

Editorial Board

Editor- In – Chief

Santosh Kumar, Executive Director

Editor

Sushma Guleria

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MESSAGE

It was a black Tuesday in Khejadli, in 1730 A.D. Amrita Devi used to live with her three daughters viz. Asu, Ratni and Bhagu bai in Jodhpur district of Rajasthan. Maharaja Abhay Singh, Ruler of Marwar (Jodhpur) state wanted to cut the sacred green Khejri (Prosopis cineraria) trees to burn lime for the construction of his new palace. Since there was a lot of greenery in the Bishnoi villages even in the middle of Thar Desert, the king ordered his men to get the woods from Khejri trees. Amrita Devi protested against King’s men attempting to cut green trees as it was prohibited in Bishnoi religion. She said that she would rather give away her life to save the green trees and spoke these words: “Sar sāntey rūkh rahe to bhī sasto jān” (If a tree is saved even at the cost of one’s head, it’s worth it) Saying this, she offered her head along with her daughters. The news spread like wildfire. 363 Bishnois’, young and old, men and women, rich and poor had already become martyrs. There was intense pandemonium. It completely shook the tree-felling party. As soon as the king learnt it, he ordered stoppage of the felling of trees and the First Chipko movement had begun. Honouring the courage of the Bishnoi community, the ruler of Jodhpur, Maharaja Abhay Singh, apologized for the mistake committed by his officials and issued a royal decree, for complete closure of cutting of green trees and hunting of animals. On the occasion of World environment day, we may have to reiterate the learning from our forefathers. The second chipko movement of Uttarakhand led by Gaura Devi, Chandi Prasad Bhatt, Sunder Lal bahuguna and many more such events left a lot of learning’s. Disasters of Uttarkhand, Kashmir floods, floods in jodhpur, heat and cold waves and many more are asking uncomfortable questions about our concern for protecting environment and risk reduction? and if not how long ? We cannot avoid this for long. Answer has to be given. Let’s take pledge together in answering these question by making India a better place to breathe and live.



(Santosh Kumar)

Technical Steering Committee Meeting for the Study “Post Disaster Needs Assessment Study for India” under NCRMP at NIDM

29th April 2015

A Technical Steering Committee meeting for the study “Post Disaster Needs Assessment for India” was held at NIDM on 29th April, 2015 at 11:00 hrs. The agenda of the meeting was to discuss the review comments on the following drafts submitted by the Consultants and have a presentation on the draft web-portal prepared under the study:

- PDNA Handbook;
- Training Design Brief ; and
- Roster of PDNA Professionals.

The review discussion was followed by presentation of draft web-portal before the TSC members present at the meeting.

Visit of NIDM/SAARC Team to Nepal

2nd - 6th May 2015

A team consisting of representatives from SAARC member countries including Director SDMC and Executive Director, Prof. Santosh Kumar, visited Nepal during May 2 to 6, 2015 to understand the scale of devastation after the catastrophic earthquake in Nepal and formulate strategies for support. During the visit as a member of SAARC team Prof. Santosh Kumar also represented the Government of India from NIDM’s side. He participated in the meetings with Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, Government of Nepal, Home Secretary of Government of Nepal and Ambassador of India to Nepal and discussed strategies for action.

Participation of NIDM in the Crisis Management Group Meetings

May 2015

Post Nepal earthquake, Government of India held a number of Crisis Management Group meetings on a regular basis in the month of May to discuss, deliberate and entreat upon follow up tasks as a support extended to Nepal which experienced the vagary of nature and was left in an abysmal state. Prof. Santosh Kumar, Executive Director, NIDM participated in the meetings headed by Cabinet Secretary and made contributions.

Bihar Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (BCDRR), Patna

13th – 14th May 2015

NIDM in partnership with the State Government of Bihar organised Bihar Conference on DRR (BCDRR) on May 13-14, 2015 at Patna. The main objective of the BCDRR was to develop a road map for disaster risk reduction (DRR) from 2015 to 2030 for the State of Bihar. The conference was organised on the lines of World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) held recently in Sendai, Japan. During the Conference salient features of Sendai Framework for Action (SFA) were used as a reference points for discussion.

