

# दैनिक निरपुन

चंडीगढ़, शुक्रवार, 16 अक्टूबर, 1998 पृष्ठ : 12

## वर्कशाप आयोजित

गुडगांव, 15 अक्टूबर (निस)। किसी प्रकार की प्राकृतिक आपदा से निपटने के लिए प्रेस प्रशासन व जनता के लिए सीस्टी ऑफ़ की भूमिका निभाती है। प्रेस जनता को आपदा की सही सूचना देती है व प्रशासन को आपदा की सही तस्वीर दिखा कर उससे निपटने के लिए प्रेरित करती है। यह विचार देवेन्द्र सिंह उपमुख्य गुडगांव ने हिमा द्वारा आयोजित प्राकृतिक आपदा में प्रेस की भूमिका पर लगाई गई एक विधेयक वर्कशाप की संवोधित करती हुए व्यक्त किया।

इस अवसर पर डा. अभय कुमार शीवादास वर्कशाप प्रबंधक ने कहा कि इस प्रकार की वर्कशाप लगाना बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण है और ऐसी वर्कशापों में जनता को भागीदारी लेनी बहुत जरूरी होती है।

# THE OBSERVER WEEKEND

## 'Laws not enough to prevent natural disasters'

**C. B. Bhatia**  
The International Decade of Natural Disaster Resilience (IDNDR) conference will be held in Geneva in July next year when, according to an official release, "early warning disaster relief will be discussed for the first time in 10 years before the IDNDR concludes". According to a "disaster relief" news item, a group of members in a workshop on Disaster Prevention and the Media" organized by the National Institute of Public Administration (NIPA), population studies and environmental development, are working to move and more disasters and this was particularly true of developing countries. Organizing the workshop, Gergory's Deputy Commissioner, Durgam, said "More laws and regulations manuals are not enough to prevent disasters like floods, forest fires, earthquakes etc." Generally, the city officials of the concerned departments bother to liaise with the media with the disaster manual.

Mr Durgam has pointed out that the deplorable state of the vast and unorganized apparatus of CWS (Disaster relief) which was recruited to handle with the disaster relief.

Referring to his recent meeting, he was observed to have been told that there was no co-ordination among the officers in the National Capital Territory region.

"How do the local fire officers respond to media for the prevention laws. This should be an indicator that officials in the media should be trained for 10 years ago," he added.

The IDNDR which lasted till "all countries must undertake risk management studies, at least during the duration of IDNDR".

The workshop Director, Ashay Kumar, said that the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has decided to bring out an annual publication targeted exclusively at engineers, local operators etc. "The idea is to create a disaster relief manual which will be the basis of their operations."

"There is, therefore, need to improve people's perception of risk through better channels of communication and broader interaction on the issue that is not just disaster relief," Mr Singh said.

For this, widespread dissemination of risk factors is essential, Mr Singh observed. "A comprehensive approach involving their better interaction

The objective of this convention was to review participants' own contribution, preparedness and the manner in which they can contribute to reducing the impact of hazards both natural and man made. Participation was open to all NGOs, academic institutions, government departments, voluntary agencies, research students and delegates from other countries, especially those in South Asia and Southeast Asia.

## Subjects in the agenda included:

- The role of the media in reporting disasters,
- Education, training and research in disaster reduction,
- The proposal to establish a National Association of Disaster Management linked by E-mail,
- Preparing communities for chemical, biological, industrial and nuclear disasters.

The Global Forum of NGOs for Disaster Reduction, Gurgaon, reports that it is undertaking a study for the feasibility of community based disaster preparedness in the context of India, Nepal and Bangladesh. G.F.N.D.R. also called for wider recognition of amateur radio as an important means of global communication and education in disaster reduction.

## Workshop on 'World disaster reduction campaign'

### 'Media, NGOs, govt. should act in co-ordination to avoid disaster'

**LT NEWS SERVICE**  
NAGPUR, OCT 15 - A man can avoid disaster if he is alert and attentive. But this alertness would come only when the media, social organisations and government act in proper co-ordination, opined the speakers at the workshop on 'World disaster reduction campaign' held here on Tuesday.

The workshop was jointly organised by the Nagpur Union of Working Journalists (NUWJ) and The Institute For Disaster Reduction and Management (IDRM) on the eve of the World Disaster Reduction Day which falls on October 14 every year at Tbilisi, Georgia.

