

SOCIETY FOR SPECIAL PERSONS

Looking Beyond Disabilities & Breaking Barriers Together

Mainstream Disabilities in Disaster Flood Relief Report, 2010

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Introduction

Society for Special Persons® (**SSP**) is working for the empowerment of People with Disabilities. SSP is the disable people organization (DPO) working on self-help basis. SSP was established officially in March 2008 by and for the People with Disabilities to make them useful for their family as well as for the society at large. The SSP mainly focuses on Independent Living, Barrier Free Society, Awareness rising activities, Capacity building, provision of basic facilities. SSP provides a common platform to improve the over all quality of life of the People with Disabilities. SSP find suitable economic activities for those special persons who have nothing to do for themselves. SSP is working as member of Pakistan Disabled Peoples' Organization (DPI Pakistan).

SSP also has established the Vocational Center in order to enhance the skill of People with Disabilities for their livelihood. In name of "Mohammadi Dasterkhan" inclusive for general public and Persons with disability.

Due to the monsoon season Pakistan experiencing a worst flooding. Entire villages have been washed away, according to rough estimate over 2,000 deaths so far and over 24 million displaced or badly affected. The immediate water damage causing havoc, the floods have inundated crop-producing areas, dealing a crippling blow to the agricultural-based economy and threatening a food crisis. Not only the Pakistani government along with national and international support struggling to rescue and provide aid to millions.

All provinces perished due to the gigantic flood and the Punjab one of them with estimated population of 80.13 million. More than 10 districts out of 36 damaged badly because of flood. Society for Special Persons working in emergency relief currently in district Multan, Kot Addu, Jatoe, Layyah and Muzaffar Garrh where millions of people affected from flood and these are backward district of the Punjab province according to the early assessment, visits and relief work various disable people observed, smashed up with flood badly and most poor conditions was also observed.

Activity-1 Food Items packing for flood affected area

SSP responded immediately and started working for flood affected people. In the office of SSP, a relief camp established inclusive for general flood affected people and Persons with disability. With the help and collaboration of Lion Club International District 305 N1 Pakistan, community and self help, SSP sent food for 2000 families on two trucks.









One family pack consists on following commodities:

Commodities	Quantity
sugar	2 kg
Floor	10 KG
Juices	one tetra
	pack
Match	one pack
Candles	one pack
Milk	one KG Tetra
	pack
Cooking oil	one KG
Dates	200 GM
Mat	one
hand Fan,	One
Biscuit packet	one family
	pack
salt pack	One
red chili pack	One
Rice pack	з kg
Black Dry	2 KG
channey	
Soap	185 gm
surf pack	one

SSP members (PWDs) did all packing and work day and night to prepare it.





SSP distributed these commodities in different places of District Muzafar Garh e.g, Shah Jamal (mondka), Baseerah, Mahmood Kot Road and also in different areas of district Multan.

Activity-2, Food bags Distribution in flood affected areas

Within the day after flood the team of organization moved towards Baseera, Head Mohmmadwala, Mehmodkot etc on dated 30th August, 2010 where a huge destruction was observed and various disable people interviewed our team planned to work for them and initially provided psychological counselling and medical facilities.

In the districts organization have good working relations with government and other organizations working in the area and initially also team visited all the camps meet with the local organization along with other individuals. The team have focused on relief committees of disable persons and in process of psychological counselling session with them.

SSP distributed one truck filled with Basic foods necessities distributed among flood affected people .SSP members also worked for them with other social workers, Rescue 1122 and community.









Activity-3

Food bags Distribution (flood affected PWDs)

On 6th September 2010 SSP staff visited life camp at WAPDA Colony High School Multan. Here 140 flood affected families from village Kasbah Gujrat are sheltered. Among them 20 were People with Disabilities.









SSP team distributed food packets and bags among them. During these assessment visits SSP not only distributed relief goods but assessed how many of them need assistive devices?

Activity-4

EID GIFT Distribution

Society for the Special Persons® (SSP) decided according to strategy of Pakistan Disabled Peoples' Organization (DPI Pakistan) to celebrate Eid with flood affected people in relief camps. The gifts were consisting on mehndi, bangels, redymade suite and for children different toys, games were packed as gifts. These gifts distributed among women and children in relief Camps to make them happy on Eid day and giving then feelings of home.









