

Together, towards a safer India

Monthly Newsletter of the Ministry of Home Affairs
(National Disaster Management Division) Government of India
Edition 5 - January 2004

CONTENTS

Constitution of Delhi Disaster Management Authority and Accelerated Implementation of DRM Programme in Delhi

Community Based Disaster Preparedness (CBDP) Training of Trainers in Delhi

Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) initiative to sensitize corporate sector in disaster risk reduction

Training in Disaster Management organized by Andaman & Nicobar Islands Administration

'Earthquake Swarm' in Jind, Haryana

Workshops for Training of Engineers and other stakeholders under Urban Earthquake Vulnerability Reduction Project in Mumbai and Patna

Updates on implementation of Disaster Risk Management Programme and Urban Earthquake Reduction Project

Initiatives by States

**The Ministry of Home Affairs
(National Disaster Management Division) wishes everyone 'a safe and secure' New Year**

Constitution of Delhi Disaster Management Authority and accelerated implementation of Disaster Risk Management Programme in Delhi

The Government of Delhi has constituted an apex body, the Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA), to coordinate action by relevant agencies including the Delhi Development Authority and the Delhi Police with regard to mitigation and preparedness measures necessary for meeting any eventuality. The DDMA shall have Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor as the Chairman and the Chief Minister and all Ministers and the Chief Secretary shall be the Members. The Principal Secretary (Revenue) and Divisional Commissioner shall be the Coordinator, Convener and Secretary of the Authority. In addition, the Principal Secretaries of the Departments of Home, Finance, Power, Urban Development and Health; the representative of the Ministry of Home Affairs; Commissioner of Police; Commissioner, MCD; CEO of Delhi Jal Board; Chairman, NDMC and the Chief Fire Officer shall be the other Members. The Authority shall also have the power to co-opt any other member.

The Delhi Disaster Management Authority has been mandated to initiate measures for preparedness, awareness generation, mitigation and human resource development and ensure smooth functioning of Central and State Government organizations working in Delhi in the event of any disaster.

With a view to accelerate the implementation of Disaster Risk Management Programme in Delhi, a sensitization programme was organized for all Deputy Commissioners and ADMs. Apart from familiarizing them with the objectives of the Programme, a presentation on the vulnerability profile of Delhi was made to underline the necessity of initiating disaster prevention, mitigation and preparedness measures. A presentation on importance of compilation and uploading of data in the India Disaster Resource Network (IDRN) from all the districts was also given.

This was followed by a Training of Trainers (ToT) for state-level Community Based Disaster Preparedness (CBDP) for representatives of all Districts, Civil Defence, Home Guards, Delhi Police, Delhi Fire Service, representatives of RWAs and other stakeholders. A three-day practical training in CBDP was conducted in Seemapuri in East Delhi with active participation of the local community and the resource mapping of the area was done by the community. A mock-drill was organized by Delhi Fire Service, Civil Defence and Home Guards for generating awareness among the people about the need to take mitigation and preparedness measures.

Together, towards a safer India

Confederation of Indian Industry(CII) initiative to sensitize corporate sector in Disaster Risk Reduction

A Sensitization Session on pre-disaster measures for Earthquake and Fire hazard in Delhi was organized by CII in association with Ministry of Home Affairs and UNDP on 19th December, 2003 aimed at industries and high-rise buildings in National Capital Region.

Opening the Session, Mr. Ramakrishna, Chairman, CII Disaster Management Committee spoke about the evolving corporate sector partnership in disaster management and referred to the association of CII in infrastructure reconstruction in Gujarat to supplement Governmental efforts.

Inaugurating the Session, Mr. R.K. Singh, Joint Secretary (DM), Ministry of Home Affairs referred to the importance attached by the Government of India to corporate sector's role in disaster management as envisioned in National Disaster Management Framework. Mr. Singh appealed to industry to ensure prior vulnerability assessment before



construction of industrial assets and framing of on-site and off-site disaster management plans to obviate threat to neighbouring areas.

The presentations included one by Prof. S.K. Thakkar on Codal Safety Requirements relating to structural safety aspects; by Prof. A.S. Arya on EQ Vulnerability Assessment and Risk Reduction mentioning that seismic risk was a cumulative outcome of hazard, exposure, vulnerability and location and by Shri S.K. Dheri, ex-Chief, Delhi Fire Service on Fire Risk and its Mitigation in industrial and high-rise buildings.

