TIDINGS

NIDM Newsletter – 9/2020
(July – September) 2020
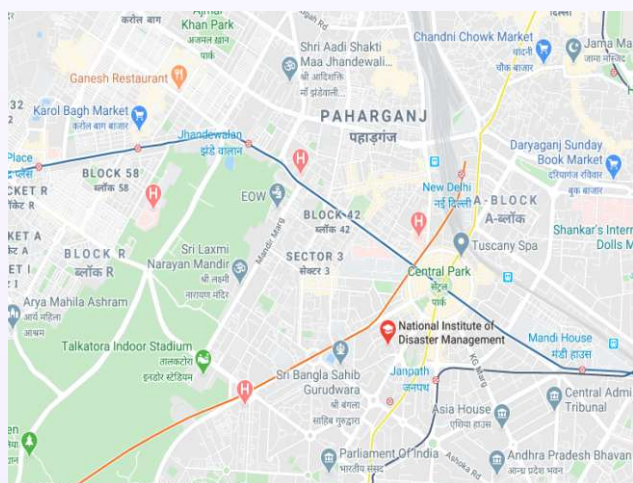
Theme: Living with Covid-19
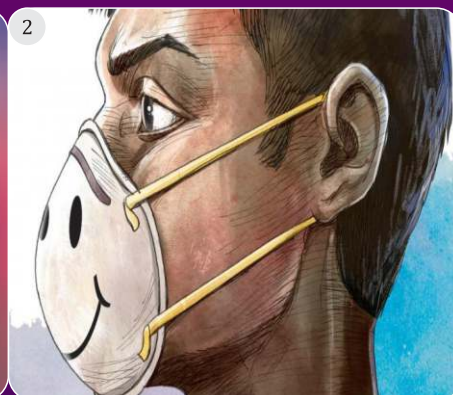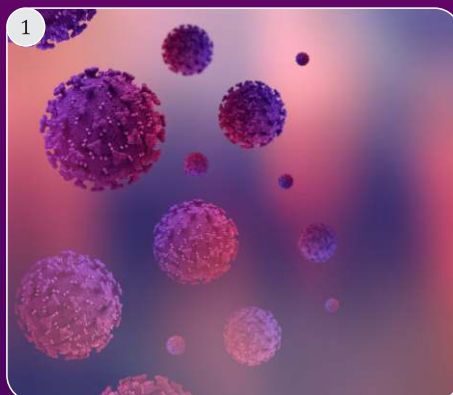
Content

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About NIDM

The National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) was constituted under an Act of Parliament with a vision to play the role of a premier institute for capacity development in India and the region. The efforts in this direction that began with the formation of the National Centre for Disaster Management (NCDM) in 1995 gained impetus with its re-designation as the National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) for training and capacity development.

Under the Disaster Management Act 2005, NIDM has been assigned nodal responsibilities for human resource development, capacity building, training, research, documentation and policy advocacy in the field of disaster management.

Both as a national Centre and then as the national Institute, NIDM has performed a crucial role in bringing disaster risk reduction to the forefront of the national agenda. The Institute believes that disaster risk reduction is possible only through promotion of a "Culture of Prevention" involving all stakeholders. The Institute works through strategic partnerships with various ministries and departments of the central, state and local governments, academic, research and technical organizations in India and abroad and other bi-lateral and multi-lateral international agencies.

NIDM is proud to have a multi-disciplinary core team of professionals working in various aspects of disaster management. In its endeavour to facilitate training and capacity development, the Institute has state-of-the-art facilities like class rooms, seminar hall and video-conferencing facilities etc. The Institute has a well-stocked library exclusively on the theme of disaster management and mitigation.

NIDM provides Capacity Building support to various National and State level agencies in the field of Disaster Management & Disaster Risk Reduction. The Institute's vision is to create a Disaster Resilient India by building the capacity at all levels for disaster prevention and preparedness.

From the NIDM
Executive Director's
Desk

Dear Readers,

The low mortality rate experienced by our country in spite of increase in number of infected persons highlights the commendable efforts by our country in handling the Covid-19 pandemic. Since we all are living with COVID-19, a lot of efforts have been made to collaborate across the healthcare innovation ecosystem ranging from biotech companies to entrepreneurs to academic institutions coming up with innovations to address the COVID-19 global health care crisis.

This pandemic has brought the country to a cross roads but it has also made us come together to rally our greatest strength, the human spirit. India needs to sustain and enhance the entrepreneurial mindset to drive the next wave of innovations to continue the fight against COVID-19 and its economic consequences. There are many opportunities ahead of us – now is the time for vision, preparation and taking action. The pandemic has given us the platform to turn this crisis into an opportunity.

During the course of the pandemic, people have started using digital medium for work commitments, education, and entertainment. Online platforms for work meetings have seen a massive rise in popularity. Meeting and Video calling Applications have come up with innovative features making it conducive for professionals to work from home. This has also facilitated schools and universities to start online education and assessments. Along with digital sector, the health sector shall also witness immense investment in the aftermath of the pandemic. There is a global recognition that investment in the sector to safeguard health of communities is of paramount importance in the post Covid era. The companies are revamping their growth strategies with a focus on launching new products in the food and health categories, enhancing the direct distribution reach in the rural market, door to door services, etc. which will help them to achieve the growth in the medium term.

Let us hope, our dear readers that we can utilize the Covid-19 era as a window of opportunity to build back better.

Major General Manoj Kumar Bindal, VSM
Executive Director, NIDM

WEBINARS

Fire and Life Safety in Urban Context, 2nd July 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Fire has emerged as a critical issue in Urban Planning due to rising frequency of Fire accidents, leading to huge losses of life & property.Fire structure in India is sub optimal with inadequate equipment and this is more reason to look into the matter seriously.

b) Major challenges faced while reducing the fire risk in urban areas includes inadequate information of risk mainly due to lack of capacity and resources for data collection, analysis, and modelling, limits our mitigation strategies.

c) The main reason for fire issues is due to violation of building and fire safety bylaws. No clear demarcation of residential and commercial large buildings which are made without the NOC from the fire department.

d) Funding and policy, inadequacy and negligence of the public and lack of awareness are needed to be addressed.

e) Citizens should ask for a fire safety audit themselves and ensure proper fire equipment is kept and workshop and education in their society should be ensured.

Risk Resilience and pandemics: Revisiting Urban Planning for a Sustainable Future 3rd July 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Incorporation of risk assessment and mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction in urban planning is required.

b) Building resilience of urban and rural areas and the need of decentralized development over primate based development.

c) Need for capacity building of urban planners and mangers for mainstreaming risk reduction in urban planning.

d) Facilitation of data-centric urban planning by developing and updating of databases for community needs assessment.

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Innovations and Technologies are a requirement through which we can make new advancements towards Industrial Safety.

b) Diverse technologies are used in modern days like Robotics, Automated Guided Instruments to move heavy loads, Biomedical Sensors etc.

c) Artificial Intelligence related cameras can be used all around to oversee activities in real time, if any issues are detected. There is a need for incorporation of Indigenous Technologies.

d) Need to change the SOPs and the measure as to how much AI we should put in, since monitoring also requires Monitoring.

e) Oil and Gas Industries have smart digital solutions, data analytics, cloud computing, robotics, automation, predictive maintenance, machine learning and artificial intelligence.

f) The requirement of the role of AI in indicating the machine health and to understand the probabilistic risk assessment.

Protecting Child Rights in the Time of COVID-19 Collaborative Agency-MCRHRDIT 4th July 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Role of stakeholders in protecting children rights and Impact of Covid-19 on essential services provided to the children.

b) Provided suggestion for protecting children rights and strategies to overcome wellbeing issues of children.

c) Safety Measures for Children to prevent from abuses.

The Disaster Management Act, 2005, 4th and 6th July 2020

Some of the Take aways and Recommendations are:

a) Expanding the disaster definitions, which would include war, emergencies, communal riots, civil unrest, conflicts etc.

b) The policies, plans, and guidelines should be left with the government but implementation should be in the hands of the state. The main idea is that power should be transferred to the appropriate local government so that implementation can be done at the ground level.

c) There is a lack of dissemination of information and implementation of the act, which needs to be focused upon.

d) Community is the first responder followed by police, local bodies, home guards etc; there should be a mandate that should focus on strengthening and defining the role of police, fire, and home guard as first responders along with the community.

e) In terms of insurance, there should be a special provision for looking at the pandemic situation and also for man-made disasters.

f) Pandemic should be included in the DM Act.

g) Separate laws to be formulated for relief & rehabilitation and emergency response operations.

h) The Public Information System during emergencies and disasters is missing in the Act. This needs to be clarified which agency is responsible for providing information to the public along with the context and severity of the situation.

I) NIDM to play a leading role in networking and collaborating with different academic and research institutions working in the field of DRR to reduce the gaps between operations, academia and research.

Disaster Management and Mitigation Programme on Disaster & Health Communication, 10th July 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Need to reduce the time for watching news as a lot of information is being bombarded from various sources. It causes anxiety in people.

b) Need to make ourselves strong and remember that the recovery rate of Covid-19 Positive patients is high as compared to the mortality rate. We need not panic but take adequate precautions against the pandemic.

c) Need to think positively about the present scenario as this is a golden time to spend time with families.

d) A balance diet is essential for maintaining necessary energy levels to maintain a sound physical and mental health. Physical exercise, recreation and spirituality also contribute to the maintenance of good mental health.

Impact of COVID-19 on Children Lifestyle, 10th July 2020
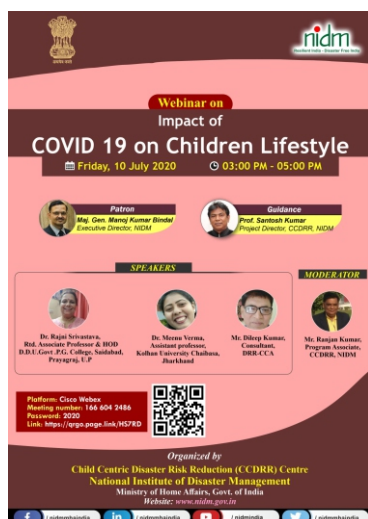
Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Child's emotional reactions to be observed and monitored.

b) Facilitate recovery by normalizing life routines, providing a space for the child to talk about his or her feelings, and providing opportunities for the child to engage in play and other recreational activities.

c) Strengthen Continuous learning plan. Assigning teachers to conduct daily or weekly follow up with students.

d) Review/Develop accelerated Education strategies.

Safe Home Environment for Children, 11th July 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Empower stakeholders and support them in taking steps to create a safe environment for their children.

b) Cyberspace and digital platforms are chock-full of information, but as a parent, need to filter out the data to what is appropriate for the kid.

c) Stay in touch with the child's education facility, this means staying in touch with the child's teacher or school.

d) Seek medical care early if the child has a fever, cough or breathing difficulty.

Learn to Feel, Understand & Convey Emotions Right, 11th July 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Discussed Importance of Emotional Intelligence for children, its four dimensions and usefulness of emotion intelligence and emotion.

b) Discussed that someone can manage their emotions. Emotional Intelligence also help to understand, use and manage own emotions in positive ways. Emotional Stability refers to a person's ability to remain stable and balanced.

c) Emotional understanding is one important aspect of emotional development. There is a need to address each emotion as well being vocal about it.

d) Children can develop cognitively at each age and stage.

Thunderstorm and Lightning, 14th July 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Shri Nityanand Rai underlined need to promote PM Prime Minister's 10-point agenda on Disaster Risk Reduction to carry out a holistic approach to disaster risk management and addressed a whole range of issues, from community preparedness to use of technology and international cooperation.

b) Need to reach to the community level such as community workers, volunteers, community radio, NGOs imparting knowledge, training and motivation to strengthen dissemination of warning and alerts issued by Nodal agencies regarding disaster occurrence.

c) Developing countries like India, there is a need to emphasis mature regulatory regimes and we need to focus towards minimizing the critical "Implementation Gap" between the documents from mature regulatory systems and its specific adaptation to local cultural, economic, and political factors affecting compliance.

d) Need for NIDM and IMD to increase public awareness, community outreach and train local populations about how to prepare for natural disasters.

Managing Urban Flooding and Pandemics: Towards Local Level Actions
16th July 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Need for water sensitive Urban designing and planning of urban areas.

b) Incorporation of structural and non-structural measures of urban flood mitigation in urban planning and development.

c) Need of flood forecasting systems and early warning systems for effective response and governance.

d) Integration of geospatial information for effective and timely response to flooding-induced emergencies during the monsoons.

e) Planning for special provisions for rescue and relief of victims in case of flooding during the pandemic.

Immunity and Mental Health in Pandemic and Concurrent Disaster
17th July 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Assurance of safe migration of workers, isolation for 2 weeks and offer test of Covid-19.

b) Non-Pharmacological interventions to control the spread of virus are important.

c) Need to analyze alternative models of health care of other countries to deal with the Pandemic.

d) Low outbreak states can send their experienced health teams to States with high outbreak of the disease.

e) NIMHANS has undertaken several interventions to deal with the increase in mental health issues amongst the community and patients.

Encouraging Greater Involvement & Leadership of Women in Times of COVID-19
17th July 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Emphasized on increasing greater involvement of women results in a broader perspective on the crisis and also explained that economic crisis has also seen a better performance with women joining business.

b) Increase in the gender diversity on boards is associated with greater bank stability, reduced conflict, and greater focus on transparency and ethics. Also, adding just one more woman in a firm's senior management or corporate board is associated with between 8 and 13 basis point higher returns on assets.

c) Highlighted that ecological and environmental emergencies also affect women in a different way especially in developing countries and discussed about the women who are disproportionately vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, often having less access to information, less education and less control over economic resources and decision-making.

d) Issues like overlook of women's ongoing needs, increase in Gender based violence, reduced access to schooling: Rural and urban and increased demand for care giving double burden.

e) Ensure availability of sex-disaggregated data and develop strategies that specifically target the economic impact of the outbreak on women and also emphasized on need to more representation of women in crisis management and rebuilding better stronger framework for care.

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Need of awareness programmes and training at administrative level regarding gender violence.

b) Memorandum should be developed regarding physical and sexual abuse at home and work place by local, state and national government.

c) Need to publicized toll-free help lines, counselling medical support for mental health, special attention to households with history of abuse.

d) Need to spread of media outreach that prescribes domestic violence, empowers the victims with survival strategies and attitudinal change and community intervention programme should be encouraged. ASHA workers, Anganwadi workers, ANM should be supported in order to carry their work.

e) Special economic support to daily wageworkers such as women vendors, domestic help and industry workers. Helping small business and start up by women (interest free loan).

f) Need to more women in state legislatures and parliament for policy making.

g) Government should promote research and development in gender studies and develop Awareness programmes for gender equality and also emphasize on designing on Gender sensitive public policy.

Role of Women for Protecting Children in Time of COVID-19 in collaboration with Bharathidasan University, 18th July 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Supply of ration at door step and free mobile & data for poor children to ensure online education.

b) Amma canteen to replicate at other states.

c) Special support for corona women warriors having children.

d) Cash transfer of 500 rupees for next three months to the women who have a Jan Dhan account.

e) Helping small business and start up by women (interest free loan).

f) Special economic support to daily wage workers such as women vendors, domestic help and industry workers.

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Need to develop advanced preparedness, mitigation and response plan to reduce the impact of hydro-meteorological hazards, and we must focus to enhance the effectiveness and preparedness at the local level for effective incidence response plan.

b) Need to enhance the near Real-Time decision support for Disaster Management caused by Hydro-Meteorological Hazards namely thunderstorms, lightening, cyclone, storm surges, cloudburst and floods etc.

c) Implement adequate risk management and emergency management strategies to prepare for and respond to these challenges.

d) Promote awareness regarding usage of various weather forecasting and information related mobile apps such as Damini, TNSMART etc.

Investing in Innovative Solutions to Manage Cascading Disaster Risks in collaboration with UNESCAP, 22nd July 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Invest in complex risk scenario planning supported by systemic risk assessments for multiple hazards.

b) Promote disaster risk reduction measures as a public good.

c) Democratize technology using open science policy and forums.

d) Build a regional social innovation ecosystem that links the multi sectoral approaches for disaster risk reduction together.

e) Deepen regional cooperation for integrated disaster early warning systems in South Asia.

Social and Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) in collaboration with RIPA 24th July 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Topics on communication and selection of channels for communicating the message.

b) Need to emphasize on how to use the gained knowledge for DRR as per the results of the poll taken where less than half of them have recorded the correct options.

c) More time should be spent to give and discuss department specific example on application of SBCC to DRR.

d) Include specific and clear examples of various types of communication that should be included in the 'application' module of 30 minutes.

e) More time should be given for department specific interactive discussions as mentioned previously.

Zero Incidence and Preventive Culture in the Industry in collaboration with Carl Duisberg Centren (CDC) Training Made in Germany, 24th July 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Need to ensure a zero-incidence type of culture in the Industry and also to create a separate forum only to decide near misses.

b) Need to focus on the high standards of safety and focus on the prevention of even a small disaster. There is also a need to create a culture to discuss various issues of managing any disaster.

c) For achieving safety excellence, every industry should strive for zero accidents and that means there is a need for zero tolerance culture for any disaster from top management to the bottom employee.

d) Need to have proper safety for Industrial units, which deal with chemicals.

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) The challenges in vaccine development include understanding the mechanism of disease causing microbes, time needed for clinical trials, ensuring safety, quality and efficacy of the vaccine , ensuring long term protection from the vaccine and mutation of virus.

b) Corona virus isn't the only disease we have to worry about now we also need to put up a process for development of vaccines for future pandemics like Ebola, Marburg Virus disease, Lassa fever, SARs, Nipah, Zika, Monkey pox, Rift Valley Fever etc.

c) Routine Immunization services should be made a part of essential services.

d) Measles is flaring round in Bangladesh, Brazil, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Nepal, Nigeria and Uzbekistan. Diphtheria is appearing in Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal Cholera is appearing in South Sudan, Cameroon, Mozambique, Yemen and Bangladesh. Mutated Strain of Poliovirus has been reported in 30 countries.

e) If immunization process is halted then the progress made by administering of immunization may be at risk of getting reversed.

COVID 19: Facts about Immunity with Special Focus on Children, 24th July 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) The basic concept and types of immunity and discussed about impact of Covid-19 on children's life style.

b) Role of kitchen herbs and basic dietary TIPS in boosting immunity.

c) Identification of child's low immunity, positive emotions and a healthy lifestyle.

Well being of Women and Children in time of COVID-19, 25th July 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Psychological first aid for ventilation of all negative forces that act from within [depression, anger, anxiety mainly caused by negative thoughts, illusion, imagination or over inclusive thinking etc].

b) Life style modification through health counseling, Family counseling, Career counseling with a special focus on scholastic aspects for children.

c) Enhancement of emotional intelligence [by constant practice of self-awareness through SWOC [T], self-motivation through SMART, self-management through psycho physical exercises like yoga, other forms of relaxation beginning with pranayama Empathy in course of time to be tapered off.

Channelizing Energy of Children during School Closures, 26th July 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Manifestation of outward behavior in children and how it reflects the child negatively acting in the external environment was discussed. It also discussed that problems centrally affect the child's internal psychological environment more rather than the external world.

b) Some symptoms like anxious, socially withdrawn, Irritable, Jealous, bed wetting, nightmares, reduced energy, lethargy, somatic complaints, over controlled behaviors and teenage suicide due to external and internal behavioral changes was also discussed.

c) The problem of obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) in children characterized by uncontrollable, unwanted thoughts and ritualized repetitive behaviours was explained.

d) Attention-deficit / hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) behavioral disorder with three key aspects, inattention, hyperactivity, and impulsivity was explained. It affects home life and school and can have a significant impact on a child's academic success and their relationships. It's a full-time, often challenging, disorder, which can go beyond bad behavior and problems at school and may have an impact on every aspect of life.

Urban Earthquake Risk Mitigation, 27th July 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) More sharing of dialogue and exchange of plans required between earthquake community, technical communities and social community. This allows the integration of all the layers of maps into urban planning and thus, implementation on ground level.

b) Good governance with equal people's participation will be the key to improve resilience.

c) High density very good quality structures are solution for Indian urban areas with appropriate land development mechanism.

d) High migration to the cities also causes decreasing economic resilience and might affect in many aspects making the effect more severe and likely to be spread far away from just cities.

e) Importance of building earthquake resilient infrastructures, correct follows up of building regulations, and urgency of registered authorized structural engineers or planners.

Cyclones and Storm Surges, 28th July, 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) IMD and NIDM will further enhance the forecasting abilities that will help to acquaint the occurrence of Hydro-Meteorological events in advance with more precision and will aid the relevant stakeholders and communities to take the appropriate prevention and mitigation measures.

b) Improvements in forecasting cyclones and issuing early warnings to the public need more attention as both coastal populations and the occurrence of extreme storms continue to rise.

c) NIDM, IMD, other govt. institutions and NGOs should come together to create a better warning dissemination system to reach to the people and save life from natural disasters.

d) NDMA and NIDM should also work on developing better policies regarding dissemination of information.

e) Preparation of emergency action and evacuation plans at grass root level is the need of the hour to reduce or eliminate casualties and property losses.

Role of Geospatial Mapping in Managing Pandemic: Applications and Interventions for Resilience, 28th July 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Availability of high-resolution spatial data needs to be ensured without comprising the national security.

b) Need for capacity building for application of geospatial technology in departments and authorities related to developmental projects.

c) Collaboration between medical professionals and spatial scientists needs to be abridged for improvement of public health scenario.

d) Data records needs to be maintained uniformly across the nation for effective analysis.

e) Privacy issues and spatial aggregation needs to be looked after.

f) Internet based geospatial mapping should also be mainstreamed for ease of use and accessibility.

g) Use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) for collection and mapping of data at micro-level.

h) Need for developing disaggregated database at micro-levels for impact assessment of disasters like that of the ongoing pandemic.

Global Webinar Series: Environment and Emergencies in the face of COVID-19 in collaboration with UNEP, OCHA, 29th July 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) The webinar covered different aspects of readiness for and response to the environmental dimensions of emergencies in a global pandemic context (from coordination and assessments to waste management).

b) Waste management do not work especially when we are dealing with health emergencies because the waste also contain lot of hazardous components infectious waste and we need to have a very specific strategy drawn much in advance in place.

c) Humanitarians are not always doing that well when it comes to the environment its quite often an afterthought something that's neglected during first phases of the emergency when the focus is quite rightly on saving lives and alleviating suffering.

d) Strengthened role in complex emergencies.

e) Enhanced remote support to overcome access constraints.

f) Covid-19 opportunity gains-

- Increased use of online platforms and environmental geospatial data.
- Strengthened remote assessment and analysis capacity.

