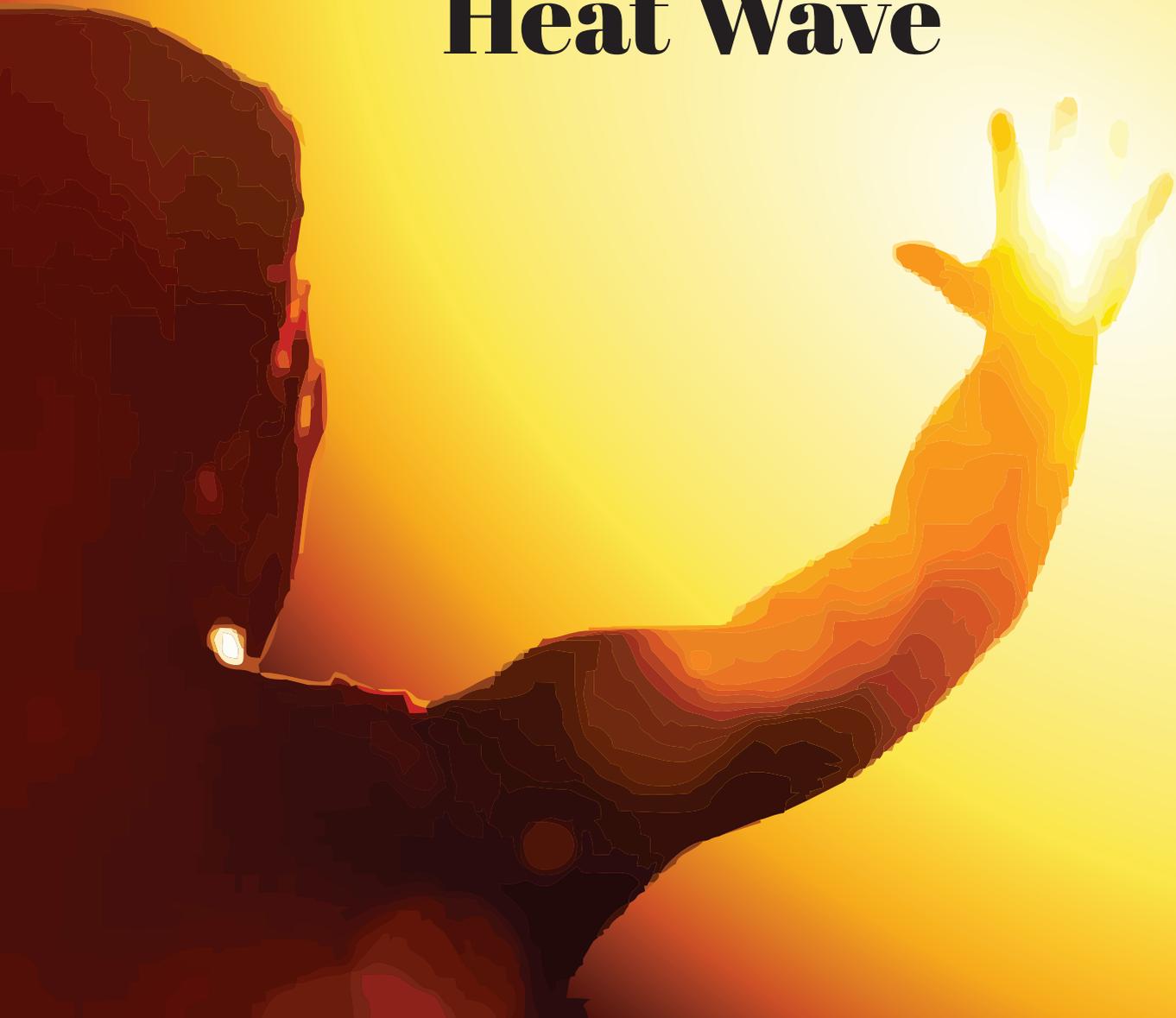


FEBRUARY 2021



AAPDA
SAMVAAD

**Early Planning
for Early Action -
Heat Wave**



NDMA welcomes new Member Secretary

On 27 January, Shri Sanjeeva Kumar, IAS took charge as Member Secretary of the National Disaster Management Authority.