The resident editor of Loknati, Mr Suresh Dwadashwar presided over the workshop while additional police commissioner, Mr Anil Dhare, chairman of the Maharashtra Institute of Engineers, Mr P. T. Mase, Mr Rakesh Shrivastava, Mr L. K. Jain, Mr R. T. Gabburkar of IAO and Squadron Leader, Mr A. K. Bhatia spoke at the workshop.

**Anil Dhare**  
The additional commissioner of police Mr Anil Dhare said the media has always been ahead in awakening the people on the disaster and its management but sometimes unfortunately some news misled the readers.

It is true that the government officials of the police department do not inform until they are confirmed with the facts which is because of their accountability and responsibility. It is not always that the officials come under government or political pressure in disclosing the official facts, he added.

He lamented on the fact that the police was held responsible for the casualties in the flood. But actually he said the police had no training for managing such cases nor even they possess boats and other equipments

required to meet the floods or earthquakes.

**Suresh Dwadashwar**  
The resident editor of Loknati, Mr Dwadashwar said now a days disaster has become a business. No one is believable. The NGOs are after name and money while the politicians are after politics, he said. The man is so selfish and cheap that he takes money, writes articles and ornaments from the dead human bodies, he said citing the examples.

The loss of sense of humanity is the main reason why we lack Additional Commissioner of Police, Mr Anil Dhare behind in managing disasters, he added.

Comparing government machinery and media he said the police enquiry can be made in specific period of time with huge manpower and equipment, but the newspapers have to deliver news for their readers within five to ten hours after the incident takes place. Media has much more responsibility as per the public information is concerned, but unfortunately media has very less manpower, he lamented.

**Mr Bhatia**, a HAM radio owner (amateur radio operator) said the HAM radio works even in the most drastic conditions. No natural calamity can break up the HAM communication and therefore going HAM is necessary for every NGO, rapid response squad, rescue operator and task force, he informed. Mr Bhatia called upon the citizens to go HAM.

**Mr P. T. Mase**, Mr Gabburkar, Mr L. K. Jain, Mr R. Shrivastava also spoke on the occasion.

Earlier, Mr Nisha Chaudhary, general secretary of the IDRM in his introductory speech said newspapers in Vidarbha did a com-



Additional Commissioner of Police, Mr Anil Dhare is addressing the speakers at the workshop. From L. to R. Mr P. T. Mase, Mr Rakesh Shrivastava, Mr L. K. Jain, Mr R. T. Gabburkar, Mr A. K. Bhatia and Mr Suresh Dwadashwar.

IDNDR'S theme for 1998 was discussed at a Roundtable talk in Mahila Udyamitya Vikas, Kalyan Eam, Siksha Sansthan, Raebareli.

The recommendation was made that there should be special training for journalists reporting on natural disasters. The Institute for Disaster Reduction and Management, Nagpur, organised a 3-day programme, from 12-14 October. This was made possible by the help of Rotary International Clubs, the Institution of Engineers of Nagpur and the Nagpur Union of working journalists. The subject was "Natural Disaster Prevention and the Media." Representatives of over 14 NGOs were present.

## INDONESIA

In co-operation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the National Disaster Management Coordination Agency (BAKORNAS PB) celebrated the 1998 World Reduction Disaster Day by organising a wide range of events on the theme, "Natural Disaster Prevention and the Media".

Beginning in October 1998, these events were aimed at raising awareness of disaster prevention among both the media and the general public. They included special radio and television programmes, exhibitions of paintings, photographs and posters and the distribution of leaflets.



*Students busy in story writing competition*



## IRAN

The country ran many events to publicise World Disaster Reduction Day. The predominant concern in Iran is earthquakes, and several publications on disaster prevention for adults and children have been printed and some of these are available in several languages.

In 1997, activities took place in Tehran and 27 provinces to mark the International Day. The National Committee for Natural Disaster Reduction (NCNDR) launched a painting competition among children and young adults. 100 paintings, out of a total of 12,000 that were submitted, won prizes. All the paintings were exhibited in an area covering 3,000 square metres.

Some 27,500 students at primary, secondary and high school level participated in a training course. Round-tables on the socio-economic impact of water were held.

A large-scale relief and rescue manoeuvre was carried out by the Red Crescent Society of Iran, which demonstrated 3 phases of a disaster: before, after and at the time of occurrence.