

CHAPTER- 3
INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR DISASTER MANAGEMENT

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3.1. Introduction

Most of the disaster situation is to be managed at State and District levels. The centre plays a supporting role and provides assistance when the consequences of disaster exceed district and State capacities. The centre mobilizes support in terms of providing emergency teams, support personnel, specialized equipments and operating facilities depending on the scale of the disaster and the need of the State and District. Active assistance to an affected State/District would be provided only after the declaration of a national level disaster, the national response mechanism has to be prepared and any impending State or District disaster has to be monitored in order to provide immediate assistance whenever required. For this purpose nation response approach has to be pre-defined in terms of process, related handbooks and checklists that will have to be used during a disaster.

The Disaster Management Act, 2005 (DM Act, 2005) lays down institutional and coordination mechanisms for effective disaster management (DM) at the national, state, and district levels. As mandated by this Act, the Government of India (GoI) created a multi-tiered institutional system consisting of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), headed by the Prime Minister, the State Disaster Management Authorities (SDMAs) by the Chief Ministers and the District Disaster Management Authorities (DDMAs) by the District Collectors and co-chaired by elected representatives of the local authorities of the respective districts. These bodies have been set up to facilitate the paradigm shift from the hitherto relief-centric approach to a more proactive, holistic and integrated approach of strengthening disaster preparedness, mitigation and emergency response. *(Source NDMA guidelines)*

3.2. Institutional Arrangements at National Level

3.2.1 National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)

At the national level, the Ministry of Home Affairs is the nodal Ministry for all matters concerning disaster management. National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has been constituted for better coordination of disaster management at national level under the Disaster Management Act, 2005. The Prime Minister of India is the Chairperson of National Authority. Members is nominated by the Chairperson, NDMA for tenure of 5 years at a time. NDMA is _Apex Body for management of disasters in India. National DM Plan, consisting of National Response Plan and National Mitigation Plan have been prepared by the Govt. of India Various Union Ministries/Departments have also prepared their own Response Plans, which have been approved by NDMA. NEOC 2 is also functional at NDMA as a standby to NEOC 1 at MHA. A National Emergency Operations Center (NEOC) has been started functioning in the Ministry of Home Affairs with all sophisticated equipments with most modern technology for disaster management. (See fig 4.1).

3.2.2 Crisis Management Group (CMG):

The Central Relief Commissioner in the Ministry of Home Affairs is the Secretary(DM) of the CMG, consisting of senior officers (called nodal officers) from various concerned Ministries. The CMG's functions are to review every year

contingency plans formulated by various Ministries/Departments/Organizations in their respective sectors, measures required for dealing with natural disasters, coordinate the activities of the Central Ministries and the State Governments in relation to disaster preparedness and relief and to obtain information from the nodal officers on measures relating to above. The CMG, in the event of a natural disaster, meets frequently to review the relief operations and extend all possible assistance required by the affected States to overcome the situation effectively. The Resident Commissioner of the affected State is also associated with such meetings. Crisis situations like hijacking, riots, etc are being handled by the National Crisis Management Committee (NCMC), under the Cabinet Secretary. All Secretaries of the various concerned Ministries are its Members. CMG implements the decisions of the Cabinet Committees on Security & Natural Disasters and NCMC.

3.2.3 Contingency Action Plan:

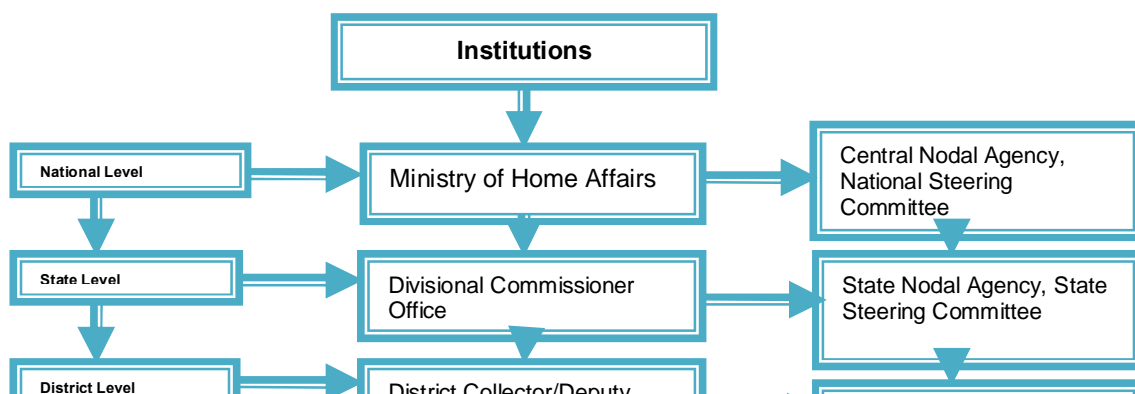
The Government of India has formulated a National Contingency Action Plan (CAP) under the NCMC and implemented by CMG for dealing with contingencies arising in the wake of natural disasters and it had been periodically updated. It facilitates the launching of relief operations without delay.

