AN APPEAL

Sub:- Appeal for extension of support for relief rescue and rehabilitation of those most adversely affected by Cyclone “AMPHAN” in the Sundarbans

About ourselves

“Amara Sabai” is a voluntary organization located in one of the remotest villages called Kailaspur in the Mathurapur II Block of Sundarbans. Founded in 1970 by the local youth to ameliorate certain ills and sufferings, (illiteracy, early marriage, stark poverty migration in different form etc.) by mobilizing local resources (a handful of rice, token amount, labors, or participations of the local in any form) “Amara Sabai has been rendering services to the people uninterruptedly over the years. The way “Amara Sabai” has been working depending on local leadership, local organizations and local resources drew admirable attention of many, including the Government and Non Government Organizations in the country. Nehru Youva Kendra Sangathan the largest autonomous organization under the Ministry of Youth Affars & Sports, Government of India deputed hundreds District Youth Coordinators for their orientation in youth and rural development work. besides, the Director General and other Top official of NYKS visited “Amara Sabai” with a view to hands-on-experience for the purpose of formulating the National Youth Policy of India. A video film on the objective, strategy, methodology and the purpose of youth work based on the activities of “Amara Sabai” along with other few with an introduction from the Prime Minister of India was brought out and circulated to all involved in youth work in India by the Government. The film entitled “Sambhab” has thus been an illustration of the model of Youth activities in the country. At the same time hundreds of youth leaders from different parts of the country were sent to “Amara Sabai” by the NYKS to know how an organization working in a remotest area of the country depending on local people and local resources. “Amara Sabai” received admirable recognition from various Govt. & Non Govt. agencies in India and abroad e.g. (i) best Youth club of the District (ii) best Youth Club in the State of West Bengal from NYKS, Government of India (iii) certificate received from MSME for its entrepreneurial efforts, (iv) best youth club in the field of women and child development from Rama Krishna Mission, Narendrapur, (v) Award received from Baruipur Palli Unnayan Samity for Safe Motherhood and Child survival activities (vi) Award from Global Giving, an international organization for education programme etc. the undersigned, the founder of “Amara Sabai” received National Youth Award for outstanding services rendered through “Amara Sabai” from Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports Government of India. As a National Youth Award Winner the undersigned was appointed as District Youth Coordinator of NYKS by Government of India.

“Amara Sabai” is still continuing with the similar programmes with emphasis on quality education to enhance literacy rate, reduce dropout, and to do away with the rate of migration and also in the realm of behavior change communication to promote health and hygiene.

Legal Status: Registered under Society Registration Act/ 12A & 80G/ FCRA/ Niti Ayog.

The present predicament: - Hit by the cyclone “AMPHAN” the entire area is presently devastated. The environment is shattered and the people are crippled and handicapped by the cyclone AMPHAN/UMPHUN. The storm that blows at a speed of 185 kilometer per hour accompanied by incessant rain raged the cluster of villages to the ground. Houses in thousands have been collapsed or blown off, trees uprooted and saline water ravaged the crops of thousands of acres. Crops harvested days ago are lost in water. Peoples are homeless, hungry, thirsty, and devoid of support of any kind. The entire area is without electricity. Mobility has been completely suspended by the uprooted trees and crumbled houses and shelter. Hundreds and thousands of animals who had to be let loose prior to the onset of cyclone and the entire crop of fish in water bodies died during the cyclone and their bodies (carcass) are decomposing in the water. Entire biodiversity has been most adversely affected. All the water bodies, the lifeline of area for both human and animals have been rendered useless by the influx of saline water. Perils to be taken are most immediately.

While every single person is in utter distress the women, the children, the aged, and the ailing ones are the most vulnerable ones and need to be looked after with most immediate effect. The people are already under the threat of Covid-19. Cares for the same too are also to be undertaken. Under such precarious situation “Amara Sabai” the voluntary organization working in the area feels terribly handicapped owing to fund crunch. We have able and willing volunteers but fund constraints are aching us.

We solicit generous contribution from benevolent persons and organizations to help us deal with the perilous situation immediately.

“Amara Sabai” an organization rooted deep into the community made a preliminary survey and made an assessment of the length depth of the problems to deal with and accordingly made a plan as enumerated below.

Plan A: - short term measures

The overall situation is so painful as it warrants immediate intervention with resources like

* Food
* Baby food
* Medicines, sanitary napkins, deworming tablets etc.
* Bleaching power, phenol, lime and water purifiers like zeoline etc.
* Tarpaulin and house building materials
* Safe water bottles, container etc.
* Books, note books, paper, pencils and other learning materials for students
* Clothing particularly for women and children.

Besides, management of carcasses lying all around is to be taken up most immediately.

Plan B: Long term measures / Rehabilitation

* Stabilizing the water bodies through desalination.
* House construction with full WASH facilities in a manner ensuring stability of the houses against cyclone and flood which are too frequent in the Sundarbans.
* Repair of Schools, Children’s care centre, cattle shed etc.
* Skill development to promote suitable livelihood.
* Development of pisciculture, fishery and mangrove development.
* Agricultural extension and training for the local peasants.

Or any other activities may deem necessary over the times to come.

Hope, very kindly you will take necessary steps to help us in helping the ruined people of our area and

Oblige.

Thanking you

Yours faithfully

Bibhuti Ranjan Mishra

Retd District Youth Coordinator/ NYKS

National Youth Award Winner

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Amara Sabai

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