COVID-19, Stress Management and Mental Wellbeing in Collaboration with Invertis University, Bareilly, UP, 30th July, 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Sensitized with respect to mental wellbeing & increasing factors of stress during Covid-19 and its efficient management.

b) Information shared about specific key trouble areas with respect to the digital addiction, leadership, emotional wellness, behavioral changes & stress management practices by mediation.

c) Knowledge dissemination about digital Technology induced stress management, spirituality in managing stress, role of positive attitude in mental wellbeing, Sudarshan Kriya Yoga & various meditation techniques.

Climate Science Popularization for Public Safety, 31st July, 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Integration of climate science and environment education in curriculum, particularly from primary level.

b) Information dissemination must be jargon free and use of basic understandable language must be encouraged for better understanding.

c) Connection between climate scientists and communities needed to strengthened.

d) Public safety against extreme weather events needs to enhanced by improving user awareness, user understanding and user faith.

e) Training and capacity building of the communities/public and stakeholders throughout the years and not only when the disasters are likely to occur or have occurred.

f) Use of regional languages considering the fact that India has diverse language, for early warning for multi hazard and for crisp, clear and easy to understand risk warnings/communications.

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Employer –Migrant employee relationship has been impacted due to non-payment of wages during the COVID-19 pandemic.

b) COVID-19 has impacted the life and livelihood of migrant workers family that has affected their nutrition, economic and mental health.

c) Economic support must be provided to vulnerable migrant population and Initiation of migrant smart card facilities.

d) Social workers have a major role to play in addressing the immediate needs and providing long term interventions for their sustainable development.

e) The Interstate Migrant Workmen Act needs to be revisited and a separate ministry for migration and financial crises of the country must be established.

f) Proper facilities must be provided at the place of employment and health care needs must be addressed.

g) Economy model of development is mostly focused on urban centers in the country. This needs to be decentralized.

h) Governance is a joint venture; hence Government, civil society and communities must collaborate in generating sustainable livelihood.

i) Situational analysis is needed to develop effective policy for migrant workers and their livelihood generation measures.

j) Civil societies too have a responsibility in taking care of the migrants, central and state government's interventions alone cannot suffice the needs of the population.

Social and Behavioural Change Communication (SBCC) in collaboration with SIPARD, 31st July 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Use of local channel and local news in the affected area may be added to the list of channels.

b) A suggestion was received to include types of promotion and other related communication with e-commerce strategies along with a discussion on grapevine and gossip. Accordingly, it is recommended to include a short discussion on rumor handling with inputs on disinformation and misinformation.

c) Participants have suggested adding best practices in trainings so that these can be replicated in other states.

d) Since participants represented several departments (Education, Health, Rural Development Engineering, civil defence, etc.) more time should be spent to give and discuss department specific examples on application of SBCC to DRR.

Teaching & Empowering Young Minds in Era of Uncertainity , 1st Aug, 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Considerable risks in the fields of education, employment, mental health and disposable income during Covid -19.

b) Lack of physical learning opportunities and economic distress are increasing the risk of disengagement and dropout from education and training.

c) Explanation about the pandemic impact on the well-being of vulnerable youth, in particular for youth with special educational needs (e.g. disabled people) and those relying on the social and emotional support services provided by schools, as well as school meals for a reliable source of daily nutrition.

d) Discussed that the impact of the crisis on the psycho-social and subjective well-being of young people also depends on the household they live in and individual circumstances such as prospects of job and income losses; housing quality; the illness or loss of loved ones; and the presence of existing medical conditions and vulnerable persons in the household.

Climate Change and Extreme Weather Events, 4th Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Apart from improving our early warning capabilities and dissemination systems, we need to focus on Information Education Communication (IEC) activities and NIDM has a big role in fulfilling this goal.

b) Need to consider land-Use planning and zoning with utmost priority and it will enable planners to incorporate additional risk reduction strategies into planning decisions as DRR has become a priority for institutions and incorporation into specific legislation.

c) Need to focus on Community based disaster Management (CBDM) as the capacity of the communities to take warning issued and act promptly is not adequate.

d) Need to implement adequate risk management and emergency management strategies to prepare for and respond to these challenges.

Community Resilience: Community Outreach Programme (COP), 4th Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Communities being the first responders in case of disaster outbreaks need to be trained the basic lifesaving skills and techniques.

b) Capacity needs to be developed at household level to reduce the dependency on national and state authorities during disasters.

c) Awareness programmes about disaster risks and safety issues needs to be conducted to make the communities more vigilant.

d) Community outreach programmes/workshops needs to be carried out for Disaster Risk Management Planning at local levels.

e) Conduct of mock drills for community responders to build and strengthen the culture of community resilience and safety.

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Women are major contributors, recognizing them as agents of change will help our children and society safer.

b) Involve women in making, execution, implementation of all policies.

c) 90% of the crime against children is taking place by the person they trust or the closest member to the child. Need of Zero tolerance toward child abuse cases in India should be key and disaster management team to take all measures to alleviate to help people come out of such disaster. Success is possible only when we all work together to protect our children. There is need to learn the problem thoroughly before we make any execution and have a fully effective plan considering the sensitivity and secrecy of the issue surrounding children.

d) Lack of awareness is a major drawback and knowledge of child abuse and child rights should become a part of school curriculum for children to become empowered.

e) Impunity is the key in creating a safe community for women and children. Regulatory functioning systems should replace reactive systems.

f) Centralized database and technologies should be created to prevent and curb human trafficking at an earlier stage.

g) Communities should identify representative or voices that will have contribute to whistle blowing and accountability.

h) Judiciary being a powerful weapon should act justly and instantly to combat this crime. Speedy disposal of cases will send clear messages to offenders to stop the crime.

COVID-19 and Education in Emergencies, 7ᵗʰ Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) School should not be a place of control and Teachers should be the role model & emphasize the child to learn; not to read.

b) Control the child by commitment; not by threat.

c) Ban harsh criticism and focus on strengths.

d) Allow kids to fail and built perseverance.

e) Helping kids find their passion and set goals.

COVID-19 Impacting School Dropouts, 7ᵗʰ Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Impact of Covid -19 on education sector such as dropouts, no exams, mismanagement of working capital, paying capacity of parents, unavailability of resource and carrier Compromise.

b) Major issues faced by the school during pandemic situation such as inequality among children, Lack of readiness and infrastructure for teachers and How e-learning impact as a burden on parents.

c) Consequences of school dropouts on school children like fear and infertility complex, lack of confidence, dissatisfaction in relationships and personal acceptance.

d) The impact of Covid-19 on gender and dropouts and how the girls were excluded from access to technology. Expert also explained that poorest girls and those living in rural areas have much less access to technology than boys and girls in wealthier or urban households.

e) Focus on disabled students' various requirements, needing to give equal status and respect to special educators, empowering parents so that they are able to learn new technology and support their children, providing hardware support like computers/tabs to disabled students and exploring other teaching mediums such as television and community radio.

Role of guardians and teachers in de-stressing children through science and spirituality in association with Dada Ramchand Bakhru Sindhu Mahavidyalaya Nagpur, 8ᵗʰ Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Some elements such as body, swasthya, buddhi, memory ahankarchetna and their role in stress management were discussed.

b) It was discussed that how trust factor help to make resilience in stress management and explained about the coping mechanism to reduce stress of people through using meditation, listening to good music, fun etc.

c) Four types of indicators for measurement of stress such as behavioural indicators, emotional indicator, sleep indicator and personal habits of students was explained.

d) The relationship with the transcendent or sacred has a strong influence on a people's beliefs, attitudes, emotions and behaviour. Populations, communities, families and individuals.

Industrial – Chemical Safety and Emergency Management: Emerging Trends and Issues, 10ᵗʰ Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Need to explore new technology options and validate the creative solution.

b) Need to carry out a periodic risk assessment.

c) Tracking of vehicles and pipelines carrying petrochemical or other chemicals is important to ensure no accidental disaster takes place.

d) More training and capacity building of the workers is required to make them aware about the industrial safety and chemical handling.

e) Need for centralized fire fighting brigade which is capable of looking after different types of chemicals.

f) Collaboration within a cluster for safety investment is required.

g) Need for harmonization of codes related to chemicals and hazardous substances.

Motivational Talks for Children in Conflict With Law in Times of COVID-19 10th Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Highlighted the issues of children who are detained in a juvenile home and suggest to share issues and challenges to each other in the homes.

b) Advised more involvement of juvenile children in yoga, exercise for immunity and self-development.

c) Explained about types of stress and mental health issues during a pandemic and advised to give motivational talk regularly to detained children.

d) Emphasized more awareness and motivational activity provide to these children.

Earthquake Monitoring and Management in Collaboration with National Centre for Seismology, 11th Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Need to implement the hazard-zonation reports that have been prepared of an area. Usually the utility of the report is not use to its maximum capability.

b) Need to strengthen the network of earthquake monitoring system to reduce the lead time for earthquake forecasting.

c) Need to enhance our technological driven capacity besides strict implementation of building bye-laws to reduce and mitigate the impacts of earthquake on our communities as well built environment.

d) Need to focus on research on earthquake engineering is still required even in countries with low to moderate seismic activities.

Mental Well-being of the first Responders of Covid-19 in Collaboration with International Justice Mission (IJM), 13th Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Mental well-being is not just the absence of mental illnesses but it is realization and utilization of one's full potential.

b) The best source of support comes from family and community. As first responders, we need it and ensure the model is built in the society.

c) Studies show that first responders are affected with depression, anxiety, stress and insomnia. Many first responders feel they are responsible for their family and community to get contracted with Covid.

d) Many first responders are now getting addicted to smoking & alcoholism due to pressure, isolation, fear of job loss if availed leave or refuse to work due to fear.

e) Need to take intentional measures to keep ourselves feeling positive.

f) Focus on things that you can control and refrain from things that you can't control to stay positive.

g) It is our responsibility to take care of our own mental well-being and also to seek support from external sources to have good mental health.

h) Creating support systems/buddy groups that would fit for first responders will be beneficial and act as a key strategy for good mental well-being.

Be the Reason a Women and Child Thrives, 14th Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) End discrimination against women in marriage, divorce and custody laws.

b) Develop and resource national plans and policies to address violence against women.

c) Provide comprehensive services, sensitize and train health care providers in responding to the needs of survivors holistically and empathetically.

d) Prevent recurrence of violence through early identification of women and children promote egalitarian gender norms as part of life skills and comprehensive sexuality education curricula taught to young people.

e) Women should be ready to alleviate their poverty of mind in the process of executing their psychological strength empowerment cannot be attained by breaking our cultural and spiritual values.

f) Coping strategies like endurance, amputation of unwanted behavior, tackling problems with willpower, determination & discipline, creating a support system without emotional dependency.

g) Break assignments into manageable pieces and be firm and consistent with homework rules. Be aware of his anxiety level.

Disability inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction (DiDRR) in New Normal: Policies and Local Level Interventions, 17th Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Building back the physical, social and economic infrastructure according to the needs of disability after any disaster.

b) Participation of the Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) in decision-making process and the need for revisiting of the existing policies and guidelines.

c) Geo-tagging and updated database of PwDs should be developed at local levels for facilitation of services and response.

d) Incorporation of telemedicine for the disabled at both the urban and rural areas.

e) Involvement of caregivers and handlers as front-line workers in disaster response especially in the context of ongoing pandemic.

f) Strengthening of institutions for persons with disabilities at grassroots level.

g) Inclusion of assessment of needs of disabled persons during the post-disaster scenario.

h) Development of disability-friendly technological solutions and advancements like customized android phones, use of DAISY technology, etc.

Landslide Risk Reduction and Resilience in collaboration with Geological Survey of India, 18th Aug, 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Need of awareness of various risks that are involved in an area with respect to landslide which will help to act towards risk reduction and resilience such as landslide risk insurance, capacity building down to the village level, green corridors to minimize construction and urbanization, landslide mitigation structures etc.

b) There should be an involvement of the local people as communities are the first responder to any disaster events especially in landslides in hilly areas due to remoteness of these regions.

c) Local innovation needs to be harnessed and integrated with new technologies wherever possible while strengthening early warning and communication system.

d) NIDM need to focus in sharing of knowledge and information in local language to reach to the communities residing in remote areas with limited understanding of Hindi and English language.

Re-examining Urban Green Spaces: A step towards Resilient and Sustainable Cities, 19th Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Incorporation of vulnerability and risk assessment, assessing the city scale and its needs, learning from ancient and modern planned cities and mainstreaming disaster risk reduction in urban planning.

b) Micro level interventions should be incorporated at neighborhood level in order to increase green cover, which involve increasing per capita green space, revisions in design practices and increasing green plot ratio.

c) Building resilience of urban and rural areas in collective manner with policy coordination, stakeholder engagement, urban rural partnership, community awareness and management of technological intervention.

d) Need of new urban development paradigm with focus on access to core services, affordable housing, multipurpose public spaces, integrated green and blue spaces and increasing city regional planning with more focus on granular aspects.

Global Webinar Series: Environmental Coordination in emergencies: Localization and Lockdown Challenges in collaboration with UNEP, OCHA, 19th Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Covid-19 pandemic is a reminder that human health is deeply linked to planets health. If we want to prevent future outbreaks we must address the threats to ecosystem.

b) Environmental emergencies like oil spill, pollution of rivers with toxic chemicals, explosion at factories, they are big media headlines and mass public protests take place. It is the responsibility of the State, Nation & the world to prevent these as quickly as possible first of all from happing and second to deal with quickly.

c) Both aid and aid actors arrive where they are needed at the time that they are needed.

d) Environmental degradation, pollution can directly contribute to or cause crises.

e) The response can damage the environment if not designed carefully, do not harm principle.

f) Despite challenges LAC is receptive to international humanitarian corporation.

g) To raise awareness on the importance of EE in rapid response to save lives, to integrate EE into the priorities in UNDAC missions.

In Line with SDG's Goal No. 5 and PM's Agenda Point No. 3 Changing Meanings of Safety for Women during the Lockdowns, 19th Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Domestic Violence against women can result in injuries and serious physical, mental, sexual, and reproductive health problems, sexually transmitted infections, HIV, and unplanned pregnancies.

b) It was suggested to publicize toll free help lines for domestic violence survivors; counseling and medical support; easy access to police, courts and lawyers/female panel lawyers.

c) Need of providing economic support to informal/migrant women and routine healthcare check-ups in the red light areas and relief packages for sex workers.

World Humanitarian Day- A Celebration of COVID-19 Warriors in Collaboration Sphere India, 19th Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendation:

a) Celebrate and remember the volunteers/humanitarian workers for boosting their morale and to raise public awareness about the work done by them.

b) Prioritize vulnerable sections of society like women, children, elderly and minorities, in humanitarian activities.

c) Collaborate with national, state, panchayat level organizations and authorities, and utilizing vernacular languages in field work

d) Decide future actions in cahoots with local partners to have a collaborative future plan of action.

Disaster and Human Trafficking Dimensions, Challenges, Responses in collaboration with International Justice Mission, 20th Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendation:

a) Importans to recognize the works of 1st responder, the true heroes- the government officials, police, medical professionals, front line workers who put your life at risk containing this crisis which is truly a heroic act!

b) Strengthened and effective local Government, justice system, and law enforcement will be the best solution to ensure safety to the vulnerable.

c) Stop the trafficker to stop the Human Trafficking. Stop the trafficker to exploit the vulnerable. This will enable greater chance for citizens to thrive in freedom with safety and protection.

d) Traffickers need to be identified and the victims also need to be identified, removed and to be provided with needed care. It is important not to lose sight of rehabilitation opportunities available for the victims for restoration.

e) Implement effective child protection unit with experts, improved quality of investigation, and effective supervision of cases through software will lead to just convictions.

f) Cross border entry system needs to be strictly monitored and controlled. Re-victimization should not happen and it should be countered/ prevented. There is a high need for proper data/ research / tracking system on the subject. Lack of coordination between departments to be addressed and needs convergence for rehabilitation to be holistic.

g) Knowing that Human Trafficking is possible, the community has to build their resilience in much advance. Awareness should be at community level for being resilient. Leaders in the community should become the protectors of their community members during disaster.

Mental Well Being and Behavioral Change Communication, 20th Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) The participants were able to understand the Biological disaster, Epidemic and Pandemic.

b) The Guidelines of NDMA were discussed.

c) The Physiological vulnerability during covid

d) The meaning behind flattening the curve of Covid.

PM Agenda Point 8: Build Local Capacities and Initiatives Adolescents Volunteers Rise to the Challenge of COVID-19 in collaboration with Chitkara University H.P, 21st Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) YIF (Young India Fellowship) alumnus (Ashoka University, Sonipat, India) has made remarkable contributions towards COVID-19 relief measures by working with the Delhi Government to establish over 400 relief centres.

b) 17 year old a high schooler in Washington State, USA, He launched the website, called nCoV2019.live in early January 2020.

c) Doing many volunteer activities at once can distract students from focusing on their academic performance. Since some social activities require volunteers to commit a significant amount of time to join meetings or even travel to different places, students are often left with less ability to concentrate on their school assignments, exams or presentations.

d) Volunteering without clear objectives does not lead to much good. Since every social initiative has a different purpose, one should ask what skills or experiences he/she wants to gain.

e) The disadvantage of volunteerism is that it takes away personal time and can put volunteers in a distressed situation. Time constraint, physical tiredness, conflicts among team members and lack of incentives put volunteers in stress.

f) Doing one social activity at a time allows us to take some time off from the already heavy burdens. Children have at school or works to do other activities that could also help us learn and grow personally, including reading, playing sports, eating our favorite foods or even sleeping. Second and last, we should set clear objectives before we volunteer for any project.

In Line With SDG's Goal No.4 and PM's Agenda Point No. 8: Reopening of Schools: Challenges & Opportunities, 22nd Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Discussed about the various issues like continuity of learning; E-learning system and inaccessibility to under privileged children and safeguard of children after opening.

b) Explained short term, Intermediate and long term plan and strategy for reopening of school. Experts also advised to consider health education is necessary for safety of the children.

c) Highlighted the case study others countries about the reopening of school.

d) Emphasized on ensure safe school operation and suggested to update School elementary and contingency plans with proper implementation of hygiene practices.

e) Suggested to established procedure for students and staff become unwell and promotes information sharing among children, parents and their caregivers. He also suggested to adopting school policies according to situation.

Climate Change Adaptation options in Agriculture: Science and Innovation in collaboration with Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agriculture University, 24th Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Many agricultural practices both traditional as well as scientific innovations can be used to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases thus reducing the impact of global warming on climate change.

b) While ensuring food security, nutritional security should be ensured.

c) Farmers should be assisted to cope up with climatic risks.

d) Along with sequestering atmospheric carbon, restoration of degraded/decertified soils/lands is also important in mitigating climate change.

e) A dense network of observatories including the AWS (Automatic Weather System) is the key requirement to implement to reach to the end user.

f) Technologies should be implemented to the ground level and also to educate the farmers on the same.

g) Climate change should be linked with market and development process.

h) Different challenges related to crop production process like storage, processing, transportation, etc. should be a priority while dealing with agriculture sector management.

Prime Minister's 10 Point Agenda No. 8: All Developed sectors imbibe principles of Disaster Risk Management: Build on Local Capacity & Initiatives, Comprehensive Disaster Management, 24th Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Improved the understanding of disaster risk, hazards and vulnerability.

b) Discussed future pathways S&T innovations, policy paradigm shifts and measures.

c) Sanitized participants about various facts of DM cycles.

d) Sanitized about preparedness measures, leading to quick recovery from disasters with minimum suffering and loss of life.

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Need to develop advanced preparedness, mitigation and response plan to reduce the impact of disaster event.

b) Need to enhance the near Real-Time Decision Support for Disaster Management caused by Hydro-Meteorological Hazards namely thunder storms, lightening, cyclone, storm surges, cloud burst and floods etc.

c) Collaboration and coordination between organizations in pre-disaster situations needs to be strengthened.

d) Local innovation needs to be harnessed and integrated with new technologies wherever possible while strengthening early warning and communication system.

e) Need to promote utilization of social media for quick response and rescue measures helping in adapting to vulnerable situation.

Pathways to Manage Cascading Risks and Protect People, 26th Aug 2020

National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM), Ministry of Home/Government of India and UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) jointly with the SAARC TB and HIV/AIDS Centre (STAC) and BIMSTEC Centre for Weather and Climate Centre (BCWC) organized the webinar on pathways to manage cascading risks and protect people on August 26, 2020 at10:30-12:00 hrs (New Delhi). This second webinar in the series aimed to bring together the hazard science community and the health science community in the context of assessing and understanding the challenges and success in building short term and long-term scenarios for cascading risks to inform policy making in multiple economic and social sectors.

The panelists for the following webinar included Prof K Vijayaraghavan, Pricipal Scientific Advisor, GoI; Maj Gen. M K Bindal, Ed, NIDM, Prof Santosh Kumar, NIDM, Dr Bibek Kumar Lal, Director, SAARC TB and HIV/AIDS Centre, Kathmandu, Nepal; Dr Ashis Mitra, Scientist-G BIMSTEC BCWC; Ms Tiziana Bonapace, Director, ICT& DRR,UNESCAP; Ms Madhavi Ariyabandhu, Director, Duryog Nivaran, Sri Lanla; Dr Edmond Fernandes, CEO,CHD Group, Mangalore; Dr Roderico H.Ofrin, Regional Coordinator, WHO; Mr B.D.Gautam, JS,MoFAGA, Govt of Nepal; Dr Nagesh Kumar, Director, UNESCAP_SRO SSWA. Total numbers of participants were 185.

Prime Minister's 10-Point Agenda No. 9: 60th Anniversary of the M6.0 Delhi Earthquake, Urban Context: Building Earthquake Resilience, 27th Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Not to forget the lessons we learn from our past events and incorporate as much as possible.

b) Good governance with equal people's participation, preparedness at community level will be the key to improve resilience.

c) Not to wait for another disaster to build better infrastructure rather proper planning, integration of updated maps and use of proper networking technology beforehand.

d) Importance of building earthquake resilient infrastructures, correct follows up of building regulations, and urgency of registered authorized structural engineers or planners.

e) Sustainable urbanization in multi-hazard scenario is the key to build resilience.

f) Enhancing Disaster Resilience is not a personal choice but a collective imperative and need to keep on pushing time and again on various levels.