3.3. Institutional Structure at State Level

Similar to the mechanism in national level, disaster management has been institutionalized at state level also. In Delhi numbers of initiatives have taken up to make disaster management institutionalized. In the state of Delhi, the Lieutenant Governor is the Chairman of Disaster Management Authority, the Chief Minister is Vice chairperson and the concerned ministries are members.

At state level office of Divisional Commissioner is the nodal office for management of various disasters. Divisional Commissioner, Delhi, Dept. of Revenue is the nodal authority to monitor and implement disaster management activities in the state. Divisional Commissioner is responsible to identify and nominate various nodal departments in case of emergency.

Fig 3.1: Institutional Arrangements for Disaster Management



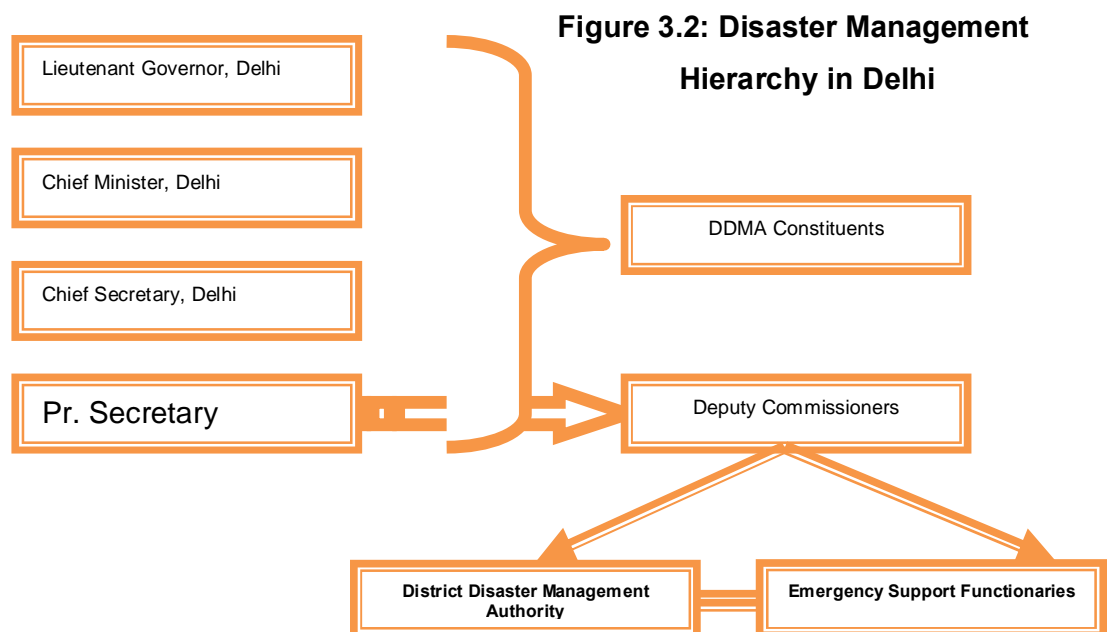
3.3.1 Delhi Disaster Management Authority

It is an apex body headed by the Lt. Governor of Delhi and the Chief Minister is Chairperson and the concerned departments are members. The authority is governed under the chairmanship of Lieutenant Governor of Delhi and under coordination of Divisional Commissioner. The list of the members is given under:

