bengal
Weather Bulletin issued by the BMD
Passed it to 6 zonal offices – Upazila – Union- unit
Criteria for becoming a volunteer

- Age between 18-35
- Permanent resident
- Strong, Stout & Healthy
- Self supported
- Honest, Sincere & people support
- Favourable attitude for voluntary work
- Committed, have time & opportunity to render services
- Read & write
- Committed, have time & opportunity to render services
- CPP Volunteer
Warning equipments lying with the volunteers

1. Transistor Radio
2. Torch Light
3. Megaphone
4. Hand Siren
5. Life Jacket
6. Rain coat
7. Gum boot
8. Hard hat
9. PA System
10. First aid kit
11. Rescue kit
Orientation/Training of Volunteers:
1. Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement
2. Cyclone and its Behaviors
3. Warning Signals and their Dissemination
4. First Aid and Rescue
5. Disaster Management

Public Awareness:
1. Volunteers social contact.
2. Cyclone drills and demonstrations.
3. Film/Video.
4. Radio and Television.
5. Posters, Leaflets and Booklets.
6. Staging Dramas
Welfare Activities by the Volunteers

Other than the mandatory responsibilities, the volunteers are very much involved in performing social welfare activities by integrated themselves with local government administration, NGOs, Upazila disaster management committee, educational institutions, religious institution, social club and other agencies in the event of road accident, fire, boat capsize, river erosion, epidemic etc. On those situations the volunteers stand besides the helpless people with sincerity and offers wholehearted cooperation.
Cyclone and Earthquake Preparedness activities

In co-operation with European Commission the following Cyclone and earthquake preparedness activities were implemented during 2004-5 in Chittagong, Cox’s Bazar, Feni and Noakhali:

1. Mass awareness rallies - 117
2. School student orientation programme in 55 schools - 55 courses
3. First aid refreshers training - 110 courses in 117 unions.
FUTURE PROGRAMME

1. Expansion of Command Area.

2. Recruitment and Training of Volunteers.

3. Replenishment of Equipments.

4. Inclusion of Tsunami/Earthquake Activities

5. Increase public awareness activities.
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