Transgender and Disaster in collaboration with International Justice Mission 27th Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Fear of discrimination and rejection had placed Transgender community more vulnerable. Social security schemes needs to focus on these vulnerable group. Need for inclusion of their voices in planning and policy making. The laws and schemes should translate into actions.

b) National Council which is established under the Transgender (Protection of Rights) Act has strong members now who can raise their voices of their needs and desires.

c) Capacity building of the Transgender Community is focused for ownership and their empowerment, to see changes sooner according to the Act- an initiative of National Institute of Social Defense.

d) Transgender community face challenges in their own Family, for Education, unemployment, health issues, legal & social issues. Deaths and suicides are at rise among the Transgender community and many are due to mental health issues due to COVID situation.

e) Ensuring food security, endowment of financial aid by recruiting, access to health care needs, shelter security, sanitation needs to be prioritized. Access to documentation for an identity proof should come through a single window system that would help them to receive the benefits without any hassle.

f) Improve or amend corporate sectors gender policies to stop denial of jobs, promotions. Improve knowledge about Transgender among public and private sectors.

g) Sensitization is important and plays crucial role to have understanding and clearing myths. It should begin at early age at school and educational institutions. Need for a Government Order to create safer place rather than just a circular.

h) There is no excuse from not getting involved to support the Transgender community. Follow the 3I principle- Involve to tell them that they are not invisible by being kind, Involve in their life to know more about them to support and If you are in a place of Influence, bring changes for a small change matters.

i) The National Council formed under the act will give more opportunities for the Transgender community to voice out at decision and policy making level.

Current COVID-19 Situation in Delhi: Management and Challenges in collaboration with DDMA New Delhi, 27th Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) The initiative taken by, website for ministry of health, Indian council of medical research, National Centre for Disease Control from the month of February the guideline was prepared.

b) How government was successful in providing of ration to all needy during pandemic.

c) Operation shield was prepared to give a shape to the guideline prepared by ministry of Health focusing on home quarantine, isolation & contact tracing, essentials, local sanitation and door checking.

d) The lockdown period was explained in chronological order.

e) Major challenges were lack of supplier; patient was not able to go to the hospital due to risk of COVID, ill treatment towards doctors.

f) The medicines are being delivered to the patients at doorsteps and consultation is given at every district headquarter.

g) Plasma bank was initiated to help complicated Corona cases.

h) State vs. Country comparison was show through bar graph highlighting (total recovery cases and mortality data).

i) 5t Plan of COVID -19 was presented.

j) "Home Isolation" was initiated by the government, which gradually reduced the overcrowding situation in the hospitals.

k) Food security was provided by the government and delivered to the public. Hunger center were open for the public where they were entitled to food.

l) Shelter home was build for public who were stranded in pandemic and it was ensured that no community transfer of disease would take place.

m) Mandatory quarantine for 7 days was made who were migrated back to the city by spreading the words to the pharmacy, Asha-worker and agandwadi.

n) The stakeholder was given induction during the pandemic, because just one authority cannot control it. Thus help was extended from RWA, Schoolteacher, Asha worker, and agandwadi and market association.

Prime Minister's 10 Point Agenda No. 1: All development sectors must Imbibe the Principals of Disaster Risk Management Child Friendly Smart Cities, 28th Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Recognition of rights of children: Policy makers need to abide by the requirement and actively work towards promoting children inclusive projects and planning processes.

b) Implementation at various scales: It is vital to the process that children and youth participated at various scales from neighborhood to ward, municipality and further at the city and policy level, so they are successfully implemented.

c) Monitoring: The subject of monitoring and a more detailed evaluation through a set of tools is essential to guide the projects and better understand the effects on ground.

d) Budget Allocation: Allocation of a certain budget, even though small, is always appreciated and gives a stake and sense of ownership to the neighborhood, town or city where the project is undertaken.

e) Child Leaders: Helping children and youth become child leaders within their peer groups gives good results. It gives children a role model whom they can relate to, and also gives them a sense that their ideas are being taken up more actively in the community.

In Line with SDG Goal No. 4 & 16 and Hon'ble Prime Minister's 10 Point Agenda No. 7 & 9: Parents-Teachers-Children Continuum & Challenges of COVID-19, 28th Aug 2020
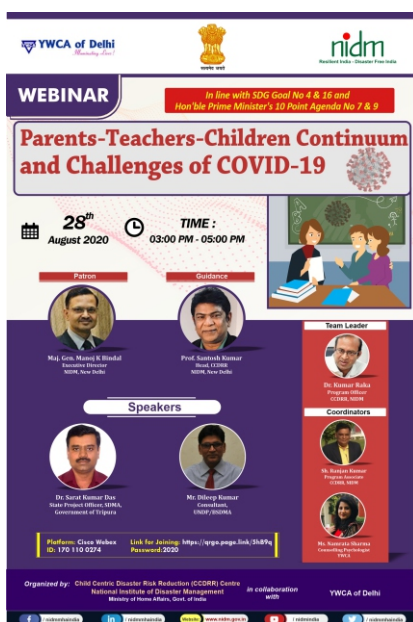
Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Explained about the gaps in schooling lead to drop outs at critical transitions between educational levels, and can lower the progression of the most disadvantaged children through the school system.

b) Suggested to use of a low-tech and effective intervention of radio may help to mitigate learning loss when it is combined with outreach from teachers, provision of learning materials, and interactive content including in emergency settings for the learning continuum from kindergarten to secondary schooling.

c) Suggested to develop system working with different stakeholders to safely deliver or allow families to pick up a basic package of learning materials, including books and writing materials and also provide e-learning material to student and send text messages to parents for promoting reading and learning skills of Children.

d) Highlighted the new education policy and guideline for continuum of learning of children.

e) Advised to develop integrated strategy for bridging learning loss for students from poorer households during COVID-19 involves structured support from teachers, school leaders, community leaders, and school.

In Line with SDG Goal No. 8 & 16 and Hon'ble PM's Agenda Point No. 2 & 8: COVID-19 & Child Labour: An Emerging Concern, 29th Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 and discussed how the law 'prohibits' the employment of children as well as adolescents in all hazardous occupations and processes in alignment with the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009.

b) Magnitude of Child and Adolescent Labour during Covid-19 was also discussed.

c) Causal factors of pandemic such as Poverty, Social exception, lack of decent work opportunities for adults, migration, emergencies and lack of educational opportunities and lack of quality education and its consequence of Social inequities and discrimination and lack of socio-economic and legal protection was explained.

d) Strengthed preparedness and response through early intervention and ensuring comprehensive social protection measures (both provisions and access),ensure every child's access to education, strengthen child protection mechanism including child labour legislation and reinforcement.

Prime Minister's 10-Point Agenda No. 8: Build on Local Capacity and initiative to enhance disaster Risk Reduction Webinar on Seismic Activity in Champhai District, Mizoram: Experiences and Initiatives, 31st Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Structural complexity and the ongoing convergence of plates in both N-S and E-W direction make this area highly prone to Earthquakes.

b) Local vernacular housing of Mizoram is safer than the masonry structures which showed cracks and damages during the Champhai earthquake event. The Assam type vernacular housing should be promoted in this region for building resilience.

c) Need of seismic instrumentation and robust geological and soil data for real time monitoring and seismic studies in Mizoram facing large number of earthquakes.

d) Improving construction practices and regular maintenance are must with strengthening of present infrastructures.

Prime Minister's 10 Point Agenda Point No. 2: Risk coverage must include all starting from poor households to SMEs to multi-national corporations to nation states: DRR 15th Finance Commission, 1st Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Recommended to conduct half-day workshop with all state government on 15th FC recommendation to have in-depth discussion on various recommendation from finance commission, implementation and way-forward.

b) NIDM would organize half day workshop on the 15th FC and it would be part of PM's 10-point agenda to build financial resilience.

c) NIDM and SIDM plays a huge role and support in the implementation of the Finance Commission recommendation.

d) NIDM could support in capacity building in risk financing and insurance tools, as department specific capacity building.

e) There should be research with most vulnerable sections to insure them and there should be risk shared modeling.

f) The under the PM's Agenda point 2 we need to focus on lives, livelihoods and assets for the people who are from BPL / APL segments, landless laborers, migrant workers, etc Also, government assets and government infrastructure.

Prime Minister 10 Point Agenda No. 5: Leveraging on Technology to enhance the efficiency of the Disaster Risk Management effort webinar on Tsunami Risk Reduction and Resilience in collaboration with National Centre for Ocean information services (INCOIS), Ministry of Earth Science, 1st Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) In tsunami disaster prevention, each coastal area needs specific counter measures such as construction of sea walls, evacuation routes, etc.

b) In order to promote tsunami counter measures suitable for each coastal areas by comprehensive planning under the coordination of the concerned organizations.

c) Jointly developed "Guidance for Tsunami Countermeasures in Disaster Prevention local plan" for tsunami disaster prevention and the process of making such plans.

d) Need to develop coastal multi hazard vulnerability.

e) Coastal risk assessment at building level.

f) Promote tsunami ready programme which is a community performance based programme.

g) Probabilistic tsunami hazard assessment for North Western Indian Ocean.

Reverse Migration and Best Practices in collaboration with International Justice Mission, 3rd Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Migrant workers pay both entry and exit costs when they decide to migrate to urban areas. As part of entry cost, migrant workers accept the jobs which are hazardous, risky, and low paid, with adverse conditions and continue to work to fulfill the necessities of households.

b) Re-reverse migration had begun from source to destination states in the recent unlock phase as job availabilities are scarce in their native states. 67% of individuals migrate in seek of employment opportunities.

c) MGNREGA will be an option to provide opportunities of employment to the returned migrants post pandemic. Estimated 44.10% of laborers either lost their jobs, or evicted by land lords or not paid with their wages.

d) Need for a credential database that can help mitigate these challenges by helping the Government to identify, track and manage skills for work requirement.

e) Increase in the incidence of child and adolescent labor within and outside the family. Many are pushed towards poverty trap and hunger leading to lower Human Development Index.

f) The informal sector is the hardest hit during this pandemic. Construction, women in garment factories. 4/10 women affected by job loss during covid increasing debt and uncertainties. There is a drastic decline in women work force participation as they had to focus on the family.

g) A CDC approach will be effective- Collaborate: CSO with Government; Decentralize: local panchayats/ NRLM/ SHGs/ Village level volunteers and local level people responded crucially &converge: convergence between all the relevant stakeholders.

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) India's exposure to climate change impacts and major challenges were highlighted.

b) What the INCCA Report has found impacting the Forest and natural ecosystem, human health and reduced agricultural productivity.

c) Climate Change and Coastal Resources (UNFCC) and its uses.

d) Important concepts like measuring environmental impact (Exposure, sensitivity, adaptive capacity, vulnerability and resilience) were explained.

e) Current global data showed that COVID-19 transmission dynamics are far more complex with the multi factorial effects exerted by numerous influencers.

f) Susceptible, Asymptomatic, Reduce contact time with index cases with SARs was discussed.

g) National Digital Health Mission (NDHM) initiation was highlighted.

h) Union Territories and its linkages with COVID-19 where Lakshadweep has got zero cases was a major case study.

i) Lakshadweep's early preparedness of health facility and government initiative like e-jagaratha portal, which was launched for the students were discussed.

j) Quarantine facilities, dual protection strategy, cautious governance, e-portal comprehensive solution was launched, systematic investment in strengthening health infrastructure in Lakshadweep.

Takeaways/Recommendations

a) Some schools are having students come in on alternate days while others have adopted a hybrid in-class and online approach to lessons.

b) When children ages 2-12 returned to school, they were sectioned off into "Micro Groups" of twelve.

c) These groups also known as "Protective Bubbles" arrive to school at staggered times eat lunch separately and have their own zones in the playground.

d) All students are required to wash their hands every two hours but do not have to wear face masks.

e) Desks are divided two meters apart, all education material must be cleaned twice a day and when possible, classes are held outside. Parents are not allowed on school property.

f) Students and teachers engage in in-person only learning, activities, and events.

g) Students, teachers, and staff do not/are not required to follow steps to protect themselves and others such as proper use of face masks, social distancing, and hand hygiene.

In line with SDG Goal No. 3, 11 & 17 and Hon'ble PM's Agenda Point No. 2, 5, 8 & 9: Prevention & Home Management of Mild Cases of COVID-19, 5th Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Home care for patients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 and management of their contacts was discussed during program.

b) Suggested to clean and disinfect surfaces that are frequently touched in the room tables, bed frames, and other bedroom furniture at least once daily.

c) Home based preventive method applied to manage covid -19 was discussed.

d) Scientific cause of spreading COVID-19 was also discussed.

e) Home based equipment and importance of immunity minimize the risk for was also discussed.

Prime Minister's 10 Point Agenda No. 4: Mainstreaming Risk Mapping for holistic DRR: A Step towards resilience, 7th Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations

a) Need for categorizing the data in systematic manner should be developed at all levels.

b) Need for maintenance of databases of fragility of the present infrastructure.

c) Need for consolidation of hazard modeling and prediction.

d) Need for integration of mapping of vertical height and elevation is required especially for highly undulating areas and hilly regions.

e) Need for inter-state collaboration for risk mapping, especially for geographical features like rivers, coastal plains, mountains, etc.

f) Need for a comprehensive plan by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) stating the specific requirement of datasets that are too produced by the organization.

Utilize the opportunities of social media and mobile technologies, 8th Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Direct and effective working relationship between the media and disaster management organizations needs to be established and maintained to fulfill role of social media in various aspects of disaster management.

b) Critical thinking is needed to connect technology advancement in mobile technology into actionable plan wherein it reaches to the right people at the right time.

c) Need to come up with a specific National Aapda app or state Aapda app which can be of useful to disaster risk managers which will provides information and warning prior to disaster and it also connects with different people working in disaster management field.

d) NIDM should carry out various Information Education Communication (IEC) activities to train-up governmental officials, volunteers, media personnel, academician to promote use of social media and mobile technologies in disaster management.

e) NIDM and NDMA should investment in technology and future capabilities to promote research and development encouraging innovation in mobile technologies.

f) Educating society regarding rumor control during disaster response is very essential. There is a need to train and promote society to follow government organizations, official and credible source of information to get factual updates about what is happening in disaster situations.

g) NIDM, NDMA and other governmental departments should promote implementation of AI technologies, machine learning and Big-data in different disaster management cycle to also enabled people with multi-dimensional use of social media.

a) Women between 18-20 years of age are highly targeted as this group use Internet mostly through social networking sites. Pandemic has further increased the dependency of women and young girls on Internet.

b) Online platform is not only shared by family and friends but by criminals, paedophiles, abusers, frauds & human traffickers. Pandemic changed the behavior of individuals during this season with 47% increased time spent on Social Media. Using technology without basic understanding will put us in greater risk in online platform.

c) Apps traps, Phishing, Fake job advertisements, Cyber pornography, Sextortion, Child grooming are the top serious criminal activities happen at online platforms. Data shows that 12000 approximately of paedophiles are always online waiting to lure children into sexual exploitation.

d) What you do online will reflect on you! Beware of what you post in social media platforms. Parents- are careful about what you post about your child. Photos, videos of your child can be stolen by the paedophiles. Cyber criminals are not too far away as we think. NCRB data says 14.7% of the cyber criminals are close and near us. We need to be careful on what we share as content.

e) Technology driven crimes against women- Cyber teasing, Cyber stalking, Cyber Defamation, Identity theft, Cat fishing, Doxing, Swatting, Trolling, and Revenge porn.

f) Need to prioritize & give importance to complaints and act immediately to prevent people from committing suicide on pressure. Use reporting option- do not panic- block the content and also track the abuser- do not delete the information. If you were a victim of any social media platform, try to use reporting option to counter, if not reach the nearby police station or you can give info to the MHAs initiated grievance as anonymous for speedy intervention.

g) Fear of reporting is a major challenge- many fear to come out to give complaint to the law enforcement agencies. Several crimes goes unreported. The NCRB data is expected to be 50% of the actual crimes committed.

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Countries led by women have seen markedly fewer corona virus cases, raising the question of whether gender plays a role in leadership style.

b) One recent analysis from the University of Pretoria and Trinity College Dublin found that countries with female heads of state suffered six times fewer confirmed corona virus deaths than countries led by men.

c) Women in general lean toward collaboration and people skills (but not always), but then, so do effective men," explains Rosabeth Moss Kanter, professor of business at Harvard Business School, and author of Men and Women of the Corporation.

d) Some studies suggest that biological factors play a role in women's generally greater capacity for empathy, while others point to the influence of social conditioning and gender stereotypes.

e) Barriers like disproportionate family obligations, the gender wealth gap, and ongoing bias are challenging to overcome, meaning that most of the women who make it to the top are exceptional individuals.

f) Women make up almost 70% of the health care workforce, exposing them to a greater risk of infection.

In Line with SDG Goal No. 3, 11 &17 and Hon'ble PM's Agenda Point No. 2,5,8 & 9: Understanding and Mitigation the Risk of Pandemic: Home to Hospital Care, Building Local Capacity, 12th Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Discussed economic damage through multiple channels, including short-term fiscal shocks and longer-term negative shocks to economic growth due to pandemic.

b) Explained individual behavioural changes, such as fear-induced aversion to workplaces and other public gathering places

c) Discussed mitigation measures cause significant social and economic disruption.

d) Required mitigation strategies for effective preparedness and response.

e) Strengthened health facilities and infrastructure at all level.

Why Planning is Important for Disaster Risk Management in collaboration with Dayal Singh College, University of Delhi, 14th Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations

a) Future collaborative training and awareness programme may be conducted.

b) Importance of planning for effective management of the emergency well accepted.

c) Proper analysis of Risk, Vulnerability and capacity must for proper planning.

Prime Minister's 10 point Agenda on DRM (item no.1) Disaster Risk Management through Sectoral Development and Businesses, 14th Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations

a) Sensitized the importance of the PM Agenda 10 point agenda (Item 1) and useful deliberation on the importance of agenda 1 in all the development sectors.

b) Highlighted the need of DM plan in all sectors as per the DM Act 2005.

c) Showcased success story is very important.

d) Multi sectoral effort is required, Risk reduction.

e) Legislation, Advocacy, integrating specific projects in the DRM, context of the disaster are important component to achieve target.

f) Academic and scientific strengthening is important.

g) Three tear (National, State, District) management and involvement is the most in DRR.

Prime Minister's 10 Point Agenda No. 5 on DRR: Civil Engineering and Construction Challenges in Present Scenario in collaboration With Andhra Pradesh, Vishakhapatnam, 15th Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations

a) Acknowledging the responsibilities of urban and rural local bodies in facilitating resilient infrastructure by ways of better planning, designing and construction.

b) Past lessons guide us on local interventions used to minimize the impact of disasters.

c) Learning about geotechnical and structural safety of buildings using examples from the past failures of unsafe structures during earthquakes of Bhuj, Japan and Haiti, Uttarakhand flood.

d) Awareness regarding NDMA guidelines on school and hospital safety including preparation of DM action plans.

e) Detailed discussion on Madikeri rehabilitation housing project of 2018 for flood and landslide affected areas in Coorg district.

f) Dissemination of fire safety measures for high rise buildings and fire safety planning in buildings and infrastructures.

g) Lessons from past experiences for relief and rehabilitation of Odisha Cyclone, Kerala flood, Madikeri flood, North Karnataka flood.

Hon'ble Prime Minister's 10 Point Agenda on DRR Point 9: To ensure that the opportunity to learn from a disaster is not wasted Transforming Disaster's Challenges into Opportunities, 15th Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations

a) Need to focus on documenting realistic and paradigmatic case studies of disasters and also to read, understand and debate on the learning for the future course of action/framework to reduce the risks of disasters.

b) One major issue came out of past learning is the lack of coordination among different stakeholders. The scientists and relevant stakeholders should work in harmony to support the government in implementing the state-of-art, preventive measures and communication of available knowledge to public to protect the society.

c) The affected community, the survivor should be in driving seat of documenting learning of any disaster. We need to integrate their experiences and learning of the disaster in the documentation and the focus of build back better should not only be in physical terms but also in socio-economic one.

d) Disasters have short-term and long-term impacts, therefore it is utmost important to conduct Post Disaster Need Assessment (PDNA) immediately after the disaster so that lessons can be learnt for all phases of disaster management. To further strengthening the PDNA we need to develop new methodologies of data collection, data sharing and data infrastructure development. There should be coordinated and standardization of post disaster data in a way that is interoperable in any platform and can be accessed by stakeholders whenever it is needed.

e) The development activities can increase or decrease the vulnerability of an area depending on the way it is carried out. Instead of repetitious emphasised on mainstreaming DRR in development activities by various international and national guidelines we are not endeavouring for it. We have to ponder on the issue more seriously.

PM 10 Agenda No. 5 & SDG Goal No. 4: Blended Learning & Course Delivery in ERA of COVID-19, 15th Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Explained the importance of continuum of technology-based learning, from pure face-to-face teaching to fully online programs.

b) Discussed moving towards blended or hybrid learning in particular means rethinking the use of the campus and the facilities needed fully to support learning in a hybrid mode.

c) Explained about the open educational resources offer many benefits but they need to be well designed and embedded within a rich learning environment to be effective.

d) Stressed on need of evidence-based analysis of the strengths and limitations of face-to-face teaching when online learning is also available.

e) Advised to institutions for considering to use of collaborative educational technology tools, such as Google Docs, Wikis and synchronous conferencing software (e.g. Skype, Zoom) to boost connection and engagement with learning, peers and the teacher.

f) Stressed on providing financial aid for internet data package for students and conducting more faculty development programmes to train teachers for proper online teaching rather than taking care of temporary emergency remote education. Training aspect needs to focus on making teachers as designers of learning.

Impact of Pandemics on Men and Women in collaboration with International Justice Mission, 16th Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations

a) Need to build a robust gender specific database, effective coordination between state and center, policy formation to be gender equal, and gender sensitive Post Traumatic Stress Disorder counter services to be planned and executed.

b) As an outcome of this pandemic, Men lost confidence, self-esteem, jobs; many are working in the mercy of others. There is a large amount of pressure among men specifically in the families were the men are the bread winners.

c) Victims infected by corona virus and affected by corona virus. Gender equality must be the center of response to covid-19, empower women, gender equal representation in covid-19 response planning and decision making, and prioritize information and services on sexual and reproductive health. Prioritize social protection and economic empowerment.

d) Young girls are now forced to play the role of caretaker of their younger siblings which may result in school dropout. Parents may prioritize providing education to their son instead of their daughter. Although the effect of the pandemic looks equal but women are at the receiving end of higher level of vulnerabilities in all spheres. Social development that is usually propelled by a child's interaction is now largely affected.

e) Disruptive effects of these responsibilities on women's empowerment are well documented. Excessive amounts of unpaid care work impacts on women's ability to gain formal employment and affects women's health. As ILO calls it as Job quality penalty, increase likelihood that women will be in low quality work.

f) Collaborative efforts by Government and CSOs will assuredly result in lessening the effects of covid-19 on women and also quicken the process of coming out of vulnerable situation.