- (i) Lt. Governor of NCT of Delhi . Chairperson, ex-officio.
- (ii) Chief Minister, Govt. of NCT of Delhi . Vice Chairperson, ex-officio.
- (iii) Minister . in-Charge (Revenue), Govt. of NCT of Delhi - Member, ex-officio.
- (iv) Chief Secretary, Govt.of NCT of Delhi/Chairperson of the State Executive Committee.- Member, ex-officio.
- (v) GOC (HQ.) Delhi Area . Member ex-officio.
- (vi) Principal Secretary (Home), Govt. of NCT of Delhi . Member, ex-officio.
- (vii) Commissioner of Police, Delhi . Member, ex-officio.
- (viii) Commissioner, Municipal Corporation of Delhi . Member, ex-officio.
- (ix) Joint Secretary, (Disaster Management) Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India . Member, ex-officio.
- (x) Secretary (Revenue)-cum-Divisional Commissioner . Convenor/Member

The vision of the authority is:

- To create a dedicated body that will assess, plan and implement the vital aspects of disaster management (Prevention, mitigation, preparedness and response) for Delhi.
- To ensure smooth coordination between Central and State Governments in the event of a disaster.
- To create a unified command, control and co-ordination structure for disaster management in Delhi, integrating the various wings and agencies of government that are necessary for emergency response, as well as for preparedness, mitigation and prevention activities.



3.3.2 State Emergency Operation Centre:

State EOC has started running 24x7 from 24th June 2008 at O/o Divisional Commissioner, Delhi. Emergency toll free number (1077) for Disaster has also been got activated by Chief Minister of Delhi.

3.4. District Level Organization Structure:

3.4.1 District Level Mechanism in Central District:

At district level, District Disaster Management Authority has been constituted under the notification of the Disaster Management Act 2005. The power of sanction of relief is also vested with the officials of revenue department at different level depending upon the need. The District Magistrate ensures participation of district and state government in the response and recovery phase.

3.4.2 District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA)

As per The Disaster Management Act 2005, each district has established a District Disaster Management Authority. The District Authority shall consist of the Chairperson and such number of other members, not exceeding seven, as may be prescribed by the State Government, and unless the rules otherwise provide, it shall consist of the following, namely:-

- a) the District Magistrate as the case may be, of the district who shall be Chairperson, ex officio;
- b) the elected representative of the local authority who shall be the co-Chairperson, ex officio;
- c) the Chief Executive Officer of the District Authority, ex officio;
- d) the Superintendent of Police, ex officio;
- e) the Chief Medical Officer of the district, ex officio;
- f) not exceeding two other district level officers, to be appointed by the State Government.

Fig. 3.3. Layout of District Disaster Management Authority (District Central)

Chairperson

Dr. Ashima Jain, IAS,
District Magistrate (Central)
Chairperson, DDMA (Central)
Ph:011-23282903,8527469089

Chief Executive Officer

Sh.Rajanish Kumar Singh,
Addl.Distt. Magistrate (Central)
Ch. Executive Officer, DDMA (Central)
Ph:01123284932, 9711181772

Members

Sh.Alok Kumar
Deputy Commissioner-Police(Central)/Addl CP
Ph:011-23261377,9818099044

Sh.Madhur Verma
Deputy Commissioner-Police(North)
Ph:011-23817012,9818099045

Dr. Rupesh Kumar Thakur
Dy.Commissioner(SDMC- Central Zone)
Ph: 29815975, 8130548061

Mr. Dharmender Kumar
Deputy. Commissioner, Karol Bagh Zone.
Ph:23525955, 8130892277

Mr. R. S. Meena
Deputy. Commissioner, S.P Zone.
Ph:23525955, 9717791190

Mr. Vijay Kumar Viduri
Deputy. Commissioner, Civil Lines zone.
Ph:23525955, 8800827292

