

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS COMMISSION'S 3rd REPORT TITLED 'CRISIS MANAGEMENT: FROM DESPAIR TO HOPE'

Details of the Government's Decisions on the recommendations of the Administrative Reforms Commission

Sl. No.	Recommendations made by Administrative Reforms Commission	Government's Decision
1	<p>1. Constitutional provision - Is there need for a separate entry (Para 4.1.5)</p> <p>(a) A new entry, "Management of Disasters and Emergencies, natural or manmade", may be included in List III (Concurrent List) of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution. (1)</p>	<p>(a) The recommendation is not accepted as the existing dispensation in the Constitution of India adequately meets the objectives contained in the recommendation.</p>
2	<p>2. Analysis of the Disaster Management Act, 2005: (Para 4.2.3.5)</p> <p>The Disaster Management Act, 2005 (Central Act) needs to be amended to bring in the following features:</p> <p>(a) Disaster/ Crisis Management should continue to be the primary responsibility of the State Governments and the Union Government should play a supportive role. (2)</p>	<p>(a) The recommendation is accepted.</p>
3	<p>(b) The Act should provide categorization of disasters (say, local, district, state or national level). This categorization along with intensity of each type of disaster will help in determining the level of authority primarily responsible for dealing with the disaster as well as the scale of response - detailed guidelines may be stipulated by the NDMA on this subject.(3)</p>	<p>(b) The recommendation is not accepted. For flexibility, it could be in the guidelines and not in the Act, and that categorization is possible only after the event.</p>
4	<p>(c) The functions of the National Disaster Management Authority should be: to recommend policies, to lay down guidelines for preparation of different disaster management plans and standard operating procedures; to</p>	<p>(c) The recommendation is partially accepted. As per Section 6 of Disaster Management Act, 2005, NDMA has already been vested inter-alia with the responsibilities of laying down policies on</p>

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	<p>promote and organize vulnerability studies, research and evaluation; to advise on parameters of categorization and on declaration of national and state disasters; to develop expertise and knowledge in the field of crisis/disaster management and disseminate to the field, to develop and organize training and capacity building programmes, to coordinate the early warning system and deploy specialized manpower and machinery in support of local/state governments, where required; to advise on the constitution and use of the Disaster Management Funds; and to give recommendations on all matters relating to crisis/disaster management to the government.(4)</p>	<p>disaster management and guidelines to be followed by the State Authorities in drawing up the State Plan which included various subcomponents as mentioned in recommendations of ARC. However, the deployment of specialized manpower, machinery and advising on the use and constitution of disaster management funds should be with Central and State Governments, as at present. Responsibility for general superintendence of the National Disaster Response Force should rest with the Central Government, which is responsible for the paramilitary forces from which NDRF battalions were drawn.</p>
5	<p>(d) The task of implementation of mitigation/prevention and response measures may be left to the State Governments and the district and local authorities with the line ministries departments of Government of India, playing a supportive role.(5)</p>	<p>(d) The recommendation is accepted.</p>
6	<p>(e) The law should cast a duty on every public functionary, to promptly inform the concerned authority about any crisis, if he/she feels that such authority does not have such information.(6)</p>	<p>(e) The recommendation is not accepted. There is no need to amend the DM Act since the existing provisions adequately meet the objectives sought to be fulfilled by the recommendation.</p>
7	<p>(f) The law should create a uniform structure at the apex level to handle all crises. Such a structure may be headed by the Prime Minister at the national level and the Chief Minister at the state level. At the administrative level, the structure is appropriately headed by the Cabinet Secretary and the Chief Secretary respectively.(7)</p>	<p>(f) The recommendation is partially accepted. NDMA provides for Prime Minister and Chief Ministers to head Central and State structures respectively. Natural disasters could be operationally handled by the NEC under Gol's supervision. Other serious crises could be handled by existing arrangement of NCMC and CMGs. No amendment is required to the Act.</p>
8	<p>(g) The law should make provisions for stringent</p>	<p>(g) The recommendation is accepted.</p>

