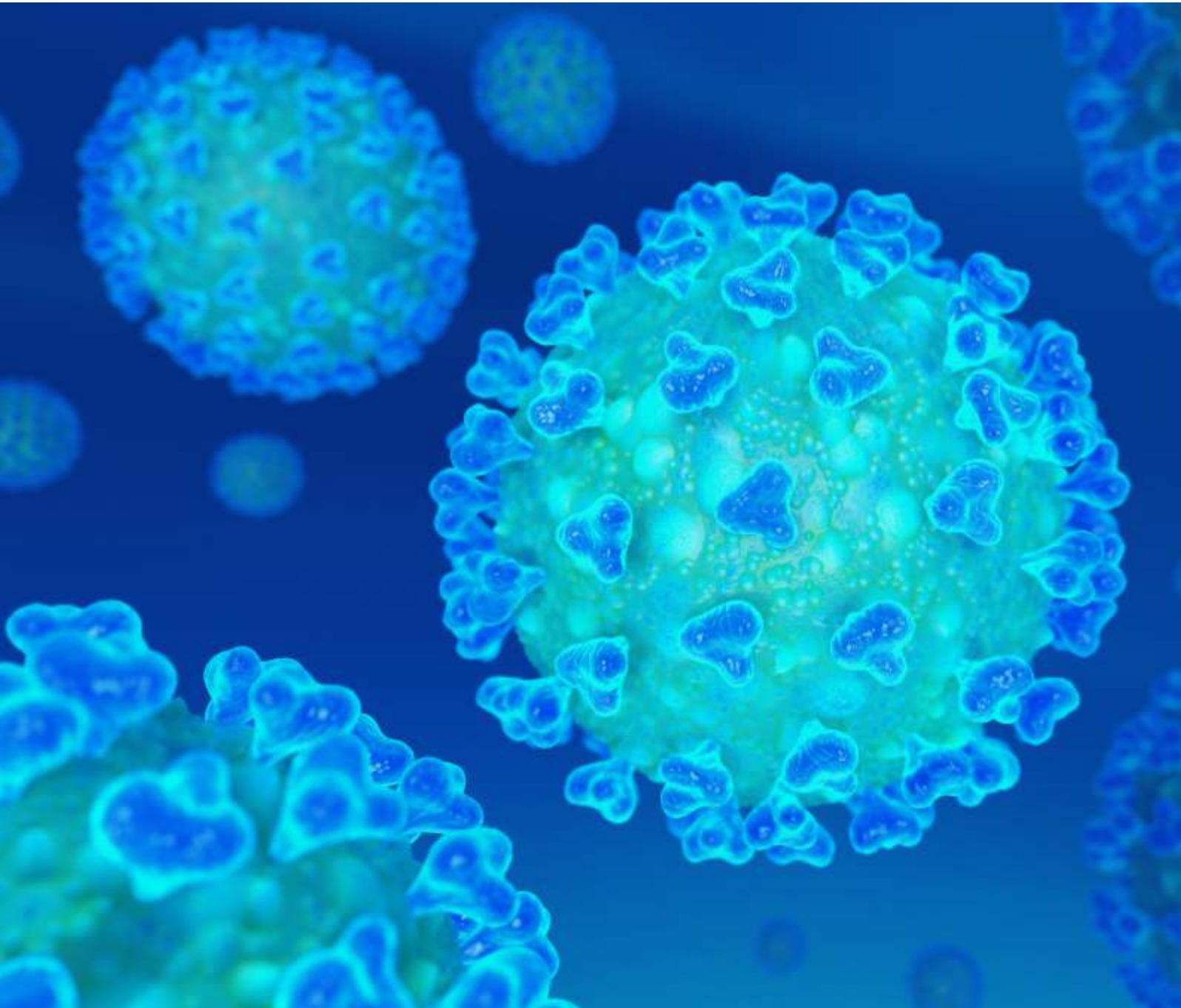


FEBRUARY 2020



AAPDA SAMVAAD



Stay Safe from Coronavirus #COVID19

APPPA participants visit NDMA



Forty-six participants from Advanced Professional Programme in Public Administration (APPPA) visited NDMA on January 21, 2020, with an aim to discuss the disaster management framework in India and best practices in the field.

To set the tone of the interaction, NDMA made a presentation outlining the global trends in disasters, the institutional mechanism for DRR in India and the functioning of the Authority. The presentation also talked about various projects being implemented by NDMA like National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project (NCRMP), National School Safety Programme (NSSP) and other Capacity Building Projects besides the specific impact of climate change leading to an increase in heat waves related mortality in the country.

Issues such as the role of satellites in Early Warning, coordination mechanism for disaster relief distribution, and preparedness for Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear disasters were also discussed.

