

Workshop on

Village Disaster Management Plan (VDMP)

Date: 19th - 20th December, 2024

Executive Summary

Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management (GIDM) has organised the workshop on Village Disaster Management Plan (VDMP) for newly recruited Village Secretary i.e. *Talati cum Mantri* of Panchayat, Rural Housing and Rural Development Department. It will involve training on concepts and framework on mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation in VDMPs.

This workshop will provide a platform for the master trainers to share their challenges, good practices, and exchange ideas on possible cooperation among different levels of stakeholders. GIDM will invite experts from government, NGOs and academics to deliver the session and enhance the teaching pedagogy and have a blend of theory supported by practical demonstrations. For the said program, the PRI Talim Kendra, Sadra under Gujarat Vidhyapeeth has extended their support.

Background

As per 2011 Census, Gujarat has around 18225 villages with 4.37 crore population in rural areas. Gujarat is prone to natural hazards like cyclone, earthquake, floods, extreme events etc. Recently, Gujarat has faced one of the most devastating floods in 2024. There was wide spread destruction of roads, buildings, walls collapsed, bridges washed away, crops and farms were waterlogged, etc. affecting the society and economy in every possible manner. Floods had direct and indirect impact on assets of Panchayat Department along with thousands of village especially in districts of Vadodara, Morbi, Rajkot, Kachchh, Junagadh and others across the state.

In India, Gram Panchayat authorities are entrusted with the responsibility to constitute a Village Disaster Management Committee (VDMC) and develop Village Disaster Management Plan (VDMP) for better coordination as mentioned in the Disaster Management Act 2005. Similarly under the Panchayati Raj Act (1992) of Government of India, committees have been designated to shoulder the responsibility of preparing disaster management plans similar to the Gram Panchayat Development Planning process. There is a dire need that the new generation officers of Panchayat Raj Department needs to be oriented on the governance aspect of disaster management to prepare and mitigate the losses.

The formation of VDMP and VDMC is a critical instrument for leading Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR) activities at the local level. Basic features of VDMC includes:

- There must be VDMC for very large, large and medium size village. For small villages and hamlets, there may be Cluster/Federation level Disaster Management Committees for 4-5 small villages/hamlets subject to geographical locations and distance between them. VDMC must represent men and women from cross-section of the village/local area and must include 9 to 11 members.
- VDMC must work for the issues/problems on disaster management and risk reduction without any bias of caste, creed, gender etc. VDMC members must be selected by the villagers in the open village/cluster/federation level meeting.
- VDMC should act as an extended arm of PRI structure by including specialized functionaries as its members. Provision should also be made for forming teams/task forces to support VDMC for performing various functions required in different phases of DM cycle. VDMC members must also conduct village level community's capacity building programme.

In this backdrop, Disaster Management (DM) practice in India has evolved from one that was largely top-down, relief-oriented to a risk management based approach that has different sectoral roles to be played by different stakeholders. The stakeholders, including the government and non-governmental actors, must aim at realization of the appropriate institutional mechanisms in the preparatory stage of an identified calamity (risk understanding), during the calamity (risk or disaster management), and post calamity (disaster recovery) and develop VDMPs accordingly.

Considering the present scenario, a training program has been arranged on 'Village Disaster Management Plan' on 19-20 December 2024. This program is in line with the Disaster Management (DM) Act, 2005; The Gujarat State Disaster Management Act 2003; National Policy on Disaster Management (NPDM), 2009; Prime Minister's Ten Point Agenda on DRR, 2016; as well as National Disaster Management Plan (NDMP), 2019.

Session Objectives

This workshop aims to:

1. Increase the awareness about disaster risks and climate change impacts
2. Orient on formation of Village Disaster Management Committees
3. Share the experiences, good practices, local challenges related to VDMP
4. Acquaint with the role of PRI and especially Talati cum Mantri in DRM and implement DRR measures

Date & Time

- 19-20th December, 2024, 09:30 - 17:00

Venue

- Auditorium, Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management (GIDM)

Organisers

- Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management (GIDM)

Format

- In Person

Expected Participants:

- Newly recruited Talati cum Mantri(around 59).
- These TCM belongs to the Panchayat, Rural Housing and Rural Development Department.

Expected Outcomes

At the end of the training program, the participants would be able to,

- Learn about basic science behind the hazards
- Understand the development of Village Disaster Management Plan (VDMP)
- Have hands on practical sessions on life saving techniques and use of fire safety equipments during disasters.
