

Proceeding of the 9th Meeting of HP State Disaster Management Authority (HPSDMA) held on 07th July 2025 at 11.30 AM in HP Secretariat, Shimla under the under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Chief Minister, (Chairperson of HPSDMA), HP.

List of Participants: (Copy enclosed as Annexure-A)

The 9th meeting of HP State Disaster Management Authority (HP SDMA), constituted under the Disaster Management Act 2005, was held on 07th July 2025 at 11:30 AM under the chairmanship of Shri Sukhvinder Singh, Hon'ble Chief Minister-cum-Chairman, HPSDMA in Chief Minister's Committee Room in HP Secretariat.

2. At the Outset, Additional Chief Secretary (Revenue), Shri Kamlesh Kumar Pant welcomed the Hon'ble Chief Minister (Chairperson, HPSDMA), Chief Secretary-cum-CEO SDMA, all the members of the SDMA, and officers from different departments present in the 9th Meeting of HPSDMA.

3. Thereafter, the Director-cum-ex-Officio Special Secretary (Rev-DM), Shri DC Rana, made a detailed presentation on action taken report on the 8th meeting of the SDMA held on 26th August 2023, other agenda items and on various DRR activities being carried out in the State. A presentation was also made about the cloudburst and flashflood incidents that happened in monsoon 2025 in general and in Mandi district in particular. Detailed deliberations also took place about the major challenges posed by climate change in Disaster Management and Disaster Risk Reduction.

Agenda Item No. 9.1: Confirmation of minutes of 8th Meeting of SDMA held on 26th August 2023

4. The SDMA was apprised that the proceeding of 8th meeting of the HPSDMA held on 26th Aug 2023 was sent to all the concerned and were also uploaded in HPSDMA website too. No objection/suggestions have been received; hence it is requested that the minutes of the meetings may be confirmed.

Decision:

The SDMA confirmed the minutes of the 8th meeting of SDMA.

Agenda Items No. 9.2: Action Taken Report on Various decisions taken in the last meeting of SDMA

2. The SDMA was apprised of the Action Taken Report of the decisions taken in the 8th meeting of the SDMA is as under: -

Agenda Item No.	Description of the Agenda Item & last decision of SDMA	Action Taken Report	Directions given in the SDMA Meeting
8.3	Approval of three off site Industrial Disaster Management Plan for Sirmaur, Solon & Una SDMA took the note of the action taken and further decided that Off - Site Emergency Plan of three districts may be placed for approval in the next SDMA meeting.	IDMP Plan for Sirmaur, Solan & Una have been approved by circulation. The matter is submitted for ex-post facto approval of HP SDMA.	The SDMA accorded ex-post facto approval for the Offsite Emergency Plans of the three districts i.e. Sirmaur, Solan and Una.
8.5	Adoption and approval of the Annual Accounts and Audit Report for the year 2013-14 to 2020-21 in the respect to HPSDMA/DDMAs The SDMA approved the Annual Accounts of the both the SDMA and DDMAs for the Financial 2023-2014 to 2020-21 which are required to be presented before the Legislative Assembly, in accordance with the provisions outlined in Rule 10 and 11 of the Disaster Management Rule-2011.	The annual accounts of FY 2013 -14 to 2020-21 have been audited by the AGHP but the audited financial details are still pending with C&AG for final certification report from the AGHP/C&AG, the same will be presented before the State Legislative Assembly.	The SDMA approved the Annual Accounts of both the SDMA & DDMA for the financial year 2013-14 to 2020-21 which are required to be presented before the Legislative assembly, in accordance with the provisions outlined in Rule 10 and 11 of the H.P State Disaster Management Rule 2011.
8.6	Need to Strengthen Monitoring Network in the State a) The Chairman directed the Director IMD Meteorological Centre, Shimla to expedite the process of establishing 2 Doppler Radars, Data Centres at Hamirpur and Dharamshala and weather observatories at Hamipur, Chamba, Nalagarh, Keylong & Kaza. It was desired that DO letter to Union Minister be also sent from the Hon'ble Chief Minister. b) Simultaneously, it is recommended that the National Seismic Centre be formally approached to expand their network within Himachal Pradesh.	HPSDMA is in the process of Installing a network of 48 Weather Observations in each Development Blocks of the State through Hydrology Division of JSV. To install Doppler radar L&S Kinnaur directions have been issued on 07.03.2025 to District Administration to identify suitable locations as per the requirement of the IMD. D.O. to Union Minister of Earth Sciences was written by HCM on 13 th September 2023 w.r.t. improving seismic and weather network in the State. DO for landslide early warning was also sent to the concerned Union Minister. Multi-hazard EWS component has been envisaged under the AFD funded HP DRRP. The DMC has also carried out exercise to map the existing networks of all the entities installed in the State and under this exercise 650 networks (559 weather	SDMA took note of the action taken. Hon'ble Chief Minister directed that Deputy Commissioner, Lahaul-Spiti will identify suitable site for Doppler Weather Radar in Spiti at the earliest. Follow up for setting up Doppler Weather Radar for Kinnaur district may be ensued. Follow up for Action Plan with IMD may be done.

	<p>This expansion can also enhance seismic monitoring in the State.</p> <p>c) Digital weather observatories network needs to be increased in the State. It can significantly improve the efficiency, accuracy, and accessibility of weather information in a real-time basis facilitating meteorologists and relevant authorities to receive immediate updates on changing weather conditions. This is crucial for timely response to severe weather events and emergencies</p> <p>d) Furthermore, it is essential to trace and integrate the networks established by various departments. By consolidating these individual efforts, a comprehensive and unified network can be developed for the State. This approach ensures an efficient sharing of resources and information, resulting in a more effective disaster preparedness and response strategy.</p> <p>e) The Director IMD shall prepare a roadmap for the State so that EWS in the state can be improved.</p> <p>f) The Chairman directed that there is need of not only broadening the scope of data collection and monitoring capabilities but also facilitating the real-time dissemination of crucial information to the general public.</p>	<p>stations) have been identified. All these networks are required to be integrated under the Multi-hazard EWS proposed under the AFD Project.</p> <p>The Report from Director IMD hasn't been received.</p> <p>This aspect is being taken care of in the AFD project.</p> <p>All alerts are being shared through Sachet Mobile App through CAP and Social, print and electronic media.</p>	
8.7	<p>Strengthening of Civil Defence Structure in the State for DRR</p> <p>The Civil Defence structure shall be implemented in all the districts of the State utilizing the set up and infrastructure of Home Guards.</p>	<p>A proposal for establishing a Civil Defence Setup in all districts of the State has been approved by the MHA, GOI.</p> <p>Matter w.r.t. to approval of the structure to implement this framework is under correspondence with MHA, GOI.</p>	<p>Hon'ble Chief Minister directed that Civil Defence Scheme is to be integrated with the Aapda Mitra and Yuva Aapda Mitra Schemes.</p>