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9	<p>punishment for misutilization of funds meant for crisis/disaster management.(8)</p> <p>(h) The role of the local governments should be brought to the forefront for crisis/disaster management.(9)</p>	<p>(h) The recommendation is accepted.</p>
10	<p>(i) The NEC as stipulated under the Disaster Management Act need not be constituted, and the NCMC should continue to be the apex coordination body. At the state level, the existing coordination mechanism under the Chief Secretary should continue (refer para 4.3.3).(10)</p>	<p>(i) The recommendation is not accepted since the NEC has already been constituted on 27.9.06. In addition to coordinating response measures, NEC also implements NDMA guidelines. Serious crises other than natural calamities would continue to be managed by the NCMC.</p>
11	<p>(j) Since all sections of the Act have not been notified, it is suggested that the above amendments be carried out without further delay. Meanwhile, except for those sections for which amendments are suggested, the others can be notified straightway so that the law can be brought into effect.(11)</p>	<p>(j) The recommendation is accepted.</p>
	<p>3. Coordination at the Apex Operational Level: (Para 4.3.3.3)</p>	
12	<p>(a) There is no need for a separate ministry/ department of disaster management at the national or the state level.(12)</p>	<p>(a) The recommendation is accepted.</p>
13	<p>(b) The NEC as stipulated under the Disaster Management Act, 2005 need not be constituted, and the NCMC can continue to be the apex coordination body. At the state level, the existing coordination mechanism under the Chief Secretary may continue. (13)</p>	<p>(b) The recommendation is not accepted since the NEC has already been constituted on 27.9.06.</p>
14	<p>(c) Notwithstanding the establishment of NDRF, the role of the Armed Forces, particularly the Army, in coming to the aid of victims of disasters should be retained and the special capabilities acquired by the Armed Forces in search and rescue and on-the spot medical attention need to be maintained. (14)</p>	<p>(c) The recommendation is accepted. NDRF is a specialized force and army would give support during disasters.</p>

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15	<p>4. Role of Local Self-Governments: (Para 4.3.4.2)</p> <p>(a) State Governments may examine the need to incorporate provisions in the state disaster management law and also the state laws governing local bodies to provide for a well defined role to the municipal bodies and panchayat raj institutions.(15)</p>	<p>(a) The recommendation is accepted. The Central Act specifies it already.</p>
16	<p>5. Crisis Management Set Up for Metropolitan Cities: (Para 4.3.5.2)</p> <p>(a) In larger cities (say, with population exceeding 2.5 million), the Mayor, assisted by the Commissioner of the Municipal Corporation and the Police Commissioner should be directly responsible for Crisis Management.(16)</p>	<p>(a) The recommendation is accepted.</p>
17	<p>6. Creation of Legal and Institutional Framework for Managing Floods in Inter-State Rivers: (Para 4.3.8.2)</p> <p>(a) Using powers under Entry 56 in the Union List, a Law may be enacted to set up mechanisms for collection of data, managing flow in rivers and release of water from reservoirs, so as to prevent disasters, with interstate ramifications.(17)</p>	<p>(a) The recommendation is not accepted. There is a law proposed on dam safety and protocols for release of water from reservoirs. The proposed National Flood Management Commission being set up in the Ministry of Water Resources would also look into these aspects. Hence no law is needed.</p>
18	<p>7. Empowering the Relief Commissioners/Disaster Management Departments to Effectively Discharge Disaster Related Responsibilities: (Para 4.3.9.2)</p> <p>(a) The State Disaster Management organisations need to be strengthened for dealing with crises. This could be achieved in the following manner:</p> <p>(i) A framework should be in readiness to be put in place immediately during crisis or on fulfillment of some pre-arranged scenarios – the 'trigger mechanism' needs to be well defined to</p>	<p>(a) The recommendation is accepted. A framework broadly conforming to the recommendations has already been incorporated in the DM Act, 2005 and the SOPs drawn up and circulated to all States/UTs/ Central Ministries/ Departments address the requirements contained in the recommendation.</p>

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	<p>ensure that the 'framework' is put in active operation instantaneously.</p> <p>(ii) The 'framework' may consist of officers (designated by name) drawn from Revenue, Police, Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Public Health Engineering, Water Resources, Women & Child Development, Welfare, Public Works, Highways, Irrigation, Health, and Treasury & Accounts Departments. The designated officers must undergo a week's orientation every year, though they may continue to discharge their normal departmental responsibilities except when seconded to the nodal point in the manner suggested above.</p> <p>(iii) The designated officers will work as a cohesive integrated team under one roof on whole-time basis during crisis situations, under the leadership of the nodal officer and be responsible entirely for the functioning of their department insofar as it relates to drought/disaster management.</p> <p>(iv) The role and responsibility of each department needs to be specifically identified and defined on the lines the Ministry of Agriculture has specified the responsibilities of various Union Government agencies during severe droughts.</p> <p>(v) The designated departmental officer should be delegated powers and responsibilities defined in advance and will deal with other departmental functionaries directly.(18)</p>	
19	<p>8. Institutional Support from Science and Technology Institutions to Disaster Management: (Para 4.3.10.3)</p> <p>(a) The National Disaster Management Authority, assisted by NIDM, may facilitate a common platform between the Science and</p>	<p>(a) The recommendation is accepted.</p>

