

**പതിനാലാം കേരളനിയമസഭ**

**പതിമൂന്നാം സമ്മേളനം**

**നക്ഷത്രചിഹ്നമിടാത്ത**

**28.11.2018-ൽ മറുപടിക്കു്**

**ചോദ്യം നം: 65**

**പ്രളയാനന്തര പുനർനിർമ്മിതിക്കായി രൂപീകരിച്ച ഉപദേശക സമിതി**

**ചോദ്യം**

**മറുപടി**

**ശ്രീ. അനൂപ് ജേക്കബ്**

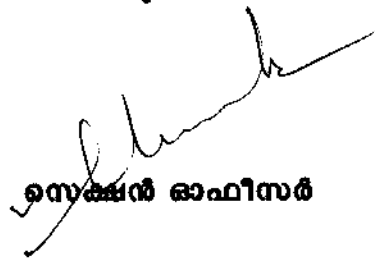
**പിണറായി വിജയൻ**

**(മുഖ്യമന്ത്രി)**

(എ) പ്രളയാനന്തര പുനർ നിർമ്മിതിക്കായി രൂപീകരിച്ച ഉപദേശക സമിതി നാളിതുവരെ എത്ര യോഗങ്ങൾ, ഏതൊക്കെ തീയതികളിൽ അറിയിക്കുമോ; (എ) 2 യോഗങ്ങൾ ചേർന്നിട്ടുണ്ട്. ആദ്യയോഗം 22.10.2018 തീയതിയിലും, രണ്ടാമത്തെ യോഗം 13.11.2018 തീയതിയിലും നടന്നു. ചേർന്നുവെന്ന്

(ബി) പ്രസ്തുത യോഗങ്ങളിൽ പ്രളയം ബാധിച്ച ഏതൊക്കെ മേഖലകളിലെ ഏതൊക്കെ പ്രദേശങ്ങളിലെ പദ്ധതികളിന്മേൽ നിർദ്ദേശങ്ങളും വിദഗ്ദ്ധാഭിപ്രായങ്ങളും നൽകി എന്ന് വ്യക്തമാക്കുമോ? (ബി) 22.10.2018-ലെ യോഗ നടപടികളുടെ കഠിപ്പ് അനുബന്ധമായി ചേർത്തിരിക്കുന്നു. 13.11.2018-ലെ യോഗനടപടികളുടെ കഠിപ്പ് പരിശോധിച്ചുവരുന്നു.

ആദ്യ യോഗത്തിൽ പ്രളയാനന്തര പുനർനിർമ്മിതിയുമായി ബന്ധപ്പെട്ട പല മേഖലകളിലെയും വിവിധ വിഷയങ്ങൾ കൈകാര്യം ചെയ്യുകയുണ്ടായി. പ്രധാനമായും സുസ്ഥിര സംസ്ഥാനം എന്ന നിലയിലേയ്ക്ക് കൊണ്ടുവരാനായി 'നവകേരളം' എന്നതിന്റെ പ്രാധാന്യമാണ് വെളിപ്പെടുത്തിയത്. കൂടാതെ, വീടു നഷ്ടപ്പെട്ടവർക്ക് സമയബന്ധിതമായി വീടു നിർമ്മാണം പൂർത്തിയാക്കൽ, അപകട സാധ്യതാ പ്രദേശങ്ങളുടെ കണ്ടെത്തൽ, കൃഷി, ജലസേചനം എന്നിവയ്ക്ക് പ്രാധാന്യം നൽകൽ, ക്രൗഡ് ഫണ്ടിംഗ്, തീരപ്രദേശം നശിക്കൽ, ക്ലസ്റ്റർ ഹൗസിംഗ് സാങ്കേതികത, പശ്ചാത്തല സൗകര്യ വികസനം തുടങ്ങിയ മേഖലകളും നിർദ്ദേശങ്ങളും വിദഗ്ദ്ധാഭിപ്രായങ്ങളുമുണ്ടായി.

  
**സെക്ഷൻ ഓഫീസർ**

അനൗദ്യോഗികം

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Advisory Council of Rebuild Kerala Initiative (RKI)  
held on 22-10-2018**

The first meeting of the Advisory Council of Rebuild Kerala Initiative (RKI) was held in the Chief Minister's Conference hall at 11 AM on 22.10.2018, Hon'ble Chief Minister chaired the meeting.

The list of attendees is appended.

