ལྷོ་དོན།
ལ་དྭགས་རང་སྐྱོང་རྩེ་ལྡོངས་ཡར་རྒྱས་ལྷན་ཚོགས། ཕྱི།
Chairman/Chief Executive Councillor
LADAKH AUTONOMOUS HILL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, LEH
LEH, LADAKH - 194101 (INDIA).
TEL. : (O) 01982-252212 (R) 250299, FAX : 01982-250187, 253298
Mobile : 9419179079 E-mail : cec_lahdc@yahoo.co.in

ཆོ་རིང་རྡོ་རྗེ།
CHERING DORJAY

August 12, 2010

Public Appeal

On August 5 and 6, 2010 Leh district of Ladakh, witnessed the worst natural disaster in its history. Successive cloud bursts and heavy rains brought thousands of tonnes of loose soil, sand, stones and large boulders into valleys and low lying areas inundating them with over 20 feet of debris and causing massive destruction of infrastructure, property and human life.

Over 200 deaths have been recorded so far, more than 400 people are still missing with little hope of finding them alive and thousands have been displaced. The damage to roads and bridges is so severe that it is impossible to reach some of the affected areas and villages. Over 40% of the roads and bridges are completely destroyed and remaining are damaged to a large extent. The Indian Army along with its subsidiaries and state agencies are working hard to clear roads, build bridges and provide required immediate relief.

Immediate relief will soon be available in all affected areas but reconstruction and rehabilitation will take many years. We are currently in the process of assessing the extent and amount of damage and preparing a detailed plan to undertake the reconstruction and rehabilitation in an efficient and coordinated manner. While the construction and repair of destroyed infrastructure such as roads and bridges will be undertaken by the suitable government agencies, the rehabilitation of the displaced people will require resources beyond those available through government channels.

Some local and international agencies have approached us and pledged their support in this regard. It has also come to our notice that many agencies and individuals have initiated a fundraising process for the Leh disaster. While many of these efforts are well meaning, some may have less than noble intentions. In order to prevent the wider public from being defrauded of their hard earned money, we appeal to the people to provide their donations directly to the CEC Relief Fund or to agencies authorised by the office of the Chief Executive Councillor, Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Leh. All monies contributed to the fund will be used towards the rehabilitation of the people displaced by the disaster. The donations may be sent by cheque or through bank transfers to the "*CEC Relief Fund*" payable into the current account of the fund with J&K Bank Limited, Leh (www.jkbank.net), numbered *CG-128*. In case you are transferring money from a foreign country, kindly write to us at the email address mentioned below for transfer details or obtain them from the bank's website. Contributions through cheque should be mailed /couriered to:

Coordination Cell, Office of the Chief Executive Councillor, Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Leh, Ladakh -194101 INDIA

We would also like to appeal to the public that before launching any collection campaign kindly correspond with us at lehflood@pluralhub.net to ensure that you collect only required materials.

We are also in the process of setting up an information and coordination website which will provide any needed information required by individuals and agencies interested in contributing towards the rehabilitation of the displaced people in the district. We appeal to all people and organisations wishing to contribute to the rehabilitation to kindly coordinate all initiatives with us.

Chering Dorjay
Chief Executive Councillor
Ladakh Autonomous Hill Dev. Council
Leh-Ladakh