



सत्यमेव जयते



IN-HOUSE ACTIVITIES

JNU-NIDM COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMME ON DISASTER RESEARCH

In-House Activities

Index

- I. LAUNCHING CEREMONY & NATIONAL DEBATE ON
“EXPLORING SOCIAL SCIENCES TOOLS IN
TEACHING DISASTER RESEARCH”
21ST SEPTEMBER, 2015**

- II. LECTURE SERIES**

- III. INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY**

**LAUNCHING CEREMONY & NATIONAL DEBATE ON
“EXPLORING SOCIAL SCIENCES TOOLS IN TEACHING DISASTER RESEARCH”
21/09/15**

The MoS/MHA Shri Kiren Rijiju radicalized research and policy sustainability of disaster management by initiating a Memorandum of Understanding between the transdisciplinary Disaster Research Programme (DRP) at JNU and the GoI’s National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) on 6th August 2015 in the North block.

This followed some discomfort amongst technology experts on the increased role of social



scientists, law and governance experts in disaster research which had erstwhile been located and confined to IITs and science departments in the country. Understanding the need for an open debate on the philosophical break in disaster management introduced by the Hyogo framework and later the spirit of the Sendai Declaration, DRP organized a ‘national seminar’ on “Exploring Social Sciences Tools in Teaching Disaster Research”. The seminar was held on 21st September’ 2015 at Convention Centre, JNU, New Delhi with Hon’ble Minister for Home Affairs, Mr. Kiren Rijiju as the chief guest. The day marked the launching ceremony of activities which would work towards a Centre for Excellence in Disaster Research at JNU. This would be a joint collaboration of JNU, National Institute of Disaster Management(NIDM)/ Ministry of Home Affairs, GOI.

The debate revolved around the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 which is the first major agreement of the post-2015 development agenda, with seven targets and four priorities for action. The social sciences agenda brought out the best arguments on why development would be a zero sum game without investing in DRR. It also indicated that the lowest in the socio-economic hierarchy were worst affected notwithstanding the constitutional safeguards and flagship programmes for livelihood generation. Social sciences would bring back

the misdirected focus of DRR from technology determinist planning in DRR to building community resilience through the inclusion of women, SC/ST/Minorities and persons with disabilities into the decision making processes at the level of grassroot governance. Since the debate is about justice and vulnerabilities, social sciences have the depth of ecosystem relationships in the universe, in which nature sustains through a co-existence of all living species. This elevates the non-human species of plants and animals to a platform of equal rights to survive with dignity and care as humans. Social Sciences question anthropogenesis of planning and policies so that DRR becomes more inclusive, just and better governed. Till today not a single state disaster management plan in the country has demonstrated this gravity of purpose and necessity!

During the launch ceremony, delegates such as Prof. Santosh Kumar, Director, NIDM, Dr. V.K.Dadhwal, Director, National Remote Sensing Centre (ISRO), Dr. Nivedita P Haran, Former Addl. Chief Secretary, Kerala, Mr. O.P.Singh, Director General, NDRF, Mr. Gajendra Kumar Sharma, Director, World Animal Protection and Dr. Suman Sharma, Principal, LSR/DU discussed about the role of their respective organizations in managing and mitigating disasters. They were joined by Prof. S.K. Sopory (VC), Prof. Amita Singh, Prof.Mondira Dutta, Dr.Sunita Reddy and Prof. Milap Punia from JNU. It was highlighted that due to the diverse nature of the disaster itself, it is imperative to have a transdisciplinary centre to study disasters. In order to avert or mitigate disasters, the focus needs to be on the regional assessment of the disaster prone areas. For this purpose, the help of space agencies and geo-platform like Bhuvan can be taken. Further, the economic and environmental cost of disaster needs to be accounted for. These costs should also include the costs associated with the loss of livestock as well. Every year, 4.8 million people are affected by disasters in India. Development as a cause for disaster needs serious investigation as this unregulated development in housing sector causes ecological and climate imbalance. It was pointed out that there is a gap between administration and academics which needs to be reduced in order to have a better insight. The communication and dialogue amongst States, along with accountability and implementation of laws needs to be improved. All the stakeholders, including panchayats, district collector, policy makers, State and Central governments need to be brought together for effective interaction. The training programs should be implemented from colleges through various workshops, NCC, NSS



