

Minutes of the 1st Meeting of the Assam State Disaster Management Authority held on 21st June 2008 at 12.00 noon in the Conference Room of Hon'ble Chief Minister

The Chairperson of the State Disaster Management Authority and Hon'ble Chief Minister Assam, Shri Tarun Gogoi chaired the meeting. The list of other members present in the meeting is given at Annexure I.

The meeting started with a brief presentation on the background of Disaster Management – the paradigm shift from reactive (Crisis management) to proactive (Risk management) aspect and the need for a holistic approach in managing disasters. Against this backdrop, the agenda items were taken up for discussion.

Agenda Item No 1: Approval to the proposal for constitution of the State Executive Committee.

The Authority approved the constitution of a State Executive Committee to assist the State Authority in the performance of its functions and to coordinate action in accordance with the guidelines laid down by the State Authority and to ensure the compliance of directions issued by the State Government under the Disaster Management Act.

However, it was decided that all senior officers related with disaster management particularly those from line departments should be made special invitees to the meetings of the State Executive Committee in addition to the Director General of Police and Director General of Home Guards and Civil Defence. The draft notification, as approved by the Authority, constituting the State Executive Committee is placed at Annexure II.

Agenda Item No 2: Approval to the proposal for constitution of the District Disaster Management Authorities

The Authority approved the constitution of the District Disaster Management Authorities in all the districts of Assam through separate orders district-wise.

The Authority decided that while the Co-Chairperson of the District Disaster Management Authority in Kamrup (Metro) district will be the Mayor of Gauhati Municipal Corporation, in the districts falling under BTAD area, NC Hills and Karbi Anglong, the Chief Executive Member or his representative shall be the Co-chairperson. In the remaining districts, the Chairperson Zilla Parishad shall be the Co-chairperson.

The Authority further decided that the Heads of all departments concerned with the management of disasters in the district such as Civil Defence, Food & Civil Supplies, Agriculture, Panchayat & Rural Development, Power, Irrigation, and Sports & Youth Welfare will be special invitees to all meeting of the District Disaster Management Authority. The draft notification, as approved by the Authority, constituting District Disaster Management Authorities is placed at Annexure III.

Agenda Item No 3: Approval to the Assam State Disaster Management Policy

The Authority approved the Assam State Disaster Management Policy, as placed with the agenda notes, with some modifications.

The modified Assam State Disaster Management Policy, as modified and approved by the Authority, is placed at Annexure IV.

Agenda Item No 4: Approval to the Assam Disaster Management Rules

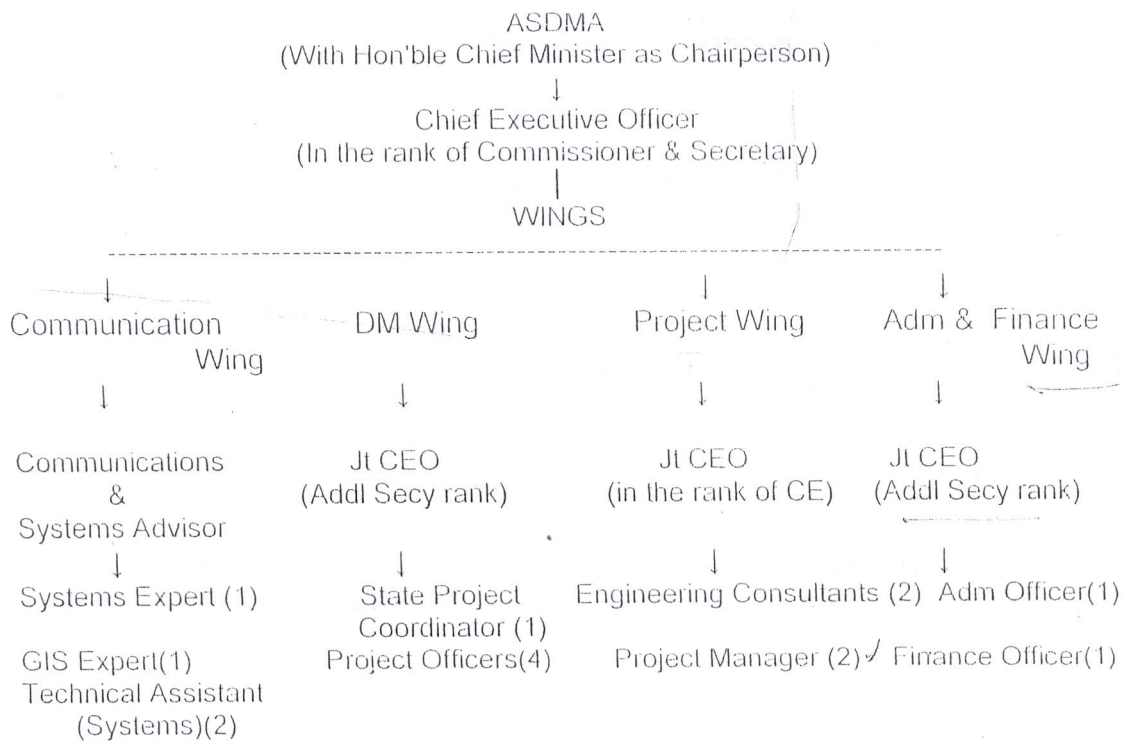
The Authority approved the Assam State Disaster Management Rules with some modifications.

