

Earthquake Preparedness Module for Teachers

Introduction & Rationale

Earthquakes are sudden events; preparedness in schools can significantly reduce casualties, injuries, and damage. Under the National School Safety Policy (NDMA, GoI), school buildings are a national priority. Teachers play a critical role in guiding students safely before, during, and after an earthquake.

Before an Earthquake

- Develop evacuation plans and maps.
- Identify safe spots (under desks, away from windows).
- Train students on 'Drop, Cover, and Hold On'.
- Keep emergency kits (first aid, whistle, attendance register).

During an Earthquake

- Instruct students to Drop, Cover, and Hold On.
- Stay away from windows or heavy objects.
- Maintain calm and give clear instructions.

After an Earthquake

- Check injuries and provide first aid.
- Lead students to safe assembly areas.
- Conduct headcount and report missing students.
- Avoid re-entering buildings until declared safe.

Teacher Responsibilities

- Protect and reassure students.
- Coordinate with disaster management teams.
- Act as role models for calm and disciplined behavior.

Do's and Don'ts

| Do's | Don'ts |
|---------------------------|---|
| Stay calm, guide students | Do not panic or allow scattering |
| Keep emergency supplies | Do not rush towards exit during shaking |
| Lead organized evacuation | Do not re-enter unsafe buildings |

Practice & Drills

- Conduct quarterly earthquake drills.
- Use role-play and simulation exercises.

- Evaluate response time and coordination.