

Diploma Course in Psychosocial Support and Mental Health Services in Disaster Management

2026-27



**MENTAL HEALTH
SUPPORT**

Jointly Awarded by

Department of Psychosocial Support in Disaster Management,
National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS)
and

National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM),
Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India



About the Programme

An expert-led six-month online diploma programme covering psychosocial support and mental health services across all stages of disasters, including preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery is being jointly organised by the National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM), Ministry of Home Affairs and Department of Psychosocial Support in Disaster Management, National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS). It combines teaching with case studies, practical exercises, simulations and applied assignments to build knowledge and practical skills in addressing mental health and psychosocial needs in Disaster Management.

Course Duration

6 months (40 lectures of 90 mins each)

Course Fee

INR 4000/- (Inclusive of GST)

Mode

Online Mode (Zoom)

Seats

60 per batch

Classes

2 working days per week

Certification

On successful completion of the programme

Course Commencement

1st December, 2026



Scan QR to apply:



Why this course?

- **Understand** various types of disasters, climate crisis, along with the psychological, emotional and social impacts, including trauma, grief, stress, resilience, and recovery.
- **Assess** psychosocial needs using evidence-based tools and approaches.
- **Apply** Psychological First Aid, crisis counselling and community-based psychosocial interventions in Disaster Management and Disaster Risk Reduction.
- **Respond** ethically and culturally, promoting confidentiality, informed consent, inclusion and community well-being.

Note: There will be no provision for refund in case of cancellation, inability to attend sessions, or for any other reason.

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Who can apply?

Educational Qualification:

Postgraduate (PG) degree, or 4-year Undergraduate (UG) degree, from a recognised university/institute in regular mode, in any of the following disciplines:

- Disaster Management
- Anthropology
- Defence studies
- Economics
- Education
- Environmental Sciences
- Forensic Sciences
- Home Sciences
- Human Rights
- Journalism, media studies, and mass communication
- Labour welfare/ Human resource Management
- Law
- Literature
- Management
- Peace studies
- Philosophy
- Political science, international relations
- Psychology
- Public Administration
- Public Health
- Social Medicine & Community Health
- Social Work
- Sociology
- Women studies

Language: English

Work or Academic Experience (Desirable): Prior work experience of teaching, research, practice, full-time/part-time job in the area of disaster management, mental health, or psychosocial support, counselling, or community development is desirable but not mandatory.

Screening: In the event that the number of eligible applicants exceeds 2 times the number of seats, a screening process will/may be conducted through an Entrance Examination.

The examination will assess the candidate's knowledge and aptitude in Psychosocial Support and Mental Health Services (PSSMHS) in Disaster Management. Selection will be based on relevant eligibility qualifications, relevance to the course as per the screening, and will undergo a first-come, first-served basis.

Back-end verification: It will be done by the course coordinator regarding the claim of eligibility

Decision of the Authority in selection is final: The candidate sponsored or recommended by the Government agencies will be given preference. The Course coordinator/s will take the final decision about the selection of the candidates.



Course Assessment and Examination

Attendance and Participation

Participants are required to attend the live video lectures and complete all pre- and post-session assignments. The live recordings of the classes will not be made available on the LMS portal. However, reading and other relevant learning materials will be uploaded on the portal.

Internal Assessment

The Internal Assessment will carry **30% weightage** and will be assigned by the Course Coordinators based on the participants' attendance, participation, completion of assignments, presentations, tests, and other exercises conducted during the practical sessions.

The Internal Assessment will carry a maximum of **25 marks**, with the following distribution:

- **Attendance:** 5 marks
- **Active participation and meaningful contribution in group discussions:** 10 marks
- **Tests, quality of assignments/presentations, and other practical exercises:** 10 marks

Total: 25 Marks

The assessment of these components will be carried out by the Course Coordinators based on the participants' overall performance during the course.

Final Comprehensive Assessment

A final comprehensive assessment carrying **70% weightage** will be conducted. The assessment will comprise a combination of multiple-choice questions (MCQs), short-answer questions, and essay questions covering the key concepts and learning outcomes of the course.

The theory examination will carry a maximum of **70 marks** and will have a duration of **120 minutes**, as follows:

- **26 MCQs**, carrying 1 mark each – **26 marks**
- **5 short-answer questions**, carrying 4 marks each – **20 marks**
- **2 essay questions**, carrying 12 marks each – **24 marks**

Total: 70 marks

Mode of Examination

The examination will be conducted online.

The theory examination will be conducted in a live online session. Assignments and other activities scheduled outside the live sessions shall be completed and submitted online by the participants through the designated portal.

Number of Attempts

Participants will be permitted **two attempts** for the final theory assessment carrying 70% weightage. The second attempt will be scheduled after a gap of **2–4 weeks**.

The components of the Internal Assessment, including attendance, class participation, assignments, presentations, and other practical exercises, cannot be reattempted and must be completed during the course.

Criteria for Successful Completion

A participant must secure a minimum of **75% marks in the combined Internal Assessment and Final Comprehensive Assessment** to successfully complete the course.



Note

1. The participant will be mandated to attend the live video lectures, complete assignments, internal assessments, and tests submitted through the LMS portal.
2. The participant's video presence is mandatory for at least 80% of the online classes.
3. At least 75% attendance is mandatory to be eligible for the comprehensive assessment and for completion of the course.
4. There will be no provision for refund in case of cancellation, inability to attend sessions, or for any other reasons.

For any queries, please write to us at the e-mail addresses provided below with “Enquiry DIPLOMA 2-Psychosocial Support and Mental Health Services in Disaster Management” in the Subject Line:

E-mail: dippssmhsdm@gmail.com, pssindm@gmail.com

Department of Psychosocial Support in Disaster Management, NIMHANS

Phone: 080-2697228