



आपदा जोखिम न्यूनीकरण हेतु  
राज्यव्यापी जन-जागरुकता अभियान

# Report on SAMARTH-2020

*Annual Mass Awareness Campaign on Disaster Risk  
Reduction and Building Resilience*

Government of Himachal Pradesh  
Department of Revenue, Disaster Management Cell  
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<https://www.facebook.com/hpsdma>



<https://twitter.com/hpsdma>



# Background

- ▶ Since October 2011, the Himachal Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority (HPSDMA) organizes an Annual Mass Awareness Campaign on Disaster Risk Reduction- ‘Samarth’, as a symbol of solidarity with the global efforts to observe the celebrations related to the International Day of Disaster Risk Reduction (IDDR).
- ▶ Within the limits imposed by the current pandemic, the focus of this year’s Samarth campaign was on developing multi-media content - news stories, photographs, social media cards, educational activities with children, webinars, and interactive IECs - which highlighted the links between good disaster risk governance and having national and local disaster risk reduction strategies in place aligned with the Sendai Framework.

## Activities Conducted as part of the SAMARTH-2020 Campaign

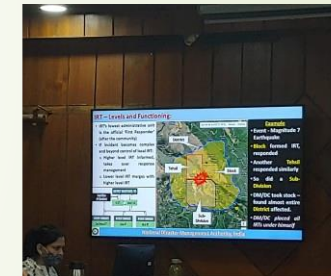
Following activities were conducted as part of the SARMART 2020 Campaign:

- Online training and capacity building on Incident Response System (IRS)
- Online Tabletop Exercise on Chemical Disasters
- Meeting for strengthening of Inter Agency Group Network (GO-NGO Coordination)
- Three-Day Online Training on Hill Area Development in collaboration with NIDM, New Delhi
- Competitions for school children (slogan, essay and poster making competition)
- Webinars on various themes
- Online Quiz on various aspects of Disaster Risk Reduction
- Training and Capacity Building Programmes by DDMA's
- Procurement of Cisco Webex for conducting online meetings, trainings and events



# 1. Online Training and Capacity Building Programme on Incident Response System (IRS)


- ▶ An Incident Response System (IRS) Training was held under the Chairmanship of Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Syed Ata Hasnain, Member NDMA and Co-Chaired by Sh. R.D. Dhiman, Additional Chief Secretary (Revenue) to the Government of Himachal Pradesh cum Member Secretary, HPSDMA on 12 October, 2020 from 10.30 AM onwards.
- ▶ In the welcome address, Brig. Ajay Gangwar, Advisor (Ops & Comn), NDMA highlighted that the [Guidelines on the Incident Response System](#) (IRS) were formulated and circulated by the NDMA in the year 2010, fulfilling the requirement of Section 6 of the DM Act, 2005 for effective, efficient and comprehensive management of disasters, with an aim to minimize loss of life and property by strengthening and standardising the disaster response mechanism in the country.
- ▶ The HPSDMA had notified the State Level Incident Response Team (IRT) in September 2017. Similarly, IRTs were constituted & notified by all the DDMA in the State. These IRTs are pre-designated at all levels; State, District, Sub-Division and Tehsil/Block. On receipt of early warning, the Responsible Officer (RO) will activate them. In case a disaster occurs without any warning, the local IRT will respond and contact RO for further support, if required and set coordination between the District, State and National level in activating effective response.
- ▶ The session emphasized on the importance of IRS in not only disaster response but the DM planning for any kind of emergency and disaster like situation. The different action plans for immediate 24 hours, one week, and so on were also discussed with the standard terminology when responding to any disaster like event.



## 2. Table-Top Exercise (TTEX) on Chemical (Industrial) Disaster 15 October 2020

- The Table-Top Exercise (TTEX) on Chemical (Industrial) Disaster was planned involving State and District IRTs of identified Industrial pockets of District Kangra, Kullu, Sirmaur, Solan and Una. The TTEX was co-organised in association with the National Disaster Management Authority. The goal of the exercise was to support State/District authorities to ensure safety norms in identified Industrial pockets and for mitigating the disruption over the State through the execution of a tabletop exercise, where off-site disaster management plan was exercised.
- The target audience for the event included: Members of HPSDMA, members of SEC, all members of State Response Team, Director (Industries), Director Fire Service; Member Secretary HP State Pollution Control Board, Labour Commissioner, Chief Inspector of Factories, Local Commanders of Army, Air Force, NDRF & CAPFs; Commandant / Sr. Representative from SDRF, Director of Medical and Veterinary, MD State Electricity Board, Director-State Transport, Representatives of Telecom Service Providers, Director HIPA, Director IMD-Shimla, Director IPR, IAG members, UNDP representatives and participants from the all districts of the State. The event brought together more than 300 participants from State and District, and other stakeholder departments and organisations.