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	Technology organizations and the users of the technologies. Such a mechanism may be operationalised both at the Union and State levels.(19)	
20	<p>9. Strengthening of National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM): (Para 4.3.11.2)</p> <p>(a) NIDM may continue as an autonomous body and function as an apex professional institution in disaster management. In addition to research and studies, the institution needs to engage itself in documenting and disseminating global and national best practices and in developing planning, training and evaluation methodologies.(20)</p>	(a) The recommendation is accepted.
21	<p>10. Professionalization of Disaster Management: (Para 4.3.12.3)</p> <p>(a) 'Disaster Management' as a body of knowledge should be introduced as a subject in Management and Public Administration. The University Grants Commission may initiate the process to see how best this can be implemented in selected Universities.(21)</p>	(a) The recommendation is accepted.
22	<p>(b) The possibility of bilateral agreements with foreign governments and international institutions dealing with different aspects of disaster management, for exchange of experiences and learning from their documentation and research efforts may be explored.(22)</p>	(b) The recommendation is accepted.
23	<p>11. Enunciating a Policy Towards Crisis Management Which Emphasizes Risk Reduction: (Para 5.2.3)</p> <p>There is need to have a National Policy on Disaster Management. The policy must address all issues not included in legislations and may, in particular include the following:</p> <p>(a) Disaster Management to be professionalized.</p> <p>(b) Risk management to be brought to the</p>	(a) to (i): The recommendations are accepted.

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	<p>centre stage in all disaster mitigation plans.</p> <p>(c) All efforts for disaster management to be based on hazard and vulnerability analysis.</p> <p>(d) Communities and local governments to be made aware of the hazards and the vulnerabilities.</p> <p>(e) Communities and local governments to be involved in formulating disaster management plans.</p> <p>(f) The primary responsibility for disaster management to be that of the State Government, with the Union Government playing a supportive role.</p> <p>(g) Effective implementation of land use laws, building byelaws, safety laws and environmental laws.</p> <p>(h) Setting up a framework to coordinate the responses from different sections like donors, voluntary organisations, corporate bodies etc.</p> <p>(i) Special needs of women, children, elderly and physically challenged persons to be addressed.(23)</p>	
<p>24</p> <p>25</p> <p>26</p>	<p>12. Assessment of Risk - Hazard and Vulnerability Analysis: (Para 5.3.8)</p> <p>(a) Hazard and vulnerability analyses should be made an essential component of all crisis/disaster mitigation plans.(24)</p> <p>(b) Priority should be given to seismic micro-zonation of vulnerable major cities, hazard prone areas, and urban agglomerations in a scale of 1:1000 in Zones V and IV, with topmost priority being given to cities with population of more than one million.(25)</p> <p>(c) Geographical Information System tools</p>	<p>(a) The recommendation is accepted.</p> <p>(b) The recommendation is accepted.</p> <p>(c) The recommendation is accepted.</p>

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27	<p>should be used to integrate spatial data such as topography, hydrology, land use, land cover, settlement pattern and built structure as well as non-spatial data such as demography, socioeconomic conditions and infrastructure in a common platform. This should be integrated with satellite and aerospace data as well as data from Geographical Positioning Systems for real time monitoring of crisis situations and for scientific assessment of damages.(26)</p> <p>(d) Scientific, technological and research organizations such as NRSA, ISRO, NIC, GSI and NIDM should be brought on a common platform by NDMA for developing a sound information base for crisis management. This exercise should generate base hazard maps for district and sub-district levels and should be completed by the end of Eleventh Plan. Till such time the GIS based hazard maps are prepared, the conventional maps have to be used. These maps should form the basis for hazard analysis.(27)</p>	(d) The recommendation is accepted.
28	<p>(e) A detailed vulnerability analysis should be carried out in all hazard prone areas. Such an analysis would prioritize the areas in order of vulnerability; it should also highlight the vulnerability of different sections of society and infrastructure. (28)</p>	(e) The recommendation is accepted
29	<p>13. Generating Awareness about Risk: (Para 5.4.4)</p> <p>(a) Awareness generation programmes should be undertaken using tools of social marketing.(29)</p>	(a) The recommendation is accepted.
30	<p>(b) A responsible media, which is also well informed about all aspects of disaster, is a very powerful tool for sensitizing people. Proactive disclosures about all aspects of disaster management would build a healthy relationship between the media and disaster management agencies.(30)</p>	(b) & (c): The recommendations are accepted.

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31	(c) Details of past accidents and disasters and the lessons learnt, should be documented and kept in the public domain. The Disaster Management Authorities have to take up this task.(31)	
32	<p>14. Preparation of Disaster Management Plans: (Para 5.5.9)</p> <p>(a) Crisis/disaster management plans as stipulated under the Disaster Management Act, 2005 should be prepared, based on hazard and vulnerability analysis. The off site emergency plans, in case of industrial hazards, should be integrated into the District Crisis/Disaster Management Plan. The State Disaster Management Authorities should set up a mechanism in place to evaluate these plans periodically, and ensure the effectiveness of the plans.(32)</p>	(a) to (d): The recommendations are accepted.
33	<p>(b) The District Disaster Management Plan needs to have two components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Long Term Mitigation Plan. ii. Emergency Response Plan. <p>The Long Term Mitigation Plan, in turn, should have the following components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Long Term Development Plan. ii. Long Term Enforcement Plan. <p>Annual plans should be culled out of the Long Term Development/ Enforcement Plans. State Governments must evolve a mechanism for speedily scrutinizing district level long term plans to harmonize these with similar plans for other districts, particularly those located contiguously. (33)</p>	
34	<p>(c) The quality of on-site and off-site emergency plans in hazardous industrial units need to be enhanced in terms of completeness and practicability of implementation considering the ground level situation. The State Disaster Management Authorities should set up a mechanism in place to evaluate these plans periodically.(34)</p>	

