

(Registered No: 54/2014)

Website: https://www.tnafsoatrust.org

Email: afsoatrust@gmail.com

Minutes of tele-meeting of Trustees conducted on 10-Dec-2023

An emergent meeting of Trustees and special invitees was held on 10th December 2023 electronically through Google meet to discuss and decide the utilization of donations received from the members to help victims of **Michaung** cyclone that ravaged Chennai and adjoining districts. The following members were attended the Tele-Meeting.

S/Shri		
P. Santhakumar	K. Balasubramanian	
K. Raajaram	V. Vijayamohan	
P. Venugopal	C. Arumugam	
R. Guruprasad (Vellore)	T.R.S. Sriram	
S. Ramakrishnan	D. Vanaraj	
P. Koteeswaran	P. Mohan	
C.P. Ravikumar	R. Guruprasad (Chennai)	
K. Abdul Salam	K. Mannu	
Srinivasan	A. Natesan	
G. Srinivasan		

Managing trustee welcomed all the members participated in the meeting and requested to observe one minute silence as a respect to the 19 departed souls in the cyclone.

Secretary in his address stated that **Michaung** is one of the worst calamities in the recent times. Innumerable Government servants of State and Central Governments right from Group D to Secretary level had put lot of efforts 24×7 to bring the normalcy, he mentioned. Cleaning staff from other places were also drafted for special duty and put their maximum efforts and everyone deserve full appreciation, he said.

An appeal was made to the members for donation to help the affected people on 06-Dec-23. Within 4 days 99 members have contributed to a tune of Rs.2.87 lakhs. To properly utilize the special purpose donation this meeting is held he said, and invited members present to share their views. Managing Trustee fully endorsed the views of the Secretary, and added his own views about how we should go about in spending the money. The following is the summary of the recommendations of the Secretary and the Managing Trustee:

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P Santhakumar Managing Trustee Mobile No.9443100603 **K Balasubramanian** Secretary Mobile No.9444322157 **R. Guruprasad** Financial Secretary Mobile: 9486102406



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1. We can think of paying some amount to deserving NGOs. Though many NGOs are on the frontline doing their mite in the critical situation, Deepam Arakattalai which received appreciation from Hon'ble CM / Governor stands out. We can think of spending Rs.25,000-00 to Deepam by way of provisions like rice, dal etc.

2. 200 number of bed sheets can be procured directly from Erode at a reasonable cost and donated to poor people who are unfortunate to sleep in road side in many areas of Chennai. Approximate cost for this could be Rs.65,000-00.

3. To recognize the invaluable services of sanitation staff in select corporation / other 3 municipality areas (Kanchipuram / Chengalpattu / Tiruvallur) Rs.1000/- each to 100 employees. This involves a cost of Rs.1,00,000-00.

4. Extending help in kind to differently abled eligible people who were victims in the flood ~ to be identified.

5. Extend help to suffering families of Meyyur village (Tiruvallur District) which was badly affected and was in news. Cost involved Rs. 30,000-00.

6. Balance amount can be distributed to other NGOs which are extending help in this calamity.

After giving this proposal, Secretary called for views of the members present.

Sri C. Arumugam Vellore opined that the above proposal was well thought of. He wished to add that some amount can be earmarked for other 3 districts too, instead of concentrating on Chennai alone. He volunteered to assist for Kanchipuram district distribution.

Sri R. Guruprasad Vellore said that to implement the above measures a group of volunteers is a must to regulate the crowds as there could be *melee* at the distribution site. He welcomed the above proposal.

Sri T.R.S. Sriram also appreciated the Secretary and Managing trustee for their well thought proposal. He suggested to include Maatram Arakattalai and Seva Bharathi in the list of NGOs (item # 6), as the both are doing a good service during the calamity.

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Sri P. Venugopal suggested that from the donations received 50% may be utilized for Chennai and rest can be spent equally for Chengalpattu, Kancheepuram and Tiruvallur. Procuring the material and distributing the same is a great task and requires man-power. He volunteered for assistance and requested advance intimation as he has to travel from Salem.

Sri S.Ramakrishnan He recommended to include "All the Children" and Udavum Karangal NGOs. Managing trustee replied that as we have donated money in earlier occasions to "All the Children" NGO and can consider the same. As far as Udavum Karangal is concerned, the view of the Managing Trustee and a few of the members present was that it receives exorbitant funds from everywhere, and we have to consider NGOs which will value our contribution. Sri S. Ramakrishnan mentioned that he is available for service on 15th and 16th of this month at Chennai.

