

Disaster Management Class 03

29th June, 2024 at 1:00 PM

DISCUSSION OF LAST CLASS (01:06 PM)

CAPACITY (01:07 PM)

- Capacity is the ability of life, or the property, or the environment to resist the ill effects of hazards.
- Capacity can be recovery-related and can also be with respect to prevention and mitigation.
- It can also concern preparedness capacity and can include awareness, early warning systems, Dos and don'ts, mock drills, etc.

RESILIENCE (01:15 PM)

- Resilience is the ability of the community or the society i.e. the living part, the system, and the environment, exposed to a hazard to resist, absorb, accommodate, and recover from its effects in a timely and efficient manner alongside preserving and restoring, and strengthening its essential basic structures and functions.
- Resilience is the outcome of the process of capacity building.

STRUCTURE OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT MEASURES (01:23 PM)

- If we presently see the disaster management-related developments, we find that they includes international developments with respect to:
 - i) Disaster management
 - ii) Development in general including MDGs and SDGs
 - iii) Climate Change (IPCC Reports, UNFCCC, Paris Agreement)
 - iv) Urban development, starting with the UN-Habitat Programs starting in 1976.
- In future years, we might see other related aspects such as CBD, UNEP, Convention on Desertification, and Degradation also integrating with DM-related international developments.

International Evolution only in the domain of Disaster Management (01:38 PM)

- 1) The first development was in the year 1971 with the creation of the UN-Disaster Relief Office (UN-DRO).
- 2) 1979 - The UN-DRO convened an International expert group meeting to review its previous work for risk and vulnerability analysis and develop a methodology for it. Developments here, ten years later, led to the International Framework for Action for the IDNDR (International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction) and hence 1990-2000 was declared as IDNDR.
- 3) Three International Conferences on Disaster Risk Reduction have taken place till now. The first of them was in the year 1994 by name of the **Yokohama Conference on Disaster Reduction** and it came up with the Yokohama strategy.
- The objectives of IDNDR:
 - a) National Risk Assessment and Effect on Development Plans
 - b) Mitigation plans at national and local level.
 - c) Easy access to Early Warning Systems (EWS)
- The Yokohama Strategy goals:
 - i) Risk assessment for adequate Disaster Reduction (DR).
 - ii) Disaster prevention and preparedness
 - iii) Integrating it with development policy
 - iv) Capacity Building (Pre Disaster)
 - v) Use of effective Early Warning Systems (EWS)
 - vi) Local community participation
 - vii) Use of patterns, and designs in development for reducing vulnerability (physical, organizational, political vulnerability).
 - viii) Sharing technology
 - ix) Bringing together environmental protection, sustainable development, and poverty alleviation in the pre-disaster stage (the need for coherence of International development which culminated in 2015).
 - x) Primary responsibility of the DM on the affected country with support from International community.
- In the year 1999, the UN ISDR (International Strategy for Disaster Reduction) was set up which focused on:
 - i) Resilience of communities
 - ii) Risk management;
 - iii) Hazard mitigation;
 - iv) Sustainable Development
 - v) Environmental Management;
 - vi) Land use and urban planning
 - vii) Institutional Framework
 - viii) Need for networking, R&D, EWS and financial instruments.
- The UN-ISDR was for the period 2000-10 but was replaced in 2019 by UN-DRR.

- **The Second Conference - Hyogo Framework for 2005-15 had 5 priority areas:**
- 1) DRR as a national and local priority with a strong institutional basis. (Same year NDM Act and NDMA were created)
- 2) Identify, assess, and monitor disaster risks using enhanced EWS.
- 3) Build a culture of safety and resilience
- 4) Reduce underlying risk factors
- 5) Strengthen preparedness for effective response
- Hence, based on Yokohama, ISDR, and Hyogo, we can conclude that the world kept moving from a reactive approach to a proactive approach.
- **Sendai Framework** is from 2015 to 2030. In the Sendai framework, there are seven global targets under four priorities of action. **The Four Priorities for Action are:**
- **1) Understanding Disaster Risk** in all its dimensions (Vulnerability Capacity)
- **2) Strengthening Disaster Risk governance,**
- **3) Investing in DRR for resilience**
- **4) Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective disaster response to build back better in recovery, rehab, and reconstruction.**
- **The Seven Global Targets:**
- **Increase - 1) Countries with DRR Strategy**
- **2) International Cooperation**
- **3) Availability and access to multi-hazard EWS**
- **Reduce - 1) Mortality/deaths due to disaster**
- **2) Affected people**
- **3) Economic Loss**
- **4) Damage to critical infra** (transport, power, and communication) and disruption of basic services (sanitation, food supply, medical, education).
- In the year 2015, alongside the Sendai framework, other global developments that came together were the SDGs the Paris Agreement and the UN Habitat-related new urban agenda and we started looking at all these developments comprehensively for improving DRR globally.

