

A REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

NAPSIPAG's Tenth International Conference hosted by
the Centre for the Study of Law and Governance at
Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
7th to 9th December 2013



on

“Locked in Growth Patterns: Revisiting land and disasters for the post-2015 Developmental Agenda for the Asia Pacific”

Welcome by Village Nagara players



(In partnership with UNDP, ICSSR, NDMA)

Background notes:

The December **conference has been a culmination of the continuing efforts** being made by the Asia-Pacific scholars since 2010, to create a platform of mutual learning amongst decision makers from government, academia and civil society groups on achieving MDGs and identifying gaps which prevent policy implementation. The last three major international workshops (Kathmandu Dec.2011, Colombo Dec.2012 and Dehradun June 2013) have specifically focused on “Climate Change (CC) related human and environmental security issues”. The objective has been to create an interface between academia and administrators so that the gaps in knowledge and understanding could make policies implementable and sustainable.

The **fundamental philosophy** which is the driving and consolidating force of the workshop is to interrogate policies of consumerism and commoditization of nature which destroys the carrying capacity of land and water resources. The GNP/GDP based development has made the world more vulnerable to natural calamities which are labeled as “Natural” but are mostly “manmade”.

Decision making processes within countries should incorporate sustainable lifestyle patterns. The 2013 Human Development Report- “The Rise of the South: Human Progress in a Diverse World” examines the profound shift in global dynamics driven by the fast-rising new powers of the developing world and its long term implications for human development. New countries have emerged as trend setters for a particular kind of high consumption based progress. China, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia and India are currently high consumption based societies as their natural resources are fast depleting. *This form of growth pattern has been negligent of resources management as they generate more cash. Their developmental planning has neither been inclusive nor does it ensure sustainability of the growth which they have attained so far. This economic progress is pushing the whole southern region into fatal natural disasters such as earthquakes, floods and tsunamis. Climate change is further exacerbating the disaster story.* Each of these countries has a unique history and political framework of decision making despite the fact that they are interdependent and interconnected in as much as their land,



pic: welcome at the JNU Convention Centre

rivers and coastline is shared and is common. *As the deadline for the Millennium Development Goals approaches in 2015, these Asia-Pacific countries need to revisit and reinvigorate their ‘land and water’ planning in the light of new challenges brought about by the climate change. Nations need to stand up together in a concerted and synergistic manner against the “Climate Change Challenges CCC” so that disasters do not wash away the progress attained so far.*

JNU-NAPSIPAG Conference: Report of Proceedings

Participation:

The Conference had participants as follows;

South Asia

India :125 institutions (academia , administration and Community organizations) across the country

Pakistan: 7 institutions(academia , administration and Community organizations)

Bangladesh :11 participants from govt. NGOs and universities

SriLanka: 9 participants from disaster management authorities, universities and NGOs.

Nepal: 8 participants from Kathmandu Univ., Government and NGO.

Afghanistan: administrators from the Disaster Management Department, Ambassador and academia

Inner Asia

(Disaster Management Authorities and Universities)

Tajikistan: 2 participants

Khazakhstan: 3 participnats

Armenia: 1 participant

Russia: 1 participant

South-East Asia

Malaysia:5 participants from the Prime Minister's advisory council, universities and disaster management deptt.

Indonesia: 4 participants from Government and university.

Philippines: 8 participants from NGOs and universities

East Asia

China: one participant(other 5 could not participate due to visa problems)

Vietnam: one participant from university

Japan: 5 participants from NGO and government



pic: welcome by JNU faculty



JNU-NAPSIPAG Conference: Report of Proceedings

Pacific

Australia: two participants from the disaster management

studies deptts.of universities.

Pic: The lamp lighting ceremony with Khazakhstan special guest

Collaboration

UNDP was the first to support this conference, ICSSR came next and NDMA was the last to accept our application for collaboration. The NDMA Vice Chairman was encouraging and realized the importance of an international Asia-Pacific level knowledge sharing and mutual learning conference at JNU. This collaboration and the participation of the top level leadership from these institutions (UN Country Representative and UNDP Coordinator & Ministers) enabled us to obtain sufficient regional focus for the conference and draw interest of the young scholars and administrators to the issue.

Inaugural Ceremony 7th Dec. 2013 at 10:15 am

The ceremony took place with the lighting of the lamp as a symbol of ‘spreading the light of knowledge’.After the welcome note by the Secretary General of NAPSIPAG Prof. Amita Singh and the welcome of international NAPSIPAG delegates by the NAPSIPAG Founder Chairperson Dr. Jak Jabes, the Vice Chancellor Prof. S.K.Sopory welcomed the dignitaries on the stage.

The Hon’ble Minister for Rural Development Mr. Jairam Ramesh as the Chief Guest spoke on the need to focus on sustainable development goals for the post-2015 developmental agenda. The MDGs have served their purpose but to move forward in a highly challenged natural and environmental life around us, the emphasis in every policy should be on sustainability.The Minister also distributed awards to the Asia-Pacific leaders in public administration who could move beyond academic research and facilitate policy networks for disseminating knowledge and information for increased participation in implementation tasks. Lastly, the Minister launched the Young Scholars and Administrative Forum of the NAPSIPAG to promote leadership of the young in the implementation field of public administration.