Mr. Harminder Kumar
Deputy. Commissioner, City Zone.
Ph: 23266450, 8130892278

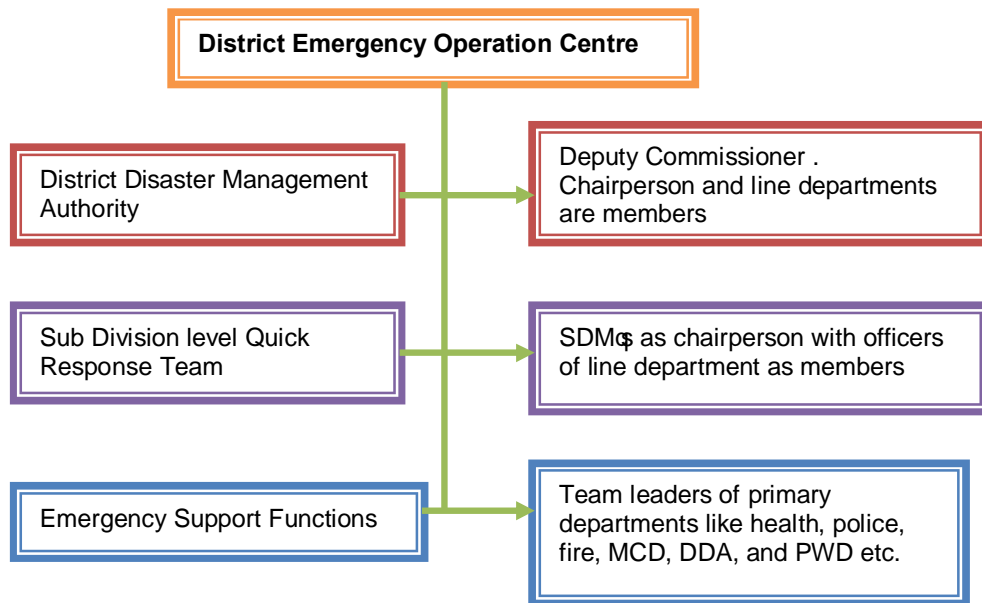
Dr. P. K. Behra,
CDMO (Central)
Ph: 23616835,8745011353

Sh.D.C Goyal,
SE (PWD, M-32)
Ph:23865966, 9971722521

Sh.S.K Aggrawaal,
SE (PWD, M-43)
Ph:24651383, 9873607380

Sh.Diwakar Aggrawaal,
SE (PWD, M-11)
Ph:23490426, 9711084544

Fig 3.4: Institutional Arrangements at District Level



The District Authority shall act as the district planning, coordinating and implementing body for disaster management and take all measures for the purposes of disaster management in the district in accordance with the guidelines laid down by the National Authority and the State Authority.

As per the DM Act, 2005, the District Disaster Management Authority may:

- Prepare a disaster management plan including district response plan for the district;
- Coordinate and monitor the implementation of the National Policy, State Policy, National Plan, State Plan and District Plan;
- Ensure that the areas in the district vulnerable to disasters are identified and measures for the prevention of disasters and the mitigation of its effects are

undertaken by the departments of the Government at the district level as well as by the local authorities;

- Ensure that the guidelines for prevention of disasters, mitigation of its effects, preparedness and response measures as laid down by the National Authority and the State Authority are followed by all departments of the Government at the district level and the local authorities in the district;
- Give directions to different authorities at the district level and local authorities to take such other measures for the prevention or mitigation of disasters as may be necessary;
- Lay down guidelines for prevention of disaster management plans by the department of the Government at the districts level and local authorities in the district;
- Monitor the implementation of disaster management plans prepared by the departments of the Government at district level;
- Lay down guidelines to be followed by the Departments of the Government at the district level for purposes of integration of measures for prevention of disasters and mitigation in their development plans and projects and provide necessary technical assistance therefore;
- Monitor the implementation of measures referred to in clause 8;
- Review the state of capabilities for responding to any disaster or threatening disaster situation in the district and give directions to the relevant departments or authorities at the district level for their upgradation as may be necessary;
- Review the preparedness measures and give directions to the concerned departments at the district level or other concerned authorities where necessary for bringing the preparedness measures to the levels required for responding effectively to any disaster or threatening disaster situation;
- Organize and coordinate specialized training programmes for different levels of officers, employees and voluntary rescue workers in the districts;
- Facilitate community training and awareness programmes for prevention of disaster or mitigation with the support of local authorities, government and non-governmental organizations;
- Set up, maintain, review and upgrade the mechanism for early warnings and dissemination of proper information to public;
- Prepare, review and update district level response plan and guidelines;
- Coordinate response to any threatening disaster situation or disaster;
- Ensure that the Departments of the Government at the district level and the local authorities prepare their response plans in accordance with the district response plan;
- Lay down guidelines for, or give direction to, the concerned Departments of the Government at the district level or any other authorities within the local limits of the district to take measures to respond effectively to any threatening disaster situation or disaster;
- Advise, assist and coordinate the activities of the Departments of the Government at the district level, statutory bodies and other governmental and non-governmental organizations in the district engaged in the disaster management;