and sports. Hon'ble Minister for Home Affairs, Mr. Kiren Rijiju emphasized on reaching to the community and taking inputs from the local people for assessment, mitigation and management of disasters. He pointed out that marginalized section was most affected which results in the loss of buying capacity thereby hurting the economic chain. Therefore, the focus needs to shift from disaster risk reduction to rehabilitation, relief and rescue.

The Centre for Excellence in Disaster Research aims at involving a cluster of colleges and initiate a neighbourhood watch scheme through them. Training programs relating to disaster management and preventive measures will be instituted in these colleges. NIDM and NDRF will play a key role in doing the same. The prime focus will be on complete decentralization so that disasters can be averted, mitigated and managed at the local level. Further, the centre intends to incorporate various disciplines of research in order to have a trans-disciplinary approach towards disaster management. For this purpose, the launching ceremony was followed four sessions on different themes to develop and design the curriculum for disaster research.

Session I — Theme: Revisiting Disaster Policy in India

Coordinator – Prof. Mondira Dutta, CIAS/JNU

Keynote Speech on “Do we need to change the DNA of Disaster Research”

by – Prof. Santosh Kumar, Director, NIDM

Chair : Prof. Vinod Kumar Sharma, IIPA

Co-Chair : Prof.Chandan Ghosh, NIDM

Discussant : Dr. Subhalakshmi Sircar, MDI, Gurgaon

Panelists : Mr. Pramod Asthana, Director (Research), BPRD, Delhi, Prof. N.K. Chakravarti, Director, KIIT School of Law, Bhubaneswar, Dr. A.K. Sinha, Senior Research Officer, NDMA, Dr. Sarita Ghai, Kamla Nehru College, University of Delhi, Dr. Reena Cherian, Department of Social Work, University of Delhi, Dr. Priyanka Jha, Sri Venkateswara College, University of Delhi, Dr. Surya Prakash, NIDM

The aim of the session was to analyze the existing disaster policy and recognize the way disaster is construed. It is essential to distinguish between dynamic and static risk, especially to the people living on the edge. The marginalized section faces a higher risk due to unorganized and unchecked urban planning. Risk assessment has to be the first step towards managing disaster. Disaster study needs to be categorized into three dimensions:

1. Social structure study: Review of local community's diversity and vulnerability.
2. Infrastructural study: Local training and preparedness through Schools, Colleges, etc.

3. Legal Structure Study: To analyze victims' rights.

Two most vulnerable sections at the time of disaster were identified as women and animals. Women's special needs need to be kept into account during the relief and rescue operations. Additionally, they are under a threat of rape, violence and trafficking at the time of disaster. Thus, it is vital that the task force as well as decision making institutions should include a fixed percentage of women. Simultaneously, saving livestock and other animals that serve as the livelihood asset and emotional well-being for most human beings should be a priority.



We need to increase the number of stakeholders in managing disasters. There needs to be a public private partnership, inclusion of various departments such as Health and nutrition, Education, Women, etc. and community participation. The disaster vulnerability can be reduced only if the community resilience is increased.

SESSION II —Theme: Law and Governance Issues, Vulnerability and Role of Criminal Justice System

Co-ordinator : Prof.G.V.C.Naidu, Centre for Indo-Pacific Studies/JNU

Chair : Prof. G.S. Bajpai, Registrar, National Law University, Delhi

Discussant : Dr.P.Puneeth, CSLG/JNU

Panelists : Prof. Mohd. Sultan Bhat, Kashmir University, Srinagar, Prof. Rabindranath Bhattacharya, University of Burdwan, Burdwan, Dr.A.K.Sinha, Senior Research Officer, NDMA, Dr.Aashita Dawer, Faculty of Law, Jamia Milia Islamia, Dr.Stellina Jolly, Faculty of Legal Studies, South Asian University, Delhi, Dr.Amir Ali Khan, NIDM

