

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
COMMONWEALTH EXECUTIVE MASTER OF BUSINESS/PUBLIC
ADMINISTRATION
FINAL EXAMINATION –DECEMBER 2017
MCP 2609 –DISASTER MANAGEMENT



DATE: 03.12.2017

TIME: 9.30 A.M. – 12.30 P.M.

Answer part (I) and any three questions from part (II)

Part (I)

1. Read the following passage and answer all questions.

Re-building – Aranayaka

Many countries in the world face constant problems with natural disasters. Rebuilding after disasters is often difficult, and may take many years.

Many countries face difficulties with massive challenges occurred due to disasters. Sri Lanka faced a massive challenge with the landslide occurred on 17/05/2017 at Samasarakanda, Aranayaka. But it was an achievement to restore life in Aranayaka within a year with a proper management. As a developing country such disasters cause additional expenses to Sri Lanka, but the commitment of the government in this regard is admirable. Assistance provided by friendly foreign countries help in accelerating restoration of lives of people.

In the event of tsunami it would have taken years to restore lives of affected victims without the support of international community.

Restoring of lives in Aranayaka has been commenced under the leadership of President Maithripala Sirisena and guidance of Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe and the contribution of government officials and security forces.

The most shocking natural disaster faced by Sri Lanka after the tsunami disaster that took place in 2004 is the landslide at Samasarakanda, Aranayaka. About 150 were dead and missing. Policy makers had to face serious challenges, in restoring life.

With the landslide at Samasarakanda about 2000 families in risk had to be evacuated as it was declared a high-risk area by the National Building Research Institute. Construction of new homes

for them on the direct government engagement has already begun. LRC lands, state-owned lands, plantation lands, nationalized lands, and private lands were selected on this purpose.

1960 families in high-risk areas in Kegalle District have been identified to be provided 305 acres of land and 200 acres have already been provided while another 105 acres of land will be provided soon.

60 acres of land for 571 families in high-risk situation in Aranayaka Divisional Secretary's Division is to be provided and 40 acres out of them have already been provided.

571 houses will be built for the people that were affected by Aranayaka landslides. It is not an easy task. The project has been accelerated by the government and due to the support of various parties the project has been implemented successfully. Construction of 100 houses, with the aids of the Chinese Government, a long-time friend of Sri Lanka, has already been initiated and the Habitat Institute offers a housing complex consisting of 80 houses. The Rhino Roofing granted financial assistance to build Aranayaka Wasantegama Housing project and it was vested on people under the patronage of Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe on the other day.

Allocations by government to build houses for victims of Aranayaka landslide are being provided as instalments and the government is monitoring its progress. A selected family will be given Rs. 1.2 million. Attention has focused on providing infrastructure, including drinking water for these housing projects.

The government pays its attention on rebuilding livelihood of people in Aranayaka area as well. A special program has been implemented with the support of the International Red Cross Society. A selected family will be granted Rs. 55,000 of financial assistance, and livelihood training, assistance to identify market opportunities and coordination will be done by International Red Cross Society. The Livelihood Development Programme is implemented as a combined project by International Red Cross and public sector. The data collection, program implementation, monitoring and follow up will be done with direct intervention of public sector.

The effort of the government to give back everything lost by people except the lost lives due to Aranayake landslides is becoming a success. Residents express their gratitude to the government and other local and foreign interveners in making this success.

Source: Website of the Government Information Department

- a) Give two (02) reasons for declaring Aranayake landslide a Disaster (05 marks)
- b) List five (05) types of land that could be used to relocate the persons affected by this disaster (05 marks)
- c) List four (04) broad categories of organizations that could be involved in developing livelihood development programmes (04 marks)
- d) Give four (04) important facilities that need to be included in housing projects designed for relocating persons affected by disasters (04 marks)

- e) What is the technical term used in the field of disaster management for building new houses to relocate persons affected by disasters (05 marks)
- f) Explain briefly why larger area of land is required to locate a rural population than that is required to locate an urban population (05 marks)
- g) What is the organization in Sri Lanka that advises the Government on the risk of landslides (04 marks)
- h) Give two (02) sources of external funding that could be used for projects of this nature (04 marks)
- i) Give an example of engaging the private sector, as reported in the above passage, for similar projects (04 marks)

Part (II)

2. Earth slip associated with the garbage dump at Meethotamulla in April 2017 was a type of disaster that Sri Lanka experienced for the first time.
 - a) List four (04) factors that may have contributed to this disaster (08 marks)
 - b) Describe the relief activities that need to be arranged within the first 24 hours after such a disaster (12 marks)
3. With the rapid industrial development, the number of factories processing chemicals in the island is increasing. With this the risk of chemical accidents are increased.
 - a) List four (04) important causes of chemical accidents. (08 marks)
 - b) Briefly describe the role of the factory manager in preventing such accidents (12 marks)
4. Reference to the terminology used in Disaster Management,
 - a) Describe the following terms used in disaster management (08 marks)
 - i. Risk
 - ii. Hazard
 - iii. Complex emergency
 - iv. Resilience
 - b) Describe the difference between (12 marks)
 - i. Vulnerability and capacity
 - ii. Disaster and emergency
 - iii. Rehabilitation and reconstruction

5. World is experiencing an increasing number of disasters every year
- a) List four (04) major causes of such increase of disasters (08 marks)
 - b) Write a short description on each of the following
 - i. Sendai Framework (04 marks)
 - ii. ISDR Programme (04 marks)
 - iii. National framework for disaster management in Sri Lanka (04 marks)
6. With regards to the classification of disasters
- a) Give four (04) factors that could be used as a basis for classifying disasters (08 marks)
 - b) Discuss briefly the advantages and disadvantages of classifying disasters for the purpose of their management (12 marks)

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