# Salient Points that Emerged from the TTEX Chemical (Industrial) Disasters

- The Hazard, Risk, Vulnerability Assessment (HRVA) undertaken by the HPSDMA shows that there are only 8 Major Accident Hazard (MAH) Industries in Himachal Pradesh whereas many more Industries are being setup in the State. HPSDMA and Department of Industries shall coordinate for mapping of all MAH units/industries in the State on the digital HRVA portal of HPSDMA.
- There is a need to work out better and effective institutional mechanism, coordination and strategies for ensuring synergy in the various activities of different departments.
- The Fire Department lacks in specialized resources to deal with the Chemical Industrial Disasters. Therefore, there is an urgent need to enhance the capacity of Fire Department especially those fire stations which are in the vicinity of the Industrial Pockets with the resources and antidote agents for various hazardous chemicals being used in the industries.
- The inventory of specialized equipment and specialist manpower resources must be identified and should be entered in India Disaster Resource Network (IDRN) database which is functioning as a nationwide electronic inventory for various resources that may be deployed by an emergency manager during crisis situation. This database needs to be updated regularly and should be suitably integrated with the control rooms established at State/District Headquarters.
- Regular meetings of the State, District and Local Crisis Groups need to be organized to review the off-site emergency plan, monitor post-accident situation etc.
- The DM-Cell has handed over the Industrial Plans to the Department of Industries. It must be ensured that the provisions stated under these plans are implemented at field level.
- Industrial pockets such as Baddi and Nahan have successfully conducted the Chemical/Industrial mock exercises. All the industrial areas shall have mock drills on regular basis with reports being shared with the SDMA.
- The State Govt has allocated land to the Department of Industries for expanding its industrial base in the State. It is imperative to ensure that land is allocated in a judicious manner, especially in case of hazardous industrial units. The need of the hour is to strictly enforce legislations on land-use in the State.
- Third party risk assessment/safety audit may be conducted in each chemical industry of the State because the department may not have trained manpower.
- The nearby medical facilities may also be affected during the chemical disasters, these facilities should have contingency plan for medical arrangements.

# Recommendations of the TTEX: Action Plan and Way Forward

Sl.No.	Issue	Action Required	Responsible Department
1	Identification of MAH Industries	Documentation of MAH Industries & Industries using hazardous chemicals	Chief Inspector of Factories, Pollution Control Board & DDMA
2	Updation of these industries on HRVA	GIS mapping of the Industries	Industries Department & HPSDMA
3	Identification of dousing agent to deal with Chemical Disasters	Documentation of the chemicals/ hazardous material wise dousing/containing agents	Fire Department
4	Knowledge about toxic effects of chemical hazardous material	Documentation of effects of hazardous material on human & environment and antidotes thereof	Health Department & Pollution Control Board
5	Off Site Disaster Management Plans	Preparation of DM Plans and practice as mock drills on regular basis & updation	DDMAs & Stakeholder Departments and Industries
6	On-Site Disaster Management Plans	Preparation of DM Plans and practice as mock drills on regular basis & updation	Industrial Units
7	Registration of Hazardous materials/chemical	Documentation and updation on Industries Department's website	Stakeholder Departments & Industrial Units

### **3. MEETING OF THE HIMACHAL PRADESH INTER AGENCY GROUP (HPIAG) & DISTRICT INTER AGENCY GROUPS (DIAGs) UNDER THE CHAIRPERSONSHIP OF DIRECTOR-CUM-SPECIAL SECRETARY (REV-DM)**

