Heartiest Greetings to all our readers with this first issue of the Newsletter for the year 2012!!

Experiences from the recent disasters witnessed, like Sikkim Earthquake of September 2011 clearly illustrated the inadequate capacity of our community and the state machinery to handle disasters. The “Very Severe Cyclonic Storm Thane” that crossed Tamil Nadu and Puducherry on 30th Dec 2011 is another example. Effective early warning and response mechanisms, helped in reducing the mortality to a great extent in the event of Cyclone Thane, although impacts were severe.

As a nodal institute for capacity building and human resource development, NIDM is working in collaboration with State level Administrative training Institutes, other academic and professional bodies and international organizations since 2004 for developing training modules, organizing training programmes, workshops, conferences and other outreach activities.

The key events organized by NIDM during the first quarter of 2012 include, Annual Training Conference, National Workshop on Sikkim Earthquake, National Conference and Field Study on Landslide Management in Uttarakhand, Joint Indo-Japanese Training Cum Field Workshop on Landslides and Disaster Management in Sikkim and ToT programme on Reproductive Health, Gender and Psychosocial Support in Disasters organized in collaboration with UNFPA in Yashada, Pune.

The Institute is in the process of launching new series of “School Safety Programme” jointly with National Disaster Management Authority under the National School Safety Programme since April 2012. Further the institute will be promoting environmental awareness amongst the school children in a big way by observing World Environment Day on 5th June 2012 to enhance awareness regarding the environment disaster linkages in the context of emerging climatic risks and vulnerabilities. Let us all be a part of the team to protect our environment and reduce disaster risks.

(Satendra)
An earthquake of M 6.8 on Richter scale occurred on Sept. 18, 2011 at 18.10hrs around the Sikkim-Nepal border region. It was widely felt in Assam, Meghalaya, Northern parts of West Bengal, Bihar, parts of other Eastern and Western regions of India, including capital city Delhi. The earthquake claimed 77 human lives in India (including 16 at the Teesta Stage III Hydroelectric power project site), 719 injured and also caused substantial loss to livestock. NIDM organized a one-day brainstorming national workshop on 9th February 2012 at its premises in Delhi to synthesize different experts comments, feedback and suggestions for formulating guiding road map for recovery, rehabilitation and redevelopment of the affected area. The workshop attempted to bring all stakeholders who have worked during the post earthquake operations and involve planners, policy makers and decision making authorities for documenting the lessons learnt based on the their experience with the situation after Sikkim earthquake. The workshop focused mainly on the issues related to response, relief, rehabilitation operations by agencies such as National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), Army, Air Force, Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), Army, State Police, Civil defence, NGOs and other volunteers. Restoration of lifeline facilities in the affected areas by concerned State Government Line agencies, Border Roads Organization, Teesta Urja, Public Sector Units and others, damage and loss assessment survey conducted by expert teams set up by Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Urban Development, Ministry of Rural Development, National Disaster Management Authority and agencies of the State Government. The teams included experts from IITs, IIRS, TISS and others. The workshop was attended by more than 70 delegates.

Dr. H.K. Gupta, Hon’ble Member NDMA was the Chief Guest for the inaugural session of the workshop and Lt. Gen. S. Ravi Shankar, DG BRO was Guest of Honour. The other dignitaries present during the workshop included Brig. Rajiv Sawhney – Chief Engineer, BRO at Gangtok; Shri A.K. Singh – District Magistrate, South District of Sikkim. Twelve presentations were made during the 3 technical sessions held after the inaugural function. The session-1 focused mainly on immediate response to the Sikkim earthquake by Government of Sikkim, NDRF, BRO, Army, NDMA, NIDM and MHA. Session-2 focused on damage assessment tools and technology and presentations were made by UD&HD-Sikkim, Indian Institute of Remote Sensing and Teesta Urja. The last technical session focused on psycho-social issues related to disaster management in which 3 presentations were made by DSSW-Delhi University, SPHERE and ANI. Valedictory session of the workshop was presided over by Brig. Rajiv Sawhney, Chief Engineer, BRO.
Seventh Annual Training Conference was held during 27th - 28th February, 2012 at NIDM, New Delhi. Joint Secretary, Disaster Management (MHA), Director NDM (MHA), Director Generals/ Directors of Administrative Training Institutes (ATIs), representatives from Central Ministries/ Departments, States Head/ Faculty members of Centre of Disaster Management (CDMs) from ATIs/Training Institutions and senior faculty members of NIDM attended the Conference. The issues discussed during the conference were the progress made by each CDMs in conducting Training courses, mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into various sectors, utilization of funds by each CDM and continuation of scheme after March 2012. The National School Safety Programme (NSSP) of NDMA was also discussed during the conference by representative from NDMA.

