

Institutional Arrangements for Disaster Management in India

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Features of an Emergency Situation

- Sense of urgency in decision-making under constraints
- Limited information or overload of information
- Multiplicity of stake-holders and responders
- Complexities of co-ordination
- The capacity of the local community and government to respond effectively often overwhelmed

Disasters As Opportunities for Enhanced Quality of Life

- Revitalising local economy
- Improved public safety
- Equity and civic engagement
- Disaster resilience
- Improved governance
- Greater accountability and ownership
- Enhanced spaces for ideation and civic discourse

Disasters as Opportunities for Enhanced Quality of Life

- Housing
- Quality Education
- Mobility
- Health Care
- Employment and Livelihood Protection
- Recreation
- Environmental Concerns

Nodal Agencies for Management of Disasters in India

- Floods : CWC, Ministry of Water Resources
- Cyclones : Indian Meteorological Directorate
- Earthquakes : Indian Meteorological Directorate
- Epidemics : Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- Chemical Disasters : Ministry of Environment and Forests
- Industrial Disasters : Ministry of Labour
- Rail Accidents : Ministry of Railways
- Air Accidents : Ministry of Civil Aviation
- Fire : Ministry of Home Affairs
- Nuclear Incidents : Department of Atomic Energy
- Mine Disasters : Department of Mines

The First Institutions in Disaster Management in India

The Orissa State Disaster Mitigation Authority (OSDMA) was set up in Orissa after the 1999 Orissa Supercyclone

The Gujarat State Disaster Management Authority (GSDMA) was set up in Gujarat after the 2001 Bhuj Earthquake

*** the need for a permanent arrangement to handle a calamity was evident in both cases**

Orissa State Disaster Mitigation Authority (OSDMA)

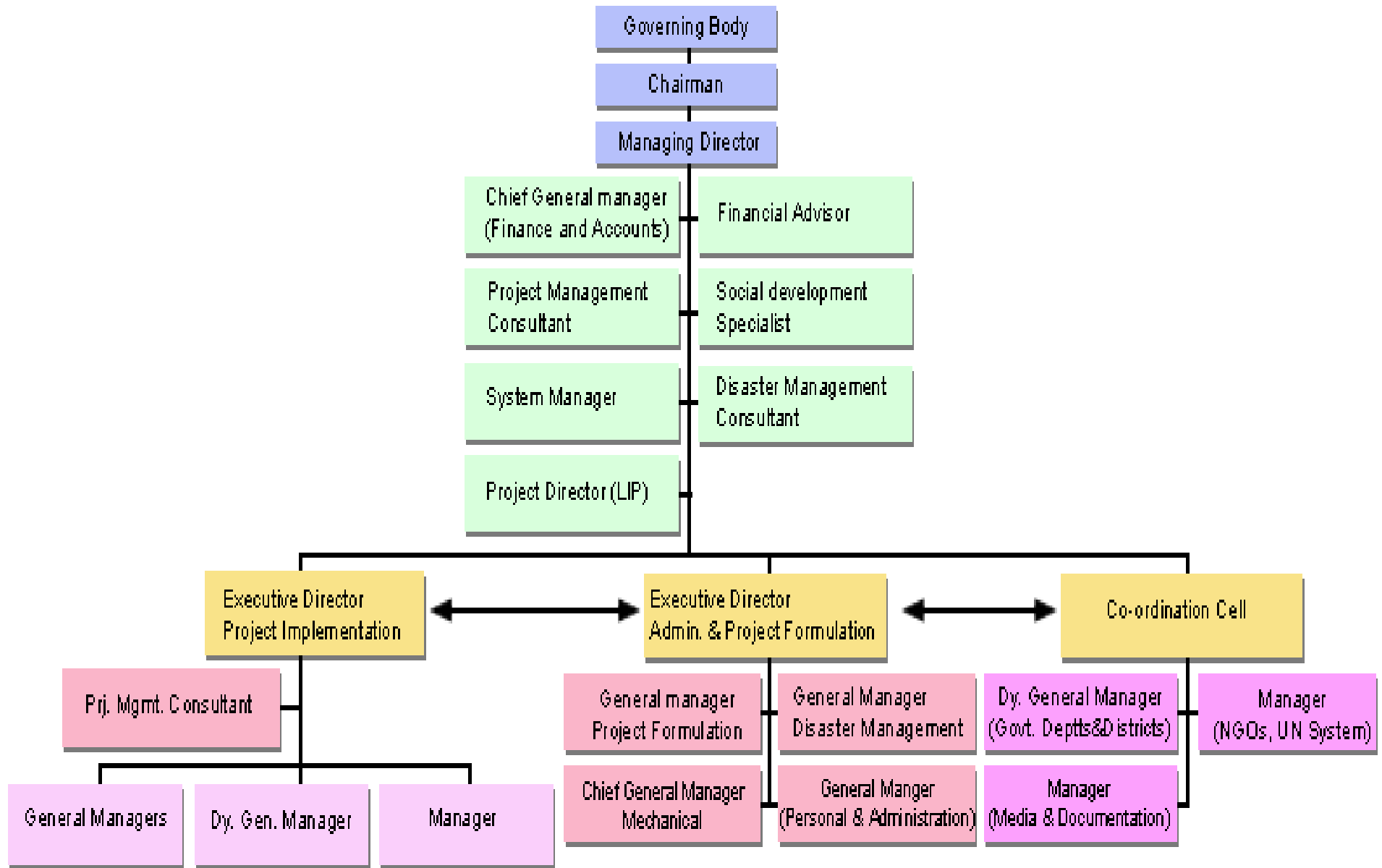
- OSDMA came into existence after the catastrophic super cyclone of October 1999, which hit the Orissa coast
- The super cyclone caused destruction and death in fourteen districts of the State.
- The objective was to have an autonomous body exclusively devoted to disaster management, to promote a culture of preparedness for different types of disasters and also for coordinating disaster mitigation activities including restoration and strengthening of infrastructure.

