NSDMA e-Journal

The official newsletter of NSDMA

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FROM THE JOINT CEO'S DESK

Dear Readers,

It gives me immense pleasure to present the first edition of the newsletter of the Nagaland State Disaster Management Authority (NSDMA). This inaugural issue marks an important milestone in our journey towards strengthening disaster preparedness and resilience across the state of Nagaland.

The launch of this newsletter is a step towards creating a shared platform for communication, learning, and collaboration. It aims to highlight the initiatives undertaken by NSDMA, showcase best practices, document experiences from the field, and acknowledge the tireless efforts of our stakeholders—government departments, district authorities, first responders, volunteers, community-based organisations, and partners—who work relentlessly to build a disaster-resilient Nagaland.

Disaster management is a collective responsibility. Through this newsletter, we seek to foster greater awareness, encourage community participation, and promote a culture of preparedness and resilience. We hope it will also serve as a valuable knowledge resource, capturing lessons learned and innovative approaches that can guide future actions.

I commend the efforts of the NSDMA team and all contributors who have worked diligently to bring out this first edition. I encourage readers to actively engage with the newsletter and share their insights, experiences, and suggestions, so that this platform continues to grow stronger with every edition.

Let us move forward together with commitment, coordination, and compassion to safeguard lives, livelihoods, and the environment.

Dr. Johnny Kadunsin Ruangmei
Jt. CEO, NSDMA

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NDMSSP
Nagaland Disaster Management School Safety Policy

The Nagaland Disaster Management School Safety Policy (NDMSSP) Compliance Course is a mandatory online training programme for teachers and educators across Nagaland, aimed at strengthening disaster preparedness and resilience in schools. Launched in 2023 by Dr. Neiphiu Rio, the initiative supports the State's mission of mainstreaming disaster risk reduction through education. Developed by the Nagaland State Disaster Management Authority in collaboration with the Department of School Education, and delivered through NagaEd, the course equips educators with essential knowledge and practical guidance to ensure safe, prepared, and resilient learning environments across the State.

From Participation to Creating Awareness Beyond The Classroom

Empowering schools with knowledge, preparedness, and accountability for disaster-resilient communities.

- Raise awareness among school personnel about disaster risks and response protocols.
- Ensure all schools in Nagaland are aligned with the State's School Safety Policy.
- Strengthen school-level disaster preparedness through structured digital learning.
- Support compliance through certification, accountability, and ongoing monitoring.

Key aspects :

- **Mandatory for Nagaland Teachers:** All teachers and stakeholders in Nagaland are required to complete the course and obtain certification.

- **Digital and Self-Paced:** The course is a digital training program that offers interactive content like videos and quizzes, allowing educators to complete it at their own pace and from any location.

- **Comprehensive Content:** It covers crucial aspects of school safety, disaster preparedness and resilience to equip teachers with the necessary knowledge and skills.

- **Phased Implementation:** The program has been rolled out in phases, with Phase 2 focusing on achieving full completion by all teachers by the set deadlines.

NSDMA with the objective of creating a safer generation has seen
- 8,028 registrations
- 3,625 teachers trained

Training on Urban and Local Resilience

The Nagaland State Disaster Management Authority, Home Department, organized a training on Urban & Local Resilience in collaboration with United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), Indian Institute of Security and Safety Management (IISSM), and the Urban Development Department in July 2025. The program focused on strengthening the disaster preparedness of Urban Local Bodies, with Dr. Neiphiu Rio emphasizing community participation in disaster risk reduction.

From Participation to Collaboration

Participants

- Elected Urban Local Body representatives, including ward members and the Kohima Municipal Council.

Objectives

- Strengthen urban disaster preparedness and response.
- Encourage community participation in risk reduction; and
- Support resilient urban governance by Urban Local Bodies.

Outcomes:
The training included activities such as group work and discussion on ward-level disaster preparedness planning, with the potential to develop comprehensive ward-level disaster preparedness plans with the support of NSDMA.

Urban Resilience:
The training is part of a broader effort to build urban resilience, which is the ability of urban areas to withstand, recover from and adapt to disaster by strengthening their physical, social, health and economic systems.

Community Engagement:
The Chief Minister encouraged local bodies to take a lead in disaster preparedness by educating citizens on safety and hygiene, using public communication channels, and working to prevent disease outbreaks.

