

Proceedings of the Review Meeting held under the Chairmanship of Sh. Onkar Chand Sharma, Additional Chief Secretary (Revenue), to the Govt. of Himachal Pradesh on 17th January, 2025, 11:30 AM at NIC VC Hall, Armsdale Building, HP Secretariat, Shimla regarding “Safe Construction Practices, need of Regulation, Effective Techno-Legal Regime in Himachal Pradesh”.

The list of Participants is at Annexure – A.

2. At the outset of the meeting, Director-cum-Ex Officio Special Secretary (Revenue-DM), Sh.D.C.Rana, formally welcomed the Chairman, Sh. Onkar Chand Sharma, Additional Chief Secretary (Revenue) to the Government of Himachal Pradesh, along with participants from various stakeholder departments.

3. In his opening remarks, Sh. D.C. Rana briefed the Chair on the decisions taken and directions issued during the meetings held on 21st May 2024 and 19th August 2024 in the CS Committee Room, under the Chairmanship of the Honorable Chief Secretary, Himachal Pradesh. These decisions, outlined in **Annexure B**, were aimed at ensuring their immediate compliance.

4. The Additional Chief Secretary engaged in detailed discussions with stakeholders on this critical issue. To implement effective measures for promoting safe construction practices across the State, the following decisions were made, and directions were issued by the Chair for immediate compliance.

Sr. No.	Agenda Items	Discussion	Decision / Directions
1.	<p>Regulation and Bye – Laws on Safe Construction Practices</p> <p>10(b) - The TCP and UD Departments shall ensure alignment of their Regulations and Bye-Laws as per the latest National Buildings Codes. Both the Departments shall also ensure that the structural aspects of the constructions are also regulated. In addition, there is need to ensure effective monitoring mechanism to ensure compliance with safety norms in all constructions. This exercise may be</p>	<p>Ms. Shailja, State Town Planner, Department of Town & Country Planning, provided an update on the Planning and Special Area Notified Regions in Himachal Pradesh. The state comprises 12 Regions, 60 Planning Areas, and 36 Special Areas, totaling 108 notified regions. Additionally, 59 Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) operate under the Himachal Pradesh Town and Country Planning (HPTCP) Act, 1977. Among the 60 Planning Areas, 22 fall exclusively under ULB jurisdiction. Regulations align with the National Building Code (NBC) and are enforced through Zoning Regulations in Development Plans (DPs). In areas without notified DPs, construction is governed by Appendices 1 to 9 of the HP TCP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director TCP may give comparative analysis in tabular form of the provisions of the National Building code – 2016 and complying rules incorporated in the state TCP rules. • Structural design basis certificate should be taken instead of structural stability certificate to ensure the building is designed as per building code. This can be done starting with housing colonies and critical infrastructure and gradually extended to

	<p>completed by October 2024.</p> <p>10(c) - There is urgent need to regulate all major and commercial constructions activities in the rural areas too. TCP Department to take steps in this direction by October 2024.</p> <p>10(h) - RDD & PR Department to forward the guidelines being framed by them for rural constructions to HPSDMA for comments and suggestions by 15th June 2024. The Department shall also implement the guidelines being developed by the HP SDMA in collaboration with CBRI Roorkee, as and when finalised (October 2024).</p> <p>10(i) - Urban Development Department will also ensure to utilise the services of Geologist and Structural Engineers in the constructions works in urban areas of the State (October 2024).</p>	<p>Rules, 2014.</p> <p>Key regulatory requirements include mandatory Structural Design Reports and Geological Investigation Reports (Soil Investigation Reports) for high-risk buildings. Geological Investigation Reports are essential for construction in landslide-prone areas. Firefighting provisions must comply with NBC 2016, and a Fire NOC is mandatory for buildings above 15 meters. A proposal to amend the HP TCP Rules, 2014, making Fire NOCs mandatory at the approval stage, has been submitted to the Government. A construction buffer zone of 5-7 meters along Nallahs and Khuds was imposed via Notification on 05.08.2024.</p> <p>To enhance safety, a risk-based classification of buildings was introduced on 22.10.2016. Guidelines issued on 25.07.2018 empower field functionaries to act against unauthorized constructions. District Coordination Committees monitor violations, while Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) are integrated into the development permission process.</p> <p>Highway Planning Areas have been designated along key highways, including NH-05, NH-03, NH-88, and NH-154, extending 100 meters from the control width. In compliance with the High Court's directive (CWPIIL No. 13 of 2021), rural construction guidelines were forwarded to the Panchayati Raj Department on 11.10.2023.</p> <p>Amendments to Rule-21 of HP TCP Rules, 2014, ensure stronger safety measures for high-risk</p>	<p>all construction taking place in urban areas. In order to implement this important suggestion this department needs to create cadre of structural engineer in the alternative empanelment structural engineer to examine the structural designs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Urban Development Department may ensure utilization of the services of geologists and structural engineers in construction works across urban areas of the state. The department must also mandate the submission of a comprehensive report from geologists and structural designs before initiating any construction activity to ensure safety and compliance with standards. Will ensure alignment of their Regulations and Bye-Laws as per the latest National Buildings Codes. • The Town and Country Planning (TCP) Department is directed to share a copy of the notification that mandates 100% regulation of all major
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		buildings. These include mandatory Geological Investigation Reports, Structural Design Reports, and Stability Certificates. The Director is authorized to suspend or cancel registrations of non-compliant structural engineers. Proposed amendments also introduce NABL-accredited geologist empanelment criteria.	and commercial construction activities in rural areas too.
2.	<p>Awareness Generation Campaign on Safe Construction Practices</p> <p>10(d) - In order to educate masses about safe construction practices, the DMC may carry out focused IEC campaign involving stakeholder Departments and organizations such as DDMA's, IPR, Departments of UD, RD, TCP, Technical Education, IIT, NIT, IAG Networks of SDMA and DDMA's during celebration of IDDR/Samarth in October 2024.</p>	<p>Sh. D.C. Rana, Director cum Ex-Officio Special Secretary (Revenue - DM), informed the Chair about the successful implementation of SAMARTH-2024 in the month of October, 2024, a month-long initiative focused on safe construction practices across Himachal Pradesh. Various awareness activities were organized throughout the state to promote disaster-resilient construction techniques. As part of this campaign, 148 <i>Nukkad Nataks</i> were also conducted by cultural groups through the Department of Information and Public Relations (IPR) to spread awareness at the grassroots level.</p> <p>He also apprised that HPSDMA has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Central Building Research Institute (CBRI), Roorkee, to train civil engineers in safe construction techniques. To further strengthen this initiative, region-specific guidebooks on safe construction practices have been developed and distributed at the Block & Panchayat level, ensuring accessibility for house owners and engineers. HPSDMA is also continuously sending batches of engineers for specialized training on safe construction practices. These trained engineers will serve as</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Disaster Management Cell (DMC) may organize orientation training programs, in coordination with CBRI Roorkee, for civil engineers from Jal Shakti Vibhag (JSV), Himachal Pradesh Public Works Department (HPPWD), the Electricity Board, HIMUDA and Architect of TCP & PWD to promote disaster-resilient construction practices.

