

SEMINAR PAPER ON

NECESSITY OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT TRAINING IN EMERGENCY RESPONSE: CHALLENGES FOR BAF AND WAY OUT

Submitted to

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**Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre
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ABSTRACT

Bangladesh is one of the most disaster prone country in the world. The constant resilience against disaster enables Bangladesh to become an expert in disaster management. BAF provides extensive support during any kind of disaster regularly. Presently in natural and man-made disaster BAF capability is highly sought for SAR, Medical evacuation, recce, transportation, ration supply etc. All these services are provided from the perspective of conventional training of BAF. However some additional training concerning the special requirement of disaster prone issues will enable BAF to perform in a better way. Without effective organizational capacity the disaster management would be difficult. BAF has specific peace time role to provide all possible supports in aid to civil power, thereby keeping its image to the nation. So, BAF has a certain responsibility to investigate the possible way out to provide appropriate training for operating crew. BAF would take the necessary policies and infrastructural reformation to arrange appropriate disaster management training in the current training system. Moreover, BAF may also have an additional arrangement through establishing a new institute to ensure particular training on disaster management. Hence, appropriate disaster management training would enhance the effective disaster management capability of BAF. To give a professional look outside, while participating in disaster management, training is must. Now the time has come to incorporate training system in BAF to fight against disaster management. This would increase the capability of BAF for quick and progressive response to the crisis situation. BAF has arranged up to date training in all level according to the contemporary warfare need. However, BAF hardly arrange any training in response to disaster management. Therefore, this seminar paper would be remarkable for BAF policy maker to address the issue and implement a policy to ensure appropriate training for disaster management.

KEYWORDS

Bangladesh Air Force, Disaster Management, Standard Operating Procedure, Armed Forces Division, Search and Rescue, Standing Orders for Disaster Management, United Nations

NECESSITY OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT TRAINING IN EMERGENCY RESPONSE: CHALLENGES FOR BAF AND WAY OUT

Background of the study

Bangladesh is one of the most disaster prone country in the world. Every year, this country experiences different types of natural disasters due to geographic features and location. Besides, disaster becomes more diverse and complicated because of rapid population growth, urbanization and technological advancement. Throughout the year various kinds of disaster like floods, cyclone, tidal surges, earthquakes, river erosion, fire, water logging, infrastructure collapse, droughts etc are happening in Bangladesh. Manmade disasters include industrial accident, act of terror, fire hazards, and infrastructural collapse occurs regularly in Bangladesh. As a result, it causes heavy loss of life and property.

The constant resilience against disaster enables Bangladesh to become an expert in disaster management. So, now-a-days the country deals the events of disasters in a better way than before. For this a comprehensive plan is a must mechanism to decline the loss rate. The country has taken a holistic approach for disaster management, where emphasis has been given to working together with all stakeholders. Bangladesh Air Force (BAF) is one of the big stakeholders in disaster management since its establishment. BAF provides extreme support during any kind of disaster regularly. But BAF often fails to create an effective/ positive impact due its mediocre disaster management capability more particularly inappropriate training. Without effective organizational capacity the disaster management would be difficult. During emergency period, if the organization like BAF is not equipped and trained enough, it is almost impossible to fight against disaster effectively.

Problem Statement of the study

By virtue of the inherent characteristics of Air Power: height, speed, reach; BAF can respond to any crisis situation at the earliest. So far it has been mitigating the crisis on experience basis. BAF does not have any organized training curriculum for disaster management. To give a professional look outside, while participating in disaster management, training is must. Now the time has come to incorporate training system in BAF to fight for disaster management. This would increase the capability of BAF for quick and progressive response to the crisis situation.

Capability building would make BAF to work in a systematic way and act professionally during the need of nation. It would organize training for military personnel as well as civilian. Some mock up practice can give confidence to the operator in real time. A co-ordination hub with other organizations is necessary to fight with disaster.

Organizational preparedness and capability building would reduce the effect of disaster. Being a major stakeholder BAF has a vital role to play. Though BAF is trusted with many responsibilities but yet focus is not given on her capability building. Thereby during crisis it could not bring out the desired outcome. It is now high time to develop a strong backbone to fight against disaster.

Objective of the study

Peace time role and social responsibility for the nation are the key factors for forwarding towards up to date training in response to disaster management. In this context, the purpose of this study is to focus on the appropriate disaster management training system for BAF to mitigate frequent disaster events. This seminar paper will explore the possible training facility for BAF members to augment the disaster management capability of BAF.

Significance of the study

The frequency of natural calamities and manmade disasters is increasing day by day in Bangladesh. So, BAF has to respond immediately to mitigate the situations regularly. Sometimes, those responds are inadequate to meet the challenging and ever changing situations. But BAF has all the potential equipment and manpower to manage the situations. Due to lack of training and regular practice those efforts become in vain. So appropriate training and regular practice would facilitate BAF to utilize its potentiality. BAF has arranged up to date training in all level according to the contemporary warfare need. However, BAF hardly arrange any training in response to disaster management. Therefore, this seminar paper would be remarkable for BAF policy maker to address the issue and implement a policy to ensure appropriate training for disaster management.

Research Question

Primary Question How disaster management training would improve the disaster management capability of BAF in emergency response?

Secondary Questions

- a. What is the existing arrangement/system/SOP/practice of BAF in response to disaster management?
- b. What are the expected criteria/conditions of disaster management training in response to disaster management?
- c. What are the challenges for BAF to implement the disaster management training?
- d. How to address these challenges?

Research Methodology

This seminar paper portrays the present disaster management capability of BAF and looking forward appropriate training as practicable as possible. Causal methodology is followed for this research.