	<p>The funds for training of 1% of population in Civil Defence shall be provided by the HP SDMA from the Preparedness and Capacity Building window of State Disaster Response Fund.</p> <p>c) The DM-Cell shall train NCC cadets, NSS volunteers and Yuvak Mandal, etc. under the State notified scheme. In addition, the DM-Cell should also plan mechanisms such as certificates, awards or public acknowledgment to appreciate and motivate the volunteers. This can help foster a culture of community engagement. Furthermore, there should be a communication mechanism to keep volunteers informed, engaged and updated about disaster management activities.</p>	<p>An amount of Rs. 2.38 crore has been approved in the 25th SEC in favour of the Home Guard and Civil Defence Department for conducting basic training to equip 14,000 Civil Defence volunteers during the year 2025-2026, if first phase.</p> <p>SDMA will also implement a CSS funded by NDMA on Yuva Aapda Mitra in which 4070 No. of NCC/NSS/NYKS volunteers will be trained in Chamba, Hamirpur, Kangra, Kinnaur, Kullu, L & S, Shimla, Solan and Una districts.</p> <p>SDMA has prepared database of all volunteers. The DDMA through SDMA hold regular meetings with the volunteers. Volunteers who perform commendable jobs are also recognised.</p>	
8.8	<p>Ensuring Safe Construction Practices & Reducing Built-up Risk and mitigating effects of other hazards in the State</p> <p>a) The SDMA took the note of the agenda and detailed discussion took place on the need to regulate construction activities in the State for reducing built-up risk and accorded its approval for the key activities to be implemented to make the State disaster resilient.</p> <p>b) The Department of TCP, UD, RD and other departments were directed to act immediately.</p> <p>c) It was approved that the TCP regulations and provisions of Fire Act should be applicable for all commercial activities being undertaken in rural areas.</p> <p>d) The Guidelines for DRR integrations were approved for fresh circulation and strict implementation by all the Departments.</p>	<p>Issue regarding "Safe Construction Practices, the Need for Regulation, and an Effective Techno-Legal Regime in Himachal Pradesh" is being reviewed at the level of Chief Secretary and ACS (Revenue).</p> <p>4 volumes of pictorial booklets to promote safe construction practices have been launched by HCM on IDDR 2024. Mobile App is being prepared to disseminated these books and IEC material.</p> <p>IEC on safe construction practices is being done regularly through social media platforms.</p> <p>Reminder has been sent to Fire Department about the direction of the SDMA.</p> <p>Engineers are being sent to CBRI Roorkee for trainings.</p> <p>Furthermore, an Order of the SEC on self-assessment by executing agencies for major infrastructural projects and hill cutting has been issued vide Notification No. Rev. (DMC)(F)2-2/2023-Monsoon PDNA, dated December 31, 2024.</p>	<p>The ATR was noted.</p> <p>It was observed that TCP Department has made building permissions applicable for all buildings with plot area above 1000 square feet area.</p> <p>Fire Department was directed to share ATR on direction.</p> <p>It was also decided that no AA & ES shall be accorded by AD/HoD and Planning Department without compliance to the directions of SEC dated 31st December 2024.</p>

	ATR may be shared in the next meeting of the SDMA.		
8.9	<p>Strengthening of Disaster Management Set up in the State</p> <p>a) SDMA took the note of the agenda items and recognized the need to improve DRR set up in the State.</p> <p>b) The SDMA approved the proposed components of the HP DRR Project and also recommended it to be sent to Department of Economic Affairs GOI for rolling it out in April 2024.</p>	<p>The SDMA needs core experts in its team at the State level. Currently, there is no such core resource with SDMA. A proposal in this regard is being put up as separate agenda item.</p> <p>The signing process of AFD funded HP DRRP has been completed. The program will be launched in this financial year.</p>	The agenda item was dropped.
8.10	<p>Circulation of revised Norms of Assistance notified by the NDM Division of MHA, GOI for SDRF/NDRF.</p> <p>a) SDMA took note of the agenda and issued directions to hold a separate meeting focused on norms of assistance wherein DMC may make a power point presentation.</p> <p>b) Hon'ble Chief Minister desired that the matter may be taken with GOI to include road accidents as national disaster for hill states like HP, in view of the geographic conditions of the State. Request may also be made to increase the ceiling of 10% to 30% for state specific disasters.</p>	<p>The DMC notified Special Package for the victims of 2023 Monsoon after taking note of the SDRF norms notified by the GOI.</p> <p>The revised norms have been circulated with all the districts and line departments.</p> <p>Further, this department has also requested to the Ministry of Home Affairs for revision of Norms issued by them in July 2023, vide letter no. Rev (DMC) (F)-2-1/2018 (Norms)-III dated 04.03.2025. For the revision, a detailed item wise justification report is also submitted to the Ministry.</p>	Hon'ble CM directed reminder may be written again to Union Home Minister.
8.11	<p>Strengthening Disaster Response in Police Department</p> <p>Hon'ble Chief Minister cum Chairman HPSDMA, issued directions to take appropriate action w.r.t. the suggestions put forth by the DGP to improve response capacity of the state by strengthening Police Department.</p>	<p>ATR on Introduction of Disaster response centric module for training of Constable in PTC Daroh is awaited. Reminder has been sent to the DGP.</p> <p>Proposal for providing equipment in each PSs was received from the PHQ. SEC sought a presentation on the proposal which was not made hence the proposal couldn't be considered.</p> <p>At present 09 ISAT phones are available with SDRF and these are fully functional.</p>	<p>ATR was noted.</p> <p>The Hon'ble Chief Minister directed the Police Department to include Disaster Management Syllabus in the Training Module of Police Personnel.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction of Disaster response centric module for training of Constable in PTC Daroh - Basic Disaster response Equipment in Police Stations - Risk Allowance to SDRF SDRF to be equipped with latest communication system	5% risk allowance already given to SDRF officials. In addition to this, a detailed review w.r.t. the issues of SDRF were held by ACS Revenue on 21 st August 2024. ATR of the same has been received from the SDRF on 25 th February 2025. Copy of the proceedings and ATR is placed for the perusal and directions of the SDMA.	
Directions of Hon'ble Chief Minister being treated as Agenda Item No. 12			
12 (a)	<p>Identification of sites for Muck Disposal The Deputy Commissioners shall liaise with relevant departments and local authorities to identify suitable sites for muck disposal of construction debris, or similar situations.</p> <p>Executing Agencies to consider environmental impact and accessibility while selecting these sites.</p> <p>The Urban Development shall also implemented Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules notified by the MoEF & CC.</p>	<p>Reminder has been issued to all Deputy Commissioner to identify suitable locations for muck disposal reply is awaited as on 25th March 2025.</p> <p>The SEC has issued order in this regard on December 31, 2024.</p> <p>Report from UDD is awaited.</p>	<p>PWD and UD were directed to ensure compliance with the last direction of the SEC.</p> <p>The Hon'ble CM directed that to promote private dumping sites for which people can voluntarily provide their land for which advertisement will be issued by the Public Works Department.</p>
12 (b)	<p>Conduct Studies on Cloudburst: Initiate studies to identify causes of cloudburst events in the State through Department of Environment, Science and Technology.</p> <p>Collaborate with meteorological experts and institutions to analyse historical data, identify vulnerable areas, and understand the potential impacts of cloudbursts</p>	<p>Project entitled 'Understanding Cloudburst Events over Himachal Pradesh and its vicinity in a changing Climate' has been approved and MOU is being signed with IITM Pune.</p> <p>A dialogue was also organized by DEST&CC and DMC with experts, but nothing concrete could be arrived at.</p>	<p>It was directed that CEO-SDMA-cum-Chief Secretary will take up the matter with the Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences.</p>
12 (c)	<p>Integrate 1100 CM Helpline Extension in SEOC and DEOC Integrate the existing 1100 CM helpline number to the State Emergency Operations Centre (SEOC) and District Emergency Operations Centres (DEOCs). This ensures coordination during emergencies. effective/unified communication and coordination during emergencies.</p>	<p>The Disaster Management Cell operates disaster helpline numbers across all districts (DEOC-1077) and at the State Headquarters (SEOC-1070) through a national network of Emergency Operation Centers. To enhance efficiency, HPSDMA has signed an MoU with CDAC for the automation of helpline numbers 1070, 1077, and 1100, ensuring seamless</p>	<p>Hon'ble CM directed that status of disposal of the complaints received in the 1070, 1077 & 1100 CM Helpline, be obtained from all the Districts/Departments.</p>

