

(Unofficial translation)

**Criteria and Practice of Providing Assistance for Disaster
Victims in Case of Emergency
B.E. 2546 (2003)**

Recognizing the need to improve criteria and practice of providing assistance for disaster victims in case of emergency; and

By virtue of the provision of article 27 of the Ministry of Finance's Regulations on Cash Advance to Assist Disaster Victims in Case of Emergency B.E. 2546 (2003), the Ministry of Finance has set the Criteria and Practice of Providing Assistance for Disaster Victims in Case of Emergency as follows:

1. The Criteria may be cited as the Criteria and Practice of Providing Assistance for Disaster Victims in Case of Emergency B.E. 2546.

2. The Criteria shall be effective as of November 15, 2003.

3. The Criteria and Practice of Providing Assistance for Disaster Victims in Case of Emergency in compliance with the Ministry of Finance's Regulations on Cash Advance to Assist Disaster Victims in Case of Emergency issued on November 11, 1997 shall be cancelled.

All other criteria and orders that have been specified within the Criteria or criteria that are not in compliance with the Criteria shall be replaced accordingly.

4. Payment of cash advance is only limited to assistance for disaster victims in case of emergency as defined in the Ministry of Finance's Regulations on Cash Advance to Assist Disaster Victims in Case of Emergency.

5. Payment of cash advance to assist disaster victims in case of emergency shall be in compliance with the following criteria, practice, conditions and rates:

5.1 Concerning assistance for disaster victims, cash or in-kind assistance shall be provided as deemed appropriate based on the conditions and circumstances as follows:

5.1.1 The cost of providing meals or distributing rice, groceries and canned food at the rate of 50 baht/person/day at the most;

5.1.2 The real cost of kitchen utensils and ingredients for preparing meals at the rate of 3,500 baht/family at the most;

5.1.3 The real cost of purchasing or providing clean water for household consumption as deemed appropriate until the severity of disaster has declined and normal situation resumes;

5.1.4 The real cost of materials for repairing houses owned by disaster victims and accommodation of monks and novices in temples which are partially damaged at the rate of 20,000 baht/building at the most;

5.1.5 The real cost of materials for repairing houses owned by disaster victims and accommodation of monks and novices in temples which are totally damaged at the rate of 30,000 baht/building at the most;

5.1.6 The real cost of materials for repairing rice barns, buildings for storing agricultural produce and animal pens which are partially damaged at the rate of 3,000 baht/family at the most;

5.1.7 The real cost of materials for repairing rice barns, buildings for storing agricultural produce and animal pens which are totally damaged at the rate of 8,000 baht/family at the most;

5.1.8 The real cost of replacing household light equipment at the rate of 200 baht/family at the most;

5.1.9 In case rental facilities are required for disaster victims, payment of the real cost of renting shall be made for a maximum period of 7 days at the rate of 100 baht/person at the most;

5.1.10 If disaster victims have to rent housing facilities owned by others and their houses are totally damaged or partially damaged beyond repair, payment for the real cost of rental housing facilities shall be available for them at the rate of 1,500 baht/family at the most for a maximum period of 2 months;

5.1.11 The real cost of adjusting places to serve as temporary accommodation at the rate of 2,000 baht/family at the most or the real cost of constructing temporary accommodation at the rate of 4,000 baht/family at the most or the real cost of canvas or plastic or other materials

for constructing shelters and preventing disasters at the rate of 800 baht/family at the most;

5.1.12 The cost of infrastructure facilities at the temporary accommodation:

(1) The cost of electricity in the amount as collected by the Metropolitan Electricity Authority or the Provincial Electricity Authority or the real cost of other lighting facilities as deemed necessary if there is no electricity in the area;

(2) The cost of providing water for household consumption by agencies at the provincial or district level such as the Metropolitan Waterworks Authority, the Provincial Waterworks Authority, the municipality fire fighters or the real cost of purchasing water storage tanks as deemed necessary based on the number of disaster victims and the purchase of clean water for household consumption as deemed necessary;

(3) The real construction cost of 1 bathroom/ 10 persons at an average of 1,500 baht/bathroom;

(4) The real construction cost of 1 toilet/ 10 persons at an average of 1,500 baht/toilet;

(5) The real construction cost of dining halls and kitchens as deemed necessary;

(6) The real construction cost of garbage collection facilities or incinerators as deemed necessary.

