

UNIT – V

STRATEGIES FOR DISASTER MANAGEMENT PLANNING

- Promoting a culture of prevention, preparedness and resilience at all levels through knowledge, innovation and education
- Encouraging mitigation measures based on technology, traditional wisdom and environmental sustainability.
- mainstreaming disaster management into the developmental planning process
- Establishing institutional and techno-legal frame works to create an enabling regulatory environment and a compliance regime.
- Ensuring efficient mechanism for identification, assessment and monitoring of disaster risks.
- Developing contemporary forecasting and early warning systems backed by responsive and failsafe communication with information technology support.
- Promoting a productive partnership with the media to create awareness and contributing towards capacity development.
- Ensuring efficient response and relief with a caring approach towards the needs of the vulnerable sections of the society.
- Undertaking reconstruction as an opportunity to build disaster resilient structures and habitat for ensuring safer living.
- Promoting productive and proactive partnership with media in disaster management

STEPS FOR FORMULATING A DISASTER RISK REDUCTION PLAN

As per the Sendai Framework, in order to reduce disaster risk, there is a need to address existing challenges and prepare for future ones by focusing on monitoring, assessing, and understanding disaster risk and sharing such information. The Sendai Framework notes that it is “urgent and critical to anticipate, plan for and reduce disaster risk” to cope with disaster. It requires the strengthening of disaster risk governance and coordination across various institutions and sectors. It requires the full and meaningful participation of relevant stakeholders at different levels. It is necessary to invest in the economic, social, health, cultural and educational resilience at all levels. It requires investments in research and the use of technology to enhance multi-hazard Early Warning Systems (EWS), preparedness, response, recovery, rehabilitation, and reconstruction.

The Four Priorities for Action

- **Priority 1.** Understanding disaster risk Disaster risk management should be based on an understanding of disaster risk in all its dimensions of vulnerability, capacity, exposure of persons and assets, hazard characteristics and the environment. Such knowledge can be used for risk assessment, prevention, mitigation, preparedness and response.
- **Priority 2.** Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk Disaster risk governance at the national, regional and global levels is very important for prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, recovery, and rehabilitation. It fosters collaboration and partnership.
- **Priority 3.** Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience Public and private investment in disaster risk prevention and reduction through structural and non-structural measures are essential to enhance the economic, social, health and cultural resilience of persons, communities, countries and their assets, as well as the environment.
- **Priority 4.** Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to “Build Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction The growth of disaster risk means there is a need to strengthen disaster preparedness for response, take action in anticipation of events, and ensure capacities are in place for effective response and recovery at all levels. The recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction phase is a critical opportunity to build back better, including through integrating disaster risk reduction into development measures.

DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT

This Act may be called the Disaster Management Act, 2005.

It extends to the whole of India.

It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette appoint; and different dates may be appointed for different provisions of this Act and for different States, and any reference to commencement in any provision of this Act in relation to any State shall be construed as a reference to the commencement of that provision in that State.

"Disaster management" means a continuous and integrated process of planning, organizing, coordinating and implementing measures which are necessary or expedient for-

- Prevention of danger or threat of any disaster;
- Mitigation or reduction of risk of any disaster or its severity or consequences;
- Capacity-building;
- Preparedness to deal with any disaster;
- Prompt response to any threatening disaster situation or disaster;
- Assessing the severity or magnitude of effects of any disaster;
- Evacuation, rescue and relief;
- Rehabilitation and reconstruction;
- "District Authority" means the District Disaster Management Authority constituted under sub-section (1) of section 25;
- "District Plan" means the plan for disaster management for the district prepared under section 31;
- "Mitigation" means measures aimed at reducing the risk, impact or effects of a disaster or threatening disaster situation;
- "National Authority" means the National Disaster Management Authority established under sub-section (1) of section 3;
- "National Executive Committee" means the Executive Committee of the National Authority constituted under sub-section (1) of section 8;
- "National Plan" means the plan for disaster management for the whole of the country prepared under section 11;
- "Preparedness" means the state of readiness to deal with a threatening disaster situation or disaster and the effects thereof;
- "Prescribed" means prescribed by rules made under this Act;
- "Reconstruction" means construction or restoration of any property after a disaster;
- "Resources" includes manpower, services, materials and provisions;
- "State Authority" means the State Disaster Management Authority established under sub-section (1) of section 14 and includes the Disaster Management Authority for the Union territory constituted under that section;
- "State Executive Committee" means the Executive Committee of a State Authority constituted under sub-section (1) of section 20;
- "State Government" means the Department of Government of the State having administrative control of disaster management and includes Administrator of the Union territory appointed by the President under article 239 of the Constitution;
- "State Plan" means the plan for disaster management for the whole of the State prepared under section 23.

- Establishment of National Disaster Management Authority
- With effect from such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette appoint in this behalf, there shall be established for the purposes of this Act, an authority to be known as the National Disaster Management Authority.
- The National Authority shall consist of the Chairperson and such number of other members, not exceeding nine, as may be prescribed by the Central Government and, unless the rules otherwise provide, the National Authority shall consist of the following:-
 - The Prime Minister of India, who shall be the Chairperson of the National Authority, ex officio;
 - Other members, not exceeding nine, to be nominated by the Chairperson of the National Authority
 - The Chairperson of the National Authority may designate one of the members nominated under clause (b) of sub-section (2) to be the Vice-Chairperson of the National Authority.
 - The term of office and conditions of service of members of the National Authority shall be such as may be prescribed.

NATIONAL POLICY ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT

A disaster refers to a catastrophe, mishap, calamity or grave occurrence from natural or man-made causes, which is beyond the coping capacity of the affected community. DM involves a continuous and integrated process of planning, organizing, coordinating and implementing measures which are necessary or expedient for:

- Prevention of danger or threat of any disaster
- Mitigation or reduction of risk of any disaster or its severity or consequences
- Capacity building including research and knowledge management
- Preparedness to deal with any disaster
- Prompt response to any threatening disaster situation or disaster
- Assessing the severity or magnitude of effects of any disaster
- Evacuation, rescue and relief
- Rehabilitation and reconstruction