

GOVERNMENT OF PONDICHERRY

ABSTRACT

REVENUE DEPARTMENT – RELIEF AND REHABILITATION – POLICY ON RECONSTRUCTION OF PERMANENT HOUSES AND INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES FOR THE TSUNAMI AFFECTED PEOPLE – PARTICIPATION OF NGOs / VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, ETC.

G.O.Ms.No. 29

Pondicherry dated 15-03-2005

READ: 1. G.O.Ms. No. 01 dated 03-01-2005 of Revenue Department.
2. ID NO. 1070/JSR/RO/D2/2005 P.F. 14 dated 15-03-2005
of Revenue Department.

An unprecedented tsunami struck the coastal villages and hamlets of the Pondicherry and Karaikal regions of the Union territory of Pondicherry on 26-12-2004 resulting in huge loss of life and property. This tsunami destruction was severe and permanent houses have been flattened, huts were strewn around, fishing boats have been thrown and smashed and the infrastructure facilities have also sustained incredible / extensive damages. A large number of families living in coastal villages and hamlets have lost their houses and possessions. It is estimated that around ten thousand houses have been damaged rendering their inhabitants homeless.

2. Due to the grave magnitude of the disaster a pressing necessity has arisen for the Government of Pondicherry to act swiftly to alleviate the sufferings of the affected masses through immediate relief and perspective rehabilitation and livelihood measures. As an instantaneous relief, the Government have disbursed cash dole of Rs. 10,000/- to each of the affected family for erecting temporary shelters. The Government is very keen to rehabilitate all the affected families in all the coastal hamlets of Pondicherry and Karaikal regions notified as affected by natural calamities vide Order read first cited through perspective long-term approach.

3. Some of the State Governments, Industrial establishments, Corporate Houses, Non Governmental Organizations, Voluntary agencies and individuals have come forward to assist the Government in the mammoth task of rehabilitating the thousands of families in the 22 affected revenue villages. The Government have considered these offers from such agencies and have decided to setout the framework for their coordination with the Administration for permanent relocation and rehabilitation of the affected families.

4. This matter has been discussed at length at various levels. On 23-02-2005 the Relief and Rehabilitation Committee was convened exclusively for the purpose of discussing this matter under the Chairmanship of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, Pondicherry in the presence of Hono'ble Chief Minister / Ministers, members of the Parliament, Members of the Legislative Assembly and senior Officers. After seeking the views of all concerned, the following policy decisions were arrived at.

- a) Any reputed Non-Government Organization / others who voluntarily come forward with past record of successful project implementation will be given preference and encouragement in reconstruction activities of housing Project to the tsunami affected people.
- b) NGOs / others who offer to construct 100 houses or more will be permitted to construct the houses by themselves.
- c) NGOs / others who offer to construct less than 100 houses will have to deposit the money with the Government for execution through a Government Department / Agency.
- d) NGOs / others should come forward to take-up construction of infrastructure and community facilities also as an integrated model village.
- e) An M.O.U will have to be signed by the NGO / others with the Government providing for various conditions for proper and quality construction of houses and other facilities.
- f) The land will remain in the name of the Government but inalienable right will be given to the beneficiary family, jointly in the name of husband and wife.
- g) The NGO / others concerned should construct the houses, which are disaster resistant, based on the type design and layout supplied by the Government.

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- h) There will be continuous quality check by teams consisting of Government, NGOs and experts.
- i) Allotment of houses to the beneficiaries will be decided by the Government on a rational basis.
- j) There shall not be any religious or political activity or promotion of any ideology allowed during or after construction of houses.
- k) There shall be a ban on selling the new houses and plot by any beneficiary or transfer to any other person or change of use
- l) For Karaikal region land have already been identified and acquisition proceedings have been set in motion by issue of 4 (1) notification. The Deputy Collector (Rev.), Karaikal shall take possession of the land at the earliest for starting the construction activity.
- m) In Pondicherry region land have been identified in Pudukuppam (Moorthykuppam) and acquisition proceedings have already started. Similarly land has been identified by the Revenue Department in all the Coastal villages in consultation with the M.L.As. The Revenue Department will initiate action to commence the acquisition proceedings and take possession of the lands at the earliest.

5. As all the villages affected by the tsunami are situated in the Coastal Zone, the restrictions imposed in the notification dated 19-02-1991 of Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India regulating the activities in the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) have to be observed.

6. Following housing pattern will generally be adopted, which will be finalized in consultation with the village community -

- a. In general the victims have applied for individual houses. Hence individual houses may be constructed with in the plot allotted for the purpose. Where ever possible twin houses may be constructed for economy and optimal use of the land.

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- b. Where ever needed individual houses on RCC stilts could also be constructed to the save house hold possession from inundation as well as for providing service space in the ground floor.
- c. In places where the habitation is slightly away from the seashore, in the proximity of the sea within 200 metres community work facilities such as meeting places, landing/beaching of crafts, net mending, fish drying and auction yards, individual locker facilities, etc., will be arranged.

