

# NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

Government of India

NDMA Bhawan

A-1 Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi – 110029

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## PRESS RELEASE

### **Massive Public Awareness is Key to Successful Disaster Management – Vice Chairman, NDMA**

Delivering Key Note address at a National Seminar on Disaster Management organized by IIS University, Jaipur today, Shri M. Shashidhar Reddy, Vice Chairman National Disaster Management Authority called for greater public awareness which would be the key to successful disaster management. Referring to earthquakes, he said that very often proper building codes are not followed in construction. So it is not only earthquakes, but poor standards of quality construction lead to collapse of buildings as recently witnessed in Delhi and other places.

Referring to 2006 flooding in Barmer district of Rajasthan Shri Reddy said that it was because of 575mm rainfall over a three day period while the average annual rainfall was 277 mm. Mumbai floods in 2005 was due to 944mm rainfall in a 24 hour period. These are certainly some examples of manifestation of climate change.



Shri Reddy said that Disaster Management Curriculum for CBSE has been introduced from Class 9-12 while efforts are being made to encompass entire higher/ technical education. He also stated that NDMA has also taken initiative to introduce basic earthquake engineering in undergraduate and diploma level civil engineering and architecture courses.

Shri Reddy reiterated that though we have lot of acts, rules, codes etc but when it comes to implementation, there is much that needs to be done. In fact, Govt. agencies alone will not be able to enforce them and he called upon massive public awareness to educate people to make them realize what such measures mean for their own safety and well being.

This Seminar was attended by large number of girl students of the University.



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