

Two-Days Training Program
on
**Strengthening Disaster Management
Capacities of Role of Panchayati Raj
Institutions (PRIs)**

30th June – 1st July 2026



Organized by



Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management

Background

Hazards, whether natural or man-made, often result in devastating consequences for communities worldwide. From earthquakes to floods, fire to pandemics, the impact of disasters can be profound, affecting lives, livelihoods, and infrastructure. However, while disasters cannot always be prevented, their impact can be mitigated through effective Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) strategies. Among these strategies, community-based approaches play a crucial role in building resilience at the grassroots level.

This training highlights, the significance of Community-based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR) and the flexibility and innovation required for local communities in Disaster Risk Management (DRM) initiatives. Further, it underscores the need for greater engagement with people and a better understanding of their Disaster Risks and resources. This is the specialization course within the comprehensive framework of the Disaster Risk Management program, directed at Community leaders/Elected representatives of civil society and local Government officials.

Keeping the importance of the subject and targeted participants, GIDM has planned to organize Two-Day Training Program on “**Strengthening Disaster Management Capacities of Panchayati Raj Institutions**” scheduled from **30th June – 1st July 2026 at GIDM.**

This program aims to support newly recruited Talati-cum-Mantri in reviewing and strengthening village-level disaster preparedness and response measures as key frontline Governance representatives.

Objectives

To build the culture of looking at a crisis, holistically and comprehensively, the communities must be explained how the prevalent Understanding of Disaster Risks fits into the present scenario and how the Systemic Nature of Risk would affect every sector. This training seeks to achieve the following objectives -

1. Equip participants with the competence and confidence needed to effectively contribute to disaster risk management, protect lives, and support communities during times of crisis;
2. To sensitize participants in coordinating with other emergency services, and community organizations to ensure a unified and efficient response;
3. To foster a culture of continuous learning, encouraging them to regularly update their skills and knowledge in disaster risk management through ongoing training, community-based exercises, and practical drills.

Modalities

Gujarat is prone to various types of hazards due to a combination of geographical, geological, and environmental factors. The state has a long coastline along the Arabian Sea, making it susceptible to cyclonic storms and associated hazards such as strong winds, heavy rainfall, and storm surges. The state experiences a monsoon climate, with a distinct wet season while some parts have semi-arid climates, which make them prone to droughts. In addition to the natural hazards, Gujarat is prone to many human-induced hazards due to its robust industrial base with numerous chemical plants, refineries, and other industries. Given these factors, Disaster Risk Management becomes essential for Gujarat to reduce vulnerabilities, enhance preparedness, and mitigate the impact of various hazards on its communities and infrastructure.

The **Disaster Management Act, 2005** brought about a paradigm shift in India's disaster management approach, moving from a reactive focus on response to a holistic framework emphasizing mitigation, prevention, and preparedness. This integrated approach yields long-term benefits by reducing vulnerabilities and minimizing damage from disaster impacts.

Hon'ble Prime Minister's 10 Point Agenda for Disaster Risk Reduction emphasizes Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Management across all sectors, building Community Resilience, and leveraging technology, innovation, and knowledge networks to strengthen preparedness and response capacities at every level. The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) 2015–2030 emphasizes the principle of an “***all-of-society***” approach, while the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) underline the commitment to “***leave no one behind***”.

This training program intends to address certain issues related to DRM by partnering with grass-root level stakeholders, to build a cadre of trained manpower who can complement and supplement the efforts in different phases of the **Disaster Risk Management Cycle**.

The training includes four expected outcomes structured around the four **Priorities** for Action of the Sendai Framework. The four expected outcomes are namely, assess and update data and knowledge of traditional approaches, dissemination, monitoring and review emerging challenges, and capacity building to highlight the best practices at all levels. The program has been designed to be in four segments:

1. The **first segment** would empower participants to think about and understand disaster risk(s), which is a step towards managing risk(s) rather than managing disasters. Thus, this section has been designed to address *Priority 1: Understanding Disaster Risks*;
2. The **second segment** would stimulate the participants to think about governing such disaster risk(s) at different levels by tinkering their preparedness for the near future through exercises of DRR Future Thinking like Scenario Based Preparedness, Scenathons etc. This segment has been designed to address *Priority 2: Strengthening Disaster Risk Governance to Managing Disaster Risks*;
3. The **third segment** would talk about investing resources of all forms, financial and human, to build Disaster Resilience. This section would underline the importance of traditional/indigenous knowledge and possible roles of communities to tackle the emergent and systemic nature of disaster risk. This section would address *Priority 3: Investing in Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience*;
4. By discussing good practices and case studies of Role of PRIs in DRM in the **fourth segment**, *Priority 4: Enhancing disaster Preparedness for effective Response and to "Build Back Better" in Recovery, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction* will be emphasized upon.

All sessions will be conducted in Gujarati, with Resource Persons/Subject Matter Experts delivering content in the same language.

Importance of Panchayati Raj Institutions in Disaster Risk Management

By empowering PRIs to take ownership of DRR initiatives, interventions become more sustainable and less dependent on external support.

1. *Utilization of Local Knowledge and Capacities*: PRIs are closely connected to their communities and possess invaluable knowledge about local vulnerabilities, hazards, and coping mechanisms. Leveraging this knowledge is critical for developing effective disaster risk reduction (DRR) strategies;
2. *Community Resilience Building*: PRIs play a key role in enhancing the resilience of communities to various hazards, enabling them to better prepare for, withstand, and recover from disasters;
3. *Inclusivity in Decision-Making*: PRIs ensure that DRR planning and implementation include all sections of the community, including vulnerable and marginalized groups;
4. *Cost-Effectiveness and Efficiency*: Local-level planning and interventions led by PRIs are often more efficient and cost-effective in reducing disaster risks.

Targeted Participants

The training program is primarily designed for trainees (Talati-cum-Mantri) associated with the Panchayati Raj Talim Kendra, Sadra, Dist. Gandhinagar (around 54 nos.) who are actively involved in planning, designing, and implementing rural development activities. Additionally, selected faculty members from Panchayati Raj training institutes will also

participate. This program will further help in assessing the specific training needs of these stakeholders, ensuring that future capacity-building initiatives are more focused and effective.

Outcomes

This training reviews various best practices/initiatives taken up on a pilot basis for DRM. It also focuses on lessons and practical guidelines developed for risk management, particularly highlighting community organization, financing, capacity development, gender and social inclusion, risk management, technology transfer and cultural norms and values. At the end of the program, participants would be able to,

- Identify potential Disaster Risks;
- Understand Role of PRIs for Disaster Risk Management;
- Prepare Communities and Practices to implement Prevention, Mitigation, Preparedness, Response and Recovery actions;
- Disaster Resilient Sustainable Development and planning activities.

Dates

30th June – 1st July 2026

Training Venue

Seminar Hall, Ground Floor, GIDM

Address:



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B/h Pandit Deendayal Energy University
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