

Asian Disaster Reduction & Response Network

Project Bagh Azad Kashmir

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Background:

On 08th October 2005 devastating earthquake hit a part of NWFP province of Pakistan and three District of Azad Jammu & Kashmir. Approximately 73,000 persons included 18,000 children died in this earthquake. 400153 shelter units destroyed or seriously damaged and 2.8 million persons become shelter less. Educational department, Health, Roads every department damaged heavily in this devastating earthquake.

Rehabilitation:

After earthquake 2005, many foreign NGO's, UN Agencies and Pakistani Army emerged and start rehabilitates people. They provide tents, foods and also help people to build up temporary shelter. Ordinary people started living in tents and administrative offices also started their work in tents and in temporary shelters.

Reconstruction of Houses:

Government of Pakistan announced that they will give compensation to people to build their houses. Government decided to give compensation in shape of installments. District Knowledge Centre carried out a survey during July 2007 to know reconstruction progress and identify problems and needs of Ordinary people. We able to find some figures as under:

House Destroyed in Earthquake.

Completely Damaged
75%

Damaged Partially
20%

No damaged
5%



Houses Construction Process

Construction Completed
41%

Half Stages
56%

Still not started
03%



Earthquake Seismic features

Seismic
87%

vulnerable
13%



Seismic



Vulnerable



Reasons:

People who are financially strong they completed their houses construction. Before earthquake many people has been working in different areas of Pakistan and foreign, they come back after earthquake, now they have no job, no income. These people and low income people are constructing their houses gradually with the installments of compensation from government. Following are some common reasons of people unable to complete their houses.

- Lack of funds is one of the reason that people still unable to complete their houses, some still not start and some constructing vulnerable.
- Prices of constructing material are increasing after earthquake.
- Delayed tactics of government of giving compensation to people is also a reason.

Departmental Reconstruction:

In the earthquake of Oct 05, Government Departmental buildings damaged heavily, all departments (Education, Health, and Administration etc.) damaged greatly. After earthquake government's departments started work in tents and temporary shelters. Almost 22 months passed but still government's departments working in temporary shelters and tents. Few weeks before University of "Lahore" Pakistan introduced a master plan for the re-construction of Bagh. Now it is expected that construction will start soon.



District
Administration



Local Govt.



School

However in Rural area some NGO's started construction of School's buildings.



Problems and Needs:

Following are some common Problems and need we found in survey

Problems:

- Reconstruction of houses.
- Lack of water supplies.
- Unemployment.
- Rough Roads.
- Unskilled Population.
- Lack of proper planning.

Needs:

- Funds for reconstruction.
- Water Supplies Schemes.
- To build basic infrastructure.
- Promotion of local industry.
- Proper planning for reconstruction and for future disaster preparedness.

Conclusion:

After earthquake of October 2005, reconstruction process is going slowly, there are many reasons:

As for government department building, university of Lahore introduced master plan for whole reconstruction of Bagh, now hopefully construction will start soon.

As for common people's house's construction, mostly people are looking for the installment from government. Government is giving compensation to people in shape of installments and it is a slow process, so common people houses construction depend on installments of compensation.

One of the other problem in reconstruction is increasing prices after earthquake specially construction material. There is no proper price control system.