- ▶ In the year 2011, the Himachal Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority (HPSDMA) facilitated the creation of a platform for effective coordination among the Government agencies and NGOs which lead to the formation of the Himachal Pradesh Inter Agency Group (HPIAG). Similarly, all the 12 districts of the State have also constituted their District Inter Agency Groups (DIAG).
- ▶ These inter-agency coordination groups have been constituted under Sections 22 (j) and 24 (i) of the Disaster Management Act, 2005; which lay onus on the State government and District administration to ensure coordination amongst various Departments, local authorities, and other NGOs. Also, Sections 35 and 38 of the DM Act specifically emphasize the coordination of actions with NGOs.
- ▶ There are eight core members of the HPIAG and 49 other member NGOs of HPIAG. At the district level, 172 NGOs are members of the DIAGs.
- ▶ An online meeting with members of HPIAG and DIAG was called upon, under the able Chairpersonship, Director-cum-Special Secretary (Rev-DM). The HPIAG/DIAG members were also encouraged to participate in various activities and events organized by the HPSDMA and DDMA under the ambit of its annual awareness campaign 'Samarth'-which marks a symbol of solidarity with the global efforts to observe the celebrations related to the International Day of Disaster Risk Reduction (IDDR).
- ▶ Members of various NGOs such as CASA, Red Cross Society, CORD, EduCare, EarthJust, DOERS, Prayas Society, Surbhi, JSW Hydro, Chetna Samiti, Nav Nirman Foundation were present for the meeting and felt motivated and energized to enhance their collaborations for effective implementation of various DRR initiatives of the State.

# 4. Three Day Online Training Programme on Hill Area Development with Focus on earthquakes, Landslides and Floods

Jointly organized by National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) and HPSDMA  
October 21-23, 2020

## Background

- The rugged hilly terrains of country due to their peculiar geo-dynamics and geo- meteorological characteristics are prone to numerous disasters; inter alia, landslides, glacial lake outburst floods, cloud bursts, floods, flash floods, and earthquakes.
- Further, the anthropogenic pressure attributed to urbanization on unstable natural as well as built slopes is fabricating new risks of these disasters in the hills. More than 58 percent of the landmass is vulnerable to moderate to very high intensity of seismic hazards.
- The climate change and its adverse impacts on temperature and precipitation patterns are indisputable and will further flame the quotient of disasters in hilly areas and will be constantly challenging our strategies of mitigation and management of those disasters.

## Objectives

- ❖ To develop better understanding about hazards and sustainable, safe hill area development strategies;
- ❖ To develop solutions for development projects and mitigation and management of recurring disasters;
- ❖ To strengthen the resilience of our hilly areas against the recurring disaster;

A total of **1142** participants from all over the country registered for this event.

**3-days Online Training Programme on**  
**“Hill Area Environment and Development with Focus on Earthquakes, Landslides and Floods”**

21st - 23rd October 2020  
11:00 am - 01:00 pm

**Patron**  
Major General Manoj Kumar Bindal, VSM  
Executive Director NIDM

**Programme Chairs**  
Prof. Surya Parkash, Head, GMR Division, NIDM  
Sh. D. C. Rana, IAS Director, HPSDMA

**Programme Coordinators**  
Mr. Anil Kathait YP, GMR Division NIDM  
Ms. Garima Sharma CB & D Coord., HPSDMA

**Distinguished Speakers**  
Dr. Anil Prakash Joshi Padma Bhushan, Padma Shri Awardee  
Mr. Hari Kumar Coordinator, GeoHazards International  
Lt. Col. D. C. Vashista Joint Director, NIDM  
Dr. Kishor Kumar Former Chief Scientist, CSIR-CRRI

