



Mukhya Mantri School Safety Programme

A success story

- **151000 Nodal Teachers Trained on School Safety.....**
- **76000 Government Schools Covered**
- **20 Million Children Trained and Sensitized....**



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1. Introduction:

Bihar is one of the most disaster prone areas of the country. The state has areas that fall in highest seismic zoning, most flood affected region and some of the drought prone regions of the country. In past, Bihar has faced some of the most devastating earthquakes of high seismic intensity and has been affected by highly disastrous floods displacing several hundred thousands of people and rendering them homeless. In such event, children are most affected and most vulnerable group. In several of the past disasters, many children perished within school due to unsafe construction, lack of awareness of how to react to an emergency and preparedness measures adopted by school authority. In such situation, there was an urgent need to address the problems arising due to the lack of awareness, unsafe construction and a proper emergency management plan. **Mukhyamantri School Safety Program** sensitized and trained children and teachers on preparedness measures, promoted capacity building of officials and implemented structural and non-structural mitigation method to make school a safe place for children.

2. Background

i. Hazard Profile of Bihar:

The state of Bihar is vulnerable to different kinds of disasters due to its geographical and topographical location. It is prone to flood, drought, fire, earthquake, cold wave etc. According to seismic zoning, eight districts of the state are in zone- V, and twenty two fall in zone IV. This can cause devastation as serious as Bhuj (Gujarat) and Latur (Maharashtra). Floods are recurring phenomenon brought about by the perennial rivers. There are twenty two flood prone districts out of the total 38 districts in the state. Some of the southern districts are prone to draught too. Also, limited resources and constantly growing population has put extra pressure on land and people to look out for

alternative livelihood thus giving rise to urbanization. In such situation, even a small hazard such as stampede, kitchen fire or major earthquake can have devastating results.

ii. Rationale

Children are one of the most affected groups in any disaster due to their inability to respond to emergencies due to various reasons. In a multi-hazard prone state such as Bihar, schools are often located in vulnerable areas and unprepared to respond to emergencies. In recent years, many schools across India have witnessed many catastrophic incidents:

- A fire led to the **deaths of over 400 people** —about half of them students— at a school's prize giving ceremony in Dabwali Haryana in 1995;
- In 2001 a total of **31 teachers died and 95 were injured; 971 students perished and 1,051 were injured** in the Bhuj Earthquake, Gujarat. Formal education was disrupted due to widespread damage to physical infrastructure. Many of the buildings collapsed and many other were declared unfit for use. Many of these buildings had been poorly constructed, lacked earthquake resistant features and were badly maintained.
- A fire at the Lord Krishna School in Kumbakonam, Tamilnadu took the lives of **94 children in 2004;**
- Thousands of students and teachers were killed, injured or otherwise affected in the 2004 South Asia Tsunami;
- **15 children and 3 teachers died** in a boat accident during a school picnic at Kerala in 2007.
- In Nepal –Bihar earthquake 2015, the death toll reached 61, while in the storm that had hit the state prior to the quake, 55 lives was lost in Bihar. Education, public awareness and proper training for enhancing the capacity is the cornerstone of approaches aimed at reducing vulnerabilities to natural hazards. The Sendai Framework for Action 2015: Building the Resilience of

Nations and Communities to Disasters, adopted at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, highlights knowledge and education as one of the eight main priorities of action and its streamline in the government plans and policies.

3. Vision: To promote a culture of “**prevention**” in school keeping children in the center of disaster preparedness and make schools safer places for the children.