Collaboration:
The NSDMA partnered with:

- UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)
- The International Institute of Security & Safety management (IISSM)
- The Urban Development Department

|HAM RADIO

   In times of disaster when normal communication lines are often disrupted the most reliable communication lines is the use of HAM radio. For the first time in the region NSDMA has conducted a breakthrough for voice and imagery transmission via radio signal using HAM radio.

   Nagaland State Disaster Management Authority, Home Department in collaboration with OSCAR India is working to build robust HAM Radio communication network across the State with authorized license operators issued by Wireless and Planning and Coordination Wing (WPC) of the Ministry of Communications, Government of India. This initiative reflects NSDMA's continued commitment to enhancing disaster resilience and ensuring uninterrupted communication during emergencies.

Emergency Communication:

The primary goal is to establish reliable communication channels during disasters, particularly when other networks are down.

Skill Development:

The training includes practical skills like Morse code, antenna construction and the use of HAM radio for voice and digital communication.

Recent Developments

- **Image Transmission:**
In April 2025, the Nagaland State Disaster Management Authority (NSDMA), Home Department successfully demonstrated wireless image transmission via radio signals, a first for North-East India, proving the capability of HAM radio in transmitting data without internet.

- **Special Call Sign:**
This expedition was recognized with the special call sign "AT2NE" by the Wireless Planning & Coordination (WPC) Wing.

- **Enhanced Resilience:**
The initiative strengthens disaster preparedness in Nagaland by fostering technological advancement and teamwork in addressing community challenges.

YUVA AAPDA MITRA

Nagaland StateDisaster Management Authority (NSDMA) implemented the centrally sponsored scheme, "Yuva Aapda Mitra Scheme (YAMS)" in the State of Nagaland.
Under the scheme, seven districts were selected from the State of Nagaland.

- Kiphire
- phek
- Longleng
- Mokokchung
- Peren
- Wokha
- Zunheboto

Altogether 1620 (One Thousand Six Hundred Twenty) volunteers have been selected to be trained as YAMS volunteers.

Selection

The volunteers have been selected from:
- Bharat Scout & Guides (BS&G)
- National Cadet Corps (NCC)
- Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS)
- National Service Scheme (NSS).

Training Grounds

The NCC are being trained at 24 Assam Rifles Camp, Wokha, while the BS&G, NYKS and NSS are being trained at Central Training Institute (CTI), HG'CD&SDRF, Toluvi, Dimapur.

Training Process

The volunteers are trained under the basic concept of Disaster Management
- types of disasters
- preparedness
- mitigation
- first aid
- basic search and rescue.

The volunteers are handed over Emergency Responder Kit as and when they finish the training in the presence of DDMA.

PDNA
Post Disaster Needs Assessment

The State of Nagaland experienced extreme weather events in the month of June-September 2025 marked by incessant rainfall. These have triggered flooding, landslides and flash floods causing widespread disruption, destruction of public and private infrastructure including roads, power distribution systems, water supply schemes, agricultural lands, residential and commercial properties. The disaster has also resulted in the unfortunate loss of four (4) human lives and huge losses to livestock. Essential services such road connectivity and electricity has also been severely affected. In response to the situation, the NSDMA conducted Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) in close coordination with line departments and concerned District Disaster Management Authority from 23 September to 30 September 2025. An expert team for conduct of PDNA was constituted comprising of State officers and sectoral experts from NDMA national emergency roster to support the Government of Nagaland.
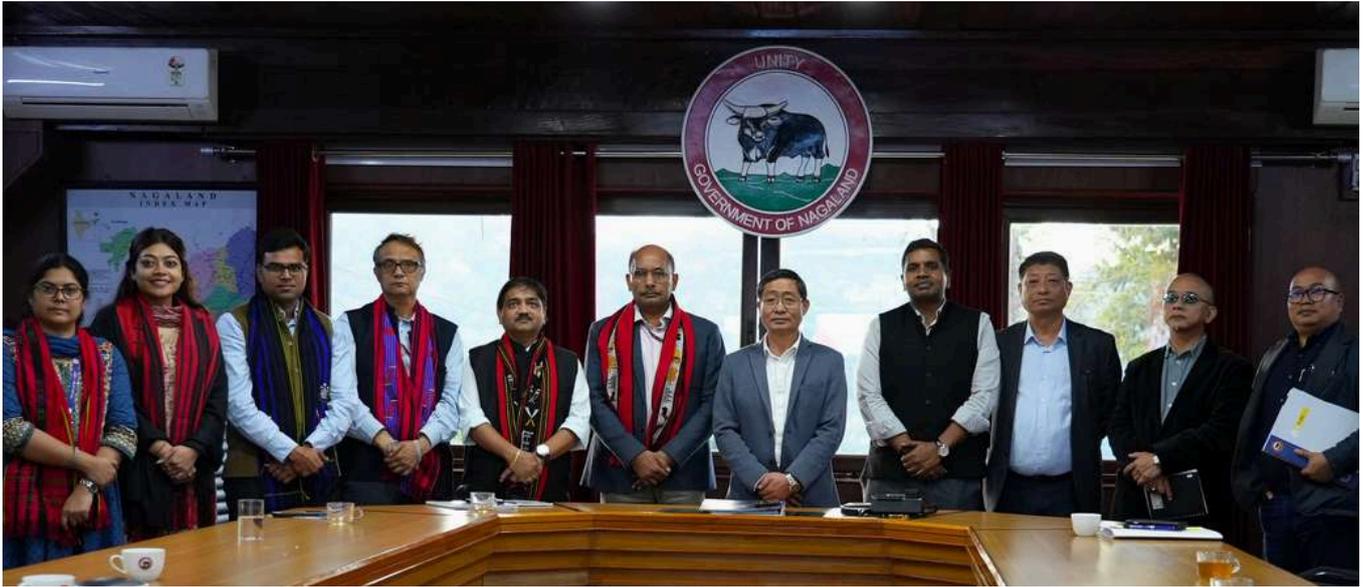