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35	(d) The plan should be prepared in consultation with all role players. Each role player should understand and accept his/her roles. This would require awareness campaigns, especially for the community.(35)	
36	(e) For ensuring quality of on-site and off-site emergency plans (for hazardous units), the professional expertise available, both in industry, and in enforcement agencies such as the Factory Inspectorates should be improved.(36)	(e) The recommendation is accepted.
37	(f) All crisis/disaster management plans should be tested periodically through mock drills.(37)	(f) & (g): The recommendations are accepted.
38	(g) It should be the responsibility of the state level 'nodal department' to ensure that adequate assistance is available at the district level for drawing up and periodically updating the plans. The nodal department must engage agencies and experts on a continuing basis to examine the plans and bring methodological and substantive deficiencies to the notice of agencies formulating the plans.(38)	
39	(h) The same principles would apply to plan at other levels.(39)	(h) The recommendation is accepted.
	15. Making Crisis/Disaster Management Plans a Part of Development Plans: (Para 5.6.3)	
40	(a) The activities in the disaster management plans should be included in the development plans of the line agencies and the authorities like panchayats and municipal bodies.(40)	(a) & (b): The recommendations are accepted.
41	(b) The supervisory level of each agency should ensure that the annual plan of that agency incorporates the activities listed out in the disaster management plan on a priority basis.(41)	

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42	(c) Incorporation of disaster mitigation plans into the development plans should be specially monitored at the five-year and annual plan discussions at State and Union (Planning Commission) levels. The Planning Commission, State Planning Boards and Planning Departments must revise on priority basis the proforma for formulating plan proposals to ensure that the process adequately takes into account the disaster prevention concerns.(42)	(c) The recommendation is accepted.
43	<p>16. Instruments for Mitigation of Hazards: (Para 5.7.1.2)</p> <p>(a) Environment management should be made an integral part of all development and disaster management plans.(43)</p>	(a) The recommendation is accepted.
44	<p>17. Construction of Disaster Resistant Structures: (Para 5.7.2.3.13)</p> <p>(a) Structural prevention measures should be a part of long term disaster management plan for an area.(44)</p>	(a) The recommendation is accepted.
45	(b) Appropriate Zoning Regulations need to be extended to all areas. Phasing of the areas to be covered should be done based on the intensity of the hazard anticipated. This would require strengthening of the Town and Country Planning Departments of State Governments. Local bodies can be given financial incentives for preparation of Zoning Regulations. The hazard zonation maps prepared should be one of the inputs for preparation of Zoning Regulations.(45)	
46	(c) Building byelaws should incorporate the disaster resistant features of buildings. Since safety codes are complex and technical, it is necessary to issue simplified guidelines which could be understood by the citizens. Further, these codes should be implemented in the most hazard prone areas, on priority.(46)	

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47	(d) The importance of disaster resistant constructions and simplified safety guidelines should be widely disseminated so as to promote compliance. In so far as the rural areas are concerned, other methods of dissemination including setting up of Building Technology Demonstration Centres and undertaking demonstrative disaster constructions in severe hazard prone areas should be taken up. Demonstration camps should also be used to make the people aware of the concerns and the solutions.(47)	(d) The recommendation is accepted.
48	(e) The existing system of enforcement of building regulations needs to be revised. It should be professionalised by licensing architects and structural engineers for assessment of structures and certification of safe buildings. The units of local bodies dealing with enforcement of building byelaws and zoning regulations also need to be strengthened.(48)	(e) The recommendation is accepted.
49	(f) The standards prescribed by BIS for disaster resistant buildings should be available in the public domain, free of cost. This should be posted on websites of the concerned government agencies to promote compliance.(49)	(f) The recommendation is accepted.
50	(g) Among the existing buildings, government buildings used by the public should be evaluated and retrofitted first, giving preference to buildings housing essential services. It would be advisable to fix a schedule for all such buildings in hazard prone areas. Private buildings used by the public should also be tackled on priority. A mix of regulatory and financial incentives could be used for this purpose by the local bodies.(50)	(g) The recommendation is accepted.
51	(h) All these measures should become an integral part of long term disaster/crisis management plans. (51)	(h) The recommendation is accepted.