Methods of Data Collection. This seminar paper is a blending of primary and secondary sources. The primary sources of information are the experienced professional and policymaker of BAF. Secondary information are collected from published books, journals, reports, articles and internet sources. The purposive sampling is followed for this research. The primary data were collected through survey method with a set of questionnaire.

Finally the data are collected through following sources:

- a. **Quantitative.** Personal interview and self-administered survey questionnaire.
- b. **Qualitative.** Unstructured interview and document study.

Organization of the Report Besides the introductory chapter, this paper has six chapters. The details of outlines of chapter are given bellow:

- a. **Chapter-II.** This chapter discusses existing scenario of BAF in response to disaster management.
- b. **Chapter-III.** In this chapter, the expected criteria of disaster management training are discussed.
- c. **Chapter-IV.** This chapter discusses the challenges for BAF to implement the disaster management training.
- d. **Chapter-V.** In this chapter an in-depth analysis is made on the findings, data has been analyzed and validation of hypothesis is done.
- e. **Chapter-VI.** This part contains the concluding remarks on the whole paper. It also contains the recommendations based on the result.

CHAPTER-II

EXISTING SCENARIO OF BAF IN RESPONSE TO DISASTER MANAGEMENT

BAF is extremely committed to social development and disaster management since its inception. BAF is always ready to meet the challenges of natural disaster like flood, cyclones, tornados etc as well as manmade disasters like building collapse, fire and accidents as laid down in Base Local Order Book and SOP of the flying squadrons. But these orders and SOPs are not comprehensive. However, with the experience of combating the natural disaster BAF can meet the challenges of disasters with little modification in training and mastering some equipment. BAF need to address the problem by modification of the aircraft, equipment and impart necessary training in this regard. Capitalizing the experience of natural disaster and recent man-made disaster, they can impart appropriate training to prepare themselves to meet the challenges of disasters.

SOP

The government of Bangladesh has outlined the duties and responsibilities of the governmental institutions and of different ministries including the Armed Forces. Based on these SOPs, Armed Forces have formulated their own SOPs up to unit level. In these SOPs, the details with regard to pre, during and post disaster activities have been spelt out. These standing orders are laid down to ensure that all concerned are able to discharge their functions in a speedy and systematic manner as time and speed of action are vital to handle the situation effectively. Within the framework of these standing orders, unforeseen and complex situation should be handled with boldness using initiative and ingenuity(Ahmed, 2020).

Existing Disaster Management Policy For BAF

The National Disaster Management Policy was formulated to define the national perspective on disaster risk reduction and emergency management. There BAF has been tasked to perform the addition duties to normal functions. The roles of BAF during risk reduction are extracted from Standing Orders on Disaster, Disaster management Bureau(Ahmed, 2020):

- (a) Develop a sectorial risk mitigation and preparedness strategy plan through conducting a detailed sectorial risk assessment of Bangladesh Air Force.
- (b) Ensure budgetary provision for the implementation of the plan

- (c) Establish an effective monitoring and evaluation system to ensure effective utilization of resources.
- (d) Establish a sectorial risk communication system of the ministry.
- (e) Prepare and periodically update the agency contingency plan.
- (f) Undertake staff education and awareness training to its entire staff on earthquake management and other disaster management.
- (g) Operationalize the contingency plans through organizing annual drills on preparedness and revise the plan if required.

Infrastructure

The infrastructures are the important factors to pursue the training facility for disaster management. The investments in infrastructure of a training institution of disaster management can provide a tremendous contribution in disaster management and economic prosperity of country. Most of the BAF training institutes have essential infrastructural facilities including suitable classroom, enriched library, equipped laboratory and hygienic toilet facility for trainee. However, none of the training institutes have facilities like high ramps, hardening shelter, storage facility for disaster management training and actual disaster management (Ashraf, 2020). These facilities are pre-requisite for disaster management training specially for Risk Reduction Phase.

BAF has got many training institutes for training of officers, airmen and MODC. Training is conducted in different phases of career. Bangladesh air force academy is for officers training. Recruits training school for airmen training. Few more institute are Command and staff training institute (CSTI), Flight safety institute (FSI), Officers training school (OTS), Training wing for different kind of training. BAF may utilize these training institute for the purpose of disaster management training. Directorate of Air Training is responsible for the training matters in BAF (Ashraf, 2020).

BAF does not have any organized training on disaster. Selected personnel are doing short training, joining seminar and symposium under the arrangement of Disaster Ministry and AFD. Few officers were send abroad to have a theoretical knowledge. While doing joint exercise with other nations, small scale mock up practice was given to BAF personnel (Ashraf, 2020). Presently aircrews are fighting against disaster with their experience and guidance from higher headquarter. Members of Bangladesh Air Force are not adequately trained in rescue, relief and rehabilitation works. They need special training for managing various types of Disaster Management operation. Special training may include on rescue, first aid, food packing, evacuation and post disaster assessment (Bashar, 2020).

Bangladesh Air Force plays a pivotal task in countering both natural and manmade disasters in aid to civil power. Due to well-disciplined forces, technical competence, logistic and medical backups, Bangladesh Air Force is always ready to rapidly undertake any kind of post disaster related operations. As a result, Bangladesh Air Force is one of the essential elements for mitigating the disasters.

BAF does not have any prescribe training on disaster management. But BAF personnel are taking some short training under disaster ministry. They also join in different seminar, symposium to gain theoretical knowledge. Those are very limited in nature. A comprehensive training is required now. With the existing infrastructure it is possible to carry out a comprehensive training. Aircrew needs practical training. Considering the equipment it is very limited in number. State of art technology need to be included to get a better result. While doing this research, it was found that the air force officers are utilizing their skill at its best to meet the demands and requirements of the nation. But a specialized disaster management training is essential for them to work more precisely.

