

KERALA FLOODS – 2018

INTERVENTIONS BY BETHANY NAVAJEEVAN SOCIAL SERVICE (BNSS)

REPORT AND FUTURE ACTION PLAN



Spontaneous Response to Alleviate Sufferings and Lives Touched:

- **Around 4000 People**
- **In 7 days**
- **3 Districts**

Multiphase flood Relief Effort:

- **First Phase: - Immediate Relief- Food Distribution**
- **Second Phase: - Relief Kits, Cleaning**
- **Third Phase:- Rehabilitation – Adopting Family, Students, Parish**

1. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

- In late July 2018, severe flooding affected Kerala state in India
- Kerala received heavy monsoon rainfall on the mid-evening of August 8 resulting in dams filling to capacity; in the first 24 hours of rainfall the state received 310 mm (12 in) of rain.
- Almost all dams have been opened since the water level has risen close to overflow level due to heavy rainfall, flooding local low-lying areas.
- For the first time in the state's history, 35 of its 42 dams have been opened
- Over 373 people died within a fortnight
- At least 280,679 people were evacuated
- Over 5,645 relief camps have been opened at various locations to accommodate the flood victims.
- People from Chengannur, Pandanad, Aranmula, Aluva, Chalakudy, Kuttanad, Pandalam are still in relief camps
- It is estimated that 1,247,496 people have found shelter in such camps.
- The Kerala State Disaster Management Authority has placed the state in a red alert as a result of the intense flooding.
- 14 districts of the state placed on high alert
- A number of water treatment plants were forced to cease pumping water, resulting in poor access to clean water, especially in northern districts of the region.
- The flooding has affected hundreds of villages, destroyed an estimated 10,000 km (6,200 mi) of roads and thousands of homes have been damaged or destroyed.



Bethany Priests representing BNSS Provides Relief Goods in Camps

2. BNSS AND FLOOD RELIEF

The flood relief and rehabilitation work at Kerala by the Bethany Navajeevan Province, Trivandrum, which is actualised by its social wing is very humble in its approach. The extent of the disaster and the suffering of the poor people brought tears to the eyes of the participating priests and brothers while performing the noble task of rendering relief. During and after the relief, our brothers shared with us various experiences and incidents which throw light on the multifarious aspects of such a vast service activity. This report is a descriptive account of the relief work still going on, along with suitable photographs, to give our donors, devotees and well-wishers a ‘behind-the-scene’ account of what it means to participate in a relief project of Bethany Navajeevan Social Service!



Bethany Priests and Volunteers carrying Relief goods to Venmony Camp

3. BNSS MISSION

The mission of BNSS is to alleviate human suffering caused by flood that may impact people locally.

4. BNSS OBJECTIVES

- To get engaged in a series of dialogue and visits with the affected communities of Chengannor, Pallipadu
- To support rehabilitation, livelihood and enhance occupation development related to their resources and choices in community

- To support the vulnerable population like mothers who are the primary care providers for their children have lost their jobs, their land, and their property
- To support the Diocesan Social Service agencies in providing relief work



Bethany Priests returns after providing Boats



Fr. Jacob Dayanand OIC is travelling in Boat to provide Food to the flood victims

5. BNSS INTERVENTIONS ALREADY EXECUTED

BNSS responded to the disastrous floods in a very active and timely manner. The following activities were executed:

5.1.Launching of Flood Relief Campaign

5.1.1. Provincial Council Meeting

An emergency meeting was held at Bethany Provincial House, Nalanchira presided by V. Rev. Fr. Mathew Jacob Thiruvailil OIC, attended by Fr. Thomas George OIC, Fr. Mathew Manaluvila OIC, Fr. Jacob Dayanand OIC and Fr. Geevarghese Thiruvailil OIC to discuss and look into the possibilities of BNSS response to the flood affected areas of Chenganoor, Pandanad and Pathanamthitta. Frs. Mathew Manaluvila OIC the social service co-ordinator and Fr. Jacob Dayanand OIC the Province Procurator were given the charge of flood relief coordination. In the meeting it was decided to work on few aspects.

5.1.2. Flood Relief Committee

A flood relief committee was constituted immediately to look after the need assessment, fund raising, and distribution on daily basis. The committee was coordinated by Fr. Mathew Manaluvila OIC and Fr. Jacob Dayanand OIC. The other members are;

1. Frs. Thomas Kuruvila OIC
2. Fr. Sajan Thomas OIC
3. Fr. Antony Kallil OIC
4. Fr. Bonny K Alex OIC
5. Fr. Abel Mathew OIC
6. Fr. Ebin Panicker OIC
7. Fr. John Thundiyath OIC
8. Fr. Rijo Thomas OIC
9. Mr. Reji Samuel
10. Mr. John Mathew
11. Mr. Varghese
12. Master Jeevan Sam Reji



Bethany Priests giving food in relief camps

5.2.Evaluation of Immediate Need and Immediate Response

The flood relief committee assessed the immediate need of the affected population in view of the available information through different sources responded immediately to the needs:

5.2.1. Provision of boat service to rescue the victims:

We could arrange boat service for rescue operation from Poovar Boat Club, Trivandrum and thereby we could save around 560 people. The rescue operation was done in association with Chetana, the social service wing Malankara Catholic Diocese of Mavelikara.