Review meeting on cold wave



On 6 January, NDMA conducted a meeting with cold wave prone States to review the preparedness measures undertaken to mitigate the effects of cold wave.

Review meeting on Avian Flu



On 7 January, NDMA held a meeting with States and other stakeholders to review the preparedness of Avian Flu.

CBRN Training

On 11 January, NDMA organised an Executive Programme on Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear (CBRN) emergency



management for airport officers at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport.

On 19th January, NDMA in association with Airports Authority of India (AAI) conducted a three-day basic training (19-21 January) on CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological & Nuclear) emergency management for the staff of AAI Chennai Airport and its stakeholders. The inaugural address was given by Shri G.V. V. Sarma, former Member Secretary, NDMA. The training sessions detailed the theoretical & practical aspects of CBRN response.

First IORA Expert Group Meeting on DRM



On 19th January, India, the lead coordinator for IORA's priority area of Disaster Risk Management, in collaboration with the IORA Secretariat hosted the First IORA Expert Group Meeting on Disaster Risk Management (DRM). This meeting focused on finalising the IORA Work Plan on Disaster Risk Management, including the Guidelines for Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR).

IRS and Table Top Exercise

On 19 January, NDMA conducted an online

IN THE NEWS



Incident Response System (IRS) and Table Top Exercise on chemical (industrial) disaster for the State of Tamil Nadu. Lt Gen Syed Ata Hasnain (Retd), Member, NDMA gave the inaugural address.

On 28th January, NDMA conducted an online Incident Response System (IRS) and Table Top Exercise on earthquakes for the State of Gujarat. Dr V. Thirupugazh, Additional Secretary, NDMA delivered the keynote address.

National webinar on river and coastal erosion



On 29 January, NDMA conducted the national webinar on 'Formulation of policy for resettlement of displaced people affected by river and coastal erosion'.

Meeting of Working Group on Cold Wave



On 2 February, NDMA conducted the first meeting of 'Working Group for the formulation of Guidelines on preparation of Action Plan for prevention and management of Cold Wave' under the chairmanship of Shri Sanjeeva Kumar, Member Secretary, NDMA.

Fire safety training



On 3 February, Brig. Kuldip Singh (Retd.), Sr Consultant, NDMA, addressed government officials on 'Fire Safety, and Search & Rescue'. This talk was part of training conducted by Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie, for these officials.

Review of Disaster Management Plan



On 8 February, Shri Sanjeeva Kumar, Member Secretary, NDMA chaired a meeting with officers of the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology to discuss their draft disaster management plan.

On 9 February, Shri Sanjeeva Kumar, Member Secretary, NDMA chaired a meeting



with officers of Department of Rural Development to discuss their draft disaster management plan.

Meeting on preparation of the National Database on Migrant Workers



On 9 February, Shri Sanjeeva Kumar, Member Secretary, NDMA chaired a meeting with the officers of the Ministry of Labour and Employment, regarding the management of COVID-19 pandemic and the preparation of the National Database on Migrant Workers.

IRS and Table Top Exercise

On 11 February, NDMA conducted an online Incident Response System (IRS) training and Table Top Exercise (TTE) on earthquakes for the State of Arunachal Pradesh. Lt Gen Syed Ata Hasnain (Retd.), Member, NDMA chaired the exercise.

On 22 February, NDMA conducted an online Incident Response System (IRS) training



and Table Top Exercise (TTE) on floods and urban floods for the State of Telangana.

CBRN Training



On 23 February, NDMA in association with the Airports Authority of India conducted a three-day (23 - 25 February) training on Chemical, Biological, Radiological & Nuclear (CBRN) Emergency Management for the staff of J.P.N.I Airport, Patna and its stakeholders.

