

.....HARIDWAR GETTING READY

Backdrop.....

Haridwar, the name represents the spiritual, cultural and historical panorama of Indian society. The place attracts the people by virtue of its holiness and devoutness thus resulted huge footfall of devotees every year in the district. The district is also known as Industrial hub as hundreds of industries have been established here and many more may come in the future. Hundreds of Ashram, Dharmshalas and accommodating as well as feeding thousands of people every day. The place is recognised for world famous technology institute, Sanskrit, Ayurveda Yoga education. Almost 90 percentage of agricultural area is irrigated through canal or river or tube wells etc. This is one aspect of the district. The other side of the coin is the pressure of the influx population on the existing infrastructure and available existing resources. To grab the social, economical and commercial value of the place every one looking to start new chapter of any of their venture in Haridwar. The unauthorised, illegal and unsafe habitat to accommodate more and more people for any reason whatsoever have already started. It's a social process you can't avoid it but you can manage it. Industries are established which also increase the sensitivity of the area for many other odd things, which is again part of the development process. One cannot stop it but manage it. There are many more other social, political and administrative issues which somehow leading us to that extent from where vulnerability starts.

Areas need to be addressed.....

All above indentified points in collaboration of many other social reasons made the district highly vulnerable for almost every form of disaster. The district lies in seismic Zone IV of the seismic zoning map of India, there is a threat of Industrial disaster, Flood had recently hit the district in worst way, Fire, landslide in mansa devi hills, stampede, Rail/Road accidents, terrorist attack, communal riots etc some are the major hazards the district is prone for.

Institutional arrangements.....

The Government has made institutional arrangements and set up District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) at the district level under the Chairmanship of District Magistrate by the notification dated 4th Dec, 2007 accordance the provisions made in Disaster Management Act, 2005. District Emergency Control Room (DEOC) has recently been set-up at the district headquarter, Roshnabad. Appointment of District Disaster Management Officer to rapid up the Disaster mitigation & management process in coordination with other institutions in the district has been done. GoI-UNDP supported Urban Risk Reduction Programme in city of Haridwar is also running in the district.

Steps taken to date.....

- 1- The Haridwar Disaster Management Authority has already been created and first meeting of the authority is conducted on **20th Oct 2010 under the Chairmanship of Dr. R. Meenkashi Sundram, District Magistrate Haridwar.** The need to upgrade Disaster Management Action Plan and formation of Departmental Disaster Management Action Plan of Haridwar was felt by the members in the meeting.

