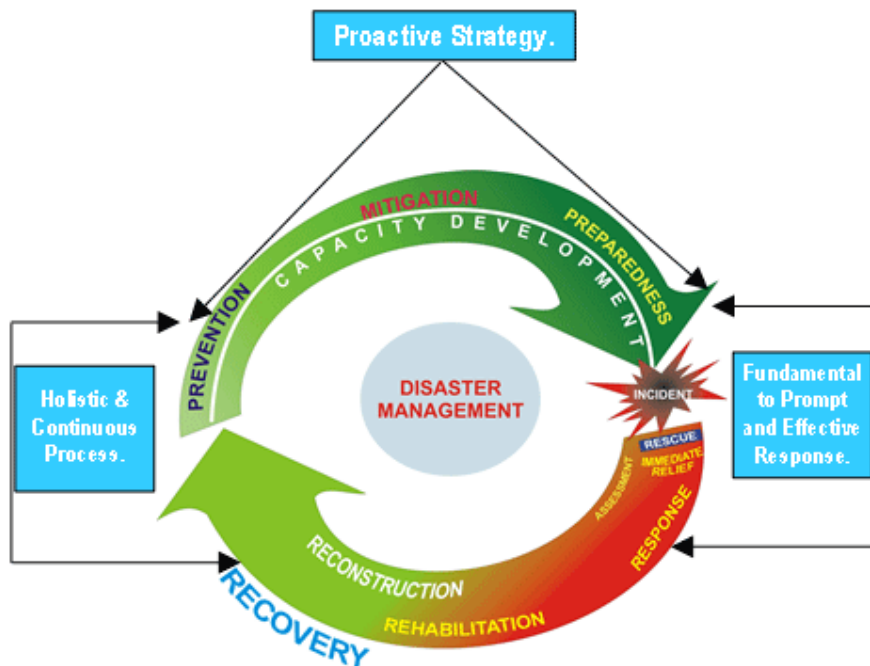


Approach to Disaster Management

Till recently, the approach to Disaster Management has been reactive and relief centric. A paradigm shift has now taken place at the national level from the relief centric syndrome to holistic and integrated approach with emphasis on prevention, mitigation and preparedness. These efforts are aimed to conserve developmental gains as also minimize losses to lives, livelihood and property.

A typical Disaster Management continuum as shown below, comprising of six elements i.e., Prevention, Mitigation and Preparedness in pre-disaster phase, and Response, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction in post-disaster phase, defines the complete approach to Disaster Management.

DISASTER MANAGEMENT CONTINUUM



DM Act, 2005

The DM Act 2005 and the National Policy on Disaster Management lay down institutional mechanisms at the National, State, District and Local levels. Though these institutions are at different levels, they will work in close harmony. The new institutional frameworks are expected to usher in a paradigm shift in DM from relief centric approach to a proactive regime that lays greater emphasis on preparedness, prevention and mitigation. The States which have not already put in place the appropriate institutional mechanism like SDMA and DDMA have to take necessary steps in that direction at the earliest.

1.3 Institutional Framework under the DM Act

1.3.1 National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)

NDMA, as the apex body for DM, is headed by the Prime Minister and has the responsibility for laying down policies, plans and Guidelines for DM and coordinating their enforcement and implementation for ensuring timely and effective response to disasters. The Guidelines will assist the Central ministries, departments and States to formulate their respective DM plans. It will approve the National Disaster Management Plan and DM Plans of the Central ministries/departments. It will take such other measures, as it may consider necessary, for the prevention of disasters, or mitigation, or preparedness and capacity building, for dealing with a threatening disaster situation or disaster. Central ministries/ departments and State Governments will extend necessary cooperation and assistance to NDMA for carrying out its mandate. It will oversee the provision and application of funds for mitigation and preparedness measures. NDMA has the power to authorise the departments or authorities concerned, to make emergency procurement of provisions or materials for rescue and relief in a threatening disaster situation or disaster. The general superintendence, direction and control of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) is vested in and will be exercised by the NDMA. The National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) works within the framework of broad policies and Guidelines laid down by the NDMA.

The NDMA is mandated to deal with all types of disasters, natural or manmade, whereas such other emergencies including those requiring close involvement of the security forces and/ or intelligence agencies such as terrorism (counter-insurgency), Law and Order Situations, Serial Bomb Blasts, Hijacking, Air Accidents, Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Weapon Systems, Mine Disasters, Ports and Harbour emergencies, Forest Fires, Oilfield Fires and Oil Spills will continue to be handled by the extant mechanism i.e. National Crisis Management Committee (NCMC). NDMA may, however, formulate Guidelines and facilitate training and preparedness activities in respect of CBRN emergencies. Cross-cutting themes like Medical Preparedness, Psycho-Social Care and Trauma, Community Based Disaster Preparedness, Information & Communication Technology, Training, Preparedness, Awareness Generation etc., for natural and man-made disasters in partnership with the stakeholders concerned. Resources available with the DM authorities at all levels, which are capable of discharging emergency support functions, will be made available to the nodal ministries and agencies concerned during times of such disaster(s) / impending disaster(s) .