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<p>52</p> <p>53</p> <p>54</p> <p>55</p> <p>56</p> <p>57</p>	<p>18. Effective Implementation of Laws and Regulations: (Para 5.7.3.2)</p> <p>(a) Effective enforcement of laws on encroachments, public health and safety, industrial safety, fire hazards, safety at public places should be ensured. The same applies to Zoning Regulations and Building Byelaws.(52)</p> <p>(b) Third party audit of all major alleged violations needs to be introduced in the respective regulation governing the activity.(53)</p> <p>(c) All records pertaining to permissions/licenses should be brought in the public domain suo motu.(54)</p> <p>(d) There should be periodic inspections of all such places/facilities by a team of stakeholders assisted by experts.(55)</p> <p>(e) A scheme for enforcement of laws should be part of the long term mitigation plan.(56)</p> <p>(f) Public education on consequences of violations is important.(57)</p>	<p>(a) to (f): The recommendations are accepted.</p>
<p>58</p> <p>59</p>	<p>19. Early Warning Systems: (Para 5.8.3)</p> <p>(a) Though it is the responsibility of the government machinery and the local bodies to disseminate the warning, peoples' participation has to be enlisted. For this purpose, the role of community leaders, NGOs and others should be clearly defined in the emergency response plan and they should be fully trained and prepared for their respective roles.(58)</p> <p>(b) Communications networks, with sufficient redundancies should be established between the data collection point to the points where hazard is likely to occur. The communication channels from the point of alert generation to the point of disaster should have enough</p>	<p>(a)The recommendation is accepted.</p> <p>(b) The recommendation is accepted.</p>

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60	<p>redundancies so as to maintain line of communication in the event of a disaster striking. Care has to be taken to put in place systems to disseminate warnings to all sections of the people.(59)</p> <p>(c) The early warning system should be evaluated after each disaster to carry out further improvements. (60)</p>	(c) The recommendation is accepted.
61	<p>20. Building Community Resilience: (Para 5.9.2)</p> <p>(a) Location specific training programmes for the community should be executed through the panchayats. (61)</p>	(a) The recommendation is accepted.
62	<p>(b) Crisis management awareness needs to be mainstreamed in education. For the purpose, an appropriate component of disaster awareness should be introduced in school, college, university, professional and vocational education.(62)</p>	(b) The recommendation is accepted.
63	<p>(c) Disaster awareness should be included in training programmes for elected leaders, civil servants, police personnel, and personnel in critical sectors such as revenue, agriculture, irrigation, health and public works.(63)</p>	(c) The recommendation is accepted.
64	<p>(d) Orientation and sensitization programmes highlighting issues and concerns in disaster management should be taken up for legislators, policy makers, and elected leaders of urban local bodies and panchayati raj institutions.(64)</p>	(d) The recommendation is accepted.
65	<p>(e) NIDM and NDMA would have to play a vital role in working out the details of these suggestions for implementation by different authorities.(65)</p>	(e) The recommendation is accepted.
66	<p>21. Financial Tools for Risk-Reduction: (Para 5.10.4)</p> <p>(a) Government and the insurance companies should play a more pro-active role in motivating</p>	(a) The recommendation is accepted.

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	citizens in vulnerable areas to take insurance cover. This could be done through suitably designed insurance policies, if required, with part funding from government. NDMA could play a major facilitating role in this area.(66)	
67 68 69 70	<p>22. Research and Use of Knowledge: (Para 5.11.4)</p> <p>(a) NIDM should develop methodologies for effective dissemination of knowledge on disaster management. (67)</p> <p>(b) Disaster management plans should attempt to integrate traditional knowledge available with the communities.(68)</p> <p>(c) NIDM should coordinate with research institutions and universities on the one hand and field functionaries on the other and identify areas where research is required.(69)</p> <p>(d) It may be ensured that the IDRN network is updated regularly. (70)</p>	<p>(a) The recommendation is accepted .</p> <p>(b) to (d): The recommendations are accepted.</p>
71 72 73	<p>23. Emergency Plan: (Para 6.1.6)</p> <p>(a) Since the initial response in any crisis/disaster should be timely and speedy, the Emergency Response Plans should be up-to-date and should lay down the 'trigger points' in unambiguous terms.(71)</p> <p>(b) The district emergency response plan should be prepared in consultation with all concerned. The plan should be known and accepted by all the role players. (This should be apart of the District Disaster management Plan).(72)</p> <p>(c) Standard operating procedures should be developed for each disaster at the district and community level, keeping in mind the disaster vulnerability of the area. Disaster management plans at all levels should have handbooks, checklists, manuals with precise instructions for</p>	<p>(a) The recommendation is accepted.</p> <p>(b) The recommendation is accepted.</p> <p>(c) The recommendation is accepted.</p>