Officials from the Central and State governments, NGOs, community representatives, civil society organizations and experts from all over the country participated in the Conference.

The BCDRR was inaugurated by Shri Nitish Kumar, Chief Minister in the presence of Minister of Disaster Management Department Smt. Lesie Singh. Executive Director NIDM made special remarks during the inaugural and valedictory functions of the Conference as a co-organiser.

The Conference proceedings were spread over 17 sessions in form of panel discussions. During the Conference discussion revolved around themes like risk informed development planning, ecosystem based DRR, resilient cities, road safety and crowd management, school and hospital safety, knowledge management, 'building back better' and financial resilience. During the discussion efforts were made to arrive on agreement among key stakeholders on the strategic direction for DRR in Bihar and to obtain a mandate on the potential milestones and priority action areas to be included in the DRR road map (2015-2030). The BCDRR came up with Patna Declaration -2015 which is available at www.bcdrr.org.

National Consultation and Advocacy Workshop on Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) for India (under the National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project)

18th - 22nd May 2015

A National Consultation and Advocacy Workshop on Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) for India under the National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project was organized at India International Centre, New Delhi, from 18-22 May, 2015, to present the draft PDNA Handbook for India as the key output of the study and seek feedback and approval. The ADPC team facilitated the consultation and advocacy workshop in close consultation with the PIU. The Workshop was attended by 43 participants, from various states, representing various sectors.



Delegates having a talk during the workshop

The final day of the workshop was chaired by Shri R.K.Jain, Member Secretary, NDMA and co-chaired by Shri Anil Sinha, Hon'ble Member, Bihar State Disaster Management Authority, and guided by Shri D.N. Pandey, Relief Commissioner and Principal Secretary, Government of Gujarat. Executive Director, NIDM Prof. Santosh Kumar and Project Coordinator Dr.K.J Anandha kumar alongwith NCRMP Team actively participated in the workshop which was a grand success. As an outcome, the Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) tools were revised by the consultancy team based on the reviews received during this workshop and were submitted to NIDM.

Interaction of JS (DM) and other officers of MHA with NIDM Faculty

19th May 2015

Shri. K.K. Pathak, IAS, JS (DM) along with three Directors of DM division namely; Shri. Ashok Shukla, Shri. Sanjay Aggarwal and Shri. Gautam Ghosh visited NIDM on 19th May 2015 to oversee the functioning and activities of the Institute.

During their visit, a brief presentation was made by Executive Director, NIDM about the functioning and activities of NIDM and there was an interaction session held with Faculty members of NIDM as well.



JS (DM) shri. K.K. Pathak, MHA interacting with NIDM faculty

Brainstorming Workshop on “Nepal Earthquake: Unfolding Uncertainties for Secondary Hazards” at NIDM

28th May 2015

A brainstorming workshop on “Nepal Earthquake: Unfolding Uncertainties for Secondary Hazards” was organized at National Institute of Disaster Management on 28th May 2015 to discuss the key lessons learnt from the recent earthquake activity in Nepal and recommend suitable actions to be taken proactively to avert or reduce the potential impending risk in a post-earthquake situation.

Prof. Santosh Kumar, Executive Director, NIDM welcomed all the participants to the workshop. The inaugural session was chaired by Shri R. K. Jain, Member Secretary NDMA. Shri Chandi Prasad Bhatt (Padma Bhushan, Padam Shri, Magsaysay, Gandhi Peace Prize)

were the guest of honor. The workshop was attended by the representatives from NDRF, BRO, SASE, CRRI,



Dr. Surya Parkash, faculty NIDM, conveying his thoughts during the workshop

DTRL, GSI, CWC, Integrated Defence Staff, IMD, NEERI, NRSC, IISc and AIR/Prasar Bharti. Objectives of the Workshop were:

