

Innovative Practices to Rejuvenate Post Flood Kerala – Role of Prospective Teachers

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ABSTRACT

The state of Kerala, God's own country, was the role model in terms of development for all other states of India and for the whole world. Kerala model of development was studied and discussed worldwide by economists and policy makers. The development of Kerala was contributed by the whole hearted participation of Government, administrators and people of Kerala putting their heads and hands together. But, the unprecedented rainfall in 2018 led to massive flood causing death, displacement and destruction in all fields which may take years to rebuild. The destruction affected all fields of life including agriculture, shelter, health care, sanitation, transportation and education. Government, non-government organisations and common people of Kerala stood hand by hand to get rescued from the terrific and drastic situation. In this period of small relief, we have to think and work hard to rebuild our state to its pride and glory. This is the right time for higher education institutions and students to pay their homage to their mother land and fellow beings. The teachers should be the light bearers for the future generation and the prospective teachers can train themselves making use of this circumstance to manage disastrous situations in a timely manner. Here in this paper, we discuss about the role of prospective teachers in rebuilding the post flood Kerala. Here some suggestive innovative practices to rejuvenate the post flood Kerala in various sectors like infrastructure reconstruction, psycho-social support, health and sanitation, education, agriculture and beautification are detailed. Stakeholders have to take measures to practice these suggestive measures to rejuvenate our state.

Keywords: Infrastructure, psycho-social, development, administrators, students

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the terrific and drastic situation. In this period of small relief, we have to think and work hard to rebuild our state to its pride and glory. This is the right time for higher education institutions and students to pay their homage to their mother land and fellow beings. The teachers should be the light bearers for the future generation and the prospective teachers can train themselves making use of this circumstance to manage disastrous situations in a timely manner. Here in this paper, we discuss about the role of prospective teachers in rebuilding the post flood Kerala through participating in some suggestive innovative practices to rejuvenate the post flood Kerala in various sectors like infrastructure reconstruction, psycho-social support, health and sanitation, education, agriculture and beautification.

Rebuilding Green Kerala

After the relief endeavours, now, the state is in a recovery phase. The Government of Kerala completed the post-disaster need assessment jointly with European Union, World Bank and UN system. Kerala suffered huge loss of human lives and economic losses on account of the floods. Flood and followed high temperature lead to destruction of seasonal crops and reduction in yields of tree crop. The loss of income due to lack of sale of commodities also contributed to economic loss. Many people lost their houses. Roads and bridges collapsed and the public transport system and communication system needs reconstruction in a more effective manner. Due to flood and landslides, school infrastructure also faced damages. Loss of teaching days also contributed great loss to students.

Greater attention should be paid for the fulfilment of basic needs, improvement of living standards, protection and management of ecosystem for more safe and prosperous future. The recovery policy frame work for rebuilding a Green Kerala revolves round four pillars- integrated water resources management, eco-sensitive and risk informed approaches to land use and settlements, inclusive and people cantered approach and knowledge, innovation and technology.

Necessary Rejuvenation Practices by Prospective Teachers

Teachers must be aware of the social dilemma and has to undertake the task to encourage and empower the next generation to reconstruct the society in an effective manner. The prospective teachers should be trained to be a part of the rejuvenation process by making use of their expertise in various fields. This help in their professional as well as personal development. Here some suggestive measures which has to be practiced by prospective teachers are discussed:

- ❑ *Reconstruction works:* Prospective teachers can be a part of reconstruction of roads and other infrastructure works of public interest. They also can contribute their efforts to construct houses of the victims.
- ❑ *Revamping the affected:* prospective teachers can provide psycho-social support to the victims,

especially for children who suffered the drastic effects.

- ❑ *Collection Agents:* teacher trainees can act as collection and distribution agents of books, clothes, food materials, toys, house hold materials and other necessary things.
- ❑ *Mindfulness training:* it is better to accept things as such than worrying over the happened. Teacher trainees have to train themselves open to experiences and can provide mindfulness training to victims to accept the situations.
- ❑ *Financial Contributions:* Government faced a huge economic loss and government need financial support from non-affected public to reconstruct the state. Prospective teachers can raise funds through taking tuition for students and can support government through their small earnings
- ❑ *Conscientising the Public:* Due to lack of sanitation, many health problems can occur. Prospective teachers can make people aware of the diseases and the precautions to be taken to avoid another hazard.
- ❑ *Adopting Affected Schools:* Nearby affected schools can be adopted by the teacher education institutions and can reconstruct laboratories and reset libraries. They can beautify the campus also.
- ❑ *Improvised Teaching Aids:* The teaching aids of many schools lost in the flood and land slide. Prospective teachers can construct improvised teaching aids and help the teaching community for effective transaction.
- ❑ *Remedial Classes:* Many school days lost due to heavy rain and flood. Many schools served the state as rescue camps. Students lost classes and this is a great loss for education sector. Prospective teachers can help students by arranging remedial classes after school hours to compensate the loss.
- ❑ *Free LMS:* Prospective teachers can also make use of free LMS such as Google Classroom to help students to get acquainted with subjects.
- ❑ *Social Media:* Social media is serving as a conscientising platform in the technology driven era. Prospective teachers can make use of this platform to bring more people to the rebuilding works.

- ❑ **Waste Management Training:** The post-flood Kerala is suffering from the problem of effective waste management. Prospective teachers can do campaigns to make people aware of effective waste management and scientific disposal.
- ❑ **Restoration and Preservation of Wet lands:** Destruction of wet lands and blocks to natural flow of water were the major reasons for the flood we faced. The public has to be made aware about this and proper measures have to be taken to restore and preserve the wet lands
- ❑ **Recycling of Plastic:** The nature club of Teacher education institutions can collect plastic from houses and become a part of recycling process
- ❑ **Rejuvenating Agriculture Fields:** Agriculture sector is also destructed to the maximum. Prospective teachers can take efforts with the help of Agriculture department to rejuvenate the fields.
- ❑ **Livelihood Training:** People lost their income and savings due to the flood. Prospective teachers can train women and children craft works and re-skilling measures can be adopted to enhance the livelihood.

CONCLUSION

Kerala flood 2018 affected the districts in a drastic way. Loss of life cannot be re equipped but the economic, social and infrastructural loss can be reequipped by constant hard work. Government, administrators and common people should work hand-in-hand to rejuvenate our state. Prospective teachers as the future social engineers can do several services to rebuild the Green Kerala. The measures discussed in this paper are very feasible with less effort and can make heavy contribution to the rebuilding process. Stakeholders have to take measures to practice these suggestive measures to rejuvenate our state to 'Nava Keralam'.

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