



Dhirendra Singh

गृह सचिव
HOME SECRETARY
भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

North Block
New Delhi.

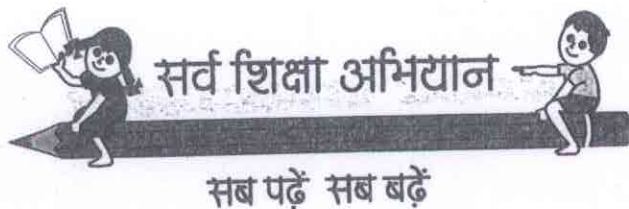
1 December 2004

Dear

This has reference to the former Home Secretary's D. O. letter of even number dated the 18 December 2002 therein recommending a set of measures to be put in place by the State Governments for reduction of disaster risks. I am happy to say that many of the States/UTs have acted on the recommendations and many States/UTs are in the process of adopting the same.

2. I would like to bring to your notice that over the years disaster risk management has emerged as one of the thrust areas of this Ministry and in view of the multi-hazard proneness of many of the States in our country, the Government have initiated a number of mitigation and preparedness measures for improving capabilities within the country for responding to emergencies/disasters and to change the approach from a reactive to a more proactive approach. Projects and programmes have also been launched to assist the States/UTs in building their capabilities for disaster mitigation. Projects have also been formulated and are in the pipeline so as to assist the States/UTs in structural mitigation measures for cyclones and earthquakes and to convert fire services into all hazard response units.

3. However, recent floods in different parts of the country once again highlighted the gaps in our preparedness, absence of effective mitigation measures and underscored the need for taking strong measures to reduce the impact of disasters. Disaster is essentially a manifestation of the increased vulnerabilities which would have been avoided by well conceived planning and development efforts. Therefore, it is crucial that we adopt a holistic approach to dovetail mitigation efforts with the development programmes undertaken by the State.



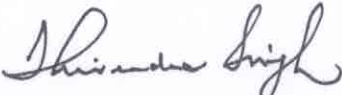
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4. My purpose in writing this letter was to acquaint you with the circulars issued from this Ministry from time to time with a request to expedite implementation of the same. I am sure that your State Government have already acted on many of these recommendations and actively considering others.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Dhirendra Singh)

1.12.54



To

Chief Secretaries of all States/UT Administration (as per list attached).