		integration between SEOC and DEOCs.																					
		<table> <tr> <th>Sr. No</th><th>Particular</th><th>Helpline no.</th><th>Total Calls received as on 24.03.2025</th></tr> <tr> <td>1</td><td>CM Helpline</td><td>1100</td><td>1497</td></tr> <tr> <td>2</td><td>SEOC</td><td>1070</td><td>6266</td></tr> <tr> <td>3</td><td>DEOC</td><td>1077</td><td>5887</td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Total Calls</td><td>13650</td></tr> </table>	Sr. No	Particular	Helpline no.	Total Calls received as on 24.03.2025	1	CM Helpline	1100	1497	2	SEOC	1070	6266	3	DEOC	1077	5887	Total Calls			13650	
Sr. No	Particular	Helpline no.	Total Calls received as on 24.03.2025																				
1	CM Helpline	1100	1497																				
2	SEOC	1070	6266																				
3	DEOC	1077	5887																				
Total Calls			13650																				
12 (d)	<p>Conduct Workshop on Earthquake & Landslide Hazard: Plan and organize a comprehensive workshop on earthquake & landslide hazards.</p> <p>Involve experts, interactive sessions, and hands-on activities to educate participants about earthquake & landslide risks, preparedness, and response.</p>	<p>Workshops were organised at State level involving national experts and state officials on 5-6 October 2023 at Shimla.</p> <p>Another workshop on Himalayan Hazard: Landslides and Earthquakes was also organised with Central University at Dharamshala from 6-8 November 2023 at Dharamshala.</p> <p>Recommendations of the workshop were documented and matter was taken up with GOI.</p>	The ATR was noted and item dropped.																				
12 (e)	<p>Popularizing Mobile Apps Among the Public: Promote Sachet, Mausam, and Meghdoot mobile apps among the general public.</p> <p>Utilize social media, community outreach, and public awareness campaigns to inform people about these apps' features and benefits for disaster-related information</p>	<p>Mobile apps have been consistently promoted in training sessions organized by the District Administration.</p> <p>IEC on these apps is also been regularly done through social media platforms.</p>	The ATR was noted and item dropped.																				
12 (f)	<p>Road Accidents The Hon'ble Chief Minister expressed concern over large number of deaths being caused by road accidents every year. The DM-Cell was directed to refer the matter to MHA (in D.O. letter from HCM to Hon'ble Home Minister) for including the road accident in centre specific disasters and to increase expenditure on State specific disaster from 10% to 30%.</p>	D.O letter to Union Home Minister from Hon'ble CM has been sent to MHA on 13 th September 2023	Hon'ble CM directed to send another D.O. to Union Home Minister.																				

12 (g)	<p>Improving Hydrological Network</p> <p>Conduct of Studies Hon'ble Chief Minister stressed upon the need to use technology to mitigate the effects of climate change related disaster risk reduction. If need be, funds from state may be mobilized to improve the hydro-meteorological network in the State. We need state of the art early warning system so that loss of life and property can be reduced. There is need to carry out studies to identify causes of such a large-scale devastation which took place in the State during involving expert institutions. The studies should also suggest remedial measures so that mitigation measures can be undertaken to reduce disaster risk.</p>	<p>Proposal to install 48 AWS through JSV has been sanctioned.</p> <p>Hydro-meteorological network will be improved under AFD HP DRRP in the coming years.</p> <p>Large number of studies were carried out post 2023 Monsoon involving IIT, NIT, CBRI, GSI, WIHG, HPU, etc. The same were shared with districts for planning mitigation measures.</p>	<p>The ATR was noted and agenda item dropped.</p>
--------	---	---	---

New Agenda Items

Agenda Item No. 9.3: Himachal Pradesh-Disaster Risk Reduction and Preparedness Program (HP-DRRRP) being funded by AFD

5. The SDMA was apprised that as per the approval of the SDMA, in order to roll out HP DRRP, on December 5, 2024, the Credit Facility Agreement between DEA and AFD was signed. Subsequently, on January 10, 2025, the signing of the Program Operation Manual between GoHP and AFD took place in Shimla.

Components of the HPDRRP: Under the Projects there are three major components which are as under:

- **Component 1:** Enhancing disaster risk governance, through Institutional capacities, risk understanding and knowledge management/dissemination
- **Component 2:** Strengthening disaster preparedness, through effective early warning system and better emergency response capacities
- **Component 3:** Supporting mitigation measures, including eco-DRR and nature-based solutions

6. AFD has also shared the First-Year Procurement and Expenditure Plan to ensure that the proposed activities proceed as per the action plan.

Technical Mission of Expertise France (Group AFD)

7. In support of the implementation of the Disaster Risk Reduction Program, tailored-made technical assistance (TA) to be provided by AFD will be implemented through a €500k FEXTE envelope. The financial and technical management of this TA is delegated to Expertise France (Prevention, Risk Reduction, and Adaptation division), which is the subsidiary of AFD focusing on technical cooperation. This TA aims to intervene in the following areas of French expertise, where French experts and officers can exchange knowledge and practices, with a dual approach of influence and economic diplomacy:

Sub-component 1: Forest Fire Management (Prevention Measures)

Beneficiaries: Forest Fire Department of Himachal Pradesh, Fire Department of Himachal Pradesh will be benefitted through this TA.

TA by AFD Group includes:

- Support in developing specific or comparative studies
- Sharing and formulating best practices tailored to the region
- Drafting directives for forest fire management
- Creating and deploying GIS tools
- Exposure visits

Sub-component 2: Mountain Rescue and Relief Operations

Beneficiaries: State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) of Himachal Pradesh, State Disaster Management Authority (HPSDMA) will be benefitted through this TA.

TA by AFD Group includes:

- Drafting and evaluating Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)
- Drafting technical specifications for equipment
- Delivering Training of Trainers (ToT) courses (basic to advanced levels)
- Ensuring integration into a broader training curriculum
- Exposure visits

Himalayan Centre for Disaster Risk Reduction

8. That based on the disaster events of 2023 and the recommendations of the PDNA report, it has been observed that given the State's high vulnerability to various hazards, there is a critical need for a comprehensive understanding of disaster occurrences and associated vulnerabilities. To address these challenges, several interventions have been proposed to bridge the gaps identified in the PDNA report. One of the key recommendations is the establishment of a dedicated centre to conduct scientific assessments, research studies, undertaking training and capacity building and guide DRR measures across the hill state of Himachal Pradesh.

9. In this context, a State Institute for Disaster Management (SIDM) was initially proposed under the Himachal Pradesh Disaster Risk Reduction Program (HPDRR), funded by AFD. Based on the PDNA report's recommendations, SIDM has now been renamed as "Himalayan Centre for Disaster Risk Reduction (HCDRR)". Considering its role as a dedicated research centre for DRR related activities and training Centre for officers and officials at various levels, MS HIPA has been proposed as the location for setting up this Institute by the Disaster Management Cell (DMC).

10. To assess the site's suitability, the AFD team visited MS HIPA on 3rd September 2024 and 30th January 2025, and found it appropriate for the purpose. During the visit, the MS HIPA has also expressed its keen interest in hosting the Centre and provided justifications for its establishment within the MS HIPA campus.

11. Additionally, on 17th January 2025, the Disaster Management Cell conducted a drone survey of the site to further evaluate its feasibility. The survey confirmed that the site is well connected by road and is adjacent to the MSHIPA campus, making it a suitable location for the proposed centre.