The Chief Secretary and Member Secretary of the Advisory Council welcomed the Hon'ble Members to the meeting. He outlined the need for creating a frame work to encompass all activities, projects that have to be taken up to rebuild Kerala, in the wake of the devastating floods that the State witnessed in August 2018. He informed that the UN agencies had prepared a Post Disaster Needs Assessment report (PDNA) and the executive summary and recommendations have been circulated to the members of the Advisory Council for their information.

In his address, Hon. Chief Minister expressed his happiness that most of the members have made it convenient to attend the meeting. He also informed that Shri Alphons Kannanthanam Hon.Minister for Tourism, Government of India had informed him of his inability to attend the meeting.

Providing an overview, Hon. Chief Minister observed that the rescue, distribution of distress relief and urgent rehabilitation work have been undertaken satisfactorily. Moving on, the Planning Board has been designated as the coordinating institution to prepare a livelihood strategy, the Local Self Government Department have already started projects at the local level for repair and reconstruction. The PWD have started works wherever urgent repairs were needed.

What is envisaged is different approach which leads to '*Navakeralam*', a firm foundation that has to be laid for rebuilding a better and more resilient State. In the first phase, a comprehensive assessment of damage has been done by professional international agencies. New projects will have to be identified, new policy initiative undertaken, and if necessary new legislation will have to be thought about. For all these, the best practices available internationally will have to be studied and incorporated. International agencies can play a big role in this area. Similarly, KPMG has placed several suggestions on the basis of their expertise and international network.

It is in this area that the Advisory Council can play a vital role. The important aspect is to conceptualise and implement projects with speed and efficiency. There should be a time bound program for completing houses for those who were lost their homes. Government considers providing for land and house to those who have lost their land and house in the floods. In the cases where land is available, the beneficiary should be given a choice to rebuild his house by himself or with Government support. In this context, scientific study has to be conducted to identify at risk zones. Agriculture needs special attention, particularly in the context of report that acidity

level in the soil has increased. Issues of irrigation in low-lying areas have to be addressed.

In a nutshell, there should be a frame work for the infrastructure development under RKI. Some projects will be undertaken by RKI and the government departments will have to take on other projects. The advice, inputs and suggestions of Members of the Advisory Council with their rich and varied experience, would be invaluable in this stage. The Advisory Council should meet once in every two weeks in the initial phase to provide the right orientation.

Dr. K M Abraham, former Chief Secretary gave an outline of the operational strategy and institutional frame work. The key aspect was to 'BUILD BACK BETTER' with a mix of strategies for implementation and financing. The RKI will set up an online mechanism so that the Advisory Council members can provide inputs on a continuous basis. It is proposed to gather ideas from a variety of sources which will be screened and converted to project profiles.

Shri Ramesh Chennithala, Hon. Leader of Opposition welcomed the suggestions made. He pointed out that those international experiences on disaster recovery, such as Indonesia and Netherlands, should be studied closely, relevant models may be great use to the State. Projects that are conducive to the unique social situation should be drawn up. The 'BUILD BACK BETTER' philosophy should be applied in all possible areas, particularly in construction of roads. Emphasis should be given to water resource management. Wherever needed experts from the respective field should be brought in. The macro economic impact has to be closely monitored. In the housing sector, specifications must be laid down in tune with the local area contexts. If necessary, a legal framework has to be established.

Sri Mathew T Thomas, Minister (Water Resources) pointed out that the distribution network should be expanded. The smooth flow of water should be ensured and issues such as encroachment into canals should be addressed. The water resource management should be studied in depth. Septage studies needs to be undertaken in collaboration with Local governments.

Sri K M Chandrasekhar, former Cabinet Secretary and former Vice Chairman, State Planning Board observed that the PDNA has certain good ideas. The Water Resource Management Program implemented by Maharashtra Government including the reservoir scheme should be studied, as this may provide insights into managing our dams. Flood path of major rivers has to be identified and marked. If necessary, the National Centre for Coastal Research, Chennai may be contacted in this respect. Government of India should be approached for an increase in FRBM. Even if funds are made available, implementation of projects through departmental mechanism may slow it down. An independent agency for reconstruction and recovery, perhaps, a not for profit company, may be set up for speedy implementation.

Sri Ramachandran Kadannappally, Minister for Ports pointed out that scientific study must be initiated for fragile areas like Wayanad, where there is still threat of

landslide. All initiatives should try to involve the people, particularly, the youth who participated actively in flood relief efforts.