NDRF celebrates its 15th Raising Day

The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) celebrated its 15th Raising Day in New Delhi on January 18, 2020. The Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Shri Nityanand Rai was the chief

guest on this occasion and Shri G.V.V. Sarma, Member Secretary, NDMA was the Guest of Honour.

While congratulating the Force, the Minister said that since its inception in 2006, NDRF has saved more than one lakh lives and rescued/evacuated over 6.7 lakh people during disasters.

Shri G.V.V. Sarma also appreciated hard work, sincerity and dedication of Force personnel and applauded its efforts in disaster risk reduction. He also emphasized on the capacity building with SDRFs and procuring the modern equipment and technology for disaster management.



On the occasion, a workshop was also conducted on 'Urban flooding & challenges' and 'Biological Emergencies & New Technology in Disaster Management'.

The programme was attended by the Heads of premier disaster management Institutes, senior officers of Central Police Forces and dignitaries from various central agencies.

MoU signed with C-DOT



NDMA has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) for rolling out Common Alerting Protocol Compliant Disaster Early Warning Platform (Pilot) Project in Tamil Nadu. The MoU was signed in New Delhi on January 30, 2020. It would facilitate dissemination of disaster related Alerts/Warnings over SMS in English/Tamil to all stakeholders in affected geographical area.

Meeting on museums and cultural heritage issues



NDMA held a meeting with representatives of National Mission of Manuscripts (NMM), National Museum, National Archives of India (NAI), National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA) and Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) on January 16, 2020, to take stock of the progress on decisions taken in the NDMA's meeting in October 2018 concerning museums and cultural heritage issues under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Prime Minister. Earlier, meetings were held in this regard in August and October 2019.

NMM informed that out of the around one crore manuscripts in the country, they have already documented around 44 lakh. Workshops on Manuscriptology and Palaeography have also been organized by NMM with disaster management as the main component. NDMA suggested that a Plan should be prepared to complete the documentation work in a time-bound manner.

It was informed by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) that it has identified five heritage monuments -Jaisalmer, Taj Mahal, Nalanda, Ramappa temple in Andhra Pradesh and Rani ki Vav in Gujarat - for preparing their DM Plans.

Task Force Meetings on GLOF Guidelines



NDMA conducted the second and the third meeting of the Task Force on Preparation of Guidelines on Management of Glacial Hazards & Risks, especially Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs) & Landslide Lake Outburst Floods (LLOFs) in New Delhi on December 17, 2019 and February 3, 2020, respectively.

NDMA is collaborating with Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), Embassy of Switzerland India, New Delhi to prepare the Guidelines. In the second meeting, the experts of the task force were requested to prepare the first draft of Guidelines by the end week of January, 2020. The draft of the guidelines were then discussed in the third meeting. Based on feedback on the draft chapters, a new draft will be prepared and circulated to all stakeholders.

Training programmes on Landslide Mitigation

NDMA conducted a series of training programmes on "Landslide Mitigation and Detailed Project Report (DPR) Preparation" in collaboration with expert institutions - September 23-27, 2019 with Indian Institute of Technology-Mandi, November 25-29, 2019 with North East Hill University (NEHU) Shillong, November 14-15, 2019 with Central Building Research Institute - to impart training to officials of the landslide-affected State Governments line Departments, Central Government Departments and National Institutes of Technology.

The participants learnt about the landslide investigation and designing of mitigation measures for preparation of DPR in detail.

Government of India has appointed new Members at NDMA

Lt. Gen. Syed Ata Hasnain PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, SM, VSM & BAR (Retd.), Member

Lt. Gen. Syed Ata Hasnain (Retd.) has commanded the Indian Army's Srinagar based 15 Corps and is a sought after analyst on Jammu & Kashmir, Pakistan, Middle East and transnational extremist violence. He writes for various mainstream newspapers and appears on television debates on issues of strategic nature. He has also spoken at various institutions within and outside the country.

He is also the Chancellor of Central University of Kashmir, appointed by the President of India.

Lt. Gen. Hasnain has six decorations awarded by the President for India and two decorations awarded by the Army Chief. He actively served the Indian Army for 40 years.



Shri Rajendra Singh PTM, TM, Member

Shri Rajendra Singh has served as the Director General of the Indian Coast Guard. He has held various important Command and Staff appointments, both afloat and ashore, with the unique distinction of commanding all classes of Indian Coast Guard ships. Shri Singh was instrumental in elevating the image of the Coast Guard to a multi-mission service.

Effective measures and policies were instituted during his tenure at the Coast Guard, which minimised the loss of property and life in the wake of Tsunami, floods and multiple cyclones.