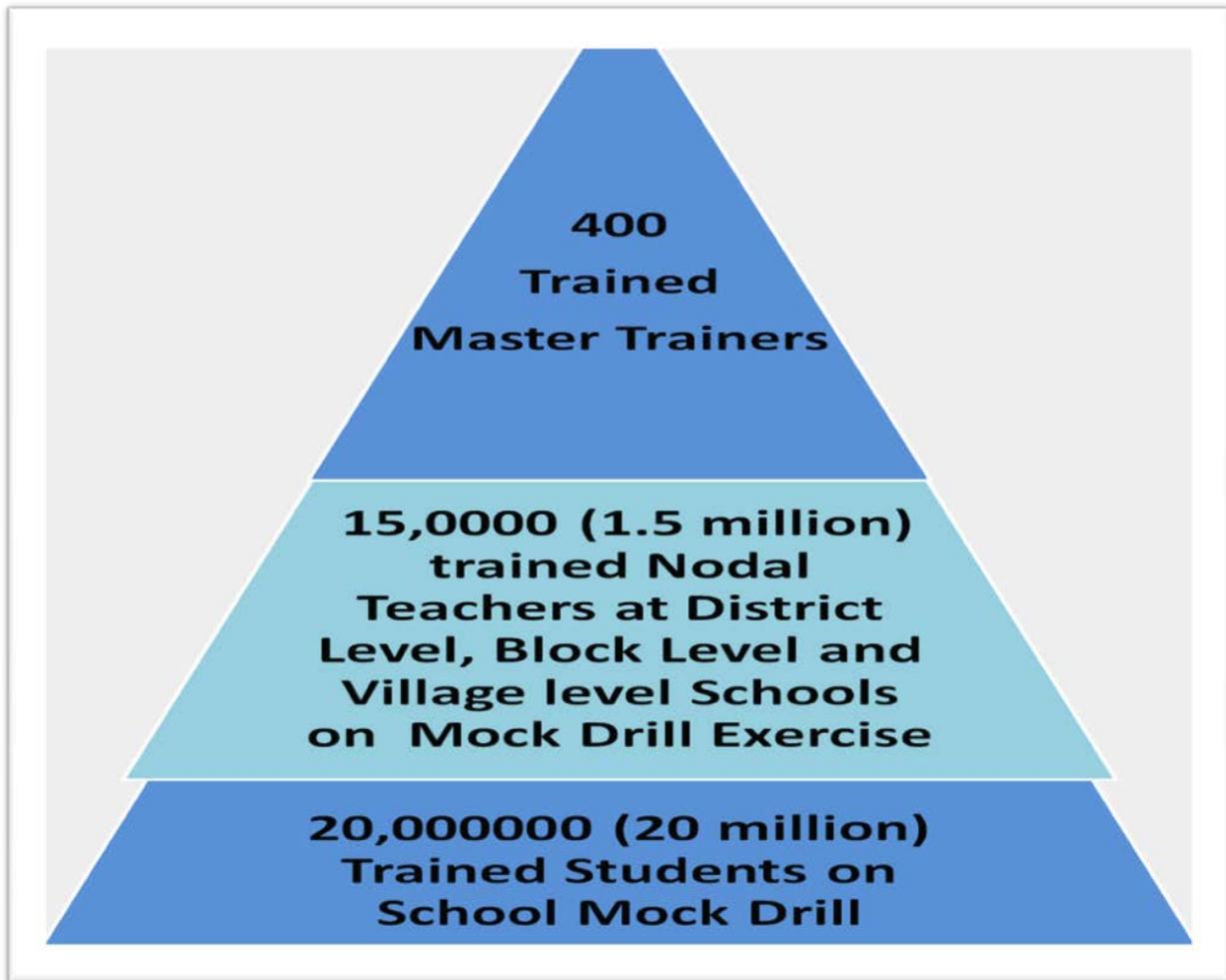
4. About Mukhyamantri School Safety Program:

Owing to the importance of safety of children at school, BSDMA planned to reach each and every schools of Bihar to make it a safer place for children through the School Mock Drill Exercise. Towards this end, BSDMA initiated the Mukhyamantri School Safety Program (MSSP), which is being implemented along with Bihar Education Project Council (BEPC) and Department of Education (DoE), Govt. of Bihar. BSDMA is providing all the related technical consultancy for the execution of this program from village level to state level. The program is also being steered by the District Disaster Management Authorities (DDMAs), in each and every school located in 38 districts the state (**Seventy six thousand government schools and 50 thousand private schools covering more than twenty million (2 carore) school children across the state**). In accordance to the various monitoring reports received by BSDMA, the program has been a big success in identifying, strengthening and capacity building of 1,51000 (One lakh fifty one thousand) Nodal Teachers cum Master Trainers in Seventy six thousand government schools and 50 thousand private schools of the 38 districts, besides capacitating 2,0000000 (2carore/20 million) school children in the state.