JNU-NAPSIPAG Conference: Report of Proceedings

UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative, India, Ms. Lise Grande delivered a motivating speech in which she supported such efforts which make progress more sustainable and meaningful to a large majority of the poor in Asia. She reiterated the need for conserving land and water resources and adapting development to the requirements of climate change. Disasters are a drain on development and human well being which could be prevented significantly through administrative and technological preparedness involving local



communities and local governance which is best suited to encounter the contingencies of nature becoming more frequent lately. She released three books by the Network scholars , *A Critical Impulse to e-Governance in the Asia Pacific* by Amita Singh, *'Delhi By Heart'* by Raza Ahmad from Jinnah Policy Institute of Lahore(Pak) and *Public Policy* by Sarfraz Khawaja , Public Administrator from Islamabad(Pak).

The Vice Chancellor Prof. S.K.Sopory distributed mementos to the important guests at the dias.

The day's special guests from the neighbouring countries Ms. Shandana Khan CEO, RSNP Pakistan spoke on the need for collaborating in rural development programmes and sharing experience on developmental experience which are the 'bridges which sustain' peace and development in the region. She praised the Rural livelihood mission of the government of India and expressed ideas which require sharing and mutual learning to catalyze efforts.



Prof. David Rosenbloom (American University at Washington DC) spoke on "Administrative reinventions" which need to be undertaken as sporadic efforts in reforms may not be able to encounter the challenges of managing the climate change impacts on human life. He suggested sustained systemic and institutional innovations for the post-2015 developmental agenda.

As a Special Guests of Honour, Excellency, Afghanistan Ambassador Mr. Shaida Md. Abdali expressed the need for the young in universities to undertake many new challenges of transformations by linking with communities and government departments for a more holistic understanding. He reiterated the need for universities like JNU which inculcate free thinking and widen horizon of understanding on every subject.

Excellency, Kazakhstan Ambassador Mr. Daulat O. Kuanyshiev was represented by his Secretary of State.

pic: Book release by Ms. Lise Grande with the author and Prof. Sopory(VC).

The conference had 4 Plenary Sessions.

PLENARY 1: “Land :Law & Administration”

Chair: Dr. Nivedita P.Haran (Add. Chief Secretary, Kerala Government)

Speakers: Justice Gita Mittal (Delhi High Court)& Mr. M.C.Mehta(Environmental Lawyer)

Session Coordinator:Prof. Sachidanand Sinha (CSR,D,JNU)

Rappoteurs:Dr. Huong Ha (University of New Castle, Singapore) & Dr. Laxmi Kant Paudel (Nepal)

Findings and recommendations:

Justice Gita Mittal narrated the sequence of events in which she delivered historic judgements which enabled the government to acquire land from the land grabbers. Being rich and politically powerful the land grabbers were well protected and therefore the acquisition by government was not easy but it certainly brought back the confidence of bureaucracy and the administrators in the due process of law.

Dr. Nivedita P.Haran was the administrator in Delhi dealing with this issue and Mr. MC Mehta was the lawyer who challenged the land grabbers holding on to the prime green areas of Delhi which were not only public lands but also recharge shed for the ground water, aquifers and city forests. There were many success stories which found their way through the High Court and improved land management system in the city.

PLENARY 2: “Connecting people to the Constitutional Government Department” (in The Presidents’House Rashtrapati Bhawan)

Mr Suresh Yadav Officer on Special Duty to the President shared his innovative best practice which could be replicated to link departments and improve response and rescue operations. He gave a presentation on “*Connecting People to the Constitutional Government Department*”. In his presentation he demonstrated how through the use of ICT tools the visit and total security of the Rashtrapati Bhawan was made more manageable and efficient. He gave facts and figures which showed how online booking of visit to the Rashtrapati Bhawan has made it possible for everyone to be able to visit Rashtrapati Bhawan by just visiting their website. Through this presentation he also made a point that through the use of modern ICT tools land management can be made more accessible, responsive, efficient and transparent. After the presentation the delegates Tea and Refreshments. Then the Delegation left for the Convention Centre in JNU. The session was very insightful and the visit to the Rastrapati Bhawan was informative and enjoyable for all the delegates.

JNU-NAPSIPAG Conference: Report of Proceedings

PLENARY 3: “Disability and Disasters: The Missing Episode of Disaster Relief Operations” This was a round table for participation of invited experts.

CHAIR: Ms. Stuti Narayan Kacker IAS(Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice)Co-Chair: Prof. Vaishna Narang

DISCUSSANTS: Prof. Shamsur Rahman(VC Rtd. JKKNazrul Islam Univ.BD),
Prof. Eduardo Gonzalez (Asian Centre, Philippines)

SPEAKERS:

Ms.Deepa Sonpal(UNNATI,Guj),:Disability Centric Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction:Strategic Ideas/Insight from Field Based Interventions

Md. Shafiqul Islam(BD): Deficiency of Disability Issue in Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy: Implications on Human Security and Social Cohesion

Vanmala Hiranandani (Global Health and Nutrition Prog. Metropolitan University College, Copenhagen, Denmark): Disabilities in Humanitarian Emergencies in India:Towards an Inclusive Approach.

