



6th December 2015

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Om Sri Sai Ram.

Heavy Rains and Floods in Tamil Nadu

You may be aware of the natural disaster in Chennai, India's fourth-largest city of 9 million people, in the state of Tamil Nadu. Chennai and surrounding areas have been paralyzed due to flooding from a record rainfall—the heaviest in more than a hundred years—that has cut off more than 3 million people from basic services for days. It is reported that thousands have been forced to leave their submerged homes, offices and schools, and nearly 300 people have died. As flood waters receded in some parts of rain-ravaged Chennai, the impact of the devastation has slowly begun to unfold. Many have lost their home, belongings and even beloved ones. With no power, transportation, telecommunication, food and potable water, the people of Tamil Nadu have been impacted beyond imagination.

Relief Efforts by Sathya Sai Organisations

I have been in touch with Mr. Nimish Pandya, All India President of the Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations (SSSSO) of India, which offered humanitarian relief immediately to those who were impacted by the flooding. The Sathya Sai International Organisation (SSIO) is monitoring the situation closely with the SSSSO, which is working at the ground level in flood-ravaged areas of Tamil Nadu. In the wake of the calamity, local Sathya Sai centres have been providing cooked meals and offering disaster relief, including wading through waist-level water to offer aid and reaching out to people stranded on roof-tops of buildings. Bullock carts pulled by Sathya Sai volunteers are being used to transport the necessary food and water in flooded areas. The Sathya Sai organisation is currently offering food to about 25,000 people each day. Blankets, bedding, food items, clothing and medicines are most urgently needed and are being distributed by local Sathya Sai organisations in Tamil Nadu.

After the cessation of the rains, Sathya Sai volunteers are expected to engage in rehabilitation of the victims of flooding. In this phase of relief activities, building



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materials, medicines and food items would be required in large numbers to help restore normalcy to the lives of our displaced brothers and sisters.

How Can We Help

The SSIO has already transmitted funds to the SSSSO for flood relief activities. Many Sathya Sai devotees and SSIO officers have expressed a desire to help in the ongoing relief efforts and actively participate in this noble work. The Sri Sathya Sai World Foundation (SSSWF) is a registered non-profit charitable organisation in the USA, which directly supports the work of the SSIO throughout the world. Those wishing to participate in the relief efforts in Tamil Nadu may kindly see the attached document for further details.

This is a time for us to come together to help our brothers, sisters and young children in Tamil Nadu devastated by this tragedy. In the meantime, let us all pray to our Lord, Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba to alleviate the pain and suffering caused by the massive loss of life and property to our dear brothers and sisters in Tamil Nadu. May He also bless us with the wisdom and strength to serve those in need.

Samastha Lokah Sukhino Bhavantu- May all the worlds be happy!

Jai Sai Ram.

With loving regards,
Narendranath Reddy, M.D.
Chairman, Prasanthi Council

Attachment: Instructions for Contributing to Tamil Nadu Relief Efforts