- **OSDMA works in close coordination with**

*Government of India and its agencies,
Government of Orissa, its departments and agencies
Administration of all 30 districts of the State
Panchayati Raj Institutions and Urban Local Bodies
Communities
Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)
Community Based Organisations (CBOs)
Bilateral and Multilateral aid agencies
U.N. agencies
State Governments of other states
Disaster Management Organisations and Institutes.*

- **It seeks to forge a stronger alliance with all the stakeholders with a view to making Orissa more disaster resilient and participate in national and international initiatives for disaster reduction and prevention.**

OSDMA Organizational Structure



OSDMA's role in Disaster Management Plans

The major focus of OSDMA's activities is preparedness and response planning for various disasters.

These include

- **Disaster Management Framework for the State**
- **Disaster Management Policy for the State**
- **Draft Disaster Management Plan focussing on:**

Water and Climate-Related Hazards

Geological Hazards

Chemical/Industrial/Nuclear Disasters

Accident-Related Disasters

Biological Disasters

- **Draft Disaster Management Bill**
- **Community Based Disaster Preparedness Programme**

Gujarat State Disaster Management Authority (GSDMA)

- On 26th January, the state of Gujarat was hit by an earthquake of magnitude 6.9 on the Richter scale according to IMD causing colossal damage to life and property.
- The State Government has taken up the task of rehabilitation and reconstruction to facilitate resettlement and provision of shelter to the severely affected population.
- The GSDMA has been constituted by the Government of Gujarat by the GAD's Resolution dated 8th February 2001.
- The Authority has been created as a permanent arrangement to handle the natural calamities.