Shri Kamal Kishore, Member

Shri Kamal Kishore has worked on disaster risk management issues for over twenty-five years. He has been a member of NDMA since 2015 where he works on policy and planning and anchors the Prime Minister's initiative on the global Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure. Prior to NDMA, he worked with the United Nations, the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre and TARU. He has advised national governments in more than ten countries on disaster risk management issues and supported post-disaster recovery after major disasters in Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Iran, Myanmar, Pakistan, the Philippines and Sri Lanka. His early work includes support to post-disaster reconstruction after the Uttarkashi (1991) and Latur (1993) earthquakes.



For more, please visit: <https://ndma.gov.in/en/>



SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE

Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar

Disaster Mitigation & Management Centre(DMMC), Uttarakhand, clinched the Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar in the institution category for 2020. The individual category award went to Shri Kumar Munnann Singh. The award was announced on 23rd January on the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. It carries a certificate each and a cash prize of Rs. 51 lakh and Rs. 5 lakh in the institution and the individual categories respectively.

Formed in 2006, DMMC, Uttarakhand, discharges the functions of State Disaster Management Authority under the Government of Uttarakhand. Shri K. M. Singh has contributed immensely to Disaster Management. He was appointed as a founder Member of the National Disaster Management Authority in 2005.

LESSONS FROM A FIRE TRAGEDY



The Anaj Mandi fire mishap was allegedly caused due to short-circuit on the second floor of a four-storey building. The residential building, which was being used for manufacturing products, did not have a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the Fire Department.

- Shri P. N. Rai, Member, Bihar State Disaster Management Authority

Yet another fire tragedy in our urban areas - this time at Anaj Mandi, Delhi - has sparked widespread outrage among the general public. The fire that occurred in the early hours of December 8, 2019 killed more than 40 people. It has again highlighted the inadequacy of our emergency response system, in this case the fire fighting system. Combined with this, lack of compliance with fire safety codes, community awareness on even basic preparedness measures, and lack of even basic urban planning in large parts of our cities has created a trend of increased fire risk. However, trend is not destiny. With a determined and concerted effort, the trend can not only be arrested but reversed too. However, this will require simultaneous work on long-term measures (increasing compliance of fire safety codes in buildings and settlements); medium-term measures (improving the capacity of fire services); and short-term measures (improving the preparedness of our fire fighters and communities).

This article aims to address some of these basic issues by drawing lessons from the Anaj Mandi fire. It appears that even with existing resources, the response could have been much better. This article highlights five key lessons:

First, inability to assess the extent of the fire and its impact timely compounded the impact. It is clear that it took a long time for the responders to have even a rough measure of the number of people likely to be trapped and requiring medical attention. In the absence of a professional medical response in the initial hours, some of the injured had to be sent to hospitals in auto rickshaws and Police Control Room (PCR) vans.

Second, lack of prior familiarity with the area and prior engagement with the communities was a principal reason for the delay in estimating the number of people trapped in the building. It is not

clear whether the knowledge of the local police and PCR van personnel and local informants was utilised to have an as-best-as-possible assessment of the situation. Correcting this requires two principal actions. The fire services need to do a reconnaissance of vulnerable areas and have dialogue with the communities from time to time through community outreach. The fire services do organise such activities but it needs a boost. In addition, the fire tenders need to be equipped with communication equipment, especially mobiles, so that they can begin to get basic information even prior to arriving on site. Such an advance assessment could help in preparing for response including devising strategies and tactics seeking additional help such as early deployment of motorcycle-borne fire fighters to get a first hand report of the fire's extent.

Third, lack of proper pre-hospital medical response on site further compounded the impact. Apparently there was no arrangement for triage for those who were rescued. As a result everyone was sent to hospital.

Fourth, all the injured were sent to government hospitals as per press reports -- Safdarjung Hospital, Lady Hardinge Medical College and AIIMS Trauma Center – with some of them as far away as 22 km. Standard operating procedure demands that the administration enter into agreement with private

hospitals in the jurisdiction so that in case of any disaster, the injured/ affected are taken care of in nearest hospital. Moreover, burn patients need treatment which cannot be provided in every hospital.

Fifth, lack of a proper communication strategy in times of an incident meant that there was a lot of confusion, desperation and chaos among the relatives of those trapped or injured in the fire.

Sixth, lack of awareness of basic preparedness measures among the affected further compounded the impact. Majority of them were choked to death. Out of 43 casualties, asphyxiation caused 39. Those living in the building apparently were not aware as to how they could escape with smoke all around. There was no one to guide them. This brings us to the challenge of preparing the community. Agreed, it was an illegal unit which need not be there but given the fact that such issues exist in our country, should there be an effort to build capacity of such people?

Addressing the issues highlighted above need not take a lot of resources. These are the types of issues our fire services and the entire emergency management system can address over the short term while we also address the medium and long term issues.