7. Non-Government Organizations, Charitable Trusts, public and private sector companies, corporate houses and charitable institutions (both national and international), etc. may send their request for participation in this effort to the Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner –cum- Development Commissioner, Pondicherry. The Government desires that when an NGO/Voluntary agency etc takes up such work in a habitation, it should be comprehensively following certain standards. They may select a particular habitation/habitations or part thereof. Community infrastructure such as roads, water supply, health facilities, noon meal centre, internal roads, drains, anganwadi, net mending halls, fish auction halls, fish drying and curing yards, playground, library, information centre, etc should be designed and provided for the entire habitation; or they shall bear the proportionate cost for habitation, if they have not selected the entire habitation. The participating organisation may prepare a single project report giving in detail the rehabilitation package, cost estimates, engineering details etc. Any of the common facilities can be separately selected by a NGO or others for construction with the specific approval of the Empowered Committee.

8. An Empowered Committee at the State level is constituted to consider original proposals and subsequent requirements of modifications and alterations, received from voluntary agencies for construction of houses and development of the habitats including community assets.

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| (i) | The Chief Secretary, Pondicherry | Chairman |
| (ii) | The Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner
–cum- Development Commissioner, Pondicherry. | Vice Chairman |
| (iii) | The Secretary (Finance and Environment)
or Representative | Member |
| (iv) | The Secretary (Fisheries, LAD& Rural Development) | Member |

(v)	The Secretary (Revenue)	Member
(vi)	The Secretary (Housing & Town Planning)	Member
(vii)	The Chief Engineer Public Works department	Member
(viii)	The Chief Town Planner, Pondicherry	Member
(ix)	The Director, Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare	Member
(x)	The Additional Secretary (Revenue)	Member Secretary

9. Further, there shall be the following committees to supervise execution of the work in the field in keeping with the provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding, the approved design and specifications.

Executive Committee - I – For Pondicherry Region

(i)	The Collector	Chairman
(ii)	The Chief Engineer, PWD	Member
(iii)	The Director, Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare	Member
(iv)	The Director, Local Administration Dept.	Member
(v)	The Chief Town Planner	Member
(vi)	The Additional Secretary (Rev.)	Member Secretary

Executive Committee - II – For Karaikal Region

(i)	Regional Administrator	Chairman
(ii)	Executive Engineer, B&R, PWD	Member
(iii)	Executive Engineer, Irrigation	Member
(iv)	Joint Director, Planning	Member
(v)	Commissioner, Karaikal Municipality/Commune Panchayat concerned	Member
(vi)	Deputy Director, Fisheries	Member
(vii)	Junior Town Planner	Member
(viii)	Deputy Collector (Rev.)	Member Secretary

10. The Government will prepare the type design of the proposed house construction and unit cost of construction of a house may be kept around Rs. 1.50 to 1.75 lakhs. The proposed constructions shall be earthquake / cyclone resistant and will adhere to the approved plans. Minimum project cost for the habitat will be around Rs. 75 lakhs for 25 houses/clusters. The Chairman / Vice Chairman of the Empowered Committee will

have the proposal verified and will accept/reject the same. The Chairman / Vice Chairman of the Empowered Committee is authorised to approve minor variations in cost and specifications. The decision of Chairman / Vice Chairman of the Empowered Committee in these matters will be final.

11. The Executive committees will be empowered to approve local variations in cost and estimates up to an extent of 10 % of the approved level. The Public Works Department or any other agency authorized by the Government will supervise the quality of the construction on regular basis and ensure adherence to the Plan as approved. For this purpose Chief Engineer, PWD will constitute teams comprising of Executive Engineers and experts from outside the Government and allot the villages for their span of supervision.

12. An NGO short-listed for a Project costing up to Rs. 1.00 Crore in a particular settlement, will be required to remit 25% of the total project cost in a Nationalized Bank in Pondicherry and the Fixed Deposit Receipt shall be deposited with the Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner, Government of Pondicherry. For the projects costing more than Rs. 1.00 Crore, 15 to 20 % of the total project cost would be required to be deposited as described above; the exact percentage in these cases will be decided by the Empowered Committee. The amount so deposited can be drawn by the respective NGOs only with the written approval of the Empowered Committee for the purpose of finishing work of construction activities.

13. The Revenue Department shall function as Servicing Department for the Empowered Committee and for signing of the Memorandum of Understanding, its monitoring and follow up. The Memorandum of Understanding will be signed by the Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner on behalf of the Government and Stamp Duty for registration of the same shall be exempted.

// BY ORDER OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR //

-/sd/-

B. V. SELVARAJ
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSIONER –CUM-
RELIEF AND REHABILITATION COMMISSIONER

To

1. The Chief Secretary, Pondicherry.
2. The Secretary (Revenue), Pondicherry.
3. The Secretary (Housing), Pondicherry.

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4. The Additional Secretary (Revenue), Pondicherry.
5. The Chief Engineer, Public Works department, Pondicherry.
6. The Regional Administrator, Karaikal.
7. The Director, Department of Fisheries, Pondicherry.
8. The Director, Local Administration Department, Pondicherry
9. The Chief Town Planner, Town and Country Planning Department, Pondicherry.
10. All the Members of the Committees.

11. The Director,
Directorate of Stationary and Printing
Pondicherry. With a request to publish the G.O.
in the next Gazette.

Copies to:

1. Private Secretary to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Pondicherry.
2. Private Secretary to the Hon'ble Revenue Minister, Pondicherry.
3. Private Secretary to the Hon'ble Minister for Local Administration, Pondicherry.
4. Private Secretary to the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture (Housing), Pondicherry.
5. All Heads of Departments and Offices.