Prime Minister's 10 Point Agenda No. 6 for DRR: India Universities and Institutions Network for Disaster Risk Reduction (IUIN-DRR), 16th Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations

a) Collaboration and Cooperation: A much stronger network for the collaborative engagement of institutions and universities.

b) Engagement of youth: taking them to the innovative stages and being supportive.

c) Engagement in the curriculum: how curriculum should be taken as a multidisciplinary subject in each department.

d) New Education Policy has empathized for strengthening disaster management. We need the support of NEP.

e) Resilient Infrastructure: The structure of the universities and institutions are not very resilient, so building resilient infrastructure is important.

f) Unnat Bharat Abhiyan to be brought into our networking: universities are adopting this mission, so focus on how resilience can be demonstrated further in this.

g) Incentive Vs Control: Balance between the two with a decentralized approach and autonomy of the institutions.

h) Special Funding & Guidelines: Some modest fund can be allotted for research projects to some universities where they excel which can be demonstrated and emulated and taken to pan India level.

Prime Minister's 10-Point Agenda on DRM (Item No. 5) Science & Technology for Disaster Risk Management, 18th Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations

a) Need for people centric approach. Last mile connectivity in user friendly manner in local languages used in S&T innovations. Common alerting protocol.

b) Common emergency number for alert examination & impact forecasting.

c) Lack of coherence, adequate funds.

d) Understand disaster risk and use of space and disaster risk mapping technologies.

e) DRR is a multi-stakeholder and multi organizational effort.

f) Expertise and knowledge can improve risk management and reduce impact of disaster.

g) We should come up with S&T policy for DRM.

Prime Minister's 10 Point Agenda No. 9 for DRR: 2014 Kashmir Flood Recovery: Experiences and Initiatives, J&K State Centre, Srinagar in collaboration with Divisional Administration, Kashmir, Srinagar, 18ᵗʰ Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations

a) Kashmir is prone to floods as well as other related natural hazards due to its topography, tectonic activity and drainage system, in the era of climate change is it important to build resilience against disaster.

b) Major drawback in the development process of Kashmir was wrongly adopted methodology in master planning of the area in the past. New 2035 master plan has been approved and is made keeping in mind the disaster management planning which hopefully help in the right development of the Srinagar.

c) Illegal and legal urbanization in the wetland and flood plain areas, restricted the drainage surface area, reduced drainage capacity all of which contributed towards flooding in this area.

d) Creation of storage capacity like check dams to regulate the incoming of water from upper catchment areas will help profoundly in reducing the flooding of water in the low lying areas.

e) Feedback system from public and last mile connectivity should not get interrupted and robust power line should be made to withstand flood disaster.

Prime Minister's 10 Point Agenda No. 9 on DRR: Challenges and Issues of Women & Children in the time of COVID-19 in the collaboration with ILDM, Kerala, 18ᵗʰ Sep 2020

a) Some of the developmental and behavioral disorders commonly seen in children these days are Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Learning Disability (LD), Intellectual Disability (ID), and Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

b) Most commonly seen symptoms of such disorders and disabilities are fidgeting, lack of attention, temper tantrums, aggressive behavior, being easily frustrated, etc.

c) Big responsibility of managing these behaviors at home will most certainly fall upon the parents.

d) Children interact with everyday are therapists who treat the children with special needs and, thus, play an important part.

e) Provision in the rules to make alternate arrangements for providing mid-day meals in case the schools are shut because of unforeseen circumstances, and this is such a scenario," said Mr. Rama Chandra Meena, Joint secretary in the HRD ministry who handles the mid-day meals scheme.

f) The Ministry of Human Resource Development is set to tell states to provide students with either food grains or cooked meals delivered to their homes, or to send cash to their parents.

Safeguarding Wellbeing and Security of Young Children, 19th Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Strengthening the resilience of education systems enables to respond to the immediate challenges of safely reopening schools and positions them to better cope with future crises.

b) Preventing a learning crisis from becoming a generational catastrophe requires urgent action from all.

c) Need to protect education financing through the following avenues: strengthen domestic revenue mobilization, preserve the share of expenditure for education as a top priority and address inefficiencies in education spending.

d) Ensure a safe return to physical premises, while maintaining physical distancing and implementing public health measures, such as the use of masks and frequent hand washing.

Prime Minister's 10 Point Agenda No. 1,2, 8 & 9 on DRR: COVID-19, Lockdown opening and Chemical Industrial Disasters in Collaboration with Dada Ramchand Bakhru Sindhu Mahavidyalaya, Nagpur, MH, 19th Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations

a) Knowledge dissemination about chemical hazards, recent disasters in this regard and importance of safety measures with respect to that.

b) Information sharing about existing chemical rules in our country and salient features/sections which are important for chemical safety in industries and the violations being observed in this regard.

c) Close connection of mankind with chemicals and our dependency on this industry for growth, sustenance and development was highlighted in the programme.

d) Future pathways with respect to S &T innovations, policy paradigm shifts and measures to be observed by Government, private and corporate sectors as well as the local community for chemical safe environment, were discussed.

e) Databank of willing participants/delegates either working in the field of desirous of being associated with such programme was generated.

Role of Panchayat in Disaster Risk Reduction and Management collaborative with DM Centre, Deendayal Upadhyay State Institute of Rural Development, UP, BKT, Lucknow (DDU-SIRD, UP), 21st Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations

a) Insufficient understanding/appreciation of DRR-specific Capacity Development needs.

b) Lack of access to or existence of facilities, programmes, or resources to support awareness.

c) Failing to provide support for or access to enhance local capacities for DRR.

d) Roles of various stakeholder must be clearly identified for integrating disaster management.

e) Plans into gram Panchayat development plan: Convergence of SDGs and Sendai Framework become imperative to achieve DRR at the GP level.

f) Documentation of success stories of local self governance systems is essential.

g) Train and build capacities of Panchayat level functionaries in order to smoothly facilitate DM and DRR integration into the GPDP plan.

Prime Minister's 10 Point Agenda No. 1 on DRR: Sustainable and Safe Hill Area Development with Focus on Earthquakes, Landslides and Floods in collaboration with Himachal Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority (HPSDMA), 22nd Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations

a) People need to be sensitized about the significance of conserving the mountain's ecology. They are the natural barriers for the climate change. Reducing ecological footprint and living in sync with nature is the need of hour.

b) Besides using modern science and technologies for the DRR we need to develop mechanism to incorporate the wisdom and knowledge of the local communities in decision making.

c) Enhancing the capacity of local communities is prerequisite as in case of any disaster the local people are the first responders. They should be sensitized about the vulnerability of their localities and the measures for theirs and others safety. Awareness campaign may be carried out at village level.

d) Healthy discussions, collaborations and sharing of statistics/facts among various researchers in order to develop strategies for strengthening the resilience of slopes against landslides.

Prime Minister's 10 Point Agenda on DRM (Item no. 8) Build on Local Capacity and Initiative, 22nd Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations

a) Develop district wide institutional network involving University/college, research institute, NGOs, independent experts, KVK, Industrial Associations, Housing Societies /Resident Welfare Association Federation, media, etc. in the district as DRM Knowledge Forum.

b) Develop understanding on disaster risk and sensitive land use and revisit development plans by administration at Taluka/Tehsil/Block, Panchayat and Urbal local bodies, and develop their DM plans, with clearly spelt mitigation measures plan, indicating time and resources.

c) Maintain roster of volunteers, ex-defense personnel, NSS, NCC, NYK and other resources, besides Military establishments, police, fire and para-military/home guards, etc for emergency response capacity, with necessary coordination/training.

d) Special emphasis is required on integrating climate change adaptation and capacity building measures with DRM, particularly focusing on safe and resilient infrastructure, public assembly buildings, people's livelihood resources (agriculture, ecosystems and forests/plantation-based occupations) and business establishments.

Challenges faced by Students and Educational Institutions during Pandemic-Responses and Way Forward, 23rd Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations

a) Impacts on Students are on finance, unemployment of the earning member of the family and thus students are forced to work for living. Comparing with rural vs urban, students live in rural parts is affected badly.

b) 321 million school going children have been out of school since lockdown. 370 million children may miss out nutritious school meal due to pandemic according to UNICEF.

c) United Nations' State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World report, forecasts that the corona virus could push over 132 million more people into chronic hunger by the end of 2020.

d) Covid-19 fallout: 65% rise in people seeking self-harm and suicidal attempts. NCRB data shows that daily wage workers are the top among the victims and many were due to family problems.

e) Direct Bank Transfer of Stimulus Package to the informal workers/vulnerable communities can prevent hunger. Strengthen Child Protection Committees at Village, Block and District level to address grassroots concerns.

Global Webinar Series: Crisis Waste Management: COVID-19 and beyond in collaboration with UNEP, OCHA, 23rd Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Covid-19 has a foothold in 216 countries, areas or territories. Some of the countries are in crises because of conflicts disasters and climate change. UNEP partnership with UNO for the coordination of humanitarian affairs OCHA. Through the joint environment unit they can rapidly mobilize technical expertise, equipment and remote assistant to support affected countries in responding to the environmental dimensions of emergencies.

b) From all the countries worldwide, waste management is one of the major environmental challenges in normal times.

c) According to the information global risk index 2020, India is faced with the level of risk classified as very high with the lack of coping capacity being the primary contributor to overall risk.

d) Covid-19 waste should be treated as for all biomedical wastes. Viruses on surface can be killed quite quickly through efficient disinfection.

e) Must avoid open dumping as risk of cross infection and open uncontrolled burning.

Disability Inclusive Urban Development Removing Barriers for DiDRR in Collaboration with Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Govt. of India, 24th Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations

a) Need of inclusiveness in all aspects of urban development including built-environment, infrastructure, public spaces, transportation infrastructure and Information Communication Technologies (ICTs).

b) Need for facilitation of universally inclusive infrastructure not only for the permanent disabilities but also for temporary disabilities and disabilities associated with age.

c) Incorporation of universal deigning in urban planning standards and integrating them with sustainable technologies to build holistic resilient urban environment.

d) Envisioning capacity-building programmes for facilitating involvement of citizens in disaster response activities.
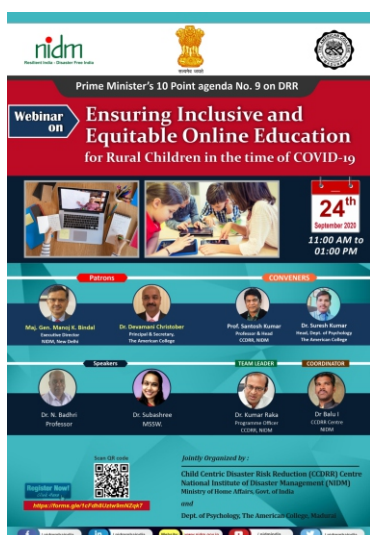
Takeaways/Recommendations

a) With the existing digital divide, expanding online education will push the digital have-nots to the periphery of the education system, thereby increasing inequity in educational outcomes.

b) If the governments continue online education without necessary supportive measures, the prevailing disparity in the virtual world could translate into widening educational inequalities among learners.

c) Among the poorest 20% households, only 2.7% have access to a computer and 8.9% to internet facilities. In case of the top 20% households, the proportions are 27.6% and 50.5%.

d) Only 8% of all households with members aged between five and 24 have both a computer and an internet connection.

e) Data from the Mission Antyodaya, a nationwide survey of villages conducted by the ministry of rural development, found that – 20% of India's households received less than 8 hours of electricity.

f) With 70% of India's workforce residing in rural areas, it is rural India that will form the majority of tomorrow's workforce half of the total population is expected to be in rural India by 2050 (according to NITI Aayog).

g) Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) 2017 data found that only 68% toilets in government schools are usable figures for laboratories for science-related subjects is even dismal in rural area schools.

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Safety concerns and resistance to reopening – of parents, teachers and unions.

b) Lack of time to prepare / lack of resources / lack of equipment.

c) Logistical issues, including problems in school premises and implementation difficulties.

d) Concerns that education will suffer during this period (students often not full-time).

e) Contradictory information and Communication challenges.

f) Mental health problems and staff fatigue.

g) Safety concerns of parents and school staff, and subsequent resistance to return was discussed.

In Line with SDG Goal No. 3, 16 & 17 and Hon'ble PM's Agenda Point No. 1, 8 & 9: Children as Victims of Natural Calamities under Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, 28th Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Emphasized on rights to protection of children from abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence in emergencies.

b) Discussed on the child protection work aims to prevent, respond to, and resolve the abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence experienced by children in all settings.

c) Stressed on the requirement to work on a multi-disciplinary and multi-sectoral approach (linking closely, for example, with work in education, health and criminal justice) for well-being of the children in emergencies.

d) Highlighted issues of child protection about preventing and responding to violence , Abuse, Exploitation and neglect of children during the period of Emergency situation caused by Natural &manmade disasters / Calamities.

e) Provided support for ensuring children grow up with the provision of safe & effective care and taking action to enable all children/ adolescents to have quality life skills.

f) Explained the provision in act regarding to measures under J J Act -2015 for the children and statutory structures for the children such as Care & Support ; CWC / JJ B ;Child Line – 1098 ;Child Protection Committees (C P Cs);Child Clubs / Bala Sanghas; Child Protection & Safeguarding Policies; SJPU – Spl Juvenile Police Units and SMC / Parents committees.
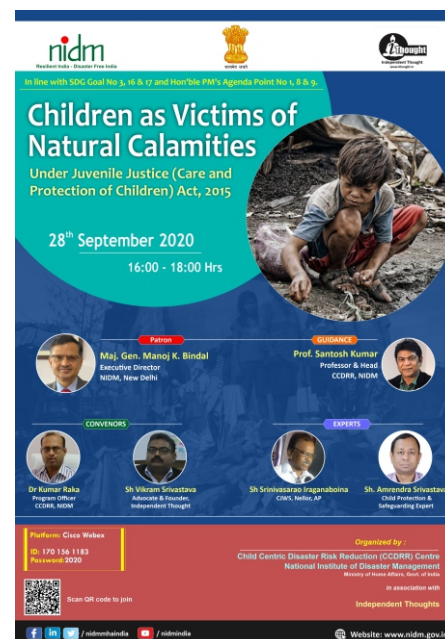
Green Consumer Day in collaboration with Sphere India, 28th Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations

a) Sensitized importance of "Green Consumer Day" and bringing awareness about why lessening the stress on our Environment and Natural Resources is important for our own existence and sustainable development.

b) Highlighted issues and bottlenecks with respect to green consumerism in India.

c) Took commitments from the participants for promoting green consumerism and move towards a regime to use and live with less, follow 3 Rs: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle products.

d) Information disseminated with respect to green technologies available across the globe and the schemes/policies being advocated, propagated by the Govt. of India towards green consumerism.

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Climate change is known to aggravate disasters by contributing to hazards and vulnerability. This leads to an increase in spread, intensity and complexity of health consequences. Government of India under the national Action plan on climate change (NAPCC) has launched a National Climate Change mission on health. The National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM), New Delhi has been designated as a centre of excellence by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW).

b) Health Resilience and Capacity Building (HER-CAP) project team at NIDM has prepared the 'National health adaptation plan (NHAP) for disaster related illnesses' and submitted to MoHFW. A workshop on the same was organized on 29th September 2020 at 4:00 PM online using Cisco WebEx platform. The workshop aimed to further discuss the implementation, cooperation and integration in other developmental plans.

c) The online dissemination workshop was attended by invited representatives from centers of excellence of MoHFW preparing other components of the NHAP, and other field experts from areas of health and disaster management.

d) A presentation was made on the NHAP for disaster related illnesses by Ms. Atisha Sood, Junior Research Fellow, HER-CAP Project for all invited members outlining the structure and major components of the plan.

e) This was followed by detailed questions and answers round, wherein all member representatives gave their comments on the plan and raised questions about localization of their own plans. Further a feedback form through Google forms was shared with all participants to give their detailed comments and suggestions for the plan.

Takeaways/Recommendations

a) Strong leadership by Local Offices of Emergency Preparedness (LEMA) for efficient coordination.

b) Pre-existing MoUs amongst stakeholders, DM expertise in foreign missions etc must be encouraged to increase coordination and corporation.

c) Common standards and joint training from time to time must be encouraged.

d) Search and Rescue teams must know when to disengage Response phase is short lived, help in rehabilitation and reconstruction too.

e) Need to develop action to mitigate the adverse impact of climate change disaster.

f) Need to focus on international promotion of collaborative training disaster response forces and state should carry out damage assessment with the help of UN agencies.

g) As we work towards building partnerships within our countries, at the local and regional levels, it is also important for us to come together at the global level, exchange ideas and best practices and use them for a safer and shared future.

UNISDR, GFDRR, UN Women, international and national community has recognized and committed to a strong focus on gender equality and women's rights in disaster risk reduction.

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ONLINE TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Disaster Response, Relief and Recovery in New Normal, 06-08 July 2020

A three days online e-training program on 'Disaster Response, Relief & Recovery in New Normal' was jointly organized by National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM), Ministry of Home/Government of India and HCM Rajasthan State Institute of Public Administration (HCM RIPA). The broad objective of the training program was to discuss the disaster management in New Normal amidst COVID-19. About 100 officials working in in Health, Education, Revenue, Panchayati Raj, Urban Development Departments, Officers from District Administration, Government of Rajasthan participation in the training. The resource persons for the training included Prof Santosh Kumar, NIDM, Mr. Balaji Singh, USAID, Mr. Shekhar Chaturvedi, Asst. Professor, NIDM, Capt. Vandana Shrivastava, Mr. Khedker, ADM, Nasik and Prof. Anil Gupta, NIDM.

Revisiting Urban Risks: Planning for Complex Emergencies, 06-08 July 2020

National Institute of Disaster Management and Andhra Pradesh Human Resource Development Institute organized a 3-day online training programme on "Revisiting Urban Risks: Planning for Complex Emergencies" from 6–8 July 2020. The training programme deliberated on the new normal in terms of reducing urban risks and chart actions to cope with the varying dynamics of disasters during the pandemic. Around 703 participants attended the programme.

Earthquake Risk Mitigation, 08-10 July 2020

National Institute of Disaster Management, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India jointly organized this training program from 8-10 July, 2020 with the objective to train the participants regarding the earthquake risk mitigation techniques, understand the seismicity, macro-zonation and early warning for earthquake. The training program also focuses on making the participant how to be prepared for the seismic risk mitigation and act as a skilled volunteer during such scenario.

Crisis and Disaster Management, 9-11 July 2020

An International Training Program on Crisis and Disaster Management was conducted by NIDM on 9-11 July 2020. The purpose of this Training Programme is to exchange scientific knowledge and to discuss solutions for the recent challenges in Crisis and Disaster Management. It is expected that the programme would serve as a milestone for further actions in enhancing our capacities to reduce the incidences and impacts of disasters as part of the national goal to make the country disaster resilient. To enhance the human capacity for quick, effective, resilient, reliable proper disaster risk reduction and resilience.

Child Centric Disaster Risk Reduction, 13-15 July 2020

The CCDRR Centre conducted three days online training programme on CCDRR in association with HCM-RIPA from 13-15 July 2020. About 153 participants attended the programme. It is learned from this training that it's essential to conduct this training programme exclusively for health department considering the Covid-19 situation.

- School safety programme should include a component of handling school children by teachers.
- Disaster risk of children should be prepared for each disaster separately.
- Training programme on Child safety can be developed.
- Documentary movie on CCDRR activities implemented at India should be prepared.
- CCDRR initiatives taken by government of Odisha is attracted the participants.
- Department wise possible list of CCDRR activities to be generated to provide to the participants.
- Training duration should be increased to 3 hrs per day.

Incident Response System: Basic & Intermediate for Non Coastal District 13-15 July 2020

NIDM conducted the three days e-training programme on IRS in collaboration with Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA), Government of Kerala during July 13-15, 2020. Total 190 participants from 5 non-coastal districts attended the programme. Speakers shared their experiences with the participants during the tenure of the programme and also ensured their participation through conduct of exercise. Various topics such as IRS organization, its operationalization and implementation were discussed during the three days. Major outcome of the programme was to incorporate the Incident Response Team (IRT) roles and responsibilities in the disaster management plan being prepared by the districts and even at sub-district level.

FDP cum Training Programme on Environment Water and DRR, 13-17 July 2020

Sharda University, NOIDA jointly organized with NIDM a five day Faculty Development Program (FDP) cum Training workshop on "Environment, Water and Disaster Risk Reduction" to disseminate information with respect to water security issues and related disasters and also create a vast and multi-disciplinary understanding of the issues in this regards. The main outcome of this programme was knowledge up gradation of Faculty Community of Educational Institutes with respect to Water Crisis, Related Disasters and DRR measures in this regards, sharing of informational updates with respect to how the DRR measures can and need to be mainstreamed with developmental policy/plans and most importantly bringing in the continuity of propagating the idea of education and delivery during the tough times of COVID 19.

The 5 day Faculty Development Programme cum Training Workshop on, "Environment, Water and Disaster Risk Reduction", jointly organized by NIDM, New Delhi and the Sharda University, NCR, Delhi, started with flourishing colours on 13 July, 2020 at 1000 Hrs with its Inaugural Session. The programme had a gathering of 300 zoom participants (maximum capacity) as well as 883 live participants through Sharda University Youtube Live Streaming.

Integrating Disaster Management Plan With Gram Panchayat Development Plan 14-18 July 2020

The Panchayati Raj Institution (PRI) members can play a vital role of leadership in Disaster management at all stages. Their close involvement will facilitate in preparation of community based disaster management plans to achieve disaster risk reduction. Development of Village Disaster Management Plan (VDMP) is the most important ingredient in implementing Community Based Disaster Risk Management in any area. The programme on Integrating Disaster Management Plan conducted on 14-18 July 2020 seeks to develop Para-professionals and community skills in preparation of Disaster Management Plan.

The training started with inaugural session, addressed by Major General Manoj K Bindal (ED, NIDM, Delhi) and Mr. R.M. Pant (Director, NIRD&PR, Guwahati).

Child Centric Disaster Risk Reduction, 15-17 July 2020

The CCDRR Centre conducted three days online training programme on CCDRR in association with MGSIPA. About 327 participants attended the programme. The training programme on Child Centric Disaster Risk Reduction was intended for officials of State level sectoral departments, administrative training institutions and civil society practitioners to help build their knowledge, skills and perspectives towards child centric disaster risk reduction. It helped to officials understand and prepare for risk informed planning, sectoral readiness and preparedness for emergencies so as children are not deprived of basic amenities. The participants learned about children rights and National & International Commitments to CCDRR, The impact of children on mental as well as physical health of children, their education and social life and how to tackle such situations at the time of a disaster. They actively participated in each session undertaken by the experienced faculty. They were able to understand the basic terminologies of disaster and the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Child Centric Disaster Risk Reduction, 20-22 July 2020

The CCDRR Centre conducted three days online training programme on CCDRR in association with MCHRDI Telangana. About 350 participants attended the programme. The training programme on Child Centric Disaster Risk Reduction was intended for officials of State level sectoral departments, administrative training institutions and civil society practitioners to help build their knowledge, skills and perspectives towards child centric disaster risk reduction. It helped to officials understand and prepare for risk informed planning, sectoral readiness and preparedness for emergencies so as children are not deprived of basic amenities. The participants learned about children rights and National & International Commitments to CCDRR, The impact of children on mental as well as physical health of children, their education and social life and how to tackle such situations at the time of a disaster. They actively participated in each session undertaken by the experienced faculty. They were able to understand the basic terminologies of disaster and the Covid-19 Pandemic.