In the end, a presentation was made on behalf of the Oriental Insurance Company to make the Industry aware of insurance policies available and how the existing Fire Policy could be extended to provide cover for natural disasters like earthquakes with a minimal premium.

Training on Disaster Management by National Institute of Disaster Management and Andaman & Nicobar Islands Administration

The National Institute of Disaster Management organized a "Training Programme on Disaster Management" in collaboration with the Government of Andaman and Nicobar Islands for junior and middle level officers at Port Blair. Nearly 30 participants drawn from different departments attended the training programme. The programme had a special focus on Community Based Disaster Preparedness for carrying out disaster prevention and mitigation programmes.

'Earthquake Swarm' in Jind, Haryana

For the past few months, an 'earthquake swarm' has been reported from the southern Punjab basin with its epicenter near the town of Jind in Haryana. An 'earthquake swarm' refers to repeated occurrence of earthquake activity over a period of time in the same area. In the last week of December, 2003, three earthquake events were reported within a span of seven days only, with tremor intensity ranging from 2.2 to 3.3 on the Richter scale.

Apart from Jind, tremors were also felt in nearby areas of Kaithal, Narnaul and Hissar districts. Rattling of doors, windows, shop shutters, shaking of furniture and cracks in the walls have been reported.

'Earthquake swarm' is by definition a localized surge of earthquake with no one shock being conspicuously larger than other shocks. As per scientists, swarms do not exhibit "typical" earthquake behaviour in which a main shock is followed by a series of aftershocks that become less frequent with time. Instead, there is a sustained high rate of seismic activity, which eventually stops or peters out. However, swarms do not indicate any long-term change in seismic risk of the region.

IDRN UPDATE

India Disaster Resource Network (IDRN) has so far recorded over 58,000 entries from 445 districts. Follow-up meetings are being held with various States to expedite the uploading process.

Together, towards a safer India

INITIATIVES BY STATES

- **ARUNACHAL PRADESH:** A two day consultation on building codes and relief manuals was organized to sensitize Government officials on DRM programme. Nearly 30 participants actively participated in the consultation.
- **MANIPUR:** A three-day State level Training of Trainers (ToT) on DRM was organized with a total participation of 46 officers from various Departments of State Government and District Administration.
- **MEGHALAYA:** Second meeting of the State Steering Committee was held in which decisions relating to formation of core committee for development of State DM Plan, revision of building code and relief manuals were taken. The Committee approved the Work Plan and Budget for various activities and also decided to approach UNDP for providing staff for implementation of the DRM Programme in the State.
- **SIKKIM:** The implementation of DRM Programme has started in right earnest in the State with recruitment of four District Project Officers (DPOs) and after orientation, they have started working in the districts.
- **UTTARANCHAL:** "Disaster Management Information Kiosk" was installed at annual *Uttarayani Mela* in Bageshwar district by the District Disaster Management Committee on disaster preparedness and mitigation. More than 10,000 IEC materials such as leaflets, poster, booklets etc. were distributed to people. Multi-media movies on EQ-resistant housing techniques were shown. The stall was awarded second prize with a shield and certificate by the District Magistrate, Bageshwar.



- **MAHARASHTRA:** A meeting was organized between Chief Officer, (DM Unit), Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) and identified volunteers at Mumbai City Disaster Control Room with a view to orient them about their roles and responsibilities in case of any urban emergency. BMC and Sarista Foundation, an NGO, organized a training programme for municipal school teachers on disaster management in education. Process for formation of an Emergency Management and Disaster Mitigation Unit at the state level was initiated.
- **ORISSA:** Training for newly recruited DPOs from Orissa and Sikkim was organized along with field visits. Training of newly posted BDOs, Block Nodal Officers and Chairpersons has been planned in all districts. It has been completed in one district. The first batch of training of village First Aid DMT completed in 3 districts and 141 village DMT members, including 9 women, have been trained.

Implementation of DRM programme in Rayagada district was reviewed up to village level and steps for improved implementation have been taken. DRM Programme was launched in districts of Sambalpur and Koraput and it was inaugurated by MD, OSDMA at a function on

09th and 15th December, respectively.

The second meeting of the State Steering Committee of Orissa DRM Programme was held on 11th Dec., 2003 chaired by the Chief Secretary. The progress of the programme was reviewed and it was decided that Chief Secretary would head Urban Earthquake Vulnerability Reduction Project monitoring committee.