Sri D. Vanaraj thanked for the opportunity and concurred with the proposal.

Sri V. Vijayamohan at the outset expressed happiness that Rs. 3 lakhs has been received from our members in a very short period. He too concurred with the proposal and thanked the Managing Trustee, Secretary and Additional Managing Trustee. He cautioned to select NGOs who are engaged in flood relief work particularly, as our motto to spend this amount was for flood relief. He recommended Sevalaya NGO for item # 6 as he could personally vouch for their genuineness.

Dr. P. Koteeswaran agreed with the proposal. He volunteered to join the team to visit different places as necessary. Sri K. Raajaram mentioned that the area Sri P. Koteeswaran was one of the worst affected areas and asked for his ideas. Sri P. Koteeswaran suggested the people living in Perumbakkam near Global hospital require help. Since we will not be able to manage the rush of the needy, we can take the help of some local volunteers available and manage any distribution if we plan.

Sri P. Mohan agreed with the proposal and suggested to extend the help directly under our trust banner by reducing share to NGOs. He wondered whether we can organize a medical camp in flood affected areas. Sri Sriram responded that arranging medical camp requires many formalities like getting approval from Corporation authorities and paying to hospital management etc., as he tried to do so in his locality. Sri Sriram added that it will be unwieldy and unmanageable. Secretary intervened to say that due to fund limitation the proposal is to be put on hold.

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Sri C.P. Ravikumar welcomed the proposal and volunteered his physical help in distributing the welfare measures.

Sri R. Guruprasad(Chennai) lauded that the proposals were great. He cautioned that giving bed sheets may not be a good idea, since he has seen that the beneficiaries sell it off as soon as they receive it. Only about 50% of such beneficiaries might relish the be sheet, he said. Regarding Meyyur, he said that the needy people will be more and hence it is better that a pre-visit to the village to assess the most eligible people and identify them well in advance before the distribution day.

Sri Abdul Salam approved the proposal put by MT/Secretary.

Sri K. Mannu endorsed Secretary's views of Deepam Arakattalai. He also shared the experience of seeing people who received the bedsheets selling to others in Besent nagar area and cautioned to give least priority to this idea. He suggested to pay Rs.5000/- to the families of the deceased persons during the flood. This valuable suggestion was received amidst thunderous applause and everyone accepted the same.

Sri K. Raajaram suggested that extending help to the deceased family was lingering in his mind too. He suggested to procure sanitary napkins, Crocin and other vital medicines to distribute. He said that he checked with Ms. Jaya Krishnamurthy our senior member about poor families near Minjur to include in our drive, who suggested to leave the group as they receive too much from many NGOs now. He mentioned that Meyyur was in news recently, and we should include the same in our list.

Managing Trustee thanked all the members who attended the meeting and gave valuable suggestions. He was unhappy that only a few attended this meeting, and wished that more number of trustees / special invitees could have attended.

The list of distribution of the donations received was finalized as below:

1. Financial assistance of Rs.5000/- each to the deceased family by collecting details. (Around Rs. 1 lakh)

2. Financial assistance to Deepam Trust (Cash / Kind – rice, dal, oil etc.) (Cost around Rs.20000 to Rs.25000)

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3. Financial Assistance to Meyyur Village people to the extent of Rs. 30,000/-

4. Financial assistance of Rs.1000/- each to 25 numbers of Sanitation staff of Chennai / Kancheepuram / Chengalpattu / Tiruvallur. Cost Rs. 1 lakh (Rs.1000 x 4 x 25)

5. Financial assistance to the NGOs who have rendered service during flood and differently abled homes to the tune of Rs.50,000/- after due diligence.

The proposal of supply of bedsheets to the road side poor people will be considered after meeting the above 5 proposals.

It was decided to insert Thanks note and closing the drive on 13-Dec-23, requesting members who may be desirous of donating and probably waiting for internet signals to be restored.

Managing Trustee put on record appreciation to the 99 donors (and some more who may donate money till 13-Dec-23) for their liberal donation to the noble cause for flood relief.

Sri T.R.S. Sriram proposed the vote of thanks to the members participated in the meeting and offered their valuable suggestions. He thanked Sri K. Raajaram for making virtual meeting arrangements.

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