Report

by the Deputy Head of the Department on nature protection and extreme situations of the President Staff of the Republic of Tajikistan Khashimov A.A. on the Asian Natural Disaster Reduction Conference

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The Republic of Tajikistan like other states of Asiatic region is also exposed to practically all kinds of disasters but with greater intensity and frequency of their repeat. It is known that 93 percents of its territory is occupied by mountains situated in the 8-9 seismic zone (according to Rikhter's scale). It is exposed to the landslides, avalanches and other natural phenomenous. All these caused the great social and economical damage for national economy of the Republic. In the table below there are some data on victims and economical damage of the Republic in 1989-1995.

Taking into account the necessity of the solving of problems concerning the stability of national economy in extreme situations the complex program "Element" ("Stikhiya") was elaborated and confirmed by the government of the Republic. There are a number of scientific research and project constructive works as well as mitigation actions directed to extreme situations preventing and damage reducing. At present the specialists of the Republic have solved some problems to improve the process of activity during the extreme situations. First of all it means to prognosticate the possible situation and to determine the social-economic damage caused by the extreme situations. Same problems connected with the creation of automated control system of national economy and information data banks are solved too.

The great work on organization are operative direction by emergency-rescuing and repair-reconstructive actions have been done. These problems are solved by the Committee for emergency situations and civil defence at Government of the Republic of Tajikistan.

The fulfilment of these problems is completely depended on financing. Unfortunately shortage of money means make it impossible to carry out the emergency and reconstructive works utterly. That's why after Gissar earthquake in 1989 the Law "About the fund of liquidation of the extreme situations in the Republic of Tajikistan" was adopted. In accordance with it all ministries, department, enterprises and organizations are obliged to transfer certain means to the created Fund.

Serious attention is paid to problems connected with the moving people from zones exposed to fails, avalanches, long-slides and other natural phenomenous. At present about 6200 families or about 40 thousand of people live in potentially dangerous zones. Their lifes are under constant menace. For their moving the great financial means are required. But the Republic doesn't have it at present.

The Asiatic region states are informed about the danger caused by Sarez lake waters in case of Usoisk block and Medvezhiy glacier slide. In both cases the great wave of water can spread and damage the territory up to Caspian Sea.

Up to 1991 all indicated problems have been solved successfully. But the disintegration of the USSR and the civil war in Tajikistan in 1992-1993 threw the Republic economy 25-30 years away. Nowadays it is in extremely critical condition. All this had an effect on the state system aimed at prevention and liquidation the extreme situations. At present it disposes of neither means nor materials and technical resources. We expected with great alarm the spring period when heavy showers, stonefalls, fails, avalanches begin. And we know in advance that we will not be able to render necessary assistance to people.

Dear Colleagues! We gave you the short information concerning the problems on prevention and liquidation of consequences of calamities. And I ask you to render possible assistance to our young sovereign state and the grateful Tajik people will forever keep in its memory all your efforts which permit to relieve its sufferings.

DATA
on national economy damage of the Republic of Tajikistan
caused by the calamities in 1989-1995 and human sacrifices

Years	Economic damage (US \$, mln.)	Number of people killed in consequence of calamities (persons)
1989	382	227
1990	247	16
1991	832	20
1992	119	142
1993	171	15
1994	104	17
1995	18	16
Total:	1863	453