

**No. 31-64/2004-NDM-III (B)**  
**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Home Affairs**  
**(National Disaster Management Division)**

**North Block, New Delhi**  
**Dated the 16<sup>th</sup> of November 2004**

**OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

**Subject: Constitution of an Expert Group under the National Cyclone Risk Mitigation (NCRM) Project [World Bank-assisted].**

The Ministry of Home Affairs have drawn up a National Cyclone Risk Mitigation (NCRM) Project to be implemented with the World Bank assistance in 13 coastal and island States/UTs, namely *Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Pondicherry, Lakshadweep, Orissa, Maharashtra, Tamilnadu, West Bengal, Kerala, Karnataka, Goa, and Daman & Diu*. A comprehensive note on the project approved by the Union Home Minister along with copy of the National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project posed to the World Bank is enclosed for information.

2. One of the project elements is to support States/UTs to identify and implement high priority activities for cyclone risk mitigation (i.e. construction of cyclone shelters, shelterbelt plantation, preservation/ regeneration of mangrove forests, construction of embankments and establishment of missing road links etc.) and commissioning of technical assistance/studies to sustain these initiatives, besides strengthening coastal zone management framework in the States/UTs. It is envisaged that the project States/UTs would draw up proposals as per their local needs for effective mitigation of cyclone risks.

3. In order to assist/guide the project States/UTs in formulation of comprehensive project proposals (as per the guidelines of the World Bank) a detailed set of guidelines needs to be developed. These guidelines would help the project States/UTs in prioritizing, preparing and submitting proposals for cyclone mitigation investments to be financed under the project. The main elements of these guidelines will include:

- (i) The rational of the proposed investments and how they are linked to State's vulnerability reduction strategy.
- (ii) Expected outcomes including social and economic benefit
- (iii) Cost estimates and financial arrangements
- (iv) Implementation period, responsible institutions and implementation arrangements
- (v) Sustainable operation and maintenance plan for those investments in the post project period
- (vi) Assessment of potential environments and social impacts and strategy to deal with issues involving land acquisition, resettlement, cultural heritage preservation etc.

4. In view of the above it has been decided to set up an **Expert Group** under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (Disaster Management) & Central Relief Commissioner, MHA and comprising of subject matter experts drawn from various relevant Ministries/ Agencies as indicated below:

- (i) **Ministry of Environment and Forests:** Three subject matter experts dealing with coastal shelter belt plantation, mangrove regeneration and coastal zone management.
- (ii) **Ministry of Water Resources:** An expert dealing with coastal drainage and embankments.

- (iii) **Ministry of Rural Development:** An expert dealing with community assets development programmes such as school buildings, rural roads etc.
- (iv) **Structural Engineering Research Center, Chennai (SERC):** one expert dealing with structural design and construction
- (v) **National Institute of Disaster Management:** 2 subject matter experts dealing with social and economic benefit assessments, environmental and social impacts, policy and institutional arrangements)
- (vi) **Prof. A.S. Arya, National Seismic Advisor,** Ministry of Home Affairs (techno-legal issues in structural mitigation for cyclone risks)
- (vii) **Director (NDM-III), MHA-----** Member Secretary.

5. The Expert Group will develop detailed guidelines to guide/assist the States in formulating cyclone mitigation investment proposal with in the overall framework of the National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project. The Expert Group will submit its report within one month.

*Saraj Kumar Jha*

**(Saroj Kumar Jha)**

Director (NDM-III)

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**To:**

- (i) **Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Parya Varan Bhavan, New Delhi, Fax: 24360678** (with a request to nominate three experts dealing with coastal shelter belt plantation, mangrove regeneration and coastal zone management)
- (ii) **Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, Rajendra Prashad Road, New Delhi, Fax: 23017584** (with a request to nominate an expert from dealing with community assets development programme such as school buildings, rural roads etc).
- (iii) **Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, Shram Shakti Bhavan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi, Fax: 23710253** (with a request to nominate an expert from Ministry of Water Resources dealing with coastal drainage and embankments).
- (iv) **Executive Director, National Institute for Disaster Management, IIPA Campus, IP Estate, Ring Road, New Delhi, Fax: 23372201**(with a request to nominate two experts dealing with social and economic benefit assessments, environmental and social impacts, policy and institutional arrangements)
- (v) **Prof. Anand S. Arya, National Seismic Advisor, Ministry of Home Affairs, C/O-National Institute of Disaster Management, IIPA Campus, IP Estate, Ring Road, New Delhi, Fax:23372201**
- (vi) **Director, Structural Engineering Research Centre, CSIR Campus, Taramani Chennai, Fax:044-22541973**(with a request to nominate one expert dealing with structural design and construction)

**Copy for information:**

Sr PPS to HS

PPS to Secretary (BM)

Copy also to:

PS to JS & CRC/Director (NDM-I)/Director (NDM-II)/Director (NDM-III)/Advisor (DM)/ US (DM)