



NAGALAND STATE DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

Newsletter

Towards a safer and resilient Nagaland



Volume-I, Issue III

January - July 2013



**CHIEF MINISTER
NAGALAND
KOHIMA**

6th July, 2013

1. Disaster Management is a collaborative effort involving central, state and local governments, civil society organisations and people at large. It is heartening to see that in a short span of two years, the Nagaland State Disaster Management Authority (NSDMA) has progressed in terms of training and capacity building, plans and policies and institutional building in Disaster preparedness.
2. An important and much needed step taken by the NSDMA is empowering the community to help itself in times of disaster. To this end, the NSDMA has been conducting Community First Responder Trainings covering the entire state. Awareness programmes are also regularly conducted in schools and colleges covering interior districts as well. In any disaster, the community becomes the first responder before external help can arrive; hence there is a great need to ensure that the local populace is trained in basic first aid, search & rescue.
3. As mandated by the DM Act of 2005, our state raised six companies of State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) drawn from the IR Bns. This intensive training on Disaster Management is further being imparted to the DEF and Village Guards. The NSDMA has also brought out the State Disaster Management Plan, The State Disaster Management Rules and a Standard Operating Procedure to be used as ready reference in times of disaster. Intensive IEC programmes have also been implemented to create awareness amongst the local populace.
4. The recent disaster in Uttarakhand is once again a reminder to all of us about the vulnerability of humanity against the fury of nature. Nagaland lies in the 5th Seismic zone, a zone considered most vulnerable to earthquakes. In addition, the state does get affected by severe landslides and heavy rainfall during monsoon. The motto of the NSDMA 'Be aware, Be prepared' is very apt: it is the duty of every citizen to be aware and to be prepared, for failure to plan is indeed inviting trouble. Let us all join hands in this gigantic effort, as we move towards building a safer and resilient Nagaland.


(NEIPHIU RIO)

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JANUARY

The NSDMA organized a three-day programme on 'Community First Responder: Basic Training on Disaster Management' with Peace Channel at Development Association of Nagaland from 29th -31st January. Resource persons for the programme included officials from the NSDMA and CD&HG

**MARCH**

Keeping in mind that Phek district has been the epicentre of three tremors in 2012, the NSDMA undertook an intensive awareness tour on disaster management from 19th- 22nd March. The tour covered four sub divisions including Phek, Chozuba, Meluri and Pftusero. Technical support was provided by personnel from the Civil Defence & Home Guards.



EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

APRIL

CENTRAL TEAM VISITS NAGALAND



Central Ministerial team at Tuensang helipad

The Ministry of Home Affairs, GoI, deputed an Inter Ministerial Central Team for an 'on the spot' assessment of damages caused by flash-floods and landslides in Nagaland during 2012. This team was led by Smti. Bina Prasad, Joint Secretary (Security), MHA. The team included representatives from five other departments which included Finance (Dept. of Expenditure), Agriculture, Development of North Eastern Region, Drinking Water and Rural Development (in respect of rural roads and housing). The team visited the districts of Mon, Tuensang, Mokokchung, Kohima and Dimapur from 1st 6th April, 2013.



The Ministerial Team from MHA called on the Chief Secretary and discussed important issues regarding the purpose of their visit.

NSSP BEGINS IN KOHIMA AND MOKOKCHUNG

The National School Safety Programme (NSSP), a centrally sponsored pilot project officially began in Kohima and Mokokchung from 3rd April - 6th April, 2013. This training was specifically meant for TOTs. Resource persons included personnel from CD&HG, F&ES, H&FW and NSDMA. The training was organised in collaboration with District Disaster Management Authority and DEO of respective districts.



Participants of NSSP training, Kohima

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

MAY

JOINT APPLIED FIELD TRAINING IN ASSAM



A Joint Applied Field Training Programme on "Working as Relief Teams in Disasters, Conflicts and Complex Emergencies" was organised by Doctors For You (Northeastern Regional Office). The training programme, which was ALSO attended by 2 (two) officials from NSDMA, was held from the 3rd May 2013 to 8th May 2013 in Chirang District, Assam.

