

Concept Note

Managing Crowds at Mass Gathering Venues with Special Focus on Pavitra Yatra Dhams in Gujarat

Crowd management is a critical aspect of ensuring safety during mass gatherings, such as religious festivals, cultural events, and public rallies. These gatherings often attract thousands of participants and pose unique challenges, including risks of stampedes, fire incidents, and medical emergencies.

In India, approximately 79% of such events occur at religious venues, highlighting the urgent need for effective planning and management to prevent disasters and ensure public safety.

Managing large crowds involves addressing diverse needs, including those of different age groups, physical abilities, and gender-specific requirements. Additional challenges include handling long waiting times, respecting cultural and religious sensitivities, and ensuring adequate sanitation, comfort, and medical aid. Vulnerable groups such as children, the elderly, and individuals with disabilities require special attention to ensure their safety and well-being during such events.

To address these challenges, the **Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management (GIDM)** is organizing a specialized training program titled "**Managing Crowds at Mass Gathering Venues with Special Focus on Pavitra Yatra Dhams in Gujarat**". This program aims to equip participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to manage crowds effectively and implement fire safety measures, ensuring safer mass gatherings.

The training will focus on:

1. **Crowd Management Techniques** – Strategies for managing and directing large groups efficiently.
2. **Fire Safety Protocols** – Practical measures to reduce fire risks and ensure the proper use of safety equipment.
3. **Emergency Preparedness** – Training in basic first-aid and life-saving techniques for immediate response during crises.
4. **Inter-Agency Coordination** – Strengthening communication and teamwork among different agencies for effective crisis management.

Practical sessions will include mock drills, fire safety demonstrations, and real-world simulations to provide participants with hands-on experience. These exercises aim to enhance confidence and preparedness for managing potential risks during large gatherings.

By the end of the program, participants will be equipped to handle the complexities of crowd management, implement effective fire safety measures, and respond to emergencies confidently. This initiative reflects GIDM's commitment to enhancing public safety and fostering a culture of disaster resilience in Gujarat.

This training is a step toward creating safer environments for mass gatherings, ensuring the well-being of attendees, and reducing risks associated with large-scale events.