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Climate change and flood situation in Sangli, Kolhapur districts: A study

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Abstract

Climate is sometimes mistaken for weather. But climate is different from weather because it is measured over a long period of time, whereas weather can change from day to day, or from year to year. The climate of an area includes seasonal temperature and rainfall averages, and wind patterns. Climate change refers to significant changes in global temperature, precipitation, wind patterns and other measures of climate that occur over several decades. Now it's not far away from us and its direct effect on society and environment are seen dangerously. A flood occurs when a river or stream overflows its banks. Social work intervention become essential when natural calamity like flood occurs and it make hazardous to society. Manavlok organization has done lot of social work in this situation and helped people to survive in very critical situation. Flood situation was very dangerous. It has alarmed about the drastic changes in environment. Along with the helping programs, Manavlok also conducted a national conference. The attempt is made to understand the concept of climate change, flood situation and social work intervention followed by need based programs in emergency.

Keywords: climate change, flood, calamity, intervention.

Introduction

flood is a natural calamity but due to man-made practices and intervention in environment has affected very adversary and it has bring many climate changes in the month of August 2019 there was very dangerous flood situation in Sangli and Kolhapur districts Krishna panchaganga Verna like rivers flood and it's water entered into to many villages people were not able to cope up with this situation they just observing flood and they had assumed that flood level will be up to the level of 2005 but there junction went wrong and flood situation take very bad nature heavy rainfall in this region and communication gap between Karnataka and Maharashtra government regarding Almatti Dam created this situation heavy rainfall and an healthy climate lead risk to the life of people as well as animals in this time people where uh afraid of the situation there was no electricity no food ration no drinkable water and even for cattles there was not for and water it created emergency and people left their home and villages they started to walkout to secure place in condition people sit in in a Boat and unfortunately this boat drone in flood water in this accident 9 people passed away this incident happened on 8th August 2019 in the morning time and this news spread in media administration and id.mi.com worker started rescue operation because many people wear still remained in village covered by flood water this situation when come to know the social workers and reputed NGOs they entered to help needy people organisation is one of them who did very good work for flood affected people lost their clothes food grain and daily need when this news come to know Manav looks secretary Shri Aniket Lohiya he took initiative and send it team for helping flood affected people and also a sure that organisation will support with its best If force II a monologue organisation sent 3 JCB machines and followed by a team who can cook and serve people food and water in this way organisation did cleanliness work foods to 2 people and also it help to to students and sports children's it try to build up confidence in the mind of flood affected people Mandu ka organisation conducted National Conference on climate change and its effect many scientists and Ronaldo persons participated in it and discuss on the change climate changing issues it will help to decide the policies in coming days

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Objectives

- To understand flood situation at Sangli and Kolhapur districts as a climate change result.
- To understand the role and social work intervention of Manavlok Organization Ambajogai, as an active NGO.

Hypothesis

- The flood situation occurred in Sangli and Kolhapur districts were the result of climate change.
- Manavlok organization from Beed district intervened successfully in flood relief work and underlined the importance and responsibility of NGO.

Methodology

Both primary and secondary data collected and analyzed. Flood affected sites were visited directly. Focused group discussion held to understand causes and effects of flood on community people. Discussion with secretary and social workers of Manavlok organization and their work report helped to understand their intervention for flood relief work. Secondary data collected from various books, govt. website and timely.

Flood effects in Sangli and Kolhapur districts

Krushna, Verala, Panchganga, Warana river floods had hit the districts of Kolhapur and Sangli hard with the city of Sangli completely marooned, and over two lakh people living without electricity in affected areas. Several water-supply schemes had become dysfunctional and crops and houses had been damaged with thousands shifted to safer places. It's found that most of the Sangli city surrounded by water. Each one of them was overflowing following incessant rains between 5 to 8 August 2019, totaling around 900 mm of rain, which was over 400 percent above normal, an official data from India Meteorological Department. Eleven rescue teams including five of National Disaster Response Force were operating in Sangli. About seventeen persons drowned after a rescue boat capsized in Sangli, it was carrying over 30 people and it turned turtle when its engine got stuck in a tree branch. The incident happened because of panic. As many as 223 villages in Kolhapur had been affected. 18 had been completely marooned. About 28,897 persons were affected out of which 8,923 people were shifted at secure places. 97,000 persons had moved out on their own earlier, about 38,000 people were staying in relief camps in 152 places in Kolhapur district and sixty boats had been pressed into rescue operations. Four deaths had been reported on 10th August 2019 in Kolhapur in rain-related incidents so far, the chief minister said. As many as 3,813 houses are affected in the district, out of which 89 are completely damaged. As many as 390 water supply schemes in flood-affected areas had become dysfunctional while two lakh people were living without electricity. Crops over 67,000 hectares are damaged in Kolhapur district and there was the scarcity of petrol and diesel. The situation of flood was very serious at the Confluence of rivers Krishna and Warna at Haripur, Sangli. The Mumbai-Bengaluru National Highway, which passes through Kolhapur, was closed. Thousands of people become homeless and jobless. Bramhanal, khatav, Sukhwadi, Digraj, Malwadi, Chopadewadi, Bhilwadi, vasagade, Padmale etc from Palus and Miraj tahshils of Sangali districts and Nrusinhwadi, rajapurwadi, Kurundwad etc. villages from Shirol tahshil of Kolhapur districts we focused for intervention and relief