5.2.2. Fund Raising

For any kind of contribution to the affected population, money is required. It was proposed in the meeting that an immediate fund raising campaign should be initiated on the campus as well as outside the campus. Cherupushpa School, Bethany Navajeevan Vidyalaya, Nalanchira and Mount Bethany School, Mylapra were taken as fund collection points.

5.2.3. Provision of consumables and other needful items

We could provide drinking water, clothes, sanitary Items, Health and hygiene items to around three thousand eight hundred and fifty people in 14 camps, households and affected areas.

5.2.4. Collection of relief goods

Collection of relief goods took place through different schools of Bethany Navajeevan Province. There were ten local collection points and two regional collection points:

a. Regional Collection Points:

1. Cherupushpa School Chunakkara, Mavelikara
2. Mount Bethany School, Mylapra

b. Local Collection Points:

1. Navajeevan Bethany Vidyalaya, Nalanchira
2. Mount Bethany School, Mylapra
3. Mar Ivanios Bethany School, Kalayapuram
4. Mar Ivanios Bethany School, Vencodu
5. Mar Ivanios Bethany School, Kanjiramkulam
6. Cherupushpa Bethany School, Chunakkara
7. Mount Bethany School, Mylapra and Kumbazha
8. Bethany ITC, Nedumangadu
9. Bethany Ashram, Shantigiri
10. Bethany College, Nalanchira

c. Other local as well as global agencies

- Muthootu Finance
- Provincial House for Bethany Sisters, Nalanchira
- St. Jude School, Mukhathala
- Bethany Convent School, Kalayapuram
- Malankara Catholic Youth Movement, Nedumangad

d. Details of Relief Goods collected

Sl No.	Materials collected	No of items
Edible Food Items		
1	Rice – Big sacks	70
2	Rice- Small Sacks	60
3	Wheat – Big sacks	5 packets
4	Bread	750 packets
5	Biscuits	120 cases
6	Water	200 cases – 2000 bottles
7	Food packets	1500 packets

8	Instant Chappathi	200 packets
9	Masala Powders	100 packets
Toiletries and stationaries		
10	Baby diapers	75 cases
11	Napkins	70 cases
12	Paste	600 packets
13	Brush - medium	500
14	Brush - small	250
15	Washing Soap	300 pieces
16	Bathing Soap	500 pieces
Clothing and Bedding		
17	Bathing Towel	300 pieces
18	Kids Garments	50 boxes
19	Gents garments (Shirt, T shirts, Pants, Inner wears, Lungis, dhotis)	20 boxes
20	Ladies garments Churidar, Nighties, Saris, Frock, Inner wears)	25 boxes
21	Blankets	65 packets
22	Bed sheets	150 pieces
Other Items		
23	Candles	10 cases
24	Matchbox	10 cases
25	Salt	100 packets
26	Firewood	300Kg
Medical Items		
27	Medicine	5 cases
Cleaning Items		
28	Cleaning Items (Dettol, Chlorine, Bleaching Powder, gloves, Phenol)	5 cases

e. Details of Cash Collected

SI No	Name	Amount
1	Rajani Thampan	250
2	Bethany Convent, Mavelikara	2000
3	Justin Varghese	500
4	Sharanya C Nair	4000
5	Aswathy	2000
6	Kunjumon	2500
7	Dona Yohannan	1000
8	Radha Vijayan	500
9	Megha	500
10	Plus two Students	2100

f. Distribution of Relief Goods

The coordinators and volunteers took the commodities (the food and other relief goods) into the nearby worst affected areas and distribute it in the needy and poor people. We distributed the items to the following relief camps and houses and areas

Sl. No	Relief camps/ Centers	Relief Goods distributed	No of people
1	TMVM HS Vettiyar	Medical Items Other Items Clothing and Bedding Toiletries and stationaries Edible Food Items Firewood	1200
2	Government LP School, Vettiyar	Other Items Clothing and Bedding Toiletries and stationaries Edible Food Items	180
3	St. Johns HS School, Mattom	Edible Food Items Clothing and Bedding Toiletries and stationaries	210
4	Devi Vilasom LP School, Vettiyar	Edible Food Items Toiletries and stationaries Clothing and Bedding	250
5	LPS Naalumukku, Mankamkuzhy	Clothing and Bedding Toiletries and stationaries Edible Food Items	100