5.1.13 The real cost of 2 sets of clothing/person at the rate of 1,000 baht at the most and if the disaster victim is a school or college student, an additional payment for the real cost of purchasing 2 school/college uniforms shall be made available at the rate of 1,000/person at the most;

5.1.14 The real cost of bedding facilities at the rate of 500 baht/person at the most;

5.1.15 The real cost of daily necessities such as soap, washing powder, toothpaste, buckets etc. at the rate of 300 baht/family at the most;

5.1.16 The real cost of equipment or funding support for disaster victims to maintain income-generating activities at the rate of 10,000 baht/family at the most;

5.1.17 Assistance for injured persons:

(1) In case of a person who is severely injured and needs more than 3 days of medical treatment in hospital, an initial amount of cash assistance of 3,000 baht shall be provided and a subsistence allowance of 2,000 baht/month shall continue to be provided if requirement for medical treatment is longer than 30 days until he is discharged from hospital.

(2) In case of a person who is so injured that he is no longer able to make a living, an initial amount of cash assistance of 10,000 baht shall be provided and a subsistence allowance of 2,000 baht/month shall continue to be provided for a period not more than 2 years except that he is able to support himself financially or is supported by other agencies then payment of a monthly subsistence allowance shall be cancelled.

(3) In case of a disaster that occurs in a large scale or is so severe that it has psychological impact on people in general, cash or in-kind assistance shall be available to a person who is injured and receives medical treatment in hospital in order to boost his morale at the rate of 2,000 baht/person at the most.

5.1.18 The cost of arranging cremation ceremony at the rate of 15,000 baht/person at the most and a family welfare support of 25,000 baht shall be further provided if the disaster victim who is the household head or the bread-winner of a family has died;

5.1.19 In case of extremely cold weather of less than 15 degree Celsius which lasts more than 3 consecutive days, cash assistance shall be provided for the real cost of purchasing warm clothing at the rate of 160 baht/person at the most. Each province is entitled to use a total budget of 300,000 baht allocated for such purpose.

5.2 Concerning social welfare and rehabilitation services for the disaster victims, assistance shall be provided as follows:

5.2.1 Cash assistance shall be provided for an older person or a person with disabilities whose household head dies, injures or becomes disabled and is no longer able to lead a normal life. Such cash assistance shall be used in case of emergency in order to purchase certain facilities that are useful for his daily life activities (i.e. wheelchairs, walking sticks or other assistive and special devices such as eyeglasses or hearing aids) as deemed appropriate and necessary at the rate of 5,000 baht/family at the most.

5.2.2 In order to ease immediate problems, cash assistance shall be provided for a school or college student whose parent or guardian or the breadwinner of the family died from a disaster:

- (1) School/learning materials at the rate of 3,000 baht/person at the most;
- (2) Daily expenses such as the cost of transportation to school or educational institution at the rate of 500 baht/person/disaster or incident;

5.2.3 Short vocational training courses shall be organized for disaster victims in the affected areas to provide them with an opportunity to earn sufficient income for their families in time of crisis. Payment of real cost shall be allowed for the following items:

- (1) The real cost of vocational training at the rate of 2,000 baht/person at the most;
- (2) Honorarium for services by professional trainers at the rate of 500 baht/person/day for a period of 10 days at the most;
- (3) The real investment cost of materials used by occupational groups at the rate of 4,000 baht/family at the most;
- (4) The real cost of conducting training within the amount of 10,000 baht at the most.

5.2.4 Cash assistance shall be provided to meet the real cost of relocating or sending the affected families back to their domiciles at the rate of 5,000 baht/family at the most.