CHAPTER-III

EXPECTED CRITERIA OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT TRAINING

Bangladesh air force solely recognizes the ever increasing threats of disasters in Bangladesh. So with the pace of time it has been increasing its ability to address and mitigate the effects of disaster. BAF tries to be prepared for upcoming disasters to reduce fear, anxiety, and losses that accompany disasters. BAF also tries to make communities, families, and individuals know what to do in the event of a fire and where to seek shelter during a powerful storm. To make these activities smooth, disaster management training is performed. Some criteria should be followed in disaster management training as these would make it more fruitful and effective.

Policy

Policy means a principle of thoughts or procedure taken by an organization to perform a duty or action. It is a system to guide decisions in order to find proper outcomes. Attitudes are reflected by policies. To fight against the regular disasters faced by Bangladesh, BAF has also adopted some policies to conduct proper disaster management trainings (Salamat, 2020). These can be divided into two major parts:

- a. Short-term Policy. Decreasing action time, quick response through better communications, improving training facilities etc. are included here.

- b. Long-term Policy. Infrastructural development that will withstand during natural calamities like cyclone, tornado etc. Building new relief houses, introducing corrosion protected construction methods etc. are included in this policy.

Syllabus

The following syllabus may be covered in Disaster Management training (Basher, 2020):

- a. Basic knowledge of global disaster risk assessment, terminologies used, and overview of disaster incidents are expected to be included.
- b. Introduction to disaster field analysis, vulnerability check and risk analysis can be done in this portion of the training. Specially for BAF, field identification is immensely important to establish temporary base in critical situations.
- c. Risk minimization frame work can be taught to the trainees to perform their duties in a more effective way. It is also needed for self-safety of the individual.
- d. How to react eventfully in the period of disaster should be included in the course plan of disaster management training. Setting up the standing committees, making agreements and arrangements, documenting necessary data and testing of the measures are included.

Organizational Capacity

Ability of an organization to fulfill its goal through a combination of professional management and strong governance is called organizational capacity. It is a demand of modern days that BAF should increase its organizational capacity to response in disaster. Capacity building begins from conceptual framework and it is an everlasting process. To reduce risk in greater extent, an incorporation of training with capacity building is needed to follow in long term policy (Salamat, 2020). Different approaches are given below:

- a. Public consciousness.
- b. Classroom education.
- c. Hands-on training.
- d. Community organizing and community-based activities.

- e. Institutional networking.
- f. Policy advocacy.
- g. Partnership and exchange.
- h. Project to increase self-sufficiency.

Training Facilities and Equipment

To perform deliberately and significantly in moments of crisis BAF should have minimum facilities and equipment available. Those are:

- a. Publications. Precise books, study materials and publications help the officers to be trained in proper ways. Assistance by experts also can contribute in great scale here.
- b. Exercise. In likely disaster prone areas, every year exercise can be included in disaster management training. Efforts can be brought to conduct joint exercise by three services in disaster management.
- c. Seminars. Seminar and work-shops can be conducted regularly at HQ and base level where quick response techniques, post-disaster review, training, Armed Forces role etc. can be discussed.
- d. Syllabus. Modern globally accepted syllabus may be introduced in the training for BAF officers to make them well smart to perform their duties in disaster prone areas.
- e. Allotment of Fund. There is always some expenditure to be spent for proper outcomes. To meet the expectations of these trainings funds can be allocated at initial stage on Disaster Management head at every financial year by BAF.
- f. Civil - Military Coordination. Disaster Management Course between military and civil administration can be arranged to gain better working knowledge. Periodical visits by high officials also can play significant role here.

Standing Order on Disaster

It formulates the detailed roles and responsibilities of personnel performing duties during disaster. It also gives a clear idea about the individual responsibility and risk assessments also. In disaster management training the importance and significance of standing orders also can be taught.

Remarks

Disasters are incidents which can be catastrophic within a second and can take heavy toll in our lives. That is why armed forces are always called upon to take prompt actions and rescue the victims. As BAF always takes part in these operations they should go through updated disaster management trainings and exercise practically. Increasing organizational capacity should also be a concern for BAF. Combining proper training and modern equipment it can be a striking force for Bangladesh government to fight against all the disasters.

CHAPTER-IV

CHALLENGES FOR BAF TO IMPLEMENT THE DISASTER

MANAGEMENT TRAINING

BAF is always committed to take tough challenges for the protection of mother land. To save the nation from disasters the groups related to Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief need a close coordination where BAF plays a vital role. BAF also faces risky challenges in HADR operations which varies with operation zone in home and abroad. Considering the fact, Bangladesh is still a developing country. BAF also has to face some difficulties and challenges to implement disaster management training which can absolutely be overcome.

Policy

The existing policy taken by BAF to train personnel in disaster management is not up to the mark. It does not represent a complete package to fight against disaster. So the policy makers should think about it and step forward to introduce modern policies to utilize the talents and capabilities of BAF (Ahmed, 2020).

Civil-Military Coordination

To be fully successful in disaster incidents we badly need civil-military coordination. The civil and military groups always have different roles to play and combination of these groups is most important. They have fundamental differences in terms of approaches. They should have respect on each other and should always be ready to collaborate (Basher, 2020).