National Conference and Field Study on Landslide Management

22-24 March 2012, Uttarakhand

National Institute of Disaster Management, World Centre of Excellence on Landslide Disaster Reduction (conferred by ICL and IPL-ISDR) in collaboration with Disaster Management Cell, Uttarakhand Academy of Administration, Nainital, National Centre of Excellence on Landslides (conferred by NIDM, Ministry of Home Affairs, GoI) jointly organized a National Conference and Field Study on Landslide Management at Nainital during 22-24 March 2012. The conference was inaugurated on 22 March, 2012 in the auspicious presence of Shri V.P.S. Arora, Hon’ble Vice Chancellor, Kumaon University, Nainital, Shri Anand Sharma, Director IMD; Shri C. Muraleedharan, Director, GSI and Mr. Rayal, ADM, Nainital district. More than 100 delegates from 15 States and various organizations, institutes and universities working on landslide management participated in the conference. Seven parallel sessions were held in two training halls where 20 presentations were made. A field visit was organized to the Balia Nala landslide at Nainital to study and discuss various issues related to understanding and management of landslides. The participants made field observations and provided their comments and suggestions at the landslide site regarding the potential studies for the site, probable mechanism of failure and possible solutions. A publication in the form of abstract proceedings is published and shared with the delegates during the conference.
Following the Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation between India and Japan signed by the Prime Ministers of the two countries in Tokyo on 22 October 2008 (please refer to article 8 - Disaster Management, in the Action Plan to advance Security Cooperation, http://pmindia.nic.in/visits/content.asp?id=223), National Institute of Disaster Management signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with National Institute of Land and Infrastructure Management (NILIM) and a Memorandum of Understanding with Public Works Research Institute (PWRI), Japan to undertake joint activities in the field of landslides and related disasters management. As part of the joint activities under the above MoUs and consequent to the Sikkim earthquake on 18 September 2011 (M 6.9), NIDM has organized 2nd Indo-Japanese Training cum Field Workshop at Gangtok, Sikkim during 13-17 Feb. 2012, jointly with Land Revenue and Disaster Management Department, Government of Sikkim. The programme was inaugurated by the Chief Secretary, Government of Sikkim in the presence of Member of Parliament, Ministers, Parliamentary Secretary, Secretaries from various other departments in Government of Sikkim, district magistrate, city mayor and other dignitaries, as well as experts and officials from related departments of Government of Sikkim, Media, GSI, MoRTH, BRO etc. About 400 persons were present during the inaugural programme. Ninety six participants, including Nineteen Japanese delegates attended the workshop.

A regional Training of Trainers programme on “Reproductive Health, Gender and Psychosocial Support in Disasters” was held from 28th February to 2nd March 2012 at YASHADA, Pune in collaboration with UNFPA. The Reproductive Health concept typically covers safe motherhood, family planning, prevention and management of sexually transmitted infections and HIV/AIDS, and adolescent reproductive health. Other issues that merit considerations within the ambit of RH are gender based violence (GBV), psychosocial support (PSS) including counseling and access to quality health care services. There are two other regional programmes to be held at MCHRD, Hyderabad and ATI, Assam by May 2012.

Fire mock drill was conducted in NIDM campus on 08 Feb. 2012 to create awareness of fire hazards amongst the faculty and staff members of NIDM & SDMC. Fire fighter, specially called for this occasion, explained and demonstrated about fire incidences in day to day life, use of different types of fire extinguishers, implanted in NIDM building against simulated fire spots, do's & don'ts etc. All faculty and staff members, including Executive Director NIDM actively participated in the drill.
Excellence award to NIDM faculty

Association of Environmental and Occupational Health (IAOH) has honoured the Associate Professor of NIDM, Dr. Anil K Gupta with the Excellence Award for the year 2012 during its 62nd Annual National Conference of Indian Association of Occupation Health (IAOH) 1-4 February 2012 held at New Delhi for his outstanding contribution in the area of disaster risk reduction and environmental health.

