

DARWIN DISASTER : MESSAGES OF CONDOLENCE

The Prime Minister today released the texts of further messages of condolence on the Darwin cyclone.

People's Republic of China

"Shocked to learn that the city of Darwin was hit by a terrific cyclone with disastrous consequences. On behalf of the Chinese Government and people, I wish to express our heartfelt sympathy and solicitude to you, and through you, to the Australian Government and the people in Darwin.

- Chou En-lai, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China."

Lesotho

"It is with the deepest sense of shock and sorrow that I and the Government and people of Lesotho hasten to offer to you, your Government and the people of Australia our heartfelt condolences on the tragic devastation which has overtaken the city of Darwin and its people. Our sincere sympathy is extended to you and all those who have been bereaved and rendered homeless by this disaster. Please be so gracious as to accept the sum of R1000 from the Kingdom of Lesotho as a token of relief to those in need.

- Leabua Jonathan, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Lesotho."

Arab Republic of Egypt

"On behalf of the Government and people of the Arab Republic of Egypt, of all Egyptian residents in Australia, of the members of the Embassy and my family and in my name I wish to express to you, to the Government and people of Australia our deepest sympathy at the tragedy which struck Darwin. We were shocked by the severity of the valuable human loss. Your efforts will undoubtedly alleviate the intensity of the disasters.

- A. W. Marzouk, Ambassador of Egypt"

Papua New Guinea (additional message)

"As further news reports of the extent of the devastation in Darwin reach me, my sympathy for the people in the devastated city of Darwin is deepening. Please be assured that Papua New Guinea is only too willing to assist in aiding in the rehabilitation of the effected area. You are aware of our limited resources. However, I would be only too pleased to assist if possible in any way you might care to suggest. Once again please convey the sympathy of the Papua New Guinea Government and all Papua New Guineans on this tragic event.

- M. T. Somare, Chief Minister."

Bangladesh

"We are deeply grieved to hear about the extensive damages to life and property caused to Darwin City by one of the worst cyclones in the living memory of Australia. Please accept the deepfelt sympathies from my own behalf and on behalf of the Government and the people of Bangladesh.

-Sheikh Muribur Rahman,
Prime Minister of the
People's Republic of
Bangladesh."

Canada

"I have been shocked to learn of the tragic loss of life and destruction of property suffered in Darwin on Christmas Day. My deepest personal sympathy and that of all Canadians goes to those who have suffered so cruelly and at a time when most thoughts are directed in the Christmas tradition to the joys of home and family.

-Pierre Elliott Trudeau,
Prime Minister of Canada"

Seychelles

"On behalf of Chief Minister, Government and people of Seychelles, please accept our sincere sympathy in cyclonic disaster which has struck city of Darwin where number of Seychellois reside.

-Allan, Governor of Seychelles"

Pakistan

"We have been deeply shocked and grieved at the news of heavy loss of life and utter devastation caused by the cyclone which hit the north Australian port of Darwin. We in Pakistan share with Your Excellency and the people of Australia your deep sense of loss. I offer on behalf of the Government and the people of Pakistan and on my own behalf our sincerest sympathies and heartfelt condolences to Your Excellency, to the people affected by the cyclone and to the people of Australia.

-Zulfikar Ali Bhutto,
Prime Minister of Pakistan"

SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF BURMA

"I am greatly distressed to learn about the loss of life and damage caused by the disastrous cyclone in Darwin. I extend to Your Excellency and through you to the people of the affected area heartfelt sympathies.

-U Sein Win, Prime Minister"

3.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

"With deepfelt sorrow I received the news about the cyclone which has struck the area around Port Darwin. May I, also in the name of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, express my deepest sympathy for the victims of this unexpected catastrophe.

-Helmut Schmidt,
Federal Chancellor

29 December 1974