Shortage of Adequate Equipment

Though Bangladesh government has always facilitated BAF with modern tools and equipment, the handling of HADR operations need some more sophisticated tools. Electric pumps, Hand tools, Electric/gasoline powered tools, Cutting devices, Winching and jacking, Pulley blocks and accessories, Hydraulic rescue equipment, Vehicle accessories, Reflective clothing and warning signs, Lifting and air-tight cushion etc. are demands of nowadays. If BAF can be equipped with these machineries, they can be a trusted companion of government to conduct any operation during disasters (Salamat, 2020).

Adequate Number of Crews

BAF is facing shortage of manpower due to UN engagement and other missions, detachment and deputations. All the operational squadron is running with less no of aircrew. Active operational aircrew and ground crew is even lesser. During the crisis, it would be a difficult task for BAF to manage required no of crews for effective operation (Ahmed, 2020).

Employment of Semi-skilled/Unskilled Personnel

Dealing with disasters need practical experiences, ground knowledge and expertise in equipment. Present system lacks skilled personnel for effective Disaster Management operations. During crisis, within the available manpower BAF tries to accomplish her task but lack in professional touch (FGD, 2020).

Weaknesses of Present Training System

Important weaknesses (FGD, 2020) are:

- a. Members of BAF are not adequately trained in rescue, relief and rehabilitation works. They need special training for managing various types of Disaster Management

operation. Special training may include on rescue, first aid, food packing, evacuation and post disaster assessment.

b. The institutionalization of this training has not been done yet. No approved syllabus and formal training is being conducted in BAF.

c. In BAF, there is no specialized branch for disaster management activities. So, it is well understandable that more concentration should be given on to make officers well skilled.

d. There is no additional workforce and equipment authorized to conduct such trainings which should be added.

CHAPTER- V

ANALYSIS ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT TRAINING IN BAF

We will analyze how disaster management training will contribute effectively and thus enhancing the operational preparedness of BAF in emergency response from different survey and data analysis. Besides carrying out extensive interview with different level of BAF, a self-made survey questionnaire was circulated to the mid to junior level officers to find out their perception regarding the disaster management training. The sample survey questionnaire is given, where total 50 officers responded. The respondents received training in different units and many of them hold vital posts and appointments to see the actual results. In addition, to evaluate the disaster management system in BAF. A FGD was also carried out comprising officer from different levels to verify the present status of disaster management system in BAF.

Analysis on existing practice by BAF in response to disaster management

Effective support during Disaster

In a survey question regarding effective support to nation during disaster by BAF, 76% respondent gave answer that BAF support is effective, 18% didn't agree and rest 6% were neutral. The survey report is shown below:

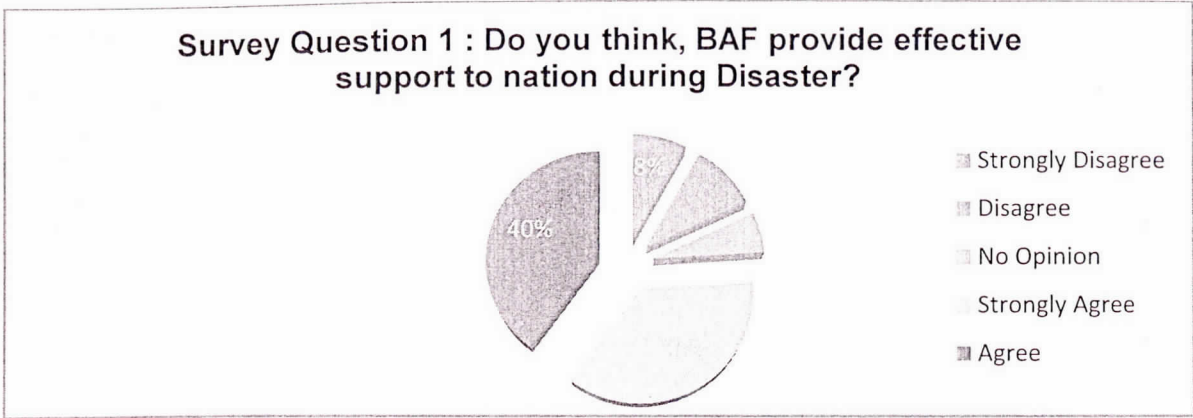


Figure 1: Survey on effective support to nation during disaster by BAF

Existing practice of BAF

After analyzing the survey regarding existing disaster management arrangement/system/SOP/practice in BAF, it was found that more than 70% respondent disagreed that existing system is not sufficient to fight against disaster management. Only 24% agreed. Others remained neutral. The survey report is shown below:

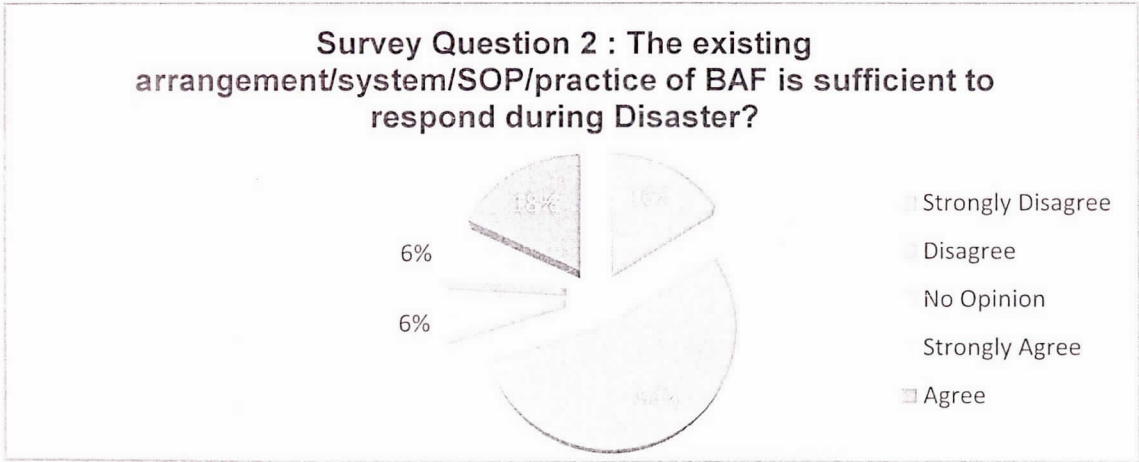


Figure 2: Existing practice of BAF during Disaster Management

A survey was conducted regarding the existing system is not sufficient to fulfill the requirement of nation. After analyzing the survey it was found that max respondent agreed that existing system is not sufficient to fulfill the nation's requirement. The survey report is shown below:

