

Nashik's protective measures taken before, during and after floods

Summary:

Considering its geographical location, Nashik is vulnerable to various kind of hazards like flood, earthquake, drought etc. The potential and past occurrences of various natural disasters have had long lasting impacts on human lives, livelihoods and property of the city. In view of this, the district administration felt the urgency of undertaking an emergency response plan in order to minimize the negative impacts of a possible natural calamity in future. Thus, the city initiated an important task of updating the District Disaster Management Plans.

Objective and rationale:

- To improve the preparedness measures during flood conditions in the city of Nashik.
- To develop a comprehensive integrated long-term plan for Disaster Management for any climatic conditions.
- To reduce disaster impact on health care facilities, schools, roads, infrastructure etc.

Key stakeholders:

- Smart City Development Ltd.
- Nashik Municipal Corporation
- District Disaster Management Cell

Implementation in practice:

An integrated approach was adopted to strategize the activities being undertaken to cover the various aspects of preparedness. The plan covered various aspects of preparedness measures before, during and after the flood disaster situation in both rural as well as urban areas of Nashik city. Considering the fact that the city had been experiencing very to very heavy rainfall over the year 2019, the municipal corporation along with its disaster management cell formulated a well-organized and integrated disaster management plan for the city. Disaster risk management component contains, multi-level plan preparation, capacity building at various levels through trainings, community awareness, create resources database with coordination at district administration and line departments, multi sector and multi-disciplinary actions for mitigate disasters with pre-during and post disaster activities, resource mobilization and technical assistance.

Resource utilisation:

Funding's from State Disaster budget and regular disaster resource from Nashik Municipal Corporation, District Collectorate & Central Governments Smart City Mission funding. There would be a compensation of Rs. 10,000/- for rural areas and Rs. 15,000/- for urban areas for affected families. In addition to this, a compensatory amount of Rs. 75,000/- would be given for small businesses that have suffered the respective damages during the flood disaster.

Impact:

Nashik is a city where the normal and high flood situations arises frequently on each and every year. For this, a well-organized and well-prepared disaster management system had been necessary. This year's disaster management plan and system has impacted effectively, which can be used a baseline for planning the disaster management initiatives in future.

- The development of disaster management plan at an early stage led to increased preparedness for the disaster. All the information about damages, diversions, restoration was shared with the public through press conferences, Twitter, Facebook, etc. ensuring the effective implementation of precautionary measures
- Minimization of infrastructural and human health loss was observed due to extensive preparedness for the floods.
- Reduced vulnerability and increased accessibility to food supply during the event of disaster

Key challenges and Lessons Learnt

Challenges faced were lack of communication systems for effective and speedy relief operations; alternate road infrastructures are to be constructed in quick time where there submerged roads and other infrastructures in high flood conditions. *Source: (NIUA, n.d.)*

Replicability and Sustainability

Thorough revision of disaster management plans could be undertaken by smart cities to update and equip the ecosystem with flood preparedness, mass awareness and extensive community engagement for adoption of city-wide flood precautionary measures to reduce vulnerability.



Fact Sheet:

Thematic area	Climate resilience, flood management and mitigation
First-year of the program	2019
Responsible institution	Nashik Smart City Ltd
Target audience	Flood prone areas of Nashik city
Coverage	Nashik, Maharashtra