

**Guwahati Emergency Management Exercise 2015**

Be Prepared... Stay safe

**Assam**, which was well known as “Pragjyotishpura” in Mahabharata times, has a rich green land of rolling plains and dense forests. Assam is the gateway to the north eastern part of India viz. Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura and Meghalaya. These states are connected to the rest of India via Assam’s border with West Bengal and a narrow strip called the “Chicken’s Neck.” Assam also shares international borders with Bhutan and Bangladesh. It spans around 78,438 km<sup>2</sup> and population over 3,11,69,272 (Census 2011). The mighty Brahmaputra River that has its origins in Tibet flows through the state.

Assam is a multi-hazard State prone to floods, earthquake, storms and landslide besides man-made disasters. It falls under seismic zone V making the entire State prone to earthquake of moderate to very high intensity. Also the State faces acute flood & erosion problem. Assam has a history of disaster ranging from large earthquake to severe floods. This has impeded the development gains of the State by many times.

Therefore, to sustain the pace of development initiative by minimising losses, the Government of Assam envisages building a State Prepared and Disaster Resilient.

**Vulnerability Analysis:**

- Guwahati city falls under Seismic Zone V. High density urban population combined with haphazard growth exposes the city dwellers to high risk.
- Rainfall ranges between 1500 mm to 2600 mm under normal circumstances. However, the city also experiences high intensity rainfall in short durations which results in Urban Flooding.
- Unplanned land use pattern in surrounding hills aggravate the landslide risk in the city
- The city experiences multiple waves of storms on the onset of the monsoon season impacting public utilities.
- Besides, natural hazards, the city is also vulnerable to human induced hazards like accidents, fires, blasts etc.

<b>Earthquake Reported in last 5 Years in NE India &amp; Assam</b>			
<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>No. of EQ incidents (in the NE States)</b>	<b>No. of EQ incidents (in Assam)</b>
1	2011	36	5
2	2012	60	19
3	2013	73	21
4	2014	63	14
5	2015 (up to November)	65	20

**Profile of Guwahati City****City at a Glance: Statistics**

# Guwahati City Altitudes: 49.5 Meters to 55.5 Meters (above MSL)

# Total Metro District Area: 811.98 km

# Total Metro District Area Brahmaputra River: 867.25 sq. km

# Total No. of Wards: 30 nos.

## VULNERABILITY PROFILE OF GUWAHATI:

Type of hazards	Time of occurrence	Vulnerable areas
Urban Flood	May-October	RG Baruah Road, Nabin Nagar, Anil Nagar etc.
Storm	March-May	Enter District
Earth Quake	Anytime	Enter District
Landslides	May-October	Nilachal, Kharguli, Dhirenpara, Noonmati and Kalapahar
Fire Accidents	November-March	Noonmati, Fancy Bazar, Paltan Bazar, Dispur, Beharbari etc.

## Guwahati Emergency Management Exercise 2015

14<sup>th</sup> December – 18<sup>th</sup> December 2015

### OBJECTIVES OF GEMEx 2015:

The Guwahati Emergency Management Exercise (GEMEx 2015) is almost a week-long preparedness exercise which is being conducted by the State Government and scheduled between 14<sup>th</sup> December to 18<sup>th</sup> December 2015. This is the second exercise organised in Guwahati after 2012. This exercise is designed to harness the strengths and capabilities of the State emergency responders, educational institutions, hospitals, humanitarian agencies etc. as they prepare to meet the urban catastrophes of the city of Guwahati. It will also access the perfection over the gaps that were identified in GEMEx 2012.

The initiative is planned by the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA) in collaboration with the District Disaster Management Authority, Kamrup (Metro). The exercise is conducted in association with a number of leading Private and Humanitarian Institutions and National level faculty.

This is a weeklong learning and capacity building exercise with eleven parallel tracks to be held at various venues for the first three days of the event. The fourth day would see all the trained participants come together for a table-top exercise followed by a major incident- simulation drill on the fifth day. A debriefing session called “Hotwash” along with Valedictory will be held on the fifth day.

### VARIOUS TRAINING TRACKS OF GEMEx- 2015

#### 1. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLANNING FOR HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATOR (1 DAY):

This training will enhance the knowledge and skills of hospital administrators to equip themselves on emergency planning including the whole cycle of emergency management for all-hazard concept, reviewing and enhancing their current surge capacity to manage mass casualty & the concepts of hospital emergency management. It will also improve the ability of hospital management to organize intra-hospital care during mass casualty events along with development of plans to coordinate the delivery of care at all levels and effectively assess and mobilize hospital resources.