The session aimed at a discourse on criminal justice, law and governance pertaining to disaster. The pre-existing Disaster Management Act, 2005 and National Policy on disaster Management, 2009 were assessed. The lacunas in the legislation regarding criminal justice at the time of disaster were pointed out. The rate of criminal activity including looting, rape, violence, murder increases at the time of disaster. The Disaster Management Act, 2005 does not envisage any specific role for the functionaries in the criminal justice system. There needs to be a modification in the criminal law for these times. The role of each and every department of Centre, State, Police and judiciary has to be assigned. The accountability of various departments such as electricity, water, etc. needs to be ingrained in the law.



The distinction between rapid-onset disasters, slow-onset disasters and complex or chronic disasters was necessitated. The economic value of losing livestock in disasters is little considered or under-valued in general awareness. Specialists working in the fields of disaster recovery and livestock development, however, have long understood these issues – but have rarely expressed these in economic terms. Thus, it is important to perform risk factor analysis in order to assess the amount of livestock at risk which could provide an economic baseline for the formulation of laws. Hence, it was affirmed that natural laws could best resonate in the human institutions created by human beings for human betterment.

SESSION III — Theme: Medical and Public Health Issues

Co-ordinator : Dr. Sunita Reddy, CSMCH/JNU

Chair : Dr. Sanjeev Kumar, Director, NHSRC

Discussant : Dr. Sujata Satapathy, Department of Psychiatry AIIMS, New Delhi

Panelists : Dr. Devashish Bhattacharya, Addl. Director, Dept. of Health, Delhi,
Dr. P. Ravindran, Add. DDG/Director, EMR, Mr. C.S. Agarwal, NCDC,
Dr. Rajib Dasgupta, CSMCH/JNU, Dr. Prasenjit Biswas, NEHU, Shillong.



The first and foremost impact of disaster is on health. The one-hour post disaster is the Golden hour, during which there is an immediate need of medical attention to the victims. The Triage mechanism is used to determine the priority of patients' treatments based on the severity of their condition. This rations patient treatment efficiently when resources are inadequate for all to be treated immediately. However, with insufficient and mismanaged means in addition to the loss of lives of doctors and paramedics, it is difficult in disasters to treat the victims effectively. Furthermore, the patients' mental health deteriorates and most of them suffer from PTSD(Post traumatic stress disorder). Therefore, it is important that lifesaving vaccines, doctors and psychiatrists be present at the time of disaster. When the State is failing in mitigating disasters, private hospitals and civil society need to participate and take responsibility. Moreover, legal framework needs to be developed to whereby vicarious liability can be attached to the care giving institution.

SESSION IV — Theme: GIS, ICT and Role of Technology

Co-ordinator : Prof. Milap Punia, CSRD/JNU

Chair: Prof. N. Ramanujam, Department of Coastal Disaster Management, Pondicherry University

Discussant : Dr. Guru Balamurugan, Centre for Geo Informatics, TISS, Mumbai

Panelists : Prof. Saumitra Mukherjee, SES, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Prof. R. B. Singh, Chairperson, Department of Geography, Delhi University, Mr. Rajesh Kaushik, Disaster & Development Professional, Delhi, Prof. A.P. Dimri, SES, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Mr. R.C.Sharma, Ex-Director, Delhi Fire Services, New Delhi, Dr. Anil K Gupta, NIDM



As is observed that poor and developing countries may not be in a position to mitigate disasters, the role of technology has become extremely important. Earthquakes, Tsunami and Landslides being earth related disasters, it is important to invoke the plate tectonic theory and satellite image mapping for averting and alleviating disaster. The diversity of the population in India, which has slums and high income households on the same land, makes GIS and ICT extremely important. Moreover, open access of google earth is helpful for an elementary overview of the disaster struck region. More than 70% of population is not insured. For the section living on the floodplains, there is an immediate need for flood management plan along with weather stations and Rivergate stations to understand the river and tidal flow. Also, the clusters in urban cities are fire prone for which fire services need to be well trained. With the advancement of spatial technology, it is easier to predict disaster which can help in preparedness. Thus, with the simulation of technology, early warnings can be gathered which can help in disaster mitigation.

