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F.No.1(303)/DDMA(HQ)/Meeting-DDMA/2017/130

Dated: 07/07/2017

Minutes of Meeting

A meeting to review the preparedness and present status of Delhi Disaster Management Authority constituted under Section 14 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 was held under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Lt. Governor of Delhi on 30<sup>th</sup> May, 2017 at 4:30 P.M. at Raj Niwas. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Delhi & Hon'ble Dy. Chief Minister also participated in the meeting of the authority. List of members/ officers present in the meeting is enclosed at Annexure-'I'.

2. At the outset, Hon'ble Lt. Governor welcomed the members of the Delhi Disaster Management Authority and other officers present in the meeting. Special Secretary (Disaster Management) gave a presentation regarding preparedness for disaster management and various activities undertaken by the districts.

3. Following issues were discussed:-

- (i) It was informed that Delhi falls in Seismic Zone-IV and the buildings with stilts at ground floor are prone to severe damage in earthquakes. Hence, all such new buildings should be constructed as per applicable building bye-laws and appropriate structural measures need to be taken in the existing buildings.
- (ii) Hon'ble Lt. Governor observed that applicable Building Bye-laws in Delhi must include norms and standards for construction of Earthquake Resilient Buildings. All local municipal agencies must pay attention to this aspect and enforce such bye-laws. Hon'ble Lt. Governor also directed municipal bodies to carry out survey of all such buildings. Residents of such buildings must be informed about the improvements required in these buildings. A large part of Delhi's population resides in unauthorized colonies where houses have been built without any sanctioned plans. Therefore, the general public, particularly those living in unauthorized areas should be made aware about the importance of structural safety of the buildings.

- (iii) Joint Secretary (Disaster Management), Ministry of Home Affairs requested that Delhi should also establish its own State Disaster Response Force as nearly 23 States have already done so. The Hon'ble Lt. Governor enquired whether the NDRF units are located in the vicinity of Delhi. It was explained that one NDRF unit was stationed at Ghaziabad. Sh. Santosh Kumar, Executive Director, NIDM also stated that Delhi should have its own State Response Force to deal with any emergency situation. Hon'ble Lt. Governor directed that this proposal may be examined, as setting up of a State Disaster Response Force would necessarily require substantial infrastructure, trained personnel and equipments. Hon'ble Lt. Governor also asked Commissioner of Police to consider this proposal.
- (iv) Scope for improvements in the response mechanism was discussed. Executive Director, NIDM stated that efforts should be made to develop capacity so as to reduce the impact of disasters. ED, NIDM also mentioned that training facilities at NIDM may be utilized by the District Disaster Management Authorities of Delhi. Joint Secretary (Disaster Management) mentioned that NDMA has a scheme of "Aapda Mitra" under which funds for training of 200 community volunteers for disaster response have been allocated by NDMA for 30 flood prone districts. One of the districts in Delhi has also been allocated funds for this purpose by the NDMA and the same must be utilized.
- (v) The issue of construction of Disaster Shelters also came up for discussion. JS (DM) stated that Disaster Shelters have been constructed in cyclone prone districts of Odisha and Andhra Pradesh. In Delhi, big stadiums and schools can be used as Disaster Shelters in disaster situations. It was unanimously agreed that such stadiums/buildings should be identified and must be included in the disaster management plans. Hon'ble Chief Minister observed that such buildings should be notified so that at the time of emergency, administrative issues are not raised by the agencies which owned these buildings.
- (vi) Hon'ble Chief Minister also observed that incidents such as Jhuggi fires, building collapses, drownings, etc do not qualify to be disasters as per definition of the Disaster Management Act. The Revenue Department provides immediate relief in such situations and these emergencies are handled very well but a uniform policy is required regarding setting up of temporary shelters. He desired that Standard Operating Procedure in this regard must be prepared by the Revenue Department so

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that in such situations, temporary shelters and relief etc is provided as per SOP by DDMA/authorities concerned.