6	Chunakkara, Govt. LPS	Clothing and Bedding Toiletries and stationaries Edible Food Items	240
7	LMHS Venmony	Edible Food Items Toiletries and stationaries Clothing and Bedding	190
8	Malankara Catholic Church, Chengannor	500 food packets Cleaning Items Other Items Clothing and Bedding Toiletries and stationaries Edible Food Items	1200
9	Malankara Catholic Church, Pallipadu	Toiletries and stationaries Edible Food Items Clothing and Bedding Cleaning Items	30
10	Deaddiction Center, Pallipadu	Cleaning Items Other Items Clothing and Bedding Toiletries and stationaries Edible Food Items	70
11	St. Stephens CSI Church, Venmony	Other Items Clothing and Bedding Toiletries and stationaries Edible Food Items	35
12	Salvation Army Church, Venmony	Other Items Clothing and Bedding Toiletries and stationaries Edible Food Items	35
13	Govt. School, Seethathodu	Edible Food Items Toiletries and stationaries Clothing and Bedding	90
14	Bethany Ashram, Angamoozhy	Edible Food Items Toiletries and stationaries	20
	Total No of People		3850
Areas of Distribution			
Angamoozhy Mylapra Pallipadu Chengannor Thumpamon Venmony Mudiyoorkonam Alappuzha Vettiyar			

g. Cleaning Programme

- Parish hall of Malankara Catholic Church, Kallishery
- 3 families in the Malankara Catholic Church, Kallishery

h. Volunteers for cleaning – (On-going)

- Malankara Catholic Church, Vallikunnam
- Malankara Catholic Church, Edappon

i. Conveyance for volunteers - Bus/ Car/ Van services – (On-going)

- Cherupushpa Bethany School, Chunakkara
- Mar Ivanios Bethany School, Kalayapuram
- Bethany Navajeevan Vidyalaya, Nalanchira
- Other vehicles from Mylapra and Kalayapuram

j. Food for volunteers and workers

300 people in 7 days

6. FUTURE INTERVENTION PLANS

BNSS plans to continue its relief activities through short, medium and long term rehabilitation interventions. These interventions will be focused on:

- Adopting Students
- Adopting a Family
- Adopting a Parish

BNSS plans to work in the following four areas

a. Adopting Students

Over 1000 students who have directly been affected by the floods in the areas of Chenganoor, Pandanad and Pathanamthitta. Due to their great financial loss, it will be difficult for them to continue with their education, without assistance. For the continuation of these students' education, donors can sponsor students for one year. The students' fees and other expenses like school bags, Notebooks, etc will be 30000 thousand per year.

BNSS would like to take 25 students for a year spending 30000/-

Total Cost for 25 students = 25x30000= 750000/-

b. Adopting a Family

Donors can choose to adopt a family living in the flood affected area that has great financial loss. This will include giving a monthly amount of 20,000 INR for household consumables.

BNSS would like to support 35 families by providing 20000 thousand each

Total Cost for 35 families – 35 families x 20000= 700000/-

Donors can also contribute to:

Constructing houses –10 Houses – 10 houses x 500000= 5000000/-

Repairing houses –25 Houses – 25 Houses x 100000= 2500000/-

Constructing Toilets – 25 Toilets- 25 Toilets x 50000= 1250000/-

c. Adopting a Parish

Donors may choose to invest in water supply and sanitation facilities of the selected area by providing safe water, improved sanitation facilities. This will include low cost drinking water treatment plants and culturally acceptable sustainable toilets and sanitation systems.

Donors can also invest for conducting Health Camps and providing health and hygiene materials.

Total cost for sanitation and Health camps – 500000/-

- d. **Miscellaneous donations:** Donors may also donate any amount of money, if they do not wish to choose any of the above mentioned options. These donations will be used to contribute towards any of the above mentioned focus areas.

7. TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

Total Cost for 25 students = 25x30000	= 750000/-
Total Cost for 35 families – 35 families x 20000	= 700000/-
Constructing houses –10 Houses – 10 houses x 500000	= 5000000/-
Repairing houses –25 Houses – 25 Houses x 100000	= 2500000/-
Constructing Toilets – 25 Toilets- 25 Toilets x 50000	= 1250000/-
Total cost for sanitation and Health camps	= 500000/-
Total Cost	= 10700000/-

Photo Collection



Poovar Boat Club members after rescue operation



Evaluation after first phase of relief work



Relief goods being distributed in Pathanamthitta



Main collection hub at Bethany Navajeevan Vidyalaya, Nalanchira



Youth from Vallikunnam Parish with Fr. Antony OIC after cleaning Kallishery Parish



Youth from Nedumangadu with Fathers at Cherupushpa Collection Center



Scene from Vettiayar relief camp



Mar Ivanios Bethany School at Cherupushpa collection center