work by Manavlok organization because they were remain submerged in water for almost four days when most parts of the districts including the city of Kolhapur and Sangli were inundated following incessant rains and spilling over of rivers and dams. It was a catastrophe as water levels in the village were as high as 10-12 feet which didn't recede for two days. Even pakka houses collapsed destroying all valuables. Sugarcane, paddy and banana crops suffered maximum damage. A large number of cattle also died. Business and tourism had suffered big losses. The monsoons destroyed sugarcane and banana crops of most farmers in the Sangli and Kolhapur districts. Many of these villages are located on the banks of Panchganga, Bhogavati, Koyna, Warna and other rivers which are tributaries of Krishna, the largest river in Maharashtra which flows through Satara, Sangli, and Kolhapur and then runs through four states before culminating into the Bay of Bengal. The saddest thing is to know that the flood was not a natural disaster but a man-made one, says Vishal Gosavi from Walva village in Shirgaon Taluka of Sangli who lost his house and crops in the floods.

Causes of Flood

- Water resources secretary Rajendra Pawar said, "The discharge from the dams was done according to 40-45 years statistics but no one expected a rainfall 400 percent above the normal." Meanwhile, a committee has been constituted to re-examine the flood-line norms.
- Environmentalists disagree with the government's stand, blaming the massive construction in the prohibited zones of the floodplain of the rivers is the prime reason for floods and devastation.
- Activists blame the Maharashtra government for the recent deluge in Kolhapur, alleging that flood lines of the Panchganga River were redefined to provide benefits to the builders.
- Many people and even Maharashtra government believes that excessive rains triggered the floods. In 2005, Sangli experienced 200 percent rain in 31 days. In 2019, 750 percent of rainfall occurred in nine days alone. In Kolhapur, 31 days of 2005 recorded 160 percent rainfall while in 2019, Kolhapur saw 180 percent rainfall in nine days. The rainfall all over was unprecedented. The combined effect of the Krishna, Koyna and Panchganga rivers caused the current flood situation
- The 2010 development plan of Kolhapur, Maharashtra, erroneously marked flood levels as flood lines, leading to the loss of crucial floodplains of Panchganga River to the real estate sector.
- Each one of them was overflowing following incessant rains between 5 to 8 August 2019, totaling around 900 mm of rain, which was over 400 percent above normal, an official data from India Meteorological Department.
- There has been massive construction alongside all rivers in Sangli and Kolhapur. Encroachment on riverbeds has reduced their carrying capacity of floodwaters over the years. Therefore, after heavy rainfall, swollen rivers ruptured their banks and floodwater gushed through houses built on the floodplains leading to major devastation
- According to Vikrant Tongad a renowned environmentalist, Floodplains, the flat land along the

river, provide the space for rivers to spread their waters. When this space is encroached upon, river ecology (such as its capacity to hold extra water changes) is drastically impacted. Deforestation and sand mining make the area more vulnerable to floods.

- Encroachment on riverbeds has reduced their carrying capacity of floodwaters over the years.
- Unfortunately, India lacks regulations with regards to the protection of river floodplains, experts said.
- Manoj Mishra a river expert said that, irrigation departments of different states carry out periodical assessments of flood lines primarily to save the rivers from industrial pollution. Though Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change had drafted a River Regulation Zone (RRZ) notification a decade ago on the lines of Coastal Regulation Zone, it is yet to see the light of the day. Misra also pointed out that the RRZ policy is now under the purview of newly formed Jal Shakti Ministry which has further delayed the process. The notification is important not only for river ecology but also for the life and property of people who live in floodplains owing to lack of knowledge. Earlier, water levels during 1984, 1985 and 2005 floods were wrongly marked as green, red and blue flood line. Flood lines are marked along the banks of a river indicating a potential threat of floods. The innermost line or "blue line" marks the flood occurrence in the last 25-years, while the outer "red line" demarcates a 100-years flood occurrence. No construction is allowed up to the blue line. Restricted construction is allowed in between blue and red lines. A land beyond the green line has no restrictions.