Mr. Hiroshi Kawamura,Hamada Mayu (Assistive Technology Development Org.Japan): Accessibility Requirements of Tsunami evacuations Manuals: Lessons learnt from an on-site research in Urakawa.

Ms. Kalpana Kharade (KJ Somaiya College of Education and Research)& **Amol Ubale**(SNDT Women’s University,Mumbai): Empowering the Visually Impaired Students for facing the Disasters: An Educational Intervention

Ms.Deepa (CPS-JNU): Taxonomy of Disability in Disaster Management Literature : A Need for Understanding the Temporal Aspect of Disability in disaster Situations.

Preeti Monga(Silver Linings,Delhi): Disaster Management: Here too persons with Disabilities overlooked

RAPORTEURS :Dr. Farhana Razzaque (IGS, BRAC,Bangladesh) & Prof.Sanjeev Mahajan (Himachal Pradesh Univ. Shimla)

Recommendations-

1. Many agencies and departments across India run schemes for people with disabilities. However, there is no coordination among the agencies to spend funds. now that separate department of disability affairs has been constituted in the social justice empowerment ministry government of India, it should be made a nodal authority to coordinate and

JNU-NAPSIPAG Conference: Report of Proceedings

consolidate the schemes, so that duplicity of efforts can be saved and efficient governance for disaster risk reduction and other social securities can be ensured to the persons with disabilities.

2. Instructions should be made available in daisy audio format to the persons with blindness.
3. Disability Study perspective in definitions, documents, guidelines, training courses in disaster management in general (DMA 2005, NDMA, SDMA, DDMA, Guidelines, Reports, NIDM)
4. Inclusion of disabled persons in the new law, instead of only definitionally as in Art15(3), as part of advisory committees in NDMA, SDMA and DDMA
5. Setting up of a national level expert committee to produce a comprehensive document dealing with all the 7 provisions within article 15 of the new law from a DS perspective
6. A systematic governance norm ought to be in place that could make the transition towards a life of functional limitation easier post disaster.
7. Need for capacity building of multi-stakeholders on vulnerability reduction with a specific focus on disability and gender
8. Creating barrier free built-environment for all – that include camps, shelters and other facilities too
9. Involving the centrality of participation of persons across disabilities and their organisations at all levels of decision making
10. Developing accessible tools for promoting access to information for all excluded groups
11. Inclusion of Disability and related services in the DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT 2005
12. Introduction of Disasters and Disabilities as an academic discipline at NIDM
13. Sensitisation of the NGOs working for the disabled
14. Sensitisation of the Corporate Sector
15. Proper guidelines on enumeration of persons with disabilities and persons who became disabled due to disasters
16. Special care for persons with disabilities in evacuation measures
17. Access Audits of all existing Cyclone Relief Centres
18. Barrier-Free facilities at Cyclone Relief Centers

JNU-NAPSIPAG Conference: Report of Proceedings

19. Special department for persons who became disabled due to natural and man-made disasters
20. Encouraging and providing special assistance for NGOs who wish to take up rehabilitation of persons who became disabled due to disasters
21. Special quota in education and employment for persons who became disabled due to disasters.

PLENARY 4: “Technology Applications, ICT systems and Public-Private Partnerships”

Chair: Mr. Puneet Sethi [Managing Director, REI Systems India Pvt. Ltd.]

Discussants: Mr. D C Mishra [Scientist, National Informatics Centre, Government of India] &

Prof. Ahmad Akbaruddin [Policy Research Centre & Darul Ihsan University, Bangladesh]

Rapporteurs: Dr. Huang Ha [University of Newcastle, Singapore]

The special session on Technological Adaptations for Disaster Planning and Management focused on the role of ICT in the management of crucial resources [land, water, energy] and disaster mitigation. It drew attention to the issues of livelihood generation, capacity enhancement and effective rehabilitation through the use of newer developments in the realm of science and technology. The aim was a renewed focus on the role of various stakeholders including the government, MNC's and civil society through a discovery of newer realms of collaboration and integration.

1. Ms. Raudah Danila [School of Accountancy, College of Business, University Utara, Malaysia] &

Dr. Md. Ahmad Martadha [School of Government, College of Law, Government and International Studies, University Utara, Malaysia]: Implementation of Disaster Contingency Recovery Planning among Multimedia Super Corridor Companies in Cyber Cities: An Exploratory Study

1. Rajiv Goel, Rama Hariharan & D. C. Mishra [Scientists, National Informatics Centre, Government of India] Decentralized Development Planning using ICT's
2. Ganesh Khadanga, Vinay Thakur, D S Venkat, Sunish Kumar, D C Mishra and Charanjit Singh [Scientists, National Informatics Centre, Government of India] Use of

JNU-NAPSIPAG Conference: Report of Proceedings

Modern Technology for management of Land, Land Use, Acquisition and Infrastructural Development

3. **Archana Bhingardive & Surabhi Gajbhiye**[Jamshetji Tata Centre for Disaster Management Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai]Adopting Technology Support in Disaster Risk Reduction and Providing Human Security
4. **Ram Nagesh Prasad** [Centre for Study of Regional Development, JNU, New Delhi] Quantitative and Spatial Assessment of Fluvial Erosion in Relation to Orphometric properties: A Case Study of Parvati River Basin
5. **Arunima Sarkar**[School of Law and Legal Studies, Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, New Delhi]Role of Information Technology in Privacy and Identity Identification of Disaster Victims

