

EARLY WARNING

- Continuously acquire information on disasters in coordination with national & international early warning providers.
- Dissemination of Early warning messages for the evacuation of the community, in Sinhala, Tamil and English languages.
- 77 EW towers, VHF/HF Radio communication system, mobile phones, electronic media and traditional systems used to disseminate EW messages.



EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

- DMC has established an Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) at national level working 24 hours a day, seven days a week (24x7) to coordinate with all responding agencies including three Armed Forces and Police to respond to any disaster situation. EOC could be contacted for assistance dialing 011-267002 at any time.
- EOCs at district level operate in the event of major disaster.
- At GN level committees are established to coordinate evacuation of affected people, search & rescue operations, management of welfare centers, maintain health & sanitary facilities, distribution of cooked food.
- EOC Coordinates with utility service providers to restore any damaged services
- Liaise with Media and issue regular bulletins regarding emergency situation



Disaster Management Centre of Ministry of Disaster Management



“Towards a Safer Sri Lanka”

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Establishment of DMC and Functions

The Disaster Management Centre (DM) has been established as per the Disaster Management Act No. 13 of 2005 to assist the National Council for Disaster Management to implement certain functions assigned to the Council. Functions of the DMC are as follows.

- Preparation and implementation of National Disaster Management Plan and National Emergency Response Plan
- Assist Ministries, government departments and Corporations to prepare institutional Disaster Management Plan based on national Plan.
- Preparing and implementing programmes and plans for disaster preparedness, mitigation, prevention, relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction activities.
- coordinating of organizations which implement such programmes and plans and obtain financial assistance from the Treasury for such activities and release the same to the relevant regions and monitor and evaluate these activities
- promoting research and development programmes and setting up and maintaining a data base on disaster management;

VISION

"Communities are Prepared and Safer."

MISSION

"To create and sustain a culture of safety among communities and the nation at large through systematic management of natural, Technological and man-made disasters."

Organization structure of DMC

Director General is responsible for overall management of Disaster Management Centre. Deputy Director General is responsible for overall coordination and monitoring of Activities of DMC. Each of the 5 divisions Emergency Operation, Preparedness and Planning Public Awareness, Mitigation, Research & Development, Finance & Human Resource is headed by a director supported by a Deputy Director and several Assistant Directors functioning at National level.

Disaster Management Coordinating Unit is established in each district. Assistant Director, functioning under the supervision of District Secretary, is responsible for the coordination and implementation of activities at District level.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND WAY FORWARD

DISASTER MITIGATION, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

- Historical disaster information from 1974 available in data base www.desinventar.lk
- Hazard profiles for landslides, drought, sea surges, tsunami, cyclones, lightning, floods, coastal erosion and sea level rise available in the data base www.hazard.lk
- Guidelines for the construction of houses in hazard prone areas are developed
- Assisting development agencies to mainstream DRR in to development planning process.
- Prepare risk profiles for identified hazards
- Promote research and studies on DRR

Preparedness Planning

- National Disaster Management Plan and National Emergency Operation Plan completed.
- Disaster Preparedness Plan for all districts
- Facilitate, guide and coordinate the development of disaster preparedness and response plan associated with District, Divisional and Grama Niladhari Divisions, schools, and hospitals.
- Assist state sector organizations to prepare Institutional Disaster Management Plan.
- Strengthen the Capacity of district, division and GN level committees to respond to potential disasters.
- Safe locations for evacuating potential victims of disaster identified and drill conducted to improve the awareness of communities and school children
- Continue to develop the resilient capacity of local authorities in hazard prone areas.

Education and Awareness

- Disaster Management incorporated in to school curricula.
- Additional reading material for school children on different hazards developed and distributed.
- Conducting awareness programmes for state sector agencies continuing.
- Safety Day programme organized annually to commemorate victims of all disasters and create a culture of safety among people of Sri Lanka
- DRR concepts to be introduced in to the tertiary education system
- Audio visual materials on disaster management are available in the Resource Centre of DMC.
- National Disaster Management Coordinating Committee established as the National Platform to coordinate and monitor work of all stakeholders involved with disaster management