Review of Aapda Mitra Scheme



On 25 February, NDMA held a meeting under the Chairmanship of Shri Rajendra Singh, Member, NDMA, with State Governments to review the progress of implementation of the 'Aapda Mitra' Scheme.



Early Planning for Early Action - Heat Wave

In recent years, heat wave has increased in intensity and duration over the country whereby a number of States/districts/cities/towns have been severely affected. This year, the States have to simultaneously manage COVID-19 and heat wave. Therefore, State governments need to be prepared for a different kind of experience of vulnerability and exposure to heat wave and devise mitigation measures accordingly.

To tackle heat wave in the summer of 2021, preparations for the same started way before in January itself. NDMA held a National Webinar on Heat Wave (Theme: Early Planning for Heat Wave Risk Reduction) on 19th January 2021 inviting academicians, policy makers, Central Ministries, NGOs, IGOs, State Governments and other stakeholders to discuss ways to tackle issues related to heat wave. The webinar was divided into three technical sessions.

Aim of the webinar:
To share experiences and lessons learnt, sustainable long-term mitigation measures and decide future course of action on heat wave.

The first technical session focused on heat wave risk reduction, early warning, forecasting and communication strategy. It began with Dr Naresh Kumar, Scientist, IMD who informed the audience of impact based early warning and forecast including consecutive heat days, night temperature and wind direction, early warning



It won't be enough to just focus on short-term early warning and reducing deaths. The way we shape our built environment, the way we build our cities, our houses, our office buildings, public buildings determines how heat waves translate into human impact. Hence, we really need to take a long-term view while working on short-term issues as well as assessing economic impacts.



Shri Kamal Kishore,
 Member, NDMA

dissemination and communication strategy for effective preparedness measures.

Dr S.C. Bhan, Senior Scientist & Dy. GM, IMD shed a light on early warning dissemination and communication strategy for effective

SUCCESS STORY



Normally we say that early warning for early action but if the action takes place only after warning, it can only be a reaction because after warning we do not have necessary lead time to prevent, mitigate or prepare for managing the disaster. Hence this time, we have taken the theme 'early planning for early action'. This webinar is organised to collectively find a way to manage challenges including zero death in heat waves, reduction in heat wave-related illnesses and to assess the economic impact to evolve appropriate policy decisions.



Dr V. Thiruppugazh,
Additional Secretary, NDMA

preparedness measures. He further went on to explain the challenges and opportunities to improve the reach of early warning messages.

Technical session II focused on preparedness planning for heat wave risk reduction - issues and challenges for effective Heat Action Plan and implementation. Prof Dileep Mavalankar, Director, IIPHG highlighted the challenges of developing and implementing effective Heat

Action Plans as well as stressed upon the importance of cool roofs during the summer season.

Dr Lipika Nanda, Vice President, PHFI, Hyderabad spoke about local threshold determination and vulnerability assessment of Heat Related Health Hazards mapping, heat wave risk reduction by building long-term climate change risk mitigation and adaptation, developing framework for model Heat Action Plan for Indian cities including mainstreaming of heat wave risk reduction.

Dr Ajit Tyagi, Former DG-IMD, Member WMO and Advisor IRADe, New Delhi, Integrated Research and Action for Development, spoke on climate change adaptation and discussed short-term adaptation measures.

Objectives of the webinar:

- **To help all vulnerable states /districts in preparation of their Heat Action Plan for 2021.**
- **To discuss the integration of various development plans including long-term measures, increasing forest coverage and green areas in various states to reduce the risk of heat wave as well as climate change impacts.**
- **To specify short, medium and long-term mitigation measures most suited for different regions.**
- **To provide an opportunity for community capacity building and awareness generation.**

SUCCESS STORY

(Prof) Dr Rajashree Kotharkar, (VNIT), Nagpur suggested the aim of a model heat action plan as to provide a framework for developing plans for implementation, inter-agency coordination and impact evaluation of heat wave response activities to reduce the negative impact of extreme heat.