IRS: Basic & Intermediate for Coastal Districts, 21-23 July 2020

NIDM conducted the three days e-training programme on IRS in collaboration with Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA), Government of Kerala during July 21-23, 2020. 518 participants from 9 coastal districts attended the programme. Speakers shared their experiences on various topics such as IRS organization, its operationalization and implementation during the three days. Participants were also exposed to exercise based on a hypothetical situation. Major outcome of the programme was to update the IRS Orange book prepared by KSDMA in consultation with NIDM.

COURSE REPORT

Three Days Online Training Programme On Child Centric Disaster Risk Reduction

This programme conducted in association with SIPARD, Tripura. About 76 participants attended the programme. Takeaways/Recommendations from the Child Centric Disaster Risk Reduction:

• Provides an avenue for children to utilize their ASK for creation of a safe and resilient environment.

• Child centric disaster risk reduction also allows them to raise their voice to protect basic rights.

• Creates an opportunity to undertake roles and participate in community development work.

• Children should be actively engaged in decision-making, planning and accountability processes for DRR.

• Children are supported to be change agents in their spheres of influence – household, school, and community and beyond.

• CC DRR activities target international and national legislative processes.

• CCDRR is a valuable approach for organizations/Departments with limited resources.

• Organizations working on reducing vulnerability can maximize the impact of their interventions by building capacity of the largest people.

• Children have a unique and holistic perception of risks.

• Children have regularly identified immediate risks.

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Images of each and every resource must be incorporated in IDRN databank.

b) Report should be download on excel format as per the authority convenient.

c) Infrastructure data (location of hospitals, schools, fire stations, police stations etc.) needs to be added.

d) Information of the resources with private, public sector unit, which is not sensitive, must be added.

e) Information of the registered NGOs must be involved in IDRN resource data bank.

f) Placement of IDRN resources information on GIS map.

g) A Mobile based application must be developed for IDRN so that information related to the resources can be easily uploaded and accessed through mobile phones.

h) A mechanism to access IDRN data offline or without internet.

i) As this portal is for national use, FORM 1, 2A, 2B, 2C should be placed on publically so that the line departments of district administration can easily enter/fill the resource inventory data.

j) Another key recommendation of the online training is that NIDM should form a team to work on the IDRN implementation at various levels and strengthen the mechanism from lowest possible administrative level and there must be an independent authority to review the data periodically (preferably once in monthly) for its accuracy.

k) Decentralized user administration involving DIOs at district level. Line departments and data providers may be provided with simplified formats which can be uploaded after checking at district level.

l) Regular training of functionaries at various levels to develop skills for updating and maintaining data and also using them during emergencies as well as DM planning.

Climate Change, Extreme Weather Events and management in Urban areas
29-31 July 2020

National Institute of Disaster Management, Ministry of Home Affairs in collaboration with HCM Rajasthan Institute of Public Administration organised 3-days Online Training Programme on "Climate Change and Extreme Weather Events Management in Urban Areas", 29 – 31 July 2020. Prof Surya Parkash, Head, GMR Divison, NIDM and Prof. Reepunjaya Singh, HCM RIPA graced the inaugural session of the training programme. The experts of the training programme include Prof. Surya Parkash, Head, GMR Division, NIDM; Prof. Reepunjaya Singh, HCM RIPA; Dr. Pavan Kumar Singh, Joint Advisor (OPS), NDMA; Dr. Rakesh Dubey, Former Director, Disaster Management Institute Bhopal; Sh. Mihir Bhatt, Director, All India Disaster Mitigation Institute; Dr. Harjeet Kaur, Young Professional, GMR Division, NIDM; Sh. Raju Thapa, Young Professional, GMR Division, NIDM and Sh. Anil Kathait, Young Professional, GMR Division, NIDM. 128 participants participated in the training programme.

FDP cum Training Workshop on School Safety and DRR, 5-7 Aug 2020

During this extraordinary and challenging times, NIDM and the Zone4Solutions, have jointly organized a 3 day Faculty Development Programme cum Training Workshop on "School Safety and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)" with an idea of continuum of education and training in the field of disaster risk reduction through such collaborative efforts. The mandate of the programme was to cover different aspects of disaster risk reduction in school safety with respect to its infrastructure, inhabitants and the services associated with. A comprehensive approach from the specs of students, parents, school administrators and other stakeholders was attempted and it covered not only the physical safety aspects but also the mental safety concerns as well.
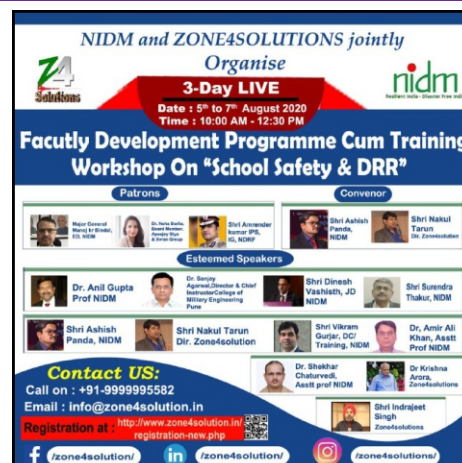
Climate Change, Landslides and Safe Hill area Development, 5-7 Aug 2020

National Institute of Disaster Management, Ministry of Home Affairs in collaboration with Dr. Raghunandan Singh Tolia Uttarakhand Academy of Administration, Uttarakhand organised 3-days Online Training Programme on "Climate Change, Landslides and Safe Hill Area Development", 5-7 August 2020. The online training programme aimed to sensitize and enhance the capacity of various stakeholders apropos of climate change, landslides and Safe Hill Area Development. Executive Director, NIDM Major General Manoj Kumar Bindal, VSM; Sh. Rajiv Rautela, IAS, Director, Dr. RSTUAoA and Prof. Surya Parkash, Head, GMR Division, NIDM provided insightful deliberation during inaugural session. The experts of the technical sessions include Prof. Trilok Nath Singh, Vice Chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapith, Varanasi; Professor Ajay Rawat, Order of the Golden Ark Awardee; Dr. Rajendra Singh, Waterman of India; Sh. O. P. Singh, Former DG, NDRF; Sh. Anand Sharma. DDG Meteorology, IMD; Dr. Kishor Kumar, Former Chief Scientist, CRRI; Prof. Surya Parkash, Head GRMD, NIDM; Sh. Anil Kathait, Young Professional, GMR Division, NIDM and Dr. Om Prakash, Assistant professor, DMC, Dr.RSTUAoA. 996 people register their attendance at Cisco webex whereas 882 people view live streaming of the training programme at NIDM's YouTube channel.

Community Preparedness for Earthquake Risk Mitigation, 5-7 Aug 2020

National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM), MHA and VigyanPrasar (VP) jointly organized a three day training program on "Community Preparedness for Earthquake Risk Mitigation" held from 5 to 7 August 2020 from 11:00am to 1:00 pm for duration of two hours.

The main objective of this training program was to teach the various school teachers from different parts of the country to learn about earthquake and safety tips to be shared with their school and students. VigyanPrasar also taught teachers on how to use the earthquake learning kit tailor made for school purposes. Various teachers from all over the country participated and raised queries regarding their doubts and responsibilities and actions regarding earthquake basics and during earthquake disaster.

Child Centric Disaster Risk Reduction, 10-12 Aug 2020

The CCDRR Centre conducted three days online training programme on CCDRR in association with MCHRDI Telangana. About 251 participants attended the programme. The training programme on Child Centric Disaster Risk Reductionwas intended for officials of State level sectoral departments, administrative training institutions and civil society practitioners to help build their knowledge, skills and perspectives towards child centric disaster risk reduction. It helped to officials understand and prepare for risk informed planning, sectoral readiness and preparedness for emergencies so as children are not deprived of basic amenities.

The participants learned about children rights and National & International Commitments to CCDRR, The impact of children on mental as well as physical health of children, their education and social life and how to tackle such situations at the time of a disaster. They actively participated in each session undertaken by the experienced faculty. They were able to understand the basic terminologies of disaster and the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Urban Risk Management, 12-14 Aug 2020

NIDM conducted a three day training programme on "Urban Risk Management", jointly with Panjab University Chandigarh, during 12-14 August 2020 in the online mode. 178 participants comprising of faculty, research scholars, students of University and other officials attended this programme. During the programme, issues pertaining to urban setup like incorporating disaster risk reduction activities in master plan, mitigation of fire and floods related hazards, etc. The ongoing disaster i.e. Covid 19 was also discussed in this programme through its basic Do's and Don'ts. Speakers also discussed about the impact of climate change over the existing intensities of disasters. One of the major outcomes of this programme was establishment of a continued collaboration with Panjab University for various disaster risk reduction activities.

Mainstreaming DRR for Resilient Infrastructure, 17-19 Aug 2020

The aim of the training programme was to facilitate creation of requisite capacity, of the stakeholders involved with construction, maintenance and running the infrastructural facilities, and to appreciate the concept of resilient infrastructure.

Topics like basic concepts of earthquake risk mitigation, challenges in making infrastructure resilient and use of technology for planning disaster safe development in urban area were targeted. Case studies for hospitals and schools safety from disasters, development of disaster safe housing project and fire safety for resilient infrastructure.

Industrial Safety Risk Management Multi-Hazard Scenario with Special focus on COVID-19, 17-19 Aug & 14-16 Sep 2020

In the pursuit of academic excellence in the field of Industrial Safety and Disaster Risk Reduction and Management, National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) in collaboration with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) organisation a 3 day Online Training Programme to promote safety culture and build capacities and resilience by highlighting & discussing critical issues with the involvement of top renowned speakers from Government, Non Government, International Agencies and leading Industries. This training module on Industrial safety: Multi Hazard Scenario with Special Focus on COVID has been developed for use by different institutions/ professionals/ students/ industries dealing with the subject in the country at various levels. The aim of this programme was to raise the level of awareness and preparedness as well as to enhance analytical skills and professional competencies of different key stakeholders in various areas of Industrial safety and Disaster Risk Management. The e-learning courses were first of its kind in India which helped hundreds of different users in enhancing knowledge base on the subject.

Taking into account the overwhelming response in the Part 1 of the Online Training Programme organised during Aug 17-19, 2020, the Part 2 of the Online Training Programme was held during September 14-16, 2020, with an aim to reach out to maximum Industry Professionals, Academia and other interested stakeholders.

FDP cum Training Workshop on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction 18-20 Aug 2020

In an era of changing climates, that is bringing our ecosystems and thereby our own existence into high dangers and on top of that, the devastating pandemic attack across the globe, continuum of education, training and capacity building has been a daunting task. In these new normal situations, NIDM and the O P Jindal University, Raigarh, Chhattisgarh jointly organized a 3 day Faculty Development Programme (FDP) cum Training Workshop on, "Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction".

In all, a total of 1300 Registrations, were received. Daily Attendance was nearly 400 persons through zoom platform provided by the OPJU and nearly 600 persons on their Facebook Live Streaming. The programme was immensely successful. OPJU have sent the confirmed participation list of 679 persons (Excel Sheet Attached), to whom, certificates will be issued.

Media and Disaster Management, 19-21 Aug 2020

National Institute of Disaster Management, Ministry of Home Affairs in collaboration with National Academy of Broadcasting and Multimedia, the apex in-house training institution of Prasar Bharati organized a 3-days online Training programme on "Media and Disaster Management" from 19th August to 21st August 2020 in Cisco Webex platform. On the first day of the training programme, we had two sessions, inaugural and technical one. The inaugural session was graced by Major General Manoj Kumar Bindal, VSM, ED, NIDM; Shri Shashi Bhushan Mukesh, ADG, NABM. Distinguished speakers namely Dr. R. Shreedhar, Professor Emeritus; Dr. Manoj Pateriya, Advisor and Head, NCSC, DST; Prof. Surya Parkash, Head, GMR Division, NIDM shared their knowledge and experience with the participants. During the second Day of 3-days online Training programme i.e., on 20th August 2020 distinguished speakers namely Dr. Sandeep Baruah, Scientist – F, Vigyan Prasar; Shri Rajeev Kumar Shukla, Retired ADG, All India Radio; Shri Anil Kathait, YP NIDM shared their views and knowledge with the participants.

During the third day i.e., 21st August 2020 of the 3-days online Training programme on "Media and Disaster Management" distinguished speakers namely Brig. Ajay Gangwar, Advisor (Ops & Communication), NDMA; Prof. K.G. Suresh, Professor Emeritus and Mr. Raju Thapa, YP, NIDM shared their views and knowledge with the participants. Shri S. B. Mukesh, ADG, NABM addressed the participants in the valedictory address.

About 1,031 attendees marked their attendance using the Cisco WebEx events. Apart from above participants, about 1,500, 1,000 and 715 watched the YouTube telecast of the first, second and third day of the training programme respectively.

To develop capacity of the District authorities for building disaster response system, Mahatma Gandhi State Institute of Public Administration, Punjab in collaboration with National Institute of Disaster Management, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India has hosted/conducted an Online Training Programme on "Incident Response System: Basic & Intermediate" for Northern States (Part I) w.e.f. 19 to 21 August, 2020 from 11 AM to 1 PM to develop capacity of the State and District Authorities for building Incident Response System. It is based on e-learning module covering 2 hours each day during the programme.

This 3-days' Online Training Programme on Incident Response System was intended for the personnel who are holding important administrative position and/or are likely to be involved in incident/emergency management. They include State and District level officials of line departments, Sub-District Level Officers, Civil Defence, Home Guards and SDRF, etc. The programme is specifically designed for the disaster emergency responders dealing with search and rescue, relief camp management, distribution of relief materials, safe evacuation, etc.

Child Centric Disaster Risk Reduction, 19-21 Aug 2020

Inaugurating the programme on 19 August 2020, Shri Moloy Ghatak, Minister in charge Labour & Law and Judicial, Govt. of West Bengal said that Covid-19 has created great challenges in society and we have to frame concrete policies to safeguard our children. Dr. Sandip Kumar Ghatak Vice-Principal of Asansol Girls' College has said that children and their families are experiencing handicapped after closer of childcare centre, schools and limited access to health care in responses to the Covid-19.

The experts in the field also discussed the need for providing a safe physical and psychological environment and solution related to the various types of hazards, danger and risk to children at home, school and other public/private place were discussed. About 386 participants attended the programme.

One day Virtual Orientation Cum Training Programme of India Disaster Resource Network (IDRN) for Kerala State Disaster Management Authority, 21st Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) IDRN portal should be access on offline mode during disaster time.

b) IDRN database maybe shared with National Database for Emergency Management (NDEM).

c) There should be a one dashboard of accessing inventory resources.

d) IDRN database report should be download on any format like excel, pdf, printable. etc.

e) IDRN database needs to be geo tagging on identifying the inventory resources.

f) Department wise login id & passwords needs to be created.

g) Regular training of functionaries at various levels to develop skills for updating and maintaining data and also using them during emergencies as well as DM planning.

h) Needs to be increase DIO at district level for IDRN database entry.

Child Centric Disaster Risk Reduction, 24-26 Aug 2020

Training programme inaugurated by Prof. Kolandaivel, Vice Chancellor, Periyar University. Tamil Nadu. Prof. Santosh Kumar, Prof & Head, CCDRR &GIDRR addressed the participants with his opening remarks. About 210 participants attended the training programme. The first session of the training programme was delivered by Dr. Balu. I, from National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) on 'Do's and Don'ts on Covid19'. He explained the various measures and practices to reduce the risk of Covid19 pandemic. The session started by explaining the various

symptoms of Covid19. He stressed on the individual responsibility to break the chain by maintaining social distancing and frequent washing of hands.

The final session of the first day of training programme was delivered by Dr. Kumar Raka, NIDM on the 'Basic Concept of Disaster Risk Management'. He explained about disaster risk, prevention, mitigation, recovery, reconstruction and resilience with appropriate example. His session was interactive and the participants got opportunity to interact with the speaker. The participants were very keen to take part in discussion. The session was concluded by answering the questions raised by the participants. Dr. Balu I., who was the first speaker of the day. His session was about 'Life cycle Approach and Disaster Impact'. He explained in detail and precisely about five different life cycles of children and effective practices focusing particular age group of children. The life cycle approach is effective in reducing the vulnerabilities of children. He also interacted with the participants. He had given different circumstances related to each life cycle group and the participants were allowed to give their idea how as health professional they participants would handle those situation. The participants got insight on how to work with children according to their life cycle and varying need.

Child Centric Disaster Risk Reduction, 25-27 Aug 2020

This programme conducted in association with HCMRIPA. About 450 participants attended the programme

Key Take away

- It is learned from this training that, it is essential to conduct this training programme exclusively for health department considering the Covid-19 situation..

- School safety programme should include a component of handling schoolchildren by teachers.

- Disaster risk of children should be prepared for each disaster separately.

- Training programme on Child safety can be developed.

- Documentary movie on CCDRR activities implemented at India should be prepared.

- CCDRR initiatives taken by government of Rajasthan is attracted the participants.

- Department wise possible list of CCDRR activities to be generated to provide to the participants.

- Training duration should be increased to 3 hrs per day.

- NIDM Training cell should bring a guideline for collaborative institute which required technical support and separate course fee structure should be prepared.

- Important helpline numbers to be added to the slides to share with the participants.

Disaster and Health Communication for Participants from Southern Region (English) 25-27 Aug 2020

National Institute of Disaster Management in collaboration with Vigyan Prasar organized a three day online training programme on "Disaster and Health Communication" from 25 to 27 August,2020. The target audience was teachers from various states. The programme focussed on the communication methodology for taking care of physical and mental health of the communities in the context of prevailing Pandemic of Covid-19.

A total of 61 participants attended this course. The speakers highlighted the sociological impact of Covid 19, taking care of one's physical and mental health during such exigencies and dealing with Covid 19 at the community level.

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) More Items should be listed as the Mountaineering Equipment like Ascenders, Descenders, Nylon Rope, Seat Harness, Chest Harness, Inflatable tower, Generator light etc.

b) Access to data should be made simpler so that one can analyze it and use appropriately i.e one can import data in Excel Format also.

c) If user wants to download data uploaded by concerned district in single list then it is not possible, so please create an option to generate a pdf or excel file of uploaded data by the district.

d) Geo-coordinates for Articles may also be added in the portal because most of the states have either implemented the Decision Support System or in under process of implementing the same. It will be helpful to the Authorities during emergency situation to locate the items and calculate the timing to reach the item at desired place.

e) Procurement date of the articles may also be added in the portal along with last performance details as sometime it is observed that the items placed at XYZ place may not have been used and performance of the item is unknown which may causes delay/ hamper the SAR Operation.

f) Ministry of Panchyati Raj has developed Nation Asset Directory which may be included in IDRN Portal so that during the emergency resources of PRIs may also be utilized. Also take the API of Nation Asset Directory (NAD) to this platform. In NAD we can check all data of PRIs.

g) List of Item (Skill) Names are not available in IDRN Portal which require to be added: 1) Item (Skill) Name 2) Surveyor 3) Work Inspector 4) Black Smith 5) Mason 6) Mate 7) Baildar 8) Divers 9) Water Tender 10) Hammer 11) Water Bouser 12) Small Water Tender 13) QRV 14) Portable Pump 15) Inflatable light with accessories 16) Genset 17) Scooba Diving wet Suite 18) Nomex Fire fighting suite 19) I-SAT 20) V-SAT.

Prime Minister's 10-Point Agenda No. 7: Utilize the opportunities provided by social media and mobile technologies and recognize the potential of social media and develop applications for all aspects of disaster risk management. "One Day Virtual Orientation Cum Training Programme of India Disaster Resource Network (IDRN) in collaboration with Rajasthan State, 27th Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations

a) District official are recommended to auto update on existing inventory items which is expired.

b) Centralize the user ID and password with the line department to access the IDRN portal.

c) Add the mobile number field is mandatory for nodal person of line the department (GOVT/PRIVATE/PUBLIC) which will help to contact directly during the disaster.

Prime Minister's 10-Point Agenda No.7: Utilize the Opportunities provided by social media and mobile technologies and recognize the potential of social media and develop applications for all aspects of disaster risk management "One Day Virtual Orientation Cum Training Programme of India Disaster Resource Network (IDRN) in Collaboration with Haryana, 28th Aug 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations

a) Centralize the user ID and password with the line department to access the IDRN portal.

b) Some district official is recommending quarterly data updating.

c) Include Inventory resource items Images on data entry form.

d) District officials are recommended to mention on IDRN portal inventory item image and name with explanation of purpose.

e) On Self-explanatory basis inventory items needs to be understand.

Disaster Management for official of CONCOR DADRI, 27-29 Aug 2020

The three-day e-training was largely carried out to train the officials of CONCOR, Dadri on disaster management. There were some major concerns of the officials which were then covered in the training. The first day primarily focused on the conceptual framework of Disaster management discussing live examples, case studies and concerns and expectations of the participants. The second day focused on the one of the primary concern of the official's i.e fire. Issues like smoke management, fire fighting, importance of ventilation and automatic smoke management, importance of plan and planning etc were highlighted. The Handling of containers and the role of NDRF was also discussed. The safety of hazardous chemicals was also discussed with in depth study of hazardous elements, rules of safety handling, personal protective equipment's, and importance of safety review. The last day of the training was mostly on Incident command system with an exercise based on it followed by a group interaction.

Prime Minister 10 Point Agenda No.7: Utilize the opportunities provided by social media and mobile technologies and recognize the potential of social media and develop applications for all aspects of disaster risk management "One Day Virtual Orientation Cum Training Programme of India Disaster Resource Network (IDRN) in collaboration with Uttar Pradesh, 1st Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations:

a) Centralize the user ID and password with the line department so those line departments maybe easily access the IDRN portal.

b) JCB, Wood Board Item needs to be adding in the inventory item list.

Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilient Infrastructure, 1-3 Sep 2020

NIDM conducting the training program with the objective to identify the concept and issues involved in making infrastructure resilient so that participants could develop administrative capabilities to plan and implement infrastructure resilient programmes and strategies at state level; to enhance the skills and to provide a forum for inter-changing of ideas and views pertaining to disaster risk. Through the technical session panellist discussed on the issues and challenges in the area of disaster risk reduction for ensuring resilient infrastructure.

Technical session also highlighted the gaps in roads, bridges, rural housing, and other infrastructure services. The responsibilities and role of urban and rural local bodies in facilitating resilient infrastructure by ways of better planning, designing and construction.