SIXTH BATCH SDRF BEGINS TRAINING



The DG CD&HG addressing the sixth batch of the SDRF

The Alpha Coy of the 10th IR began training for the State Disaster Response Force on the 21st May at CTI, Toluvi, Dimapur. The brief opening ceremony was addressed by the DG CD&HG Shri G. Akheto Sema, IPS.

CYCLONE MAHASEN ALERT ISSUED

As per reports of IMD and warning issued by MHA, the NSDMA gave out a severe weather alert for the 14th of May along with safety tips on dos and don'ts. The State Disaster Response Force was also put on alert to handle any emergency.

FIRST NATIONAL PLATFORM FOR DRR

Secy (NSDMA) and SPO attended the First Session of National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction from 13th -14th May at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Manmohan singh addressed the gathering.

SCHOOL AWARENESS PROGRAM CONDUCTED AT HOLY CROSS Hr. Sec. SCHOOL, DIMAPUR

As part of its awareness Campaign, a school awareness programme was conducted at Holy Cross Higher Secondary School, Dimapur on 23rd May, 2013. The programme was well attended by staff and students (Class 11 and 12). Resource persons included Dr. Thingtimla MO, CTI and Khrolou Koza Lohe, TCBO, NSDMA.



School awareness Campaign at Holy Cross School in progress

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

JUNE

TRAFFIC SAFETY' MEETING HELD

The NSDMA held two meetings for 'Traffic Safety' on the 14th and 27th June respectively with Police, District Administration, Transport Department, BRO and H&FW. The meeting deliberated upon issues related to traffic safety like setting up of safety barriers, speed limits, availability of hospitals along the National Highways, response mechanism to accidents etc.

STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (SEC) MEETING HELD

The fifth SEC meeting was held on the 10th June in the chambers of the Chief Secretary. The meeting deliberated on issues with regard to disaster management in the state. The meeting was chaired by the Chief Secretary.

COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDER TRAINING CONDUCTED

The NSDMA conducted a Community First Responder Training at Tuensang in collaboration with District Administration and CD&HG. This training was held from 19th - 21st June, 2013

JULY

8TH BATCH SDRF TRAINING BEGINS

The 8th batch training of Nagaland State Disaster Response Force(NSDRF) was inaugurated by DG HG&CD, Shri L. Thechamo Lotha (IPS) as the Chief Guest. All together, 105 trainees drawn from DEF Wokha, Mokokchung, Zunheboto and Phek attended the training. This was conducted at CTI, Toluvi, Dimapur.

COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDER TRAINING CONDUCTED IN KIPHIRE

The NSDMA conducted a Community First Responder Training at Kiphire in collaboration with district administration. Participants included representatives from all the sub divisions, 45 participants successfully attended the training from 30th July- 1st August 2013.

TRAINING REPORTS

SL NO	NAME OF OFFICER	DESIGNATION	TRAINING PROFILE
1.	Er. Keniezezo	SDO UD	Training on <i>RVS & Seismic Retrofitting of School Buildings under NSSP</i> 11 th - 29 th March, 2013. IIT Roorkee
2.	Er. Kewepu Tsuhah	JE (R&B) Pfutsero	
3.	Er. Ketousielie Kengurusie	SDO (Edu)	Training on <i>RVS & Seismic Retrofitting of School Buildings under NSSP</i> 11 th Feb - 1 st March 2013. IIT Roorkee
4.	Er. Medongou Julian	SDO (R&B)	
5.	Mr. David Thupitor	District Project Officer	'Legal Framework for Disaster Management' 25 th -27 th April 2013 at NIDM, New Delhi
6.	Mr. Thomas K. Abraham	JE (Drt. Of Agri.)	
7.	Ms. Telaknaro Imchen	Sr. Technical Officer (Drt. Of S&T)	
8.	Ms. Noswedeno Khatso	JE (Municipal Affairs cells under UD)	
9.	Er. Kevimelie Linyu	JE, UD	



