

Regulations. The hazard zonation maps prepared should be one of the inputs for preparation of Zoning Regulations.

- c. Building byelaws should incorporate the disaster resistant features of buildings. Since safety codes are complex and technical, it is necessary to issue simplified guidelines which could be understood by the citizens. Further, these codes should be implemented in the most hazard prone areas, on priority.
- d. The importance of disaster resistant constructions and simplified safety guidelines should be widely disseminated so as to promote compliance. In so far as the rural areas are concerned, other methods of dissemination including setting up of Building Technology Demonstration Centres and undertaking demonstrative disaster constructions in severe hazard prone areas should be taken up. Demonstration camps should also be used to make the people aware of the concerns and the solutions.
- e. The existing system of enforcement of building regulations needs to be revised. It should be professionalised by licensing architects and structural engineers for assessment of structures and certification of safe buildings. The units of local bodies dealing with enforcement of building byelaws and zoning regulations also need to be strengthened.
- f. The standards prescribed by BIS for disaster resistant buildings should be available in the public domain, free of cost. This should be posted on websites of the concerned government agencies to promote compliance.

17. Early Warning Systems

- a. Though it is the responsibility of the government machinery and the local bodies to disseminate the warning, peoples' participation has to be enlisted. For this purpose, the role of community leaders, NGOs and others should be clearly defined in the emergency response plan and they should be fully trained and prepared for their respective roles.
- b. Communications networks, with sufficient redundancies should be established between the data collection point to the points where hazard is likely to occur. The communication channels from the point of alert generation to the point of disaster should have enough redundancies so as to maintain line of communication in the event of a disaster striking. Care has to be taken to put in place

systems to disseminate warnings to all sections of the people.

- c. The early warning system should be evaluated after each disaster to carry out further improvements.

18. Emergency Plan

- a. Since the initial response in any crisis/ disaster should be timely and speedy, the Emergency Response Plans should be up-to-date and should lay down the 'trigger points' in unambiguous terms.
- b. The district emergency response plan should be prepared in consultation with all concerned. The plan should be known and accepted by all the role players. (This should be apart of the District Disaster Management Plan).

19. Civil Defence

- a. The Civil Defence Act should be amended as proposed so as to cover all types of disasters.
- b. Civil Defence should be constituted in all districts which are vulnerable not only to hostile attacks but also to natural calamities. The goal of community participation should be pursued primarily through the instrumentality of Civil Defence especially in urban areas.
- c. The objective should be to include 1% of the population within the fold of Civil Defence within five years. Efforts should be made to enlist paramedics as Civil Defence volunteers.
- d. Budgetary allocations relating to Central Financial Assistance for Civil Defence should be increased substantially.
- e. Civil Defence set-ups at all levels should be permitted to accept donations.
- f. The Civil Defence set-up at the state level may be brought under the control of the Crisis/ Disaster Management set-up.

20. Police, Home Guards and Fire Services

- a. Policemen, Firemen and the Home Guards at the field level who are among the first responders should be adequately trained in handling crises/ disasters. Such training should be specific to the types of crises envisaged in an area. More importantly, they should be fully involved in the preparation of the local Crisis/Disaster Management Plan and also be fully conversant with them.
- b. The minimum qualification for entry to Home Guards may be revised to at least a pass in the 10th class, given the increased responsibility and complexity of tasks to be entrusted to them.
- c. A section of Home Guards should also be given para-medical training.