- The views and opinions expressed in the article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of NDMA.

If you are trapped by a fire:



- Stay close to the floor if smoke permeates your location.
- Before opening a door, check it for heat. Use the back of your hand to test the temperature at the top of the door, the knob and the frame before opening. If it is hot, do not open.
- If you are unable to escape through a door, use a window. However, if it is too high to jump from a window, try to attract attention by waving something.
- If you can leave the room, close the door behind you - this will slow down the progress of the fire. Crawl low.
- If your clothes catch fire, drop to the ground and roll to extinguish flames.

Coronavirus

#COVID-19

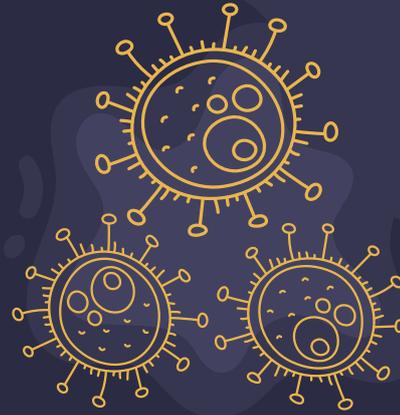
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India



#COVID19 Helpline:
+91 -11 - 23978046

The risk of Coronavirus infection is spreading across the globe, including India. Reduce the risk of its infection by following these simple measures:

1. Say Namaste, avoid shaking hands, hugging, kissing, etc.
2. Maintain a safe distance from everyone, especially those suffering from fever, cold or cough.
3. Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or handkerchief when coughing or sneezing. Dispose the used tissue in a closed bin.
4. Remember to wash your hands frequently using soap and water or use an alcohol-based sanitiser
 - after coughing or sneezing
 - before and after cooking, and before eating
 - after using the washroom
5. Avoid travel, confined and crowded spaces.
6. Coronavirus spreads through contaminated surfaces. Avoid touching surfaces such as desks, door knobs, lift buttons, staircase railings, etc.
7. Don't use saliva to count currency notes or turn pages.
8. If you have cough, fever or difficulty in breathing, consult a doctor immediately.
9. Do not believe in or spread rumours. Pay heed to information from trusted sources (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India, other central and state government agencies, international organisations such as the World Health Organisations).



CORONA VIRUS IS HIGHLY CONTAGIOUS



AIR TRANSMISSION BY COUGH OR SNEEZE

PREVENTION



COVER NOSE AND MOUTH WITH A TISSUE WHEN COUGHING OR SNEEZING. DISPOSE TISSUE IN A BIN



PERSONAL CONTACT



WASH YOUR HANDS FREQUENTLY WITH SOAP AND WATER



CONTAMINATED OBJECTS



IF ILL, WEAR A MASK

**Stay Protected!
Stay safe from Corona virus!**

FIRE SAFETY DRILL AT NDMA

Fire safety is key to a safe workplace. On January 10, 2020, NDMA carried out a fire drill by simulating a fire on the ground floor of the three-storey NDMA Bhawan. The aim of the exercise was to rehearse the Standard Operating Procedure in case of a fire accident. Lessons were learnt, gaps identified, response mechanism streamlined.

IN CASE OF A FIRE:

- Raise an alarm and inform the Fire Brigade.
- Do not panic; Stay calm.
- Unplug all electrical appliances.
- Try to extinguish the fire with available equipment.
- Close the doors and other openings. Place a wet cloth under the doors to stop the smoke from spreading. Use a wet cloth to cover your mouth to filter inhalation.
- Exit immediately if the fire is out of control.
- Do not go back for your possessions.
- In case of burn injuries due to fire, pour water over burn until pain subsides.





STAY PREPARED FOR HEAT WAVE

- Listen to Radio; watch TV; read Newspaper for local weather news or download weather information related mobile app.
- Drink sufficient water - even if not thirsty. Persons with epilepsy or heart, kidney or liver disease who are on fluid-restricted diets; or have a problem with fluid retention should consult a doctor before increasing liquid intake.
- Use ORS (Oral Rehydration Solution), homemade drinks like lassi, torani (rice water), lemon water, buttermilk, coconut water, etc. to keep yourself hydrated.
- Wear lightweight, light-coloured, loose, cotton clothes.
- If outside, cover your head: Use a cloth, hat or umbrella. Use sunglasses to protect your eyes and sunscreen to protect your skin.
- Take special care for the elderly, children, sick or overweight as they are more likely to become victims of excessive heat.



Address:

NDMA Bhawan

A-1, Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi - 110029

Telephones : +91-11-26701700

Control Room : +91-11-26701728

Helpline Number : 011-1078

Fax : +91-11-26701729