Participants of the SAARC workshop held from 24th - 25th May, 2013, SAARC DM Centre, New Delhi

TRAINING REPORTS

SL NO	NAME OF OFFICER	DESIGNATION	TRAINING PROFILE
10.	Mr. Rendemo Shitio	District Project Officer (Dimapur)	Joint Applied Field Training Programme on <i>'Working as a Relief team in Disasters, Conflicts and Complex Emergencies'</i> 3 rd - 8 th May, 2013. Chirang District, Assam.
11.	Ms. Khrolou Koza Lohe	Training & Capacity Building Officer	
12.	Mr. Rendemo Shitio	District Project Officer (Dimapur)	SAARC workshop on <i>'Application of Science & Technology in Earthquake Risk Mitigation for Urban Agglomerates in South Asia'</i> 24 th - 25 th May, 2013, SAARC DM Centre, New Delhi
13	Mr. Thejangulie Zao	District Project Officer (Kohima)	Training Programme on <i>'Geoinformatics Applications in Chemical Risk Management'</i> 8-12 July 2013, NIDM, New Delhi
14.	Mr. Rendemo Shitio	District Project Officer (Dimapur)	



FEATURE

Community First Responder Training

A step towards a safer Nagaland



The Community First Responder (CFR) Training which is an initiative of the NSDMA is particularly aimed at building disaster-resilient communities. In the event of any disaster, the community is always the first responder before outside help arrives; hence the need to train and empower communities is crucial. The NSDMA has conducted CFR trainings have in Dimapur, Tuensang, Mon, Phek, Kiphire and Peren. The NSDMA has also imparted the same training to the youth of Naga Bazaar (Kohima), Kohima Village Youth Organization, Youth from Piphema, Medziphema, Zubza, Pherima and Midland

FEATURE

Youth as part of the NSDMA Training calendar.

So far a total of 305 youth have been trained under CFR. The NSDMA maintains a data base with all the contact details of the trained youth so as to use them as trainers in the future or to be called upon as additional help in times of disasters. Apart from CFR trainings, the NSDMA has also conducted numerous school awareness programmes all over the state reaching to the innermost districts as well.



SPECIAL FEATURE



An earth quake of 6.8 magnitude occurred on 18th Sept 2011 at 6.11 pm IST with its epicenter in Sikkim Nepal border region. The focal depth of this earthquake was at 20 kms below the surface of the earth and originated in the Kanchenjunga lineament area located within 27 degree 74' north latitude and 88 degree 113' east longitude. A series of aftershocks were felt with the strongest having 5.3 magnitude at 6.42 pm on the same day. North district of Sikkim was badly hit as it was closest to the epicenter.

Quick as lightening, a way of NDRF life

I was sitting comfortably helping my son to prepare for his math test to be held next morning, when fire alarm rang .I got up and

called exchange to know about its cause, but by then my mobile had started ringing .We were ordered to quick off the mark for 6.8 magnitude earthquake hit Sikkim at 06:11 pm .

Journey to Mangan

It was still dark when we reached Bagdogra airport in the early morning hours of 19th September. Five NDRF teams were sent to help the desperate population of quake hit Sikkim. We set off, braving inclement weather and unstable hill slopes down the narrow routes. Throughout the way I was in contact with Sikkim administration and our HQ and kept them informed about the progress. Finally, after overcoming many hurdles, we reached Gangtok at 7.45 pm. I could not believe the

SPECIAL FEATURE

kind of commotion caused by the locals on the street .It felt like the whole population was assembled down the road. Later I found out that they were scared of the possibility of another quake.

I reached Gangtok control room of the local administration and was briefed about the exact situation lying ahead in front of us.