Building back the community
The purpose of PDNA

- **Estimating the overall socio-economic impact** of the disaster on the district and affected communities.
- **Assessing damages, losses, and impacts** to formulate a consolidated recovery strategy covering early, medium, and long-term recovery and reconstruction needs.
- **Integrating Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and "Build Back Better" principles**, while addressing gender and environmental considerations in recovery planning.
- **Developing a recovery framework** that reflects the needs and priorities of the affected communities.
- **Recommending strategies for Disaster Risk Management (DRM)** to reduce future vulnerabilities.
- **Suggesting institutional mechanisms and policy options** to support sustainable recovery, reconstruction, and long-term disaster resilience.

The PDNA process ensures that recovery efforts are structured, inclusive, and aligned with resilient development goals.

IMCT
Inter- Ministerial Central Team

The Inter- Ministerial Central Team with the responsibility for an on-the-spot detailed assessment of damage and relief works carried out by the state administration and the admissibility of additional central assistance in the wake of landslides, flash-flood, flood in Nagaland during monsoon of 2025.

The functions of IMCT

- Conducting on-the-spot assessment of disaster-affected areas.
- Evaluating the financial and infrastructural damage to propose central assistance.
- Recommending logistical support and fund disbursal from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), in addition to evaluating the use of the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF)
- Coordinating multi-ministerial support for relief and recovery.

Did You Know?

The **IMCT** is constituted by the Government of India, primarily through the Ministry of Home Affairs, to **assess damages caused by natural calamities** such as floods, landslides, cloudbursts and heavy rainfall.

ELIONA

State AI Supercomputing Facility for Climate & Disaster Resilience Executive Overview

The Government of Nagaland has established ELIONA, a dedicated State-level AI Supercomputing Facility under the Nagaland State Disaster Management Authority (NSDMA).
The initiative addresses increasing climate-induced disasters such as extreme rainfall, floods, landslides, and seismic risks, particularly in fragile hill and border regions.

Strategic Significance

ELIONA embeds advanced AI and high-performance computing directly within State disaster governance, reducing dependency on external systems and enabling real-time, sovereign decision-making. It aligns with the Sendai Framework, UNDRR MCR-2030, NDMA priorities, and Atmanirbhar Bharat objectives.

National Relevance

While national institutions such as IMD, ISRO, and IITs provide centralized modelling support, ELIONA fills a critical gap by enabling real-time, localized disaster modelling and early warning at the State level. The facility matches a top-tier research node but is uniquely operationalized within a government authority.

Forward Vision

ELIONA is envisioned as a Regional AI & Climate Resilience Hub for the North-East and a scalable model for replication across other climate-vulnerable States. With phased expansion, it can integrate into a future National Disaster AI Grid supporting inter-state and national resilience objectives.

Did you know?

The Origin of the name ELIONA (Hebrew Origin name meaning "God is gracious" or "God has answered")