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Government of India
Ministry of Home Affairs
(Disaster Management Division)

3rd Floor, B-Wing, NDCC-II Building,
Jai Singh Road, New Delhi-110001

23rd June, 2015

To

The Principal Secretary/Relief Commissioner
All States/UTs (As per list attached)

Subject : Implementing the Sendai Framework and Action to be taken by the District Magistrates

Sir/Madam,

India has been a signatory to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. The Framework was signed as a part of global initiative in Sendai, Japan in March, 2015. Under this framework, India is committed to achieve 4 priorities and 7 targets and achieve these targets within the next 15 years i.e. 2015-2030.

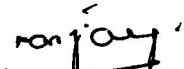
2. India has taken a lead in this commitment under the Sendai Conference and therefore, the 1st Ministerial Conference under this framework is going to be held in India in Delhi in November, 2016. It is important that we show case our initiatives and work done to the World over the next 15 years. In November 2016, we should be in a position to significantly achieve the targets mentioned in the Sendai framework so that we may inform the world about India's progress.

3. The entire Sendai framework can be seen at www.wcdrr.org. However, the District Magistrate/District Collector/Deputy Commissioner (DM) being the Primary Responder in any natural disaster, it is important that the Sendai framework is demystified and simple for the DMs to understand. Accordingly, we have summarized the entire Sendai Framework in actionable points for the States/Districts to undertake in order to achieve our commitment in the Sendai

Conference. This commitment in the form of 4 Priorities and 7 Targets are nothing but an attempt by our country to reduce loss of life and property in the event of a natural disaster and increase our Disaster Risk Reduction capabilities.

4. It is requested that you may kindly circulate this paper and request the DMs to take action in their District as per the action points indicated therein. We shall be grateful if the States can monitor the progress of these action points every quarter and keep us informed.

Yours faithfully,



(Sanjay Agarwal)

Director

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Encl : As above

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) 2015-2030
State and District Level Priorities for Action

The Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR), held in Sendai, Japan on 14-18 March, 2015, concluded with the endorsement of the 'Sendai Framework for Disaster risk Reduction (SFDRR) 2015-2030' by India along with representatives of 187 countries. The overarching intended outcome of the framework is substantial reduction in loss of lives and increase in livelihoods including the economic, physical, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries over the next 15 years. The Sendai Framework for DRR has outlined 7 Targets and 4 Priorities for Action. The implementation of the Sendai Framework would supplement and complement the efforts of nations and community in preventing vulnerability to disasters, increasing preparedness for response and recovery, strengthening their resilience and promoting risk sensitive sustainable development.

2. Under the Sendai Framework, there are 4 Priorities for action and 7 targets to be achieved. It is essential that the District Magistrates (DMs) with whom the primary responsibility rests to ensure the implementation of the commitments made by the Government of India at Sendai, to understand what work they have to do under each priority and each target. To help the DMs fulfill the commitments, each District must undertake the following actions :-

Priority 1 : Understanding disaster risk

Under this priority, the DM should do the following :

- i) Call a meeting of all the local Village Headmen and Municipal Commissioners, MLA/MP and sensitize them about the importance of Disaster Risk in our lives ;
- ii) Create damage data base which each District suffers as a result of any natural calamity ; (for this purpose a software 'Indisdata' is being prepared and shall soon be made available to all the State/Districts).

Priority 2 : Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk :

Under this priority, the DM should take up the following activities :

- i) Ask the urban local bodies and the Panchayats in their District to strictly follow building bye-laws. In villages where there are no building bye-laws, the Village Headman/Mukhiya need to be told that they should ensure that houses built in their villages are earthquake resilient and flood resilient.

: 2 :

ii) The flood prone/earthquake prone areas to be clearly identified both in the cities and the villages and ensure that future construction of buildings are made with precaution that the buildings are earthquake proof and flood resilient.