5.3 Concerning medical and health care services, assistance shall be provided as follows:

5.3.1 Free medical treatment shall be provided for a sick or injured disaster victim by a health center or a mobile unit which might be sent to the disaster affected area to provide physical or psychological treatment. Payment of the real cost shall be made available through a health center at the rate of service charge as specified by the Ministry of Public Health to be 50,000 baht/person at the most.

5.3.2 Payment shall be made for the cost of chemical substances, food and medical supplies to be further distributed to disaster victims to ensure safe food and water consumption as follows:

- (1) Chemical substances for cleansing shallow ponds at the rate of 30 baht/pond at the most;
- (2) Drinking water for families in need of clean water supplies in the amount of 200 baht/family at the most;
- (3) Protein-enriched and nutritious food for physical rehabilitation and strengthening of human immune system against various diseases at the rate of 500 baht/family.

5.3.3 Payment shall be made for the cost of chemical substances and medical science supplies to help disaster affected people improve sanitation and environmental health and promote disease prevention and control as follows:

- (1) The real cost of chemical substances for cleansing public ponds, install field irrigation systems and destroy sources of water-borne diseases as deemed necessary;
- (2) The cost of cleansing artesian wells at the rate of 4,600 baht/well at the most;
- (3) The maintenance cost of village water supplies at the rate of 26,580 baht/site at the most;
- (4) The real cost of chemical substances and materials as deemed necessary for cleansing market places such as 65% chlorine-mixed cement and garbage bags;
- (5) The cost of medical science supplies for laboratory tests of acute diarrhea, water, food and drinks at the rate of 100 baht/sample at the most;
- (6) The cost of science supplies for preparing bacteria-cultured nutrients for stool samples to be further delivered for laboratory tests at the rate of 15 baht/sample at the most and for water samples to be further delivered for laboratory tests of bacteria that cause diarrhea at the rate of 25 baht/sample at the most;
- (7) The cost of medical science supplies for food tests at the rate of 30 baht/sample at the most;
- (8) The cost of science supplies for laboratory tests of an infectious disease "leptospirosis" at the rate of 50 baht/sample at the most;
- (9) The cost of medicine and medical supplies for treatment and control of diseases at the rate of 68 baht/person at the most.

5.3.4 Supplies to be used for collecting air samples shall be provided as follows:

(1) The cost of materials and equipment for collecting dust samples with the size less than 10 micron which include, for example, 1 set of carbon brush, pens, a machine and a diagram graph that records the flowing rate, fiber-optic filter paper and the cost of laboratory tests at the rate of 4,020 baht/sample;

(2) The cost of materials for collecting samples and liquid solution for analyzing copper at the rate of 500 baht/sample at the most;

(3) The cost of materials for collecting samples, liquid solution and chemical substances for collecting samples and analyzing sulfur dioxide at the rate of 3000 baht/sample at the most;

(4) The cost of materials for collecting samples, liquid solution and chemical substances for collecting samples and analyzing nitrogen dioxide at the rate of 300 baht/sample at the most.

5.3.5 The cost of repairing health centers and equipment that was damaged from a disaster or during the course of rendering assistance. The repair is limited to only certain items of equipment that are urgently needed so that they can rapidly resume their normal function and provide services to the affected people. In this connection, the District or Sub-district Disaster Prevention Committee shall maintain supervision and control to ensure that the repair proceeds rightly.

5.3.6 The cost of allowances, overtime and travelling expenses shall be provided for staff for their field work in the affected areas. However, such cost is only provided in case of insufficient regular budget allocation or no budget allocation to serve such particular purpose. It is required that the following rules and regulations need to be observed and followed:

(1) Each time a mobile medical team is out in the field to provide services, there shall not be more than 10 team members at a time;

(2) Each time a demonstration unit for water supplies is out in the field to provide services, there shall not be more than 5 group members at a time;

(3) Each time a demonstration unit for pond cleansing is out in the field to provide services, there shall not be more than 3 group members at a time;

(4) Each time a demonstration unit for cleansing of artisan wells or village water supplies is out in the field to provide services, there shall not be more than 3 group members at a time;

(5) Each time a mobile medical team is out in the field to provide services, there shall not be more than 10 team members at a time;

(6) Each time a disease prevention and control unit is out in the field to provide services, there shall not be more than 3 group members at a time.