To conclude, the day marked the launching of The Centre for Excellence in Disaster Research in collaboration with NIDM. The research required to assess, mitigate and respond to the disasters will be the primary aim of the centre. The integration of scientific, technological and social science fields would be at the heart of the centre.

आपदा प्रबंधन के लिए सतत रिसर्च जरूरी : किरेन रिजिजू

ड्राइवर्स, नई दिल्ली: केंद्रीय गृह मंत्रालय के किरन रिजिजू ने कहा कि आपदा प्रबंधन के लिए बेहतर जरूरत है कि इन क्षेत्रों में सरकार देश के वैश्वीकरण संरचना में अग्रणी लक्ष्यों को रिकॉर्ड करे। विश्व के विकास में जनमानस को भी इस अग्रणी क्षेत्र में जोड़ा जा सकता है। उन्होंने कहा इस क्षेत्र को जवाबदाar नेहरू विश्वविद्यालय में शोधविद्यालय व नेशनल इंस्टीट्यूट ऑन डिजास्टर मैनेजमेंट (एनआईडीएम) के संज्ञक प्रकल्पों से सतत और प्रभावी रूप डिजास्टर रिसर्च के उद्देश्य के लिए रक्षण किए।

विश्वविद्यालय में आज सत्र की शुरुआत के मौके पर उन्होंने दो सप्ताह से पहले के अग्रणी अर्थ का गवा है कि रिसर्च का आपदा संरक्षण से परे है। इससे ही रिसर्च का रूप आपदा से ज्यादा लोगों को हो सकता है। केंद्रीय शोधविद्यालय में आपदा प्रबंधन एवं सामुदायिक

संरक्षण को अग्रणीकरण को देखते हुए युवा संघर्षों को बढ़ावा देने पर भी उद्देश्य सतत रिकॉर्ड किए।

राज्य में उच्च शिक्षण पर हुई चर्चा में दिल्ली के केंद्र में खरीं हुए इसके छह हिस्सों का प्रथम व युवाओं को आपदा प्रबंधन के खाने से निवृत्तों का देने की बात की गई। इस चर्चा में राष्ट्रीय इंस्टीटूट ऑन डिजास्टर मैनेजमेंट के निदेशक डॉ. चोकेंड्रप्रसाद, केरल की पूर्व व मुख्य सचिव डॉ. विवेदिता से हाल व केरल में डॉ. विद्यालक्ष्मी के निदेशक के निदेशक डॉ. चोकेंड्रप्रसाद ने प्रस्ताव दिया। चर्चा में सौर के पांच कॉलेज सहित : इनमें से श्री श्रीवत्स कॉलेज, मिनाई कॉलेज, नेहरू कॉलेज, नयी कॉलेज व श्री वेदप्रसाद कॉलेज शामिल हैं। इनके अलावा देश के अन्य विभिन्न संस्थान से संबन्धित लोग शामिल हुए।



New Delhi, Sept. 21 (ANI): Minister of State for Home Affairs Kiren Rijju said on Monday that India has moved forward in the area of disaster management.

Addressing a national seminar on the theme 'Exploring Social Sciences Tools in Teaching Disaster Research', which was organised by the Center for Excellence in Disaster Research,

JNU, in collaboration with National Institute of Disaster Management

(NIDM), Rijju said, "We need to form a policy based on the ground situation. The world is becoming vulnerable day-by-day because of the way we are progressing, and the way we are moving about, we are bound to face the eventuality."

The minister also added that not only relief operation, rescue, rehabilitation, reconstruction should be conducted, but also the root cause of it should be found. He Rijju appealed the private sector to take part in disaster management.

