

Japan's Emergency Assistance to Pakistan against the Large-Scale Earthquakes

November 19, 2005

1. Condolences to Pakistan by H.M Emperor, PM and FM

The letters of condolences to Pakistan by H.M. Emperor, Prime Minister and Foreign Minister were conveyed.

2. Dispatch of Senior Vice Foreign Minister

The Government of Japan dispatched Mr. Shuzen Tanigawa, the then Senior Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs, to Pakistan from 11 to 14 October. During the visit, Mr. Tanigawa met with Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz, Foreign Minister Kasuri, Interior Minister Sherpa and expressed Japan's readiness for the utmost assistance. Mr. Tanigawa visited the affected area located in the north of Islamabad. He also visited Badagram and encouraged the members of Japan Disaster Relief Team in their relief work.

3. Dispatch of Japan Disaster Relief Teams

(1) Japan Disaster Relief Rescue Teams (49 members)

The Team, comprising officials from Foreign Ministry, National Police Agency, Fire and Disaster Management Agency, Coast Guard and JICA, conducted search and rescue operations in Batgram in North-West Frontier Province from 10 to 14 October.

(2) The 1st and 2nd Japan Disaster Relief Medical Teams (42 members)

(i) The first Medical Team, comprising an official from Foreign Ministry, experts from JICA, medical doctors, nurses pharmacist and paramedics, provided medical care to the afflicted in Batgram from 12 to 20 October.

(ii) The Second Team had taken over the First Medical Team's duties, and provided medical care to the afflicted people until 30 October. The Teams examined more than 2,200 patients. The activities were taken over by Japanese NGOs.

(3) Dispatch of Self-Defense Force Units

The Self-Defense Force helicopters started relief operations in Badagram area from 17 October to transport relief materials as well as patients. 6 helicopters participated in the operations. They operated till the end of November.

4. Supply of Emergency Assistance (25 million yen)

The Government of Japan provided emergency assistance in kind (2,000 blankets, 768 plastic containers, 500 sleeping mats, 30 tents, 20 water purifiers, 20 electric generators, 30 cord reels, 20 plastic sheets, 5 portable water tanks), equivalent to about 25 million yen. The Supplies arrived in Islamabad on 11 October, and on the same day, they were delivered to the Government of Pakistan.

5. Emergency Grant Assistance (US \$ 20 million)

(i) On 11 October, the Government of Japan decided to extend grant assistance amounting US\$ 20 million for the affected people.

(ii) On 14 October, the Government of Japan further decided to extend, as a part of bilaterally assistance, US\$ 12 million out of the total amount of US\$20 million to the Government of Pakistan, which is to be utilized to procure materials such as tents (more than 2,500), plastic sheets (more than 2,500), sleeping mats (more than 5,000), blankets (more than 16,000), and plastic containers, pharmaceutical and heavy machineries.

(iii) On 18 October, the Government of Japan decided to provide the remaining US\$ 8 million for emergency assistance through the following international organizations. The money was disbursed promptly.

(WFP:US\$2.5million/UNICEF:US\$2.5million/UNHCR:US\$1million/WHO:US\$1million/IOM:US\$1million)

6. NGOs' Activities in the Disaster-hit Areas

Seven non-governmental organizations under Japan Platform (JPF) conducted needs assessment. They have been deeply engaged in distribution of materials for medical assistance in the disaster-hit areas with ODA support (approximately 440 million yen). The relief activities were conducted in Batagram and its suburbs in cooperation with NGOs, SOF, JDRT, international organizations, and GOP.

7. Dispatch of Study Missions

The Study Missions from JICA and JBIC participated in a joint Needs Assessment, together with WB, ADB, US, UK, EU, UN, which started on October 24. To identify Japan's future assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction, the results of the Assessment are at present under review.

8. Yen Loan Assistance (US \$ 100 million)

Senior Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Yasuhisa Shiozaki conveyed the decision of the Japanese Government to provide yen loan amounting to 100 million dollars to meet the financial need for emergency reconstruction at the International Donor Conference for Rehabilitation and Reconstruction organized by the Government of Pakistan on November 19.

9. Assistance through Japan Trust Funds at WB and ADB

As a part of assistance for reconstruction, Japan decided to respond to appeals from the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank by extending 5 million dollars to each organization, with the total of 10 million dollars, which was announced by Senior Vice Minister Shiozaki at the above-mentioned International Donor Conference on November 19.