5. Targets Achieved:

- Mukhya Mantri School Safety Programme capacitated more than 150000(One lakh fifty thousand) Teachers as Master Trainers on School Mock Drill Exercise

- BSDMA & Education Department succeeded in sensitizing 2 crore (20 million) school children on the basics of mock drill for safety against earthquake ,fire and disaster preparedness through the Mukhya Mantri School Safety Programme .
- Mukhya Mantri School Safety Programme facilitated the direct participation of 600000 (Six lakh /0.6Million), School Management Committee Members (Parents Teachers Association) in activities that would help building towards a disaster resilient community (In Bihar 76000 Schools have School Management Committee which has, on an average 8 members each , comprising of the parents , teachers and community leaders).
- Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities : Mukhya Mantri School Safety Programme facilitated one of the largest Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities in India , on Disaster Management, through the distribution of hand bills, leaflets , pamphlets, banners and posters. More than 50 lakh (half million) four page brochure on processes of School Mock Drill Exercise was printed by the Education Department for distribution across the 76000 schools in 38 districts of Bihar.
- More than 40 thousand Comics on Mock Drill Exercise for Children, 40 thousand awareness posters , were distributed by Bihar State Disaster Management Authority (BSDMA) on School Mock Drill Exercise.
- At each of the thirty eight districts of Bihar, the district units of the Education Department(Sarv Siksha Abhiyan) printed and distributed the posters (soft copy was provided by BSDMA) on School Safety and basics of First Aid.
- This programme for the first time facilitated the capacity building of education department officials, Police Personnel, teachers on School Safety and Disaster Management.



6. Report and Processes on the implementation of the Mukhyamantri School Safety Program (MSSP) in Bihar:

i. Training of Trainers at State Level

ii. Training of Master Trainers cum Nodal Teachers at District and Block Level

iii. Launch of the Mega Mock Drill Fortnight Exercise by the H. Chief Minister, Bihar (3RD July to 18th July -2015)

i. Training of Trainers at State Level (400 Master Trainers trained at State Level): Bihar has more than 76000 government schools including primary, upper primary, middle and high schools. Owing to such a large number of schools in the state, it became practically very challenging to create a pool of Master Trainers who can trickle down the School Mock Drill training

programme from State level to District level to Block level to village level. Considering this challenge as an opportunity, the Bihar State Disaster Management Authority and Education Department,s initiated this process on cascade model. Under this process more than 400 master trainers from Education Department, Bihar Police and Home Guards, who were representing each of the thirty eight districts of Bihar, were given quality training on the processes of School Mock Drill Exercise, by the personnel of 9,National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), Bihta, Patna.





Training of Master Trainers cum Nodal Teachers at District and Block Level (151000 Teachers trained across the state) : The above mentioned 400 Master Trainers, who were capacitated in Training of the Trainers (ToT), Programme at state level become the Master Trainers at District and Block level. The program aims to create and promote an environment in every school conducive for the children to learn, implement and make other learn about safety measures before, during and after disasters. Since the majority of the program is within the school campus, the program will help the schools nurture a culture of prevention amongst the children.

iii. Launch of the Mega Mock Drill Fortnight Exercise by the H. Chief Minister, Bihar (3RD July to 18th July -2015 Venue: Gandhi Maidan , Patna.) The fortnightly programme in government and private schools - Vidyalyaya Suraksha Jagrukta Pakhwara – was formally launched by Chief Minister of

Bihar, Shri. Nitish Kumar, on 3rd of July 2015, to create awareness among schoolchildren on how to tackle natural disasters.

On its launch at Gandhi Maidan, 5000 students from schools participated in the mock drill performed under the guidance of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF). While inaugurating the programme, Chief Minister of Bihar, announced that every year Vidyalaya Suraksha Yojana Diwas would be celebrated across the state in all the schools on July 4.

"Unless students are not aware of the steps to be taken at the time of disaster, it would be very difficult to make the awareness programme successful. There are two crore students in Bihar and if we are able to make them aware on how to tackle the disaster, our aim would be achieved," stated the H. Chief Minister cum Chairman of BSDMA.

The Chief Minister further added: "Of the 38 districts, 28 are flood-prone. Among them, 15 are severely flood-prone. Bihar is unique because here you will find flood and at the same time drought. When there is heavy rain, the rivers from Nepal bring devastation and when there is dry spell, the state faces drought. Sometimes the state faces cyclones and recently we witnessed earthquakes too (on April 25, 26 and May 12). So you must be aware of how to tackle disaster." In the recent earthquakes, the death toll reached 61, while in the storm that had hit the state prior to the quake, 55 lives was lost in Bihar.