		master trainers to execute a state-sponsored skill development program aimed at masons, carpenters, and bar binders, enhancing their technical expertise in disaster-resilient construction methods.	
3.	<p>Registration of Contractors in Urban and Rural Areas</p> <p>10(f) - The Department of Urban Development and RDD is directed to start registration contractors in urban areas and rural areas who are engaged in construction of houses in order to build their capacity to implement the National Building Codes. This exercise may be completed by October 2024.</p>	No action has been taken by Department of RD.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Department of Urban Development and Rural Development Department (RDD) are directed to initiate and expedite the registration of contractors in urban and rural areas who are engaged in house construction. This initiative aims to build their capacity for implementing the National Building Code and to ensure that a detailed geological report is obtained before any construction activity to prevent potential destruction in the future.
4.	<p>Training & Capacity Building</p> <p>10(g) HPSDMA will organise training of Technical Assistants and Junior Engineers from RDD & PR Department, UD and SSA (Education) on Safe Constructions Practices. Similar trainings be organized for Architects (June to</p>	Sh. Vijay Kumar, Special Secretary, Technical Education to the Government of Himachal Pradesh, apprised the Chair that currently, 363 Technical and Vocational Institutions are functioning under the Department of Technical Education, with 180 institutions in the government sector and 183 in the private sector. He highlighted the development of a Demonstration Park on Safe Construction Practices at the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A master database must be created and maintained to document the details of master trainers trained with DDMA's and relevant departments. This database will ensure proper tracking, utilization, and coordination of the trainers for future

	<p>December 2024).</p> <p>10(i) - The Department of Technical Education, Urban Development, Rural Development, and the Skill Development Corporation will take the lead in the training and capacity building of engineers and masons in safe construction techniques and collaborate with the HPSDMA for implementation of scheme for capacity building of masons, carpenters, and bar binders in the state (September 2024)</p> <p>10(m) - Short type courses may be started in IIT Mandi, NIT Hamirpur, Govt. Engineering and Polytechnic Colleges on safe constructions in the State (December 2024).</p>	<p>Appropriate Training Centre (ATC) Shahpur. A No Objection Certificate (NOC) has been issued to the Principal, Govt. ITI Shahpur, District Kangra (HP), vide letter no. EDNTEH-C001/137/2023-Budget-Section-749046-048 dated 31/12/2024, for its establishment.</p> <p>Regarding the establishment of Housing Facilitation Centres (HFCs), twelve technical institutions across the state have been selected to promote safe construction practices. These institutions include JNGEC Sundernagar, RGEC Nagrota Bagwan, Govt. Hydro Engineering College Bilaspur, Govt. Polytechnic Hamirpur, Govt. Polytechnic Talwar, Govt. Polytechnic Banikhet, Govt. Polytechnic Kullu, Govt. Polytechnic Ambota, Govt. ITI Solan, Govt. ITI Nahan, Govt. Polytechnic Rohru, and Govt. Polytechnic for Women Rehan. The list of Nodal Officers has been forwarded to the State Disaster Management Authority (HPSDMA), and a Video Conference was convened on 29/07/2024 to discuss the commonality and enhancement of the budget for HFC models and related demonstration materials. However, a response from HPSDMA is still awaited.</p> <p>He also informed about short-term training programs for trainers and masons. A total of 103 faculty and staff members from various institutions have been trained in Safe Construction Practices at HIPA Shimla and CBRI Roorkee, sponsored by HIPA. Additionally, 1,531 masons and carpenters have been trained in Safe Construction Practices and</p>	<p>training and capacity-building initiatives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Skill Development Corporation is directed to prepare and present the submitted training proposal during the upcoming Project Appraisal Committee meeting for further deliberation and approval. • To promote safe construction practices, short-term courses may be initiated at IIT Mandi, NIT Hamirpur, and Government Engineering and Polytechnic Colleges across the state. These courses will focus on safe construction techniques and practices, including hands-on training.
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		<p>Earthquake-Resistant Construction in collaboration with District Disaster Management Authorities (DDMAs). These trainings were conducted at the Appropriate Technology Centre (ATC) Sundernagar and various Government Engineering Colleges and Polytechnics in Himachal Pradesh. To further promote safe construction practices, Skill Knowledge Centres have been established in collaboration with cement companies. JNGEC Sundernagar has demonstration models set up by ACC and UltraTech Cement, while RGEC Nagrota Bagwan has models established by UltraTech Cement. These centres aim to enhance knowledge and awareness among trainees, faculty, and masons regarding safe construction techniques. In terms of disaster preparedness, institutions have been directed to constitute Disaster Management Committees along with sub-committees to ensure better preparedness and response during disasters. Mock drills, awareness activities on Disaster Management, and training in Earthquake-Resistant Construction are being conducted in various institutions under the Technical Education Department in collaboration with NDRF, DDMA, Home Guards, and the Fire Brigade Department.</p>	
5.	<p>Flood Zonation Mapping</p> <p>10(o) - Flood Zonation Mapping of all river basins will be conducted by the Jal Shakti Department in</p>	<p>Dr. Dharmendra Gill, Engineer-in-Chief (Project) at Mandi, Jal Shakti Vibhag, apprised the Chair regarding the progress under the Flood Plain Zoning (FPZ) initiative. He informed that an approved scheme titled "Flood Plain Zoning in River Beas from Palchan to Thalout</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Jal Shakti Vibhag is directed to prepare the Preliminary Project Report (PPR) and Detailed Project Report (DPR) for all other river basins also in Himachal Pradesh,

	<p>association with HIMCOSTE in a phased manner (December 2024).</p>	<p>and from Pandoh to Mandi along with its main and sub-tributaries in Himachal Pradesh" has been sanctioned with a total amount of ₹6,61,09,500/- under the State Disaster Mitigation Fund (SDMF). A technical sanction (T/S) of ₹6,26,02,387/- was accorded on 13th December 2024, and the approval process for the Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) is underway. The bidding process is expected to be initiated before 31st January 2025.</p> <p>Dr. Gill further mentioned that estimates for additional Flood Plain Zoning (FPZ) projects are under preparation for schemes that have already been approved by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) - ICC under the FMBAP. The target date for submission of these estimates to TAC is set for 28th February 2025.</p>	<p>similar to the submissions made for the Beas river basin and its main and sub-tributaries. This will support the Flood Zonation Mapping efforts across the state.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The findings of the study must be digitally submitted to the State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA) and made available in the public domain for transparency and wider accessibility.
<p>6.</p>	<p>10(n) The local cement & steel companies will be asked to collaborate with State Govt. to promote safe construction practices.</p>	<p>No action has been taken by Department of Industry.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Department of Industries shall coordinate with local cement and steel companies to collaborate with the State Government in promoting safe construction practices. These companies are expected to actively support awareness campaigns, training programs, and dissemination of guidelines to ensure adherence to safe construction standards across the

			state.
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The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Approved By

Onkar Chand Sharma , IAS

Additional Chief Secretary, (Revenue – DM) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh

Endst. No. Rev.(DMC) (F) 11-01/2022-SEC Dated: Shimla the 30th January, 2025

Copy for the information & necessary action to:

1. All the concerned Administrative Secretaries.
2. The Director, Town & Country Planning SDA Complex, Shimla-9
3. The Director, Rural Development, SDA Complex, Shimla-9
4. The Director, Urban Development, Tolland Shimla
5. The Engineer-in-Chief, PWD, NiganVihar, Shimla-2
6. The Engineer-in-Chief, IPH, Jal Shakti Bhawan, Shimla-4
7. The Member Secretary, HIMCOSTE, Shimla-9
8. The Director, Technical Education, Sundernagar, District Mandi
9. The Director, Higher Education, Lal Pani, Shimla-1
10. The Director, Elementary Education, Lal Pani, Shimla-1
11. The Director, Department of Industries, Shimla
12. The Director, I&PR, Shimla
13. The Managing Director, HP Kaushal Vikas Nigam, Shimla-9
14. The Project Director, Samagra Shiksha, Shimla-1
15. The Director, IIT-Mandi, Kamand, Mandi, HP
16. The Director, CSIR – CBRI Roorkee – 247 667 Uttarakhand
17. The Director, NIT-Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh
18. The Chairman, Institute of Engineers, Shimla-2