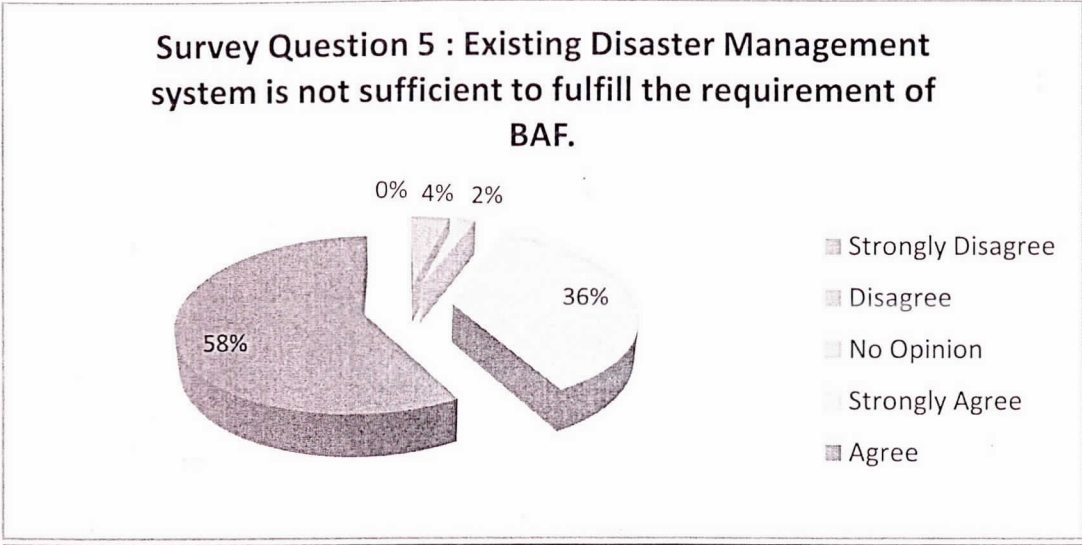


Figure 3: Existing Disaster Management system is not sufficient

Analysis. From the above survey it is revealed that BAF is providing support to the nation during disaster. But the existing arrangement/SOP/system/practice needs improvement. With the present system BAF will not be able to fulfill the national requirement. Requirement of training is felt in this stage. An organized training with existing set up, BAF will be able to act more professionally during disaster. Thus the existing BAF system need improvement and answer of first secondary question is further strengthened.

Analysis on the expected criteria of disaster management training

Appropriate Disaster Management training for BAF

A survey was carried out in different transport and helicopter squadron to know the present state of disaster management training in BAF and expected criteria to perform professionally. Majority of the respondent strongly opined that appropriate training would enhance the effective capability of BAF. The survey report is given below:

Survey Question 4 : Appropriate Disaster Management training would enhance the effective capability of BAF.



Figure 4: Appropriate Disaster Management training for BAF

Separate Disaster Management training institute

A survey was conducted regarding a separate training institute for enhancing BAF capability. After analyzing the survey it was found that max respondent agreed in favour of a dedicated disaster management training institute. The survey report is shown below:

Survey Question 6 : A separate Disaster Management training institute would enhance the capability of BAF.

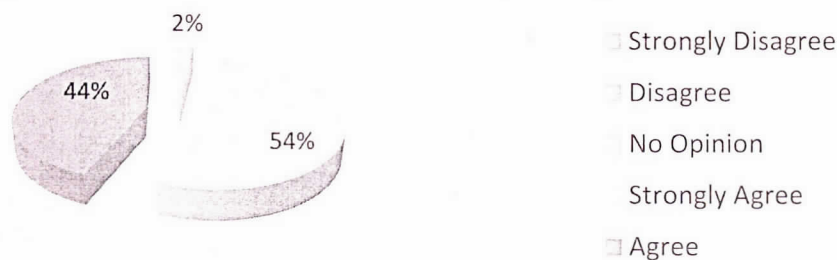


Figure 5: A separate Disaster Management training institute for BAF

Analysis. From the survey it is very much clear that appropriate training would enhance the effectiveness of BAF on the field of disaster management. A comprehensive training would enhance the capability of BAF. Some opined for a separate training institute. Regular training at different level with practicable syllabus is expected criteria. Overall expected criteria is discussed. Thus, answer of second secondary question is further strengthened.