Sh. Anil K. Sinha, IAS (retd), Vice Chairman, BSDMA, highlighted the need to create a culture of preparedness in the state. He stated that "After the continued earthquake panic, BSDMA is stressing on evolving a culture of preparedness in the state through continuous capacity building and training of the community members and government officials. The Vice Chairman further advised that "everyone should take lessons from Japan, which has been badly bruised by several earthquakes. Yet, they have developed themselves in such a scale that earthquakes in do not even become news there anymore,"

Education minister P.K. Shahi stated that more than 150,000 school teachers have been trained on School Mock Drill Exercise and these teachers would facilitate the fortnight long 'Vidyalaya Suraksha Jagrukta Pakhwara' in each of the seventy six thousand government schools across the state.

Director-General of NDRF, O.P. Singh, were also present apart from Disaster Management Principal Secretary Sh. Vyas ji and Education Department Principal Secretary, Sh. R.K. Mahajan in the historic launch of the programme.





7. Schools: Children at the central focus

The program is totally focused at children and their safety in school and hence all the activities have been planned keeping the children at the center of the program. The program aims to create and promote an environment in every school conducive for the children to learn, implement and make other learn about safety measures before, during and after disasters. Since the majority of the program is within the school campus, the program will help the schools nurture a culture of prevention amongst the children.

The program has been implemented in primary, middle as well as high schools of each district.

8. Interventions at State level:

- a. Launch of program along with sensitization and training, of all stakeholders (Teachers, line government depts, UN Agencies, INGOs and DDMAAs) was ensured.
- b. Training of Trainers and Nodal Teachers at State level was facilitated , thus creating a pool of 400 Nodal Teachers on School Safety and Mock Drill Exercise at the apex (state) level.
- c. Formulation of phasing criteria for schools.
- d. Development of draft Mukhya Mantri School Safety Programme (MSSP) and Vidyalaya Suraksha Jagrukta Pakhwara.
- e. Inclusion of appropriate Disaster Management lessons, case studies, problems etc. in school syllabi through State Council for Education Research & Training (SCERT) and State Institute of Educational Management and Training (SIEMAT)
- f. Development of model school DM plan template, including format for mock drill.
- g. Development of training modules for district level TOTs.
- h. Development of various IEC materials.
- i. Development of non-structural mitigation guidelines/checklist for Rapid Visual Survey (RVS).
- j. Development of retrofitting guidelines.
- k. Monitoring and Evaluation of Programme at the state Level.

9. Intervention at District Level:

- a. Identification of 76000 schools in each of the 38 districts of Bihar.
- b. Training of Trainers and Nodal Teachers at Block Resource Center (BRC) and Cluster Resource Center (CRC), thus creating a pool of **1,51000 (One Lakh**

Fifty One Thousand) Nodal Teachers on School Safety and Mock Drill Exercise.

- c. Developing implementation modalities for MSSP by DDMA's and Education Department.
- d. Printing of 60 lakh (Six Million) IEC materials in Hindi and circulation to schools.
- e. Conducting training, mock drills and awareness programs in the schools. This was coordinated along with District Institute of Education and Training (DIET), Block and Cluster Resource Center (BRC and CRC) and School Management Committee.

10. Sensitization of School Management Committee:

- The School Management Committee or Vidyalaya Shiksha Samiti (VSS) supervised the activities of School Mock Drill Exercise. The members of the committee included the principal of the school, ward member of the ward (head of the committee), VSS members, CRC, School Safety Focal Point teachers, Class Mentors/Monitors(students), Bal Sansad, president/secretary of Meena Manch etc.
 - a. Development of School Disaster Management Plan in School Development Plan Template.
 - b. Testing of plan and conducting mock drill.
 - c. Review and approval of School DM Plans.
 - d. Preparation of mock drill and training calendar for each year.
 - e. Using **Chetana Satra** (Extra Curricular time) optimally for spreading awareness through geet, prayers and programs.

CM launches Vidyalaya Suraksha Jagrukta Pakhwara programme for schoolchildren

Nitish lessons on disaster awareness

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Chief minister Nitish Kumar on Friday inaugurated a programme to create awareness among schoolchildren on how to tackle natural disasters.