1.3.2 National Executive Committee (NEC)

The NEC comprises the Union Home Secretary as the Chairperson, and the Secretaries to the GoI in the Ministries/Departments of Agriculture, Atomic Energy, Defence, Drinking Water Supply, Environment and Forests, Finance (Expenditure), Health, Power, Rural Development, Science and Technology, Space, Telecommunications, Urban Development, Water Resources and the Chief of the Integrated Defence Staff of the Chiefs of Staff Committee as members. Secretaries in the Ministry of External Affairs, Earth Sciences, Human Resource Development, Mines, Shipping, Road Transport and Highways and the Secretary, NDMA will be special invitee to the meetings of the NEC.

The NEC is the executive committee of the NDMA and is mandated to assist the NDMA in the discharge of its functions and also ensure compliance of the directions issued by the Central Government. The NEC is to coordinate the response in the event of any threatening disaster situation or disaster. The NEC will prepare the National Plan for DM based on the National Policy on DM. The NEC will monitor the implementation of Guidelines issued by

NDMA. It will also perform such other functions as may be prescribed by the Central Government in consultation with the NDMA.

1.3.3 State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA)

At the State level, except the UTs of Delhi where the LG is the Chairperson and the CM thereof is the Vice Chairperson, the state authority (SDMA) headed by the respective CMs as chairperson will lay down policies and plans for DM in the State. It will, inter alia, approve the State Plan in accordance with the Guidelines laid down by the NDMA, coordinate the implementation of the State Plan, recommend provision of funds for mitigation and preparedness measures and review the developmental plans of the different departments of the State to ensure integration of prevention, preparedness and mitigation measures. Each State Government will constitute a State Executive Committee (SEC) to assist the SDMA in the performance of its functions. The SEC will be headed by the Chief Secretary (CS) to the State Government and coordinate and monitor the implementation of the National Policy, the National Plan and the State Plan. The SEC will also provide information to the NDMA relating to different aspects of DM.

1.3.4 District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA)

Each DDMA will be headed by the respective District Magistrate, District Collector (DC), Dy. Commissioner as the case may be, with the elected representative of the Local Authority as the Co-Chairperson. DDMA will act as the planning, coordinating and implementing body for DM at District level and take all necessary measures for the purposes of DM in accordance with the Guidelines laid down by the NDMA and SDMA. It will, inter alia, prepare the District DM plan for the District and monitor the implementation of the National Policy, the State Policy, the National Plan, the State Plan concerning its own District and prepare the District Plan. The DDMA will also ensure that the Guidelines for prevention, mitigation, preparedness and response measures laid down by NDMA and SDMA are followed by all Departments of the State Government, at the District level and the Local Authorities in the District.

1.3.5 Local Authorities

Local Authorities would include Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), Municipal Corporations, Municipalities, District and Cantonment Boards and Town Planning Authorities which control and manage civic services. These bodies will prepare DM Plans in consonance with the Guidelines of NDMA, SDMAs and DDMA and will ensure capacity building of their officers and employees for managing disasters, carry out relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction activities in the affected areas.

1.3.6 National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM)

NIDM, in partnership with other research institutions has capacity development as one of its major responsibilities, along with training, research, documentation and development of a national level information base. It will network with other knowledge based institutions and function within the broad Policies and Guidelines laid down by NDMA. It will organise training of trainers, DM officials and other stakeholders. NIDM will strive to emerge as a 'Centre of Excellence' in the field of DM.

1.3.7 National Disaster Response Force (NDRF)

For the purpose of specialised response to a threatening disaster situation or disasters/emergencies both natural and man-made such as those of CBRN origin, the DM Act, 2005 has mandated the constitution of a NDRF. The general superintendence, direction and control of this force is vested in and exercised by the NDMA and the command and supervision of the Force will vest in an officer to be appointed by the Central Government as

the Director General of NDRF. Presently, the NDRF comprises eight battalions. Two additional battalions have been sanctioned by the Government and are in the process of being formed. These battalions are located at strategic locations and will be deployed proactively as required. NDRF units will maintain close liaison with the designated State Governments/ UTs and will be available to them in the event of any serious threatening disaster situation. While the handling of all natural disasters rests with all the NDRF battalions, presently four of them have been equipped and trained to respond to situations arising out of CBRN emergencies. In future plans exist to train rest of the battalions also for CBRN response. The NDRF units will also impart basic training to all the stakeholders identified by the State Governments in their respective locations. Further, a National Academy will be set up to provide training for trainers in DM and to meet related national and international commitments. Presently the location and area of responsibility of the various NDRF battalion in the country are as follows:

EARTHQUAKES - Do's and Dont's

Do's and Don'ts

What to Do Before an Earthquake

- Repair deep plaster cracks in ceilings and foundations. Get expert advice if there are signs of structural defects.
- Anchor overhead lighting fixtures to the ceiling.
- Follow BIS codes relevant to your area for building standards
- Fasten shelves securely to walls.
- Place large or heavy objects on lower shelves.
- Store breakable items such as bottled foods, glass, and china in low, closed cabinets with latches.
- Hang heavy items such as pictures and mirrors away from beds, settees, and anywhere people sit.
- Brace overhead light and fan fixtures.
- Repair defective electrical wiring and leaky gas connections. These are potential fire risks.
- Secure a water heater, LPG cylinder etc., by strapping it to the wall studs and bolting it to the floor.
- Store weed killers, pesticides, and flammable products securely in closed cabinets with latches and on bottom shelves.
- Identify safe places indoors and outdoors.
 1. Under strong dining table, bed
 2. Against an inside wall
 3. Away from where glass could shatter around windows, mirrors, pictures, or where heavy bookcases or other heavy furniture could fall over
 4. In the open, away from buildings, trees, telephone and electrical lines, flyovers, bridges
- Educate yourself and family members
- Know emergency telephone numbers (doctor, hospital, police, etc)
- **Have a disaster emergency kit ready**

1. Battery operated torch
2. Extra batteries
3. Battery operated radio
4. First aid kit and manual
5. Emergency food (dry items) and water (packed and sealed)
6. Candles and matches in a waterproof container
7. Knife
8. Chlorine tablets or powdered water purifiers
9. Can opener.
10. Essential medicines
11. Cash and credit cards
12. Thick ropes and cords
13. Sturdy shoes

- **Develop an emergency communication plan**

1. In case family members are separated from one another during an earthquake (a real possibility during the day when adults are at work and children are at school), develop a plan for reuniting after the disaster.
2. Ask an out-of-state relative or friend to serve as the 'family contact' After a disaster, it's often easier to call long distance. Make sure everyone in the family knows the name, address, and phone number of the contact person.

- **Help your community get ready**

1. Publish a special section in your local newspaper with emergency information on earthquakes. Localize the information by printing the phone numbers of local emergency services offices and hospitals.
2. Conduct a week-long series on locating hazards in the home.
3. Work with local emergency services and officials to prepare special reports for people with mobility impairments on what to do during an earthquake.
4. Provide tips on conducting earthquake drills in the home.
5. Interview representatives of the gas, electric, and water companies about shutting off utilities.

Work together in your community to apply your knowledge to building codes, retrofitting programmes, hazard hunts, and neighborhood and family emergency plans.

What to Do during an Earthquake

Stay as safe as possible during an earthquake. Be aware that some earthquakes are actually foreshocks and a larger earthquake might occur. Minimize your movements to a few steps to a nearby safe place and stay indoors until the shaking has stopped and you are sure exiting is safe.

If indoors

- **DROP** to the ground; take **COVER** by getting under a sturdy table or other piece of furniture; and **HOLD ON** until the shaking stops. If there isn't a table or desk near you, cover your face

and head with your arms and crouch in an inside corner of the building.

- Protect yourself by staying under the lintel of an inner door, in the corner of a room, under a table or even under a bed.
- Stay away from glass, windows, outside doors and walls, and anything that could fall, such as lighting fixtures or furniture.
- Stay in bed if you are there when the earthquake strikes. Hold on and protect your head with a pillow, unless you are under a heavy light fixture that could fall. In that case, move to the nearest safe place.
- Use a doorway for shelter only if it is in close proximity to you and if you know it is a strongly supported, loadbearing doorway.
- Stay inside until the shaking stops and it is safe to go outside. Research has shown that most injuries occur when people inside buildings attempt to move to a different location inside the building or try to leave.
- Be aware that the electricity may go out or the sprinkler systems or fire alarms may turn on.
- DO NOT use the elevators.

If outdoors

- Stay there.
- Move away from buildings, trees, streetlights, and utility wires.
- Once in the open, stay there until the shaking stops. The greatest danger exists directly outside buildings, at exits, and alongside exterior walls. Most earthquake-related casualties result from collapsing walls, flying glass, and falling objects.

If in a moving vehicle

- Stop as quickly as safety permits and stay in the vehicle. Avoid stopping near or under buildings, trees, overpasses, and utility wires.
- Proceed cautiously once the earthquake has stopped. Avoid roads, bridges, or ramps that might have been damaged by the earthquake.

