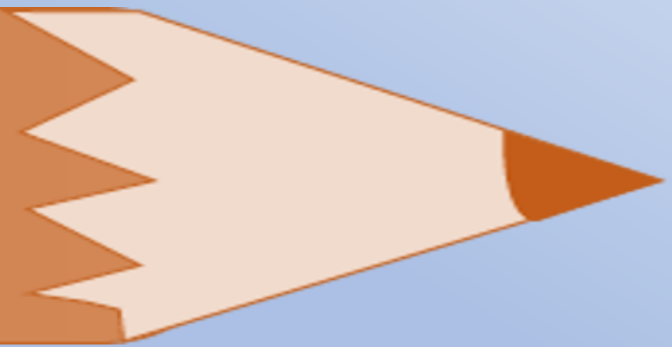




# BREAD

BOARD FOR RESEARCH EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT



*e- newsletter*

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## INTRODUCTION

In the beginning of the quarter, BREAD was busy with its routine tasks, but it put aside its daily task for a halt due to Kerala Deluge. Many NGO's came together in support of Kerala during the emergency situation created by the recent catastrophe that hit the state. BREAD realized its role at the time of emergency and decided to organize the relief activity focusing on the relief, while the transition of people to their own houses after rains had been little but considered. This edition of our quarterly news letter tries to cover the widespread relief programs that were and still were being carried out in Kerala. The edition will take you through various activities that BREAD organized and how it had tried making an impact from Micro to Meso to Macro level. Various relief activities led to positive impacts in the life of individuals, families, community and institutes in the community. The relief activity had been carried out in two different phases. The initial part was of the relief activity focusing the need of the families and individuals for their immediate sustenance. It was carried out from 21/8/2018 to 22/9/2018. From 22/9/2018, the next section was carried out where the whole community was focused and their needs were met.

**INTRODUCTION:** The relief response to the Kerala floods has been as unprecedented as the floods itself. With the government, NGOs and civil society organizations coming together, the relief measures have gone a long way in ensuring that the state comes out of the catastrophe steadily and surely. At this crucial stage during the time of emergency, The Board for Research Education And Development (BREAD) extended its helping hand to Kuttanad - one of the most flood ravaged regions in the State. The organization has significant experience and expertise in relief and rehabilitation efforts, as demonstrated during its efforts in Nagapattinam in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean earth quake and tsunami in 2004.



**Based out of the IMS Relief Camp in Paravoor, Alappuzha; BREAD initialized towards ensuring that the camp residents were able to transit to normal life as soon as possible once the flood waters receded. In light of this, assessment visits to the affected areas were conducted to identify the most essential items. These visits established that food and drinking water are the most immediate necessities, especially for the poor and the needy. Hence, BREAD decided to provide essential food supplies to thousands of vulnerable families returning from relief camps to find their homes and livelihoods destroyed. Specifically, BREAD worked towards ensuring that the residents of Kainakary and Nedumudi have access to food, particularly rice, cooking vessels and LPG stoves for cooking. Also the people who take shelter in the relief camp were given a relief kit for the immediate transition.**





The timely crucial intervention that **BREAD** carried out by distributions when people were returning to their flood ravaged "homes", and felt most helpless. The benefits of such an intervention were multipronged - in addition to ensuring food security for an interim period of two weeks for the household. The Intervention also allowed families to invest their time, money and effort towards other productive pursuits such as cleaning and renovation. Most importantly, the intervention was directly beneficial to children as it could minimize probability of malnourishment and hunger among flood affected children. Thus, encouraging children to actively pursue their education without any lags, once schools reopened.



# PROGRAM DETAILS

(21/8/2018-22/9/2018)

<b>RELIEF TEAM</b>	BREAD NOIDA AT IMS DHYANA BHAVAN PARAVOOR ALAPPUZHA
<b>DONORS</b>	MARY'S MEALS MAGNETI MARELLI INDIVIDUALS
<b>RELIEF OFFICE</b>	IMS DHYANA BHAVAN , PARAVOOR, ALAPPUZHA
<b>ACTIVITY</b>	RELIEF MATERIALS TO HELP TRANSITION FROM FLOOD CAMP TO THE HOUSES CLEANING DRIVE FOR THE HOUSES
<b>RELIEF MATERIALS</b>	RICE,KITCHEN UTENSILS,WATER PURIFIER, CLOTHING AND BED SHEETS, ASSISTANCE IN CLEANING