Conclusions and findings:

1. India has been traditionally vulnerable to disasters due to its unique geo-climatic conditions. Thus, a multi dimensional endeavor involving diverse scientific, technical and social processes need to be evolved and employed.
2. The need is to adopt a multi disciplinary and multi sectoral approach to disaster management weaved in the developmental plans at the local, state and national level.
3. A close collaboration between the government and private sector needs to be encouraged so as to garner more resources as well as better technical knowhow and management techniques.
4. The use of GIS & ICT needs to be encouraged in all phases of developmental planning.
5. Disaster Contingency Recovery Plan should be the focus and central element of any such effort.
6. Newer technologies like ‘Plan Plus’, ‘World Geo Detic System’ etc should be carefully studies, analyzed and implemented so as to ensure an effective resource management.

Second day: THREE PARALLEL SESSIONS (morning) and FOUR PARALLEL SESSIONS (afternoon) ON THE 8TH December 2013.

The main theme of the session was “*Administrative Preparedness and Government Policies*”

PARALLEL SESSION 1: HOLISTIC DISASTER MANAGEMENT

JNU-NAPSIPAG Conference: Report of Proceedings

CHAIR: PROF. SHREE KRISHNA SHRESTHA (NEPAL)

CO-CHAIR: PROF. RUMKI BASU

RAPPORTEUR: SUBIR RANA

HUONG HA: ASEAN GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK FOR ENVIRONMENTAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT

Dr. Ha started off by showing pictures of natural disasters from China (Sichuan Earthquake) and Philippines (Typhoon Haiyan) to Myanmar (Cyclone Nargis) and said that as compared to China where the government intervenes very quickly, co-ordination is well done and accepts international intervention very quickly, Myanmar on the other hand, lacked transparency and didn't accept international assistance.

Miss Ha spoke on the importance of international bodies like ASEAN to help overcome or manage natural disasters. She said that the ASEAN had a three sector governance model that comprised of the following:

- (a) Private Sector
- (b) Government and
- (c) Civil Society

Miss Ha said that natural disasters are trans-national, multi-faceted, long term and no single individual, sector, actor or nation can address disaster management alone. Moreover according to her, natural disasters are difficult to predict, prevent and control. Further, they produce negative, social, economic and health consequences. The impacts of natural disasters are inter-related and difficult to be addressed. Adding further, she said that in the recent times, two kinds of refugees namely climate-change refugees and disaster refugees have increased in numbers.

According to Miss Ha, the 3 sector governance model applies to disaster management. Elaborating on the respective role of the three sectors, Ha said that while the government plays the role of law makers, implementer and enforcer, the CSOs on the other hand advocate rights and interests of their members and mobilizes its members. Further, she added that CSO's do have the capacity to advance or delay disaster relief and recovery.

Giving a genealogy of the emergence of ASEAN for climate change governance, Miss Ha said that the 1970s saw the expert group in charge of disaster management in ASEAN and in 2003 the ASEAN Committee for Disaster Management (ACDM) was launched. Further in 2004-10, the ACDM has introduced an ASEAN Regional Programme on Disaster Management (ARPDM) Although she warned that without clear policies, responsibilities and leaders commitment, all efforts to manage disasters will go futile.

JNU-NAPSIPAG Conference: Report of Proceedings

Speaking on the intervention of ASEAN in terms of disaster management, Miss Ha said that through the ASEAN, it was possible for people to be in touch with each other by way of various forums like conferences which helped in sharing ideas and exchanging information with different groups of stakeholders. Miss Ha also reiterated that ASEAN countries should promote PPP and gave the example of “Get Airports Ready for Disaster” (GARD) in Germany and Lake Chilwa Basin Climate Change Adaptable Programme in Malawi and similarly another one in Tanzania.

In conclusion, Miss Ha stressed on the need to have an ‘integrated governance approach including government, private sector and the civil society in order to have sound disaster governance.

PROF. R. LALITHA. S. FERNANDO and ARUNA MUTHULINGAM (JU, SRI LANKA: AN EXAMINATION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE PREPAREDNESS TO MITIGATE THE IMPACT OF DISASTERS: A CASE STUDY OF FLOODING CONDITIONS IN AMBANGAMUWA KORALE DIVISION OF NUWARA ELIYA DISTRICTS IN SRI LANKA

Prof. R. Lalitha’s presentation was focused on identification of present disaster management mechanisms in Sri Lanka. She mentioned about a spate of floods had occurred during May and June 2013 in the Ambangamuwa Korale Division of Nuwara Eliya Districts in Sri Lanka and which had created havoc in the region. According to Prof. Lalitha, almost 4920 people from 1199 families were affected due to these unexpected floods that had occurred after 40 years. Prof. Lalitha methodology in carrying out this research chiefly consisted of qualitative study with purposive sampling, unstructured interviews, observation methods and thematic analysis among few others.