Papers


NIDM in International Forum

♦ Dr. Sujata Satapathy participated in Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) Workshop on “Economic and Welfare Impacts of Disasters in East Asia & Policy Responses” held on 19-20 December 2011 at Jakarta, Indonesia.

♦ Mr. Bishwanath Das, Assistant Professor NIDM attended the Second Expert Group Meeting on Lessons Learned from Great Earthquake and Mega Tsunami Japan 2011 held at Tokyo and Iwate during 16-18th December organized by Cabinet Office of Japan, UN-ESCAP and ADRC.

National Disaster Management Guidelines for Information and Communication System (NDMICS) prepared by National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) were released in New Delhi on 15 February 2012. Speaking at the occasion, Sh. M. Shashidhar Reddy, Vice Chairman, NDMA stressed that the holistic approach for Disaster Management calls for a dedicated fail-proof communication system to ensure seamless flow of value-added information products on GIS platform not only in the response phase but also for prevention, preparedness, mitigation and recovery, besides capacity building programmes. Shri Reddy informed that to achieve this, it is contemplated to establish National Disaster Management Information System (NDMIS) at the central level (with a disaster recovery system at a safe location) that would be coupled to a dedicated and fail-safe National Disaster Communication Network (NDCN) with particular emphasis on last-mile connectivity.

A delegation from Madagascar visited NIDM on 29th February 2012 for learning from Indian experience of cyclone risk mitigation and management. The delegation comprised of senior officers from Prime Minister’s office, departments of Land & Water resources, Disaster management etc., exchanged their views on various aspects of cyclone and disaster management with faculty members of NIDM.

A team of scientists undergoing training in India Meteorological Department (IMD) Delhi, which is also the Regional Meteorological Service Centre visited NIDM for understanding issues related to disaster management. The team comprising forecasters from Thailand, Sri Lanka, Maldives and various offices of India discussed with the faculty members of NIDM on issues related to evacuation, structural and non-structural mitigation measures.
Training Programmes Conducted

January – March 2012

- Climate Change and Drought Risk Management, DMI, Bhopal, 2-6 January.
- Early Warning Systems, NIDM, 9-13 January.
- Formulation of DDMP, CGAA, ATI-Chhattisgarh, 16-20 January.
- Orientation Workshop on Disaster Management in collaboration with DDMA, Delhi, Jaypee Siddhartha Hotel, Delhi, 20 January.
- Disaster Safe Hill Area Development, ATI, Mizoram, 30 January– 3 February.
- Need of Children in Disasters, NIDM, 30 January-3 February.
- Chemical (Industrial) Disaster Management, NIDM, 1-3 February.
- Cultural Heritage Risk Management, NIDM, 6-10 February.
- Flood Risk Mitigation &Management, ATI West Bengal, 6-10 February.
- School Safety with MGSIPAP, ATI, Ludhiana, Punjab, 6-10 February.
- SATCOM Programme on Disaster Management, Vigyan Prasar, Delhi, 7-8 February.
- Post Disaster Damage and Needs Assessment, HCMRIPA Jaipur, 6-10 February.
- Stress Mgt for Disaster Responders (NDRF), NIDM, 13-17 February.
- Applications of Geoinformatics in Disaster Management, NIDM, 13-17 February.
- Orientation Workshop on Disaster Management in collaboration with DDMA, Delhi, MCD Civic Centre, Delhi, 14 February.
- Coastal Hazards and Disaster Management SIRD, Tamil Nadu, 22-24 February.
- Training Programme on Disaster Management for NYKS officers NIDM, 27 Feb-2 March.
- Building Codes and Design for Disaster safe Built Environment CGAA, Chhattisgarh, 27 February-2 March.
- Forest Fire Management FRI Dehradun, Uttarakhand, 27 February -2 March.
- Drought Mitigation & Management HCMRIPA, Rajasthan, 27 February – 2 March.
- Regional Training of Trainers Programme on Reproductive & Child Health in collaboration with UNFPA, YASHADA, Pune, 28 February– 2 March, 2012.
- Disaster Management for Media & PIOs, NIDM, 29 February-2 March.
- Risk & Vulnerability Analysis, NIDM, 5-9 March.
- Earthquake Risk Management, MATI, Meghalaya, 12-16 March
- Flood Risk Mitigation and Management, DDUSIRD, UP, 12-16 March.
- Cyclone Risk Mitigation & Management, ILDM, Kerala, 14-16 March.
- Flood Risk Mitigation & Management, NIDM, 19-23 March.
- Disaster Management for APPPA participants, NIDM, 23 March.
- Tsunami Early Warning MCRHRD Institute, 22-23 March.
- Water & Sanitation during disasters, NIDM, 26-27 March.
- Training Programme on Disaster Management, NCC- ANOs and NSS officers, NIDM, 26-30 March.

