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## A Study of Disaster Management: Its Prevention and Mitigation

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### **Abstract:**

*Disasters occur in many different forms which includes natural and manmade Disasters. Disaster in whichever form disrupts the normal life and working causing heavy losses to life, property, economy and work life .It many a times takes a toll of community to cope with the disruption caused by the disaster. This is where the importance of Disaster Management arises. Disaster Management is a process of effectively preparing for and responding to Disasters. It involves organizing resources strategically to lessen the harm caused by disasters .It also includes a systematic approach in managing the responsibilities of disaster prevention, preparedness, response and recovery. Thus the present paper focuses on the prevention and mitigation of disasters.*

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**Keywords:** *Disasters, Disruption, Preparing, Organizing resources and Disaster Management.*

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### **Introduction:**

Disaster Management is about organizing and managing resources to deal with the disasters. It includes efforts and initiatives to be taken to reduce the loss, impact and disruption caused by the disasters. The main aim of Disaster Management is to minimize the loss caused to life and property and preventing the disaster. It also involves preparing plans before, during and after the disaster. The before the disaster includes developing communication systems to issue warnings, ensuring safe shifting of people and animals to safe locations, mobilizing resources etc. During the period of disasters initiatives such as

relocating the people stuck in disaster, providing them food, shelter and medicines. The post Disaster period includes in rehabilitating the people by providing employment and compensation. Several agencies are involved in Disaster Management in India such as National Disaster Management Authority, National Executive Committee, State Disaster Management Authority, District Disaster Management Authority and local authorities which help in relocating, mobilizing resources and managing civic services in their areas.

**Objectives of the Study:**

1. To Study the prevention measures of Disaster Management.
2. To Study the mitigation measures during the Disaster Management.
3. To Study the Disaster Management in India.

**Research Methodology:**

The present research paper has collected data from secondary resources. The Secondary resource includes books, magazines, research papers, journals, and websites.

**Prevention and Mitigation Measures of Disaster Management:**

The Disaster Management includes prevention and mitigation of disasters. The following are the measures taken

- 1) Infrastructure such as dams, bridges, roads should undergo regular checkups to meet the safety standards and to be forfeited if necessary.
- 2) The increased occurrence and intensity of disasters should be addressed through proper strategies that reduce risk.
- 3) To use advanced technology and software such as Geographic Information System and mapping to find out high risk areas and also develop proper strategies to face them.
- 4) Proper town and city planning, well planned drainage system will help to face and reduce the disaster caused in big cities.

5) The Government should identify and deploy warning systems and connecting the systems to the remotest places so as to send warning signals early and shift people and animals to safer places and minimize the loss caused by disaster.

6) The government should handle the resources properly for various relief and rescue activities. Resources which are expendable and have to be collected at last moment whereas there are other resources which have to be planned before hand and kept in stock to avoid last minute problems. There has to be meticulous planning for the deployment and transporting of materials beforehand.

7) Offices and Institutions should construct their buildings in such a manner that they are safe. Ensure safe and secure working on machineries. The organizations should make their own safety plans and prepare rescue teams during the disasters. They should ensure installation of safety equipment such as firefighting equipment and also arrange evacuation plans and exit plans during the Disaster.

8) Hospitals, schools , Religious places and entertainment places should also develop their Disaster Management plans, choose alternative locations for shifting people to safe places , develop rescue teams and install proper safety equipments such as fire fightingequipments and alarm systems

to minimize life and property damages caused by disasters.

### **Disaster Management in India:**

India due to geo climatic and socio economic conditions is prone to various types of disasters. According to statistics during last ten years has been hit by approximately 430 various types of disasters leading to huge loss of life and property. India has faced disasters such as floods, earthquakes, cyclones, droughts, epidemics, mine disasters, landslides etc. The poor section of the society is the one who is most affected by these disasters. Disasters have a huge impact on the Society leading to socio- economic losses, environmental degradation and long term damages. Disaster Management in India has developed from activity base to reactive setup of proactive institutional framework. Over the past century the Indian Disaster Management has gone through drastic changes in its composition, nature and policy .A Disaster Management Act, 2005 has been framed for effective management of Disaster and matters connecting therewith. A legal Institutional framework developed based on provisions of the Act across the Country in vertical and horizontal hierarchy. National Institutional framework has been set up which comprises of various such as NDMA, NEC ,SDMA ,SEC, DDMA have been set up to look after the planning and framing of strategies and policies to be implemented during the disasters .Further

various Rescue teams, fire services , BSF and home guards have been appointed and developed to ensure smooth operations during the disasters. Disaster Relief operations are also followed such as temporary shelters, food ,water and emotional support and emergency health services such as first aid etc are been provided.

### **Conclusion:**

Thus with the help of Disaster Management one can minimize losses of life and property. The Disaster Management can be made more effective by encouraging knowledge networks ,proper training be given to disaster volunteers to be prepared and mobilizing stake holders participation such as Women's group and youth group etc. thus preparing ourselves to face disasters.

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