Technical session III focused on sharing State experiences and Capacity Building to adopt heat wave risk reduction strategy and to enhance effective response and governance through lessons learnt and determine future plan of action. Shri M. Ramachandradudu, Additional Secretary, Bihar explained about the relief operations and activities undertaken during heat waves in Gaya and the action plan envisaged for 2021.

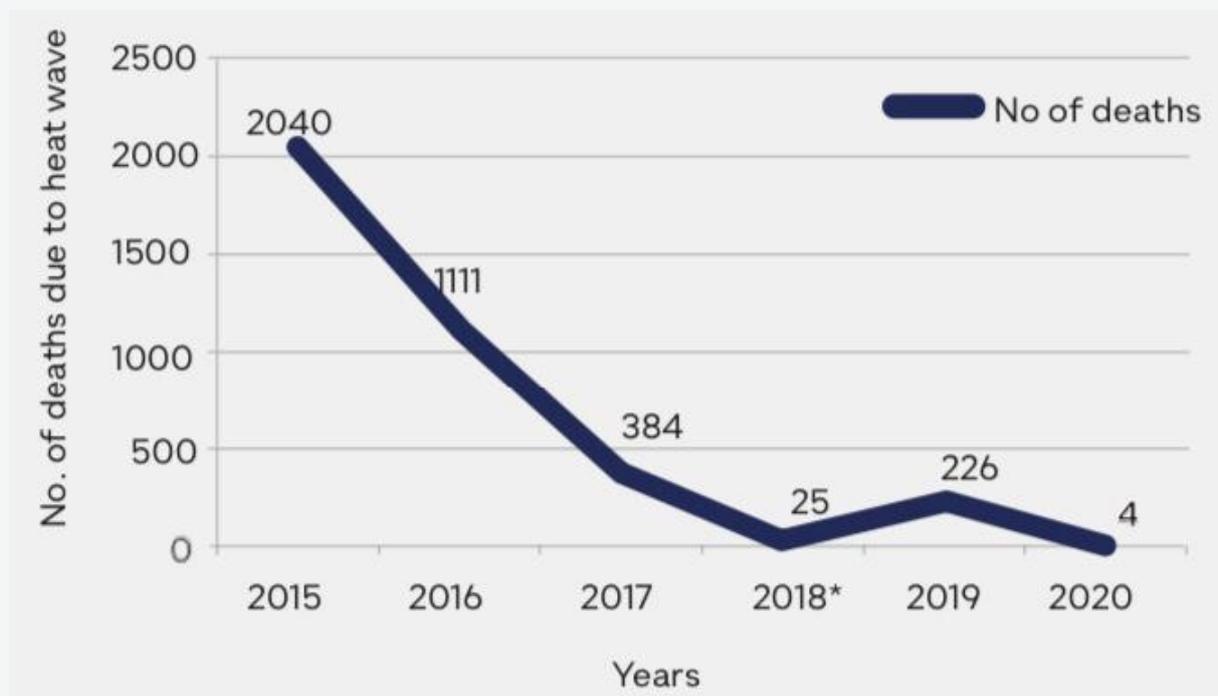
Dr M. M. Ali, Scientist, Government of Andhra Pradesh State Disaster Management

Authority, highlighted steps taken by the State of Andhra Pradesh to reduce the impact of heat wave in the State through awareness generation and information dissemination.

Shri Paras Nath Rai, Member, Bihar State Disaster Management Authority highlighted the experience of Bihar Rural Fire Safety and Mitigation Plan and addressed the challenges in implementing the same.

The webinar concluded with Dr V. Thiruppugazh, AS (PP), NDMA directing the future course of action and discussing a few short-term and long-term action points to be taken to maintain the downward trend of deaths caused by heat wave, to reduce heat wave-related illnesses, assess the economic impact and evolve appropriate policy decisions.

