D.PHARM • SECOND YEAR

Pharmacy Law & Ethics

CHAPTER 20

Disaster Management Act



ENGLISH CHAPTER NOTES

DIPLOMA IN PHARMACY

DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT (DMA), 2005

CURRENT LEGAL CONTEXT

23 December 2005

Act No. 53 of 2005 received assent.

9 April 2025

the Disaster Management (Amendment) Act, 2025 came into force and strengthened institutions, plans, databases and urban disaster management.

15 May 2026

selected penalty provisions changed under the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Act, 2026.



Flood



Earthquake

HAZARD

SERIOUS IMPACT

DISASTER

BEYOND COMMUNITY COPING CAPACITY



Industrial or chemical accident



Biological emergency

DISASTER – SECTION 2(d)

A catastrophe, mishap, calamity or grave occurrence arising from natural or man-made causes, accident or negligence which causes substantial loss of life, human suffering, property destruction or environmental damage, and is beyond the coping capacity of the affected community.

Examples may include severe flood, earthquake, cyclone, industrial or chemical accident and a major biological emergency when the statutory test is met.

PURPOSE

The Disaster Management Act, 2005 provides a legal and institutional framework for effective management of disasters and connected matters across India.

It supports prevention, risk reduction, preparedness, prompt response, relief, rehabilitation, recovery and reconstruction — not only post-disaster relief.

DISASTER MANAGEMENT

A continuous, integrated process of planning, organising, coordinating and implementing measures before, during and after a disaster.

IMPORTANT 2025 CLARIFICATION

The expression man-made causes does not include a law-and-order matter or a situation arising from it.

DISASTER MANAGEMENT CYCLE

Reduce exposure to hazards

Reduce vulnerability of people, property and infrastructure

Improve preparedness, resilience and capacity.

1 PREVENTION



avoid a potential adverse impact where possible.

2 MITIGATION / RISK REDUCTION



reduce the probability, severity or consequences of a disaster.

3 PREPAREDNESS / CAPACITY-BUILDING



develop plans, skills, staff, supplies, communication and coordination before an event.

4 PROMPT RESPONSE



act directly before, during or just after a disaster to save life, reduce injury and meet basic needs.

5 ASSESSMENT



determine the severity, magnitude, health effects and resource gaps.

6 EVACUATION • RESCUE • RELIEF



move people or assets to safety, rescue affected persons and provide immediate support.

7 REHABILITATION / RECOVERY



restore basic services and improve economic, physical, social and environmental systems.

8 RECONSTRUCTION



rebuild infrastructure, services, buildings and facilities required by the community.



DISASTER RISK REDUCTION – 2025 EXPLANATION

Reduce exposure to hazards • reduce vulnerability of people, property and infrastructure • improve preparedness, resilience and capacity.

KEY IDEA

The cycle is continuous: lessons from response and recovery improve the next round of prevention and preparedness.

NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

NDMA — NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY



Chairperson: Prime Minister of India.

It lays down policy, plans and guidelines, coordinates the National Plan, issues technical guidance, assesses preparedness, creates the national disaster database and recommends minimum relief standards.

NEC — NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



The coordinating and implementation body: it monitors plans and preparedness, coordinates response and gives directions for disaster measures.

NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

NDRF — NATIONAL DISASTER RESPONSE FORCE



Specialist force constituted for response to a threatening disaster situation or disaster.

NCMC — NATIONAL CRISIS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, SECTION 8A



Chairperson: Cabinet Secretery.

Statutory nodal body for major disasters having serious or national ramifications.

NIDM — NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT



Develops training, research, documentation and capacity-building for disaster management.

HLC — HIGH LEVEL COMMITTEE, SECTION 8B



Chairperson: Union Minister in charge of disaster management.

Provides or approves central financial assistance for disaster response and mitigation as provided by the Act.

2025 UPDATE | NCMC and HLC received statutory status; national planning, risk assessment and disaster-database functions were strengthened.