This programme conducted in association with MGSIPA, Chandigarh .About 436 participants attended the programme

Key Take away

With an understanding of the process of CCDRR, the participants learnt how to involve Children in Disaster Risk Reduction activities and techniques of recognizing abnormalities in a child's behaviour, stress levels and overall retarded growth and development during the various periods of childhood. The course also provided lessons on how to ensure survival and fulfilment of Children Rights in the current time when children are facing closure of schools, mid-day meals, day care activities, and hospitals and play areas, which are vital for their well-being. In addition, the knowledge of concerned officials and authorities was enriched on CCDRR Planning which will play a central role during the post-Covid times in ensuring safe school operations and safety of children at schools. At the end of this course, participants were able to comprehend-

- Basic information on COVID-19 and emerging issues related to children's well-being.

- Adverse impact of closures, social distancing and lockdowns on children's education and how to address them.

- Disrupted access to food and nutrition and promoting healthy lifestyle and diet during home learning.

- Understand the process of CCDRR and its steps including mainstreaming approaches.

- Understand and provide an overview of impacts of disaster on children.

- Provide an overview of CCDRR with an emphasis on Life Cycle Approaches and Risk Informed Programming.

- Strategies to involve children in DRR activities and build knowledge on school safety.

Child Centric Disaster Risk Reduction, 2-4 Sep 2020

Three day online training programme, organized by National Institute of Disaster Management and Department of Social Work, Pondicherry University on 'Child Centric Disaster Risk Reduction'. The first day of training programme commenced with Pondicherry university anthem. Prof. R. Nalini, Head department of Social Work Pondicherry University delivered the welcome address. She invited all the participants for the webinar. Prof. R. Nalini shared her experience working with children during Gujarat earthquake 2001 as part of Delhi University Uday project. She mentioned that working with children was challenging and more training programmes like this is essential to enrich the professionals. Dr. Kumar Raka, NIDM delivered the introductory remarks about the training programme. He emphasized the importance Child Centric Disaster Risk Reduction Programme (CCDRR) as the need of child varies with respect to the age of the children. Prof. Gurmeet Singh, Vice Chancellor of Pondicherry University, addressed the participants in the inaugural address. He explained the importance of such training programme during the Covid19 pandemic. He also shared the importance of NIDM and their contribution to community. He appreciated the effort of both organizers for conducting the training programme. Prof. P. Moorthy, Dean, School of Social Sciences and International Studies, Pondicherry University delivered the special address. He stressed on the importance of enhancing the skills and knowledge of Indian youth and upholds nation builders. He also spoke about the relevance action oriented programmes in the development of the country.

The concluding remarks delivered by Prof. Santosh Kumar, NIDM. He had explained the relevance of Child Centric Disaster Risk Reduction Centre and its contribution. He also described the need of addressing the post traumatic experience of family and children. Prof. Santosh also expressed sincere gratitude to organizers and appreciated the efforts of both organizations. Prof. Rajeev Jain, Director Culture and Cultural relations, PU delivered the valedictory address. He stressed the importance of collaborating with different institutions and organizing various kinds of programmes as like this. The programme concluded by formal vote of thanks of Dr. C. Satheesh Kumar, Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work, PU. He had expressed his gratitude on the behalf of both organizers to all the participants and all the people who are behind the successful training programme. About 310 participants attended the programme.

Disaster Psychosocial Care, 3 -5 Sep 2020

Keeping the importance of Psycho-social support to distressed people and to develop capacity of various stakeholders for building systems to not only cater to disaster psycho-social care but also mainstream PSSMHS in existing mental health schemes, NIDM conducted Online Training Programme on the Disaster Psycho-social Care from September 3-5 2020 in collaboration with GoI-UNDP Project, Greater Vishakhapatnam Municipal Corporation (GVMC), Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.

Resilient Settlement 2030 (Exploring the Role of Spatial Planning), 08-10 Sep 2020

The focus of this three days training programme is on integrating disaster risk analyses and climate change adaptation in spatial planning to make settlements resilient. Module 1: Theoretical concepts and Field experiences for making 21st Century Resilient Settlements Module 2: Data Analytics for Disaster Risk Reduction in Spatial Planning Module 3: Scenario building for addressing challenges through software learning's and training exercises.

The target group for this training programme included research scholars and students of Master's Programme from various national and international institutes. Training was also open to budding professionals of other institutes and consulting offices for larger benefits.

Child Centric Disaster Risk Reduction, 09-11 Sep 2020

Keeping in view the increasing vulnerability of children to disasters, M. P. Institute of Social Science Research, Ujjain (An Autonomous Institute of ICSSR, New Delhi) in collaboration with the National Institute of Disaster Management (Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India) organised an Online Training Programme on 'Child Centric Disaster Risk Reduction' (CCDRR) for the Central States during 9th to 11th September 2020.

- To CCDRR training programme highlighted that the Loss of lives for children has been higher than adults, therefore adequate preparedness activities should be there in places delivering services to children. Children's health is more vulnerable in a disaster for a biophysical reasons and careful planning are needed to reduce casualties during a disaster.

- Highlighted that disaster risk can be best addressed if situation analysis for development-programme formulation considers age and gender related needs.

- Discussed during the programme that social norms/practices such as gender discrimination, child marriages, child labour etc. get accentuated during disasters and effects different life-phases of children. Continuity of learning opportunity, hygiene improvement practices, sports, recreations through post COVID19 early recovery programmes.

- Highlighted that updating or development revised school emergency and contingency plans for opening of school during this post COVID 19 period is necessary.

Prime Minister's 10-Point Agenda No. 7 on DRR: Utilize the opportunities provided by social media and mobile technologies and recognize the potential of social media and develop applications for all aspects of disaster risk management "One Day Virtual Orientation Cum Training Programme of India Disaster Resource Network (IDRN) in collaboration with Puducherry, Ladakh, Goa and Lakshadweep 10th Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations

a) IDRN may develop master list of updated resource inventory items on focus area of respective disaster related equipment's.

b) NDRF have master list of equipment's that list may be include to the IDRN portal.

c) If IDRN portal have best equipment's so that maybe utilized on during emergency situation.

d) Upgrade the inventory resource items list on as per the current situation.

e) We can designate one nodal agency for connecting with Private sector / PSU unites.

f) We can integrate the online inventory resource items requisition to concern department / officers through IDRN portal.

Formulation of Disaster Management Plan, 10-12 Sep 2020

NIDM conducted the E-training programme on Formulation of Disaster Management Plan in collaboration with Bhagwan Mahavir University, (BMU) Surat, Gujarat during September 10-12, 2020. The programme was conceived with the main objective of getting participants acquainted and involved in the process of developing a model multi-hazard Disaster Management Plan. During the programme, participants were exposed to various concepts of disaster, disaster management cycle, vulnerability of the country, institutional mechanism and salient features of DM Act 2005.

In addition to these experts also discussed contents of disaster management plan, methodology of its preparation and health related issues of disasters. 877 participants comprising of faculty, heads, research scholars and officials attended the programme.

CCDRR Centre conducted this programme in association with Child resource centre, KILA. Dr. Peter M. Raj, Associate professor delivered welcome address and Prof. Santosh Kumar, Prof& Head, addressed the participants with his opening remarks. About 152 participants attended the programme.

• Sick students, teachers and other staff should not come to school.

• Enforce regular hand washing with safe water and soap, alcohol rub/hand sanitizer or chlorine solution and, at a minimum, daily disinfection and cleaning of school surfaces.

• Ensure water, sanitation and waste management facilities and follow environmental cleaning and decontamination procedures.

• Promote social distancing (a term applied to certain actions that are taken to slow down the spread of a highly contagious disease, including limiting large groups of people coming together).

Prime Minister's 10 Point Agenda No. 7 on DRR Utilize the opportunities provided by social media and mobile technologies and recognize the potential of Social media and develop applications for all aspects of disaster risk management "One Day Virtual Orientation Cum Training Programme of India Disaster Resource Network (IDRN) in Collaboration with Manipur, 15th Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations

a) Needs to be finding out what are all the standard list of line departments has to be register on IDRN portal.

b) Form 2A, 2B, 2C for all types of equipment/skilled human resource/ critical supplies wise inventory resource items filtration module has to be develop.

This programme conducted in association with APHDRDI, Bapatla .About 6409 participants attended the programme.

Key Take away

- It is learned from this training that, it is essential to conduct this training programme exclusively for health department considering the Covid-19 situation.

- School safety programme should include a component of handling schoolchildren by teachers.

- Disaster risk of children should be prepared for each disaster separately.

- Training programme on Child safety can be developed.

- Documentary movie on CCDRR activities implemented at India should be prepared.

- CCDRR initiatives taken by government of Andhra is attracted the participants.

- Department wise possible list of CCDRR activities to be generated to provide to the participants.

- Training duration should be increased to 3 hrs per day.

- NIDM Training cell should bring a guideline for collaborative institute which required technical support and separate course fee structure should be prepared.

- Important helpline numbers to be added to the slides to share with the participants.

- More examples related protecting children from disasters should be added in the training to provide clarity to the participants.

Prime Minister's 10-Point Agenda No. 7 on DRR: Utilize the opportunities provided by social and mobile technologies and recognize the potential of social media and develop applications for all aspects of disaster risk management."One Day Virtual Orientation Cum Training Programme of India Disaster Resource Network (IDRN) in Collaboration with Andaman and Nicorbar Island, Daman & Diu, Chandigarh 17th Sep 2020

Takeaways/Recommendations

a) Needs to be developing updated master list of resource inventory on new IDRN portal.

b) IDRN portal needs to be regularly sensitization on Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman Diu, Chandigarh UTs.

Disaster Management for Indian Postal Services Probationary Officers
14-18 Sep 2020

National Institute of Disaster Management, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India in collaboration with Rafi Ahmed Kidwai National Postal Academy, Ghaziabad, Ministry of Communications, Govt. of India organised 5 days online training programme on "Disaster Management for IPoS Probationers and Officers of Department of Posts, India", 14th – 18th September 2020. Shri Pradipta Kumar Bisoi Secretary & Chairperson, Postal Services Board inaugurated the training programme. The other dignitaries of the inaugural session include Major General Manoj Kumar Bindal, VSM Executive Director NIDM; Shri. Pradeep Michael Lal Director, RAKNPA and Prof. Surya Parkash, Head, GMR Division, NIDM.

The speakers of the technical sessions of the training programme include Sh. S. N. Pradhan Director General, NDRF; Prof. Surya Parkash, Head, GMR Division, NIDM; Dr. Pavan Kumar Singh Joint Advisor (OPS), NDMA; Maj. Gen. (Rtd.) Dr. V. K. Naik, KC, AVSM Senior Consultant, NDMA; Sh. Arun Sahdeo, Programme Officer, UNV; Dr. Harjeet Kaur, Young Professional, GMR Division, NIDM; Sh. Raju Thapa, Young Professional, GMR Division, NIDM and Sh. Anil Kathait, Young Professional, GMR Division, NIDM. 30 officials of Department of Posts attended the training programme.

Incident Response System: Basic & Intermediate for Northern State
(Part II-Ladakh & Punjab, 16-18 Sep 2020

NIDM conducted three days training programme on IRS during September 16-18, 2020 in collaboration with Mahatma Gandhi State Institute of Public Administration (MGSIPA), Chandigarh, This was II part of the training series of the same subject for Northern states & UTs, which NIDM would be conducting in collaboration with MGSIPA, covering the few districts of Punjab state and UT of Ladakh. Speakers shared their experiences on structure, history and operationalization of IRS with the participants. During the programme, participants also had the exposure to the Emergency Operations Centre, its structure and ingredients.

The last day of the programme had participants utilizing their experiences and knowledge gained during two days to give exercise presentation. This programme is a step towards institutionalization of IRS in the state of Punjab. Programme was attended by 930 officials from various districts of Punjab and UT administration of Ladakh.

The Training workshop cum FDP on Basis Disaster Management was conducted by NIDM on 21-23 Sep 2020. The Program was attended by Faculty Members of Amity University, Lucknow & Noida Campus and various other Universities, Colleges and Educational Institutes across India, Middle and Sr. Level Government Officials, Representatives of NGOS, Self Help Groups and Pvt. Organisations, Research Scholars and Students etc.

The Daily Attendance was nearly 430 persons through zoom platform provided by the AULC and nearly 100 persons on their You Tube Live Streaming. The programme was immensely successful.

One Day Virtual Orientation Cum Training Programme of India Disaster Resource Network (IDRN) in Collaboration with Mizoram & Nagaland, 22nd Sep 2020

National Institute of Disaster Management, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India in collaboration with Govt. of Nagaland and Disaster Management & Rehabilitation Department, Govt. of Mizoram organised a One-day virtual orientation cum training programme on "INDIA DISASTER RESOURCE NETWORK (IDRN)" for MIZORAM and NAGALAND State's", 22 September 2020.This was the "(10th)" webinar out of proposed 36 states in India.

- Needs to be developing updated master list of resource inventory on new IDRN portal.

- IDRN portal needs to be regularly sensitized on Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman Diu, Chandigarh UTs.

Child Centric Disaster Risk Reduction, 21-23 Sep, 2020

The first discussion session was revolved around Do's and Don'ts during the COVID 19. Dr. Balu initiated his discussion with the trajectory of COVID 19 from Wuhan to urban India and then to rural India. Then he also stressed how to diagnose possible COVID infection through symptoms in the human body. The second discussion by Dr. Ashok unfolded the important concepts related to Disaster Risk Management. He underlined that to manage Disaster a basic idea of its components like Hazard, Vulnerability, Risk, Capacity and Exposure needed to be understood. On the second day, two discussion sessions were organized in the online Training Programme on CCDRR. In the first session, Dr. Balu highlighted the important components of Child Centric Risk Reduction. He underlined that the CCDRR approach is about (i) understanding specific risk faced by the children in the time of disaster and measures taken for their protection (ii) secondly, it laid emphasis upon the involvement children in disaster reduction efforts and (iii) third, CCDRR approach is about for the children and with the children.

In the second session, Mr. Sanjeev Kumar delivered an insightful discussion on the mental health of children in the time of disaster. At the outset, she highlighted the growth of mental health and emotional milestones during infancy, early childhood and middle childhood.

Child Centric Disaster Risk Reduction, 21-23 Sep, 2020

This programme conducted in association with Mizoram University. About 250 participants attended the programme

- Basic concepts related to disasters and measures to reduce the risk particularly in context of safety of children.

- Promote social distancing with regard to COVID-19; and do's & don'ts on Covid 19.

- Enforce regular hand washing with safe water and soap, alcohol rub/hand sanitizer or chlorine solution and, at a minimum, daily disinfection and cleaning.

- Understand basic information about corona virus disease (COVID-19), including its symptoms, complications, how it is transmitted and how to prevent transmission.

- Stay informed about COVID-19 through reputable sources such as UNICEF, WHO and national health ministry advisories. Be aware of fake information/myths that may circulate by word-of-mouth or online.

- Maintaining mental health and hygiene of children specifically in the time of disasters and epidemics like COVID 19.

- Safeguarding child rights during disasters.

- Safety of children at homes to schools.
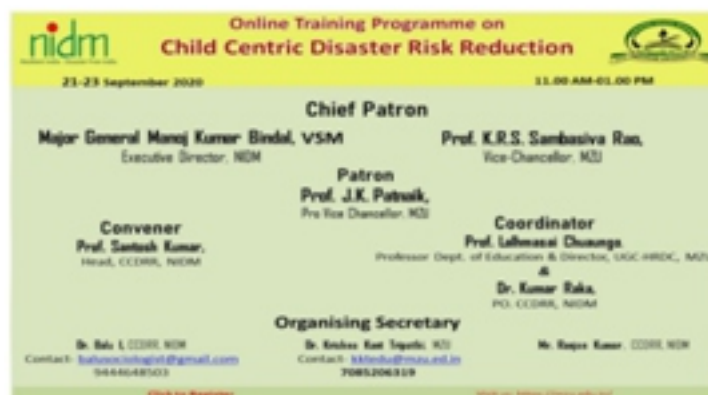
NIDM has conducted the five day faculty development program with 1st Day successfully completed on 21st September 2020. The chief guest Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank, Education Minister, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India conveyed his best wishes to NIDM via video message. Major General Manoj Kumar Bindal, ED NIDM; Lt. Gen Syed Ata Hasnain, Member NDMA and Chancellor of Central University of Kashmir; Shri S N Pradhan (IPS), DG NDRF; Prof. Gurmeet Singh, Vice Chancellor Pondicherry University; Prof. Annpurna Nautiyal, Vice Chancellor HNB Garhwal University and Prof. Surya Parksh, Head GMR Division, NIDM graced the inaugural session. Distinguished speakers Dr Mritunjaya Mahapatra, DGM, IMD; Prof. David Alexander, University College London (UCL); and Prof. Chandan Ghosh, Department of Civil Engineering, IIT Jammu; Shri P.P Shrivastava, IAS (Retd.), Member, NDMA Advisory Board; R. K Rana, Deputy Inspector General (Ops), HQ NDRF; Maj. Gen (Retd.) Dr. V.K Naik, KC, AVSM, Senior Consultant NDMA; Prof. Kapil Gupta, IIT Bombay; Dr. Sharad Chandra, Director (FFM) CWC; Prof. Surya Parksh, Head GMR Division, NIDM; Shri Krishna Vatsa, Member NDMA; Prof. Ravi Sinha, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay and Dr. Rajendra Singh, Water Conservationist & Environmentalist (waterman of India); Mr. Anil Kathait, NIDM; Dr. Harjeet Kaur, YP NIDM and Mr Raju Thapa, YP NIDM enlightened the participants with their vast knowledge and experience in the technical session of the training programme.

The Valedictory session of the training programme was presided by Chief Guest Dr. Kiran Bedi, IPS (Retd.) Lt. Governor of Puducherry along with Dr (Mrs) Pankaj Mittal, Secretary General of the Association of Indian Universities (AIU); Prof. (Ms.) Prof. Sushma Yadav, Vice Chancellor, Bhagat Phool Singh Mahila Vishwavidyalaya and Major General Manoj Kumar Bindal, VSM, ED NIDM. Mr. Anil Kathait, NIDM; Dr. Harjeet Kaur, YP NIDM and Mr Raju Thapa, YP NIDM moderated the training programme. About 1,420 participants (As per attendance sheet) marked their presence in Cisco Webex event.

District Disaster Management Plan, 23-25 Sep 2020

NIDM conducted three days e-training programme in collaboration with HCM Rajasthan Institute of Public Administration (HCMRIPA), Jaipur on District Disaster Management Plan during September 23-25, 2020. 159 participants from various departments of Government of Rajasthan attended the programme. The programme had sessions on concepts, institutional mechanism, vulnerabilities of Country and State, DM Act & DM policy, Importance of DM plan, Response plan and Psychosocial issues in disasters. Various experts in respective field shared their experiences during the programme. Major outcome of the programme was the updation of existing disaster management plans of the districts in line with the new developments such as IRS, SFDRR, etc.

Prime Minister's 10-Point Agenda No. 7 on DRR: Utilize the opportunities provided by social media technologies and recognize the potential of Social media and develop applications for all aspects of disaster risk management."One Day Virtual Orientation Cum Training Programme of India Disaster Resource Network (IDRN) in Collaboration with Karnataka (KSDMA), 24th Sep 2020

National Institute of Disaster Management, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt.of Indiain collaboration with Karnataka State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA)organised a One-day virtual orientation cum training programme on "INDIA DISASTER RESOURCE NETWORK (IDRN)" for Karnataka State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA)", 24September 2020.This was the "(11th)" webinar out of proposed 36 states in India.

• Needs to be developing updated master list of resource inventory on new IDRN portal.

• IDRN portal needs to be regularly sensitize on Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman Diu, Chandigarh UTs.

Prime Minister's 10-Point Agenda No.7 on DRR: Utilize the opportunities provided by social media and mobile technologies and recognize the potential of social media and develop applications for all aspects of disaster risk management "One Day Virtual Orientation Cum Training Programme of India Disaster Resource Network (IDRN) in Collaboration with Andhra Pradesh, 28th Sep 2020

National Institute of Disaster Management, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India in collaboration with Andhra Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority(APSDMA) organised One-day virtual orientation cum training programme on "INDIA DISASTER RESOURCE NETWORK (IDRN)" for Andhra Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority (APSDMA)", 28 September 2020.This was the "(12th)" webinar out of proposed 36 states in India.

• Needs to be developing updated master list of resource inventory on new idrn portal.

• IDRN portal needs to be regularly sensitized on Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman Diu, Chandigarh UTs.

NIDM conducted the second E-training programme on formulation of Disaster Management Plan in collaboration with Bhagwan Mahavir University (BMU), Surat and Gujarat during September 28-30, 2020. The programme was conceived keeping the fact that the Disaster Management Act 2005 provides for preparation of Disaster management Plan by every institution. The main objective of this training programme was to acquaint and involve participants in the process of developing a model multi-hazard Disaster Management Plan, which may subsequently be replicated in other such institutions.

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OTHER ACTIVITIES

1. **1st Working Group meeting on Disaster Risk Financing, Insurance, and Risk Transfer, 9th July 2020**

- The working group will be divided into three sub-groups focusing on flood, earthquake, and cyclone.

- The working group to meet after the 13th July meeting with the Ministry of Home Affairs and IRDAI.

- Identification of two vulnerable states for flood, earthquake, and cyclone for the working group on work on. III official could help in forming the same.

- NIDM to reach out to Nagaland SDMA for its pilot model on insurance and share the same with the group.

- The next working group meeting will be decided after the 13th of July meeting.

2. **Meeting with CPCB Officials, 6th Aug 2020**

   An Internal Meeting along with NIDM and CPCB officials was held on 06/08/2020 through video conferencing. During meeting, CPCB has clarified its comment on draft CMP-WB and also given suggestions to implement in the revised draft plan.

3. **2nd National Consultation Workshop for the CMP-WB Plan, 13th Aug 2020**

   As part of the planning strategy the 2nd National Consultation Workshop was organized. The workshop facilitated the participatory approach with valuable inputs from the key representatives of SPCBs, scientific/ research institutions, and key stakeholders working in related fields of water, health, environment and disaster management and crisis management, etc. Delegates nominated by concerned Ministries, State Pollution Control Boards, institutes and organizations with present and anticipated roles in dealing with contamination of water bodies, response/crisis, governance, and invited experts and stakeholder representatives were present in the 2nd national consultation workshop.

4. **Consultative Meeting for finalizing Social and Behavioral Change Module in Collaboration with UNICEF, 11th Sep 2020**

   Behaviour change has long been accepted as the key goal towards which disaster preparedness and development interventions should aim. When individuals and communities take on board the practice of disaster preparedness and risk reduction in their own decision-making, then their resilience is strengthened, and they have the means to adjust to changing circumstances and continue to reduce vulnerability and strengthen safety. Social and Behaviour Change Communication is the strategic use of communication approaches to promote changes in knowledge, attitudes, norms, beliefs and behaviours. SBCC interventions are designed based on evidence and follow a systematic process of analysis to define barriers and enablers of change leading to a comprehensive set of tailored interventions that promote desired behaviours. SBCC has proven effective in several areas of health, education, nutrition, child protection, water, sanitation and hygiene and others.