In the past few years, despite heat wave becoming a major challenge, the endeavours of NDMA in leading the coordinated efforts of Central Government Ministries, Departments of State Governments, District Administrations, India Meteorological Department and civil society in a planned way resulted in a significant reduction in mortality due to heat wave from 2,050 deaths in 2015 to 4 in 2020.



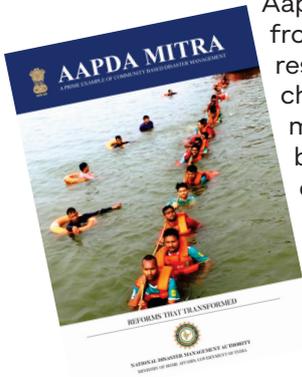
India's motto is 'Reform, Perform, Transform'

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi



A brief of the initiatives undertaken by NDMA under the dynamic leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister and Chairman of NDMA, Shri Narendra Modi to make India a disaster-resilient country, highlighting how 'good governance' changed the landscape of disaster management in India. For the same purpose, dedicated booklets were prepared by NDMA and can be found on NDMA's website by following the path given on page 9.

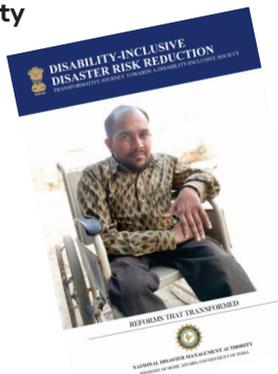
Aapda Mitra - A prime example of community-based disaster management



Aapda Mitra – a force of volunteers from across India trained in disaster response – is becoming a game changer in the field of disaster management in the country. This booklet highlights the journey of Aapda Mitra scheme from its pilot status to becoming a people's movement for disaster response and risk reduction, putting India on the global map in the domain of Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction.

Disability-inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction - A transformative journey towards a disability-inclusive society

Persons with disabilities experience the impact of disasters and climate change disproportionately. This booklet showcases the first comprehensive set of guidelines issued by any country globally on disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction



(DiDRR) - 'National Disaster Management Guidelines on Disability-Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction, 2019'. It also highlights other measures taken by the Government of India to make India a truly disability-inclusive society.

National Disaster Management Plan - A comprehensive step towards reducing disaster risk

It was only in 2016, more than ten years after enactment of the Disaster Management Act 2005 that NDMA under the directives of the Hon'ble Prime Minister and Chairman, prepared a comprehensive and progressive National Disaster Management Plan which has enabled better planning and risk reduction at all levels. This booklet delves into the comprehensiveness and progressiveness of the National Disaster Management Plan of India.



Beating the Heat - How India successfully reduced mortality due to heat waves

Until 2015, the deaths and diseases heat waves brought were not accorded due recognition at the national level as hazards. However, as soon as Hon'ble Prime Minister & Chairman of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) Shri Narendra Modi assumed charge of the Authority, he gave due importance to management

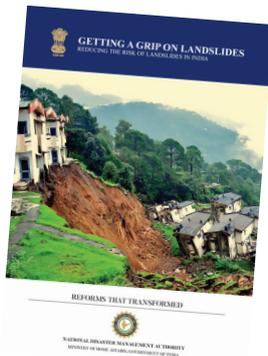


BOOKLET

of heat wave. This booklet looks into the steps taken to significantly reduce heat wave-related deaths and illnesses in India.

Getting a Grip on Landslides - Reducing the risk of landslides in India

In recent years, the incidence of landslides has increased due to extreme weather events, environmental degradation due to human interference and other anthropogenic activities, resulting in heavy loss of human lives, livestock and property. This booklet sheds light on technology solutions implemented by the Government of India to minimize the impact of landslides in the country.