Outcome (02:32 PM)

- **The outcome of all the International Developments:**
- In the 1970's, all the focus was on a reactive hazard-based approach without a focus on vulnerability, capacity etc.
- Gradually, various aspects of disaster and risk developed, and the proactive approach evolved by 2015, we had put in place a proactive approach based system risk and systems-based approach.
- The focus of this is to have a systematic risk lens to magnify and show us the hidden/unnoticed risks in the various international developments like Sendai, SDGs, the Paris Agreement, and the New Urban Agenda.
- Once, the risks are identified, we can lead to risk-informed sustainable development.
- In 2017 - The fifth session of the global platform of Disaster Reduction took place. The first had taken place in 2007. In 2019, the UNISDR was renamed as UNDRR.
- In 2023, India assuming the presidency of G20, established the first G20 working group on DRR with the priorities and expected outcomes:
 - i) Global coverage of EWS for all hydro-meteorological Disasters
 - ii) Increased commitments for Infra and climate resilience
 - iii) Stronger national financial frameworks
 - iv) Strengthen national and global disaster response systems due to the increasing frequency and intensity of disasters.
 - v) Applying an ecosystem-based approach for DRR.
- In 2024, the Eighth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Reduction.

INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE IN INDIA WITH RESPECT TO DISASTER MANAGEMENT (03:29 PM)

- The word 'crisis management' or 'disaster management' is not mentioned in the Indian Constitution. Despite the recommendations of the Second ARC, NCRWC, and the JC Pant High Powered Committee on Crisis Management, having recommended including it in the concurrent list, of the Seventh Schedule of the Indian Constitution, it is still not included.
- Till 1990, there was no crisis or disaster management office in the Government of India.
- After the declaration of UN-IDNDR, in 1990, a dedicated cell for Disaster Management was established in the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA). In 1999, after the Orissa super cyclone, the helplessness of the MoA in this disaster was understood.
- Hence, a high-powered committee was set up under JC Pant to review disaster preparedness in India. By now, the ID-NDR and the Yokohama strategy were already talking about preparedness and mitigation
- In 2002, the report suggested shifting the DM Department to MoHA. The second suggestion led to the NDM Act 2005 which was the first Act in India relating to Disaster management. This act was in tune with the International developments till now like IDNDR, Yokohama, UN-ISDR, and the same year released Hyogo.
- The National Disaster Management Act, for the first time in India, took a proactive approach to Disaster management. Earlier, from 1990 to 2005, the approach was officially also reactive.
- The Reactive approach only had a structure but had no documents, Acts, rules, etc. The structure was in the form of *ad-hoc* committees.
- The passing of the NDM Act, 2005 led to the creation of a permanent structure in the form of:
National Disaster Management Authority at the National Level
State Disaster Management Authorities at the State Levels
The District Disaster Management Authorities at the District Levels
- **Documents** - i) The NDM Act 2005 which created the National Disaster Management Authority. The Authority undertook the following actions -
ii) National Policy on Disaster Management 2009
iii) National Disaster Management Plan in 2016 and revised in 2019.
iv) Guidelines/Strategy - Starting from 2007 till 2023, around 34 documents have been released. National Vulnerability Atlas was also released by the Government of India.

STRUCTURES FOR DISASTER MANAGEMENT IN INDIA (03:50 PM)

Pre-NDM Act 2005 - From the 1990s till 2005

- *This was an ad-hoc structure. Depending on whether a hazard was natural or manmade, an ad-hoc cabinet committee was set up after each disaster headed by the Prime Minister. For natural disasters, a Cabinet Committee to Manage Natural Calamities was set up and for the Man-made disasters, the Cabinet Committee on Security was set up.*
- *These committees reviewed the situation and made decisions.*
- *Once the Decision was made, the implementation of the decisions of the Cabinet Committees was to be done by the Government of India Secretaries Committee (called National Crisis Management Committee), to be headed by the Cabinet Secretary.*
- *Since the committee was headed by the Cabinet Secretary, as head of Civil Services, he could order any bureaucrat in India. He could also coordinate with other ministries at the level of the Government of India, at the State level (with the Chief Secretary), or at the level of the District Magistrate.*
- *Involved Stakeholders were the administration (at the level of the DM), Police (at the level of the SP), If reserved forces were required, the Cabinet secretary could coordinate with the home secretary and if the Army was to be involved, the Defence secretary could be involved. This was the process of action on site.*
- *The Actions on site were **Response** (involves rescue, relief, and rehab), & **Recovery** (mainly to be done by the DM).*
- *Once the District Magistrate confirmed that the actions were completed at the level of the DM, the information would go to the Cabinet Secretary who would then convey it to the Cabinet Committees. The Cabinet Committee would make the final decision and the ad-hoc committee would be dissolved.*
- *In case of a hazard, an ad-hoc cabinet committee was set up for decision-making.*
- *Implementation was done by NCMC headed by the Cabinet Secretary who would coordinate at the Union, State, and District levels.*
- *On the field, the DM supervised and directly looked after the work involving administration, paramilitary, and security forces if needed in response activities and various admin departments for recovery activity. Once, the situation was back to normal, the DM reported to the state and the state reported to the cabinet secretary who reported to the cabinet committee, and after reviewing, the cabinet committee would wind up the action and dissolve the ad-hoc committee headed by the PM.*
- *Hence, this was a reactive approach every time.*

TOPIC FOR NEXT CLASS - PROACTIVE APPROACH UNDER NDMA