Priority 3 : Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience :

i) The DM should ensure that all the Schemes in the District undertaken in the Government or the Private Sector are able to withstand any disaster. 10% of all funds at the District level must be devoted to Schemes which will help in Disaster Risk Reduction. These Schemes can be Flood Control Dams; Cyclone Shelters, Small Irrigation Systems (to fight drought and for channelize flood water) etc.

ii) The Private Builders in the District to be called and sensitized about the need to construct buildings which are able to withstand any natural disaster.

(iii) Training of masons/contractors be held at the district level to teach them how to make disaster resilient buildings.

Priority 4 : Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response :

i) The DM should call a meeting of the DDMA's every 3 months even if there is no calamity and discuss preparedness.

ii) The DM must meet the Forecasting Agencies during the monsoons very frequently. They should also meet the Forecasting Agencies 4 weeks before every monsoon.

iii) The DM must prepare Standard Drill for responding to Cyclone/flood/Tsunami etc.

iv) The DM should check up their preparedness for heat wave in summers and cold wave in winters.

v) Conduct regular drills involving the Police, Civil Defence and Fire Services.

vi) They must impart training to village level workers viz., ASHA, ANMs, Anganwadis and promote disaster sensitivity.

7 Targets :

Under the 7 targets committed by India, the DM should do the following to help the Government of India achieve these 7 targets.

Target 1 : Reduce disaster mortality :

- (i) The DM must strengthen the Early Warning systems
- ii) The DM should conduct frequent mock drills and check the authorities response as to how quickly they can warn the people living along the sea shores or low lying areas.
- iii) Mock drills in schools and commercial places like malls/cinemas for responding to earthquake should also be undertaken.

Target 2 : Reduce the number of people affected as a result of natural disasters.

- i) The DM should ask the people to move away from the low lying areas. All encroachment must be removed from embankments and strengthened.
- ii) No new construction whether in Government or Private Sector must be made without ensuring that the construction site is raised sufficiently so as to not to be inundated during monsoons. All such construction works should be earthquake resilient.

Target 3 : Reduce the direct disaster economic loss.

The DM should ensure that the economic loss as a result of the disaster goes down with each passing year. It is advised that the DM should undertake a hazard, vulnerability and risk assessment. To explain the concept further, let us assume that earthquake is a hazard and buildings are vulnerable. Risk is the loss of life and property. Therefore, each DM should identify buildings that are unsafe whether in rural areas or urban areas and suitably warn the population about the vulnerability of the buildings they are living.

Target 4: Reduce the damage to critical infrastructure and basic services.

To achieve this target, the DM should ensure that all infrastructure that is built is able to with-stand earthquake and floods and adequate engineering safety is inbuilt. A meeting of all Engineering Departments should be called and ensure that they should make the design of the Government Schemes (like schools, hospitals, bridges and dams) which are able to withstand the natural disasters.

Target 5 : Developing local Disaster Risk Strategy.

Under this target, the DM should take the services of Seismologists and ask for mapping of the District so that it is known which part of the District is more prone to earthquake. Similarly, based on the past experience, the DM should

earmark areas in the District which are traditionally flood/cyclone prone. Accordingly, in such areas no big investments should be undertaken. Any small construction that may be allowed should be resilient to disasters.

Target 6 : Sharing traditional knowledge for international cooperation.

Under this target, the DM should share with the State Government the existing local technical/traditional knowledge of the people of the District to fight disasters. Any knowledge which is specific to the District must be shared with the State /Central Government.

Target 7 : Availability and access to Early Warning Systems.

i) To achieve this target, the DM should call a meeting of all Early Warning Agencies like the Central Water Commission, Indian Meteorological Department, INCOIS (for Cyclones) and GSI (for landslides in mountainous areas) and discuss the ways and means by which the technical warning issued by these agencies are converted into simplified understandable information to the primary responders, (which are the local police and Tehsildars) and the people. More and more drills should be conducted across the villages, schools and crowded areas like Malls, cinemas, office complexes etc.

3. The DM is expected to work on the above 4 priorities and 7 targets so that India achieves its commitment over the next 15 years.