Analysis on challenges for BAF to implement disaster management training

Difficulties faced

A survey was carried out to find out the challenges of BAF while conducting training on disaster management. Majority of the respondent believe that BAF will face challenges while conducting disaster management training. The survey report is given below:

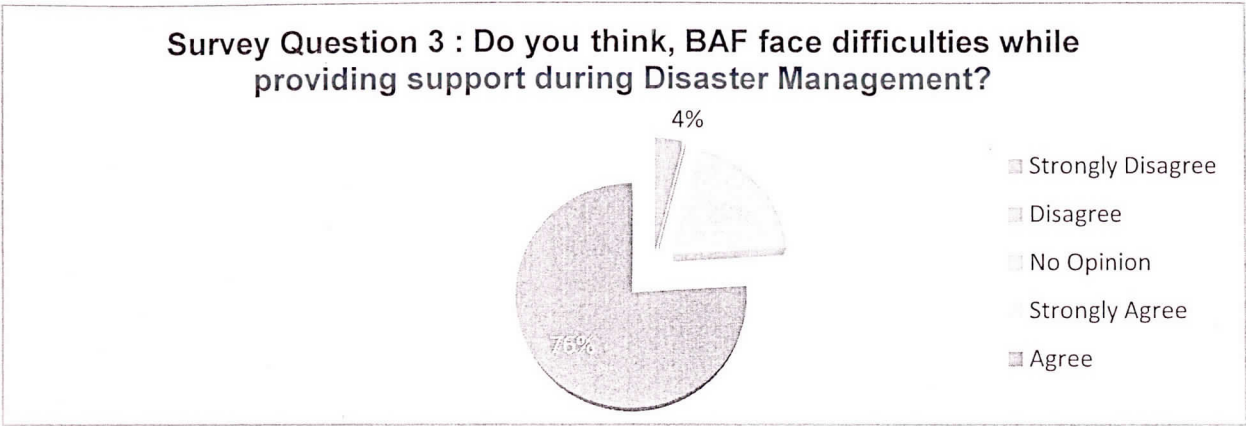


Figure 6: Difficulties faced by BAF during disaster management training

Strong platform for Disaster Management training

A survey was carried out to find out for strong platform for disaster management Centre through initial training from abroad. Majority of the respondent express positive attitude towards this issue. The survey report is given below:

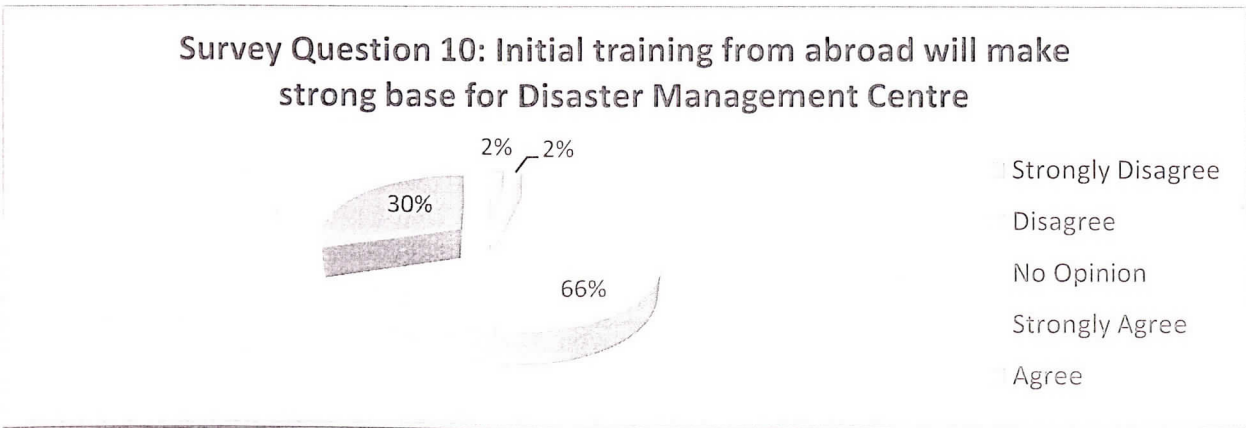


Figure 7: A strong platform for Disaster Management Centre through training abroad

Analysis. From the survey it is evident that, there is a challenge for conducting organized training on disaster management. Initial set up needs support from the friendly countries. Dedicated institute with appropriate manpower is a big challenge. Set up a new training system within the constrained manpower is a big challenge. From the FGD and Key Informants Interview, it is also revealed that lack of adequate equipment and machineries is a major drawback. BAF stand is very positive on this issue. Training will enhance the proficiency of BAF personnel to fight during crisis situation. Prepare a well-trained and educated force is a challenge. Besides the survey, in a broad quantitative analysis, a well-planned training within the existing set up for selected personnel, could be an effective choice for BAF. The third secondary question was thereby answered.

Analysis on addressing the challenges

Mandatory lesson plan

A survey was carried out to address the challenges by a mandatory lesson plan for all BAF personnel. Majority of the respondent express positive attitude towards this issue. The survey report is given below:

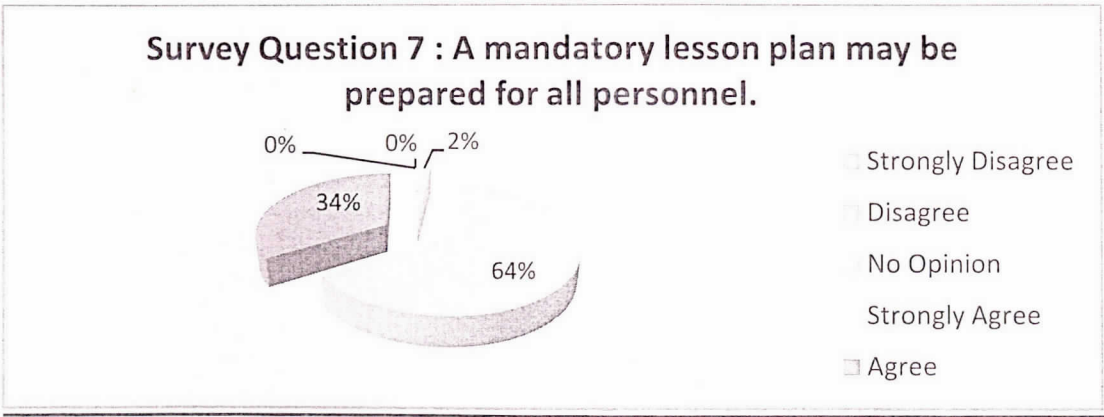


Figure 8: A mandatory lesson plan may be prepared for all personnel

Dedicated course on Disaster Management

A survey was carried out for a dedicated course on disaster in BAF training institute. Majority of the respondent express positive attitude towards this issue. The survey report is given below:

Survey Question 8 : A dedicated course on Disaster Management in BAF training institute.