Prof. S.K. Topoy, Vice Chancellor, JNU, also said that fragmented research has emerged due to the weaknesses of human comprehension. It is an effort to undertake trans-disciplinary research.

The session was also addressed by Dr. V.K. Dubral, Director, National Remote Sensing Centre, Dr. Nivedita P. Maran, former Add. Chief Secretary, Kerala, Prof. Santosh Kumar, DG, NIDM and O.P. Singh, DG, NDRF. (ANI)

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Rijju inaugurates national seminar for disaster management

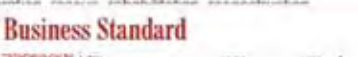
India's News Net Monday 21st September, 2015

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Prevention Efforts Need Focus in Disaster Management, Union Minister Kiren Rijju

[All India](#) | [Press Trust of India](#) | Updated: September 21, 2015 16:37:57



Rijju inaugurates national seminar for disaster management

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Prevention efforts need focus in disaster management: Rijju

PTI September 21, 2015 | UPDATED 16:05 IST

SHARE

New Delhi, Sep 21 (PTI) Voicing concern over the huge damage to lives and economy inflicted due to disasters in the country, Union Minister Kiren Rijju today asked researchers and business organisations to join government's initiatives on disaster preparedness and management. "I cannot say we are lagging behind in our initiatives for disaster management but considering the size of India, it is unfortunate that no country has such high record of deaths due to disaster as India has," the MoS for Home Affairs said while addressing the students at Jawaharlal Nehru University. "According to a World Bank Report, 2 per cent of the GDP is lost due to disasters and at a time when India is striving to lift its economic growth from 7.2 per cent to 9 per cent, we would have achieved it if there were no disasters."

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

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Prevention efforts need focus in disaster management: Kiren Rijju

By PTI 21 Sep 2015 16:05:57 IST

NEW DELHI: Voicing concern over the huge damage to lives and economy inflicted due to disasters in the country, Union Minister Kiren Rijju today asked researchers and business organisations to join government's initiatives on disaster preparedness and management.

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"According to a World Bank Report, 2 per cent of the GDP is lost due to disasters and at a time when India is striving to lift its economic growth from 7.2 per cent to 9 per cent, we would have achieved it if there were no disasters," he added.

Rijju was here to inaugurate the newly established 'Centre for Excellence in Disaster Research' at JNU.

"Though we keep on talking about how global warming and climate change are contributing to the disasters, in reality the way human civilisation is progressing, the way we are expanding too fast, we are bound to face disasters. With the kind of lifestyle we have, we must be prepared to face calamities," he said.

"It is not enough to prepare ourselves for the rescue, relief operations and rehabilitation, we must go beyond and prevent the disasters and that is where research in the area gains importance," he added.

The Minister said that government was taking several measures and initiatives to enhance the disaster preparedness, but participation of business community and researchers is very important.

"When a disaster strikes one cannot depend only on government funding, hence we have appealed that business organisations should



How can the government not being serious measures to enhance the disaster preparedness, and participation of business community and researchers is important.

ET SPECIAL: Learn about a special of 'Prevention Efforts' by ET's special of the home front.

LECTURE SERIES

DRP, JNU organized a series of lectures advocating the study of disaster Research and understanding for a large number of students, researchers and professors. The lectures covered themes like role of India Meteorological Department by Dr. M. Mohapatra, Role of Disaster Management Act in India by Dr. Nivedita Haran, Disaster Management and its Impact by Dr. P. Puneeth and Basics of GIS/GPS applications in disaster research by Prof. P.K. Joshi. The lectures intended to disseminate disaster research understanding by providing an overview of disaster management in India to create leadership, increase knowledge, action of orientation of disaster preparedness and response addressing the challenges of learning from the past occurrences of hazards or events and remodeling strategies to cope with future possibilities.