4. After the presentation and the initial discussion, the listed agenda items were taken up.
  - (i) Agenda item No. 1- Secretary (Revenue) referred to the provisions of Section 12 and Section 19 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 and placed a proposal before the members of DDMA regarding provision of relief to the persons affected by the disasters in Delhi along with revised list of items, norms of assistance and guidelines in respect of provision of food, water, sanitation & medical facilities etc. Hon'ble Chief Minister observed that Ex-gratia payment to families of deceased persons etc and relief payable under fire and other accidents (not covered under the Disaster Management Act 2005) must also be appropriately enhanced by Revenue Department of Delhi and should not be less than norms being notified under Section 19 of the Act. Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister/ Minister in charge of Revenue Department further desired that proposed compensation/relief amounts should be raised in such manner as to be nearest to the next thousand rupees levels, wherever figures are in hundreds (e.g. Rs. 59,100, Rs.12,700, etc). It was unanimously agreed that the norms will be modified accordingly and Revenue Department may submit the draft Notification for approval expeditiously.
  - (ii) Agenda item No.2- Secretary (Revenue)/Divisional Commissioner suggested that a Committee be set up to examine the possibility of laying down building bye-laws as per the report of seismic hazard micro-zonation of NCT Delhi. Hon'ble Lt. Governor observed that this may be done keeping in view the fact that Delhi has high density of population and an earthquake of severe intensity would affect the entire northern region.
  - (iii) Agenda item No.3- The request for allocation of funds for purchase of equipment by NDMC, SDMC and EDMC for their Disaster Management Centers was placed before the authority. It was mentioned that the equipment were given way back in 2004-05. These have become obsolete/outlived their normal life. It was unanimously agreed to consider the request of the Municipal Corporations, as per requirement and provide the funds in consultation with Finance Department.

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(iv) Agenda item No.4- Secretary (Revenue)/Divisional Commissioner, Delhi apprised the members regarding the status of establishing a State Disaster Response Fund in Delhi in terms of Section 48 of the Disaster Management Act 2005. It was explained that the Revenue Department had submitted the proposal to the Finance Department, GNCT Delhi as per advice received from Ministry of Home Affairs vide letter No.15039/50/2014 dated 30.12.2016 but the proposal has been returned by the Finance Department, GNCT of Delhi with the observation that the Revenue Department may take a final view whether the funds received from the Govt. of India for creation of State Disaster Response Fund would be managed by operating a Personal Deposit Account or by setting up of a non-interest bearing fund under Public Accounts. The Secretary (Revenue)/Divisional Commissioner explained that the Revenue Department would adhere to the guidelines on Constitution and Administration of the State Disaster Response Fund issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs, DM Division vide OM No.33-5/2015 NDM-I dated 30<sup>th</sup> July 2015. The Hon'ble Lt. Governor of Delhi directed that the proposal be submitted again to the Finance Department and if necessary, the issue be resolved in consultation with the DM Division of Ministry of Home Affairs. The State Disaster Response Fund for Delhi should be created expeditiously as mandated by the Section 48 of the Disaster Management Act 2005.

(v) Agenda item No.5- Various items as listed were deliberated in detail. Secretary (Revenue)/Divisional Commissioner mentioned that present remuneration of the Disaster Management personnel was too low and this should be enhanced substantially so that talented persons can be hired and retained. The department would submit its proposal in due course for approval through Finance Department, GNCTD.

5. The meeting ended with thanks to the chair

  
(J.P. AGRAWAL)  
SPL. SECY. (DM)

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Dated: 07/07/2017

Copy to:

1. The Secretary to Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Raj Niwas, Dehli-110054
2. The Addl. Secretary to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Delhi Sectt., I.P. Estate, Delhi.

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3. The Secretary to the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister / Minister In-charge ( Revenue), Delhi Sectt., I.P. Estate, Delhi.
4. The OSD to the Chief Secretary, GNCT of Delhi, I.P. Estate, Delhi Sectt., Delhi.
5. The General Officer Commanding (HQ), Delhi Cantt. Area, Delhi
6. Pr. Secretary (Home), 5<sup>th</sup> Level, C-Wing, Delhi Secretariat, IP Estate, Delhi
7. Commissioner of Police, Delhi Police, Headquarter, I.P. Estate, Delhi
8. Joint Secretary (Disaster Management), Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India
9. The Director, Local Bodies, UD Department, 9<sup>th</sup> Level, Delhi Secretariat, I.P. Estate, Delhi
10. Secretary (Revenue) cum Divisional Commissioner, GNCT of Delhi
11. Pr. Secretary (PWD), Govt. of NCT of Delhi, I.P. Estate, Delhi Sectt. Delhi
12. Municipal Commissioner, North Delhi MCD (NDMC), 4th Floor, Civic Center, Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Marg, Minto Road, Delhi
13. Municipal Commissioner, South Delhi MCD (SDMC), 9th Floor, Civic Center, Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Marg, Minto Road, Delhi
14. Municipal Commissioner, East Delhi MCD (EDMC), 2nd Floor, Udhog Sadan, Patpargunj Industrial area
15. Secretary (Health), Govt. of NCT of Delhi, I.P. Estate, Delhi Sectt. Delhi
16. Prof. CVR Murty, Director, Indian Institute of Technology-Jodhpur
17. Prof. Santosh Kumar, Executive Director, National Institute of Disaster Management, IIPA Campus, I.P. Estate, Delhi
18. Dr. Vineet Kumar Gahlaut, Scientist, National Centre for Seismology, Ministry of Earth Sciences, IMD Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi.
19. All the Dy. Commissioners(Revenue)/Chairpersons, District Disaster Management Authorities of Delhi.

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