**Moderators**  
Mr. Raju Thapa YP, GMR Division, NIDM  
Dr. Harjeet Kaur YP, GMR Division, NIDM

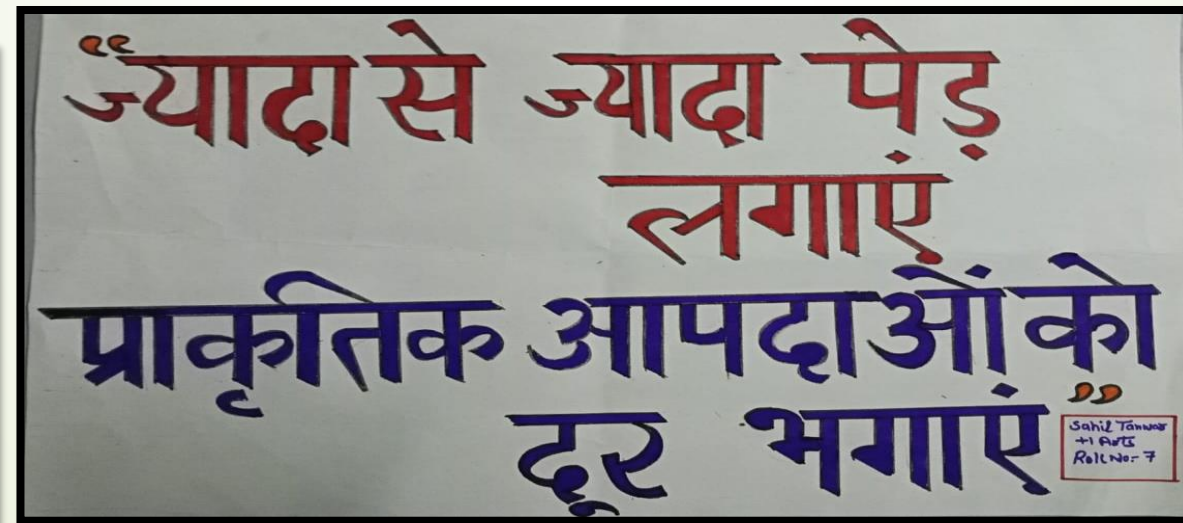
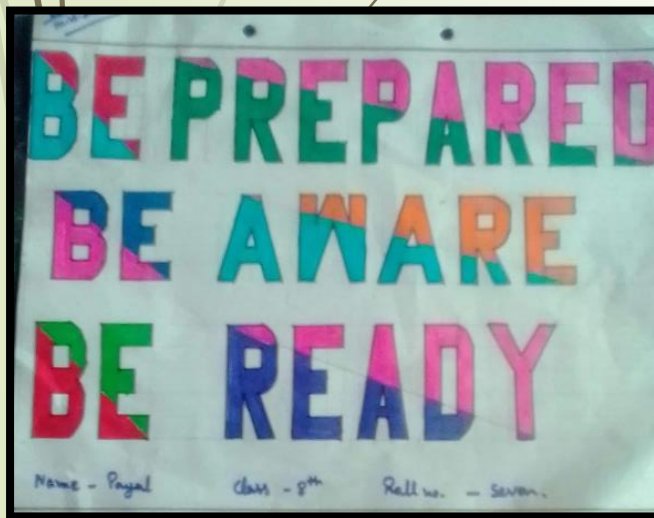
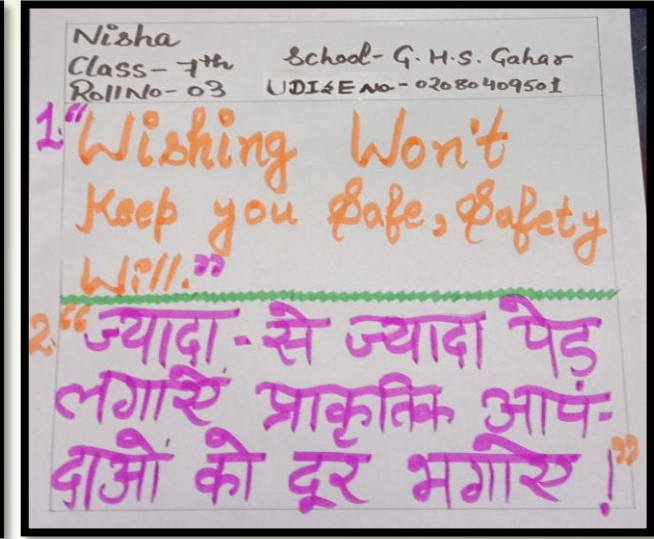
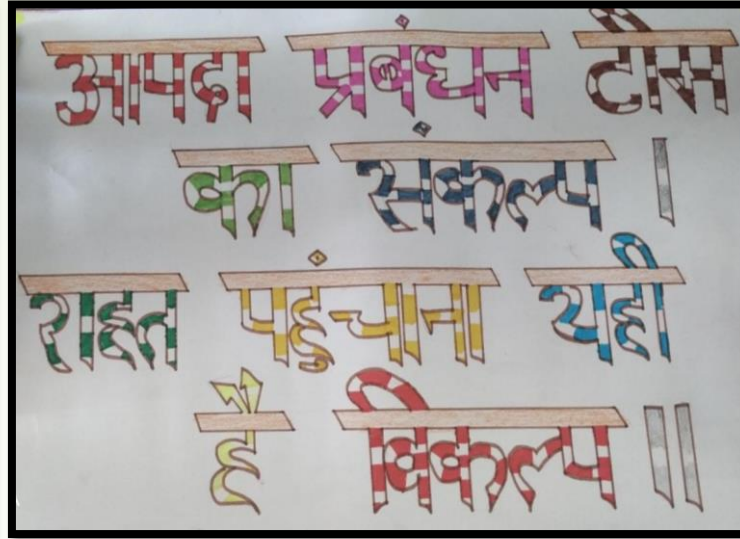
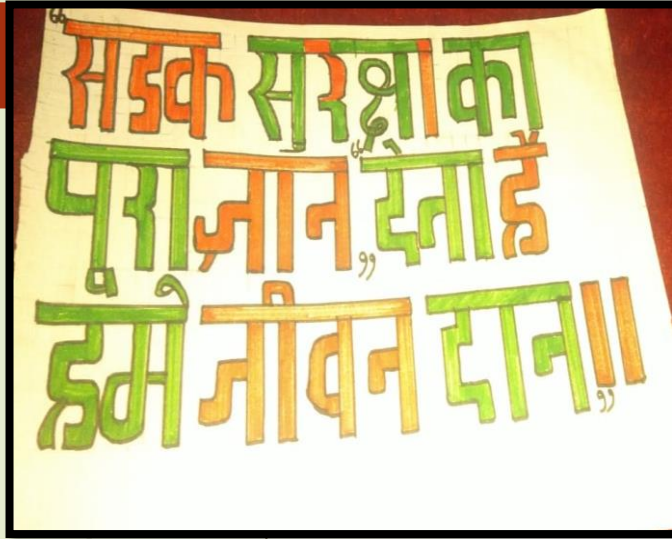
Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/cun2ah5enw5te9c49>

