

**Press Note**

In order to inculcate the culture of preparedness and to sensitize the public at large, National Disaster Management Authority, New Delhi, in collaboration with the Revenue Administration, Disaster Management and Mitigation Department organised a Table Top Exercise on Cyclones at Chennai on 04.03.2008. This was a follow up of the Co-ordinating Conference already held on 08.10.2007 and will be followed by a Mock Exercise on 14-15, March 2008 to be held at Kancheepuram and Cuddalore Districts.

The objective of these Exercises is to check the level of awareness and also preparedness at the State and District levels to meet the demands of disaster management. The line departments in the State of Tamil Nadu involved in the disaster management are fully geared to meet the challenges thrown by disaster strikes. Tamil Nadu has learnt from the disasters experienced by the State in the past and has evolved a Disaster Management Plan to effectively manage crisis situations. The recent floods in Tamil Nadu have established the effectiveness with which the line departments of the State can perform at times of disasters.

Shri Shaktikanta Das, IAS, State Relief Commissioner & Special Commissioner and Commissioner of Revenue Administration inaugurated the programme. Brig. Dr. BK Khanna, Senior Specialist (Training & Capacity Development), National Disaster Management Authority conducted the Table Top Exercise.

Shri A. Ramalingam, IAS, Joint Commissioner (LR), welcomed the gathering. Tmt. R. Jaya, District Collector, Chennai proposed the vote of thanks.

Thiru Santhosh K Mishra, District Collector, Kancheepuram and Thiru Theva Neethi Dhas, Collector, Puducherry district and the representatives from Cuddalore district participated.

The programme was attended by the officials from Police, Thiru Shyam Sundar, I.P.S., ADGP, Fire and Rescue Services, Thiru T. Radhakrishnan, IPS., IGP and Director, Civil Defence and officials from Health, Agriculture, Fisheries, Civil Supplies, Public Works Department (WRO), Highways, Rural Development and Municipal Administration of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry.

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