Giving reasons for the occurrence of floods in the Korale Division, Prof. Lalitha said that encroachment in river banks, unauthorized constructions close to the river bed, and garbage dumping triggered flooding of the region. Her paper tried to make a critical analysis of the administrative preparedness of Disaster Management taking the case study of the Korale Division in Sri Lanka. Prof. Lalitha took certain parameters to see the administrative preparedness in the said region which included hazard monitoring practices, early warning systems, provision of emergency services and education and training for preparedness and contrasted each of these with the present mechanisms and their consequences.

RAMANAND N. GARGE: DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND ROLE OF ARMED FORCES: CRITICAL ANALYSIS

Mr. Garge while speaking about the role of armed forces in situations of disaster whether natural or man-made said that the army has always been known for its discipline, efficiency and

JNU-NAPSIPAG Conference: Report of Proceedings

unparalleled execution of command, control and communication when it came to helping civilians in times of distress and need. However he lamented the fact that there has been an over-reliance on the armed forces during times of disasters. This according to him had blunted the initiation of the civil administration.

While charting out India's land under natural disasters, Mr. Garge said that 57% of India's land is vulnerable to earthquakes, 12% to severe earthquakes, 68% to droughts, 12% to floods, and 8% to cyclones. Apart from this chemical and industrial disasters and other forms of man-made disasters also formed a substantial part of the disasters occurring in India.

According to Mr. Garge, present disaster management institutions that were set up in India included the Central government at the apex, State government, District administration with panchayats and municipalities working under them. The basic task of any mechanism of disaster management according to Mr. Garge comprised reducing existing levels of vulnerabilities, prevention and mitigation and finally response in the shortest possible time. The lessons learnt from disasters that have occurred in the past include creating a culture of preparedness and prevention, evolving a code of conduct of all the stake-holders, preparedness and mitigation as being more effective than post disaster relief measures. He suggested few mechanisms where the state can be involved while dealing with disaster management. According to him, there was an immediate need to prepare an SOP or Standard Operating Procedures with effective implementation backed by legislative and regulatory mechanisms, putting an end to politicizing any disaster and compensation for deaths or injuries, preparing State Disaster Action Plan within the guidelines of NDMA with comprehensive proactive approach to get rid of staple policy.

As part of future requirements in dealing with disasters and making the mechanism more strong, Mr. Garge suggested that there was a need to consider knowledge networks, mobilize and train volunteers to respond quickly and effectively during a disaster, need for 'anticipatory governance,' look into indigenous knowledge systems and coping practices as well as developing a strategy of 'living with risk.' Mr. Garge concluded by saying that the three C's that is command, control and communication is the code for navigating an effective execution of emergency management.

PROF. SURESH GOYAL: (UNIVERSITY OF RAJASTHAN) DROUGHT DISASTER MANAGEMENT: SUGGESTIVE REFORMS AND CAPACITY BUILDING

Prof. Goyal whose paper was focused on droughts in Rajasthan said that droughts are a complex phenomenon and a slow disaster as compared to other forms of disasters but one that stays for long and whose effects can be seen for a long period of time. They are also known as 'creeping disasters.' According to him 27% of the land is disaster prone and in a region like the Thar

JNU-NAPSIPAG Conference: Report of Proceedings

Desert of Rajasthan, which spans even South Sujarat and the Kuttch area, people have become habituated to living in dry and drought prone areas.

Prof. Goyal informed us of a Drought Disaster Manual framed by Rajasthan that was re-framed again in 2005. He then mentioned three typologies of droughts namely:

- (a) Meterological Drought: related to amount of rainfall.
- (b) Hydrological Drought: determined by the water levels in reservoirs and
- (c) Agricultural Drought: related to availability of water for crops.

Suggesting reforms and improvements in order to have a strong and effective Drought Disaster Policy, Prof. Goyal said that following steps are necessary:

- (a) Drought-proofing of the economy: there is a need to carry out drought proofing in good years and also in not so good years.
- (b) There needs to be Drought Relief Operations in the years of severe drought.
- (c) Need for community participation
- (d) Gram Sabhas and Gram Panchayats should be involved in a big way and asked to recommend the kind of relief work required.
- (e) District and Block Level Committee should be involved in sanctioning and monitoring of relief work
- (f) Involve NGO's in training, motivation and capacity building of the volunteers and workers.
- (g) Specific plans for each district should be prepared.
- (h) Employment generation in severely drought prone areas.
- (i) Launching of regular developmental schemes.

CONVERGENCE SESSION: Prof. Shree Krishna Shreshta (Nepal) spoke of the importance of the ASEAN Disaster Management framework and administrative preparedness for Disaster Management. He also lauded the role of the Armed Forces with respect to any disaster management. Psycho-social consequences of disasters and the technical, political and social mechanisms to deal with disasters were reiterated by Prof. Shreshta. He further added that preparedness, prevention, rehabilitation and mitigation of natural disasters was of prime importance in the wake of any planning for disaster management since according to Prof. Shresta, disaster didn't recognize boundaries, people, age, sex, creed or race. He spoke of the need for an integrated, holistic and collaborative approach vis-à-vis disaster management. Concluding his remark on the sessions, Prof. Shreshta said that only relief and rehabilitation is not enough but preparedness from country to the global level and from individual to global level is necessary in dealing with a disaster situation.