- To share and exchange experiences, observations and information related to Nepal Earthquake including lessons learnt by different stakeholders
- To assess the post earthquake situation for envisaging potential impending risks in terms of secondary hazards like landslides, avalanches, GLOFs, LLOFs and Flash Floods
- To discuss monitoring mechanism for imminent impending risks
- To propose suitable timely actions / measures for averting or reducing the envisaged risks and recommend proactive response preparedness against the expected threats
- To draft recommendations for key actions by different stakeholders to obviate the imminent risks from secondary hazards
- To submit the proposed recommendation to Government of India and Government of Nepal for necessary consideration



Delegates communicating their experiences in the workshop

The brainstorming workshop concluded with the major recommendations for immediate, short and long term actions. Few of them are mentioned below:

Immediate Actions

- Look for earthquake triggered landslides, river blockades / lakes and GLOFs. Determine the type and dimension of the hazard as well as the risk posed it. Remote sensing technology can be used for inaccessible areas.
- Take prevention, mitigation and preparedness actions against the known hazards to minimize damage.
- Improved communication and coordination mechanism among government, administration, agencies and the communities.

Short Term Actions

- Disaster Management Authorities and local authorities should jointly work with support from community and experts, to identify the potential secondary hazards like avalanches, landslides, river blockades, LLOFs, GLOFs, and Forest Fires etc. Assess the type and dimension of hazard, place, probable time of occurrence, elements / activities likely to be affected.

Long Term Actions

- Studies on active tectonics and seismic incidences for analyzing potential seismic threats and aftershocks.
- Efficient Early Warning System for secondary hazards should be established.
- Pre-deployment of response teams in impending disaster areas or Rapid Response Teams at local level must be kept ready to gain timely access to the affected area.

Presentation on India Disaster Resource Network (IDRN) Portal given in MHA

22nd May 2015

Handling the recent Jammu and Kashmir floods and earthquake in Nepal required number of relief materials which were arranged from different organizations in a random manner. Therefore, it was felt that prior information on the ready availability of such materials which can be sent by different organizations at short notice, can fast track the response to the affected areas. In this connection, a meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (DM), MHA in Conference Room, NDCC-II building, New Delhi on 22nd May 2015. The meeting was attended by Relief Commissioners from most of the States, FICCI, NDRF and representatives from various line Ministries like Food Ministry, Ministry of Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation, Ministry of Communication and Information Technology, etc. were also present during this meeting. A brief presentation was made by Ms. Sreeja Nair - India Disaster Resource Network (IDRN) project in-charge and Ms. Anupama Sethi - IDRN Administrator on the different features, functioning of IDRN Portal and current status with respect to data updation and addition by different districts across the country w.r.t resources in the Portal.

Expert Group Discussion on “Heat Wave: Managing the Emerged Challenge”, on the Occasion of World Environment Day

5th June, 2015

As evident from the current summer in India that Heat Wave as an extreme weather event is increasing in its occurrence and has had severe health repercussions on lives in many Indian States this year too where the conditions have become abysmal and vile. Looking at the current scenario, effective response is important for saving peoples life and health, besides evolving strategies for future risk mitigation and management against heat and cold waves. Extreme weather conditions have become such a part of life all across the world over the last decade and more, that, ways and means to understand and cop with them have become an essential element of survival strategies.

Keeping these thoughts in mind, on the occasion of "World Environment Day" observed on 05th June 2015, National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM), Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi organized a brain storming session on "Heat Wave-The Emerged Challenge" in NIDM campus. Some of the distinguished delegates who attended the session and provided their valuable inputs included; Prof. V. K. Sharma, Vice Chairman, Sikkim Disaster Management Authority, Dr. T. N. Gupta, Former, Executive Director, BMTPC, Dr. Jugal Kishore, Professor & Head, Community Medicine, Safdarjung Hospital, Mr. Charan Singh, Scientist 'E', IMD, Prof. Meenakshi Dhote, Professor of Environmental Planning, SPA, Dr. Shaymali Singh, Assistant Professor, IIPA, and other representatives from Wetland International, Shri Arun Sahdeo, UNDP, Shri S.S.Guleria, D.I.G., NDRF. The brain storming session was also attended by faculty members from NIDM and SDMC.