5.4 Concerning crops cultivation, assistance shall be provided for disaster victims as follows:

5.4.1 In case of damage caused by a disaster on short-lived crops, in-kind assistance of short-lived plant breeds shall be provided in the amount not more than 100% of the affected area or perennial plant breeds in the amount not more than 25% of the affected area. In addition pesticides and chemical or biological substances that stimulate plant growth shall be provided in the amount not more than 50% of the area under assistance.

5.4.2 In case of damage caused by a disaster on perennial crops, in-kind assistance of perennial plant breeds shall be provided in the amount not more than 100% of the affected area. In addition pesticides and chemical or biological substances that stimulate plant growth shall be provided in the amount not more than 50% of the area under assistance.

5.4.3 In case of crops which are damaged by a disaster have not yet died but can be restored to be back to normal state of growth, in-kind assistance of pesticides and chemical or biological substances that generate the deteriorated crops shall be provided in the amount not more than 50% of the area that can be recovered.

5.4.4 In case an area under cultivation is buried by such objects as soil, sand, stone, wood, mud etc. that it can no longer be used for cultivation and government agencies cannot render assistance in such case, cash assistance shall be provided to hire wage workers to remove soil, sand, stone, wood, mud and also the remains that cover cultivation plots less than 5 rai each so that it can be used to grow short-lived crops.

5.4.5 In case it is required to remove agricultural inputs and agricultural produce that are expected to be damaged by a disaster, cash assistance to support the transportation cost shall be provided at the rate of 50% of the agricultural inputs and agricultural produce to be removed.

5.4.6 In case of damage caused by pests, chemical or biological substances as well as materials and equipment for prevention and control of all kinds of pests shall be provided.

5.5 **Concerning fisheries**, assistance shall be provided for an affected farmer if a disaster takes place in a specific area within a province or perceived to be a minor one and causes damage to the farmer's fish culture. However, the damage is considered to be within the limit of assistance and the governor of the province is entitled to approval covering supplies of fish fries, fish food, materials, chemical substances and medicine as deemed necessary based on the criteria, practice, conditions and rates as specified by the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives.

5.6 **Concerning animal husbandry**, a disaster victim shall be provided with the following assistance:

5.6.1 Plant or animal food shall be provided to feed animals raised by the disaster victim in case the food is not available sufficiently which further affects the animals. The plant or animal food provided should suit with the type and the number of animals raised by the farmer. It also includes instant food purchased at market price that has the qualities suitable with the characteristics and types of animals which assistance is to be provided for.

5.6.2 Vaccines and medical supplies for animals shall be provided as deemed necessary in a province affected by a disaster to maintain healthy condition of animals and to prevent and control diseases emerged as an impact from the disaster.

5.6.3 Support shall be given for plant breeds/ animal feeds if crop cultivation for animal feeds/ grassland for raising animals is damaged.

5.6.4 Support of plant breeds/animal feeds is only given when a disaster takes place in a particular area in a province or a disaster is a minor one which causes animals raised by a farmer to die or get lost at the scale that assistance can be provided through the province's governor who is entitled to approval of such assistance.

5.7 **As for other agricultural activities**, funding support to meet the following costs is provided to prevent a disaster and assist disaster victims:

5.7.1 The cost of clearing a drainage ditch and hiring workers to construct a protective barrier or purchasing materials to build a

protective barrier to protect land under cultivation from being damaged or being harmful to the general public;

5.7.2 The cost of leveling, plowing, ditching and constructing seedbeds for crop cultivation or being engaged in agricultural activities that shall ease problems faced by disaster victims;

5.7.3 The cost of repairing an irrigation building and an irrigation system such that they can function well in time of emergency particularly on the part that involves water drainage;

5.7.4 The lump sum payment for hiring vehicles, freight charge for the transportation of disaster affected animals by train or vessel run by private sector and supporting or transporting hay or animal feeds as follows:

(1) The lump sum payment for hiring a private vehicle or vessel which shall be paid at local rate on a daily basis;

(2) The payment for the actual cost of freight charge for train transportation as deemed necessary.