JNU-NAPSIPAG Conference: Report of Proceedings

Prof. Rumki Basu (Jamia Milia Islamia University, New Delhi) appreciated the session which included an interesting range of 5 papers where 4 of them dealt with natural disasters and one on manmade disaster. Speaking on the state of preparedness as far as disaster management in the country goes, she said that while short term mechanisms to deal with disaster management were in place yet, we lacked a long term sustainable plan for dealing with disaster management. She lamented on the fact that bodies like SAARC had proved to be a failure in helping member countries in dealing with disaster management. In this vein, Prof. Basu suggested that there was a greater need for national, sub-national and local initiatives rather than trans and supra national bodies.

Dr. S. Mahajan (Shimla) stressed on the need to expand the area and definition of disaster especially manmade disasters. Based on a paper presentation by one of the delegates from Jharkhand where lightening kills almost 7-10 people everyday, he said that lightening was a natural disaster and yet to be taken under the rubric of natural disasters. He spoke of the role of women in a post disaster situation like those in post Gujarat earthquake where women were without home, hearth and livelihood opportunities. In conclusion, Dr. Mahajan said that in issues of governance, evaluation and monitoring becomes the most important kegs on which governance rests. According to him, therefore, there was a need for a re-assessment of policies.

Prof. Akmal Wasim (Pakistan) said that Article 9 of Pakistan and Article 21 of India were synonymous with the right to livelihood and well being of the citizens. He expressed his happiness at the Jayashree's paper that was on the psychological dimensions in building community resilience. He said that disasters and disaster management are and should be sans borders and felt that NAPSIPAG as a civil society and as an alternative to regional cooperation fulfilled the role of a facilitator and guiding force to bodies like ASEAN and SAARC on issues like capacity building, training and developing manuals in disaster management mechanisms.

Parallel Session II

Conserving Rivers & Coastlines

Chair: Maj Gen Shafiqul Islam

Co Chair: Prof. Ashok K Mukhopadhyay

Discussants: Prof. Sarfaraz Khawaja & Prof. Jak Jabes

Rapporteurs: Dr. Raudah Danila

“Disaster Management through River Management: A Case study of Meethi River in Mumbai”

-Prashant Amrutkar

65% of 12million Mumbaites live in illegal settlements. Meethi River serves a dual purpose of sewer for the area carrying sewage as well as the storm water. Meethi River is a confluence of water discharges of Pawai & Vihar lakes passing through the thickly populated industrial areas. Its total length is about 17.84kms and a large catchment area.

After July 2005, BMC publicly declared its intent to end the problem of flooding in the city. A participatory governance model has been adopted in this regard. However, a participatory urban flood risk management framework is needed. Decision Making should be understood as a combination of top down and bottom up approaches. The involvement of all stakeholders i.e. river basin organizations, regional department authorities, scientific institutions, the private sector and NGO's is required.

Governing Wetlands and Water Bodies in Bangladesh -Evara Graner & Mahboob Elahi Akhtar

Definition of Institutional Theory has changed i.e. development being seen as a technological and not institutional change. [North 1970]

Core Findings: Complex web household economies are strongly contrasted by the term of ‘real fisherman’, No access to water bodies, debates have remained remarkably similar [new fisheries management policy of 1986 & the current Jal ahal Policy], However, the term suggests as analytical clarity that is mandatory.

Four Major Rivers Restoration Project and its implication to Integrity in Korea – Kilkon Ko & Duck Su Kim

Major Activities: Construction of Multipurpose dams upstream movable wires and estuary dykes, Construction of smaller dams, pedestrian & bike pathways, cultural and historic landmarks etc

Major issues: Disaster Management, Environment Protection, Improvement in Welfare and Vitalization of the economy.

Inconsistencies: May2008- the government projects for creating the Foundation of Global Korea, June 2008- Blue House changed its line towards postponing of the project, Nov 2008- Ministry of land, Transport and Maritime Affairs explained the budget proposal to the national assembly, Jan 2009- the office of National River Restoration established, June 2009- President Lee announced the declaration of giving up the project officially at the 18th Radio Speech

JNU-NAPSIPAG Conference: Report of Proceedings

Failures: Emphasis upon efficiency over integrity, vulnerability to information asymmetry between business groups and the government and despite a few bribery cases detected, the public questions the integrity of the government.

Implications: Presidents strong will and discretion may lead to policy failure and bring about the vicious cycle, rapid implementation without consensus building and rational analysis cause policy failure, a close relationship between political and business circles and forming a cartel causes ethical failure of the government and integrity management in a broader sense is essential beyond the narrow definition of corruption.

River Erosion in Bangladesh: A Study of disastrous consequences on Human & Nature and its Policy Implications in Bangladesh -Prof Shamsur Rahman

Causes of River Erosion: Heavy discharge of water through GBM and strong current during monsoon, unconsolidated sediments during dry season, burgeoning dams and embankments, high astronomical tides, deforestation, destruction of mangroves by shrimp and salt cultivation.

Damages Caused: Erodes land and standing crops, displaces human settlements, demolishes infrastructure, educational, religious institutions and cultural heritage, increases landlessness and poverty and deteriorates the quality of water.