Manavloks intervention for flood relief

Manavlok organization is well-known for its huge social work for upliftment of farmers and downtrodden people. This is the first NGO who reached in earthquake affected Killari area of Latur and Osmanabad districts in 1993. Late Dr. Dwarakadasji Lohiya established this organization for social development and justice. Present secretary Mr. Aniketji Lohiya is leading Manavlok with the social spirit and humanitarian approach. When he came to know the pathos of flood situation and the incident of seventeen persons drowned after a rescue boat capsized in Bramhanal village of Sangli district, he suddenly took decision and sent a team of social worker for relief work. With his leadership and guidance Manavlok did extremely important work in flood affected villages. A team of social workers reached on 9th August and continued its need based flood relief work about one month. The brief report of Manavloks social work intervention is as follows-

A team of social worker a rich tatioo Sangli district firstly they met to doctor Rafiq Tamboli a villager from Brahmanal and understood the flood situation. Team come to know that people have placed in high school at nearby village and they are in need of food and clothes so team informed to Manavlok organisation office and food grain and equipments just within one day second team from Mangalore organisation reached with required things and it started community kitchen project at Brahmanal. In this way community project started in padmale, Mauje Digraj, Nrusinhwadi and Rajapur wadi village and near about 15000 food plates were served to flood affected people. This was need based program. Social work team its micro level

intervention that organisation approaches directly to the needy people and try to fulfill the basic needs people. Manavlok organization given innerwares to 1000 people. 550 students from Kothali village were given school keats including all necessary things. Sports player children from Rajapurwadi and nearby vllages were given boxing pad, hand gloves traksuits to 25 children. 1000 notebooks were given in Mouje Digraj high school. 1000 foodgrain and grocery keats were given in Sukhwadi and Rajapurwadi village. As they were unable to cook food in their house because flood water was entered in their house and almost all food grains were washed out. Community kitchen project the project for 5 to 7 days in each run in above villages.

At the same time as a social worker were in contact with the Tahsildar, BDO, president of ZP, MLA and other local government officials. Flood with its water bring silt, garbage in the village so it spread very bad smell and also many animals which died in flood where need to be dump. So government officials were asking for JCB machines to start cleanliness. In These villages Manavlok sent 3 JCB machines and operators they started to dump died animals and clean up the roads and drainage system which was blocked by flood water and silt. The work was very effective. Shri Manoj Biyani from Sangli helped to guide and channelise work properly. JCB machine work were done in Mouje Digraj, Sukhwadi, Chopadewadi, Bhilwadi, Vasagade, and Kurundwad villages from Sangli and Kolhapur districts. It was need based program run with the cooperation of local leaders and government officials the whole expenditure where did by Manavlok organisation it helped to normalize the situation. Geetanjali Irakar Madam Sarpanch from Mouje Digras and other village Sarpanch were very happy about Manavloks work and; they shown their gratitude towards Manavlok. The work was Run near about 12 days and these villages where helped by JCB machine to clean up the roads and drainage system in whole days near about 55 animals like buffalos, cows etc. were dumped. It was really helpful to prevent many diseases.

Macro level intervention is attempted to bring drastic change into the situation. Climate change is become burning issue and in coming days it can create big danger to human society as well as environmental aspects. So Manavlok College of Social Work Ambajogai organized a national level conference to think on the issues of Climate Change. Environmentalist, social workers, teachers, students, farmers and entrepreneurs were participated in this conference. It was organized in the month of November 2019. Many dignitaries shared their views in this conference the brief summary of this conference. Scientists and Agriculture officers appealed to change crop pattern and cultivate indigenous crops which can be suitable for this regional climate. They discussed about climate change and how human beings are responsible for it. They explored their views by many examples like fire in Amazon forest, Sangli Kolhapur flood situation and they also explained the views of girl named Greta Thunberg and her movement to save environment. Dignitaries with their studious knowledge explained how people should change their behavior to protect the environment. Plastic should not be used as it is very dangerous cause for environmental crisis. Water policy is defective and due to this there are many problems in agriculture as well as water distribution. Water policy should be based on scientific knowledge and it should

consider the social issues. Shri Pradeep purandare explained how water legislations are defective and there is need to change in it this conference was very successful. It become the platform to come together for social activist, lawyers, teachers, social servants and government officials. In this way Manavlok at its best level intervened in climate change issues happening now a days and tried to make awareness about it. Manavlok tried to put important solutions to protect the environment and stop adverse changes happening in climate.

Conclusions

- NGOs can play a big role in social work as well as environmental issues. Sangli Kolhapur flood situation was very dangerous, people become insecure: in that critical condition Manavlok intervened successfully and helped more than 15000 people and 12 villages. It was direct intervention which helped people to tackle with critical condition.
- Climate change is in adverse direction which is become very much harmful for human society as well as all living and non living beings. People need to be aware about it and Manavlok like NGO is doing good work to make aware people about environmental issues happening into the globe.
- Sangli- Kolhapur flood situation was the direct effect of non communication between Maharashtra and Karnataka Government. It created this flood, so here after government should be careful about such Condition and if they fail: they should be consider direct responsible for such situation and alleged into the court of law.
- This situation has underlined the need of Nadi Jod prakalp: because there was flood in in Sangli and Kolhapur and at the same time in Sangola, district of Solapur was suffering from water scarcity. Water conservation department need to be work on it. It was discussed in National Conference conducted at Manavlok College of Social Work Ambajogai.
- Encroachment in a riverside and into the bank of river should be strictly prohibited. This flood was direct result of this type of encroachment: tree plantation on river bank is another very required thing to cope up such situation.
- Manavlok organization has played very vital role in helping people suffering from flood situation and also it tried to make awareness among people about environmental issues and climate change.

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