Indian Meteorological Department and Disaster Management

Dr. M. Mohapatra, Scientist, India Meteorological Department



The Disaster Research Programme of Jawaharlal Nehru University organized a lecture on Role of India Meteorological Department in Disaster Management by Dr. M. Mohapatra, Scientist of India Meteorological Department on 2nd March 2016. The aim of the lecture was to understand the functioning of India Meteorological Department in assessing the onset and mitigating disasters. It plays a crucial role in obtaining and providing early warning to the concerned agencies. In his lecture, Dr. Mohapatra discussed the following points:

- Hazard Monitoring and Assessment
- Early Warning and Mitigation
- Technical support in vulnerability analysis, mapping and risk assessment
- Technical support in Preparedness and planning
- Technical support in Management of natural resources from disasters

Role of Disaster Management Act in India

Dr. Nivedita Haran, Ex-Additional Chief Secretary of Kerela



The Disaster Research Programme of Jawaharlal Nehru University organized a lecture on the Role of Disaster Management Act in India by Dr. Nivedita Haran, Ex-Additional Chief Secretary of Kerela on 4th April, 2016. The lecture expounded on the bureaucratic structure laid down by the act to deal with Disasters. At the top there is National Disaster Management Authority(NDMA) with 9 members followed by State Disaster Management Authority(SDMA) in States and District Disaster Management Authority(DDMA) in the Districts. Pre-Disaster Management Act the focus was only on response and recovery. However, the Act of 2005 incorporated mitigation and preparedness also as one of the objectives. Before the Act, only calamity relief fund was provided to the States based on the recommendations of the Finance Commission. Post 2005, under the Act two types of funds, namely National Disaster Response Fund and National Disaster Mitigation Fund are granted. Thus, the role of the Disaster Management Act in mitigating and responding to disasters is imperative.

Disaster Management and its Impact

Dr. P Puneeth, Associate Professor, CSLG, JNU



The lecture organized by JNU Disaster Research programme invited Dr. P Puneeth from the Center of Law and Governance to deliberate on the impact of Disaster Management and its impact. The argument of the lecture revolved around the pre and post disaster management plan impact.

The content encompassed the underlined:

1. Civil Defense Act of 1968 which was amended in 2009 which targets to involve civil defense for the purpose of Disaster management.
2. The Disaster Management rule and regulations.
3. The features and the provisions of the Disaster Management Act, 2005.
4. The Mandates of the Disaster Management plan at National, State and District level.
5. Funds

6. The features of the disaster management Act.

The lecture also laid down the requirement of every Ministry every department who should be involved in the process of disaster management as opposed to the idea of Disaster Management Authority should be coordinated. The lecture also included the roles played by the National, state and district management authority.

Basics of GIS/GPS applications in disaster research by

Prof. P.K. Joshi, School for Environmental Science, JNU



The lecture organized by JNU Disaster Research Programme which had the theme of the usage of GIS tools and techniques for mapping purposes was conducted by JNU DRP was delivered by Prof. P.K Joshi. The usage of color schemes for land use and planning, urban planning and its other applications were stressed.

The basics of Remote Sensing and GIS were deliberated by laying focus on the introduction of Remote sensing, elements of Remote sensing, satellite images, basic processes, application and characteristics of Remote Sensing.

The discussion was further elaborated to the understanding of the advantages and disadvantages and its element of producing digital data and a broader spectrum than that of the human eye. The application of remote sensing was further taken in detail where different usages have been utilized like natural resource management, national security, disaster mapping and monitoring.

The lectured concluded with the discussion of the interpretation of the images and the colors and was defined in relation to the constraints faced by the human eye.

The lectures were tailored to meet the specific objective of disaster preparedness measures and involvement of the various professionals to encourage the understanding and creating disaster related solution based thinking and creating research to benefit the Nation at large pertaining to its unique regional needs.

INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION & TECHNOLOGY

Sanjeev Kumar

Director Communication and Information Services, JNU.

The ICT facility was established in DRP to meet the information and technology requirements of the DRP Project. The major objective of this wing of the project was to provide basic computing facilities to the faculty members, researchers and project staff. DRP has been leveraging ICT as an important tool to induce strategic improvement and adopting ITC for the coordination, communication and collaboration. The ICT has thus taken an important role of IT enabler across all the domains in DRP Projects.