12. Component wise activities and budget estimates of the HP DRRP were shared with SDMA. Details of Key components proposed under HP DRRP which require undertaking construction activities with location as given below were also shared with HP SDMA: -

Locations Proposed for Projects under HPDRRP

Sr. No.	Name of Project	Location
1	Strengthening of HPSDMA & DDMA's, State Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) and District EOCs	HPSDMA & SEOC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be established in Shimla City, near the Secretariat; the exact location is yet to be finalized. DDMA's DEOCs <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kullu 2. Kinnaur 3. Kangra 4. Sirmaur 5. Solan 6. Hamirpur
2	Establishing Himalayan Centre for Disaster Risk Reduction"	To be setup at MS HIPA
3	Early Warning System (EWS)	Installation of Early Warning System (EWS) across the State to mitigate the Hazards as mentioned under: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Landslide, ✓ Flash floods, ✓ Cloudbursts, ✓ Glacial lake outburst floods (GLOF) ✓ Forest Fires Major Equipment/technologies to be used to mitigate impacts of hazards: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Automatic Weather Stations (AWS) ✓ Automatic Rain Gauges (ARGs) ✓ Real-time River Level Monitoring through Sensors ✓ Remote Sensing and GIS-Based Landslide Susceptibility Mapping. ✓ IoT-Based Sensors – deployed in vulnerable slopes for movement detection. ✓ Glacial Lake Monitoring with Remote Sensing – through ISRO, NRSC, etc. ✓ Early Warning Sirens/Alerts in downstream villages.
4	Establishment of Fire and Emergency Response cum Training Centres in unserved locations in the state	Five new fire station-cum-demonstration centres <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jubbar Hatti (Shimla) 2. Ramsheher (Solan) 3. Kasauli (Solan) 4. Barmana (Bilaspur) 5. Basant Vihar (Shimla) Strengthening of three existing fire stations:

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fire Post Kala Amb (Sirmour) 2. Fire Station Baddi (Solan) 3. Fire Station Una (Una)
5	SDRF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of a SDRF campus at Palampur Kangra. • Subject to availability of funds, a second campus at another location may also be developed at Shimla/Mandi, if funds permit.
6	Establishment of helipads for emergency response	Chamba (3) Bharmour, Holi & Killar L&S (3) Phunkyar near to Tandi, Udaipur & Rangrik Shimla (1) Churdhar Kinnaur (2) Boning Saring (Sangla), Bhim Dwar (Nirmand), Kullu (3) Sainj Valley (Sainj), Manikaran-Kasol and Anni area <i>List of remaining sites awaited from T & CA Department.</i>
7	Strengthening of existing Training Centres	BTC at Bilaspur & Chamba
8	TDU	Govt. Engineering College, Sunder Nagar, Mandi. Land is available.

Decision: -

1. The SDMA took note of the various components of the Program.
2. Sites for construction of various components were discussed and approved subject to the condition that a committee will reassess the actual requirement.
3. Tourist and CA and Fire Department will re-submit requirement of helipads and Fire stations. New Fire Stations under AFD Project may also be considered as per the budget announcements made by Hon'ble CM too where land is readily available.
4. State Institute of Disaster Management will be set up at MSHIPA and HP University. The training part will be done by MSHIPA and Research and Development (R&D) part will be looked after by H.P. University.
5. The proposed Helipads will be submitted on file for consideration/approval of Hon'ble Chief Minister.

Agenda Item No. 9.4: Submission of PPR under National GLOF Risk Mitigation Program Amounting to Rs. 35.0 Cr.

13. The SDMA was apprised that GLOF studies are being carried out on four high risk glacial lakes in the State, as indicated by the NDMA, i.e. 1.) Gephang Gath (Chenab Catchment), 2.) Parvati (Upstream of Khir Ganga Catchment) 3.) Baspa (Upstream of Sangla), 4.) Kashang Gad (Sutlej basin). In this direction, field visits have been completed for 3 lakes namely, Gephang Gath (Chenab Catchment), 2.) Parvati (Upstream of Khir Ganga Catchment) 3.) Baspa (Upstream of Sangla) and bathymetric survey have been completed for two lakes, namely, Baspa (Upstream of Sangla), and Parvati (Upstream of Khir Ganga Catchment). The remote sensing-based modelling has been completed by NRSC Hyderabad for one lake i.e. Gephang Gath (Chenab Catchment), in Lahaul & Spiti District of the State. In order to study remaining three lakes DMC has signed an MoU with NRSC Hyderabad. The field survey and bathymetric survey of the fourth lake, namely Kashang Gad (Sutlej basin) will be completed before the onset of Monsoon season 2025. Further, SDMA has prepared a PPR on GLOF Risk Mitigation in Himachal Pradesh worth amounting Rs 35 Cr and submitted it to the NDMA under NGRMP on dated 06.03.2025, in addition to this the

said PPR has also been discussed in TAC conducted by NDMA on 13.03.2025. Sanction and funds are awaited from the GOI. Main components of the program are: -

- Risk Assessment
- Monitoring and Early Warning
- Mitigation Measures
- Capacity Building and IEC activities

14. The SDMA was further apprised that DMC has no technical expertise to carry out the activity, therefore, as an immediate measure DMC has engaged Hydrology Division of JSV, C-DAC, NRSC, DDMA to carry out various components of the program. SDC is also on board to help DMC prepare DPR of the project. However, the DMC lacks technical expert to execute this complex project. On receipt of sanction of the program, the DMC need key experts like Glaciologist/Geologist to execute, guide and monitor various components of the program.

Decision: -

1. The SDMA took note of the proposal and accorded its approval to pose the project for funding to GOI.
2. The requirement of technical staff to implement the project was also noted and approved.
3. Regular monitoring of the vulnerable lake sites is required to be done so that lives of the people living downstream can be secured.
4. Local Community to be made aware about the potential risks of GLOF and their involvement in alerting people downstream be ensured.

Agenda Item No. 9.5: Submission of PPR under National Landslide Risk Mitigation Program Amounting to Rs. 139.0 Cr.

15. The SDMA was apprised that NDMA has launched National Landslide Risk Mitigation Programme (NLRMP) and under its Phase-I the allocated funds for the State amounting Rs 139 Cr. The four districts namely **Mandi, Shimla, Kinnaur, and Chamba** have been selected under first phase of the NLRMP. In this context the about **37 most critical and highly prone** landslide sites, as provided by the PWD have been chosen to be mitigated under this programme. The road in districts of Mandi, Shimla, Kinnaur, and Chamba of Himachal Pradesh are highly susceptible to landslides due to their rugged mountainous terrain, high seismic activity, and frequent heavy rainfall/snowfall. The steep slopes, fragile geological formations, and unregulated construction further exacerbate the risk of landslides, leading to loss of life, infrastructure damage, and disruption of connectivity. Key roads and link routes in these districts are particularly vulnerable, making landslide mitigation an urgent priority. The landslide-affected region consists of a heterogeneous mix of finer materials and granular debris, which is highly unstable, particularly when waterlogged. Keeping in view of the high risk of landslide and need of mitigation measure HPSDMA has prepared and submitted a PPR on Landslide Risk Mitigation in Himachal Pradesh worth amounting Rs 139 Cr on 02.04.2025 under the NLRMP to NDMA. Further the proposal has been discussed in the TAC held on 08.04.2025 conducted by NDMA. List of landslides proposed under the program is

16. It was brought to the notice of the SDMA that the DMC has no technical manpower to deal with the issue of landslides, hence, as an immediate measure PWD has been roped in to identify the sites, prepare DPRs and implement various components of the program. However, on receipt of sanction of the program, the DMC need key

experts like Geologist to guide, supervise and monitor various components of the program. Key components of the program will be as under: -

- Risk Assessment and Hazard Zonation
- Early Warning System
- Preparation of DPRs
- Mitigation Measures
- Capacity Building and IEC activities

Decision: -

1. The SDMA took note of the proposal and accorded its approval to pose the project for funding to GOI.
2. The requirement of technical staff to implement the project was also noted and approved.
3. It was decided that Public Works Department will have a dedicated wing at its Headquarters to design implement and monitor the work related to landslides mitigation.

Agenda Item No. 9.6: Submission of PPR under National Earthquake Risk Mitigation Program Amounting to Rs. 139 Cr.