5.8 Concerning disaster prevention and relief, assistance shall be provided for disaster victims as deemed necessary as follows:

5.8.1 Provision of gasoline and lubricant for vehicles of public and private organizations as well as local administration authorities that transport water to help people suffer from the problem of severe drought with consideration being on the number of people, the number of days which payment has to be made, the distance from sources of water to villages where assistance is to be provided, the number of vehicles that carry water and their capacity.

5.8.2 Water storage facilities shall be provided such as cement jars, zinc-coated steel tanks, reinforced concrete tanks or other types of tank to help people in need of clean water supplies for household consumption.

5.8.3 Water storage facilities that are damaged shall be repaired to be able to retain water again and artisan wells and shallow ponds shall be improved/repared with The District or Sub-district Disaster Prevention Committee being assigned to supervise and control to ensure that the repair shall proceed rightly.

5.8.4 Materials (such as sand bags, soil, laterite, cement piles, boards etc.) shall be provided to protect and solve immediate problems or ease the severity of a disaster that might damage public facilities or the general public.

5.8.5 Repair of public utilities damaged by the disaster which is not under the responsibility of the public sector is allowed only in case of emergency to bring them back to normal condition. Such repair must not overlap with a project or projects that have already received budget to implement in the area.

The repair of public facilities that is under the responsibility of the local administrative organizations is allowed only in case the whole annual budget allocated for emergency has been spent. If the repair is not carried out, damage shall be further done to public utilities or cause trouble to the general public.

The fiscal budget should be used if the repair of public utilities need a huge amount of budget and considerable time to complete.

As for a bridge or a road or a road with drainage ditches that is so damaged beyond repair, it is allowed for a concrete bridge or a temporary wooden bridge to be constructed to replace the old one as deemed necessary or urgent to ease the immediate problem. In this connection, the construction should not be more than 45 days.

In case a disaster takes place and affects a community for such a long time which makes it inconvenient for people to travel back and forth, the construction of a temporary wooden bridge is allowed to ease the problem of inconvenience communication.

5.8.6 The lump sum payment for hiring workers to cut, lop or trim branches that break or snap off because of a disaster which might damage public utilities or public properties.

5.8.7 The lump sum payment for hiring workers to remove bits and pieces of things blocking waterways which include public utilities that obstruct the flow of water or branches, trees, water plants or clumps of bamboo etc. that block water drainage. They make public facilities unable to stand the strong flow of water which might subsequently cause damage to both human life and public properties.

5.8.8 Gasoline and lubricant shall be provided for machinery of government agencies that is used for excavating or building a protective barrier or removing things that block the flow of water so as to prevent floods in areas where public utilities and households are located.

5.9 Concerning assistance for disaster victims, the following costs shall be provided:

5.9.1 Support shall be given as deemed necessary for the cost of repairing items of non-expendable equipment. These shall include vehicles of both public and private sectors that are provided to assist disaster victims free of charge on a voluntary basis which are broken during the assistance operation. The repair which enables the equipment to resume normal function shall be provided only in case of emergency so that assistance provided for disaster victims can proceed successfully.

5.9.2 The cost of gasoline and lubricant as well as electricity for water pumps of the government agencies / local administration organizations to pump water in/out. Support shall also extend to water pumps owned by the private sector that are brought in to be used in case the pumps of the public sector are not available sufficiently. Key consideration shall be on the need, cost-effectiveness and participation of the people in activities targeting towards self-help.

5.9.3 The cost of gasoline and lubricant for vehicles of government agencies/ local administration organizations that are provided to assist disaster victims free of charge on a voluntary basis with consideration being on the need, cost-effectiveness and participation of the people in activities targeting towards self-help.

