



National Disaster Preparedness Day

29th March, 2012

National Disaster Preparedness Day (NDPD) is observed by the Government of Bangladesh every year on last Thursday of March. This year the day will be observed on 29th March, 2012. Her Excellency Ms. Margareta Wahlostrom, UN Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction is expected to grace the programmes as Guest of Honor.

The theme for this year is *“Student-Teacher-Mass, Let us Build Disaster Awareness”* incorporating the participation of masses focusing on the youth of Bangladesh as they are the future builder of the nation. Several school and college based activities have been planned on the day to promote a culture of safety in the educational institutes.

NARRI CONSORTIUM:

In Bangladesh, European Commission is supporting a project under the Sixth Action Plan which is being carried out by the NARRI Consortium. National Alliance for Risk Reduction and Response Initiatives (NARRI) is a national level consortium consisting of six leading INGOs working in Bangladesh for increasing community capacity, awareness and skills to reduce disaster risks. The NARRI partners are ActionAid Bangladesh, Concern Universal, Concern Worldwide, Islamic Relief Worldwide, Oxfam GB and Plan International. In addition, Handicap International (HI) and HelpAge International (HAI) are working as technical partners to mainstream issues of persons with disabilities and elderly people respectively. All these pioneers in the DRR sector are working in the most disaster-prone areas across the country with a multi-hazard approach covering both rural and urban areas.



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EVENTS ORGANIZED BY NARRI CONSORTIUM

NARRI will also observe the day along with the Government of Bangladesh, Civil Society, Development Partners and International/Local NGO etc. Several events are scheduled to take place in Dhaka and different working areas of the partner organizations of NARRI around Bangladesh. Brief of different events which are going to be arranged-

National Level activities:

- ✚ **Rally:** One national level rally will be organized for this day. ActionAid and Population Services and Training Center (PSTC) will attend the Rally under NARRI banner; PSTC will ensure one banner for Rally which ActionAid Participants will carry.
- ✚ **Mock Drill:** One national level mock drill will be organized by NARRI, which will be organized through FSCD support and ActionAid is performing as coordinating role to do it perfectly.
- ✚ **Newspaper Publication:** There is a plan for that day to Publish some supplementary in the national daily newspaper for raising mass awareness among the common people regarding disaster preparedness. The messages will contain the theme of running year “*Student-Teacher-Mass, Let us Build Disaster Awareness*”.
- ✚ **Talk Show:** A talk show will be arranged on Channel-I consisting of representative from Disaster Management Bureau (DMB) & high level management officer from Department of Agricultural Marketing (DAM) for sensitization, influencing policy formulation and creating mass awareness regarding disaster preparedness. This will be helpful to mainstream disaster management in national level.
- ✚ **Seminar/Discussion:** Discussions and seminars will be held on effective disaster preparedness and efficient coordination for achieving the risk reduction objectives among



the key project stakeholder at Dhaka. The objective of this activity is to share knowledge with the people and to learn from their experience which can be a good resource for NARRI consortium and Disaster management burro (DMB).






- ✚ **Videos on Mass Awareness:** A PSA (Public service announcement) video show on disaster management will be organized by Disaster management burro (DMB) in the national seminar in that day and this will be the premier show of the PSA.

Local Level Activities:

- ✚ **Rally:** On the day, colorful rallies will be organized to sensitize the community and creating mass awareness regarding disaster preparedness in participation of local government bodies and Disaster Management Committees (DMCs), NGOs, Civil Society, Media etc. There will be rallies organized in city level, district level, upazilla level and ward level in Dhaka, Sirajgonj district, Sarishabari, Jamalpur upazilla and Sylhet City Corporation. The rallies will have banners holding messages related to disaster preparedness and disaster risk reduction in compliance with the theme of this year by engaging the children and youth of Bangladesh.
- ✚ **Mock Drill/Evacuation Drill:** Mock drill and EQ resilient construction demonstration will be arranged in Sylhet City Corporation and Mirpur & Demra Thana of Dhaka for mass awareness and skill demonstration with participation of community members, BDRCS, FSCD, School Disaster Management Committee etc. 24 school teachers of old city took training on Evacuation. They will give lessons on it to the students in the evacuation drill in the National Disaster Preparedness Day where 18,196 students will join. These activities will cover different types and huge number of people to make them aware about disaster management.
- ✚ **Seminar/Discussion:** Some discussion sessions will be held on effective disaster preparedness and efficient coordination for achieving the risk reduction objectives among



the key project stakeholder at district, upazilla and ward level in Dhaka, Sarishabari, Jamalpur, Barguna, Pabna etc. Meeting will be held among representative of upazilla administration, City Corporations, School Disaster Management Committee (SDMC), members of Community Based Organizations (CBOs) to commemorate the day.

-  ***Awareness Building through Electronic & Print Media:*** Message related to disaster preparedness will be published in the Local newspaper supplements for raising mass awareness among the common people regarding disaster preparedness has been planned. 'Laily' cartoon will be broadcasted in local cable using the 'Laily' cyclone version and a radio discussion show on Nalta community will be held with UP chairmen and RJ or Senior JJS staffs.
-  ***Children Activities:*** There are many plans for children for this day, art exhibition, essay writing, debate competition, recitation of poems/rhymes competition and DRR game competition will be organized by School Disaster Management Committees (SDMC), CBOs for knowledge development/transformation and to raise awareness among the students and community people.
-  ***Cultural Events:*** DRR fair, ward & city level cultural show consisting of drama, folk songs regarding DRR, stalls, blood donation, video shows and signature campaign will be arranged to raise awareness and share knowledge in participation of community people, local NGOs, Bangladesh Red Crescent (BDRC), Fire Service & Civil Defense (FSCD), City Corporation and DC Office etc.
-  ***Day Observation:*** Fund-raising event for schools and evacuation game (where children will play a game on what to pick during an emergency and run towards a shelter. Winners will get prize) will be held by inviting the District and Upazilla Education Officers.
-  ***DRR Display:*** Picture, IEC materials, Maps, action plans and activities will be displayed in an event through which materials and publications of DIPECHO VI will be



projected. One stall will be established at Osmani Milonayoton for NARRI publication and best works display under NARRI banner.

- ✚ **Women Activities:** For women there are some special activities- Portable stove/hitter/oven show/display, participants will show their oven/stove and a jury board will select best 5 of those. Jury board will have a checklist to select the best hitter/stove and another activity for women is Game: *Durjoge Jogar where* from many items participants will collect necessary item and goods those are very much related to family level preparedness.
- ✚ **Inspiring Award:** Inspiring award will be given to person with disabilities, elderly people, woman, and children category for special contribution to DRR. The objective of giving this award is to encourage the community to do DRR related works.

For further information

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