17. The SDMA was apprised that the state has high seismic sensitivity to the possibility of damaging earthquakes in future. The State has already experienced devastation caused by the Kangra earthquake of 1905 (magnitude 7.8). The seismic hazard is attributed to the northward movement of the Indian plate and the region's complex geological structure. The state faces high seismic vulnerability due to lack of earthquake resistant features in buildings and susceptibility of infrastructure to failure and steep geological features. This vulnerability is compounded by a shortage of technical expertise, regulatory gaps and economic constraints. Retrofitting existing buildings is costly and technically demanding, but efforts are underway to strengthen critical infrastructure, such as government buildings critical for disaster management and emergency response. The goal is to reduce earthquake risk by enhancing preparedness and retrofitting vital structures, which will help mitigate damage and loss of life after seismic events. The state has identified about 235 plus critical buildings/infrastructures which includes DC offices, Hospitals, Schools/Colleges, Fire Stations, police stations Telephone Exchange and important bridges, etc. which may need to be strengthened. In this direction, the DMC has submitted PPR on Strengthening of Critical and Lifeline Structures for Earthquake Preparedness in Himachal Pradesh worth amounting Rs. 139 Cr Under NERMP and as desired by the NDMA. The PPR is under revision as revised format has been shared by NDMC and revised PPR will be submitted to NDMA shortly.

18. That the SDMA and Engineering wings of the State lack expertise to assess a building for earthquake vulnerability and prepare DPRs for retrofitting. To take this program forward, the DMC is trying to rope in technical institutions to assist the state in this. Previously, the DMC has worked with CBRI Roorkee and NITTR, Chandigarh and DPRs of 216 plus institutions were prepared. An amount of Rs. 66.06 crore has been released to PWD and SSA to retrofit school buildings in the State. This program was launched by Hon'ble Chief Minister on the occasion of IDDR 2024 at Gaiety Theatre on 13th October 2024.

Decision: -

1. The SDMA took note of the proposal and accorded its approval to pose the project for funding to GOI.

2. The requirement of technical staff to implement the project was also noted and approved.

Agenda Item No. 9.7: Details of Funds Received, Sanctioned and Utilised During Financial Year 2023-24 and 2024-25

19. The SDMA was apprised that during the financial year 2023-24 and 2024-25, the following funds have been received under SDRF (Incl. State Share) and NDRF from the MHA, GoI, sanctioned by the State Executive Committee and utilised by the district and various Departments of the State: -

(Amount in Crore)

Financial Year	SDRF			NDRF			Total Availability of Funds (SDRF+ NDRF)	Actual Fund Utilized/ drawn	Closing Balance of Funds
	Opening Balance	Received During the year	Total SDRF	Opening Balance	Received During the year	Total NDRF			
2023-24	55.75	400.80	456.55	15.96	787.25	803.21	1259.76	1145.40	114.36
2024-25	58.14	420.00	478.14	56.22	60.10	116.32	594.47	513.37	81.10

20. During the financial year 2023-24 and 2024-25, the details of funds received from MHA, GoI under SDMF (Incl. State Share), expenditures therefrom and the balance is as under: -

(Amount in Crore)

Financial Year	Opening Balance of SDMF	Received During the year	Interest/Other Receipt Earned on SDMF	Total Availability	Actual Fund Utilized drawn	Closing Balance
2023-24	90.02	47.60	1.08	138.70	94.37	44.34
2024-25	44.34	205.05	0.04	249.43	200.77	48.66

21. Details of funds released to various districts, departments and implementing agencies were also shared with the SDMA.

Decision: -

The SDMA considered and approved the release of funds by the SEC/DMC and utilisation thereof.

Agenda Item No. 9.8: Brief of the Activities undertaken by the DMC for DRR in the State

22. During the meeting, various activities conducted by DMC, Department of Revenue were shared with the HP SDMA. That during 2023-25, the DMC has undertaken a lot of projects and activities to make HP more resilient to disasters. Some of the activities are enumerated as follows: -

a) **Marking of 119th Anniversary of 1905 Kangra Earthquake on 4th April 2024**

- As part of the State-Level **Disaster Awareness Day** marking the 1905 Kangra Earthquake, a series of activities were organized across Himachal Pradesh in April 2024.
- On April 4, 2024, evacuation drills were conducted in many State and Central Government offices, institutions, and establishments.
- Mock drills and student engagement activities were carried out in health institutes, schools, and educational institutions by the Department of Health, Department of Elementary Education, Higher Education, HP University, and HP Technical University. Student engagement activities took place from April 1 to 5, while mock drills were held on April 4 at 11:00 AM.
- Additionally, Gram Sabha meetings were convened throughout April with a dedicated agenda on earthquake-resistant construction practices and community preparedness measures.
- To further strengthen public awareness and participation, a Citizen Solidarity March was organized on the morning of April 4 in all district headquarters.

b) **8th & 9th Statewide Mega Mock Exercise**

- The 8th and 9th Mega Mock Exercise was conducted on 14th June 2024 and 6th June 2025 respectively in coordination with NDMA.
- The primary objective of assessing the preparedness, adequacy, and efficacy of various stakeholders in responding to earthquake, flood, landslide, and flash flood scenarios.
- The exercise aimed to enhance coordination and synergize the efforts of Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) under the Incident Response System (IRS), ensuring seamless multi-agency response during disasters.
- It also focused on improving public and institutional awareness and preparedness, while evaluating the effectiveness of response plans outlined in District Disaster Management Plans (DDMPs), the State Disaster Management Plan (SDMP), and departmental DMPs.
- The exercise emphasized the importance of understanding and institutionalizing ESFs across departments and districts, fostering better coordination between government agencies and NGOs through the Inter Agency Group (IAG) mechanism.
- The Himachal Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority (HPSDMA) distributed IEC (Information, Education, and Communication) material during a mock exercise focused on landslides and floods. IEC materials on Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs) were launched by Hon'ble Revenue Minister, Government of Himachal Pradesh during the event.
- **Response Agencies Involved:** NDRF, SDRF, Police, Indian Army, Paramilitary Forces, Fire Services, Home Guards & Civil Defence, IAG and DIAG Networks, and stakeholder departments.
- **Mock Exercise in numbers: -**

- Number of Simulation Sites:	103
- Number of Observers Deployed:	89
- Number of Institutional Evacuation Drills Conducted:	3,610
- Number of Participating NGOs:	32
- Number of Volunteers Engaged:	907
- Number of Aapda Mitras Deployed:	183
- IEC Material on Floods/Flash Floods/GLOFs Distributed:	3,700

c) **SAMARTH – 2024 Activities- 14th Edition**

- On the International Day for Disaster Reduction (IDDR), celebrated on 13th October each year, DMC has been marking this as Samarth since 2012.
- This year the campaign lasted for entire month of October 2024 across the State.
- Under the SAMARTH 2024 Campaign, a series of impactful activities were undertaken, focusing on the IEC, promotion of safe construction practices, strengthening disaster risk governance, fostering community-level preparedness, engaging youth and local communities, and leveraging technology for effective disaster response and communication.
- As part of the IDDRR 2024 celebrations, a Statewide Competition on Safe Construction Models was organized at the Block, District, and State levels, targeting students of Middle, High, and Senior Secondary Schools.
- A Three-Day Exhibition showcasing equipment, technologies, and products related to Disaster Preparedness and Response was successfully organized alongside the state-level function at Shimla.
- A mass awareness campaign was rolled out across all Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), with a strong emphasis on safe construction practices in observance of the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (IDDRR). A total of 148 street plays were conducted as part of this effort to engage and educate communities at the grassroots level. Gram Sabha agenda on the awareness of safe construction
- As part of its ongoing commitment to building a disaster-resilient Himachal Pradesh, the HP State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA) launched several key publications and initiatives during the reporting period.
 - A dedicated **portal for the State Disaster Mitigation Fund** was launched to streamline planning and monitoring of mitigation activities across the state.
 - The **Earthquake Retrofitting Program for Lifeline and Critical Buildings** was rolled out in collaboration with premier technical institutions such as CBRI Roorkee, NITTTR Chandigarh, and NIT Hamirpur, ensuring expert-driven interventions for seismic safety.
 - A unique initiative titled **“Rebuilding Lives through Developing a Resilient Model Village”** was also undertaken at Gram Panchayat Bawasni, District Solan, in partnership with Bal Raksha Bharat and Zee Enterprises Limited, aiming to demonstrate community-level resilience in disaster-prone areas.
 - In addition, **guidelines on safe construction practices** were formally launched to guide stakeholders in adopting hazard-resistant building techniques.
 - To strengthen technical collaboration, an **MoU was signed between the HP SDMA and CSIR-CBRI Roorkee**, with the Director cum Ex-Officio Special Secretary (Revenue-Disaster Management) representing the Government of Himachal Pradesh and the Director of CSIR-CBRI Roorkee formalizing the agreement.