The next morning on 20th Sept our caravan started for Mangan district in north Sikkim which was the worst hit area. We



SHRI NISHITH UPADHYAY
Second-in-Command, 2nd Bn NDRF, Kolkata

Sikkim Disaster

Challenge met by the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF)

started our journey on Gangtok-Singtom-Dikchu –Mangan road. Although, the route was blocked by difficult natural impediments yet our team reached there at 01 pm . As I entered the district HQ control room I could see the relief on their faces only by our appearance.

Fanning out of APDA SEWA SANIKS

Given the size of North Sikkim and its difficult terrain, the remote areas were out of the radar and no communication could be established due to collapsed telecommunication services. NDRF teams were divided into small sub teams and they got scattered in the worst hit areas with guides provided by the local administration and IRB. They carried their light equipments, first aid boxes and rope for crossing landslide hit areas. It took hours of arduous climb on foot over gigantic landslides

to reach the affected area. Torrential rains and fresh landslides continuously impeded our rescue operations.

Equipments and canines; a great help

NDRF was fully equipped during this crisis in Sikkim. We had CSSR store and equipments, ration, medicines, tentage, transport and NER



SPECIAL FEATURE

store. NRDF jawans not only carried their equipments in the far-flung areas but also used them in village and huts wherever needed. These equipments with the dogs helped us to clear the routes in dangerous terrain and recover bodies lying under the rubble. They helped us to cross swift currents of rivulets and reach victims in the remotest areas. Our trained and disciplined dogs brought smiles even on the faces of grieving people.

Healing touch of medical camp

The NDRF also organized medical camps for the quake affected victims in the areas of Manul and Mangan, in which 897 affected persons were treated. Free medical aid and medicine were distributed among the needy locals. The NDRF teams also carried first aid and medicines with them and provided help at the door of the victims in far-flung areas. The work of NDRF was not only appreciated by

the locals but also highlighted by the national media. His Excellency Governor of Sikkim himself visited the medical camp of NDRF in Mangan was appreciated the services provided by us.

Joining hands for the distribution of relief

NDRF rescuers not only did the search and rescue work but also helped in distribution of relief materials to the people on the request of the local administration. We handed over 200 arctic tents to the Mangan administration for the quake hit victims and also taught them to pitch the tents.

Matching with expectations

NDRF with local administration reached every nook and cranny of Mangan district to provide all possible help. In comparisons to similar situations faced by the people in different parts of the country, the handling of disaster in the district of north Sikkim was more functional



SPECIAL FEATURE



and was done in the most professional way. This was even acknowledged by Mr Rahul Gandhi, the Honourable Prime Minister and the Home Minister.

Eye towards the sky

Sad and unfortunate, as this task was, yet it taught us to rise against all odds in the face of crisis. We dare say our team did its job very well.

After doing our bit in Sikkim, we are now better prepared for any eventuality in the future. But we cannot ignore the necessity of being more self reliant and trained, this is the need of the hour. We still need to reach the



heights of professionalism like rescuers of international level.

Inner eye

NDRF is a recently formed organization but nobody could guess it from the excellent work done in Sikkim. There is no denying that the Sikkim rescue work was very enriching and a learning experience for us as rescuers. Yes, sheer determination and spirit can conquer anything anywhere and we have proved it. Yet, motivation and right spirit are needed constantly. Earthquakes are relatively unpredictable and when it strikes, are we really prepared to handle catastrophe? We should keep this in mind while training and re-training in future.



(The writer led the teams of 2nd Bn NDRF at Mangan, North district of Sikkim during rescue operation)

EARTHQUAKE

Pre-Disaster

- ▶ Shelves for books and household items should be fixed to the walls. Remove heavy objects from shelves above head level as these can topple over and fall
- ▶ Locate beds away from the windows and heavy objects that could fall
- ▶ Secure applications that could move, causing rupture of gas or electrical lines - Know location of master switches and shut off valves
- ▶ Make sure that overhead electrical fixtures are well secured to the ceiling & move heavy unstable objects away from exit routes
- ▶ Replace glass bottles with plastic containers or move them to the lowest shelves
- ▶ Be aware that in a severe earthquake utility services like electricity and water-supply will probably be down. Emergency services may be extremely limited for a few days
- ▶ Store emergency supplies like water, food, first-aid kit, medicines, tools, portable radio, flash light, batteries, blankets, fire extinguisher etc.