Online Training Programmes

- NIDM - GFDRR - Risk Sensitive Land-use Planning, January 30 - February 24
- Community Based Disaster Risk Management, February 06 – March 02,

Upcoming Events

- Third NIDM- UNSPIDER Training Workshop on Space Technology Application in Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Response, NIDM, 2-4 April 2012
- Training Programme on “Seismic Safety Assessment of Buildings in Delhi by Rapid Visual Screening (RVS) scheduled during 24 - 27 Apr 2012 at NIDM.
- Round Table on “How Prepared We Are? Lessons Learnt – Post Earthquake *on the 16th May 2012 in SDMC conference Hall, NIDM Building.

National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction rescheduled

The first national platform for disaster risk reduction at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, 25-26 April 2012 rescheduled. For updates visit www.nidm.gov.in/npdrr.

Online Training Programmes with GFDRR, World Bank, Washington

- Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Framework, 28th May- 06th July, 2012

For further details visit http://nidm.gov.in/PDF/trgcal/WBI_2012_13.pdf
Upcoming Training Programmes

- IRS: Basic & Intermediate Course, NIDM, 30 April - 4 May
- Regional Training of Trainers Programme on Reproductive & Child Health in Humanitarian Action, MCRHRD, Hyderabad, 30 April - 3 May
- Flood Disaster Management: Agenda for Action in collaboration with National Water Academy (NWA), Pune, 30 April - 4 May
- ToT on School Safety for Teachers, NIDM, 7-11 May
- Regional Training of Trainers Programme on Reproductive & Child Health in Humanitarian Action, AASC, Assam, 8 -11 May
- ToT on School Safety for School Management, NIDM, 14-18 May
- Earthquake Risk Evaluation & Management, ATI- Himachal Pradesh, 14-18 May
- Formulation of District Disaster Management Plan: Plan and Process, Chhattisgarh, 21-25 May
- ToT on School Safety for Disaster Education Officers, NIDM, 21-25 May
- Disaster Preparedness for People with Disabilities, NIDM, 21-25 May
- Managing Flood Disaster under Changing Climate, UPAAM, 21-25 May
- ToT on School Safety for Teachers, NIDM, 28 May – 1 June
- ToT on School Safety for School Management, NIDM, 4-8 June
- Mainstreaming Disaster Management in Development for Joint Secretary level officers, NIDM, 7-8 June
- ToT on School Safety for Disaster Education Officers, NIDM, 11-15 June
- Relief Management during Disasters, J & K, 11-15 June
- Flood Disaster Management, Gujarat, 18-22 June
- ToT on School Safety for Teachers, NIDM, 18-22 June
- Legal framework for DRR with special reference to Environmental legislations, ATI- Orissa, 20-22 June
- Basic Course on Role of Police in Disaster Management, Andhra Pradesh, 25-29 June
- ToT on School Safety for School Management, NIDM, 25-29 June
- Earthquake Risk Evaluation & Management, ATI- Himachal Pradesh, 14-18 May

We welcome comments / responses / articles from readers of our Newsletter

NIDM Observing World Environment Day on 5 June 2012

NIDM will be observing the “World Environment Day” on 5th June 2012 with an objective of creating awareness among students and communities to Safeguard the Environment for Disaster Risk Reduction. As an opportunity to focus national attention on this important issue, NIDM will be organizing a seminar in Delhi. Further, to enhance awareness among the school students and to sensitize them towards environment and disasters, competitions are being organized for Slogan and Poem writing on theme “Safeguard the Environment for Disaster Risk Reduction”. For further details please visit: www.nidm.gov.in