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74	<p>disaster management personnel, search and rescue teams, and Emergency Operations Centres.(73)</p> <p>(d) Unity of command should be the underlying principle for effective rescue operations. For example, in a district, all agencies of Union and State Government have to work under the leadership of the Collector. Such unity of command principle should pervade at all field levels.(74)</p>	(d) The recommendation is accepted.
75	(e) The plan should be validated annually through mock drills and should be backed up by capability building efforts.(75)	(e) The recommendation is accepted.
76	(f) Any plan would have its limitations as each crisis situation would vary from another. Plans are, therefore, no substitute for sound judgement at the time of crisis.(76)	(f) The recommendation is accepted.
77	(g) Handling of crisis should be made a parameter for evaluating the performance of officers.(77)	(g) The recommendation is accepted.
78	(h) These principles apply to plans at other levels and also in case of metropolitan cities.(78)	(h) The recommendation is accepted.
79	<p>24. Coordinating Relief: (Para 6.2.6)</p> <p>(a) Effective coordination is essential at the district and sub-district levels for rescue/relief operations and to ensure proper receipt and provision of relief. During rescue and relief operations, unity of command should be ensured with the Collector in total command.(79)</p>	(a) to (g) The recommendations are accepted.
80	(b) In order to avoid mismatch between demand and supply, the demand should be assessed immediately and communicated to all concerned including through the media, so that the relief provisions are provided as per requirements.(80)	

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81	(c) Ensuring safe drinking water and sanitized living conditions should receive as much a priority as other basic means of livelihood.(81)	
82	(d) All procurement and distribution of relief materials should be done in a transparent manner.(82)	
83	(e) Monitoring and vigilance committees should be set up involving the stakeholders. These committees could also look into grievances.(83)	
84	(f) Trauma care and counselling should be made an integral part of the relief operations.(84)	
85	(g) There is urgent need to evolve objective methods of assessing the damage so that there are no allegations of bias, distortions, exaggeration or arbitrary scaling down. Satellite imagery could be used as a tool to validate the reported damages. NDMA should be requested to draw up the necessary detailed guidelines for assessment, to be followed by all authorities.(85)	
	25. Civil Defence: (Para 6.3.1.13)	
86	(a) The Civil Defence Act should be amended as proposed so as to cover all types of disasters.(86)	
87	(b) Civil Defence should be constituted in all districts which are vulnerable not only to hostile attacks but also to natural calamities. The goal of community participation should be pursued primarily through the instrumentality of Civil Defence especially in urban areas.(87)	
88	(c) The objective should be to include 1% of the population within the fold of Civil Defence within five years. Efforts should be made to enlist paramedics as Civil Defence volunteers.(88)	
89	(d) Budgetary allocations relating to Central	(d) The recommendation is accepted.

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<p>90</p> <p>91</p>	<p>Financial Assistance for Civil Defence should be increased substantially.(89)</p> <p>(e) Civil Defence set-ups at all levels should be permitted to accept donations.(90)</p> <p>(f) The Civil Defence set-up at the state level may be brought under the control of the Crisis/Disaster Management set-up.(91)</p>	<p>(e) & (f) The recommendations are accepted.</p>
<p>92</p> <p>93</p> <p>94</p> <p>95</p> <p>96</p>	<p>26. Police, Home Guards and Fire Services: (Para 6.3.2.11)</p> <p>(a) Policemen, Firemen and the Home Guards at the field level who are among the first responders should be adequately trained in handling crises/disasters. Such training should be specific to the types of crises envisaged in an area. More importantly, they should be fully involved in the preparation of the local Crisis/Disaster Management Plan and also be fully conversant with them.(92)</p> <p>(b) The minimum qualification for entry to Home Guards may be revised to at least a pass in the 10th class, given the increased responsibility and complexity of tasks to be entrusted to them.(93)</p> <p>(c) A section of Home Guards should also be given para-medical training.(94)</p> <p>(d) Fire Services should more appropriately be renamed as Fire and Rescue Services with an enhanced role to respond to various types of crises.(95)</p> <p>(e) While in the long run, it would be desirable to place the Fire Services under the control of all municipal bodies, as a first step, this may be done in bigger cities (population exceeding 2.5 million). In the remaining parts of the state, the Fire Services should be organized as a department but within a district, full operational control should be given to the District</p>	<p>(a) The recommendation is accepted.</p> <p>(b) to (g) The recommendations are accepted.</p>

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<p>97</p> <p>98</p> <p>99</p>	<p>Crisis/Disaster Management Authority. Transfer of these services to municipal authorities should be accompanied by transfer of commensurate financial resources.(96)</p> <p>(f) Only persons with expertise in crisis/disaster management should be inducted into the top management of the Fire (and Rescue) Services.(97)</p> <p>(g) Fire and Rescue Services should be brought under the control of the State Crisis/Disaster Management set up under the Disaster Management Law.(98)</p> <p>(h) The NDMA may be requested to suggest model provisions regarding these services for inclusion in the Disaster Management Act/s.(99)</p>	<p>(h) The recommendation is accepted.</p>
<p>100</p>	<p>27. Setting-up Integrated Emergency Operations Centre (EOC): (Para 6.4.2)</p> <p>(a) While it is necessary that each nodal ministry handling crisis has an EOC, it is clearly desirable to have an integrated National Emergency Operation Centre for all types of crises. 'Subject-matter specific' Ministries/ Departments should deploy representatives in this Centre which must be networked with all other EOCs and control rooms.(100)</p>	<p>(a) The recommendation is accepted.</p>
<p>101</p> <p>102</p> <p>103</p>	<p>28. Organising Emergency Medical Relief: (Para 6.5.7)</p> <p>(a) An institutional arrangement to attend to medical emergencies is required to be put in place.(101)</p> <p>(b) Access to this system should be facilitated by having an identical telephone number throughout the country.(102)</p> <p>(c) This arrangement envisages involvement of the private hospitals. The enunciation of the role of various role players may be through legislation.(103)</p>	<p>(a) to (c): The recommendations are accepted.</p>