Challenges: Dredging is very expensive and a burden on the public purse, immense pressure of the downward tide and intensity of waves causes erosion to coastal islands everywhere and insufficient fund allocation and lack of proper implementation.

Conclusion and Recommendation: National level- Forecasting using satellite images, stern action against destruction of mangroves, sustainable embankments, examining the possibility of planting vegetation, realignment and re setting of the river channel.

: Local Level- Strict supervision of coastal embankments and regular maintenance of maintenance of it by the local people, more consultation and discussion with the local people on climate change related consequences and training the local people for disaster prone areas.

Revisiting Land Water and Disasters in Uttarakhand, India- Dr. Viany Sharma

Immense damage and devastation, thousands of lives lost, over 300 villages affected, national highway completely washed away at more than a dozen places, loss of agricultural fields etc. a 100 crore package released.

Floods...a double jeopardy or Abysmal Disaster Management- Prof Aquila Khawaja

Magic on Planet earth is because of water. Population in Pakistan is around 170 million, water availability is around 5300 cubic metres and annual rainfall around 90% between July- August.

JNU-NAPSIPAG Conference: Report of Proceedings

Challenges: Rainwater goes down the drain, stumbling block is the lack of storage facilities/arrangement, main dams to provide sufficient electricity, donor fatigue, severe energy crises, dirty water and immense water wastage inspite of water scarcity [ADB 2013 DROUGHT].

RDH model in Australia

Recommendations: More study, awareness, advocacy, technical assistance is needed, by laws for specific size of houses, commercial plazas to install roof top water collection units, philanthropists can bail out the government n terms of managing water scarcity, floods and power generation. For example, Engineer Sir Ganga Ram had built a 1.1 megawatt Ganga Power House with personal funds in 1925.

Discussants: Dr. Vinay Sharma IIT Roorkee , Md. Ahmad Martadha UUM, Malaysia

1. **Prof. Sarfaraz Khawaja-** Improvement in implementation has to be focused upon if gap is to be minimized, practice and demonstrate the participatory process, public private participation is the need of the hour as there is a lack of funds, there are issues in governance like transparency, and accountability has to be improved. Policy has a key towards politics, legislation has to be appropriate. Professionally the monitoring and evaluation has been ignored.
2. **Prof. Jak Jabes-** The key questions that need to be addressed are: based on all the presentations we seem to fairly agree on that will the governments agree that we are wasting a lot of money and lacking on implementation? Are there some blue points? How do we learn from these case studies? What are the constraints- political, social, financial, ignorance, lack of will or all together? There are issues in governance- we all are looking at it t the sectoral level without keeping in mind that there is a central governance paradigm which is failing. We cannot fix the ministry until we fix the whole system. Participation is necessary for solutions and its very closely related to management. Governing the scarce resources is another major challenge.

Parallel Session II 2:30-4:00 PM

Disaster Mitigation and Developmental Planning

-Report by Nazia Khan

1. **Disaster Management in the five year plans of Bangladesh by Nasim Banu**
 - Bangladesh is recognized as most vulnerable to natural disasters. The plan and planning aspects [1973-2015]

- Strengthening capacities for disasters and climate change
- Action for risk and strategy for action plan
- Strengthening disaster management system
- Evolve low carbon option
- Strengthening civil society and private sector
- Early warning system- impact situation
- Institutions e.g. SPARRSO- for satellite
- Resilient investment
- Climate related budget [2009-10 to 2011-12]-----2009-10 BDT-2674.60million, 17.7 for disaster management
- Impact of project implementation
- 97 reported due to cooperative input, 99% reported due to fisheries, 88% consolidated reported
- Conclusion- Plan of GOB has made significant change, 2007-09 there has been a significant improvement

2. National Disaster Response Force: Organization, Mandate and Role in Disaster Management in India by Prof. Rumki Basu

- The 1st specialized response force from GOI
- Earlier emergency situation have been handled by one or the other state agencies. NDMA which would be a control body. The role of NDRF battalions is to reduce the response time. They are drawn from paramilitary forces. The role is categorically dictated out.
- Training a specialist force in the world today. They are also trained abroad. Therefore, We look at the achievements. They have been called for big or small disasters in India, are also involved in search and rescue operations. The critical gaps are that they lack manpower; they need better training & infrastructure. We need specialist response. Orissa super cyclone s one case study of how the disaster was controlled successfully. The kind of coordination we need has to be coupled with political response. For example the case of Uttarakhand, the government did not act together.

3. Administrative planning and political response to a post disaster reconstruction: A study of Aila cyclone devastated Gosaba Block of West Bengal in India

- Gosaba block of West Bengal Baligram Panchayat where the cyclone hit, the crises became part of post disaster management towards sustainable management. 25th May 2009, Aila cyclone hit Gosaba, devastating thousands of farmlands. Now, forced migration has emerged as one of the main problems. General awareness and Land acquisition are other concerns.