- 2- The District Disaster Management Committee having officers/experts from all line departments, ARMY, PAC, CISF, IIT-Roorkee, Industries and NGOs has been created.
- 3- District Disaster Management Action Plan of the district is being upgraded. Relevant information from different departments have already been taken and incorporated in the DDMAP.
- 4- All line departments are oriented to form department level disaster management teams/groups and departmental level disaster management contingency plan. A format in this regard has been prepared and circulated to every department to keep uniformity in every plan. All line departments have their disaster management plan and they all set-up their departmental teams and also designated responsible officers/nodal officer for the teams.
- 5- A meeting on Landslide treatment and stabilization of Mansa Devi Hill was held on 19 Oct, 2011. ADM, (Disaster Management), OC, (Disaster Management), E.E. PWD, DFO, E.O. Nagar Palika, Haridwar, Dy. Director, Geology and Mining Department Dehradun, Geologist, Geology and Mining Department Dehradun were attended the meeting. District Magistrate ordered to the department to analyze the situation seriously and start the work which are immediate in nature. He ordered PWD department to prepare estimate for the retaining walls, culverts and drainage system along the road. He further issued order to the Forest Department for plantation on the sliding zone and other possible treatment.
- 6- A meeting on Industrial safeguards is conducted on 5th Feb 2010. The meeting was chaired by Dr. R. Meenakshi Sundram, District Magistrate, Haridwar. The officers from Revenue, Police, Fire Safety, Industry, Food & Supply, Labour Department, Uttarakhand Pollution Control Board, Haridwar Development Authority, Indian Oil Corporation, Bhart Petroleum of India attended the meeting. The District Magistrate has expressed his grave concern about the negligence of Safety & Security norms in the Factories and other industrial units which deal and procure Gases, Chemicals and other hazardous materials. He directed to the officers to inspect each and every industry and examine the Safety and Security norms accordance to the provisions laid down in Factory Act 1948, Gas Rules 2004, Explosive Act- 1884 & Rules-2008, Petroleum Act 1934 etc and Environment Protection Act-1986.
- 7- Industrial Disaster Safety Committees have been formed at Tehsil level. The committee has Sub-Divisional Magistrate as In-charge, CO-Police Department, Fire Safety Officer, Labour Inspector, Assistant Factory Inspector, Medical Officer, Officer from Uttarakhand Pollution Control Board, GM Industry or his representative. The committee will first inspect industries which fall under the category of Highly Sensitive Industries and then the rest of industries. A format has been developed to inspect industries and the same is provided to the committee. The committee will take immediate action if any of the provisions/norms/rules related to the Safety and Security of the employees, infrastructure and local community found dissatisfactory/uncompleted/violated and report to the District Magistrate on monthly basis.
- 8- Haridwar Development Authority, all Nagar Palika Parishad and Nagar Panchayats of the district are directed to indentify/earmark weak structures/ buildings which could be dangerous during earthquake and need to be demolished or retrofitted.

9- Sensitization workshop on Incident Response System in support with Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, (Govt. Of India), Mussoorie is conducted on 25th Feb 2011. Shri. J.K.Sinha, Member, National Disaster Management Authority, Govt of India and Shri Kush Verma, Executive Director, NIAR Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, (Govt. Of India), Mussoorie attended the workshop. All the members of District Disaster Management Committee, Haridwar also attended the workshop. District Magistrate, Haridwar started the proceeding and presented District Disaster Management Action Plan of the district. The DDMAP was unanimously appreciated and Shri. J.K. Sinha, Member, NDMA, Gol congratulated District Magistrate for preparing such a comprehensive DDMAP of the district.

Shri. J.K. Sinha, Member, NDMA, Gol explained the Incident Response System in detail and said that the Incident Response System is an effective mechanism for reducing the scope for ad-hoc measures in response. It incorporates all the tasks that may be formed during Disaster Management irrespective of their level of complexity. It envisages a composite team with various sections to attend to all the possible response requirements. The IRS identifies and designates officers to perform various duties and get them trained in their respective roles. He suggested to provide S & R trainings to the Police personal and Home guards and procure equipments and tools through CRF funds as 10% of the fund has already been earmarked for purchasing equipments and trainings. He also suggested to laid down Incident Response System in Haridwar as a modal system to demonstrate the ICS to other districts and states. NDMA will help to develop IRS in the district.

10- More than 200 officers and other staff members are acknowledged so given Certificates on Republic day for their rescue and relief work in recent flood in Haridwar by the District Disaster Management Authority. Certificates to the ADMs, SDMs and Head of the Departments were distributed by the District Magistrate, Haridwar at Collect orate office. The certificates to the NGOs, ARMY units like B.E.G & Centre, Roorkee, NDRF, 1090, Engineer Regiment, Dehradun, NDRF and PAC, Haridwar were given at Republic Day Parade Ceremony at Police line by Shri. Ajay Nabiyal, the Commissioner of Garhwal Division.

11- More than 100 NYK youths have given orientation on Disaster Management Concept. It has been taught to them the role of youths in pre-disaster phase, search & rescue, first aid and communication. The training programme was organised by the NYK for their volunteers.

Though, the efforts seem less and little bit unorganised but the process of sensitization, mobilization, awareness and top of all realization of responsibility by the hard core system now at least started in the district. I hope we will realise the pre-disaster phase as significant as we consider post disaster relief.



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