

**THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
COMMONWEALTH EXECUTIVE MASTER OF BUSINESS/PUBLIC
ADMINISTRATION PROGRAMME
FINAL EXAMINATION –AUGUST 2019
MCP2609 / MSPA309 – DISASTER MANAGEMENT
DURATION: THREE (03) HOURS**



DATE: 25.08.2019

TIME: 01.30 PM – 04.30 PM

Instruction: Answer Part I (compulsory) and any three questions from Part II

Part I

01. Read the following passage and answer all questions.

The southwest monsoon weather conditions have caused rainfalls since 19 May 2018 in the southwest parts of the island. By 21 May, the precipitation triggered a flood and landslide situation in the country, which has affected thousands of lives and livelihoods, as well as caused property damage. According to the situation update by the Disaster Management Centre (DMC) of Sri Lanka confirmed that a total of 153,7122 people in 19 districts have been affected and 20 people have died due heavy rains, strong winds, lightning and landslides. Currently, 19,519 families have been evacuated into 339 welfare centres. Puttalam, Gampaha, Ratnapura, Colombo, Kurunegala, Kalutara and Kegalle are amongst the worst affected districts. The water levels of two main rivers, Kalu Ganga and Attanagalu-oya, are still at flood levels, but slowly receding. Some water reservoir gates are opened and release water to reduce the flood threat to other areas. Landslide warnings are still active in some districts due to the risk of landslides and power cuts and failures.

The DMC has reported the need for drinking water, wells and area cleaning, since water sources have been contaminated. The DMC is coordinating the national response efforts. The National Disaster Relief Service Centre has released 44.15 million Sri Lankan rupees for the response.

According to the previous experiences and scientific figures on climate condition in South Asia country including Sri Lanka, this is just the beginning of the annual monsoon season, and it is expected that the weather condition might be getting worst and extreme in the coming months.

As of 1 June 2018, water levels in all major rivers had decreased and flood victims in over 200 welfare centres had returned to their homes. The flood affected 174,310 persons from 45,680 families. Twenty six persons were reported dead. The Puttalam district had

the highest number of victims stranded at safety centers, as well as the highest numbers in flood damage with 96 critical infrastructure, and 53 fully damaged houses. Colombo recorded the highest number of partially damaged houses with a total of 2,270. While waiting for the damage assessment report, the National Disaster Relief Service Centre (NDRSC) disbursed Rs. 25 million to meet the costs of immediate response, in addition to Rs. 55.45 million provided for emergency relief assistance.

As of 12 June, the DMC has reported that close to 175,000 people have been affected across 19 districts, and 26 people killed. Puttalam, Gampaha, Ratnapura, Colombo, Kurunegala, Kalutara and Kegalle are amongst the worst affected districts.

- a. Name four hydro-meteorological phenomena that cause rain in Sri Lanka. (04 Marks)
- b. Name four cascading effects that may follow heavy rains. (04 Marks)
- c. Describe briefly two (02) activities that need to be carried out in houses inundated by floods before occupying after floods recede. (04 Marks)
- d. Name two (02) organizations that provides data and/or advise on the flood risk in Sri Lanka. (04 Marks)
- e. Describe briefly the measures that could be taken to reduce the risk of flooding. (04 Marks)
- f. Describe briefly four (04) indirect effects that could be observed as a result of floods. (04 Marks)
- g. Describe briefly the activities that could be done at household level, to minimize the effects of floods. (04 Marks)
- h. Name four (04) government organizations that play vital roles in providing relief to people affected by floods. (04 Marks)
- i. Describe briefly the immediate requirements of persons displaced due to floods. (04 Marks)
- j. Describe briefly the vital information that requires to initiate relief activities for a population affected by floods. (04 Marks)

Part II

02. Reference to the terminology used in Disaster Management.

- a. Describe the following terms used in disaster management (08 marks)
 - i. Risk Assessment
 - ii. CBRN Incident
 - iii. Mitigation
 - iv. Early warning system
- b. Describe the difference between. (12 marks)
 - i. Rehabilitation and Reconstruction
 - ii. Preparedness Plan and Response Plan
 - iii. Hazard and Vulnerability

03. Under the Disaster Management Framework of Sri Lanka.

- a. Describe briefly the organizational structure, composition and functions of the disaster management team at district level. (12 Marks)
- b. Name eight (08) important ministries represented in the National Council for Disaster Management. (08 Marks)

04. Briefly describe.

- a. How the unplanned urbanization is contributing to increase number of disasters? (10 Marks)
- b. Effects of Climate Change on the disaster landscape in Sri Lanka. (10 Marks)

05. Private sector plays an important role in supporting response following disasters. There are several apex bodies/organizations bringing together a large number of companies related to various trade and industries.

- a. Name four (04) such organizations from which assistance could be obtained for disaster response. (08 Marks)
- b. Discuss briefly the advantages and disadvantages in obtaining such assistance from the private sector. (12 Marks)

-Right reserved-