Figure 9: A dedicated course on Disaster Management in BAF training institute

Aircrew training

A survey was carried out regarding mandatory aircrew training for effective employment. Most of the respondents strongly agree for aircrew training. The responses of the respondents are shown below:

Survey Question 9: Aircrew training for effective employment during Disaster.

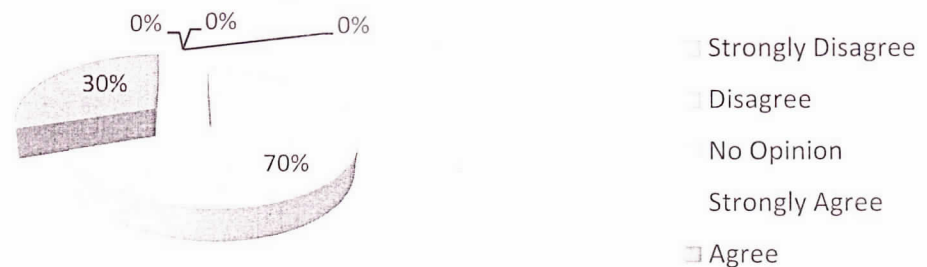


Figure 10: Aircrew training for effective employment during Disaster

Analysis. From the survey it is clear that disaster management training is very much effective during emergency response. Many of the respondents were interviewed personally to get their in-depth view and opinion on the subject. BAF stand is very positive on this issue. Training will enhance the proficiency of BAF personnel to fight during crisis situation. Prepare a well-trained and educated force is a challenge. Besides the survey, in a broad quantitative analysis it is revealed that, mindset with appropriate support from other organization will be able to mitigate those challenges. The fourth secondary question was thereby answered.

The primary question of the research paper was, 'How disaster management training would improve the disaster management capability of BAF in emergency response?' Four secondary questions were inquired to find out the answer of the primary question. The entire seminar paper pursued to find out the answer of the primary questions and all four secondary questions were analytically and statistically answered. A survey with a set of 10 questions among 50 aircrew of different flying squadrons was carried out. A FGD is also conducted in NO 9 squadron BAF to know the requirement of training on disaster management and ways out to meet the future challenges. Majority agreed that, a standard training on disaster may be formulated to enhance the operational readiness of BAF. Different reports and books were also studied and analyzed. These documents also helped to justify the requirements of disaster management training. The problem statement is thereby addressed.

CHAPTER-VI

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

BAF provides extensive support during any kind of disaster regularly since its establishment. BAF capability is highly sought for SAR, Medical evacuation, recce, transportation, ration supply etc. BAF plays the vital role in the event of natural disaster. They have already proved their worth in combating and managing disaster which the country has so far experienced in its history of devastation. All these services are provided from the perspective of conventional training of BAF. However some additional training concerning the special requirement of disaster prone issues will enable BAF to perform in a better way.

The inherent characteristics of Air Power height, speed, reach make BAF to respond quickly in any crisis situation. Inclusion of appropriate training would make BAF to perform in an effective manner. A policy blending of long term and short term, to conduct proper disaster management training. We also need to ensure the availability of publications, standard syllabus, conducting of exercises and seminars. The role of BAF during management of disaster should be understood by all members of the forces taking part in the operation. The next step is to train the people in joint collaboration. Since there are hardly any differences between the training in peacetime and disaster management. Therefore, this is the only place where BAF can effectively train its units to some extent. Public awareness in this regard should be given due priority so that the mass people can take part and involve them maximum with military and civil personnel in disaster. Mass media can play its important role in creating public awareness in the society.

The concept of disaster management training envisages every individuals to be trained for effective disaster handling. So we need to give importance on this aspect and train our members in detail on skills and specialized training both at home and abroad for effective coordinated training. We also need to ensure the availability of publications, standard syllabus, conducting of exercises and seminars. So far BAF has been mitigating the crisis on experience basis. BAF does not have any organized training curriculum for disaster management. Selected personnel are doing short training, joint seminar and symposium under the arrangement of Disaster Ministry and AFD. Aircrews are fighting against disaster with their experience and guidance from higher headquarters. Now the time has come to incorporate training system in BAF to fight for disaster management.

To be fully successful in disaster incidents we badly need civil-military coordination. The civil and military groups always have different roles to play and combination of these groups is most important. With the present available assets, BAF have been performing the task of disaster management operation both in home and abroad. Present capabilities of BAF in terms of manpower, training, equipment and platform enables to achieve the task successfully. However, mitigating few challenges as mentioned above would definitely allow the BAF to accomplish the task with more competence and accuracy. A well-defined plan, a roster of trained and dependable workers, a thorough knowledge of the funding situation and an interlocking series of supporting agreements with government and organizations are all necessary conditions of effective action. BAF had to handle the disasters in the face of difficulties due to constraints in resources and training.