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<p>104</p> <p>105</p> <p>106</p> <p>107</p> <p>108</p> <p>109</p> <p>110</p>	<p>29. Relief and Rehabilitation: (Para 7.1.12)</p> <p>(a) Damage assessment should be carried out by multi-disciplinary teams in a transparent and participatory manner in accordance with guidelines laid down by NDMA. (refer para 6.2.6 g).(104)</p> <p>(b) The efforts of NGOs and other groups have to be coordinated with government activities at the district and state levels.(105)</p> <p>(c) A recovery strategy should be evolved in consultation with the affected people and concerned agencies and organisations. The recovery strategy should include all aspects of rehabilitation - social, economic and psychological.(106)</p> <p>(d) Minimum standards of relief should be developed to address the requirements of food, health, water and sanitation shelter requirements. Focus should be placed on the special needs of the vulnerable population that is, children, women, the elderly and the physically challenged.(107)</p> <p>(e) Implementation of the rehabilitation efforts should be carried out by the village panchayats/local bodies. The first priority should be to get the beneficiary oriented works executed through the beneficiaries themselves. (108)</p> <p>(f) Concurrent monitoring and a quick financial audit should be carried out to prevent misuse of funds.(109)</p> <p>(g) Risk reduction aspects should be incorporated into the recovery plans. Land use plans which ensure safety of the inhabitants should be brought into effect during reconstruction.(110)</p>	<p>(a) to (g): The recommendations are accepted.</p>

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111	(h) All new civil constructions should mandatorily be made disaster resistant as per prescribed standards.(111)	(h) The recommendation is accepted.
112	(i) A mechanism for redressal of grievances should be established at the local and district levels.(112)	(i) The recommendation is accepted.
113	(j) For all major disasters, NIDM should conduct a detailed evaluation exercise through independent professional agencies.(113)	(j) The recommendation is accepted.
30. Revisiting the Financial Procedures: (Para 7.2.6)		
114	(a) Both the funds (National Disaster Mitigation Fund and the National Disaster Response Fund) may be operationalised from April 1, 2007 with an initial annual contribution of Rs. 5000 crores each from the Government of India. This would be in addition to CRF and NCCF for the present. The CRF and NCCF would cease to exist at the end of the award period of the Twelfth Finance Commission. (114)	(a) The recommendation is accepted.
115	(b) NDMA may recommend to Government of India the quantum and criteria of assistance and conditions of release from the two new funds as well as manner of replenishment of these funds from different sources.(115)	(b) The recommendation is accepted.
116	(c) A system of compiling accounts for each calamity separately with reference to each head of relief expenditure should be initiated. The Comptroller and Auditor General of India may consider laying down a standardized format in this regard.(116)	(c) The recommendation is accepted.
117	(d) Accounts as above may be available on the website of the state level nodal agency at such intervals as may be laid down.(117)	(d) The recommendation is accepted.
118	(e) The basis for calculation of assistance from the funds should be available on appropriate websites.(118)	(e) The recommendation is accepted.

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	<p>31. Gender Issues and Vulnerability of Weaker Sections: (Para 8.3)</p>	
119	(a) The vulnerability analysis should bring out the specific vulnerabilities of women and these should be addressed in any mitigation effort. Disaster mitigation plans should be prepared, in consultation with women's groups. Similar steps should be taken for other vulnerable groups.(119)	(a) The recommendation is accepted.
120	(b) Rescue and relief operations should focus on the most vulnerable groups-women, children, the elderly and the physically challenged. (120)	(b) & (c) The recommendations are accepted.
121	(c) Relief measures should take into account the special requirements of women and other vulnerable groups. Particular attention needs to be given to their physical and mental well being through health care and counselling.(121)	
122	(d) In the recovery phase, efforts should focus on making women economically independent by offering them opportunities of earning incomes; providing training in new skills, forming self-help groups and providing microfinance, marketing facilities etc.(122)	(d) & (e) The recommendations are accepted.
123	(e) The title of new assets created should be in the names of both husband and wife.(123)	
124	(f) Camp managing committees should have adequate number of women representatives.(124)	(f) The recommendation is accepted.
125	(g) Trauma counselling and psychological care should be provided to widows and women and other persons in distress. These activities should form part of the disaster management plan.(125)	(g) & (h) The recommendations are accepted.
126	(h) Arrangements have to be made for orphaned children on a long term basis. NGOs should be encouraged to play a major role in	