d) **Addition of 73 No. of ISAT phones and Docking Station**

- The provisions under Section 22, sub-section(p) of Disaster Management Act, 2005 and the provisions of Section 3.6.1(x) and Section 6.12.1 of H.P. State Disaster Management Policy 2011 mandates to ensure “Alternate Communication during Emergencies”.
- Initially, 31 I-SAT phones were procured by the HPSDMA which enabled effective communication during disaster events.
- To strengthen the Communication network further, HPSDMA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), HP Circle for “Provision of Satellite based services

including Docking Stations" under which 73 New I-SAT Phones along with Docking Stations have been installed in all the Sub-divisions and other critical locations in Himachal Pradesh.

- Under this MoU there is also provision of AMC of 31 old I-SAT phones procured earlier by HPSDMA making this total to **104 I-SAT Phones**. This will further strengthen the emergency Communication Network in the state for effective disaster response.
- Now I-SATs are available in all Sub-Divisions and VIP locations at State HQs

e) **Marking 120th Anniversary of 7.8 Mw, 1905 Kangra Earthquake on 4th April 2025**

- As part of the State-Level Disaster Awareness Day commemorating the 1905 Kangra Earthquake, a series of activities were organized across Himachal Pradesh in April 2025.
- Evacuation drill and Awareness activities were carried out in HP Secretariat Shimla too.
- On April 4, 2025, evacuation drills were conducted at the HP Secretariat, all State and Central Government offices, institutions, and establishments.
- Mock drills and student engagement activities were carried out in health institutes, schools, and educational institutions by the Department of Health, Department of Elementary Education, Higher Education, HP University, and HP Technical University. Student engagement activities took place from April 1 to 5, while mock drills were held on April 4 at 11:00 AM.
- Additionally, Gram Sabha meetings were convened throughout April with a dedicated agenda on earthquake-resistant construction practices and community preparedness measures.
- To further strengthen public awareness and participation, a Citizen Solidarity March was organized on the morning of April 4 in all district headquarters.

f) **School Safety Disaster Management Plan**

- The School Safety App developed by the Himachal Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority (HPSDMA) is an innovative digital initiative aimed at strengthening disaster risk reduction efforts in educational institutions across the state.
- One of the key features of the app is the ability for schools to upload their School Disaster Management Plans (SDMPs) digitally, which streamlines the submission process and ensures that plans are readily accessible to both district and state-level authorities.
- In addition to the SDMP upload, the app allows schools to report the conduct of mock drills, including earthquake and fire evacuation exercises. Schools can also use the platform to update the status of essential safety resources such as fire extinguishers, first aid kits, emergency exits, and signage.
- The app offers a real-time monitoring system for authorities to track the status of each school's preparedness, identify gaps, and take corrective actions in a timely manner. Photographs, geo-tagging, and document upload features ensure transparency and accuracy of reports submitted through the app.
- It empowers school heads and disaster management committees to proactively review their preparedness levels and implement improvements wherever necessary.
- From a governance perspective, the app significantly reduces paperwork, improves efficiency, and ensures data-driven decision-making. It enables the Education Department and Disaster Management authorities to analyse trends, assess performance, and prioritize areas requiring training or infrastructure development.

g) Promoting HAM Radios - Scheme for promoting Amateur (HAM) and Community Radios for "Alternative Communication During Emergencies"

- The Government of Himachal Pradesh launched and notified a scheme on October 13, 2023 for promoting Amateur and Community Radio (HAM) as an alternative communication tool during emergencies.
- The scheme aims to establish alternative communication systems for emergencies and disasters, identify volunteers and HAM operators, and provide training and capacity building for effective usage.

h) School Curriculum for DRR

- The Himachal Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority (HPSDMA) is undertaking the initiative to incorporate Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) topics in the school curriculum/activities. This effort aims to strengthen disaster preparedness and resilience among students by equipping them with the knowledge and skills needed to effectively mitigate and respond to disasters.
- In view of this, a committee was constituted on 20.01.2024 to formulate a DRR syllabus/activities for all three levels of school education—primary, secondary, and higher secondary. To review the progress of this initiative, follow-up meetings were held on 13th February 2024 and 13th February 2025.
- As a part of the follow-up actions and decisions taken in these meetings, a request has been sent to the Uttar Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority to share draft of syllabus on Disaster Management prepared by the state for schools for reference.
- Furthermore, a request has also been sent to the Secretary (Education) to accord in-principal approval to the proposal submitted by the Secretary, HP Board of School Education, Dharamshala, regarding the inclusion of DRR-related activities in morning assemblies and Bag-Free Days in schools. Activities proposed in bag free day: -

- First Aid Training
- Evacuation Drills
- Head Count Exercise
- Life Saving Skills
- Mock Drills (4 April, 13 October, 1st June & 23 December)
- Hazard Hunt Exercise
- Volunteerism
- Disaster Communication Skills
- Psychological First Aid
- Hands on Training for Fire Equipment

i) Declaration of 2024 Monsoon as Disaster of Severe Nature

- The DMC took up the matter with MHA, GOI to declare 2024 Monsoon Disaster as Disaster of Severe Nature on 14th January 2025.
- The GOI vide letter dated 21st January 2025 issued order to declare 2024 Monsoon Disaster as Disaster of Severe Nature.

- This order of the Govt. of India made the State eligible for under revised guidelines of SASCI which is equal to the amount of funds received by the State under SCA during the financial year.
- This fund is available for undertaking reconstruction of damaged assets during 2024 disaster and is being administered through Planning Department.

j) PPR on Flood Mitigation

The DMC has also shared the following DPRs with NDMA for funding: -

Sr. No.	Name of DPR	Location	Estimated Cost (in ₹ Cr.)
1.	Providing Flood Protection work on vulnerable reaches of river Beas to protect properties and reclaim the culturable land	Manali, Distt. Kullu	243.37
2.	Providing flood protection work on vulnerable reaches of river Beas and its tributaries Kunah, Man & Maseh Khads for flood mitigation and land reclamation	Districts of Hamirpur and Kangra	249.75
Total			493.12

k) Hazard Zonation and Mitigation DPR for Shimla Roads

23. Post 2023 Monsoon the entire State was badly devastated by floods, flash floods, cloudbursts and landslides. Shimla city also experienced large scale landslides and land subsidence cases. More than a dozen people lost their lives due to landslides. Key roads of the Shimla town were badly damaged, and traffic was disrupted at many locations. Post Monsoon, learnings of the disaster were documented. Making road infrastructure hazard resilient was one of the key take aways. To make road infrastructure hazard resilient, the following two roads of the town were shortlisted for study and strengthening: -

- Panthaghati to National Highway Crossing
- Kennedy Chowk to Annadale Helipad

24. To carry out risk assessment and suggest mitigation measure for these two roads, Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) was requested to carry out the study. After field visits and discussion with stakeholder departments, the CDRI has submitted comprehensive report in October 2024. The DMC has asked concerned departments to carry out short- and medium-term mitigation measures at their own level and prepared DPRs for long term measures suggested in the mitigation strategy. Once this activity is carried out, we can take up more roads for resilience building in the State.