   Keeping this need in mind a 60 minute Sub Module on SBCC is has been developed by UNICEF for NIDM which was tested by hosting 2 Webinars, one with SIPARD, Tripura and another with RIPA, Rajasthan in the month of June 2020. After receiving suggestion s for changes and additions, the Module was sent for

review to around 10 external experts who are eminent academicians from the field of DRR. The meeting was also attended by ED, NIDM along with few faculty members of NIDM as well. Based on the reviews received, the Module was revised and presented in an online consultation meet held on 11th Sep 2020. The SBCC Module has subsequently been finalised.

5. **Working Group Meeting for the CMP-WB Plan under CPCB Project, 15ᵗʰ Sep 2020**

The meeting was attended by 21 participants with Working Group Committee Members from CWC, CGWB, NRCD, Ministry of Jal Shakti, CPCB and WIC. It was discussed in the meeting that for the refinement of the CMPWB Plan, roles and responsibility of each nodal ministries involved must be elaborated in a crisp way. The allocation of funds through SDRF & NDRF must be clearly stated in aforesaid document. The roles and responsibilities of CPCB will be only limited to testing and monitoring purposes. The Chairman of the National Sudden Water Contamination Crises Management Committee (NSWCCMC) will be the Cabinet Secretary from PMO Office assisted by the Joint Secretary from Training Cell, National Crises Management Committee (NCMC).

6. **Conference on Science & Technology Research-Policy-Practice Interface for Climate Risk Management Under CAP-RES: DST-GOI Project Implementing Prime Minister's Agenda 10-on Disaster Risk Management Item 05 Leveraging S&T for DRR, 25-27 Aug 2020**

Some of the takeaways/Recommendations from the conference are:

- Development in this disruptive technology such as Artificial intelligence are transforming many fields including disaster risk reduction.

- Rapid spread of supportive digital infrastructure devices has created foundation for application of disruptive technology.

- In Indian scenario one single disaster creates large amount of destruction and large number of people get affected.

- Sendai framework is helping the developing countries to strategize their disaster risk reduction in right direction and every country has a right to strategize for disaster risk reduction.

- United Nations platform for space based disaster management and emergency response is going to all the countries and offering technical advisory services and missions to help incorporate those technologies in their work.

- NIDM will be coming up with a policy document that how DRM and Climate Risk Management can be strengthened by using S&T and what further directions are required to strengthen S&T related resources as a key outcome.

- A policy report will be developed highlighting various lessons learned and future directions to be adopted along with the roles & responsibilities in line with PM Agenda point no 5.

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THEMATIC VIEWS

DRR: Reimagining and Redefining the C

Prof. Santosh Kumar

Capacity Building is one of the most important interventions for or achieving the result of a resilient economy. As per the analysis of Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the current pandemic is projected to shrink the world economy by 3.2% in 2020 under the baseline scenario. GDP growth in developed countries will plunge to -5.0 percent in 2020, while output of developing countries will shrink by 0.7 percent .The projected cumulative output losses during 2020 and 2021, nearly US $ 8.5 trillion will wipe output gains of the previous four years. This is giving a clear indication about the inadequacy of global capacity for handling catastrophic events. Global communities are exposed to many such disasters and risks in the light of climate change in the future too. It is not an end in itself and hence we have to reimaging and redefine our strategies, approaches and programmes. The fight against such events is bound to be collective and more cooperative.

Dr P. K. Mishra, UN Sasakawa awardee raised an issue for meeting future needs for DRR and Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister too in his Jai Krishna Memorial lecture , November 2020, said , " virus led the cascading impacts of unimaginable proportions' 'He also flagged the challenges while managing the pandemic that i) the information about the risk was not granular enough. District too is a larger unit where one part could be risk exposed and the other may not ii) the information was not dynamic enough in a spreading epidemic situation and iii) the analyses were not adequately informed by the local drivers of risk. He further emphasised that disaster management community should take stock of these lessons. In the light of PM 10 point agenda, SDG and COP 21 re-imagination and redefining capacity development framework for integrating it with Atma Nirbhar Bharat initiative of govt of India,

I joined the National Institute of Disaster Management in the year 2003 after having served state governments (Undivided Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan) and a multilateral organisation (The World Bank). I had joined as Professor & Head of the Policy, Planning and Community Issues Department. In fact, I was the first faculty to join the institute after its NCDM status was converted to NIDM. Prior to becoming NIDM, it has already facilitated the High Powered Committee report, which is considered to be a watershed document in the evolution of disaster management in India. National Centre for Disaster Management (later NIDM) was housed in Indian Institute of Public Administration, a DoPT, Govt of India. Later, after the shift in rule of business of DM in 2002, the Ministry of Home Affairs was made the nodal Ministry for Disaster Management from the Ministry of Agriculture. Hence NIDM was conceived in the year 2003, under the MHA.

The creation of NIDM, NDMA and National Act was one of the recommendations of HPC. NIDM was conceived as the key Capacity Building Institute as the apex body of Govt of India. Parallel to this, at the state levels, most of the state governments had their own Centres for Disaster Management, supported by Govt of India since 1995 onwards. Today, if we read the literature of disaster management, five key words are used in common parlance- Hazard (H), Risk(R) , Vulnerability (V) , Capacity (C) and Resilience(R) . Capacity is the denominator in the formula used and HRV whereas HRV are used as nominator. This is mathematically established if the impact of Disaster (D) is to be kept to minimum, we need to enhance the value of Capacity (C). NIDM and all the DM centres were working to enhance C. Even today, Disaster Management Act, 2005 is a guiding document for NIDM as it has defined the various components of C.

For taking various actions in the area of DM, What I see after so many years of my engagement in disaster management, globally, professionals have adopted a cyclical approach focusing on preparedness, response, relief, reconstruction, rehabilitation, and mitigation. At the international level, IDNDR decade, Yokohama strategy, Hygo framework of Action and now Sendai framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-30 have also reinforced the concept. But after the pandemic experience, we need to see entire capacity building differently. All sector approach is the need of the hour. Capacity building programme should exclusively be designed for behavioural change. Against the new and cascading disaster risks, to confront with it as a focussed, targeted, time bound, function based initiatives which should form the part of capacity building programme of all the sectors.

In fact, in the past although it was the priority, but not much focus has been given to it, maybe a cumulative understanding of C is missing. The very creation of the National Disaster Response Force has boosted the confidence of the governance and the people. They have done exceptionally well in responding to in country operations and also outside the country. But the concern is that the response has eclipsed the need of C for the -ex-ante risk reduction, resilience, disaster risk reduction etc. But the good response and relief will not be able to help in reducing economic loss, destruction, discomfort, and bridging the growth gap. In disaster management parlance, C is multi sectoral and it has to be addressed in that spirit.

COVID-19, a global pandemic, we have seen the loss which has occurred to the people, society, economy and generation as a whole. Even the best of the responses could not help in reducing mortality in India and in developed countries of the World barring few countries such as Japan, New zealand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Tango and Parrado. These countries could prepare in advance and capitalise their lessons learnt from SARS and Ebola epidemic.

NIDM, along with its partners, may also have to lead from the front for capacity building with other sectoral partners especially with the Ministry of Health and family welfare, National centre for Communicable disease, National Disaster Management Authorities and other sectors in designing programmes and strategies differently. The lessons learnt during COVID-19 pandemic need to be integrated. Accordingly, state governments and local bodies, panchayat have to realign its capacity building programme. Despite so many years of capacity building efforts, at the local levels for the preparation of disaster management plans, undertaking risk reduction measures, conducting post disaster need assessment, mainstreaming DRR in development plan, community preparedness, understanding building bye laws and its execution etc still remain unfulfilled tasks.

Pandemic has not only led to trillion dollar loss to the global economy but the worst part is it has shaken the confidence of the global community. By avoiding International, movement within the country, attending schools, colleges, meetings workshops seminars, etc all have been converted to virtual. There are many more direct and cascading impacts, both good and bad, may be attributed to COVID-19. But the direct lessons for disaster management have been that capacity building programmes should also include biological disasters in its programme. If we all may recall, most of the govt of orders for the management of pandemic- lock down, partial lockdown, partial opening, COVID-19 -appropriate behaviour etc all have been drawn from the National Disaster Management Act 2005. State government too used the DM Act along with the state pandemic Act. In one of the Webinars organised by NIDM, Mr Vijay Raghvan, a known scientists and principal scientific advisor to Hon'ble Prime Minister of India recommended in his address that disaster management and biological disasters(pandemic, epidemic etc) cannot be separated with each other which is now also a global call. In recently concluded UN General Assembly meeting in June 2020, in response to COVID-19 three point response has been committed-i) joint operational response strategies for all UN ii) Global humanitarian response and iii) development of UN-socio-economic response framework

and at the regional level UNESCAP, SAARC, BIMSTEC and NIDM webinar also emphasised.

Hence, no better time than this, when the entire world is planning for recovery, C is to be unfolded and re-imagined and redrafted and it should also move out from human resource development alone to a new framework, programme, plan and policy and legislation, if the need may be. The underlying drivers of risk - poverty, inequality, exclusion, discrimination, gender sensitiveness, and children related issues are to be kept in the nucleus. The capacity development programme should be in consonance with the state and local levels programmes. Strengthening of the local government and community initiatives by using 15 finance commission resources, regular development funds of different sectors, including Ministry of Environment for Climate Change, mitigation should have a dynamic and flexible framework with time bound tangible indicators of monitoring. Time is to focus on building local capacity with the reverse pyramid approach. At the local level, communities are confronting with maximum risks on a regular basis and hence capacity (C) to cope with it may also be decentralised for reaching out to better opportunity for building resilient, secure and safe society. Govt of India has announced "Atma Nirbhar Bharat" (self-reliant India) with the package of 20 lac crores(10 percent of India's GDP) as COVID-19 recovery package divided into five major segments-economy, infrastructure system, vibrant demography and demand. On the other hand, 15th Finance commission has included disaster mitigation, disaster recovery and capacity building funds with risk index basis allocation to the states. Federal initiatives in this direction should seamlessly need to be integrated to have sustained and positive results.

2ⁿᵈ Generation Disaster Resilience: V3ISESH Inclusive Business Planning for Districts, ULBs, Industry and Infrastructure

Prof. Anil K Gupta

V3ISESH, the V3 Vital, Viable and Vibrant: Inclusive Safety-Environment-Sustainability-Health (V3ISESH विशेष) framework, as wisdom driven, innovative and effective tool to address the prevailing and future complexity of risks faced by the people, governments and businesses. The PDM (preventive-disaster-management) framework by Gupta &Yunus (2004, Current Science) as it drives to 2oo5's Disaster Management Act of India that argued for holistic, proactive and risk-mitigation centric approach.

With a journey of 15 years, the factsheets revealed a long way ahead in addressing 'underlying causes of risk and vulnerability' (Priority 4 of HFA) that led to the Priority 1 of SFDRR (understanding disaster risk). My arguments on 'environment as risk driver or disaster risk agent' seems agreed upon by schools of thoughts with the experience of, in general, most major disasters of past decade ecologically exacerbated, like the Uttarakhand floods & landslides 2013, Kashmir flood, Kerala floods, Guwahati floods, Chenai floods, Malingaon landslides, Marathwada drought, Delhi/NCR smog, etc. and in particular, the complex emergencies with range of industrial/chemical and natural disasters amidst of Covid-19 pandemic. Environmental emergencies with implications leading to impact on lives, infrastructure, industry, businesses, health etc.
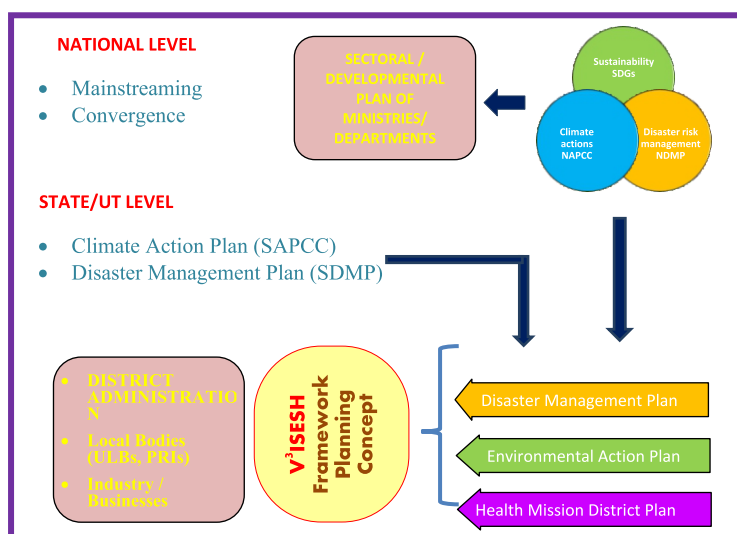
have become common among present day disaster scenario, globally and in India.

Social and economic costs of environmental damages and climatic alterations calls for a research regime to understanding the linkages in policy and financial terms at strategic levels. However, local level synergies among various planning protocols are crucially important. Call for integrated approach that is of vital importance but necessarily has to be viable and vibrant enough to accommodate a wider range of inclusiveness issues and multi-hazard range of vulnerability contexts, is inevitable especially for the development-transition nations like India. Following are the key necessities of a planning convergence concept in India:

(a) Resource efficiency and optimization, avoiding wastage and duplicacy of efforts and expenses.

(b) Co-benefits, commonalities in objectives and scope, recognizing the facts that more than two third of parameters are common considerations in planning for safety, environment, health and sustainability domains.

c) Effective coordination and management, by bringing participatory approach in practice, mutual understanding, inter-disciplinarity and trans-disciplinarity, with building up mutual trust and accountability.

The V3ISESH Framework Planning Concept, that weaves around the core purpose of effective 'disaster resilience – 2nd Generation approach' following the CUSP (Culture of Safety and Prevention) principle envisaged towards the item 1 of 10 Point Agenda on Disaster Risk Management set by India's Prime Minister during the 7th AMCDRR.
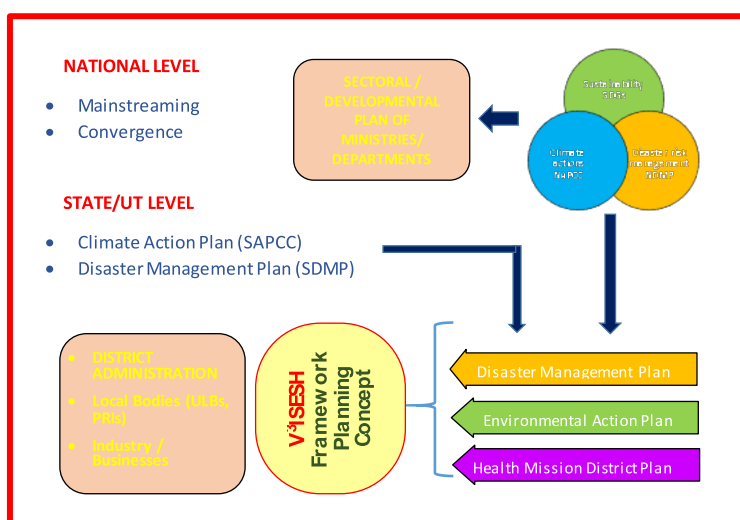
The operationalization of the framework concept on ground would, therefore, require following levels of interventions is a systemic manner but with no further delays as the journey middles the SFDRR with deleterious effects but significant lessons during the Covid-19 Pandemic disaster. Key constituents of V3ISESH framework operationalization includes the following:

(i) Methodologies and approach with pilot studies (action research based lessons integration for upscaling / replication) at the key units of governance and management, i.e., District administration, Local administration (ULBs, PRIs), Industries and Businesses.

(ii) V3ISESH sensitive Sectoral Planning at sub-national (State/UT) for effective resource allocations, co-benefits and management coordination.

(iii) V3ISESH framework protocols assurance across the plans and practices of Disaster Management/Safety, Emergency Response, Environment/Ecosystem Management, Sustainability (Ecological, Climatic, Social and Economic) and Health.

(iv) V3ISESH framework models to be developed and promoted for Smart City (ULBs), Adarsh Gram (PRIs), Corporate / Industry Units, etc.

(v) V3ISESH Institutional Framework – establishment of a National Level University Institution for interdisciplinary and trans-disciplinary research, teaching-learning, training and knowledge promotion.

Knowledge based consortium enabled process support for planning, implementation and review of V3ISESH(विशेष) framework concept operationalization at designated levels, is a basic need for the above listed 5 layer actions. It may be considered as revolutionary proposal and may consume substantial time and energy initially but prudently planned pilots and lessons translating to policy planning and business management regimes, especially post-Covid-19 and 2nd Generation disaster resilience.

Covid 19, Universal Health Coverage, Issues and Way Forward

Ashish Kumar Panda

Covid-19, the Global Pandemic, has impacted the Globe alike, on Socio-Economic, Health and Livelihood fronts, bringing lots of uncertainties and questioning our ways of living, definitions of growth & development and also the changing World Geo-Politics. This biological disaster posed many challenges upon us and at the same time showed us many shortcomings and gap areas that we need to deal with, in times to come, for a disaster resilient society.

Health, being vital to our existence, has been the vastly impacted sector, during this turmoil. We have been caught unguarded and are facing a very important question of how to make this sector disaster resilient because it is the first and last line of defense during any biological disaster. Once it is shattered, then there is no respite or hope for sustenance.

One should appreciate that fact that Health Sector, during this pandemic, had dual responsibilities of checking the virus from its further spread and also keeping other non-covid medical services unaffected during this fight with Pandemic. This Pandemic has shown unexpected vulnerability of otherwise medically strong countries having modern technologies and strong institutional mechanisms. Global Think Tanks of Health Sector have unanimously arrived at a conclusion that well-functioning & resilient health systems, based on strong primary health care centres, are the foundation stones for providing communities health security and Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

UHC includes equitable access to health promotion, prevention and treatment, at door steps or within nearby reach. Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 3.8.1 (Service Coverage) covers all these aspects as well as Health Security as the broader umbrella. UHC may be discussed with the following areas of importance/concern:-

Service Delivery

- Public Health Capacities at ground local levels and at last mile reach are often missing with respect to human resource, infrastructure, connectivity and inventories etc.

- Primary Health Care Centers need to be strengthened so that basic medication of local population can be provided then and there and thereby workload on medical facilities at 3rd, 2nd and 1st tier cities is lessened to the best extent possible.

- Community Based Strategies, involving communities, with their traditional knowledge and wisdom and sound cooperation, will always be beneficial, in improving local level health systems.

- Non-Covid medical attention and needs viz vaccination, pre-natal medical care, heart diseases, diabetes, mental illnesses, psycho-social care etc. get neglected during such biological disasters. There has to be a fine balance between Covid and Non-Covid Medical care and both should complement each other rather than challenging one another.

- Expecting Governments to do all the needful during such Pandemics, in the health sector, would be too much of an asking. Private Sectors need to be roped in for better and sufficient medical care, side by side, strengthening existing government set ups.

- Disadvantaged groups of our society viz. children, elderly, women, mentally sick, persons with disabilities, critically ill persons, migrants, refugees, transgender, slum-dwellers, beggars etc. need special attention and should be provided special care during these hard times from experts of those fields. Let no one be left behind.

- Health Care Workers and the medical fraternity should be protected at first hand so that their services are available at times of crisis. Adequate training and skill development, protective gears, workable flexi working hours, due respect, timely salaries, support to their families etc. should be primary areas of concern and support for them.

- Global supply chains have failed. There is need to bring forth strengthened regional and local supply chain mechanism.

- Tele-medicine, Digital health support system, mobile health care units are some new found ways to provide health care without real physical presence of health care workers. It needs to be more researched upon and propagated.

Health Financing

- Measures like comprehensive surveillance, data and information systems, regulation, communication and information campaigns, other than the real health care, require resources and finances to keep going. Despite economic slump during Pandemic, these sectors and measures should not be deprived of funds.

- Effective epidemic control eventually helps economy to rebuild itself.

- Public Funding to universal health care saves individuals, especially poor class, from thinking whether to avail medical care or not, based on their paying capacities. It assures them with mental safety that they will be taken care of, during such crisis.

- A UN Report suggests that the recurrent costs of preparedness have been estimated to be $13.8 billion per year for 67 low- and middle-income countries, while annual costs of responding to disasters are more than $500 billion. Current analyses suggest that the COVID-19 pandemic could cost the global economy up to $8.8 trillion. Until unless UHC mechanism is brought into reality, such massive financial needs and related medical delivery cannot be achieved by individual states/countries across the globe.

Governance

- Evidence based decisions, having scientific and technological backing; helps contain biological disasters in a proactive way.

- People trust government strategies having multiple stakeholders with clear cut responsibilities and accountabilities.

- Clear and consistent information dissemination helps spread awareness generation, which is vital to fight pandemics.

- Trust in health sector needs time for building and is further substantiated through local community participation.

- A multi-stakeholder approach is warranted with involvement of government, NGOs, Private Sector, Academia, Industries and Local Community with defined and well set areas of functioning.

- Inter linkages between agencies working in a particular sector and intra-bonding between organizations of different sectors need to be balanced properly to reduce duplicity of work, optimum utilization of scarce resource and avoid confusion of any type.

- Revival of Economy, with new normal of socio-economic-medical stresses, has to go hand in hand with up-liftment of local industries, small and medium sector production houses. And from a health point of view, it is important to protect the most vulnerable right from the start, restoring all essential services as quickly as possible, and ensuring work-place safety in industrial operations.

- Pandemics are blind to Geographical boundaries, andinter-government cooperation is essential for future safety. Global research collaborations in diagnostics, vaccines and treatments are all welcome but at the same time Governments need to come globally together to fight such health menace.

Conclusion:-

In the light of the above discussion, the following can be deduced with respect to the Universal Health Coverage:-

- Primary health care institutions need to be strengthened.

- Public health action involving prevention, promotion and emergency preparedness will eventually help UHC. Covid-19 has helped bring forth this important aspect highlighting the weaknesses of local governments.

- Health financing not only helps in building health infrastructure and services but also helps boost the reducing economy.

- There is need to invest more in public health functions –surveillance, laboratories, information systems, information, education and communication – to strengthen both emergency preparedness and primary healthcare.

- We need to provide equitable access to all with respect to vaccines, diagnostics, medicines, digital solutions.

- Gaps in quantity and quality of health workers, their training and capacity building have to identified and filled.

- S&T Innovations with respect to new information technology, health product development, finance, governance, new ways of working in a pandemic situation etc. need to be researched, brought into use into local disciplines and services.

