

DISASTER & IDP CRISIS

Situation of IDPs

UNHCR Completes 7,000 Shelters for KP Flood Victims

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has completed construction of over 7,000 one-room permanent shelters for flood affected families whose homes were destroyed in the 2010 floods in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The Government of Japan donated \$59 million to support the UNHCR flood rehabilitation assistance programmes including the agency's shelter project for flood-affected Pakistanis and Afghan refugees. A UNHCR communiqué said the commission had planned to build 9,400 one-room shelters for flood-affected Pakistanis and some 4,200 shelters for Afghan refugees in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

The News - January 06, 2012

Farmers Despair: For the Flood-Hit, the Nightmare Isn't Over

Known for its beautiful landscape and thick forests, Dir, Kohistan was once among the largest producer of vegetables such as potatoes, tomatoes, cabbages and peas. According to the locals, some 80,000 trucks would export potatoes to the markets of Punjab and Sindh. But the 2010 floods wrecked havoc in the area by washing away its agriculture land and leaving thousands of farmers helpless. According to the district government, over 11,000 acres of agriculture land and 45 major irrigation channels were washed away. Situated along the Kumrat River, Barikot, Biyar and Patrak villages were adversely affected by the floods. According to the farmers, the government has not taken any steps for rehabilitation yet. The farmers of Biyar village lamented that they have not been assisted by government and non-government organizations in agriculture sector. When asked about government steps for rehabilitation of the agriculture sector, Member Provincial Assembly Malik Bacha Salih said that there is no doubt that the floods destroyed everything in this area, however, the government and NGOs have assisted every farmer with cash and commodities. The government will soon restore irrigation channels and farmers will be helped in restoration of their lands too.

The Express Tribune - January 23, 2012

Relief & Rehabilitation Responses

Rehabilitation of Displaced Tribesmen: Donors Meet Next Month to Raise \$200m

A donors' conference will be held next month to raise the required \$200 million fund for quick rehabilitation of internally displaced persons of Federally Administered Tribal Areas. A handout issued here on Sunday said that during a presentation on Fata Disaster Management Authority, held at Islamabad, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Barrister Masood Kausar was told that so far 145,338 displaced families out of total 298,715 had been sent back to their permanent dwellings. The whole process cost Rs. 7391.260 million including onetime cash grant of Rs. 25,000 per family and Rs.

15,000 for provision of six-month ration to each returning household. The repatriated families belonged to Bajaur, Mohmand, Orakzai, Kurram and South Waziristan agencies. The governor was told that an Early Recovery Mechanism for Fata was set up to lay foundations for long term development of the area by catalyzing sustainable uplift opportunities for the returning families. Key sectors identified in this regards include agriculture, food assistance, health and nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene, education, community restoration, infrastructure and protection. The transitional recovery process will initially cover four key agencies including Bajaur, Mohmand, Orakzai and South Waziristan. The participants of the briefing were told that an Early Recovery Framework for quick rehabilitation of IDPs was set up with an estimated cost of \$200 million for which a fund raising donors' conference would be convened next month.

The governor was informed that 298,715 families, who were displaced from their permanent abodes in different agencies on different occasions, were registered till the end of year 2011 in Jalojai, Togh Serai, Nahaqi, Danish School and New Durrani camps. Nahaqi and Danish School camps were closed after the inmates moved back to their homes whereas IDPs still lodged in the remaining camps were being provided adequate relief. About payment of compensation for the damaged properties of IDPs, the governor was told that Rs. 1054 million were distributed among 8,618 residents of Bajaur Agency so far. It was said that 5,518 returning families were provided shelters in Bajaur, Mohmand, Orakzai and South Waziristan agencies. On the occasion, Mr. Khan said that FDMA also came to rescue flood victims in 2010 and provided relief to people in Khyber, Mohmand, South Waziristan, Frontier Region of Dera Ismail Khan, FR Peshawar, FR Kohat and FR Tank. The relief goods including tents, non-food items, food packages, hygiene kits and blankets were provided to flood survivors, he said, adding Rs. 32.200 million cash compensation was also paid to the legal heirs of 91 deceased and 89 injured. He said that FDMA was established after the extension of National Disaster Management Order to Fata in 2008 while it initiated rudimentary functions in mid 2010 by its successful response to the floods. The FDMA, he said, was working on modern lines to meet any situation in the wake of natural and manmade calamities. The governor stressed the need for making sufficient and adequate arrangements for IDPs at Jalojai and other camps to ensure their proper look after.

Dawn - January 23, 2012