Prof. V.K. Sharma, IIPA and Prof. Santosh Kumar, ED, NIDM sharing their views during the even

Dr. Anil K. Gupta, Associate Professor, NIDM in his opening remarks set the context of the discussion, which was followed by Prof. Santosh Kumar, Executive Director, NIDM. In his deliberation, Prof. Santosh Kumar urged on the need for involving agencies such as India Meteorological Department (IMD), NIDM, Environmentalists, NGOs, individuals, Scientists, Government officials and people from rural communities to frame achievable points for preventing the preventable deaths.

A concise summary of discussion is as below:

Environment is getting affected because of increase in 'Consumption'- due to rise in population, 'lack of Conservation' and 'lack of Care'. Rising to this challenge of climate change and increasing heat waves, Municipal Corporations must work to prepare health systems and residence against dangerous heat waves. Every city should have Heat Action Plan (HAP) with the help of National and International academic experts and learning from global best practices on early warning systems and heat adaptation.

ToT Programme on "Hospital Disaster Management Plans: Focus on Emergency Health Services (NCRMP)"

8th – 12th June, 2015

A ToT Programme on "Hospital Disaster Management Plans: Focus on Emergency Health Services" based on the training module developed as a part of NCRMP project was held at NIDM from 8th – 12th June 2015. Senior level Doctors/Administrators from various prestigious medical Institutions from across India as well as from the Non-Government organizations participated in the training.

A comprehensive method for preparation of hospital disaster plan with a holistic perspective was the main objective of the programme. Dr K. J. Anandha Kumar, Associate Professor and Project Coordinator, NCRMP was the Course Director and highlighted the importance of hospitals during disasters & capacity building at various levels, conduction of mock drills and ideal methodology of preparing a plan through his lectures. Dr Saurabh Dalal, Course Coordinator highlighted past experiences and lessons learnt from them. Other resource persons presented upon structural and non-structural mitigation measures for hospitals and development of Incident response system in health sector.



Participants of the ToT Programme

A field visit to Sushruta Trauma Centre was also a part of the course on the third day to provide the insight of the preparedness of the Delhi state's premiere trauma center catering to a large number of patients on daily basis.

As a part of group activity the participants also prepared and presented Hospital Disaster Management plans at various levels of healthcare. Prof. Santosh Kumar, Executive Director, NIDM and Director, SDMC interacted with the participants and participated in the Inaugural & valedictory session and inspired the participants to further disseminate these trainings at various levels using the Training Module across the country.

Brainstorming workshop on National capacity building strategy for healthcare sector

12th June 2015

A half day brainstorming workshop on National capacity building strategy for healthcare sector was held at NIDM on 12th June 2015, in which experts from various organizations such as NDMA, Indian Medical Association, World Health Organization, SAARC Disaster Management Center, ICRC, IFRC, NABH, CAHO, Emmanuel Hospital Association, (SEMI) Society for Emergency Medicine India -Institution for Disasters, Emergency and Accidents Sphere India, Doctors for You, St John Ambulance brigade, OCS-MCS, Trained Nurses Association of India, Healthcare Sector Skill Council, Sushtra Trauma Center, Apollo Hospital, Max Healthcare and all representatives from various states participated. The dignitaries among the participants included Shri Kamal Kishore, Member, NDMA, Dr. K. K. Agarwal, Honorary

Secretary, IMA and Dr. Reuben Samuel of WHO. The Workshop was organized under the guidance of Prof. Santosh Kumar, ED, NIDM & Director, SDMC and Dr. K.J. Anandha Kumar, Associate Professor, by Dr. Saurabh Dalal, and Ms. Lakshita Balani, Jr. Consultants.