PARTICULARS	INMATES OF THE RELIEF CAMP	PANCHAYAT 1	PANCHAYAT 2
<b>FOCUS COMMUNITY</b>	This comprised of all those families who took shelter in the above-mentioned relief camp. These people hailed at various villages in and around Alapuzha.	<u>KAINAKARY</u> Famous for its unspoiled scenic beauty Kainakary is home to over 23700 people. In its tip is Vembanad Lake where the water of five rivers from the Western Ghat drain into. Flooding of the lake is not new to the people here. But this time they had unprecedented experience.	<u>NEDUMUDY</u> Home to population of 16000 Nedumudy is situated at the banks of river Pamba. Otherwise even during autumns the overflowing of the river is troublesome for the people residing there. The magnitude was much higher this time.
<b>Target Families</b>	325 Families	13000 families	

PARTICULARS	INMATES OF THE RELIEF CAMP	PANCHAYAT 1		PANCHAYAT 2	
<b>PROGRAM A</b>	Provided a relief kit to each family that was helpful for their transition to their houses. It comprised of 21 items consisting basic utility items like clothing and bed sheets, kitchen utility items and a water purifier.	<b>REACH OUT TO</b>	<b>ECONOMICAL</b>	<b>RELIEF</b>	
		13000 FAMILIES	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>MATERIALS</b>	
		All across the panchyats	All across the panchyats		
		2000 FAMILIES	BPL category	BPL category	
		1000 FAMILIES	BPL category	BPL category	

<b>PROCUREMENT</b>	<b>Best quotes were finalized and with the help of local support and volunteers the materials were procured</b>		
<b>DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM</b>	<p>Various items of basic utility were procured and organized into kits and given away to the families on 04/09/2018.</p>	<p>According to the procurement and arrangements at various centers the distribution at the centers of Kainakary took place from 10/9/2018 – 21/9/2018.</p>	<p>Between 08/9/2018 – 21/9/2018 various centers at Nedumudi were organized for the distribution of rice, gas stove and cooking utensils.</p>
<b>STRATEGY</b>	<p>BREAD pitched its tent at IMS Dhayan Bhavan, who connected BREAD with various local leaders. Through local leaders, various centers were identified and organized. For the relief kit for 325 families, IMS Dhyana Bhavan became the center of distribution.</p> <p>For the rice, cooking utensils and gas stoves, all the wards of the villages were covered, on different dates. The ward and dates were informed prior to the people.</p> <p>To avoid duplication and mal practices, all the moves were made very carefully and strategically. There were store in-charges employed to take care of the stores. Forms were created and printed. These forms were reached to the people through the local leaders. On the day of the distribution the individuals had to present their forms, Ration card (to identify their ward numbers and ownership). Against each form, a coupon was handed over, also the ration cards were signed and given back. The coupons were to be shown at the warehouse and items could be collected.</p>		
<b>PROGRAM B</b>	<p>BREAD procured the cleaning material and provided it to the volunteers, who carried out the cleaning drive under the leadership and guidance of Pragati Social Service Society. Various houses and community centers of Kainakary, Nedumudy and Chambakulam were covered.</p>		



## FINAL WRAP UP 25/10/2018 – 30/10/2018

**Computer Lab :** BREAD has been instrumental in setting back of computer labs in St. Mary's Boys' High School and Holy Family Girls' High school, Kainakary. The systems in the labs were washed away by the floods. The school had been under a great stress thinking of the expense of refurnishing the labs. The absence of computer labs would have affected the academic curriculum of the school. The timely correspondence had made possible the establishment and inauguration of the labs on 29/10/2018 thus leaving to almost no loss to the school and students. The schools had been hospitable, in giving a warm welcome to us and putting up wonderful programs on the day of inauguration expressing their gratitude.





***Safe Drinking Water:*** Kainakary is situated on the tip of the Vembanad Lake is known for its scenic beauty attracting many tourists every year. The saddest part is the people here busy greeting the tourists had been over looked upon their basic needs. Though lying near to the waters, they struggle daily for safe drinking water. The floods in Kuttanad area had made it all the more difficult for the people to survive. The supply of cleaned water, i.e. the well and the drainage all got merged during the deluge, leaving the water unfit for human consumption in any form. Realizing the need of safe drinking water, BREAD accepted the installation of RO water purifier for the people of the community at the premises of St. Mary's Church, capable of purifying 1000 liters of water per hour. It is worth sharing that BREAD had been able to install and inaugurate the RO purifier on 28/10/2018.