During Disaster

- ▶ Keep calm & help others to be calm
- ▶ Try to run safely to the nearest open space which is not surrounded by buildings, trees and overhead power lines but do so with great caution
- ▶ Do not use an elevator during the earthquake & do not rush to the roof of the house
- ▶ Choose your exit as carefully as possible
- ▶ If you feel it is not possible to get out of the house/building fast & safely, especially when you are inside a high rise building, stay calmly inside
- ▶ While inside the house/building, choose a safe place to protect yourself. Take refuge under a desk, table, bed or stand below the doorway (in case of an Assam type house)
- ▶ If you are moving in a vehicle, drive immediately to a place which is away from buildings,



Safety Tips

high/heavy structures, bridges, electric lines etc & park the vehicle there. Remain inside the car till the earthquake stops

- Do not light candles, gas stove, and cigarette (to prevent any fire due to possible leakage of gas)
- Shut off your gas connection
- Release your pets, domestic animals if they are inside an enclosure
- Do not panic no matter how hard the tremor

Post - Disaster

- Check yourself for injuries
- Examine all sections of your building
- Do not stay inside a room/house where cracks have developed along the walls, ceiling. Get everyone out of the house if it is found unsafe
- Use a helmet or cover your head with a pillow or rubber sheet while moving around inside the house
- Be prepared for additional earthquakes (after-shocks) - Stay away from overhanging portions of buildings/structures and power lines and poles
- Close the valve of the gas cylinder and do not use open flame
- Do not switch on electric appliances - Wear rubber soled shoes while moving around
- Attend to injured persons and inform the medical authorities as soon as possible
- If you are trapped inside a collapsed building, wait patiently for help. Remain calm.
- Use a stick/pole to detect any life inside a collapsed building
- Do not spread rumors or be alarmed by rumors
- Turn on your radio and listen to announcements

PHOTO DIARY



The Ministerial team visited the Referral Hospital area to see the work being done for soil erosion.



An SDRF class in progress



Jawans from the Alpha Coy 10th IR try their hands on Head bandaging during the 6th batch SDRF training.



The inter-ministerial central team visits some disaster affected areas



The 6th batch SDRF pose for the lens at CTI, Toluvi, Purana Bazaar

PHOTO DIARY



Awareness camp conducted at Meluri sub-division Phek district



The Ministerial team spends time with the local populace in Mon district



The Ministerial team in Tuensang . Seen in the picture is DC Tuensang taking the team to disaster affected areas.



Commandant 10th IR Imcharenla addressing the opening ceremony of the 6th batch SDRF training at CTI



A Participant handles a fire-extinguisher during CFR at Kiphire

PHOTO DIARY



Landslide at Phesama, July 2013



Forest fire around Lozaphami village, Phek district in March, 2013.

“SAVE our FORESTS”

PHOTO DIARY



Fire incident at Kohima Mission Compound

Nothing spreads like fire...

PRACTICE FIRE SAFETY TODAY



Fire razed building at Midland, Kohima

LANDSLIDES OCCUR WITHOUT WARNING

**Be Prepared
Protect Yourself**



**ALERT TODAY
ALIVE TOMORROW**

PREVENT LANDSLIDES

- ⇒ Do not construct on steep slopes
- ⇒ Maintain proper drainage
- ⇒ Familiarize yourself with the land around you.
- ⇒ Avoid removing vegetation over slopes
- ⇒ Be alert, during periods of heavy rainfall
- ⇒ Avoid quarrying or digging on slopes
- ⇒ Survive a landslide by avoiding it

NSDMA