The programme — Vidyalaya Suraksha Jagrukta Pakhwara — would be organised fortnightly in government and private schools.

On its launch at Gandhi Maidan, 4,100 students from nine schools participated in the mock drill performed by officials of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF). While inaugurating the programme, Nitish announced that every year, Vidyalaya Suraksha Yojana Diwas would

be celebrated across the state in all the schools on July 4.

The programme was jointly organised under the banner of Mukhyamantri Vidyalaya Suraksha Yojana by the education and disaster management departments.

"Unless students are not aware of the steps to be taken at the time of disaster, it would be very difficult to make the awareness programme successful. There are two crore students in Bihar and if we are able to make them aware on how to tackle the disaster, our aim would be achieved," said Nitish.

Education minister FK. Shahi and the director general of NDRF, G.P. Singh, were also

present apart from disaster management principal secretary Vyas Ji and education department principal secretary R.K. Mahajan.

Nitish added: "Of the 38 districts, 28 are flood prone. Among them, 15 are severely flood prone. Bihar is unique because here you will find flood and at the same time drought. When there is heavy rain, the rivers from Nepal bring devastation and when there is dry spell, the state faces drought. Sometimes the state faces cyclones and recently we witnessed earthquakes too on April 25, 26 and May 12. So you must be aware of how to tackle disaster."

In the recent earthquakes,

the death toll reached 61, while in the storm that had hit the state prior to the quake, 15 lives were lost in Bihar.

Nitish said: "After the continued earthquake panic, the state government is stressing on making buildings stronger."

Nitish said everyone should take lessons from Japan, which has been badly hit by several earthquakes. "Yet, they have developed themselves to such a scale that earthquakes do not even become news there anymore," he said.

Education minister Shahi said 1.1 lakh teachers are being given training on how to tackle disasters.



Students take part in the mock drill during the awareness programme in Patna on Friday. Picture by Deepak Kumar

The Telegraph • Patna • 4 जून, 2015

Times (Patna) - 7 Jun 2015 - Page #4

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Trainers get tips on disaster mgmt training

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PATNA: In a joint initiative, the Bihar State Disaster Management Authority (BSDMA), education department and 9th battalion of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) organised a state-level "Training of trainers workshop of resource persons under school safety programme" on Saturday. The move aims to prepare trainers ahead of an ambitious mock-drill programme - 'Vidyalaya Suraksha Pakhwara (VSP)' - that would be conducted between July 1 and 15.

The VSP will be organised under Mukhyamantri School Safety Programme (MSSP) and train students and teachers of about 76,000 government and 50,000 private schools on disaster management through mock drills.

In Saturday's workshop, 64 representatives of interna-

NDRF PERSONNEL ALSO LAUDED THE BSDMA FOR INVOLVING NGOS IN RELIEF WORKS, SAYING IT WOULD EASE NDRF'S LOAD AND ENSURE BETTER EFFICIENCY IN DISASTER MANAGEMENT



■ A mock drill on disaster management being conducted in Patna on Saturday.

HT PHOTO

tional non-government organisations and UN agencies working in all 38 districts of the state received training on life-saving techniques such as cardio pulmonary resuscitation (CPR), lifting and carrying stations, blood control and method to perform splinting when parts of body get damaged in a disaster. Other aspects of fire safety, earthquake safety and first-aid were also explored.

Inaugurating the workshop, BSDMA members Uday Kant Misra, NDRF deputy comman-

dant KK Jha and Manish Ranjan from the force stressed the need for mock drills and said people could be equipped to deal with disasters only if trainers were fit to train them.

NDRF personnel also lauded the BSDMA for involving NGOs in relief works, saying it would ease NDRF's load and ensure better efficiency in disaster management.

"We have expertise and experience. But NGOs and other organisations dedicated to disaster risk reduction work

on ground level before and after disasters makes their experience more valuable," they said.

After conducting mock drills in groups, the workshop concluded with a combined mock drill on school safety.

State programme director of Bihar Education Project Council Shridhar C also spoke. Project officers Anand Vijeta and Vishal Vasvani conducted the event while BSDMA secretary Naresh Paswan, senior advisors Ajit Samaiyar and Anuj Tiwari were present on the occasion.