Urban Earthquake Vulnerability Reduction Project

- **LUCKNOW:** District Magistrate, Lucknow convened a meeting of all line Departments on 8th Dec., 2003 to discuss the constitution and framework of City Disaster Management Committee and to form Working Groups for implementation of UEVR Project. Vice-Chairman, Lucknow Development Authority was given the responsibility of organizing the Workshop for CDMA in January.
- **SURAT:** Surat Municipal Corporation organized a City Consultation Meeting on UEVR Project on 13th Dec., 2003 to address preparedness and mitigation measures in Surat as it fell in Zone III, ensure seismic safe construction, retrofitting of existing buildings, awareness generation and to introduce UEVR Project to all line departments. 156 officers including the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Municipal Commissioner and Deputy Municipal Commissioner, Chief Fire Officer and representatives of Surat Urban Development Authority attended the meeting
- **RAJKOT:** First meeting of the Working Group for DRM

Together, towards a safer India

Programme and UEVR Project was held with 27 Government officers. School awareness programme was conducted in two out of thirteen schools earmarked for generating awareness among school children.

- **BARODA:** City orientation meeting for Municipal Corporation Officers was held on 20th December, 2003 for sensitization and orientation on UEVR Project.
- **BHAVNAGAR:** Bhavnagar Municipal Corporation organized the first City Consultation on 10th December, 2003 with participation of nearly 56 officers drawn from different departments. The meeting was followed by a group exercise in which stake-holders were identified and task forces were formed to facilitate implementation of UEVR Project.
- **JABALPUR:** Orientation and sensitization meetings were held with government officers and school principals for awareness generation and implementation of UEVR Project.
- **PATNA:** A three-day Training on earthquake-resistant design and retrofitting of structures was organized by Patna Regional Development Authority in association with Relief and Rehabilitation Department, Government of Bihar. The Workshop was designed to help build capacity of Engineers in the field of earthquake-resistant structures. It was attended by 75 Engineers from different Government departments.
- **DEHRADUN:** The meeting of the Task Force on Training and Capacity Building for UEVR Project was held at Mussoorie Dehradun Development Authority on 5th

December, 2003. Task Force members from eleven organizations participated. It was decided that training of Architects, Engineers, Builders, Contractors and Masons would be taken up on safe construction practices and specialized training would be provided to NSS, NCC and Civil Defence volunteers for community mapping, first-aid, search & rescue.

- **GUWAHATI:** A mock-drill on first-aid and search & rescue was organized by District Administration, Kamrup Metro in Nehru Stadium, Guwahati in association with IAF, Civil Defence and Home Guards. More than 2000 school children were present during the occasion. It was also decided to start training of Engineers and Architects in Assam Engineering Institute.
- **CHENNAI:** A meeting was convened by Special Secretary and Commissioner, Revenue Administration, Disaster Management and Mitigation on survey of seismic safety of public and lifeline buildings. It was attended by Commissioner, Corporation of Chennai and other officers of line departments. It was decided to hold training programs for Engineers, create awareness among people, assess all government buildings for requisite retrofitting. A sensitization meeting was organized by Institute of Engineers, Tamil Nadu chapter and a presentation was made on UEVR Project.

Member Secretary, CDMA held a meeting with representatives of Indian Institute of Architects, Builders Association and Institute of Engineers and they were told about the need to comply with BIS codes.

- **JALLANDHAR:** Under the UEVR Project, meetings of the Working Groups were held on 30th December, 2003 comprising of representatives from Police, Fire, Health, Food, Civil Defence, PUDA, NGOs, Schools etc. It was decided to train master-trainers, prepare ward and city preparedness plans, awareness generation campaigns and publication of disaster directory.
- **MUMBAI:** An international conference on 'Disaster Management by Reducing Urban Risk Through International Cooperation' was jointly organized by Government of Maharashtra, Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation, IIT Mumbai and Earthquakes and Mega-cities Initiatives. In addition to India, it was attended by delegates from China, Nepal, Bangladesh and Uzbekistan. The issues discussed were the administrative structure and procedure for implementation of disaster management plans; development of techno-legal regime and role of corporate sector, media and NGOs in urban disaster risk reduction.

Published by:

Shri R.K. Singh
Joint Secretary
(Disaster Management)

For more details please contact
National Disaster Management
Division

Ministry of Home Affairs
Government of India.

Phone: +91-11-23092489,
23092195, 23094612

Email: dirdm2@mha.nic.in