

Fact Sheet

Japan's Response to the Earthquake off the Coast of Sumatra and Tsunami Disaster in the Indian Ocean

Government of Japan, January 6, 2005

Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi's Statement at the Special ASEAN Leader's Meeting

- Prime Minister Koizumi expressed Japan's determination to extend the maximum possible assistance commensurate with its responsibilities as fellow Asian partner at the Special ASEAN Leader's Meeting on January 6th.
- Japan will provide assistance in three ways: financial resources, knowledge and expertise, and human resources.
- Japan will also extend its maximum assistance possible for rehabilitation and reconstruction of disaster-stricken countries.

Assistance in Financial Resources

- Japan will extend up to \$500 million of grant money as emergency assistance (\$250 million through international organization and \$250 million directly to countries severely hit by the disaster.)
- Emergency Assistance in Kind: Tents, blankets, water purifiers, generators etc. were sent to Indonesia, Sri Lanka, the Maldives, and Thailand. (\$550,000 in total)
- Emergency Grant Aid: Japan provided \$1.5 million to Indonesia, \$1 million to Sri Lanka, and \$0.5 million to the Maldives.
- Assistance through the World Food Programme (WFP): Japan provided 2,400 tons of rice to Sri Lanka through WFP.

Assistance in knowledge and Expertise

- Japan will promote expeditious establishment of a Tsunami early-warning mechanism for Indian Ocean countries and will propose a special session on the subject at the UN World Conference on Disaster Reduction to be held in January in Kobe, Japan.

Assistance in Human Resources

- Disaster Relief: Ground, Maritime, and Air Self Defense Force will carry out disaster relief operations (transport of goods, medical and epidemic control activities, etc.). A survey team (21 persons) was already dispatched to Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia. A transport airplane (C-130) will leave Japan on Jan. 6th.
- Search and Rescue: Maritime Self Defense Force's 2 Destroyers and a supply ship, with their shipboard helicopters, conducted search and rescue operations off the coast of Phuket Island.
- Disaster Relief Medical Team: Medical teams were sent to Indonesia (22 persons), Sri Lanka (two teams: 20 persons and 23 persons), the Maldives (10 persons) and Thailand (22 persons).
- Disaster Relief Team: A rescue team (49 persons) and a fire department helicopter team (32 persons) were sent to Thailand.
- Emergency Experts Team: A team of DNA identification (4 persons) was sent to Thailand.

Japan's Emergency Assistance for the Disaster
Caused by
the Major Earthquake off the Coast of Sumatra and Tsunami
in the Indian Ocean

As of 6 January, 2005

Japan will provide assistance in three ways, such as financial resources, knowledge and expertise, and human resources and also extend its maximum assistance possible for rehabilitation and reconstruction of disaster-stricken countries. In this light, the GOJ has provided the following emergency assistance to four countries which suffered from the major earthquake off the coast of Sumatra and the tsunami in the Indian Ocean:

I. Assistance in Financial Resources

The Government of Japan decided, for the time being, to assist with up to \$500 million of emergency grant money for the Earthquake/Tsunami-affected countries and international organizations concerned to cope with the damage.

1. Emergency Assistance in kind (\$550,000 in total)

1-1 Indonesia

- The decision to extend emergency assistance in kind, equivalent to about 26 million yen, including tents, blankets, water purifiers and electric generators, was taken on 27 Dec. 2004. The goods arrived at Medan on 30 Dec. 2004.

1-2 Sri Lanka

- The decision to extend emergency assistance in kind, equivalent to about 14.7 million yen, including tents, sleeping mats, plastic sheets, electric generators, water purifiers, portable water tanks and blankets, was taken on 27 Dec. 2004. The goods arrived at Colombo on 29 Dec. 2004.

1-3 Maldives

- The decision to extend emergency assistance in kind, equivalent to about 9.7 million yen, including tents, blankets, electric generators and plastic jerry cans, was taken on 27 Dec. 2004. The goods arrived at Malé on 31 Dec. 2004.

1-4 Thailand

- The decision to extend emergency assistance in kind, equivalent to about 10 million yen, including tents, blankets, water purifiers, electric generators and medicines, was taken on 31 Dec. 2004. The medicine arrived in Phuket on 1 Jan. 2005 and the other goods arrived on 4 Jan. 2005.