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	their rehabilitation.(126)	
127	<p>32. Revisiting Long Term Interventions (Droughts): (Para 9.2.5)</p> <p>(a) A National Institute of Drought Management may be set up for networking on multi-disciplinary, cross-sectoral research on various aspects of drought, acting as a resource centre on droughts and carrying out impact evaluation studies of the drought management efforts. It needs to be ensured that the mandate and agenda of this proposed institute does not duplicate the efforts of the National Institute of Disaster Management.(127)</p>	(a) The recommendation is accepted.
128	<p>33. Livelihood Management in Extremely Drought Prone Areas: (Para 9.3.2)</p> <p>(a) A strategy for making people pursue livelihoods compatible with their ecosystems needs to be evolved. Some concrete steps in this direction could be:</p> <p>(i) A multi-disciplinary team needs to be immediately constituted by the Ministry of Environment and Forests to specifically identify villages where soil and climatic conditions make 'conventional agriculture' unsustainable.</p> <p>(ii) Alternate means of livelihood have to be evolved in consultation with the communities, in such areas. (128)</p>	(a) The recommendation is accepted.
129	<p>34. Codifications of Management Methodologies: (Para 9.4.3)</p> <p>(i) State Governments need to rewrite the Relief 'Manuals' thoroughly in the light of recent developments including inputs from the NDMA and their own experience and update them once in a few years.(129)</p>	(i) The recommendation is accepted.
130	<p>(ii) Ministry of Science and Technology may compile from time to time a document incorporating details of available scientific and technical inputs/facilities for detecting the onset and progress of drought; and inter-face between</p>	(ii) The recommendation is accepted.

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	scientific and technical organizations with disaster management agencies of the Union and State Governments.(130)	
131	<p>35. Rationalization of Drought Declarations: (Para 9.5.2)</p> <p>The method and mechanism of declaration of droughts needs to be modified under the guidance of NDMA. While it is for the State Governments to work out the modalities keeping in view the peculiarities of their agro-climatic conditions, the Commission recommends that the modified mechanism may incorporate the following broad guiding principles:</p> <p>(a) Where a certain percentage (say, twenty per cent) of area normally cultivated remains unsown till the end of July or December for Kharif and Rabi respectively, the affected Tehsil/ Taluka/Mandal could be declared drought affected by the government.</p> <p>(b) To begin with, 'eye estimates' could be used. Such estimates may be verified with reference to remote sensing data as access to such facilities improves progressively. The ultimate objective should be to use remote sensing as the primary tool of early detection of droughts with 'eye estimates' remaining only as 'secondary verifying methods'. (131)</p>	(a) & (b) The recommendations are accepted.
132	<p>36. Deployment of Remote Sensing for Diagnosis and Prognosis of Drought Situations:(Para 9.6.3)</p> <p>(a) Deployment of remote sensing as the primary tool for diagnosing droughts, monitoring their course and forecasting prognosis is a goal that needs to be pursued speedily and systematically. This would require dovetailing remote sensing into the routine framework of drought management. This could be best achieved through establishment of an NRSA cell in identified drought prone districts. The</p>	(a) The recommendation is accepted. The work on improving these tools would continue, but there is no need for an NRSA cell at the district level.

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	activities of the NRSA cells in the districts must include monitoring of other disasters as well.(132)	
133	<p>37. Making Rivers Perennial: (Para 9.7.4)</p> <p>(a) Technical agencies under the Ministries of Water Resources, Environment and Forests and Science and Technology must immediately carry out river specific feasibility studies to determine the ecological and hydrological implications of making seasonal rivers perennial.(133)</p>	(a) The recommendation is accepted.
134	<p>38. Rainfed Areas Authority: (Para 9.8.2)</p> <p>(a) A National Rainfed Areas Authority may be constituted immediately. The Authority can deal inter alia, with all the issues of drought management mentioned in this chapter.(134)</p>	(a) The recommendation is accepted.
135	<p>39. Epidemics: (Para 10.1.12)</p> <p>(i) To more effectively prevent outbreak/spread of epidemics, it is imperative that a comprehensive revised 'model' legislation on public health is finalized at an early date and that the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare systematically pursues its enactment by the states with adaptations necessitated by local requirements.(135)</p>	(i) to (v): The recommendations are accepted.
136	<p>(ii) The Union legislation governing Public Health Emergencies be introduced for final consideration in the light of feedback received from the states at an early date.(136)</p>	
137	<p>(iii) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has to ensure that requisite plans envisaged under the Disaster Management Act, 2005, are drawn up in respect of epidemics also and that the role of the district administration finds explicit mention in the Public Health Emergency Bill. The structure created by the Disaster Management Act, 2005, should be utilized for managing epidemics also. (137)</p>	