Infrastructural capacities:

Having 10 desktops and 8 laptops being used by the researchers, staff and faculty members of the project, DRP has a fully functional IT enabled office which acts as the very base camp from which most of the activities are undertaken which includes Workshop and Conference Planning of both National and International kind and research writing which entails of report and academic papers. This office acts as the linking unit between DRP and its collaborators. These machines are equipped with audio and video facilities through a high speed network, internet facility and access to the online learning material, eResources and various research data repositories.

DRP also maintains a state-of-the-art dedicated and a very informative Website designed on the recent Content Management System based web technologies using the open source platform. The feature rich Website is based on Web 2.0 technologies and provides up-to-date information to the external as well as internal users of the Project. The Report of the Website has been attached along this report.

For the smooth and efficient working between the academic and administrative staff of the project, ICT wing of the project has enabled the usage of university's Google Apps related to education facility. This has been done for the seamless and uninterrupted flow of information and connectivity amongst the project members.

Activities Undertaken:

The activities undertaken by the ICT wing of the DRP includes the following:

1. For the Capacity development of faculty members, students and University staff large number of academic events like Workshop, Seminar, Training and Extension Lectures were organized.
2. A National Seminar was organized in JNU in January 2016 on ICT University Governance with special technical sessions on GIS and remote sensing, IT Act and Cyber Security.
3. **A Video Conferencing session with Live Webcasting was conducted between the JNU DRP experts and District & SDMAS using the state-of-the-art Technology was organized on 7th January.** In a very innovative manner for sharing information and research strategies

DRP team headed by the Vice Chancellor Prof. S.K.Sopory, Registrar Prof. Bupinder Zutshi, PI-DRP Prof. Amita Singh and other DRP Core team members connected to the District Disaster Management Authority of Gurgaon headed by the Sh. T.L. Satyaprakash, IAS Deputy Commissioner, Gurgaon. The DC shared and discussed the District Gurgaon Disaster Management Plan 2015-16 which has been prepared in collaboration with the Haryana Institute of Public Administration. He highlighted the role that the universities and youth can play in strengthening preparedness in disaster management especially in bringing in new ideas and energy for making disaster management plans inclusive and sustainable. He expressed his willingness to involve some researchers from JNU Disaster Research Programme in the implementation of the Gurgaon District Management Plan. This live teleconferencing was the event that flagged off one of the core idea that DRP works with, which is reaching out to Communities as Community Resilience is key to its research. This facility helps connecting DRP to regions and spaces grappling with disaster and those working towards making themselves disaster resilient.

- 4. DRP could not connect to NIDM in this video conferencing interactive meeting as planned due to technical challenges which the NIDM encountered in connecting. DRP found that the video conferencing has remained underutilized and unattended in most of the disaster management district offices across the country. This technical strategy has a very high potential in sharing knowledge, debating strategies and discussing policy based accountability measures in local bureaucracy. There is immense need to make this workable as it is highly cost effective and sustainable on a day to day basis. It was also realized that districts should setup their video conferencing cells in DC Offices but allocate its management to local academic institutions and nearest university but consistently expand its outreach to the village panchayats, district hospitals, forest department, fire department, animal husbandry and other municipal and land corporation offices should be connected through the video conferencing time allocated to them by the DC.**

ICT wing of DRP is looking forward to taking the project ahead with more sophisticated and innovative technologies for making DRP as one of the best and most representative research project on DRR.



प्रकृति से मानव है, मानव से प्रकृति नहीं,
 जहाँ भी मानव करे वृत्त संसाधनों को
 कि आपदा कहें कि बस अब,
 तैरा जीवन और नहीं !!



लोग दूट जाते हैं एक घर बनाने में
 तुम कस नहीं खाते बस्तियाँ 'उजाड़ने' में !
 - कबीर

Winners of Inter University Poster Competition on 'LAND & DISASTERS' at JNU on 7th December, 2013



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