30/01/25
D.C. Rana, IAS

Director cum Ex Officio
Special Secretary (Revenue – DM) to the HP

The following officers and officials from different departments participated in the meeting:-

1. Sh. Rajesh Sharma, Secretary (RD&PR) to the GoHP
2. Sh. D.C. Rana, Director cum ExOfficio Special Secretary (Rev. DM) to the GoHP
3. Sh. Vijay Kumar, Spl. Secretary, Technical Education to the GoHP
4. Dr. Dharmendra Gill, Engineer-in-Chief (Project) at Mandi, Jal Shakti Vibhag
5. Er. Ajay Kumar, Superintending Engineer, HPPWD, Shimla.
6. Sh. Jagan Thakur, Addl. Director, UD, Shimla.
7. Sh. Dinesh Sharma, Joint Director, Technical Education
8. Er. Sanjeev Sharma, State Project Engineer, Samgra Shiksha
9. Dr. Chhaya Wani, Assistant Director, Elementary Education
10. Ms. Shailja, State Town Planner, TCP
11. Er. Raj Kumar, Executive Engineer, HIMUDA / UD
12. Sh. Sanjay Kumar, General Manager, HPKVN, Shimla.
13. Ms. Sapna, Incharge DM Cell Higher Education, DHE Shimla.
14. Ms. Sumita , APRO, Information & Public Relations, Shimla
15. Er. Sanjeev Kumar Makhaik, Assistant Engineer, RDD Hq.
16. Technical Officer , Technical Education, Shimla
17. Ms. Anita Rana, Suptd. Gr-II, Elementary Education
18. Sh. Kapil Bhardwaj, Sector Specialist (Trg.), HPKVN
19. Er. Ranjeet Singh, Junior Engineer, RDD Hq.
20. Sh. Vinod Sharma, AC (F&A), Rev. DMC - HPSDMA
21. Dr. Krishan Chand, Training & Capacity Building Specialist, Rev. DMC - HPSDMA

Proceedings of the Meeting held under the Chairmanship of Sh. Prabodh Saxena, Chief Secretary, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh on 21st May, 2024, 3:30 PM at CS Committee Room, Eilerslie Building, HP Secretariat, Shimla regarding “Safe Construction Practices, need of Regulation, Effective Techno-Legal Regime in Himachal Pradesh”.

The list of Participants is at Annexure – A.

2. Considering the impact of the recent disaster on the housing sector that has affected a total of 24885 houses comprising pucca, semi-pucca, kutcha houses, huts and cattle sheds and the impending threat in the event of an earthquake leading to widespread damage and destruction to this sector, the Government felt the need to take concrete steps in this sector to make the houses as disaster resilient. To move ahead in this direction, a meeting was organised under the Chairmanship of Sh. Prabodh Saxena, Chief Secretary, Government of Himachal Pradesh to have discussions on this issue of vital importance so as to make to the housing sector in all types of construction especially the rural constructions to be disaster resilient adopting safe construction practices. The meeting was organised on 21st May 2024 in the CS Committee Room from 3.30 PM onwards in hybrid mode.

3. At the outset of the meeting, Director-cum-Ex Officio Special Secretary (Revenue-DM), Sh. D.C. Rana, formally welcomed the Chairman, Sh. Prabodh Saxena, Chief Secretary of Himachal Pradesh, and the other participants from various stakeholder departments. Sh. D.C. Rana in his opening remarks, briefed the Chair about the major objectives of the discussions considering the multi-hazard vulnerability of the State especially the increasing threat of earthquakes due to large seismic gap in terms of the major earthquakes like that of Kangra 1905 and to work on the lines to develop earthquake resilient infrastructure by way of having safe construction practices and regulations across the State especially the rural constructions.

4. Further Sh. D.C. Rana presented an overview on the hazard vulnerability of the State with special reference to the High Seismic Vulnerability of the State. He also apprised the Chair that about 32% of the total geographical area of the State falls in Very High Damage Risk Zone (Zone V) and the remaining in the High Damage Risk Zone (Zone IV) of the Seismic Map of India. He explained that the northward movement of the Indian Plate and its subduction beneath the Eurasian Plate which is moving south wards, as a result which lot of earthquakes have occurred along the plate boundary margin in the Himalayan region. He highlighted that 297 earthquakes of magnitude 3+ have occurred in and around Himachal Pradesh from April 1905 to the present. He discussed the Kangra Earthquake of 1905, showing pre- and post-impact examples, and emphasized that current construction practices have significantly increased the vulnerability. He was of the opinion that that has happened because of the non-compliance with Indian Standard codal provisions in both RCC and masonry constructions, incorrect slab reinforcement practices, and inadequate training of construction workers. He also pointed out issues with retaining wall construction lacking proper drainage/weep holes, etc.

5. He further said that in view of the projections made by different scientist for the occurrence of high magnitude earthquakes along the Himalayan range by virtue of the large seismic gap for major

earthquakes, there is great need to enhance and built the capacity of local masons, and bar binders and Junior Engineers or Technical Assistants involved in the construction activities at the Block level. He highlighted findings from the Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) of the monsoon of 2023, which revealed that there was a significant damage in the housing sector, affecting 22,897 households. The major cause for this damage was mainly the non-compliance with building norms, lack of building bye-laws in rural areas, unsafe construction practices, and ignorance about hazard profiles. He explained his view about the extent of damage in case of the earthquakes that happened in 1819 and then 2001 in Gujarat vis-a-vis the effectiveness of the EWS in case of Cyclones at the nation level.

6. The meeting was also apprised about the initiatives by the State Executive Committee (SEC). In 2012, a SEC Sub-Committee, chaired by the Principal Secretary of TCP & UD, was formed to finalize Model Building Bye-Laws and propose amendments to the TCP Act. The Committee's report led to the amendment of the TCP Act and proposal of the adoption of new Model Building Bye-Laws by all Urban Local Bodies (ULBs). But UD Department has not reported any compliance ever since, despite numerous reminders. The DMC has engaged the Central Building Research Institute (CBRI) Roorkee to develop guidelines for safe construction practices and has initiated regular training and capacity building for engineers and architects.

7. It was also highlighted that the State Disaster Management Authority's (SDMA) scheme, was launched on October 13th, 2018, to train masons, bar binders, carpenters, and other construction workers. The scheme, targeting 16,130 masons across 3,226 panchayats, had an estimated cost of 9.10 crore, with an initial instalment of Rs. 1.83 crore already released. As of now, 1,491 masons have been trained, though activities were disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Training has resumed but is not progressing as anticipated.

8. Thereafter, Ar. S. K. Negi & Dr. Ajay Chourasia Chief Scientists from the Structural Engineering Division at CBRI Roorkee, presented "Aapda Kavach," an initiative aimed at enhancing disaster resilience and promoting safe construction practices in Himachal Pradesh. SDMA with the technical collaboration of CBRI Roorkee is developing Guidelines for the Safe Construction Practices. These guidelines will exclusively for the houses being constructed in rural areas and separately for the constructions being governed by RDD Department at the Panchayat level.