Participants discussing strategies for DRR in health sector during the workshop

The objective of the workshop was to hold consultations with all the stakeholders for planning & organizing long term strategies in healthcare sector. Various relevant aspects were addressed for developing a roadmap to include DRR in health sector such as identifying & standardizing specific trainings, creating awareness among the healthcare mechanism about importance of hospital disaster preparedness, universally adapting the training module & format for institutions, helping decision makers understand the factors affecting the functionality of hospitals to mention a few. Many of the participated organizations were interested in the very purpose of the brainstorming workshop & expressed dedicated desire to work with NIDM in the direction of preparation of national capacity building strategy for healthcare sector.

Meeting of the Governing Body of NIDM

19th June 2015

9th meeting of the Governing Body of NIDM was held on 19th June 2015 at Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) under the chairmanship of Mr. L. C. Goyal, Union Home Secretary, Government of India. During the meeting Governing Body gave its go ahead for the following projects of NIDM:

- To start M.Phil and Ph.D programmes in DRR jointly with Jawahar Lal Nehru University on disaster management,
- To make preparations for starting B.Tech program in disaster on construction management/ applied science and early warning system in disaster management,
- Inviting participants (trainees/trainers) from Civil Society/Private Sector in the training programmes organised by NIDM

State Level training on "India Disaster Resource Network" for all the districts of Delhi organized at Delhi Disaster Management Authority

30th June 2015

Training programme on "India Disaster Resource Network" has been organized for all the 11 districts of Delhi, at Delhi Disaster Management Authority, Revenue Department HQ, Delhi on 30th June 2015. Twenty Eight participants (officials from district administration) from 11 districts of the state participated in the course. The officials were introduced to the IDRN portal, its uses, workflow and administration. Besides a hands on session was organized for familiarizing the participants with the IDRN portal, user login, data uploading, various formats, data accessing etc. Participants shared their experiences and specific challenges pertaining to IDRN. The participants agreed to update data of the concerned districts and requested NIDM to provide necessary technical/administrative support. Feedback and suggestions received from the group regarding the technical issues, portal administration, data collection and data entry etc. will be used for upgrading the portal further.

Publications

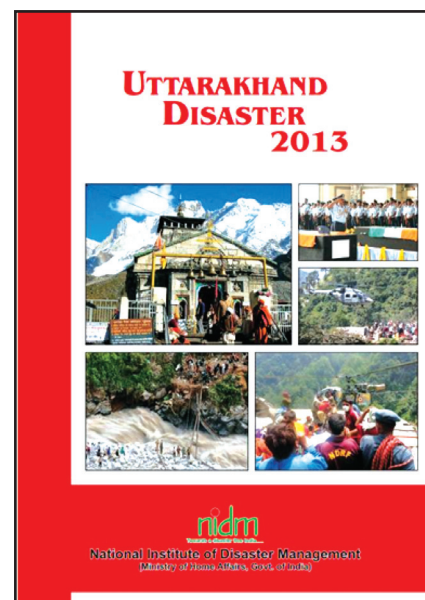
May 2015

Uttarakhand Disaster 2013

Dr. Satendra, Dr. Anil K. Gupta, Maj. Gen. (Retd.) V. K. Naik, Mr. T. K. Saha Roy, Mr. Ashok K. Sharma, and Mr. Manas Dwivedi

NIDM faculty has documented various aspects of the Uttarakhand Disaster of 2013 in the form of a book. NIDM initiated the process of documentation immediately after the disaster event. Faculty members and researchers undertook field visits and conducted surveys. NIDM organized two national workshops with a view to sharing experiences and crystallizing the lessons learnt. It also held a series of meetings and discussions with experts and, more importantly, interacted with officials of the Government of Uttarakhand. Thus there was an elaborate process of consultation with various stakeholders.