Sri A.K. Saseendran, Minister for Transport, said that the impact of sea erosion may also be included in the study to be conducted. There should be an endeavour to include the State as a whole considering urban transport as the divide in Kerala between rural and urban areas is negligibly small.

Sri Byju Raveendran (Byju's Learning App) remarked that there should be a continuous campaign to push the crowd funding model in order to maintain momentum for the next 3 months. The power of the social media should be used and the first responders should be educated and trained to deal with emergencies. There should only be a single number to address distress calls. Efforts should be taken to bring back the large talent pool, that is available outside the State.

Sri K P Kannan (Centre for Development Studies) emphasised the need for an environmentally approach while building 'New Kerala'. The management of land and water is the biggest challenge. Concepts such as '*living with water*' and '*room for the river*' should become part of the strategy. The shrinking of the areas that can hold water is a matter of concern that should be addressed. People should be encouraged to adopt eco-friendly alternatives through a process of handholding. The most pressing need in the State is to provide livelihood options to the affected families. A massive program incorporating MGNREA over the next 5 years focussing on eco restoration should be taken up. This exercise may help in preventing top soil erosion and revival of farm lands. A careful re-examination to address the tax gap may yield the considerable funds.

Sri T K A Nair, former Principal Secretary to former Prime Minister observed that the suggestions made in the PDNA report are practical. Land use and water resource management must be given importance. Although there is adequate legislation, the implementation is quite poor. The suggestions on the institutional frame work are acceptable.

Sri V Suresh, former CMD HUDCO was of the view that the damages of around 1.8 lakh houses were the damage is below 50% may be taken up on priority, utilising the services of housing facilitation centres. Rather than using a single technology, it is advisable to use a combination of technologies for housing purposes. Modern technology can be used to construct cluster houses and technology for independent residences should be decided. Expert agencies should be identified district-wise, which may be entrusted with speedy construction of the houses. A small expert committee should be set up to address the necessity of the techno legal regime including an examination of the amendments needed in the Kerala Building Rules, a shelf of options suitable for the different regions of the State may be prepared. The possibility of raising tax free infrastructure bond may be explored as it is also the potential to tap into CSR funds.


Sri MuraleeThummarukudy, who joined the meeting via video link, had circulated his views as a paper which was distributed to the members. At the outset,

he appreciated the idea of UN in the PDNA report to moot an independent agency/company for the rebuilding initiative. He suggested that a meeting to bring together international experts such as International Recovery Platform, Japan, on the best practices in post disaster management may be planned. New aspects like climate change have to be incorporated in the process for which UN experts may be involved. Strategic environment planning has to be done in view of the massive requirement for the rebuilding program to be undertaken in the next three years. The involvement of women and youth in all levels should be given due importance.

The Hon.Chief Minister thanked the members for their valuable suggestions. He suggested that the next meeting of Advisory Council may be held on 13<sup>th</sup> November. A platform to ensure continuous dialogue with the member of Advisory Council may be put in position urgently.

The meeting concluded at 12.30 pm.

"Shri TKA Nair, former Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister observed that the suggestions made in the PDNA report are exhaustive covering practically every aspect of the components of the proposed rebuilding strategy and approach. He mentioned that the district-wise data and suggestions given in the PDNA are extremely useful particularly as district would largely be the unit for not only planning but also implementation. Stressing on the importance of land use planning and water resources management, he elaborated that they should form the basis of practically every aspect of the rebuilding plan. For instance, sites for construction of houses, other buildings, alignment of roads and location of other infrastructure should depend upon the land use plan especially in the ecologically fragile hilly and coastal areas. The Kerala Land Use Board had once prepared a Land Use Plan for the whole State which could be a reference point that it might have become outdated. Regarding water resources management, there have been several piecemeal initiatives and even legislations and statutory frameworks like the Pampa River Authority and the Pampa Action Plan, which were never taken up seriously. Kuttanad Action Plan was another failed attempt initiated jointly by the Central and State Govts. Learning from our latest experience, top priority should be given to land use planning and water resources management should be in place with adequate legislation and institutional mechanisms for implementation. Suggestions in the PDNA on the institutional framework are acceptable. Based on past experiences, many of our plans, especially those relating to land and water resources management, have remained on paper and, therefore, the process of implementation is most important."

  
(ശ്രീ തക എൻ)