5.9.4 In case water pumps or vehicles provided by the public and private sectors to assist disaster victims are not sufficient and cooperation cannot be sought from the private sector, it is allowed to rent or hire water pumps or vehicles to assist disaster victims as deemed necessary/urgent with payment made on a daily basis at local rate.

5.9.5 The lump sum payment or the cost of hiring coolies and workers for wrapping packages shall be provided. However, the use of government officials should be first priority. If they are not sufficient, it is allowed to hire persons from outside in the amount as deemed appropriate at the minimum rate of wage payment as specified by the Ministry of Labour.

5.9.6 Payment shall be made for allowances, remuneration, overtime and traveling expenses for staff who go for field work at disaster affected areas as follows:

(1). Allowances, remuneration, overtime and traveling expenses for government officials or direct hires under the public sector are allowed in case of insufficient regular budget or budget is not allocated for such purpose. In this connection, government rules and regulations must be observed and followed.

(2) The rate of payment for remuneration of staff who are not government officials or direct hires of the public sector shall be based on the minimum wage as specified in the announcement of the Ministry of Labour.

(3) Payment for allowances or remuneration of staff who control water pumps is allowed in the proportion of 1 person per 1 site where a water pump is installed.

(4) Payment for allowances or remuneration of drivers of trucks which carry water, expendable and non-expendable equipment in the proportion of 1 driver per 1 truck.

5.9.7 The cost of meals for government officials and persons who volunteer to work at the rate of 30 baht/person at the most. The government officials and persons who volunteer to work must not receive cash assistance from any other source.

5.9.8 The real cost of receiving and sending mails and communication

5.9.9 Payment for the costs of office materials relating to assistance for disaster victims and the cost of materials for packaging which shall be based on the government's rules and regulations

5.10 If it is necessary, any item that does not specify to pay in cash, whether to pay in cash or not depends on the person who is authorized for approval of cash assistance based on the actual situation and circumstances.

5.11 According to the Ministry of Finance's Regulations on Cash Advance to Assist Disaster Victims in Case of Emergency which is not caused by fire, wind, water, drought, a small amount of rainfall or a prolonged period of dry weather before the rains come, lightning, hail, forest fire, the widespread of diseases, insects or all kinds of pests, unusual cold weather, wars, terrorism by alien forces or operational activities of government officials, the following action should be taken:

5.11.1 At district or sub-district level, the District or Sub-district Disaster Prevention Committee shall submit a request to the governor through the Provincial Disaster Prevention Committee for an approval for the District or Sub-district or Provincial Disaster Prevention Committee to provide special assistance as deemed necessary and cost-effectiveness with regard to crop cultivation, fisheries, animal husbandry and other agricultural activities, assistance for disaster victims in the areas of social welfare and rehabilitation, medical treatment and health care, disaster prevention and relief and others.

5.11.2 Permission is given by the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration to the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, the Ministry of Public Health and the Department of Disaster Prevention and Relief to consider rendering special assistance that is under their duties and responsibilities as deemed necessary and cost-effectiveness.

6. To provide the aforementioned assistance, coordination shall be maintained among public and private organizations, local administration organizations and non-profit organizations that are concerned to avoid overlapping and ensure thoroughly covered services. For assistance under such a joint effort which includes a number of agencies concerned, it is allowed to apply rules and regulations of the fiscal budget for expenditures.

7. Each province is required to prepare a 15-day progress report to the Department of Disaster Prevention and Relief summarizing assistance provided for disaster victims in case of emergency. Such reports must be submitted until the operation is eventually completed.

In addition to the progress report, the Department of Disaster Prevention and Relief shall appoint officials to conduct field visit to monitor and follow up the operation as performed by each province.

8. The Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, the Ministry of Public Health and the Department of Disaster Prevention and Relief are entitled to formulating minor criteria and practice concerning provision of assistance for the disaster victims as specified in item 5 as long as they do not against these criteria and practice.

9 In case it is necessary to provide assistance beyond these criteria and practice, an approval should be sought from the Ministry of Finance.

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Certified true copy

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