The book begins with a description of the vulnerabilities of the State to disasters and tries to analyze possible causes of the tragedy. Then it provides a chronological account of the event as it unfolded. It gives a detailed description of the large-scale rescue and relief operations undertaken in the aftermath of the disaster, highlighting significant aspects of the initiatives taken by the Government of India, the State government and other agencies. The document has also given a profile of various disasters of which Uttarakhand is exposed to. Such



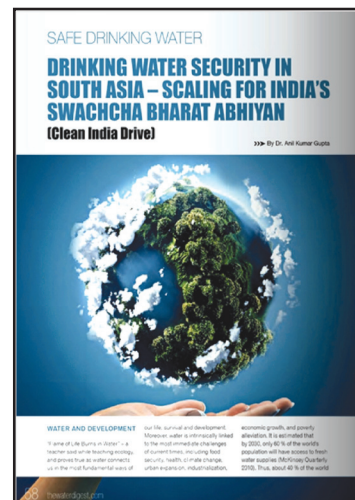
information would be useful for the planners while planning development in the mountainous regions. On the basis of this document, many further researches can also be undertaken by different agencies/stakeholders as per their requirements.

Article Published

Gupta, A. K. (2015), "Drinking Water Security in South Asia – Scaling for India's Swachha Bharat Abhiyan", Water Digest, Living Our Wet Planet, Volume IX, Issue 1, March 2015, pp.58-68.

To view the article visit link given below:

<http://thewaterdigest.com/EmagazineMarch2015/waterdigest2015.html>



Training Program Organized (January - March 2015)

S.No	Name of Program	Venue	Dates	Faculty	No. of Participants
1.	ToT on School Safety	NIDM	13-17 Apr.	Ritu Raj	30
2.	Coastal Community Resilience against Disasters	GAA, Odisha	22-24 Apr.	Sushma Guleria	28
3.	ToT course on IRS: Basic & Intermediate	NIDM	27 Apr. - 1 May	S. Chaturvedi P. K. Pathak	50
4.	ToT on Urban Risk Mitigation	NIDM	27 Apr. - 1 May	Ritu Raj Ajinder Walia	29
5.	ToT course on Community Based DRR	NIDM	5-8 May	Surya Parkash	19
6.	Seismic Safety Assessment of Buildings by Rapid Visual Survey in collaboration with YASHADA, Pune	Nasik, Maharashtra	5-7 May	C. Ghosh	35
7.	Gender & Disaster Management	NIDM	11-15 May	Ajinder Walia	16
8.	Earthquake Risk Mitigation & Management	NIDM	18-22 May	Amir Ali Khan	30
9.	Training Programme on City Disaster Management Plan	GIDM, Gujarat	19-21 May	C. Bandyopadhyay	27
10.	ToT on School Safety for Teachers	ATI Jharkhand	8-12 Jun	Ritu Raj	43
11.	ToT course on Preparation and Implementation of Hospital Disaster Management Plan	NIDM	8-12 Jun	K. J. Anandha	20
12.	Role of Forestry Sector in Disaster Risk Management	FRI Dehradun	8-12 Jun	A. D. Kaushik	26

Upcoming Training Programs (July - September, 2015)

Sl.No.	Name of Course	Venue	Date(s)	Faculty
1.	ToT on Formulation of Village Disaster Development Plan	SIRD, UP	6-10 Jul	Sushma Guleria
2.	Need for Children in disasters	NIDM	13-17 Jul	Ajinder Walia
3.	ToT on School Risk Reduction	NIDM	20-24 Jul	Ritu Raj
4.	ToT course on IRS – Planning Sections Chief	NIDM	3-7 Aug	P. K. Pathak
5.	ToT on PDNA tools	NIDM	10-14 Aug	K. J. Anandha Kumar
6.	Cyclone Resistant Shelter and Construction along coastal areas	ILDm, Kerala	11-13 Aug	C. Ghosh
7.	Gender and Disasters	NIDM	17-21 Aug	Ajinder Walia



We welcome comments / responses / articles from readers of our Newsletter
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 Address for communication
 Executive Director,
 National Institute of Disaster Management
 5-B, IIPA Campus, I.P. Estate,
 M.G. Road, New Delhi – 110 002.
 Fax: 011 – 2370 2446, Phone: 011- 2370 2445
 Website: www.nidm.gov.in