9. After the brief overview to the Chair and the participants, the discussions were held addressing various issues with reference to the safe construction practices: -

- a) Implementation of a techno-legal regime, including Model Building Bye-Laws and Risk Sensitive Land Use Planning.
- b) Strengthening and enforcing building bye-laws.
- c) Addressing gaps in existing building regulations for hill towns.
- d) Establishing robust monitoring mechanisms for government construction projects.
- e) Incorporating water management, landslide, and slope stability in town planning.

- f) Implementing flood zonation regulations.
- g) Promoting and building capacity for non-engineering constructions, including confined masonry.
- h) Encouraging institutions to promote safe, earthquake-resistant construction practices at the grassroots level.
- i) Establishing demonstration units to showcase safe construction techniques.
- j) Promoting safe construction practices through Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) efforts.
- k) Training and capacity building for masons, carpenters, and bar binders.
- l) Developing a Technical Demonstration Centre at the Government Engineer College and ATC Shahpur.
- m) Establishing Housing Facilitation Centres in all districts.
- n) Coordinating with cement and steel companies to promote safe construction practices.

Discussion and Decisions

10. Chief Secretary, Govt of Himachal Pradesh had very detailed discussions with the stakeholders on this important issue. In order to have effective measures to ensure safe construction practises across the State, the following decisions were taken and directions were issued by the Chair for its immediate compliance: -

- a) The SEC may consider to issue an order by **July 2024** under the DM Act 2005 mandating multi-hazard resistant construction as per the National Building Codes in the State.

(Action by DM Cell, Department of Revenue)

- b) The TCP and UD Departments shall ensure alignment of their Regulations and Bye-Laws as per the latest National Buildings Codes. Both the Departments shall also ensure that the structural aspects of the contractions are also regulated. In addition, there is need to ensure effective monitoring mechanism to ensure compliance with safety norms in all constructions. This exercise may be completed by **October 2024**.

(Action by TCP and UD Departments)

- c) There is urgent need to regulate all major and commercial contractions activities in the rural areas too. TCP Department to take steps in this direction by **October 2024**.

(Action by TCP Department)

- d) In order to educate masses about safe construction practices, the DMC may carry out focused IEC campaign involving stakeholder Departments and organisations such as DDMA, IPR,

Departments of UD, RD, TCP, Technical Education, IIT, NIT, IAG Networks of SDMA and DDMA's during celebration of IDDR/Samarth in **October 2024**.

(Action by DM Cell, Department of Revenue, TCP, UD, RD, I&PR, DDMA's, Technical Education)

- e) The UD Department shall share list of ULBs which have adopted Model Building Bye Laws approved by SEC/TCP regulations, indicating date of adoption by **June 2024**.

(Action by UD Department)

- f) The Department of Urban Development and RDD is directed to start registration contractors in urban areas and rural areas who are engaged in construction of houses in order to build their capacity to implement the National Building Codes. This exercise may be completed by **October 2024**.

(Action by UD & RDD)

- g) HPSDMA will organise training of Technical Assistants and Junior Engineers from RDD & PR Department, UD and SSA (Education) on Safe Constructions Practices. Similar trainings be organised for Architects (**June to December 2024**).

(Action by DM Cell, Department of Revenue, RDD &PR, UD, SSA, TCP)

- h) RDD & PR Department to forward the guidelines being framed by them for rural constructions to HPSDMA for comments and suggestions by 15th **June 2024**. The Department shall also implement the guidelines being developed by the HP SDMA in collaboration with CBRI Roorkee, as and when finalised (**October 2024**).

(Action by RDD & PR)

- i) The Department of Technical Education, Urban Development, Rural Development, and the Skill Development Corporation will take the lead in the training and capacity building of engineers and masons in safe construction techniques and collaborate with the HPSDMA for implementation of scheme for capacity building of masons, carpenters, and bar binders in the state (**September 2024**).

(Action by DM Cell, Department of Revenue, Technical Education, Skill Development Corporation)

- j) Director Technical Education will expedite for issuing NOC in favour of ATC Shahpur for building a Demonstration Structure Park on Safe Constructions which would have the joint ownership in public interest by **June 2024**. To develop this park, a MoU has been signed by HIMCOSTE with CBRI Roorkee.

(Action by Technical Education Department)

- k) Director Technical Education will also expedite the matter of establishing Housing Facilitation Centre (HFC) for which SDMA has already requested Technical Education department. These facilitation Centre would help in promoting safe construction culture in the State and in implementing the SDMA's scheme of training of masons, carpenters and bar binders. The Director Technical Education to provide information by **June 2024**.

(Action by Technical Education Department)

- l) Urban Development Department will also ensure to utilise the services of Geologist and Structural Engineers in the constructions works in urban areas of the State (**October 2024**).

(Action by UD and TCP Departments)

- m) Short type courses may be started in IIT Mandi, NIT Hamirpur, Govt. Engineering and Polytechnic Colleges on safe constructions in the State (**December 2024**).

(Action by IIT Mandi, NIT Hamirpur, Director Technical Education)

- n) The local cement & steel companies will be asked to collaborate with State Govt. to promote safe construction practices (**July 2024**).

(Action by HP SDMA & DDMA's)

- o) Flood Zonation Mapping of all river basins will be conducted by the Jal Shakti Department in association with HIMCOSTE in a phased manner (**December 2024**).

(Action by JSV & HIMCOSTE)

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair

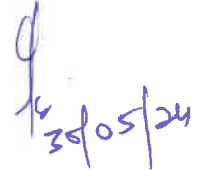
Approved By

Prabodh Saxena, IAS
Chief Secretary,

Endst. No. Rev. (DMC) (F) 11-01/2022-SEC Dated: Shimla the May, 2024

Copy for the information & necessary action to:

1. All the concerned Administrative Secretaries.
2. The Director, Town & Country Planning SDA Complex, Shimla-9
3. The Director, Rural Development, SDA Complex, Shimla-9
4. The Director, Urban Development, Tolland Shimla
5. The Engineer-in-Chief, PWD, Nigan Vihar, Shimla-2
6. The Engineer-in-Chief, IPH, Jal Shakti Bhawan, Shimla-4
7. The Member Secretary, HIMCOSTE, Shimla-9
8. The Director, Technical Education, Sundernagar, District Mandi
9. The Director, Higher Education, Lal Pani, Shimla-1
10. The Director, Elementary Education, Lal Pani, Shimla-1
11. The Managing Director, HP Kaushal Vikas Nigam, Shimla-9
12. The Project Director, Samagra Shiksha, Shimla-1
13. The Director, IIT-Mandi, Kamand, Mandi, HP
14. The Director, CSIR – CBRI Roorkee – 247 667 Uttarakhand
15. The Director, NIT-Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh
16. The Chairman, Institute of Engineers, Shimla-2



D.C. Rana, IAS
Director cum Ex Officio
Special Secretary (Revenue – DM) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh

Annexure - A

The following officers and officials from different departments participated in the meeting:-

