Terrible flood in Bangladesh northern districts - Solidarity needed!

Saturday 13 September 2014, by ALAM Badrul (Date first published: 12 September 2014).

Little effort can bring in relief to the people affected by the recent flood engulfing the 16 northern districts in Bangladesh

Recently terrible flood occurred in 16 northern districts in Bangladesh resulting in huge havoc in lives and livelihood of ordinary people. The people living in the low-lying areas are seriously affected by the onslaught of the flood. They have lost their houses, standing crops, cattle, poultry, and all other useful staffs in their daily life. The flood washed away everything they had. Lots of people still remained stranded in the flood water and lots left their home taking shelter on the road side.

Actually the flood water came from the Indian Territory and inundated the parts of Bangladesh causing huge damage on properties. So far, no death news was found. But the sufferings of people are untold. They started to remain starved with children and women.

The government relief and rescue operation is reportedly not satisfactory. The victims are in panic to face the water born diseases which is very common during and post-flood. Some NGOs have gone to extend their support which is mostly symbolic gesture whereas the flood victim people need humanitarian assistance to survive in a crucial time.

The northern part of Bangladesh is strategically very important for Bangladesh Krishok Federation(BKF). This is the area which is very deprived and excluded in all respects. Most of the people are economically challenged. Sometimes they face periodical famine apart from the flood. Furthermore, Bangladesh Krishok Federation has its stronghold in some districts, out of 16. Especially in Kurigram, Rangpur, Nilfamari, Dinajpur, Rajshai, Chapainwabgonj it has significant organizational basis. In Kurigram and Dinajpur huge land occupation took place under the banner of Bangladesh Krishok Federation. Only in Kurigram district the landless people occupied 12.5 kilometer long British regime railway land property where they settled as well.

Tens of thousands of people are victimized by the flood but BKF cannot stand all of them as a movement. However, at least we can do something for our members. That is why, the local organization at district level selected worst 500 victim families to be given support. They appeal to the central committee of BKF to do something practical in the crucial moment. The center took the issue from the part of its responsibility to stand by the affected people who are our members. That is way we have formed a Relief Team of 5 members which finds the resources in order to help the vulnerable people in the north. This is trying to mobilize the local support from the middle class people in the city.

The support we decide to give is following:

- 1. Rice---20kgXTk.35X500 = BDT 350,000
- 2. Pulses---3KgXTk.60X500=BDT 90,000
- 3. Onion----1KgXTk.30X 500 =BDT 15,000

- 4. Garlic----1/2KgXTk.120X500 =BDT 30,000
- 5. Potatoes-5KgXTk.20X500= BDT 50,000
- 6. Salt-----1Kg.XTk.18X500= BDT 9,000
- 7. Different spices---Tk.20X500=BDT 10,000
- 8. Oil-----1/4KgXTk.80X500= BDT 10,000
- 9. Utensil---Tk.150X500=BDT 75,000
- Total Cost =BDT 639,000
- In Euros: 6390

In word: Six Thousand Three Hundred Ninety Euros.

We hope 10% of the projected figure will be collected from the local fund mobilization. Therefore, we need the outside support for the rest. Thus, we fervently request our well-wishers abroad to provide with support to stand by the flood victim people in Bangladesh who deserve to get sympathy.

ASM Badrul Alam

President

Bangladesh Krishok Federation

International solidarity: how to donate via ESSF

To send donations

Cheques

cheques to ESSF in euros only, payable in France, to be sent to: ESSF 2, rue Richard-Lenoir 93100 Montreuil France

Bank Account:

Crédit lyonnais Agence de la Croix-de-Chavaux (00525) 10 boulevard Chanzy 93100 Montreuil France ESSF, account number 445757C

International bank account details :

IBAN : FR85 3000 2005 2500 0044 5757 C12 BIC / SWIFT : CRLYFRPP Account holder : ESSF

Through PayPal

You can send money through Paypal: see the PayPal button on the upper left side of ESSF home page [English version of Paypal form is on the English Home page]. https://www.paypal.com/fr/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_flow&SESSION=HYicOYx_ee-jYpZ4KT0Lb30CFQ__alLhQDaCsf2UhDzHgORSJCLJk_DiCqy&dispatch=5885d80a13c0db1f8e263663d3faee8def8934b92a 630e40b7fef61ab7e9fe63

We will keep you informed through our website of the state of the permanent solidarity fund and how it is utilized.