i) Lidar Survey and Meso-Scale Mapping of Shimla Town

25. In addition to this, to take long term mitigation measures to address the issues of landslide of Shimla town, the DMC has engaged with Geological Survey of India. A meso-scale study to prepare landslide risk zonation of Shimla town has been undertaken. In this regard Lidar Survey of Shimla town has been completed and GSI is carrying out studies on the ground. The exercise will result in: -

- Landslide hazard zonation of Shimla town
- Meso Scale Map of Shimla town which can be used for planning and regulation

j) **Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) Monsoon 2023**

26. The State suffered unprecedented and worst Monsoon related damages and losses during 2023. In order to seek additional central assistance for reconstruction of assets and reactivation of livelihood activities, the DMC undertook the following exercises: -

- **Prepared multiple memorandums (3 Nos) to seek assistance under NDRF**
 - The First Interim Memorandum was prepared and submitted on 27th July 2023
 - The Second Memorandum with 4 Annexures was prepared and submitted on 10th August 2023
 - The Final Memorandum was prepared and submitted on 23rd September 2023
 - Conducted IMCT visit in 2 phases – July & September
- **Undertook massive exercise to undertake PDNA exercise with the technical assistance of NDMA**
 - Conducted training of District Level Officers at HIPA
 - Sectors selected for PDNA were – **Social** (Housing, Health, Education); **Infrastructure** (Roads & Bridges; Power, Water & Sanitation); and **Productive Sectors** (Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries, and Tourism)
 - Six districts were selected for first phase namely, Shimla, Kinnaur, Chamba, Kullu, Solan, and Mandi
 - Remaining six districts were targeted in phase II
 - Data capturing tools were designed and entry was got done from the lowest level in the field
 - Report was prepared in record time and submitted to MHA on 25th November 2023
 - The claim of the state under RR window amounting to Rs. 9042.66 Cr has been pending with GOI.
 - The DMC has made presentation before various committees of the MHA for more than 5 times till now.
 - Report & Supporting documents in number: -
 - o Main Report – 187 Pages
 - o Detail of Sector wise losses – 3 Volumes – 3382 pages
 - o Draft Schemes under Productive Sectors – 131 pages
 - o Report containing geotagged assets under Productive Sectors – 127 pages
 - This kind of exercise was first of its kind in the State and the country

27. That the MHA, GOI has issued the proceedings of NEC Sub-Committee held under the chairmanship of Union Home Minister on 22nd March 2025. Further, the proposal has been approved by the GOI for Rs. 2006 Cr and 30% of the funds have also been released to the state.

Decision: -

1. The SDMA took note of the various activities carried out and appreciated notable achievements of the DMC Department of Revenue.
2. The SDMA also accorded its approval to take up two flood mitigation projects – one each of Kangra/Hamirpur and Kullu districts with NDMA amounting to Rs. 493.12 Crore for funding under NDMF/any other CSS through NDMA/MHA.

Agenda Item No. 9.9: Strengthening Technical Capacity of the DMC

28. The SDMA was apprised that the Disaster Management Cell (DMC) was created in Revenue Department after the closure and merger of State Gazetteer office in 2009 to cater to the additional workload created due to enactment of DM Act in 2005. The DMC has been providing secretariat assistance to the SEC and SDMA ever since. All activities on DRR on the directions and behalf of SDMA and SEC is being carried out by this cell at the State and district level. The disaster management work which was earlier handled by the D Section of Revenue Department is now being looked after by DMC. After the enactment of DM Act 2005 and increasing frequency and intensity of disaster in the state and country, a lot of focus is being laid on the preparedness, early warning, mitigation and capacity building. The work of DM has increased multi-fold and nature of activities is also changing rapidly. The fund flow has also increased multi-fold over the years, as can be seen from the detail given below: -

- 13th FC – 722 crores (Capacity Building – 20 crores)
- 14th Finance Commission: Rs. 1,304 crores (SDRF)
- **15th Finance Commission:**
 - SDRF Rs. 2,508 crores + NDRF: 1061.61 Cr
 - Earmarked Allocation: Rs. 250 crores (Earthquakes and Landslides)
 - GLOF Mitigation: 35.0 Crores
 - Allocation for Expansion and Modernization of Fire Services: Rs. 65 Crores
 - AFD Project – 892 crores – project is being rolled out
 - PDNA ~ 2,006 crores (1st Instalment of Rs 451 Crore released on 07-07-2025)

29. That to handle so much of funds, projects and activities, the DMC need to be appropriately strengthened with subject matter specialists. SDMA now require an Independent Office, EOC, and a Network of Support Organizations such as, State Fire Services, Civil Defence, Home Guards, Red Cross, NGOs, Technical Institutions and organisations, etc. There is also need of integrating DM Functions-- Response, Recovery, Preparedness, and Mitigation-- in the SDMA. Dedicated implementation capacity is required for each window of the DM continuum.

30. That 10% of the funds of SDRF under preparedness and capacity building window require a dedicated organisational set up. Proposal to set up Himalayan Centre for DRR has already been approved in file by the Hon'ble Chief Minister at MS HIPA but due to issue of payment of salary to the staff, who will require to be recruited, the matter has been held up. Besides, DMC doesn't have adequate space and budget to pay salaries for the positions already allowed under PMU for mitigation have also not been filled up.

31. That in order to effectively administer allotted funds, implement projects, carry out mitigation and various other activities, implement sanctioned projects, DMC need:

- At least few core experts on regular basis, such as, Geologist, Structural Engineers, Glaciologist/Hydrologist, etc.

- DMC need full time Program Director (preferably HAS Cadre), Finance Officer – SO (SAS Services), and Accountant to handle AFD funded HP DRRP, various Mitigation Program. AFD has agreed to provide salary to PD and SO out of the budget funds.
- Besides, the DMC may also be allowed to empanel Consultants whose services can be taken as and when required.
- The space earmarked in Phase III of Armsdale Building for DMC/Space allotted by SAD to DMC may be made available at the earliest.
- Space may be provided to construct SDMA building nearby HP Secretariat as a long-term solution – AFD project has provision of funds to construct the building.
- Budget may be provided by FD to bear salary and related office expenses of positions created under Mitigation PMU
- Additional Budget may also be provided to hire services of consultants to undertake specialised job, as per requirement.
- Two Core Faculty on DM with supporting staff (Project Associates – 2; and Computer Operators – 2; may be allowed to be recruited for HCDRR at MS HIPA to make the HCDRR functional.

Decision: -

1. The requirement of strengthening SDMA and SIDM was acknowledged, and it was directed that a comprehensive proposal be brought to the Cabinet.
2. PWD was directed to provide list of technical personnel available in PWD Department who can be sent on secondment basis to HPSDMA.
3. The DM Cell will explore the possibility of taking technical assistance from the experts of NDMA.

Additional Agenda Items

Agenda Item No. 9.10: Discussion on Changing Face of Disasters in HP & of Need for Policy Intervention

32. It was brought to the notice of the SDMA that since 2023, the scale, frequency and intensity of damage due to disasters during Monsoon has increased multi-fold. Some of the trends observed are as under: -

- **Cloudburst and Flashfloods** – these events are happening in large number and causing large scale damage and destruction. During this Monsoon season, which has just started, 23 events of flashfloods and 19 events of cloudbursts have been recorded in the field. Though the actual number may be large. These events are likely to increase with global warming and climate change.
- **Land subsidence** – large number of areas and village – As per the information collected by DMC, Department of Revenue around 200 villages, 1742 households and 2022 families involving 11106 people experienced land subsidence cases. A lot of studies were carried out in 2023 involving technical institutions.
- **Landslides** – 5749 landslides involving 45.44 square KMs area got affected in 2023 Monsoon. The State is highly prone to landslide hazards and GSI has already mapped around 17,000 landslides in the state. Large scale landslides are disrupting roads, WSS, power on the one hand and destroying private properties and livelihoods. There is need to work for landslide mitigation and slope stabilization on a large scale.