1. Sh. Kamal Kant Saroch, IAS, Director, Town and Country Planning
2. Sh. D.C. Rana, IAS, Director-cum-Ex Officio Spl. Secretary (Rev-DM) to GoHP
3. Sh. Akshay Sood, Director, Technical Education
4. Sh. Jagan Thakur, Additional Director, Urban Development
5. Sh. Keval Sharma, Additional Director, Panchayati Raj
6. Sh. Sanjeev Sood, Additional Director, Higher Education
7. Er. Ajay Soni, S.E., HPPWD Shimla
8. Er. Mukesh Hira, SE, P & I-I, JSV
9. Dr. Pardeep Kumar, Associate Professor, NIT Hamirpur
10. Sh. Naresh Kumar, GM, HP Kaushal Vikas Nigam
11. Dr. S. C. Attri, Joint Member Secretary, ATC HIMCOSTE
12. Sh. K.C. Nanta, TCP (Headquarter)
13. Sh. Rajesh Chandel, Executive Engineer, RD & PR
14. Dr. D. Swami, Dean (I&S), IIT Mandi
15. Sh. Chaman Thakur, State Nodal Officer-DM, Elementary Education
16. Dr. Sumesh Thakur, State Nodal Officer PMSHRI, Samagra Shiksha
17. Dr. S.S.Randhawa, Principal Scientific Officer, DMC-HPSDMA
18. Sh. Parveen Bhardwaj, Disaster Management Specialist, DMC-HPSDMA
19. Dr. Krishan Chand, Training & Capacity Building Specialist, DMC-HPSDMA

Participants who joined virtually:-

1. Ar. S.K.Negi, Chief Scientist ,CBRI Roorkee
2. Dr. Ajay Chaurasia, Chief Scientist, CBRI Roorkee
3. Sh. Ashish Pipal, Scientist, CBRI Roorkee
4. Sh. H.K.Jain, Retd. Technical Officer, CBRI Roorkee

Proceedings of the Review Meeting held under the Chairmanship of Sh. Prabodh Saxena, Chief Secretary, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh on 19th August, 2024, 3:00 PM at CS Committee Room, Ellerslie Building, HP Secretariat, Shimla regarding “Safe Construction Practices, need of Regulation, Effective Techno-Legal Regime in Himachal Pradesh”.

The list of Participants is at Annexure – A.

2. At the outset of the meeting, Director-cum-Ex Officio Special Secretary (Revenue-DM), Sh.D.C.Rana, formally welcomed the Chairman, Sh. Prabodh Saxena, Worthy Chief Secretary of Himachal Pradesh, along with the participants from various stakeholder departments. In his opening remarks, Sh. D.C. Rana briefed the Chair on the decisions made and directions issued during the previous meeting held on 21st May 2024 in the CS Committee Room, which was conducted in hybrid mode. He also apprised the Chair on the actions taken by the stakeholder departments which is annexed at **Annexed at B**.

3. The Worthy Chief Secretary of the Government of Himachal Pradesh held in-depth discussions with stakeholders on this critical issue. He expressed displeasure for not taking any action by some departments on points pertaining to them. To implement effective measures for ensuring safe construction practices across the State, the following decisions were made, and directions were issued by the Chair for immediate compliance:

- a) All stakeholder departments directed to submit their feedback on the draft order concerning safe construction practices, the need for regulation and an effective techno-legal regime in Himachal Pradesh, as shared by the DM Cell, Department of Revenue, via letter No. Rev. (DMC)(F) 11-01/2022 – SEC dated 10th July, 2024. **(Action by all stakeholders is required by 31st August 2024)**. Copy attached at **Annexure – C**.
- b) The Departments of Town & Country Planning, Urban Development, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Jal Shakti Vibhag, Information & Public Relations, Technical Education, Education, Skill Development Corporation, IIT Mandi, and NIT Hamirpur will prepare a detailed presentation on action plan to implement decision w.r.t their department /organisation. Department / Organisation wise issues on which PPT is to be made at **Annexure - D. (Action by all stakeholders)**.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair.


Approved By

Prabodh Saxena, IAS
Chief Secretary,
Himachal Pradesh

Endst. No. Rev.(DMC) (F) 11-01/2022-SEC Dated: Shimla the August, 2024

Copy for the information & necessary action to:

1. All the concerned Administrative Secretaries.
2. The Director, Town & Country Planning SDA Complex, Shimla-9
3. The Director, Rural Development, SDA Complex, Shimla-9
4. The Director, Urban Development, Tolland Shimla
5. The Engineer-in-Chief, PWD, NiganVihar, Shimla-2
6. The Engineer-in-Chief, IPH, Jal Shakti Bhawan, Shimla-4
7. The Member Secretary, HIMCOSTE, Shimla-9
8. The Director, Technical Education, Sundernagar, District Mandi
9. The Director, Higher Education, Lal Pani, Shimla-1
10. The Director, Elementary Education, Lal Pani, Shimla-1
11. The Director, Department of Industries, Shimla
12. The Director, I&PR, Shimla
13. The Managing Director, HP Kaushal Vikas Nigam, Shimla-9
14. The Project Director, Samagra Shiksha, Shimla-1
15. The Director, IIT-Mandi, Kamand, Mandi, HP
16. The Director, CSIR – CBRI Roorkee – 247 667 Uttarakhand
17. The Director, NIT-Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh
18. The Chairman, Institute of Engineers, Shimla-2


23/8/24

D.C. Rana, IAS

Director cum Ex Officio
Special Secretary (Revenue – DM) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh

The following officers and officials from different departments participated in the meeting:-

1. Sh. Gopal Sharma, Director , UD
2. Sh. Raghav Sharma, Director , RD
3. Sh. Sanjeev Sood, Additional Director, Department of Higher Education
4. Sh. Anupam Kumar, Additional Director, Technical Education
5. Sh. Rupan Sehgal, SPE, Samagra Shiksha
6. Sh. K.C. Nanta, State Town Planner, TCP
7. Sh. Chaman Thakur, Education Department
8. Er. Sumit Sood, SE, Jal Shakti Vibhag
9. Er. Ajay Soni, SE, HPPWD
10. Er. Karam Chand Sharma, EE(W) , HPPWD
11. Er. Rajesh Chandel, EE, RD&PR
12. Dr. Krishan Chand, Training & Capacity Building Specialist, DMC-HPSDMA

Participants who joined virtually:-

1. Dr. Ajay Chaurasia, Chief Scientist, CBRI Roorkee
2. Dr. S.S. Randhawa, Principal Scientific Officer, DMC – HPSDMA / HIMCOSTE
3. The Director, NIT Hamirpur



Agenda



Review Meeting on “Safe Construction Practices, Need of Regulation, Effective Techno – Legal Regime in Himachal Pradesh” 19-08-2024

To ensure the implementation of effective measures for safe construction practices across the State, the following decisions were made, and directions were issued by the Chair during the meeting held on May 21st, 2024, for immediate compliance:

Sr. No.	Decision / Direction	Action By	ATR
10(a)	The SEC may consider to issue an order by July 2024 under the DM Act 2005 mandating multi- hazard resistant construction as per the National Building Codes in the State.	DM Cell, Department of Revenue	Feedback on the draft order on safe construction practices, nee of Regulation, Effective Techno – Legal Regime in HP has been shared with stakeholder departments vide letter No. Rev.(DMC)(F) 11-01/2022 – SEC dated 10 th July, 2024.
10(b)	The TCP and UD Departments shall ensure alignment of their Regulations and Bye-Laws as per the latest National Buildings Codes. Both the Departments shall also ensure that the structural aspects of the constructions are also regulated. In addition, there is need to ensure effective monitoring mechanism to ensure compliance with safety norms in all constructions. This exercise may be completed by October 2024 .	TCP and UD Departments	ATR Awaited
10(c)	There is urgent need to regulate all major and commercial constructions activities in the rural areas too. TCP Department to take steps in this direction by October 2024 .	TCP Department	ATR Awaited
10(d)	In order to educate masses about safe construction practices, the DMC may carry out focused IEC campaign involving stakeholder Departments and organisations such as DDMA's, IPR, Departments of UD, RD, TCP, Technical Education, IIT, NIT, IAG	DM Cell, Department of Revenue, TCP, UD, RD, I&PR, DDMA's, Technical Education	A meeting with stakeholder departments was held on July 29 th , 2024, to discuss "Safe Construction Practices" and to plan a statewide campaign scheduled for October 2024.