#### 2. HOSPITAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FOR DOCTORS (2 DAYS):

This training will teach participating doctors how to assess, resuscitate and deliver initial care in a systematic algorithmic manner to patients with major trauma. It will also enhance the capacity of the trainee doctors in in organising intra-hospital care during mass casualty events, with special consideration given to building surge capacity and adapting to local physical conditions.

### **3. EMERGENCY NURSING CARE & COMPREHENSIVE TRAUMA LIFE SUPPORT FOR NURSES & PARAMEDICS (3 DAYS):**

This training has been carefully designed to give first responders – EMS or paramedics, the confidence, skills and knowledge they need to provide the highest level of immediate care in a disaster setting. Beginning with basic but critical skills like CPR, log-rolling and extrication, participants will learn the theory and physiological basis of life support, early trauma management, and triage.

### **4. COMMUNITY BASED DISASTER MANAGEMENT (2 DAYS):**

This training will impart to senior level public health practitioners, community medicine PG's and disaster management personnel the skills needed to evaluate disaster response systems. The course will include an overview of various components of disaster response, and practical tools to evaluate these components.

### **5. PUBLIC HEALTH IN EMERGENCIES (2 DAYS):**

This two-day training on Public Health in Emergencies will be imparted to the senior level public health practitioners, Public health Programme Managers and officials of PHE Department on various Public health, water & sanitation issues along with practical tools to be taken into account during emergencies.

### **6. CO-ORDINATION OF RESPONSE FOR SENIOR GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES (1 DAY)**

This training will focus on the Inter-agency communication/ protocol coordination within agencies and communication with the media during the occurrences of disasters, effectively. Current global trends in communication technology will also be discussed.

### **7. SEARCH & RESCUE (3 DAYS):**

The search for and provision of aid to people who are in distress or imminent danger is vital in emergency response. This course provides Search and Rescue personnel with the skillset they need to successfully complete search and rescue missions.

### **8. ORIENTATION TRAINING FOR ENGINEERS ON EARTHQUAKE SAFETY (2 DAYS):**

Structural safety of public & individual buildings is vital to minimize casualty in the event of an earthquake. Assam is located in seismic zone V and has a history of major earthquake in past. This two-day course is design to impart knowledge of earthquake resistant construction techniques & norms for safety assessment for civil engineers of PWD(B), GMC, GMDA and SSA engineers posted in the districts.

### **9. SCHOOL DISASTER PREPAREDNESS (3 DAYS)**

This three-day training on school disaster preparedness and preparedness audits will target the educational administrators as well as students. Inspector of Schools, DEEO, Teachers & Students, BEEO & SIs will be the participants of the track.

### **10. MINIMUM INITIAL SERVICE PACKAGE-MISP (3 DAYS):**

This three-day training on minimum initial service package (MISP) aims to sensitize and train health and disaster management officials on the essentials of reproductive health care viz. sexual, maternal, and new-born health in disaster situations.

### **11. CHEMICAL & INDUSTRIAL DISASTER PREPAREDNESS (3 DAYS):**

This three-day training on disaster preparedness and preparedness audits for Industries/ Service industries conducted. This course was targeted at administrators, professionals & management of various industries in around Guwahati city.

### **TABLE TOP EXERCISE**

On the day before the field drill, all participants led by respective team leaders from various collaborating local agencies will meet along with Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA) to practice simulated scenarios to identify bottlenecks in emergency communication and execution, with a focus on the drill scheduled for the following day.

### **WHAT IS THE TABLE TOP SIMULATION?**

The table top is a unique exercise which has been developed over years of practice in various locations across the world to practice simulated scenarios to identify road blocks in inter-agency communication and coordination. It will bring together leaders of Guwahati's response agencies viz. Fire, Police, NDRF and EMS, along with heads of hospitals, Doctors, Nurses, non-governmental organizations, and walk through a simulated disaster step by step. The participants of all 11 training track will participate in the half day long Table Top Exercise.

As the scenario unfolds, the facilitator will stop, and ask each group to propose in on their response strategy. Such exercises have proven to reveal the strengths and gaps in inter-agency communication and discrepancies and overlaps in response planning among the various stake holders.