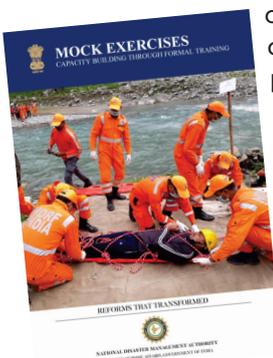
Thunderstorm and Lightning - Tackling weather hazards

Thunderstorms, associated with lightning strikes, have emerged as one of the major weather hazards in recent years in many parts of the country. The severity and frequency of thunderstorms/dust storms are expected to rise in the years ahead due to rising global temperatures. This booklet looks into the measures implemented by the Government of India to improve the capacity of the states to deal with these incidents in a scientific and planned manner as well as strategies to minimise loss to lives and property'.



Mock Exercises - Capacity Building through formal training

After the enactment of the Disaster Management Act 2005, NDMA began conducting mock exercises as a means of capacity building to competently prevent, mitigate, prepare, handle the aftermath of any hazard/ disaster. This booklet looks into the restructuring of the Mock Exercise programme in India and other steps taken to enhance capacity building of States and districts through formal training.



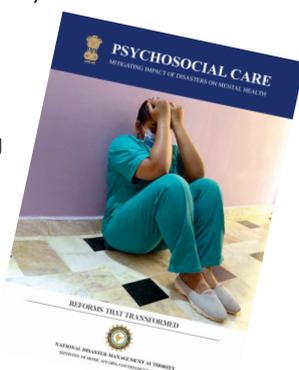
Reaching out to save lives - How social media transformed India's readiness towards disasters

This booklet describes how the Government of India, under the vision and direction of Hon'ble Prime Minister and Chairman of NDMA Shri Narendra Modi, has acknowledged the significance of social media in managing disasters. This booklet also tells the story of how the National Disaster Management Authority's social media initiative was transformed into an interactive single window for information related to disasters catering to the digital aspirations of new India.



Psychosocial Care - Mitigating the impact of disasters on mental health

Psychosocial interventions refer to strategies that target stress or concern. Mental health professionals help the community to deal with the potential threat of a disaster on their physical and mental health. This booklet highlights the importance of psychosocial care in managing disasters effectively. It takes into account psychosocial support provided during COVID-19 disaster and steps taken to avert the impact of it on people's mental health.



For more information

www.ndma.gov.in



Resources



Booklets

THE FIVE FAQs - EARTHQUAKE

1 What is an earthquake?

The sudden tremors, shaking or vibration of the earth's surface is called an earthquake. It results from the release of accumulated stress of the moving lithospheric or crustal plates.



2 Why does it occur?

There are natural factors as well as man made factors. Natural factors include disturbance in the earth's crust (uppermost layer of the earth) or movement of earth's plates, volcanic eruption, hitting of a meteor on earth. Man made factors include construction, underground explosion etc.



3 What precautions can a person take to stay safe from an earthquake?

Consulting structural engineers and designing the infrastructure of our cities to be as earthquake resistant can help in long term prevention from earthquakes. It is advised that the infrastructure complies with the National Building Codes (NBC). Cracks on walls, ceilings should be repaired and shelves should be fastened securely to walls, placing heavy/large objects on lower shelves.



4 How can people stay safe during an earthquake?

Follow the 'Drop-Cover-Hold' technique. **Drop** on your hands and knees, **Cover** your head and neck with your hand and seek shelter under a table or side up to the interior wall, away from tall objects that might topple. **Hold** onto the leg of a table or if you're outside continue to shield your head and neck with your arms.



5 What should one do after an earthquake has occurred?

Be careful of aftershocks. One shouldn't enter damaged buildings, and if stuck in rubble, make sure to protect the nose, mouth and eyes from dust. Make noise by whistling or tapping on a surface to get attention. When outside, one should be careful from hazards like fallen electrical lines, ruptured gas pipes etc.





**Dawai Bhi, Kadaai Bhi
(Yes to Vaccine, Yes to Caution)**

Stay Protected from Corona



**Frequently wash
your hands with soap**



Wear your mask properly



Maintain safe distance



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