- We need to see the local community as part of the solution. Governments are not supposed to do everything and hence all other non government agencies and stakeholders need to be brought into the scheme of things for better pandemic resilience and UHC for one and all.

Ref: UHC 2030: Discussion Paper: Time to Get Our Act Together on Health Emergencies and UHC.

Living with Covid-19 – a new normal of 2020

Dr. Amir Ali Khan

It has been almost a year since the arrival of Covid-19. During this year not only we had lived through an anxious life but also evolved a lot to live with the disease. Spread of the disease (Covid-19) started with the arrival of Corona Virus in December 2019 from China, which had impacted lives and lifestyles of the entire world. About 218 countries and territories throughout the globe were impacted with about 85 million affected people and 1.8 million deaths[1]. Countries like USA, India, Brazil, Russia, UK, France and Italy etc. were the most severely affected despite having best of available medical resources. The pandemic has crippled the world economy posing a greater challenge for another round on international recession.

During this year we had starred on statistics/data and observed shifting peaks of the Corona Virus victims from one place to the other. The pandemic has forced the world to adjust to new life styles with limited social interactions and increased health worries. To overcome these challenges communities were forced locked down to keep away the virus infection and to buy time to learn and innovate the Covid-19 appropriate behaviour.

In India, we had just passed through the peak of the disease. Many countries are still struggling to control the spread of the virus. In last one year the world has evolved a lot and learnt to live with the virus. One most important aspect all have leant is to develop a healthy life style to build the personal immunity to keep the virus away. To achieve the target of developing a robust immune system to fight the corona virus people not only tuned vegetarian (by enhanced eating of fresh vegetables and fruits) but also took special care of personal hygiene and regular physical exercises very seriously. Maintaining social distance, regular hand sanitisation and wearing a mask while outside the safe bubble zone have become a new normal of 2020.

Working during the pandemic has changed. Many people lost their jobs and those who are lucky ones have to make adjustments in the working styles. People were not mentally and otherwise prepared for the forced unplanned work from home experiment. Few of the professions like the medical one had played a very proactive role in containing the spread of disease. Similarly, the student community has been under constant stress by taking lessons through online mode. Working from home and use of online modes has been another new normal of 2020. These new styles of work have their own challenges. Anyway, people have learnt a lot and adjusted to the new normal. The arrival of credible medical treatment for curing the virus infection or arrival of anti- corona virus vaccine or developing the heard immunity are the options which everyone is looking for. Arrival of vaccine is round the corner. Many vaccine candidates are at very advanced stage of development and are at approval stage. The arrival of vaccine will definitely reduce the stress level. Immunisation of large communities will take a lot of effort and time. Similarly, development of herd immunity at national level in India is going to take a long time as well.

Till the time all people get immunised and/or herd immunity developed among the communities, the risk of getting infected with the Corona Virus will remain at large. And people need to continue taking all prescribed precautions to meet the challenges of new normal of 2020.

Living with Covid

Dr. Ajinder Walia

The current pandemic is showing no signs of tapering off and would require an adjustment to a new normal of physical distancing and sanitation that could become part of everyday life for some time to come. We have

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[1](Based on Corona Worldometer data

to learn to live with the virus, and for that we need to introduce certain behavioural changes, to implement physical distancing practices to combat this virus. It is a difficult battle and cannot be fought without cooperation and community support. Corona is a wake-up call for all of us as a culture which highlights that rules are meant for everybody and the only way we can succeed is if we all follow them, irrespective of whether we are residing in a slum or a high-rise gated community, as the virus will find many hosts at both the places. The pandemic has pushed our country to dream about becoming self-reliant but it also underscores how dependent we ultimately are on everyone around us.

We also need to keep in mind that returning to normal will not mean that we will get rid of the virus. However, the approach should be to keep the incidence of virus so low that it doesn't interfere with the kind of normal life in which economy and employment can march forward. Some of the changes which has been observed during pandemic at the grassroots level included nearby small grocery shops and bigger shops vying with each other offering home delivery with shops giving the Digital India concept a big boost by accepting payments through Paytm, Google Pay and bank transfers. Grocery lists were circulated on sent on WhatsApp and the delivery was done at doorsteps. Zero contact delivery of cooked food items is still been practiced. We can see several other positive things happening like all of us, including men, learning to double up as cooks, maids, gardeners and even barbers, plumbers and electricians.

The situation was more painful for the poor, particularly daily wagers, and for many migrant workers who had to struggle to get home or those families facing the wrath of the virus itself. The rising number of depression cases and suicides has highlighted the issue of mental health and wellbeing in the country. Ideally, the best way to cope with the situation is to start counting the blessings and try to look at the situation from a positive perspective – turning the crisis into opportunities, taking up things which we love and always wanted to do. We can spread some positive energy by keeping ourselves social connected to our friends, relatives and acquaintances. Here, social media apps like WhatsApp, Facebook, Instagram, Blogs etc. are already playing a big role. Organisations and even families are already learning to do group chats, video calls, WEBINARS using various platforms. In order to prevent it being considered as a zero academic year, the educational instituted continued imparting education through various online platforms. Even exams are being conducted online. This has paved the way for blended approach of learning where digital and face to face learning can be adopted once the pandemic is over.

Living with Covid

Dr. Sushma Guleria

With the announcement from the World Health Organization classifying the novel corona virus as a pandemic, many are bracing themselves for drastic changes in their daily lives. Corona virus Disease (COVID-19) has become the largest pandemic that has affected 210 countries. No specific medicine or vaccine is available yet to control the disease; hence, social distancing via lockdown was widely adopted as the only preventive measure. Social distancing was observed at different level of strictness in different counties but it almost made the world to stands still. Although scientific articles on this largest social move are scanty, it resulted in benefiting the deteriorated environment to revive back. Learning to live with COVID-19 is officially a reality as the Director General of the World Health Organisation announced that the pandemic will continue until at least 2022. Lock-downs and quarantines, imposed without consultation or incentives, have been used in many countries. These have had a negative impact on people´s lives, livelihoods and health and have been especially damaging on national economies, further impacting on people´s wellbeing. Living with COVID-19 must avoid national lock-downs by maintaining low community transmission, shielding the vulnerable, maintaining social responsibility and empowering communities to protect themselves and others.

Living with COVID-19 (with or without vaccines) depends on maintaining low community transmission by ensuring everyone complies with current preventive measures (based on scientific evidence and experience) including face masks, social distancing, hand-washing, testing and self isolation. Maintaining low community transmission means maintaining social responsibility to comply with preventive measures to protect ourselves, to be vigilant, and to protect others, including the vulnerable. Living with COVID-19 depends on shielding and supporting the vulnerable in society including the elderly, people with underlying health conditions (1/3 of COVID-19 deaths in the UK had diabetes), a disability, refugees and migrant workers and the homeless. Managing the outbreak in vulnerable settings has been problematic including in care homes (in the UK 40% of deaths), in quarantine hotels for travelers, migrant worker dormitories and in mixed generational families. Living with COVID-19 depends on harnessing the potential and systematically supporting the involvement of communities.

Living with COVID-19 depends on maintaining social responsibility by empowering people to have more control in their lives to protect themselves and others. Social responsibility will not be achieved by changing behavior, person by person, because there is insufficient time (the first enemy in any outbreak), resources and capacity in many countries. Maintaining social responsibility depends on building trust between governments and communities. This can be facilitated through community-based organizations (charities, voluntary, faith based and social organizations) and local leaders that have an established network of contacts. Community-based organizations provide a bridge between political action and civil society and can quickly increase awareness about the need for personal protection and identify ways to comply with preventive measures at an individual, family and community levels.

Living with COVID-19 depends on reaching those who cannot or will not maintain low community transmission including the vulnerable, people who lack social responsibility or who oppose preventive measures. Tailored interventions, with a clear understanding of the socio-cultural context, must be used to target individuals and groups that present a high risk of spreading of the virus. Tailored interventions have been successful in controlling and promoting immunization by engaging in a dialogue and by working with leaders to address local concerns. Reaching those who cannot or will not maintain low community transmission through tailored interventions is a crucial step towards living with COVID-19.

A paradigm shift for the response to the pandemic is now needed to better engage with communities and to empower people to protect them. The epidemiological perspective remains essential but living with COVID-19 depends on controlling the virus as it circulates at the local level. Public health systems must be able to work alongside politicians to guide government policy in each step of the disease outbreak response. There is not a definitive approach for the management of COVID-19 because context (socio-cultural, political, economic and historical) has a direct influence on any response. It is therefore difficult to compare and contrast response outcomes between countries because what works in one country may not work in another. Living with COVID-19 depends on each country response being analyzed within a full consideration of its context. A paradigm shift for the response to the pandemic must therefore include an emphasis on the social sciences, on data collection and on the translation of the findings into practice. This will help us to better understand the context and how to develop a culturally competent workforce that can engage with hard-to-reach groups in society.

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Covid-19

Shekher Chaturvedi

COVID-19, which started from China's Wuhan city in December 2019 had affected the entire world and brought the economy of majority of countries to a new low. India was also not spared by the affect of this virus and witnessed its first case which surfaced in Kerala's Thrissur district in January end. By February the impact of this virus was so deadly, that number of deaths in many countries surpassed many disasters. Countries declared emergencies and started preparations to tackle this calamity. In India, Kerala was the first state to declare COVID-19 as a state calamity that too in February.

In March, India started screening all international passengers across the airports. World Health Organization (WHO) also declared COVID-19 as a pandemic seeing the impact of this virus in entire World. On March 12, India reported its first death. A 76-year-old man from Karnataka's Kalburgi district became the first victim of the virus. The same day, India also banned the entry of foreigners for a month and suspended all visas.

India's response as precautionary measures had already started. Nationwide band on Sunday 22nd March was conducted on the request of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India. However, seeing the increase in number of cases across the World, on March 25, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced a nationwide lockdown which continued till May 31. During this lockdown period, essential commodities and medical facilities were allowed. Due to this lockdown, Health professionals along with many International agencies say that India could manage to control the spread of this virus. Amongst many States & UTs, Lakshadweep was the only UT which registered zero Covid patients as they started screening patients right from the day cases started across the globe.

On March 14, the Ministry of Home Affairs made a useful announcement by declaring COVID-19 as a notified disaster. This meant state governments could draw from the State Disaster Risk Management Fund (SDRMF) for relief measures during lockdown. Government of India, in its first order through NEC, while announcing the national lockdown also nominated Executive Magistrates of States/ UTs as Incident Commanders for management of Covid 19 pandemic thus invoking Incident Response System for responding to this emergency. Thereafter, NEC kept on monitoring the changing situation of the impact of this virus and issued notifications regarding RTPCR kits for testing, banning movements intra states/ cities except essential commodities and medical emergencies, enforcing use of Masks, identifying Testing labs, etc. Subsequently issue of migrant labourers was also handled efficiently with the help of State Government and UT Administration. This was the first time probably in the history when even the Trains were stopped due to pandemic.

Even now, Government of India is requesting people to follow the new normals such as use of mask, maintaining the social distance and hand washing with soap/ use of sanitizer.

COVID-19: Transition to E-Learning and Widening Digital Divide

Dr. Kumar Raka

India is one place in which the digital divide highlights society's deep chasms. Internet penetration is associated with greater social progress of a nation. Thus digital divide in a way hinders the social progress of a country. The digital divide adversely impacting the capacity of children to learn and develop. Education is just one area that has highlighted the digital divide between India's rural and urban areas during the lockdown. According to the NSSO (National Sample Survey Office) study, conducted between July 2017 and June 2018, just 4.4 rural households have a computer, against 14.4 per cent in an urban area. It had just 14.9

per cent rural households having access to the internet against 42 per cent households in urban areas. Similarly, only 13 per cent people of over five years of age in rural areas have the ability to use the internet and amongst them just 8.5 percent of females. Further, India has among the world's highest gender gap in access to technology. This disparity in internet use between boys and girls in the same family is representative of a larger trend in the country. According to GSMA's 2020 mobile gender gap report, only 29 percent of internet users are female and 21 percent of women are mobile internet users, wherein 42 per cent of men have access. The report says that while 79 per cent of men own a mobile phone in the country, the number for women is 63 per cent. While there do economic barriers to girls' own a mobile phone or laptop, cultural and social norms also play a major part. The male-female gap in mobile use often exacerbates other inequalities for women, including access to education, information, economic opportunities, and networking. The earning member of the family has to carry the phone while going out to work. If one family has just one phone, there is a good chance that the wife or the daughter will be the last one to use it.

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in an unprecedented crisis worldwide. India the second largest schooling system in the world has been forced to shut down schools to maintain social distancing, the most logical solution, to avoid the community transmission in general and also to ensure safety and security of children in particular. A total of 320 million students in India have been adversely affected and as an option to the prolonged school closure and to ensure continuity of education, the network of 1.5 million schools in the country has shifted to the e-learning module. E-learning depends on availability and accessibility of technology. And with huge regional and household disparities in access to the internet and technology, this transition has not been possible for all students and educators equally. Besides non-availability of internet and gadgets (computers, laptops, mobiles etc.) electricity is yet another significant challenge in implementing E-learning module. In a recent 2017-18 survey, the Ministry of Rural Development found that only 47% of Indian households receive more than 12 hours of electricity and more than 36% of schools in India operate without electricity.

The data presented above suggests that while students from families with better means of living can easily bridge the transition to e-learning, students from underprivileged backgrounds are likely to succumb to inefficiency and a lack of adaptation, either because of the inaccessibility of the technology or the low education of their parents to guide them through tech-savvy applications. It has been observed and reported that not students are struggling in this transition but also teachers and institutions are not always trained and equipped to transition to online teaching. Many teachers are unqualified when it comes to using new technologies and interfaces. While the recently drafted new education policy supports and endorses India as the flag-bearer of the digital revolution and acknowledges that it is a diverse and multilingual country, this already existing digital divide and sudden emphasis on technology-driven education is preventing many children in the country from continuing school education. The rapid and sudden shift to e-learning prompted by the pandemic has resurfaced long-standing issues of inequality and a digital divide that must be addressed by future economic, education and digitalization policies. If e-learning is the "new normal", the policy must go further to address the feasibility of digitalization to ensure equity and quality in education.

Living with pandemic and Healthy life style for children

Dr. Balu

The novel corona virus has infected close to 10 million people in India and resulted in more than 1 lacs 44 thousand fatalities in our country as on 19 Dec 2020. The total number of cases were continues to rise every day, states across the country have slowly eased lockdown restrictions to prevent the economy from nose-diving. While the adults are slowly beginning to step outdoors to get back to work, schools and other educational institutes are also slowly being opened but in many states still it's being closed.

As the children continue to stay confined between the four walls of the home, it can be a tough task for the parents to take care of their overall health and wellbeing. In the absence of any fixed routine and a disrupted normalcy, it is difficult to ensure that the children stay healthy. Since the parents are facing a challenges to handle the children and ensuring their physical and mental wellbeing. While we do not know when the normal routine of going to school, having three meals in a day and sleeping on time will be restored, as parents, it is time to find solutions for novel problems.

To ensure the healthy life style of children during Covid-19 Pandemic the parents can adopt the following ideas (i) Eating healthy and balanced diet (ii) Practice safe food hygiene (iii) limit screen time (iv) quality sleep (v)stay active and practice yoga.

Practice hygiene: Washing children hands with soap and warm water for 20 seconds to be practiced. We also need to ensure that children not touching their face, wearing face-covers whenever needed and even covering their face while coughing or sneezing. Children also need to be cautious about what they are touching and coming in contact with throughout the day.

Eating healthy and balanced diet: We slowly strive to get back to a routine, it is essential to watch what everyone in the family is eating. So, make it a point to remove junk and packaged products away from the vicinity of the children and keep fresh fruits.

Quality sleep: Sleep is all the more important for young children as it keeps their physical and mental health in check. This is why a proper routine for shut-eye and a no-gadget policy in the bed is really important. Ensure that, at least 2 hour before go to the bed your child leaves gadget.

Limit screen time: Everyone knows that the pandemic has resulted in an increase in screen time for kids. It is important to establish a routine when it comes to using gadgets and screen for the children. Set a strict time limit for usage of gadget for the day and make sure that children adhere to the same.

Stay active and practice yoga: As the children movements are being restricted, it is the parent's responsibility to ensure that they stay active physically. Parent can inculcate easy stretches and yoga routine to do with their children for the same.

In addition to above "Pancha Thanthra", we also need to focus on a holistic approach which is also a very important aspect to remain healthy and boost immunity in children. Children should be guided about health and nutrition in such a way that leaves a positive impact among the children.

Differential Impact of Covid -19 on Women and Challenges of Recovery

Ranjan

Women and girls are being left even further behind as the COVID-19 crisis hits many countries at different stages in their development trajectories. Initial research shows that women are more vulnerable than men in the COVID-19 crisis, especially in terms of socio-economic consequences and notably in developing countries where sharply rising poverty levels, lack of health and education services, and underlying insecurity exacerbate the negative impacts of the crisis. The pandemic exacerbates existing inequalities for women and girls across every sphere from health and the economy, to security and social protection. Women play a disproportionate role in responding to the virus, including as frontline healthcare workers and carers at home. Women's unpaid care work has increased significantly because of school closures and the increased needs of older people.

The lockdown has led to an increase in the number of domestic violence, child marriages and unwanted pregnancies among women and girls. The National Commission for Women received 2043 complaints of

crimes against women, the highest in the past eight months. COVID-19 brought the industry to a halt and schools were shut, it has been observed that child marriages were on the rise.[2]

Women's reproductive rights have taken a particular hit. Travel restrictions, the diversion of public healthcare towards Covid-19, the closure of private clinics, and disruptions in medical supply chains have meant that women have been unable to receive timely care.

Women are also harder hit by the economic impacts of COVID-19, as they disproportionately work in insecure labour markets. Nearly 60 per cent of women work in the informal economy, which puts them at greater risk of falling into poverty. This context contributes to a slow response, and provides difficult conditions for recovery and prevention for the women in pandemic situation. Putting women and girls at the centre of economies will fundamentally drive better and more sustainable development outcomes for all, support a more rapid recovery, and place the world back on a footing to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.
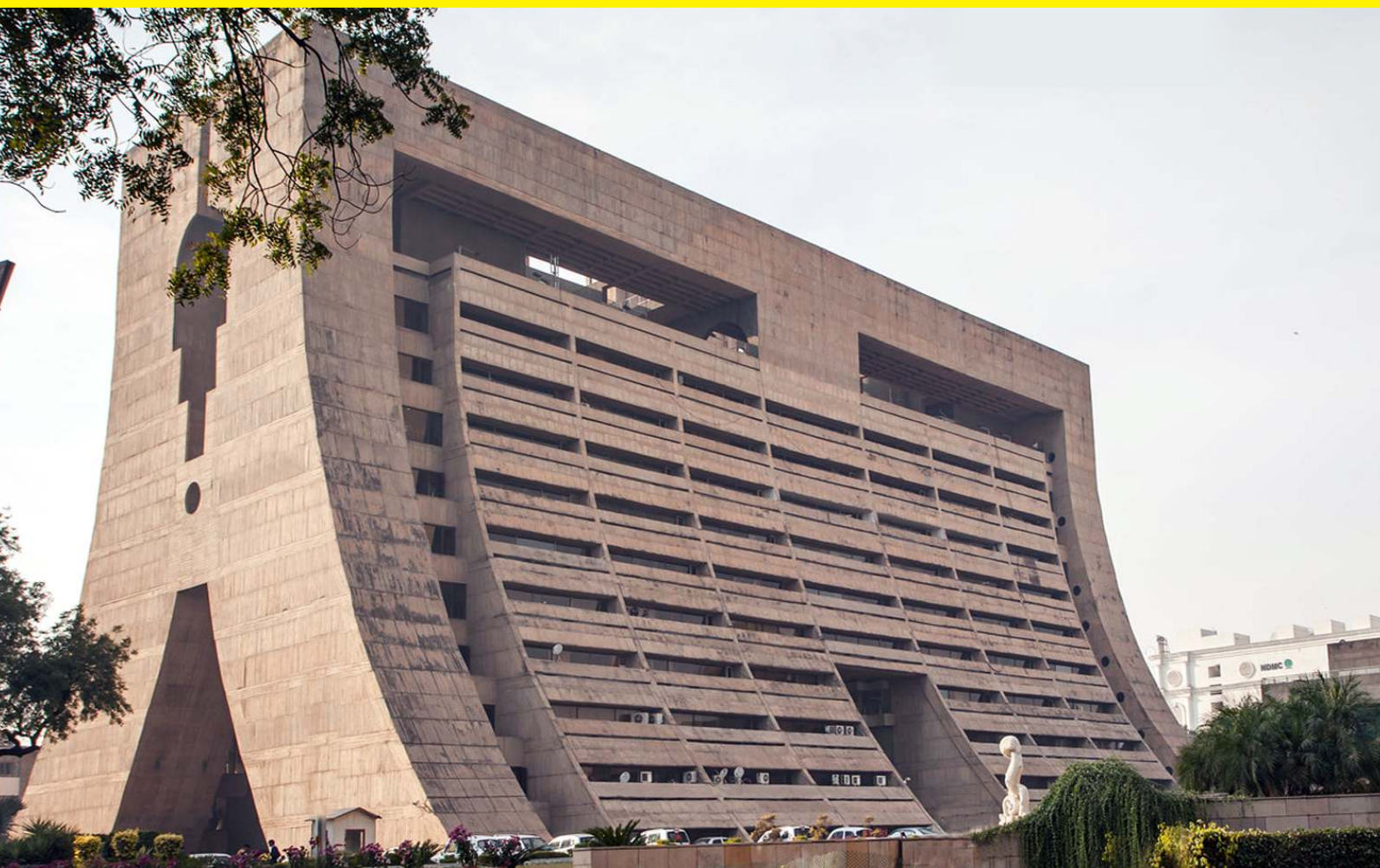
The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 supports an inclusive approach to disaster risk reduction. It recognizes the indispensable role of women in risk reduction efforts. The Framework emphasizes both their distinct gender-specific capacities to prevent, prepare, confront, and recover from disasters and their vulnerabilities. Accordingly, every COVID-19 response plans and every recovery package and budgeting of resources, needs to address the gender impacts of this pandemic. There should be inclusion women and women's organizations in COVID-19 response planning and decision-making for transforming the inequities of unpaid care work into a new, inclusive care economy that works for everyone; and designing socio-economic plans with an intentional focus on the lives and futures of women and girls.

It also recognizes that gender, disability, age and cultural perspectives are needed in all policies and practices; and that women and their participation are critical to effectively managing disaster risk and designing, resourcing and implementing gender-sensitive disaster risk reduction policies, plans and programmes; and adequate capacity building measures need to be taken to empower women for preparedness as well as build their capacity for alternate livelihood means in post-disaster situations.

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