Organized by National Institute of Disaster Management, Ministry of Home Affairs & Himachal Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority, Govt. of H.P.

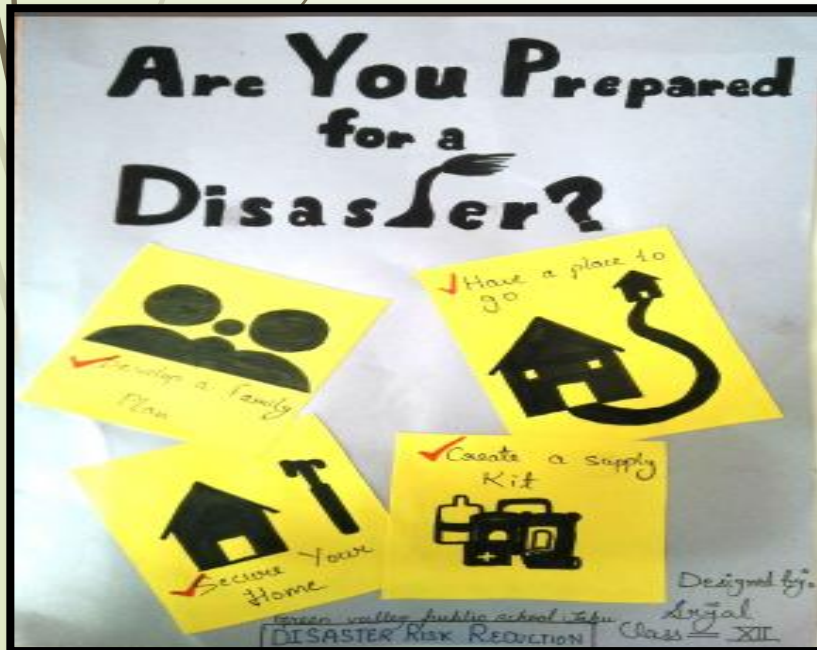
Stay Protected from Corona  
NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE

Wear your Mask Properly  
Frequently Wash your Hands with Soap  
Maintain Safe Distance  
Clean Surface Regularly

## 5. Competitions for School Children (a. Slogan Writing)



# 5 (b) Poster-Making Competition





# Webinars Organized by HPSDMA

As part of the capacity building initiatives, the HPSDMA planned to organize web seminars on the following themes:

- **Theme 1: Disaster Risk Management of Cultural Heritage in Himachal Pradesh: November 12, 2020**

**Technical Session 1: Need and Scope of Disaster Risk Management Planning for Cultural Heritage;** Speaker: Dr. Rohit Jigyasu, Project Manager, Urban Heritage, Climate Change & Disaster Risk Management, International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)

**Technical Session 2: Strengthening the emergency preparedness and response at Cultural Heritage sites in Himachal Pradesh;** Speaker: Mr. Navneet Yadav, Associate Director, DOERS

This webinar was attended by 54 participants.