SSP team made Mehndi (Hina) traditional designs with cone on the hands of girls and women according to Eid culture in Pakistan. This was a very nice experience celebrating Eid with affected people in relief camps. and we all were very happy like a family.

Activity-5

Wheelchairs Distribution in flood affected area

A massive destruction was observed during and after the terrible flood in various areas of district Kot Addu, Jatoe, Muzaffargarh, Layyah and hit deprived areas where the people already living hand to mouth even below poverty line. The flood destroyed cropped fields and washed away houses and livestock.

The majority of the IDPs living in open air without proper food clean drinking water and health facilities and some of them in process to return. While some of them living in government

premises such as in schools, colleges. As per the initial survey only 25% camps observed as registered where the health and food facilities available while others do not have access to food and health facilities. It was also observed that lot of families sleeping in open air without any relief. Government, Non Government Organization/civil societies, individuals, local and international donors made their efforts to support those vulnerable people in term of emergency relief but the thirst more than the water.

It was also observed not a single action made for special persons affected from flood from any government and non government organizations and team observed them as neglected persons and there need for immediate action. Currently interviewed people concerned about to go back in homes also panic on the situation as all their live stock, necessary home items even homes no more their and they are looking toward the global humanity.









While keeping view the special need of the Persons with disabilities (PWDs) in flood affected areas with the coordination of Milestone and CHEF International, forty (40) wheel chairs, hundred (100) white canes for blind persons, and fifteen (15) mobile phones for Deaf SMS communication distributed among PWDs flood affected areas. MS.MASAKO OKUHIRA (Manager) Japanese Society for Rehabilitation of persons with disabilities (JSRPD), and Syed Ajaz Ahmad Shah (Lion Club International District 305N1) were special guests of this ceremony. This ceremony held on September 19, 2010 at Express News office, Multan.

Media Response

SSP Flood relief activities attracted media like GEO, DAWN NEWS etc, International Channel Russia Today (RT), and Ability Magazine (ABILITY Magazine is currently ranked 14th on the Top Magazines in the World, Go to Link: http://abilitymagazine.com/ (August 2010) and they filmed our activity with taking our interviews.













Russia Today RT (International Channel)





Russia Today RT International Channel





Russia Today RT International Channel





Russia Today RT International Channel

Russia Today with SSP team in field



DAWN NEWS (Channel)



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Society for Special Persons (SSP) is working for the empowerment of people with disabilities in Pakistan.

While SSP supports persons with disabilities, by volunteers with disabilities, it also supports people without disabilities. The floods in Pakistan are the worst disaster in the history of the country. Many families have lost their houses, pets, property and homeland. Pakistan's entire provinces are affected. SSP took an initiation and started work for flood victims. In their office, a relief camp was established. With the help of Lion Club International (Multan), community and self help, SSP perpared and sent food for 2000 families.

One family pack consists on following commodities:

Sugar - 2 kg Floor - 10 kg Juices - One tetra pack Match - One pack Candles - One pack Milk - One kg Tetra pack Cooking oil - One kg Dates - 200 gm Mat - One Hand Fan - One Biscuit packet - One family pack Salt pack - One Red chili pack - One Rice pack - 3 kg Black Dry channey - 2 kg Soap - 185 gm Surf pack - One

SSP members did all gathering and packing -- working day and night. SSP distributed these commodities in different places of District Muzafar Garh e.g, Shah Jamal(mondka), Baseerah, Mahmood Kot Road and also in different areas of district Multan.



SSP team packing food, water, clothes, and other items for flood victims.

ABILITY Magazine is currently ranked 14th on the Top Magazines in the World — and is the leading magazine covering Health, Disability and Human Potential. We are an award-winning publication, distributed by Time-Warner. For nearly 20 years, our mission has been to provide new insights into our individual levels of ability.

From Diabetes to Spinal Cord Injury and celebrity interviews to CEO profiles, ABILITY covers the latest on Health, Environmental Protection, Assistive Technology, Employment, Sports, Travel, Universal Design, Mental Health and much more. Our writers include MDs, PhDs, JDs, best-selling authors, U.S. Senators and advocates. Cover interviews consist of Movie and TV Celebrities, Business Leaders, Sports Figures, Presidents, First Ladies and more. Ability magazine .com/digital issues

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