If trapped under debris

- Do not light a match.
- Do not move about or kick up dust.
- Cover your mouth with a handkerchief or clothing.
- Tap on a pipe or wall so rescuers can locate you. Use a whistle if one is available. Shout only as a last resort. Shouting can cause you to inhale dangerous amounts of dust.

After an earthquake

- Keep calm, switch on the radio/TV and obey any instructions you hear on it.
- Keep away from beaches and low banks of rivers. Huge waves may sweep in.
- Expect aftershocks. Be prepared.
- Turn off the water, gas and electricity.
- Do not smoke and do not light matches or use a cigarette lighter. Do not turn on switches. There may be gas leaks or short-circuits.
- Use a torch.
- If there is a fire, try to put it out. If you cannot, call the fire brigade.

- If people are seriously injured, do not move them unless they are in danger.
- Immediately clean up any inflammable products that may have spilled (alcohol, paint, etc).
- If you know that people have been buried, tell the rescue teams. Do not rush and do not worsen the situation of injured persons or your own situation.
- Avoid places where there are loose electric wires and do not touch any metal object in contact with them.
- Do not drink water from open containers without having examined it and filtered it through a sieve, a filter or an ordinary clean cloth.
- If your home is badly damaged, you will have to leave it. Collect water containers, food, and ordinary and special medicines (for persons with heart complaints, diabetes, etc.)
- Do not re-enter badly damaged buildings and do not go near damaged structures.

FAMILY PREPAREDNESS PLAN	Emergency meeting place _____ <small>Outside your home</small>	EMERGENCY SUPPLIES Keep enough supplies in your home to meet your needs for at least three days. Assemble an emergency Supplies Kit with items you may need in an evacuation. Store these supplies in sturdy, easy-to carry-containers such as backpacks, duffel bags or covered trash containers. Include: A three day supply of water (4 litres per person per day) and food that won't spoil. One change of clothing and footwear per person, and one blanket or sleeping bag per person. A first aid kit that includes your family's prescription medications. Emergency tools including a battery-powered radio, flashlight and plenty of extra batteries. An extra set of all important keys and a credit	UTILITIES Locate the main electric fuse box, water service main and natural gas main. Learn how and when to turn these utilities off. Teach all responsible family members. Keep necessary tools near gas and water shut-off valves. Turn off the utilities only if you suspect the lines are damaged or if you are instructed to do so.	EARTHQUAKE EMERGENCY SURVIVAL GUIDE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA Ministry of Home Affairs NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT DIVISION
	Meeting Place _____ <small>Outside your neighbourhood</small>			
Address _____	Closest Relative living away from your City _____ Phone _____	Name and Address _____		
DURING Do not panic. Remain calm! Do not jump from the building. If inside. If you are NEAR AN EXIT, leave the building as soon as possible. Put your arms over head to protect yourself against possible objects falling from above and move away from nearby buildings. Watch out for traffic. If you can not reach the exit quickly or, you are situated in HIGHRISE BUILDING/ UPSTAIRS stay inside...do "DROP, COVER and HOLD" Sit or lie beside or underneath sturdy furniture. Hold on to the furniture. Cover as much of your head and your upper body as you can. When the shaking stops get up and evacuate the building. Don't use the elevators. If outdoors, Move to an open area away from all structures, especially buildings, bridges, and overhead power lines. If driving, Stop in an open area away from all structures especially bridges, overpasses, tunnels and		overhead power lines. Stay as low as possible inside the vehicle. BEFORE Develop a family emergency plan and practice it regularly. Identify an out-of-area phone contact person to call and check in with. Choose a couple of family meeting places; pick easy to identify, open and accessible places that you can likely walk to. Prepare to be self sufficient for a minimum of three days. Assemble an emergency supply kit; include food, water, prescription medications and first aid supplies, a battery operated radio, flashlight, extra batteries, shelter clothing, sturdy shoes and personal toiletries. Have knowledge about first aid. Quake-proof your house by securing heavy furniture and objects.	AFTER STAY CALM! Allow a little time for objects to fall before moving. Move cautiously, and check for unstable objects and other hazards above and around you. Check yourself for injuries. Help those around you and provide first aid. Only use phones (including cell phones) if a life is at stake. Listen to the radio or watch local TV for emergency information and additional safety instructions. Inspect gas water and electric lines. If there are leaks or, if there is any doubt about leaks, shut off mains; evacuate immediately if you hear or smell gas and can't shut it off. Report leaks to the authorities. Anticipate aftershocks, especially if the shaking lasted longer. Stay out of damaged buildings.	DROP, COVER & HOLD
IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS Police : 100 Fire : 101 Ambulance : 102				