- **Theme 2: Mainstreaming Indigenous Construction Practices for Earthquake Safety in Himachal Pradesh: November 17, 2020**

**Technical Session 1: Local indigenous construction practices in Himachal Pradesh;** Speaker: Dr. S.K. Negi, Principal Scientist-Central Building Research Institute (CBRI)-Roorkee

**Technical Session 2: Building Earthquake Resilience through Indigenous Construction Practices in Himachal Pradesh;** Speaker: Dr. Hemant Kumar Vinayak, Associate Professor, Entrepreneurship Development and Industrial Coordination, National Institute of Technical Teacher Training & Research (NITTR), Chandigarh.

This webinar was attended by 153 participants.

**WEBINAR**

## Disaster Risk Management of Cultural Heritage in Himachal Pradesh

12 November, 2020 | From 3pm to 5pm IST

**PANELISTS**

- Sh. R. D. Dhiman, IAS  
Addl. Chief Secretary (Revenue)  
Govt. of Himachal Pradesh
- Dr. Rohit Jigyasu  
Project Manager  
ICCROM, Italy
- Sh. Navneet Yadav  
Associate Director  
Doers, Shimla

**COORDINATOR**

- Dr. Garima Sharma  
Capacity Building Coordinator  
HPSDMA

Organized by:  
Himachal Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority (HPSDMA)

**Mainstreaming Indigenous Construction Practices for Earthquake Safety in Himachal Pradesh**

Time: 11:30 am - 01:00 pm

**17 November 2020**

**PATRON**

- Maj. Gen. Manoj Kumar Bindal  
Executive Director,  
NIDM, New Delhi

**Speakers**

- Shri D C Rana  
DC, Chamba, HP
- Dr S K Negi  
Scientist CBRI
- Dr Hemant Vinayak  
NITTR, Chandigarh

**Coordinator**

- Dr Amir Ali Khan  
NIDM

**Coordinator**

- Ms Garima Sharma  
HPSDMA

**Moderator**

- Ms Yogita Garbhal  
Young Professional, NIDM

# Recommendations of the Webinars

## Recommendations from Webinar 1: **Disaster Risk Management of Cultural Heritage in Himachal Pradesh (Dr. Rohit Jigyasu and Sh. Navneet Yadav)**

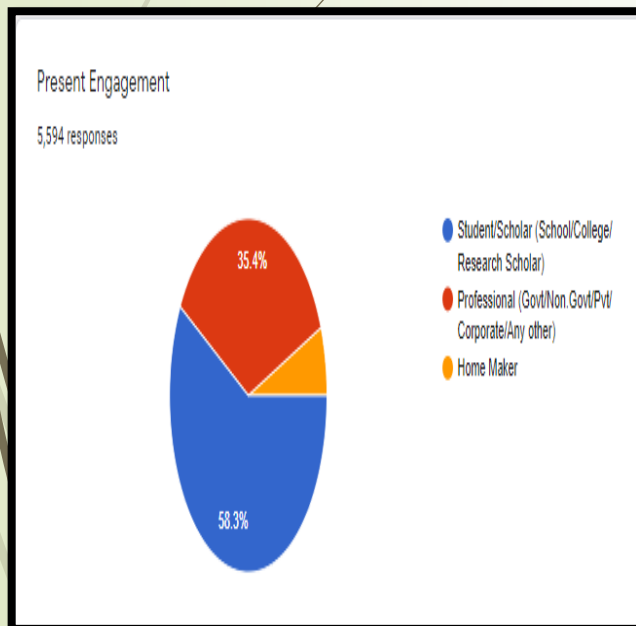
- (i) The Guidelines of NDMA on Cultural Heritage Sites & Precincts (September 2017) and Museums (May 2017) needs effective implementation by the State in letter and spirit.
- (ii) Emergency and Preparedness plans need to be developed for various heritage site and temple complexes in HP.
- (iii) The issues of DRR need to be mainstreamed.
- (iv) Capacity building and training programmes need to be organized for relevant stakeholders and the community at large.