- **Destruction near water streams and areas around them** – During Monsoon 2024, as per the analyses of satellite data provided by the NRSC width of the khad at Bagiput, Nirmand at some location increased from 38 meters to 218 meters during the cloudburst event experienced on 30th July and 1st July 2024. Similarly, during the same time, the width of khad at Samej increased from 35 meters to 118 meters.
- **Setting up of Relief Camps** – In view of damage/destruction of houses, setting up of relief camps is becoming a routine in HP. In view of harsh climatic conditions there is a need to institutionalize this system. A case study of Sil/Sunani village, which was damaged during 2023 Monsoon disaster, being set up at Solan under CSR initiative, was shared.
- **Unseasonable snowfall** – Snowfall is generally experienced after October in the state. During 2018 unseasonable snowfall in HP, particularly in Lahaul and Spiti and higher altitude areas of the State experienced led to the stranding of large number of tourists in Lahaul and Spiti and herd of shepherds in many locations. In 2023, large number of tourists were stuck in Chandertal areas of Lahaul and Spiti. IAF was requisitioned in both cases to carry out search and rescue operations. With changing climate, such situations may become a new normal and state must gear for this.

33. Due to these challenges, the state has been suffering large scale damage. The direct damage during 2023 Monsoon alone was around 10,000 crores. The state budget meant for development is getting diverted to relief and restoration efforts. Many people are getting homeless; their livelihoods are being destroyed. Poor construction practices and construction in unsafe locations are exacerbating this problem. That fake news aiming at damaging tourism sector in the State has become a regular phenomenon.

34. After detailed discussion the following directions were issued: -

- 1) Flood zonation and land use planning will be carried along all rivers and streams across the state in a phased manner. **(Action by the JSV and TCP/UD/RDD)**
- 2) To deal with extreme weather conditions, the capacity of various stakeholders such as DRR authorities, SDRF, early warning, etc. will be increased. **(Action by DMC, SDRF, IMD & CWC)**
- 3) To ensure 'whole of Govt. Approach' for disaster response, the emergency support functions (ESFs) notified by the SEC and DDMA's will be institutionalized. **(Action by: SEC, DDMA's and All ESF Departments)**
- 4) Regulations issued by the SEC w.r.t. Hill Cutting, checklist prescribed major infrastructure projects and DRR integration by the SEC in December 2024 shall be strictly enforced. No AA and ES shall be accorded by the AD/HOD without including checklist in these regulations with the DPR/drawings. **(Action by: All Ads and HoDS)**
- 5) All dams shall ensure installation of early warning system and observation network. Action against defaulting dams shall be taken by the State Dam Authority. **(Action by all Dams and State Dam Authority – DoE)**
- 6) Special focus shall be laid on muck and drainage management by PWD and other executing agencies. **(Action by PWD, UD)**
- 7) Tourism and CA & IPR shall institutionalize 'Fact Check' system to counter fake news. **(Action by Tourism and CA & IPR)**
- 8) A system of crowd funding and CSR contribution to help victims of disasters will be strengthened. **(Action by GAD)**
- 9) Possibility of disaster insurance will be promoted to insure private assets. **(Action by DMC, Department of Revenue)**
- 10) Focus on Safe Construction practices will be increased. **(Action by RDD, UDD and TCP)**
- 11) **Construction of Retaining/Breast walls** – It was observed that stone walls are more resilient compared to RCC walls and PWD should promote use of such walls. **(Action by PWD Department)**

Agenda Item No. 9.11: Discussion on Current Disaster Situations

35. A detailed presentation about current Monsoon status, damages and losses and large-scale destruction in Thunag area of Mandi was shared with the SDMA. Summary of the current situation as shared with the SDMA is detailed as follows: -

- Flashfloods – 23; Cloudbursts – 19
- Deaths – 50 (Monsoon related) + 28 Road accidents; 37 (30 in Mandi) missing
- Relief Camps – 13 – 730 plus persons
- Animal loss - 253
- Road blocked – 241 (177 in Mandi); DTRs down 240 (226 in Mandi); WSS disrupted 175 (158 in Mandi)
- 14 bridges damages – vehicular 8 and 6 small
- Damages reported in DMIS – 572.69 Cr

36. It was brought to the notice of the SDMA that regular review meetings are being held at the State level to review the current situation. The DMC has taken the following steps to deal with the situation: -

- 1) Three HAS officers have been deployed in the affected area to help the local administration in administering relief measures.
- 2) Senior officers from the PWD, JSV, HPSEBL, SDRF have camped in the affected areas to ensure effective response.
- 3) Army, ITBP, IAF, NDRF, SDRF and local response agencies are working to rescue people and search the missing.
- 4) An amount of Rs. 300 Cr. has been released from SDRF to districts and departments for relief and restoration measures.
- 5) For rapid damage assessment request has been sent to NRSC (ISRO) Hyderabad for satellite imagery of affected areas, in addition, a team from HIMCOSTE/DMC has been sent for drone mapping of the affected areas.

36. The SDMA took note of the details and action taken so far and issued the following directions:

- 1) All the departments shall ensure that roads, water and power is restored in affected areas on war footing.
- 2) Relief measures shall be carried out quickly and monitored regularly.
- 3) DMC may mobilise expert agencies to study the extreme weather conditions.
- 4) District Administration may house the affected families in suitable relief camps and ensure that the relief camps run smoothly. Possibility of permanent rehabilitation of homeless people will also be explored.
- 5) Education department shall ensure restart of schools as quickly as possible.
- 6) Wage employment needs to be provided to the need people once the situation normalises.
- 7) To protect vulnerable habitations and infrastructure from future losses, mitigation interventions will be identified and planned.
- 8) Proper dumping of huge muck generated by the disaster need to be ensured so that its improper disposal doesn't pose problem in the future.
- 9) Detailed needs assessment will be carried out by the departments for rebuilding of damaged infrastructure.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to and from the Chair.

Approved by

Chief Secretary cum CEO
H.P. State Disaster Management Authority

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

1. All the Administrative Secretaries to the Government of Himachal Pradesh.
2. All the Members of the SDMA.
3. All the Members of the State Executive Committee.
4. Addl Pr.PS-cum-Special Secretary to the Hon'ble Chief Minister.
5. Senior PS to the Chief Secretary, Himachal Pradesh.
6. All the Deputy Commissioners-cum-Chairmen, DDMA's in Himachal Pradesh.
7. All, the Heads of Departments in Himachal Pradesh.
8. Guard File.

g
17/07/25

D. C. Rana

Director-cum-Special Secretary (Revenue-DM) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh

Annexure-I

1. Sh. Naresh Chauhan, Media Advisor to the Hon'ble Chief Minister.
2. Sh. Prabodh Saxena, Chief Secretary cum CEO SDMA, Himachal Pradesh.
3. Sh. Kamlesh Kumar Pant, Additional Chief Secretary (Revenue) Cum Member Secretary SDMA, HP.
4. Smt. Satwant Atwal, ADG-cum-Commandant, HG, Home and FS
5. Sh. Abhishek Trivedi, ADG L&O, Shimla
6. Sh. Abhishek Jain, Secretary PWD & Finance
7. Ms. M. Sudha Devi, Secretary Health, HP.
8. Sh D.C. Rana, Director-cum-Special Secretary (Rev-DM)
9. Sh. Arjit Sen Thakur, SP SDRF, Shimla
10. Ms. Anju Sharma, E-in-C, HP PWD
11. Sh. Shobhit Katiyar, Scientist D, IMD, Shimla
12. Sh. Vijay Kashyap, SE (W) JSV, Shimla
13. Sh. Anil Jaswal, EE, Hydrology, JSV Shimla.
14. Er. Narinder Pal Singh, E-in-C HPPWD
15. Sh. Vinod Sharma, ACF(Rev-DMC)
16. Ms. Suman Chahal, TCBC (Rev-DMC)