Upon the findings of this research, following recommendations are placed for enhancing the operational readiness of BAF through disaster management training:

- a. BAF may develop a comprehensive policy for appropriate integration and utilization of disaster management training in the system. An organized training may be conducted for selected personnel within the existing training institute under a practicable syllabus.
- b. An integrated training system involving all organization and agencies taking part in the disaster relief operations may be evolved at BAF. To enhance the coordination between the BAF and other relevant civil organization, periodic meeting, seminars, symposium and mock up exercise may be conducted. Procurement of specialized tools and equipment may be carried out aiming to support during disaster.

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SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

NECESSITY OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT TRAINING IN EMERGENCY RESPONSE: CHALLENGES FOR BAF AND WAY OUT

Prelude

Bangladesh is a disaster prone country. Disaster management is all about readiness, response, reduction and recovery. BAF plays a vital role to manage the disaster in our country. By virtue of the inherent characteristics of Air Power height, speed, reach BAF can respond to any crisis situation at the earliest. So far BAF has been mitigating the crisis on requirement basis. BAF does not have any organized training curriculum for disaster management. It is being done on the basis of experience. To give a professional look outside, while participating in disaster management, training is must. In this scenario, BAF needs to incorporate training system to fight with disaster. This will increase the capability of BAF for quick and progressive response to the crisis situation.

01. Do you think, BAF provide effective support to nation during Disaster?
- a. Strongly Disagree b. Disagree c. No Opinion
d. Strongly Agree e. Agree
02. The existing arrangement/system/SOP/practice of BAF is sufficient to response during Disaster.
- a. Strongly Disagree b. Disagree c. No Opinion
d. Strongly Agree e. Agree
03. Do you think, BAF face difficulties while providing support during Disaster Management?
- a. Strongly Disagree b. Disagree c. No Opinion
d. Strongly Agree e. Agree
04. Do you agree that appropriate Disaster Management training would enhance the effective Disaster Management capability of BAF?
- a. Strongly Disagree b. Disagree c. No Opinion
d. Strongly Agree e. Agree

05. Do you agree that existing Disaster Management system is not sufficient to fulfill the requirement of nation?

- a. Strongly Disagree b. Disagree c. No Opinion
d. Strongly Agree e. Agree

06. A separate Disaster Management training institute would enhance the capability of BAF.

- a. Strongly Disagree b. Disagree c. No Opinion
d. Strongly Agree e. Agree

07. With existing training facility, a mandatory lesson plan may be prepared for all personnel to create awareness.

- a. Strongly Disagree b. Disagree c. No Opinion
d. Strongly Agree e. Agree

08. A dedicated course for Disaster Management may be included in any of the existing training institute for BAF personnel.

- a. Strongly Disagree b. Disagree c. No Opinion
d. Strongly Agree e. Agree

09. Aircrew training is mandatory for effective employment during Disaster.

- a. Strongly Disagree b. Disagree c. No Opinion
d. Strongly Agree e. Agree

10. Initial training on Disaster Management from abroad will make strong base line for establishing Disaster Management Centre.

- a. Strongly Disagree b. Disagree c. No Opinion
d. Strongly Agree e. Agree

11. What is your suggestions for Disaster Management training in emergency response?

Signature

Name

Date.....

Rank

INTERVIEW QUESTIONNAIRE

NECESSITY OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT TRAINING IN EMERGENCY

RESPONSE: CHALLENGES FOR BAF AND WAY OUT

Prelude

Bangladesh is a disaster prone country. Disaster management is all about readiness, response, reduction and recovery. BAF plays a vital role to manage the disaster in our country. By virtue of the inherent characteristics of Air Power height, speed, reach BAF can respond to any crisis situation at the earliest. So far BAF has been mitigating the crisis on requirement basis. BAF does not have any organized training curriculum for disaster management. It is being done on the basis of experience. To give a professional look outside, while participating in disaster management, training is must. In this scenario, BAF needs to incorporate training system to fight with disaster. This will increase the capability of BAF for quick and progressive response to the crisis situation.

1. Do you think that, BAF provide effective support to nation during Disaster?
2. Did you face any difficulties, while providing support during Disaster?
3. Do you think that appropriate training would enhance the Disaster Management capability of BAF?
4. What kind of training do you suggest for BAF?
5. Does BAF have any existing Disaster Management training facility?
6. Do you think that a separate training institute will enhance the capability of BAF?
7. What all are the challenges for BAF to implement Disaster Management training and how to address those?
8. What is your final remarks on Disaster Management Training in BAF?

FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS (FGD)

1. **Research Topic.** NECESSITY OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT TRAINING IN EMERGENCY RESPONSE: CHALLENGES FOR BAF AND WAY OUT
2. **Date.** 20 September 2020.
3. **Place.** Class Room of 9 Squadron, BAF Base Bashar, Dhaka Cantonment.
4. **Participants.** The list of participants who all were present in the discussion is as follows:
 - a. Wing Commander Raihan, (Moderator)
 - b. Wing Commander MdKhairul Basher
 - c. Squadron LeaderMd Abdul Muqit Khan
 - d. Squadron LeaderAzizul Hassan Tanvir
 - e. Squadron Leader MdTanvir Khan
 - f. Flight LieutenantSadiaBinte Siddique
 - g. Flight LieutenantAhsanulParvez
 - h. Flight LieutenantMdMuntasirMurad
5. **Agenda.**
 - a. Existing disaster management capability of BAF.
 - b. Difficulties faced by BAF while conducting disaster operation.
 - c. Requirement of training on disaster management.
 - d. Challenges for BAF for implementing training on disaster.