**PSC coaching center :** BREAD realized the strong demographic dividend of the area and could realize how due to unemployment the dividend is turning into curse than a blessing. BREAD set up a PSC coaching center and inaugurated on 28/10/2018, to help them develop the aptitude for the state exams and jobs. The unaffordable fees of such centers have hindered the aspiration of many poor youths. The aim is to provide the best coaching to the youths and transform them as big assets.

## WALKING EXTRA MILES

BREAD has decided to go extra mile by lending financial support to Sanjo Welfare Society, Chambakulam, Alappuzha. The society is focused in organizing and helping women (presently 21 women) from impoverished section. It provides them training in electronics and helps them earn for their own livelihood. The recent deluge had hit the society and the women very badly, washing away all their machineries. Thus leaving the lives of women to come to a stand still. They approached BREAD for the assistance at this time of difficulty and BREAD with the help of its sponsors has agreed to support them. The process have started and will be soon accomplished.

## CASE STUDY : 1



Joy and Roy are siblings with a difference of just two years. 6 and a half yrs old Joy's eyes were almost out explaining the water level, "It was even over my head, and the boat came till our doors to pick us up". Roy could not stop cherishing the stories of the relief camp. They have exciting stories of the relief camp where they took shelter during the flood. They got new friends and a big field to play around. Innocent kids have no idea of the struggle the family is going through especially because of the flood. Grace their mother has another child 3 year old and another on the way to look after. Mathew her husband, a mason, on daily wages, is the only bread earner of the family, who along with the four has his old and sick parents too, to be taken care of. The school expense of the children, the medication of the sick old parents, the care of the pregnant wife and the daily needs are a lot for Mathew to bear alone.

Their house is far interior from the main road and shops. Being in the interiors they were not aware of the relief drive carried out by the government and missed to receive many of the items distributed. They are happy they got to have Mary's Meals.

"At this juncture of life, it is luxury to have curry. The quality of rice is such, even without curry, this rice with little salt is sufficient enough to satiate our (family) hunger" exclaimed Mathew's mother.

Due to flood there is no much work, there house is not strong enough to take one more flood. The flood has put a pause on their income (earned daily). The family of 7 had lot to face already and the flood added more to it. 25Kg rice has come as a big relief, for them, they can save the money for other important expenses.

Parvati with her husband could never imagine that they will be able to clean their flood effected house so soon. The dirt that flood waters brought along and the mud all got in had become hard and solid while their stay in the relief camp. When they returned they were welcomed home by disgusting stench and slippery dirt. Parvati and her husband literally took some moment to enter and see inside. Seeing the deliberated state of the interior they thought they will not be able to settle back sooner. “The cleaning volunteers, seemed to be angels sent by God. My husband and I alone could have taken months to clean the whole house.” The cleaning volunteers cleared all the mess in two days and made it ready for human habitat. Parvati and her husband were really happy for the selfless service of the volunteers

## CASE STUDY : 2



## CASE STUDY : 3



This is another story of struggle and survival. Thomaskutty bears the load of a family that has so many challenges. He and his wife, Rosamma, have two children: five year old Alan and 3 year old Able. Besides them, the family has three more members: 80 year old Mariyamma, mother of Thomaskutty; 52 year old Jose, brother of Thomaskutty and 48 year old Rani, sister of Thomaskutty. Both Jose and Rani are people living with disability (PLWD) and both of them are mentally challenged. They owned a small home, 22 cents of paddy (rice) field, and 6 goats. Thomaskutty also had some vegetable cultivation in others’ fields. At other times he used to work as a supervisor for construction works.

When the floods came, Thomaskutty and wife had to flee saving the lives of their children, elderly mother, and the differently abled brother and sister. All of them were highly vulnerable and needed personal care and attention. They managed to reach the relief camp at IMS Bhavan.

Meanwhile, they lost the paddy(rice) cultivation, the goats died, and the house was broken. The relief kit turned out to be a great relief for the family. “At least I have something now as an asset” Thomaskutty said with a sigh.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

BREAD could successfully organize and accomplish the relief activity only because of the prompt response that it received from its Donors (Mary's Meals and Magneti Marelli and many individual donors). BREAD was able to organize volunteers for varied tasks to undertake the "Kerala Emergency Response". No way we can miss to remember these volunteers who took out time from their busy schedule and contributed in wonderful ways to the program.



*Thank you to everyone who made this relief program a success!!!!!!*