

Natural Hazards and Disaster Management in Himachal Pradesh

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Disaster

- Natural and man made Disaster
- Disaster lead to psycho-social stress and trauma among the disaster affected communities
- Each year, natural disasters result in thousands of deaths, injuries and loss of property

Disaster Response Mechanism and Various Stakeholders

- Disaster Management Policy and formation of State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA)
- Deputy Commissioner at District level
- Block Development officer at Block level
- Officers of the health department, veterinary department, water and irrigation departments, sanitation, police, fire services, national and international NGOs

Systems and Procedures for Disaster Management

- The Disaster Management Act 2005 envisaged the establishment of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)
- State Disaster Management Authorities (SDMAs)
- District Disaster Management Authorities (DDMAs)

Natural Disasters in Himachal Pradesh

- Landslides and flash floods are the most common disasters in Himachal Pradesh
- Himachal Pradesh has been hit by a series of massive natural calamities
- The unplanned construction of hydel power projects, roads and large-scale mining/quarrying

The detail of the incidences of Natural Disasters in Himachal Pradesh

- **Kangra Earthquake (1905)**
- **Kinnaur Earthquake (1975)**
- **Kangra Earthquake (1986)**
- **Kangra Earthquake (2004)**
- **Heavy Rains-Monsoon**

Flash floods in Satluj River during rainy season of Year 2000

- A natural calamity is of gigantic magnitude struck the Satluj Valley on the intervening night of 31st. July 2000

Flash flood in Satluj River during rainy season of the Year 2005

- A natural calamity of gigantic magnitude, due to sudden rise/breach of Parechu River in the Chinese territory struck the Satluj valley on 26.06.2005

Cloudburst in Himachal Pradesh

- Himachal Pradesh has been facing widespread and extensive damages almost every year because of hazards and natural disaster

Initiatives in Himachal Pradesh- Situational Analysis

- Several initiatives have been taken in the state towards minimizing the risks and losses due to disasters
- The state government of Himachal Pradesh has its own relief code

Critical issues:

- **lack of Preparedness & Awareness for Disaster Mitigation & Management**
- **Lack of Well-framed Disaster Management Policy**
- **Lack of co-ordination in Rescue & Relief Efforts**
- **Over-Exploitation of Natural Resources**
- **Sensitive & Difficult Geo-Physical Situation**

Conclusion and Suggestions

- **Immediate measure**
- **Long Term Measures**

Thanks