JNU-NAPSIPAG Conference: Report of Proceedings

- Disasters change the meaning of social concepts. Concept of property has drastically changed. Disasters have created an imminent danger to short term growth. Risk Management becomes a priority.
4. **Policy and practices of Environment Management with special reference to Nepal**
- During 1980's community participation was focused upon. Now, there is a separate ministry of environment, there are rules for ozone control and results are evident in the community approach to human resource development. till date monitoring and evaluation of programs have not been done and there is a lack of coordination. Some billion of rupees have come from Bill Gates Foundation but the money was gulped by the ministry in attending programs and organizing seminars.
 - The aim now is to preserve the green belt and strengthen the environmental rules, internalize environmental concerns, undertake teaching and research projects & programs for floods and landslides etc.
 - Impact on agriculture has to be studied
 - A disaster mitigation plan is the need of the hour at the regional, state, district and national level
5. **Disaster Management: Role of Administration & Government by Abhijit Pilkhane**
- Over 60% area is prone to earthquakes. In India, the history of Disaster Management can be traced back to the High Powered Committee in 1990's till the MHA guidelines with respect to Disaster Management Authority headed by the PM.
 - A suggestion is to make and screen more and more documentary films on the disaster response mechanism and framework. Use of ICT to alert people and generate awareness is another crucial area.
6. **Administrative Planning and Political Responses to Hazards by Vikas Saharan**
- Different communications infrastructure and improvement of technology is required
 - Leadership is based on legitimacy which stands questioned during such instances.
7. **National Disaster Relief Act in Nepal by Dr. Narendra Paudel**
- Nepal has the provision of launching disaster mitigation activities but there is a lack of coordination. For example, in the floods in 2012, there was a massive loss of life and property, about 327 families and a population of 3200 was affected. Huge sums of money were borrowed from the banks. More than 35% of the people are very poor and live on the river banks.
 - India-Nepal Pancham Mahakali Treaty

8. Emerging Issues in Nuclear Management in Post Fukushima by Rajesh Haran

- The issue of setting of new nuclear plant has been much debated yet the risk remains high. There is an increased dependence on nuclear energy and India plans to fulfill 25% of its electricity needs through it by 2032.
- Inbuilt safety mechanism always remains under skepticism.
- NDMA guidelines dealing with nuclear Radiological Emergencies are there yet not much known
- Emerging issues- Post Fukushima has raised concerns about non-sharing of information with the general public.

Valedictory Session 9th Dec. 3-5 pm:

Hon'ble Vice Chairman of the National Disaster Management Authority

***Shri Shashidhar Reddy* Chief Guest**

Welcome by the JNU Rector Prof. Sudha Pai

International delegates from 17 countries, faculty of 3 Delhi based universities- JNU, Delhi University and Jamia Millia Islamia University greet the VC-NDMA.



“Disaster management is the most contemporary theme to be taken to the university level course curriculum

JNU-NAPSIPAG Conference: Report of Proceedings

and need to be tackled in an interdisciplinary manner. This involves inter departmental coordination, technology development, appropriate partnerships and local community capacity enhancement. It also need to be coordinated within the



government



itself as one ministry builds houses and continues to acquire more and more land and the other is expected to plan disaster management with land management completely out of his control. The multiplicity

of



government departments and lack of internal planning and coordination



weakens disaster planning. I am glad that this effort has been undertaken at JNU and I hope this is further developed and I would be more than happy to provide whatever help needed from NDMA.”

The VC/Minister distributed prizes for the poster competition titled “LAND GRAB AND DISASTERS”. The first prize – Rs.10,000/-, Second Prize- Rs.8000/- and the two third prizes- Rs. 3000 each. The VC also released a book of NAPSIPAG scholars from Asia on CLIMATE CHANGE edited by Prof. Huong Ha from Singapore and Prof. Teknath Dhakal from Nepal.

The VC/Minister also distributed awards and certificates to the international delegates and participants representing disaster management government departments, university departments and community based organizations.

Pics: VC distributing awards to Nepal and Philippines delegates

Outcome of the conference:

The conference can boast of three major outcomes besides a lot of interdepartmental networking, knowledge sharing and loosening of the bureaucratic steel frame amongst country based government departments and community based organizations.

- **The link between land management and environmental hazards, and subsequent disasters was more visibly highlighted with empirical studies collected from the whole of Asia-Pacific studies. This established the fact that by appropriate land management which involves respect for the environmental limits of mountains, rivers and coasts a large number of hazards could be prevented and human life protected.**
- **It was strongly established that convergence planning should be ecosystem based which would require macro and micro level trans-border collaboration between disaster management authorities to protect river catchments, mangrove forests, corals, coastline, mountain ecosystems and forests. A new form of regional openminded-ness should emerge to deal with climate change related challenges.**
- **The role of youth in creating networks to conserve and protect the planet was brought forward by the young MPhil/PhD scholars along with some young administrators from India and South and South-East Asia. The result was the launching of a historic “NAPSIPAG Young Scholars and Administrators Forum” as a platform to spearhead a movement towards a holistic policy reform in the region with a mutual partnership of academia and administrators in research. While this would make research more meaningful, it would also help the government design more implementable policies.**

In the end the JNU Vice Chancellor, Rector, Faculty and organizers of the NAPSIPAG Conference reiterated with appreciation the support which came from UNDP and the sensitivity which emanated from Excellency Madam Lise Grande’s speech on the need for disaster prevention, mitigation and human well being.

We unequivocally share that this magnificent platform of collaboration and mutual sharing was possible due to UNDP's very committed support.

Thank you