The Assam State Disaster Management Rules, as modified and approved by the Authority, are placed at Annexure V.

Agenda Item No 5: Approval to the proposal for creation of Posts for the State Authority

The Authority while appreciating the shift to a proactive approach of disaster management also recognized the need of having its own establishment with officers, consultants and employees for carrying out the functions mandated under the Disaster Management Act.

The Authority, after going through the systems followed by other States like Gujarat and Orissa, approved the following structure for The Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA): -



Office support staff -UDA (2), LDA (3), Grade IV (10)

Keeping the above structure in view, the Authority approved the creation of the following posts for the establishment of the Authority:

- 1) Chief Executive Officer in the rank of Commissioner and Secretary to the Government of Assam... 1 (One post)
- 2) Communications & System Advisor... 1 (One post)
- 3) Joint CEO, Disaster Management Wing, in the rank of Additional Secretary to the Government of Assam... 1(One post)
- 4) Joint CEO, Project Wing, in the rank of Chief Engineer of an Engineering Department of the Government of Assam... 1(One post)
- 5) Joint CEO, Finance & Administration Wing, in the rank of Additional Secretary to the Government of Assam... 1(One post)
- 6) Systems Expert... 1(One post)
- 7) GIS Expert(1) ... 1(One post)
- 8) Technical Assistant (Systems)... 2(Two posts)
- 9) State Project Coordinator... 1(One post)
- 10) Project Officers-DM ... 4(Four posts)
- 11) Engineering Consultants... 2(Two posts)
- 12) Project Managers... 2(Two posts)
- 13) Administrative Officer... 1(One post)
- 14) Finance Officer ... 1(One post)
- 15) UDA ... 2(Two posts)
- 16) LDA... 3 (Three posts)
- 17) Grade IV... 10 (Ten posts)

These officers, consultants and employees may be engaged on deputation from other government departments or taken on contract basis or may be recruited by any other mode as decided by the Authority.

Agenda Item No 5-A: Approval to the proposal for creation of one post of Emergency Officer/ Project Officer for Disaster Management in all the 27 districts.

The Authority approved the creation of one post each in every district for helping the District Disaster Management Authority in carrying out its function effectively. These posts will be filled up on contract basis by the State Authority.

Agenda Item No 6: Approval to the proposal for creation of separate Budget & Head of account for the State Disaster Management Authority.

The Authority approved the creation of a separate budget head for SDMA.

Agenda Item No 7: Approval for establishing the following funds

- i. State Disaster Response Fund
- ii. District Disaster Response Fund
- iii. State Disaster Mitigation Fund
- iv. District Disaster Mitigation Fund

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The Authority approved the creation of the State Disaster Response Fund initially with an amount of Rs 1 (One) Crore and District Disaster Response Fund for each district, initially with an amount of Rs. 10 (Ten) Lakh for each district. However, it was clarified that any expense from this fund would only be for such expenditure, which is not covered under the Calamity Relief Fund.

The Authority also approved the creation of the State Disaster Mitigation Fund with an initial corpus of Rs 100 (One hundred) Crore, out of which Rs 2 Crore would be earmarked for each district for constituting the District Disaster Mitigation Fund. These funds would be specifically meant for any activities undertaken for mitigating disasters.

Agenda Item No 8: Other Items

- i. The Authority approved that some personnel in each battalion of the Assam Police be trained in Search & Rescue and other aspects of disaster management for use in times of disasters. It was also decided that these personnel in each battalion would be equipped along the lines of the National Disaster Response Force but on a smaller scale.
- ii. Recognizing the need and importance of Capacity building for Disaster management, the Authority desired that a Training Action Plan with definite time line should be framed for training of all stakeholders. In this regard, in the first phase, Health & Family Welfare Department would train doctors and paramedical staff in disaster management. It was further decided that the components of training in disaster management such as Emergency Health Management would be incorporated in the syllabus of the in-service training of doctors, nurses and paramedical staff.
- iii. The Authority also asked for introduction of a module on Earthquake Resistant Technology for Masons as a part of the courses offered at the ITIs.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the chair.

As approved by Hon'ble Chief Minister.



(V.K. Pipersenia)
Principal Secretary
Revenue & Disaster Management

Annexure – I

The list of participants to the 1st meeting of the Assam State Disaster Management Authority held on 21/06/2008 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam

1. Shri Tarun Gogoi, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam in the Chair.
2. Dr Bhumidhar Barman, Minister, Revenue & Disaster Management
3. Shri P.C.Sharma, IAS, Chief Secretary, Assam.
4. Shri R.N.Mathur, IPS, Director General of Police, Assam.
5. Shri Hem Bhai, Member, State Disaster Management Authority.
6. Shri V.K.Pipersenia, IAS, Principal Secretary, Revenue & Disaster Management
7. Shri S.C.Das, IAS, Principal Secretary, Home & Political
8. Shri J.P.Meena, IAS, Principal Secretary, Agriculture & APC.
9. Shri V.S.Bhaskar, IAS, Commissioner & Secretary, Health & Family Welfare,
10. Shri Rajiv Bora, IAS, Commissioner & Secretary, Home & Political