## Recommendations from Webinar 2: **Disaster Risk Management of Cultural Heritage in Himachal Pradesh (Dr. S.K. Negi, Dr. Hemant Kumar Vinayak and Dr. Amir Ali Khan)**

- (i) The Government of Himachal Pradesh needs to develop its own document, detailing the indigenous construction typologies of the State and clear guidelines for executing and implementing such designs.
- (ii) The local masons and artisans should be mapped, and strategies should be worked out to ensure that their profession is lucrative. Appropriate stress needs to be given to their capacity enhancement.
- (iii) The Electricity Departments may take up IEC activities to prevent fires due to electrical short-circuiting.
- (iv) For wooden houses, flame proof paints should be mandatorily recommended.
- (v) Guidelines of regulation and monitoring of construction in rural areas need to be developed.
- (vi) The Departments of Tourism and Language Art and Culture need to work in tandem to popularize indigenous constructions from the tourism perspective. This can also be popularized among youth as an entrepreneurial venture that they can take up.
- (vii) There is critical need for sensitization and awareness of the key stakeholder departments as well as the local community. Capacity building initiatives such as workshops and online training programmes need to be organized rigorously for key stakeholders from various Departments of GoHP.
- (viii) The GoHP should involve local artists and folk theatre groups to popularize messages regarding undertaking safe construction practices, adopting indigenous construction practices, fire safety and basic do's and don'ts for various hazards.

## 6. Online Quiz: An Innovative IEC Tool

- Every year as part of the Samarth campaign, the HPSDMA organized quiz competition at the State level. Due to the constraints posed by the present pandemic, the HPSDMA devised an **online quiz, with a set of 20 questions**. This **quiz was widely publicized** and disseminated through social media network of HPSDMA, DDMA's and through websites and new app of media and news agencies.
- A **total of 5, 966 individuals attempted the quiz**.
- The quiz was attempted the most by students, followed by working professionals and thereafter by the homemakers.
- On **an average**, the **participants scored 12/20** in the quiz.



Section 1 of 4

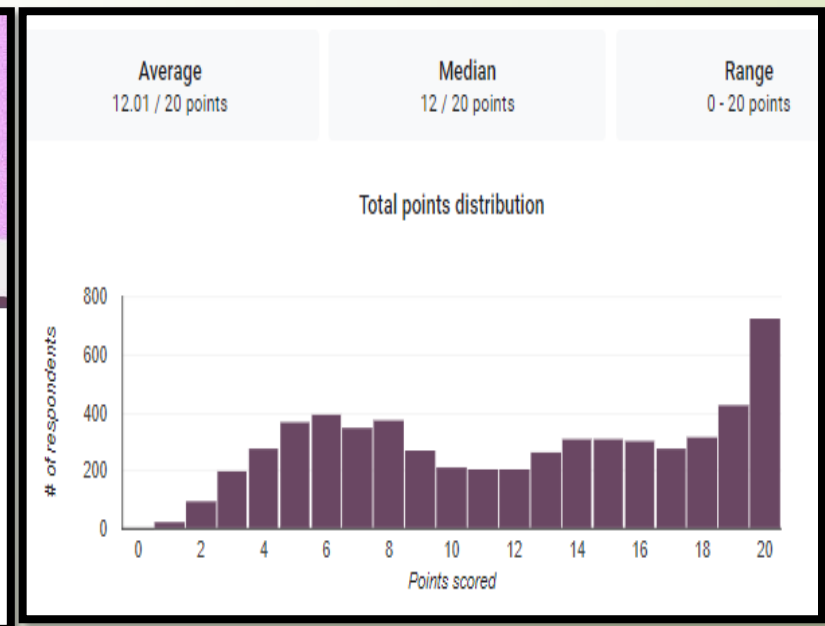
Quiz on Disasters: International Day of Disaster Risk Reduction 2020

Test your knowledge about disasters and get insights into enriching facts!

Email address \*

Valid email address

This form is collecting email addresses. [Change settings](#)