	Networks of SDMA and DDMAS during celebration of IDDR/Samarth in October 2024.		
10(e)	The UD Department shall share list of ULBs which have adopted Model Building Bye Laws approved by SEC/TCP regulations, indicating date of adoption by June 2024.	UD Department	In this concern, a letter No. UD-H-(F) 1/2005-IV-TCP 7682-83 dated 4 th July, 2024 received from the Director of Urban Development, Himachal Pradesh. The letter includes the list of ULBs (60 Nos.) where TCP bye-laws have been adopted and indicates that Urban Local Bodies in Himachal Pradesh have adopted TCP Rules, 2016; as their Municipal Building Bye-Laws since 2015. Furthermore, the powers of the Director, TCP, have been delegated to Commissioners, Executive Officers, and Secretaries of the ULBs for planning permission under the HP TCP Act, 1977
10(f)	The Department of Urban Development and RDD is directed to start registration contractors in urban areas and rural areas who are engaged in construction of houses in order to build their capacity to implement the National Building Codes. This exercise may be completed by October 2024.	UD & RDD	ATR awaited
10(g)	HPSDMA will organise training of Technical Assistants and Junior Engineers from RDD & PR Department, UD and SSA (Education) on Sale Constructions Practices. Similar trainings be organised for Architects (June to December 2024).	DM Cell, Department of Revenue, RDD & PR, UD, SSA, TCP	Training to JE/TA proposed at CBRI Roorkee in two Batches of 30 - 35 each from 19 th to 23 rd August and 2 nd to 6 th September, 2024. ATR from UD, SSA & TCP Awaited
10(h)	RDD & PR Department to forward the guidelines being framed by them for rural constructions to HPSDMA for comments and suggestions by 15th June 2024. The Department shall also	RDD & PR	The RDD & PR Department submitted a draft of the Rural Areas Development Guidelines – 2023 for review. After evaluation, the comments were

	implement the guidelines being developed by the HP SDMA in collaboration with CBRI Roorkee, as and when finalised (October 2024).		shared with the RDD & PR Department for consideration vide letter No. Rev. (DMC)(F) 11-01/2022 – SEC, dated July 5th, 2024.
10(i)	The Department of Technical Education, Urban Development, Rural Development, and the Skill Development Corporation will take the lead in the training and capacity building of engineers and masons in safe construction techniques and collaborate with the HPSDMA for implementation of scheme for capacity building of masons, carpenters, and bar binders in the state (September 2024)	DM Cell, Department of Revenue, Technical Education, Skill Development Corporation	ATR Awaited
10(j)	Director Technical Education will expedite for issuing NOC in favour of ATC Shahpur for building a Demonstration Structure Park on Safe Constructions which would have the joint ownership in public interest by June 2024. To develop this park, a MoU has been signed by HIMCOSTE with CBRI Roorkee.	Technical Education Department	ATR Awaited
10(k)	Director Technical Education will also expedite the matter of establishing Housing Facilitation Centre (HFC) for which SDMA has already requested Technical Education department. These facilitation Centre would help in promoting safe construction culture in the State and in Implementing the SDMA's scheme of training of masons, carpenters and bar binders. The Director Technical Education to provide information by June 2024 .	Technical Education Department	Concept note has been shared with the Director of Technical Education vide letter No. Rev. (DMC)(F) 11-01/2022 – SEC, dated July 18 th , 2024 and hold a meeting on August 12 th , 2024, to gain further clarity on the concept note regarding the establishment of HFC Resource Centers at Technical Institutes under the scheme "Training of Masons, Carpenters, and Bar Binders on Hazard-Resistant Construction."
10(l)	Urban Development Department will also ensure to utilise the services of Geologist and Structural Engineers in the constructions works in urban areas	UD and TCP Departments	ATR Awaited

	of the State (October 2024).		
10(m)	Short type courses may be started in IIT Mandi, NIT Hamirpur, Govt. Engineering and Polytechnic Colleges on safe constructions in the State (December 2024).	IIT Mandi, NIT Hamirpur, Director Technical Education	ATR Awaited
10(n)	The local cement & steel companies will be asked to collaborate with State Govt. to promote safe construction practices.	HP SDMA & DDMA's	Letter sent to Cement companies vide letter No. REV-DM-F007/2/2024-REV-DM-HIMACHAL PRADESH SECRETARIAT dated 11 th July, 2024 regarding Collaboration with Local Cement & Steel Companies for Promoting Safe Construction Practices and ATR awaited.
10(o)	Flood Zonation Mapping of all river basins will be conducted by the Jal Shakti Department in association with HIMCOSTE in a phased manner (December 2024).	JSV & HIMCOSTE	HPSDMA has requested the Jal Shakti Vibhag, Himachal Pradesh, vide letter No. Rev.(DMC)-(F)(1) 4/2020-FPZ dated 9th July, 2024, to expedite the process of enacting the Flood Plain Zoning Regulation. This action aims to ensure the safety and resilience of the state against future flood events. The Draft Technical Guidelines on Flood Plain Zoning (FPZ), received from the Ministry of Jal Shakti, GoI, have been shared by HPSDMA with the Jal Shakti Vibhag for examination and comments vide letter No. Rev. (DMC)-(F)(1) 4/2020 - FPZ dated 3 rd August, 2024.

— Any other agenda item with the permission of Chair

No. Rev. (DMC)(F) 11-01/2022-SEC
Revenue Department (DMC)
Government of Himachal Pradesh

From

The Addl. Chief Secretary (Rev-DM) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-2

To

1. The Director, Rural Dev. Department, SDA Complex, Shimla-9
2. The Director, T&CP, SDA Complex, Shimla-9
3. The Director, Urban Dev. Palika Bhawan, Shimla-2
4. The Director, Technical Education, Sunder Nagar, Mandi, HP
5. The Engineer in Chief, JSV, Tuttikandi, Shimla-4
6. The Engineer in Chief, PWD, Nigam Vihar, Shimla-2
7. The Director, IIT-Mandi, Kamand, Distt. Mandi, Himachal Pradesh
8. The Director, NIT-Hamirpur, District Hamirpur 177005
9. The State Project Office, Samagra Shiksha, DPEP Bhawan, Shimla-1

Dated Shimla-2, the July, 2024

Subject: Feedback on the draft order on Safe Construction Practices, need of Regulation, Effective Techno-Legal Regime in Himachal Pradesh

Sir,

Taking a serious note of the damage and destruction in the housing sector during 2023 Monsoon disaster, wherein a total of 24885 houses comprising pucca, semi pucca, kutcha houses, huts and cattle shed were affected and the considering the high seismic vulnerability of the State, the Government felt the need to take concrete steps for making this sector to be disaster resilient. Thus, in this context, a meeting was organized on 21st May 2024 under the Chairmanship of Worthy Chief Secretary, Government of Himachal Pradesh to discuss and ponder upon various mitigation measures for adopting safe construction practices, need of regulation and an effective techno-legal regime in the state to make the housing sector disaster resilient. Accordingly, as a follow up of the discussions and the minutes of the meeting (copy enclosed), HPSDMA tried to finalize an order, so as to make all types of constructions especially the rural construction to be disaster resilient adopting safe construction practices.