2. Emergency Grant Aid

2-1 Indonesia

- Emergency food and medical equipment equivalent to 1.5 million dollars, were provided.

2-2 Sri Lanka

- Electric generators, tents, etc. equivalent to 1.01 million dollars, were provided.

2-3 Maldives

- Portable water tanks and materials to build temporary housing, equivalent to 510,000 dollars, were provided.

3. Assistance through the World Food Programme (WFP)

- Sri Lanka

- 2,400 tons of rice, which Japan provided as food aid to Sri Lanka through the WFP for FY2003, equivalent to about 53 million yen or about 550,000 dollars, was utilized by the WFP as emergency food for the victims of the disaster in Sri Lanka.

II. Assistance in Knowledge and Expertise

- Japan will promote expeditious establishment of a Tsunami early-warning mechanism for Indian Ocean countries and will propose a special session on the subject at the UN World Conference on Disaster Reduction to be held in January in Kobe, Japan.

III. Assistance in Human Resources

1 -Indonesia

- A survey team, composed of two officials of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), was dispatched on 27 Dec. 2004.
- The decision to dispatch a Japan Disaster Relief Medical Team comprising 22 persons including one Foreign Ministry official, four doctors, seven nurses and one pharmacist, was taken on 27 Dec. They left Japan on 30 Dec. 2004 and 1 Jan. 2005 in two groups and will be involved in relief activities until 12 Jan. 2005.
- The decision to dispatch a Japan Self Defence Force Survey Team was taken on 5 Jan. 2005. The team left Japan on 5 Jan. 2005. The survey team was also dispatched to Thailand and Malaysia.

2 -Sri Lanka

- The decision to dispatch a Japan Disaster Relief Medical Team comprising 20 persons including one Foreign Ministry official, four doctors, seven nurses and one pharmacist, was taken on 26 Dec. 2004. They left Japan on 27 Dec. 2004, started medical activities on 30 Dec.2004 in Ampara District, and will stay there until 9 Jan. 2005.

- The decision to dispatch an additional **Japan Disaster Relief Medical Team comprising 23 persons** comprising 9 doctors, 7 nurses, 1 pharmacist and officials of MOFA and JICA, was taken on 3 Jan. 2005. The team will be involved in medical activities till 18 Jan.2005

3 -Maldives

- The decision to dispatch a **Japan Disaster Relief Medical Team comprising 10 persons** including one Foreign Ministry official, two doctors and four nurses, was taken on 28 Dec. 2004. They left Japan on 31 Dec. 2004 and are to be engaged in medical activities in Muli Island, 200km south of Malé, from 1 to 8 Jan. 2005.

4 -Thailand

- The decision to dispatch **Japan Self Defense Force units (destroyers “KIRISHIMA” and “TAKANAMI” and supply vessel “HAMANA”, with a shipboard helicopter)** was taken on 27 Dec. 2004. They recovered 57 corpses in the areas around the coast of Phuket and transported the personnel and equipment of a Japan Disaster Relief Search and Rescue Team during the period from 29 Dec. 2004 to 1 Jan. 2005.
 - The decision to dispatch a **Japan Disaster Relief Search and Rescue team** comprising officials of the Fire and Disaster Management Agency, National Police Agency, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and staff members of the Japan Coast Guard and JICA for 10 days was taken on 27 Dec. 2004. The search and rescue team left Japan on 29 Dec. 2004 and started its activities on 30 Dec. 2004 in Takuapa District and Papi Island. A second team (a helicopter unit of the Fire and Disaster Management Agency) left Japan on 31 Dec. 2004 and started transportation activities by helicopter on 2 Jan. 2005.
 - The decision to dispatch a **Japan Disaster Relief Medical team comprising 22 persons** including two officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, four doctors and seven nurses was taken on 27 Dec. 2004. The team left Japan on 30 Dec. 2004 to be engaged in medical activities in Takuapa District until 13 Jan. 2005.
 - The decision to dispatch a **Japan Disaster Relief Expert Team for disaster victim identification(DVI), comprising 4 persons** from Police Agency and JICA, was taken on 5 Jan. 2005. The team left Japan on 5 Jan. 2005 and started DVI activities on 6 Jan. 2005 in Phuket.
- **Ground, Maritime, and Air Self Defense Force will carry out disaster relief operations** (transport of goods, medical and epidemic control activities, etc.). A transport airplane (C-130) left Japan on Jan. 6th.

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