

Name – Anand Gupta
ID- anand.btag@gmail.com
Contact number- +91- 9120025801

Q1. What do you understand about Disaster Management in the context of Panchayats?

Ans. In context of PRI (Panchayati Raj Institutions) through the 73rd amendment to Indian Constitution was a landmark step towards the attempt of strengthen the India from the grass root level by ensuring 3 tier local self-government. For this, Panchayats are the institutional entity having the major role in delivering the responsibilities. Thus, in this context, Disaster management implies a set of endeavours in to make the rural areas resilient and capable to cope up with the disasters like lightening, flood, drought, fire accident, and other infectious outbreak like Covid-19, lumpy virus etc. through, capacity building exercises. This is the best approach for **decentralising the responsibility among masses for a better management against disasters.**

Q2. What are the main reasons for disasters ?

Ans. Disaster is a result of **natural** or **human-made** causes that creates a sudden disruption of daily life, severely damaging people's lives and their property. Causes for such calamities can be contributed to deforestation, soil erosion, and pollution. The major causes of catastrophic disasters are natural phenomena occurring in the earth's crust as well as on the surface.

Following are the possible reasons for disasters: -

- a. **Environmental Imbalance** - The removal of trees and forest cover from a watershed area has led to soil erosion, drop in groundwater table, urbanization in flood prone areas near the rivers.
- b. **Land exploitation**, infrastructure construction, rising urbanisation, and technological advancement have all increased demand on natural resources.
- c. **Industrialization**: This has caused the earth to warm and increased the frequency of extreme weather events.
- d. **Global warming**- It leads to change in the extreme weather conditions like flood, droughts, cyclone and cloud bursts.
- e. **International Political Issues**- Political issues include war, the pursuit of nuclear weapons, competition among nations to become superpowers, and claiming control over land, sea, and airspace. Currently Russia- Ukraine is big example of this.

Q3. During disasters, it has been observed that maximum losses are in rural areas as compared to urban areas. Why do we have maximum losses in villages/rural areas?

Ans. During the disasters maximum losses are in rural areas as compared to urban areas is because of **lack of communication and awareness** of the possible disaster among the people before and after the disasters happened. Following points are the main reason behind this.

- a. Rural people are **not informed on time** so that they can be prepared for the disasters like frequently happening flood, cyclone in coastal areas, droughts, landslides and other disasters.
- b. During the disaster time proper medical help and other **basic necessity are not available** on time.
- c. Disaster causes several diseases and hazards which results a greater number of deaths in rural areas.
- d. **Resources Unavailability** -Lack of hospitals and doctor is also count in this calamity.
- e. Poor state of socio-economic developments in rural areas makes them vulnerable for catastrophes.
- f. Responsible authorities (NDMA) and teams (NDRF) cannot reach on time due to **improper communication** between local bodies and teams. They are not able to help on time the help required to influenced areas.
- g. **Lack of awareness** – Rural people are generally are not much literate and educated they don't know how to save themselves from these disasters. Mostly farmers during flood, lightening, earthquakes and landslides die just because of awareness.
- h. Least concern and negligence's of governments towards the efficient implementations of rural development schemes and poor coverage.

Q4. What is a research paper? What is the format of a research paper?

Ans. A research paper is an academic writing assignment that contains in-depth analysis, interpretation, and an argument based on independent research. Research paper presents your own understanding, discussion, assessment or argument with supporting data, documents and experiments. A research paper's primary goal is to increase the knowledge and information on the topic. To reach a conclusion in a research report, we must raise numerous questions and provide supporting evidence. We should use a genuine argument to persuade our readers and the academics. Our own views, information, understanding, and opinions can be applied and should give analysis, clarification, and an argument in a research paper that is based on in-depth independent study.

Format of a research paper

1. Paper Size: A4 with margins of 1.2" (Left) and 1" (Top-Bottom and Right).
2. Font: Times New Roman, 12 size (except Thesis title; it should have a font size of 16).
3. Line Spacing: 1.2
4. Paper should consist of the following:
 1. Top Page
 2. Cover Page
 3. Acknowledgements
 4. Table of Contents
 5. Abstract (Maximum one page (1.2 line spacing) along with 5-6 keywords)
 6. **Introduction** (it should contain background of the study, together with the overall objective of the study in the last paragraph of 'Introduction'. Specific objectives of the study should be listed under a separate heading "Objectives").
 7. **Review of Literature**

8. **Theoretical Consideration** (optional)
9. **Materials and Method**
10. **Results and Discussion**
11. **Summary and Conclusions**
12. **References**
13. **Appendices** (optional).

Q5. Our Political System has very little to do with disasters. Most of the political parties have no plan for prevention of disaster. They come after the disaster mostly. Why?

Ans. Political System has very little to do with disasters because of **least concern of the life** of the people and **negligence's of their duty** towards the efficient implementations of rural development schemes and welfare. Political parties and politician are not much concerned about the development of their regions.

These days, because of **short sightedness for a vision of developed nation** and lack of political will as well, have oriented the concern and efforts of political entities more towards the luxury baits for masses which are reflected in their election manifestos. **Corruption**, contest for more and more money accumulation does not allows an appreciable disaster management endeavours and political will for this.

Mainstream media and newspaper also don't raise valuable and reasonable question to these political parties and which give them a free pass of being not questionable. If during the period of services, they have been asked for their role at the time disaster then people should know that their elected member is doing right or wrong.

Nowadays, things are improving by the hope of best. *Awareness among people and youth via internet, the scenario is changing towards betterment.*

Q6. How do you think Panchayats can play a more active role in disaster management ?

Ans. Following are the points that justified panchayats can play a more active role in disaster management.

- a. **Handling Disasters at Grass-root Level**- The panchayats will respond to natural disasters in a flexible and dedicated manner as a result of the devolution of authority and responsibility to them with easy management.
- b. **Ensuring Better Relief Operations** - Local organisations that are closer to the population are better suited to carry out relief efforts because they are more familiar with the needs of the community.
- c. Panchayats can **ensure total transparency** in working and usage of funds as in every disaster situation. They can also be counted on to manage daily municipal operations, provide affected individuals with housing and medical care, etc.
- d. **Spreading Awareness and Gaining Cooperation**: - Since local government agencies are in direct touch with citizens on a daily basis, they are well-positioned to aid in raising awareness of the situation and ensuring that citizens take part in its resolution.

- e. NGOs and other organisations can best **participate in rescue and relief efforts** through panchayats.

Q7. What is your efficiency on GIS mapping and Geoinformatics ?

Ans. I have study about the GIS and remote sensing in my UG and PG. I have one certification from NPTEL on “Introduction to Geographic Information Systems” completed in 2020. I have applied GIS concept in my master projects. I have used the ArcGIS, QGIS and ERDAS IMAGINE software during my project. I have also worked as Teaching Assistant for the course of Geoinformatics for Land and Water resources. Topics includes Data handling, pre-processing, Image rectification, Spectral Signature, Supervised and Unsupervised Classification, Accuracy Assessment, Terrain Analysis, Watershed Delineation, and Digitization.

So, **I will rate myself 3.5 out of 5** in GIS mapping and Geoinformatics. It is very vast field and there is lots of things to **learn and improve**.