In view of the aforesaid, I am directed to forward the copy of the draft order to seek your comments and suggestions for further improvement as per the directions of Worthy Chief Secretary, before it is placed in the next State Executive Meeting (SEC) to be held shortly. You are, therefore, requested to kindly give your feedback within a weeks' time, so that we may apprise Chief Secretary accordingly and place it in the SEC meeting for approval and further implementation at the ground level.

Yours faithfully,

9
14/07/24

(D.C. Rana)
Director-cum-Spl. Secy. (Rev-DM)
Government of Himachal Pradesh

Endst. No.: As above

Dated, Shimla-2, the July 2024

Copy forwarded to:

1. The Addl. Chief Secretary/Pr. Secy/Secy (Jal Shakti, PWD, Urban Development, Rural Development, Education and Technical Education) to the Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-2
2. The Special P.S. to the Chief Secretary, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-2 for kind information of Worthy Chief Secretary, please.



**Director-cum-Spl. Secy. (Rev-DM)
Government of Himachal Pradesh**

**Government of Himachal Pradesh
Department of Revenue,
Disaster Management Cell (DMC)**

No. Rev. (DMC) (F) 11-01/2022-SEC

Dated: Shimla the

July, 2024

ORDER

WHEREAS, the State of Himachal Pradesh, by virtue of its topographical location and tectonic set up is environmentally very fragile and highly prone to multiple hazards, particularly earthquakes, landslides, floods, GLOFs, and snow avalanches. Out of the 33 hazards identified by High Powered Committee (HPC) of Government of India for the country, the State of HP is prone to 25 hazards. Besides, the State is also confronting emerging threats of climate change and climate induced hazards such as extreme weather events;

WHEREAS, considering the high multi-hazard vulnerability of the State, high seismicity along this part of the Himalayan Region renders the State highly vulnerable to earthquakes. Around 32% of the total geographical area of the State falls in Very High Damage Risk Zone (Zone V) and the remaining areas falls in High Damage Risk Zone (Zone IV) as per the Seismic map of India. The 1905 Kangra earthquake resulted in collapse of around one lakh house and killed around 20,000 people. Historical records show that the State has been rocked by about 300 earthquakes of magnitude more than 3.0 on Richter Scale since the Great Kangra earthquake of 1905. The records also show that the Indian Himalayan Region (IHR) has witnessed six large earthquakes with magnitude of more than 7.0 between 1833 and 1950 and now there is gap in terms of occurrence of a major earthquake since 1950 in the IHR. In view of this, several studies have predicted that a major earthquake is pending over IHR due to a large period gap. In this context, if a major earthquake like that of Kangra Earthquake strikes again in this part of the Himalayas, a hypothetical scenario projected by Prof. A.S. Arya based on 1991 census of HP reveals that there will be about 65000 deaths in case if all buildings are without earthquake resistant features and if the buildings are with earthquake resistant features, the death toll would be around 12,000. Revenue loses will be Rs. 51040 Million and Rs.19600 Million respectively in case of both situations. Thereafter, another projection was made by a National Disaster Management Authority led study which revealed that based on the current housing stock, if 1905 Kangra like earthquake occurs

with its epicenter in Sundernagar, Mandi, total deaths would be around 2.3% and number of injured persons could be as high as 16% of the State population (As per 2011 Census). Very high rate of fatality in 1905 Kangra earthquake and two scenarios painted thereafter clearly establish that the high figures of deaths/projected deaths and projected injuries is mainly attributed to poor construction quality of houses. From this discussion one thing is clear that one of the main causes of high vulnerability of the State to earthquake hazard is absence of earthquake resistant feature in our construction practices;

Whereas, alongside, the State is also witnessing the rapid growth in building stock. Around 85% of the built-up environment comes under the informal sector, which is basically unregulated and non-engineered. Majority of such constructions are taking place in the rural areas. The increasing demand of the thriving economy has generated high demand of construction activities in the State, and RCC structures have gained rampant popularity. Around 90% population of the State resides in the rural area where construction activities are unregulated and lack hazard resistant features. Quality of construction within Municipal boundaries and TCP regulated areas undertaken in non-Govt. sector is also far from satisfactory. Unregulated development in Himachal Pradesh, in the fragile mountainous ecosystems, has added to the vulnerability of the State creating a cascade of environmental and infrastructural challenges, amplifying the disaster risks in the region. The drive for urbanization and tourism has led to rapid construction activities. Often, these constructions ignore essential guidelines, leading to establishments on unstable slopes or floodplains. Such development compromises natural drainage systems and makes areas susceptible to landslides, particularly during the monsoon seasons;

WHEREAS, during the 2023 Monsoon disaster, wherein the housing sector was badly hit and around 24000 structures, comprising pucca, semi pucca and kutcha houses, huts and cattle sheds were either completely or partially damaged. As per the Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) study carried out by the DMC, Department of Revenue the housing sector alone suffered loss to the tune of Rs. 2300 crore approx. As per this study the main reason for large scale loss and damage in housing sector was attributed mainly to non compliance of the standard codal provisions for safe construction practices construction in flood plains and inadequate training of construction workers in safe construction practices, construction in high and unsafe slopes, etc.;

WHEREAS, in order to reduce the vulnerability of the housing sector owing to increasing impending threats of earthquakes in Himachal Himalaya, the State Government under the provisions of Disaster Management Act 2005 (DM Act 2005) has taken various initiatives. Some of the initiatives of the State Executive Committee (SEC) consists of constitution of SEC Sub Committee in 2012 under the

Chairmanship of Principal Secretary (TCP&UD) to finalize the Model Building Bye Laws and to propose necessary amendment in the TCP Act. The recommendations of the Committee led to amend the TCP Act and approval of proposal for the adoption of new Model Building Bye-Laws by all Urban Local Bodies (ULBs). Government has also launched a number of schemes/programs such as training of masons, structural safety audit of lifeline buildings and retrofitting thereof, safe schools and hospitals programs, capacity building of Engineers, Architects, etc. The State Policy on Disaster Management 2012 lays emphasis on promoting multi-hazard resistant safe construction practices. The SEC has also recommended regulating construction in the rural area. DMC is also in the process of preparing guidelines for safe construction practices by house owners and compendium for multi-hazard safe constructions practices for Rural Development Department;

WHEREAS, poor and unsafe construction practices in the informal sector is the main reason for high vulnerability of the State to plethora of hazards she faces and the steps taken so far need to be further consolidated in order to promote multi-hazard resistant and safe construction practices. Under clause (d), Sub Section (2) of Section 18 of The Disaster Management Act, 2005 (Act No. 53 of 2005), the State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA) may "lay down guidelines to be followed by the Departments of the State Government for the purposes of integration of measures for prevention of disasters and mitigation measures in their development plans and projects and provide necessary technical assistance therefore". The detailed Guidelines for various Departments were issued by the HPSDMA during the year 2012. Under Section 41 (1) (c) of the DM Act all local authorities have been mandated to "ensure all construction projects under it or within its jurisdiction conform to the standards and specifications laid down for prevention of disasters and mitigation by the National Authority, State Authority and the District Authority";

WHEREAS, under Section 22 (2) (b) of the Act, the SEC has duty to "examine the vulnerability of different parts of the State to different forms of disasters and specify measures to be taken for their prevention or mitigation". Further as per Section 22 (2) (i) of the Act, the SEC is to "promote general education, awareness and community training in regard to the forms of disasters to which the State are vulnerable and the measures that may be taken by such community to prevent the disaster, mitigate and respond to such disasters" and sub Section (m) of Section 22 (2) of the Act empowers the SEC to "examine the construction, in any local area in the State and if it is of the opinion that the standards, laid for such construction for the prevention of disasters is not being or has not been followed, may direct the Disaster Authority or local authority, as the case may be, to take such actions as may be necessary to secure compliance of such standards";

