"The upgrading and construction of schools that will be relatively safe during the occurrence of disasters should be part of a nation's long-term planning." (UNESCO)
“Schools play a versatile role in the communities and hence the impacts of disasters on schools are pervasive.

No task is as important as creating safe learning environment for our children. Recent events of children deaths due to building collapse, fire accidents and stampede bring to the light the need to be continually vigilant to ensure for safety of students and staffs in schools.”

**WHY IS SCHOOL SAFETY ESSENTIAL?**

In India hundreds of school children are affected almost every year by natural/ man-made disasters. School safety is essential because-

- **Children are the future generation**
- **Children can carry information to the society**
- **Schools are key factor to build a culture of disaster prevention**
- **School is the centre of community activities**

Thus it is imperative to augment school safety through both structural and non-structural mitigations.

School safety plans play an essential role in this!
SCHOOL SAFETY: SALIENT FEATURES

• Raising disaster awareness
• Hazard, vulnerability and risk analysis
• Structural and non-structural safety
• Facilities and Resource Mapping
• Constitution and training of School Disaster Management Committee and Task Forces
• Alert mechanisms
• School maps, evacuation plans and calendar of preparedness activities
• Mock drills
• Psycho-social support for children during disaster
• Consideration of disability and gender-based needs
• Periodical review and disaster risk audit of School Disaster Management Plan

EVERY SCHOOL SHOULD HAVE AN EMERGENCY CRISIS RESPONSE PLAN THAT IDENTIFIES...

• Who will carry out specific responsibilities
• What actions or activities need to occur following an emergency
• When the plan will be activated
• Where teacher and staff should report
• Why these actions are necessary to ensure the safety of students, staffs and teachers
• How the response will be managed during an emergency
ON THE SCHOOL MAP MARK THE FOLLOWING

- Entrances and exits
- Visitor check-in point
- Emergency assembly area
- Gas line and Electricity shut off location(s)
- Water shut off location(s)
- Building evacuation routes
- Building dangers
- Overhead dangers
- Hazardous materials locations
- First Aid staging area
- Individuals with disabilities and young children
- Response provisions on-site

KEEP EMERGENCY KIT READY

- Two pairs of disposable gloves
- Sterile dressings to stop bleeding
- Cleansing agent/soap and antibiotic towlettes to disinfect
- Antibiotic ointment to prevent infection
- Burn ointment
- Adhesive bandages in a variety of sizes
- Eye wash solution to flush the eyes or as general decontaminant
- Scissors
- Over-the-counter medicines such as Aspirin or other pain reliever, laxative, anti-diarrhea medication
- Prescription medications you take every day such as insulin, heart medicine, or asthma inhaler
- Prescribed medical supplies such as glucose monitoring equipment or blood pressure monitors
School Disaster Safety Team

- First Aid Team
- Evacuation & Mock Drill Team
- Warning Team
- Search & Rescue Team

Awareness

School Disaster Safety Core Team

Preparedness

Mitigation

ON THE NEIGHBOURHOOD MAP MARK VULNERABILITIES AND RESOURCES SUCH AS:

- Emergency evacuation routes
- Emergency vehicle routes
- Alternate assembly area, shelters, and safe havens
- Health facilities
- Fire station
- Hazardous materials sites
- Tools (e.g., generator)
- Transportation resources
- Vulnerable populations (elderly, young children)
- Vulnerable building, roads, and facilities
- Resource people for response and recovery
NON-STRUCTURAL SAFETY IN SCHOOL

Do check that:

• All classroom doors, doors of high-occupancy rooms, and doors to outside open outwards
• Exit pathways are kept clear;
• Non-structural building elements are securely fastened to the building to resist wind or earthquake shaking
• Fire suppression equipment is located appropriately and maintained in good working condition
• Flammable and combustible materials are limited, isolated, eliminated, and separated, away from dangerous interactions and heat sources
• Electrical systems are maintained and are not overloaded;

HOW TO COMMUNICATE WITH EACH OTHER?

Plan out a method to check up on each other's safety when you happen to be at different places when a disaster strikes.

If a disaster strikes when you are separated from the rest of your family, secure your own safety first, then check on the safety of your family.

Communication methods are limited in a quake-stricken area. You can Dial 1077 for Delhi. Learn how to use these services now, before a disaster strikes.
RAPID ONSET
NO WARNING

- Violence
- Earthquake
- Fire

LOCKDOWN
- Alarm signal
- Call emergency #
- Everyone inside!
- Lock all doors
- No entering or leaving
- Signs in window

DROP, COVER & HOLD ON

MEDIUM ONSET
EARLY WARNING

ALL Others & REASSESS

- Is the building safe

YES

EVACUATE BUILDING
- Alarm or shake trigger
- Fire: Call emergency #
- Sweep building
- Assist disabled & visitors
- Take Go-Suoolies
- Earthquake: Mark door

- DROP, COVER & HOLD ON

NO

SHELTER-IN-PLACE (INDOORS)
- Announcement
- Stay inside in safe areas
- No one enters or leaves

DROP, COVER & HOLD ON

- NO

ASSEMBLE & SHELTER OUTSIDE
- Account for students
- Make shelter
- Student care and supervision

RESUME CLASSES and/or Normal Release

REASSESS: if safe, is it safe in the community

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES DECISION-TREE

Are the grounds safe

YES

NO

EVACUATE TO SAFE HAVEN
- Move to safer location
- Account for students
- Request transportation
- Uses vehicles for shelter

YES

EMERGENCY STUDENT RELEASE
- Release to verified and approved emergency contacts only
- Document reunification details
HOW SAFE IS MY SCHOOL?

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