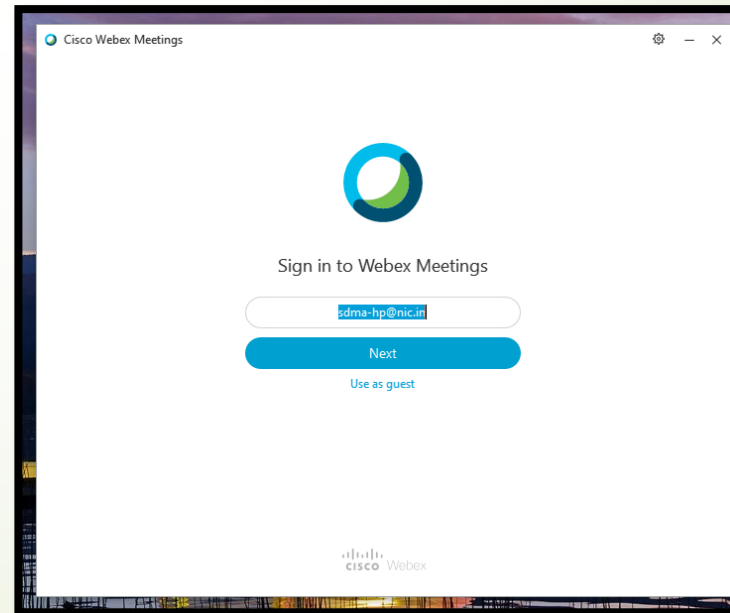
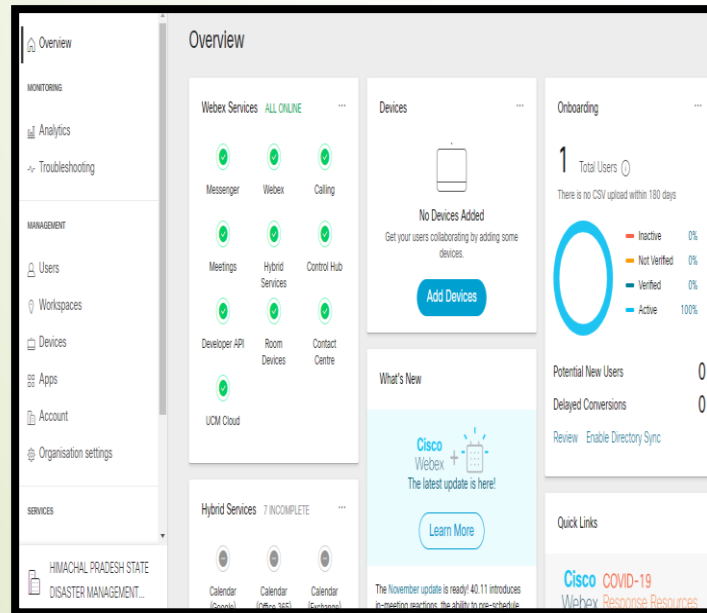
# Training and Capacity Building Initiatives by DDMA's

- Organization of webinars and online training programmes on awareness about DRR issues
- Strengthening of district level IAGs
- Programmes for generating awareness about various aspects of school safety
- Skill based training on Search and Rescue and Fire Safety
- Skit on pandemic of COVID 19
- Trainings on Incident Response Management



# Procurement of CISCO-Webex

- Due to the impact of COVID 19 pandemic, HPSDMA has to organise various training and web conferences for various meeting & public awareness.
- Therefore, this Department purchased Cisco Webex which includes: Meeting Centre, Training Centre and Event Centre combined into One Host ID license for one year. It allows for interactive and effective control of the session and controls on the participants joining the meeting and the host can mute /unmute other participants, pre-registration process, Creating panelist etc .
- Many additional features are available depending upon the type of module used in the meeting. The HPSDMA will use this platform for conducting various seminars, workshops and for organizing training programmes on diverse themes.



# Media Coverage



नेरचौक : किंग जॉर्ज रॉयल पब्लिक स्कूल नेरचौक में शपथ ग्रहण करते विद्यार्थी।

(हरीश)

**पंजाब केसरी**  
ई-पेपर

Wed, 14 October 2020

Edition: mandi kesari, Page no. 2



## बच्चों ने ली कोविड-19 सुरक्षा पर शपथ

नेरचौक, 13 अक्टूबर (हरीश) : इंटरनेशनल डे फॉर आपदा न्यूनीकरण के उपलक्ष्य पर मंगलवार को किंग जॉर्ज रॉयल पब्लिक स्कूल नेरचौक में राज्य आपदा प्राधिकरण व जिला आपदा प्राधिकरण की तरफ से आयोजित कार्यक्रम में बच्चों ने विभिन्न गतिविधियों में भाग लिया जिसमें बच्चों को कोविड-19 सुरक्षा उपयों को ध्यान में रखते हुए कैसे आपदा से बचा जाए, इसके बारे में जानकारी प्रदान की गई। बच्चों को कोविड-19 सुरक्षा के ऊपर शपथ भी दिलाई गई। इसके अलावा जो बच्चे स्कूल नहीं आ रहे हैं उनसे भी वे गतिविधियां ऑनलाइन तरीके से करवाई गईं जिसमें बच्चों ने आपदा प्रबंधन और कोविड-19 से संबंधित चित्र बनाए। प्रधानाचार्य डा. के.पी. शर्मा ने यह जानकारी दी।

**पंजाब केसरी**  
ई-पेपर

Wed, 14 Octob  
Edition: mandi