The objectives for constitution of GSDMA are : -

- To provide relief to the people for the loss incurred due to natural calamity and to under take rehabilitation and reconstruction as also social and economic activities or restoration of the situation**
- To make efforts to minimize the impact of natural calamities through precautionary programmes and schemes.**
- To analyze and study the reasons of natural calamities and to suggest the remedies to avoid or minimize the effects of such natural calamities.**
- To make the best use of the funds, grants, donations, assistance received from Government of India and other foreign countries or from any other institutions/persons for prevention of such natural calamities or for handling the after-effects; to obtain loans and make proper use of the funds received by the Authority.**

Vision of GSDMA

Vision To go beyond reconstruction and make Gujarat economically vibrant, agriculturally and industrially competitive with improved standards of living and with a capacity to mitigate and manage future disasters

Objective The Government of Gujarat (GOG) established the Gujarat State Disaster Management Authority (GSDMA) on February 8, 2001 to co-ordinate the comprehensive earthquake recovery program.

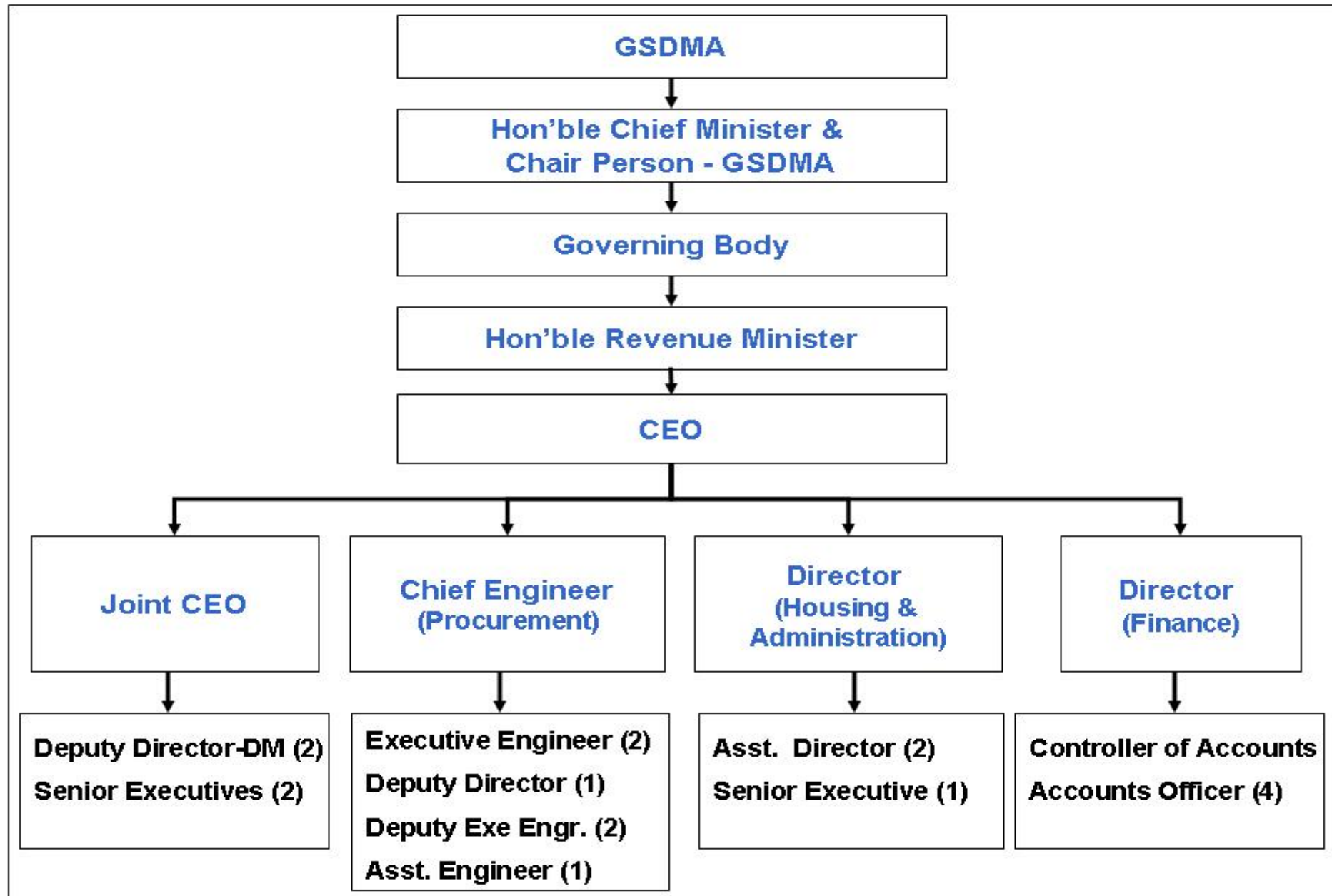
Objectives of GSDMA

- **Social and economical activities for rehabilitation & resettlement of the affected** (which includes new Housing, Infrastructure, Economics Rehabilitation, social Rehabilitation and other related programme)
- **Programmes and plans to mitigate the losses on account of disasters as a strategy for long terms disaster preparedness.**
- **To obtain funds for rehabilitation and resettlement and to ensure optimum utilization of these funds obtained in the form of grant, aid, assistance or loan** (from Government of Gujarat, Government of India, World Bank and ADB, USAID, DFID, IFRC, and donors, NGOs, and from financial institutions, Public and private trusts or any other organisations)
- **To manage Gujarat Earthquake Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Fund.**

Objectives of GSDMA

- **To provide to arrange financial assistance so as to achieve the objects of the society.**
- **To act as a nodal agency and to coordinate various issues related to the maintenance of hygienic living conditions, welfare of victims, environmental maintenance and such other welfare measures, as may be assigned to the deserving authority.**
