

An executive summary of the final report of work done on the Minor research project of Mr. Ravi Kudtarkar, entitled “Role of Logistics and Supply Chain in Disaster Management: With Respect to Indian Context sanctioned by UGC, vide sanction letter No.MRP(H)-0807/13-14/KAMA002/UGC-SWROdated 28/3/2014.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In the present scenario the human activity has tremendously increased in terms of industrialization, deforestation, exploitation of natural resources, infrastructure development and technology. These developments have exposed to negative effect on the environment. These negative effects results in disaster like volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, flood, drought, global warming and climate change. Disaster has a devastating impact on the human lives as well as it affects the socio and economic condition of the region. The present study is carried out to understand and develop framework for logistics and supply chain in disaster management.

The primary purpose of this study is to understand the causes and effect of Chennai flood 2015 which had left the whole state of Tamilnadu devastated. This study also evaluates causes and consequence of the disaster. It also evaluates and strives to suggest framework which may be suitable to handle crisis of this nature. The study was carried out in two highly affected districts of Tamilnadu viz. Cuddalore and Villupuram. The research was exploratory in nature and the data was collected based on observations and unstructured interview. The secondary data was collected from the interviews conducted on news channel as well as literature available with NDRF, NDMA, and JNA. etc. The interview results were further compiled to understand the root cause of the event and suggest a framework for the prevention.

The major findings of the research are that the warnings given by meteorological divisions were not adhered to. Civic administration was not ready to face such huge scale disaster. There was information supply disruption in the system because of which many people were forced to lose their properties and livelihood. The supply of relief aids was adequate but the aids were not reaching the needy in the hinterland. There were cases of looting the relief aid vehicles on the highway itself. The requirement of the relief aids was not properly communicated. There was lag in information sending/ receiving because of which the supply chain and logistics could not perform to the best result. Preventive measures were neglected by the administration.

The major challenges faced in conducting the research was approaching the victims and getting the details about their experiences. It was difficult to get the actual representation of their experience as the research was conducted with the help of research coordinator (Translator) as there was a barrier of language comprehension with the investigator.

The study has proposed a framework which not only considers supply chain and logistics part but also the coordination and cooperation of different actors in disaster management. This framework may not be generalizable as it is studied under unique context. Further research is possible to develop a holistic framework which could be generalizable for any situation.

Date:

Principal Investigator
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Signature of the Principal