

**STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF CALAMITY RELIEF FUND IN SC
VILAGES OF DHAKUAKHANA BLOCK OF LAKHIPMUR DISTRICT
(ASSAM) DURING FLOOD AND POST FLOOD**

PERIOD: 2008-09

BACKGROUND INFORMATION OF DHAKUAKHANA BLOCK:

LOCATION: Dhakuakhana is situated 27°-6' from 20°-36' North longitude and 94°-24' from East longitude Taking KOHA River and CHARIKORIA River in the heart, and surrounded by SUBANSIRI and BRAHMAPUTRA River is called the present Dhakuakhana Sub-Division.

THE ORIGIN OF THE NAME: It has legend that to collect revenue, the Ahom King Swargadeo Gourinath Sing dug a canal connecting KOHA and CHARIKORIA River. People called the canal Dhakuakhana and thus the name Dhakuakhana came into being.

THE ANCIENT HISTORY OF FLOOD IN DHAKUAKHANA: From ancient times Dhakuakhana is a flood hit/vulnerable area. According to "AHOM HISTORY" the first Ahom King "Swargadeo Sukapha" had established his capital for three years in "Habung" (present Dhakuakhana) but due to flood he had to ultimately shift the capital to Charaideo (presently Sibsagar District).

THE PRESENT SCENARIO OF FLOOD LED DEVASTATION IN DHAKUAKHANA: According to the June, 2008 Project Preparatory Technical Assistance, Phase-II draft feasibility report of the North East Integrated Flood and Riverbank Erosion Risk Management Project to be

financed by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Matmora area of Dhakuakhana which has a dominant 58 per cent Scheduled Tribe (ST) population followed by major SC population with a population density of 182 persons per square kilometer, is facing floods and erosion in a recurring manner for the past about a decade now, with 93 per cent of its 2,186 households being affected. The area comprises 200 villages with 34.08 per cent of its population being poor. It has so far incurred a loss worth around US \$ 22.46 million (around Rs 90 crore) due to flood and erosion. The other factor affecting the livelihood of the people is sand deposition. **IT IS WORTH MENTIONING THAT THE ALL THE VILLAGES COVERED UNDER THE SURVEY FALLS IN THIS PART OF DHAKUAKHANA.**

FUND (IN LAKHS RS.) RECEIVED BY ASSAM UNDER CRF DURING THE PERIOD 2005-10 (REPORT FROM TWELFTH FINANCE COMMISSION)

FY 2005-06	FY 2006-07	FY 2007-08	FY 2008-09	FY 2009-10	TOTAL
196.06	198.62	204.48	210.62	217.06	10233.84

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

- To take stock of implementation of “Calamity Relief Fund” in SC villages.

HOW THE STUDY WAS CONDUCTED:

The study was Conducted by a team of 6 members(1 Coordinator and 5 volunteers) of “Dhakuakhana Sub Division Schedule Caste Student Union” with support from “Dalit Watch” and Rural Volunteers Centre”, a Voluntary

Organization” working on flood plains of Brahmaputra River basin. The study covered 500 families from 10 villages.

A Survey form with the title “Audit of Access of Relief Assistance by *Dalit* Disaster-victims as per CRF Guidelines” was designed by “Dalit Watch” which was translated into demystified local language by volunteers of RVC. A 2-days Orientation of the survey team on “CRF” as well as associated issues was held prior to the survey. To ensure participation and transparency to the whole process as well as to educate the community on the issues ranges of consultation was held with community as well as concerned leaders and intellectuals.

THE FINDINGS:-

ENTITLEMENTS UNDER CRF	NOS. OF AFFECTED FAMILIES FALL UNDER THE CATEGORY	FAMILIES COVERED UNDER THE ENTITLLEMENTS	% Of coverage
Ex-Gratia payment to the families of deceased persons	0	Does not arise	Does not arise
Ex-Gratia payment for loss of a limb or eyes	0	Does not arise	Does not arise
Grievous injury requiring Hospitalization	0	Does not arise	Does not arise
Relief for the old, infirm and destitute children	385	0	0%
Clothing and utensils/household goods for families, whose houses have been washed away	350	130	33%
Gratuitous relief for	500(It should	0	0%

families in dire need of immediate sustenance after a calamity.	be noted that the following villages have been experiencing severe flood calamity continuously from 1996).		
Supplementary Nutrition (Note: The chronic shortage of adequate food in the flood affected villages in and around Dhakuakhana resulted in chronic malnutrition particularly among children. This was also found in a study carried out by the PAD, a Gogamukh (in Dhemaji district) based organization conducted by the government doctor with the support from Jamsedji Tata Trust, in the months of May and June 2009, that the most of the children are having anemia and under weight.)	500	0	0%
Agriculture input subsidy where crop loss was 50% and above	478	17	3.5%
Replacement of milch animals (Buffalo/ cow etc.)			
Replacement of			

draught animals (camel/ horse/ bullock, etc.)	NEITHER THE COMMUNITY NOR THE GOVERNMENT IS AWARE ABOUT THESE PROVISIONS. IN THE GIVEN SITUATION THE COMMUNITY FAIL TO PROVIDE INFORMATION REGARDING LOSS THAT THEY FACED ON THE FOLLOWING SECTORS.		
Replacement of Sheep/Goat			
Replacement of calf, donkey and pony			
Replacement of poultry			
Provision of fodder / feed concentrate in the cattle camps for large animals	0	Does not arise.	Does not arise.
Provision of fodder / feed concentrate in the cattle camps for small animals	478	97	20%
Assistance for repair/restoration of Fully damaged/destroyed pucca house	0	Does not arise	Does not arise.
Assistance for repair/restoration of Fully damaged/destroyed kutcha house	13	5	38%
Assistance for repair/ restoration of partially damaged pucca/kutcha house (where the Damage is minimum of 15 %)	69	60	86%
Immediate relief assistance	500	447(The support assistance which is in form of Rice and dal only varies largely from 600 grams 1 day and 80 grams 1 day to 7 days.	89.40%