- **To do all the acts and things conducive for the attainment of the above objects in the most possible manner, which are relevant to fulfil the objects of SOCIETY.**

GSDMA Organizational Structure



National Disaster Management Authority

- The apex body for Disaster Management in India set up after the Indian Ocean Tsunami
- Set up as a part of the Government of India's decision to put in place necessary institutional mechanisms for drawing up and monitoring the implementation of disaster management plans, ensuring measures for prevention and mitigation of disasters and for undertaking a holistic, coordinated and prompt response to any disaster situation.

National Disaster Management Authority

- NDMA shall have the responsibility for laying down the plans and policies for disaster management.

The NDMA may:

- Lay down policies on disaster management;
- Approve the National Disaster Management Plan;
- Approve plans prepared by the Ministries and Departments of the Government in accordance with the National Disaster Management Plan;
- Lay down guidelines to be followed by a State Authority in drawing up the State Plan;

Mandate of the NDMA

- Lay down guidelines to be followed by different Ministries and Departments of the Government of India for the purpose of integrating the measures for prevention of disaster or the mitigation of its effects in their development plans and projects;
- Coordinate the enforcement and implementation of the policies and plans for disaster management;
- Arrange for, and oversee, the provision of funds for mitigation measures, preparedness and response;
- Provide such support to other countries affected by a major disaster as may be determined by the Central Government;

Mandate of the NDMA

- Lay down guidelines for the minimum standards of relief to be provided to persons affected by disaster;
- Give directions regarding relief in loan repayment or for grant of fresh loans on such concessional terms as may be appropriate in the judgement of the Authority;
- Take such other measures for the prevention of disaster, of the mitigation of its effects, or for preparedness and capacity building for dealing with the threatening disaster situation or disaster as it may consider necessary.

The New Institutions

- NDMA as the apex body
- SDMAs in each State and Union Territory
- DDMAAs in each district
- Response Fund and Mitigation Fund at national, state and district levels
- National Disaster Response Force and State Disaster Response Forces
- NIDM also designated as the SAARC Centre for Disaster Management