NATIONAL POLICY • NATIONAL PLAN • DATABASE • GUIDELINES • RESPONSE

STATE, DISTRICT AND URBAN DISASTER FRAMEWORK

SDMA — STATE DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

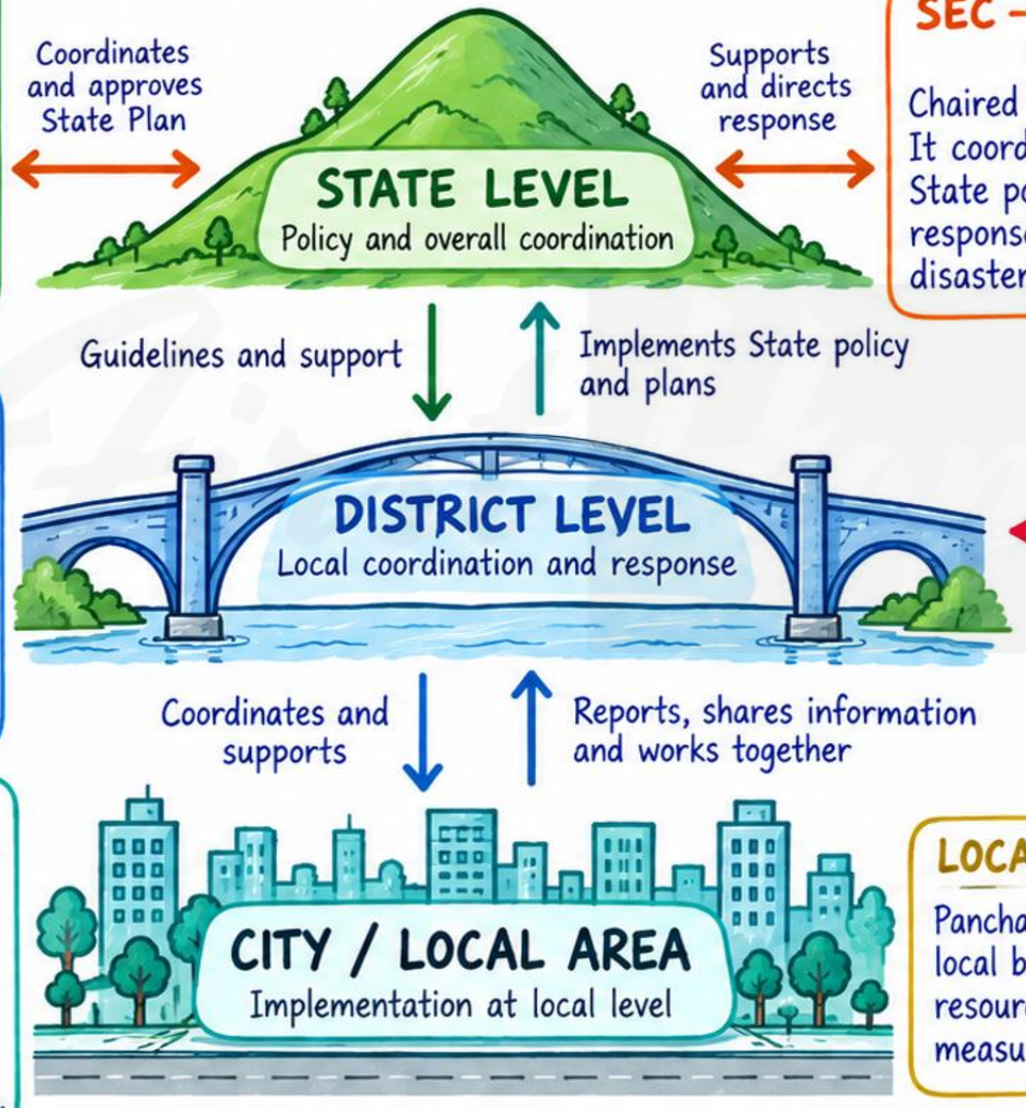
Generally chaired by the Chief Minister. It lays down State policy, coordinates and approves the State Plan, gives guidelines and supports prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.

DDMA — DISTRICT DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

Chairperson: Collector / District Magistrate / Deputy Commissioner. It prepares the District Plan, coordinates local prevention and response, and may issue lawful directions and requisition resources under the Act.

UDMA — URBAN DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY, SECTION 41A

A State may constitute it for the State capital and cities having a Municipal Corporation, except Delhi and Chandigarh. Municipal Commissioner is Chairperson; District Collector is Vice-Chairperson. It prepares and coordinates the Urban Plan.



SEC — STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chaired by the Chief Secretary. It coordinates implementation of State policy and plans and directs response during a threatening disaster situation.

STATE DISASTER RESPONSE FORCE — SECTION 44A

A State Government may constitute a specialist State force for disaster response.

Provides specialist support during response

PHARMACY LINK

A pharmacist should cooperate with lawful directions for emergency supply, opening hours, priority distribution, reporting or other authorised health measures.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Panchayats, municipalities and other local bodies train staff, maintain resources and integrate disaster measures into local functions.

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