- Coordinate with, and give guidelines to, local authorities in the district to ensure that measures for the prevention or mitigation of threatening disaster situation or disaster in the district are carried out promptly and effectively;
- Provide necessary technical assistance or give advise to the local authorities in the district for carrying out their functions;
- Review development plans prepared by the Departments of the Government at the district level, statutory authorities or local authorities with a view to make necessary provisions therein for prevention of disaster or mitigation;
- Examine the construction in any area in the district and, if it is of the opinion that the standards for the prevention of disaster or mitigation laid down for such construction is not being or has not been followed, may direct the concerned authority to take such action as may be necessary to secure compliance of such standards;
- Identify buildings and places which could, in the event of any threatening disaster situation or disaster be used as relief centers or camps and make arrangements of necessary items;
- Establish stockpiles of relief and rescue materials or ensure preparedness to make such materials available at a short notice;
- Provide information to the State Authority relating to different aspects of disaster management;
- Encourage the involvement of non-governmental organizations and voluntary social-welfare institutions working at the grassroots level in the district for disaster management ;
- Ensure communication systems are in order, and disaster management drills are carried out periodically;
- Perform such other functions as the State Government or State Authority may assign to it or as it deems necessary for disaster management in the district

After constitution of District Disaster Management Authority, District Disaster Management Committee has been got dissolved as per Act but Emergency Support Agencies (ESF) are regularly meeting under the chairmanship of DM (Central). These departments play a major role in preparedness and mitigation. Each nodal officer will be accountable to his own department in terms of the disaster management. District Project Officer and project coordinators have been appointed in the district to look after the day-to-day affairs of disaster management in the district.

The objective of ESF Department is to provide necessary guidance and inputs in preparedness, mitigation and management planning through a participatory approach. It is responsible for all disaster management activities (prevention, mitigation, preparedness, relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction) at the district level, including formation and training of Disaster Management Teams in specific areas such as warning dissemination, damage assessment, first aid & medical relief, search & rescue, trauma counseling, shelter management, water & sanitation, carcass disposal, relief & coordination etc. Capacity building and training activities at all levels, awareness generation; preparing District Disaster Management Plan; replication of activities at the sub-divisional and community levels, periodic organization of mock drills and disaster preparedness exercises at various levels involving co-ordination of the various agencies, are contributing significantly in attaining the ultimate goal of disaster management.

3.5. District Emergency Operation Centre

Emergency Operation Centre is well-equipped with various Information Technology (IT) based equipments such as Computer with internet facilities. 24x7 Control Room is manned by trained Civil Defence volunteers and is equipped with Emergency Rescue Kits, TETRA wireless etc. Further it may be strengthened with HAM equipments, Early Warning Systems, etc. District Project Officer is Office-in-Charge of District EOC and functions under the supervision of ADM (Central).

The EOC is also well connected with other control rooms of the Government Departments. A resource data base inventory needs to be uploaded in IT network. The resource inventory would include all the information related to availability and location of the equipments, vehicles and manpower available with the various department such as Fire service, Police Service, Health Department, Municipal Corporation, Food and Civil Supply, Transport Department, Road and Building, Public Welfare Department etc. This inventory would be helpful in mobilizing the available resources within various districts and states at the time of emergency.

3.5.1 Partnership with Social Organizations

Central district has been able to achieve partnership with various social organizations. Civil Defence, NCC, NYKS, St. John Ambulance, Residential Welfare Associations, C.A.T.S , GRCs etc are the important organizations who are working dedicatedly in front of providing their services for disaster management to the mankind. Civil Defence and NYKS are playing instrumental role in generating awareness and facilitating community planning in the district. The District Magistrate (Central) Office is taking special initiatives to encourage NGOs to participate in various awareness generation activities and community planning exercises.

3.6 Conclusion

At national level-NDMA has been constituted. An emergency control room alongwith crises management committee and groups has been constituted. At state level, Office of Divisional Commissioner has been identified as focal point for disaster management. DDMA, State EOC, State steering committees are some of the important organizations laid down to regulate disaster management activities in the state.

Central District has played a vital role in institutionalizing disaster management within various government and non-government agencies. District has been able to develop a separate control room from where all the disaster management related activities are getting regulated.