WHEREAS, since disaster management activities are integral part of all departments and agencies of the State and all departments and agencies are duty bound to address the concerns of local hazards by implementing the guidelines/directions issued under the provisions of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 by the National Disaster Management Authority, HP SDMA and State Executive Committee (SEC);

WHEREAS, it is of utmost importance to take note of the multi-hazard vulnerability of the State in general and the vulnerability of housing sector in particular to these hazards, and taking serious note of the destruction caused during the Monsoon disaster of 2023 to housing sector, public infrastructure, the seriousness of earthquake scenarios painted for the State. It is also important to take note of and further ensure implementation of guidelines, standards, building bye laws, risk sensitive land use planning and codes to promote multi-hazard resistant safe construction practices in the State to save lives and property;

NOW THEREFORE, in view of foregoing discussions for the need of implementation of multi-hazard safe construction practices in the State in order to save lives and property and ensure the preparedness and readiness of the State to meet the challenges posed by various hazards and disasters caused by them and to ensure compliance with the provisions the Disaster Management Act, 1, Chief Secretary-cum-Chairman, SEC in exercise of powers vested out under Sub Section (2) (h) of Section 22 and other enabling provisions of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 do hereby order as under:-

- a) The Town and Country Planning and Urban Development Departments shall ensure alignment of their Regulations and Building Bye-Laws as per the latest National Buildings Codes from time to time. Both the Departments shall also ensure that the structural aspects of the constructions are also regulated. In addition, there Departments shall ensure effective monitoring mechanism to ensure compliance with safety norms in all constructions.
- b) Rural Development & Panchayati Raj and Town & Country Departments shall regulate all major and commercial construction activities in the rural areas as per the prescribed guidelines, standards and codes for effective adoption of multi-hazard safe construction practices.
- c) In order to educate masses about safe construction practices, the DMC shall carry out focused IEC campaign involving stakeholder Departments and organizations such as DDMA's, IPR, Departments of UD, RD, TCP, Technical Education, IIT, NIT, IAG Networks of SDMA and DDMA's at each district level.

- d) The Department of Urban Development and RDD shall ensure the registration of contractors in urban areas and rural areas respectively involved in construction activities in the informal sector will also ensure to build their capacity to implement the National Building Codes for multi-hazard and safe constructions.
- e) The Department of Technical Education, Urban Development, Rural Development, and the Skill Development Corporation will take lead in the training and capacity building of engineers, architects, masons, bar binders, carpenters in safe construction techniques in all types of constructions.
- f) Housing Facilitation Centre (HFC) will be established at the district level by the Technical Education Department which would help in promoting safe construction culture in the State and in implementing the safe constructions schemes of the Government through imparting training to rural masons, carpenters and bar binders.
- g) All the citizens undertaking constructions shall ensure that the constructions is multi-hazard resistant and safe.

All concerned Departments shall ensure implementation of the above directions and share compliance report with SEC through DMC, Department of Revenue.

(Prabodh Saxena, IAS)
Chief Secretary-cum-Chairman SEC
Himachal Pradesh.

Endst. No. As above

Dated Shimla-171002, the

July 2024

Copy forwarded to the following for information and immediate necessary action:

- 1) All the Administration Secretary to the Govt. Of Himachal Pradesh.
- 2) The Secretary to the Governor, Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-2
- 3) All the Divisional Commissioner of Himachal Pradesh.
- 4) All the MD of Board and Corporation of HP.
- 5) All Deputy Commissioners-cum Chairman, DDMA, Himachal Pradesh.
- 6) All the Heads of the Departments of the Himachal Pradesh.
- 7) The Principal Pvt. Secretary-cum-Special Secretary to the Chief Minister, HP, Shimla-2.
- 8) The Sr. Pvt. Secretaries of all Hon'ble Ministers of the State.
- 9) The Sr. Pvt. Secretary to the Chief Secretary to the GoHP.
- 10) Guard File.

(D.C. Rana, IAS)
Director-cum- Ex Officio Special Secretary (Rev-DM)
Government of Himachal Pradesh

Subject Allotted to the Department / Organizations for Presentation in Review Meeting on “Safe Construction Practices, Need of Regulation, Effective Techno – Legal Regime in Himachal Pradesh”.

Sr. No.	Subject Allotted	Department which will make Presentation	Supporting Department
1.	<p>Regulations and Bye – Laws on Safe Construction Practices</p> <p>10(b) - The TCP and UD Departments shall ensure alignment of their Regulations and Bye-Laws as per the latest National Buildings Codes. Both the Departments shall also ensure that the structural aspects of the constructions are also regulated. In addition, there is need to ensure effective monitoring mechanism to ensure compliance with safety norms in all constructions.</p> <p>10(c) - There is urgent need to regulate all major and commercial constructions activities in the rural areas too.</p> <p>10(h) - RDD & PR Department to forward the guidelines being framed by them for rural constructions to HPSDMA for comments and suggestions by 15th June 2024. The Department shall also implement the guidelines being developed by the HP SDMA in collaboration with CBRI Roorkee, as and when finalized.</p> <p>10(l) - Urban Development Department will also ensure to utilise the services of Geologist and Structural Engineers in the</p>	Town & Country Planning	Urban Development , RDD

	constructions works in urban areas of the State		
2.	<p>Awareness Generation Campaign on Safe Construction Practices</p> <p>10(d) - In order to educate masses about safe construction practices, the DMC may carry out focused IEC campaign involving stakeholder Departments and organisations such as DDMA's, IPR, Departments of UD, RD, TCP, Technical Education, IIT, NIT, IAG Networks of SDMA and DDMA'S during celebration of IDDR/Samarth in October 2024.</p>	DMC	I&PR
3.	<p>Registration of Contractors in Urban and Rural Areas</p> <p>10(f) - The Department of Urban Development and RDD is directed to start registration contractors in urban areas and rural areas who are engaged in construction of houses in order to build their capacity to implement the National Building Codes.</p>	Rural Development	UD, PWD, Jal Shakti Vibhag
4.	<p>Training & Capacity Building</p> <p>10(g) - HPSDMA will organise training of Technical Assistants and Junior Engineers from RDD & PR Department, UD and SSA (Education) on Safe Constructions Practices. Similar trainings be organised for Architects.</p> <p>10(i) - The Department of Technical Education, Urban Development, Rural Development, and the Skill</p>	Technical Education	RD,UD,IIT Mandi, NIT Hamirpur, Education, Skill Development Corporation , CBRI Roorkee

	<p>Development Corporation will take the lead in the training and capacity building of engineers and masons in safe construction techniques and collaborate with the HPSDMA for implementation of scheme for capacity building of masons, carpenters, and bar binders in the state.</p> <p>10(m) - Short type courses may be started in IIT Mandi, NIT Hamirpur, Govt. Engineering and Polytechnic Colleges on safe constructions in the State</p>		
5.	<p>Flood Zonation Mapping</p> <p>10(o) - Flood Zonation Mapping of all river basins will be conducted by the Jal Shakti Department in association with HIMCOSTE in a phased manner</p>	Jal Shakti Vibhag	HIMCOSTE
6.	<p>10(n) - Collaboration with local cement & steel companies to promote safe construction practices.</p>	Department of Industry	DMC