### **FIELD DRILL AND HOTWASH:**

- On 18th December, 2015 a mass casualty accident will be simulated at Veterinary College Ground, Khanapara, Guwahati with over a 200 injured victims, and the city's response agencies will be alerted and police, fire, NDRF and EMS will respond accordingly to the situation as per the training received by the agencies during GEMEx 2015.
- A triage area will be set up at the site of the "disaster" and all injured will be triaged applying the skills learnt during the training session.
- Every single victim's triaged will be monitored by local evaluators trained at GEMEx 2015.
- The colour coded patients (red, yellow, green, black) will be transported by GVK EMRI 108 Ambulance Service to Guwahati Medical College Hospital, Mahendra Mohan Choudhury Hospital (Panbazar), Down Town Hospital, GNRC Hospital (Six Mile), Agile Hospital (Beltola) and International Hospital (Christian Basti) with realistic time delays built into the system.
- At each hospital, the hospital emergency plan will be set into motion, and doctors, nurses, stretchers, pharmacies, and equipment will be mobilized to accommodate the additional flow of patient.
- Doctors trained at GEMEx 2015 will run the casualty wards applying their trauma care skills to patient care.
- The entire drill will be monitored by local evaluators, in addition to the faculty, and will be recorded on video. A final report will be prepared under the supervision of ASDMA leadership to examine areas of strength, improvement and lesson learned.

Following the drill, will be a “Hot Wash” where all participants will self-scrutinize and work on the areas of improvement.

#### **HOW GEMEx-2015 WILL HELP GUWAHATI CITY:**

- This exercise will assess the execution of the gaps by the responding agencies on the event of a disaster that were identified in the earlier version of GEMEx in October-November 2012.
- This exercise will test the state of preparedness of the responding agencies of Guwahati city to face an emergency. Once the gap is identified, it will help to enhance the level of existing capacity to a desired level.
- The training and the drill bring together the major responders, testing real-time interagency communication and coordination at all levels of these organizations, especially the Incident Command Structure and its various agencies, and the private sector and citizen groups.
- The drill pushes the medical response system to handling extreme scenarios, and compels the physicians and medical staff to prioritize care to maximize the savings of life and limbs, under duress.

**SCHEDULE & VENUES FOR VARIOUS TRAINING TRACKS AND EVENTS OF GEMEX 2015:**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Name of the Track</b>	<b>Venue(Address)</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup> December, 2015</b>	<b>Inauguration Function of GEMEx 2015</b>	<b>Rabindra Bhawan, Guwahati-781001</b>
2.	14 <sup>th</sup> December, 2015	Emergency Management Planning for Hospital Administrator (1 Day)	Gauri Sadan, Near Dighalipukhuri (East), Guwahati-781001
3.	14 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> December, 2015	Hospital Emergency Management for Doctors (2 Days)	1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, Bishnu Nirmala Bhawan, Latashil, Guwahati-781001
4.	14 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> December, 2015	Emergency Nursing Care & Comprehensive Trauma Life Support for Nurses & Paramedics (3 Days)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Bishnu Nirmala Bhawan, Latashil, Guwahati-781001
5.	14 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> December, 2015	Community Based Disaster Management (2 Days)	Vivekananda Kendra, Kachari bazar, Near Planetarium
6.	14 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> December, 2015	Public Health in Emergencies (2 Days)	Asam Sahitya Sabha Bhagawati Prasad Barua Bhawan, Near District Library, Dighalipukhuri, Guwahati – 781001
7.	15 <sup>th</sup> December, 2015	Co-ordination of Response for Senior Government Representatives (1 Day)	Circuit House MG Road, Near Guwahati High Court, Latasil, Digholi Pukhuri, Guwahati, Assam 781001
8.	14 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> December, 2015	Incident Response System & Search & Rescue (3 Days)	Assam State Museum(Auditorium) Gopinath Bordoloi Rd, Ambari, Guwahati, Assam 781001
9.	14 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> December, 2015	Orientation Training for Engineers on Earthquake Safety (2 Days)	Zilla Parishad Conference Hall, Panbazar, Guwahati-781001
10.	14 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> December, 2015	School Disaster Preparedness (3 Days)	Don Bosco, Panbazar, Guwahati-781001
11.	14 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> December, 2015	Minimum Initial Service Package(MISP) (3 Days)	Satya Nath Bora Hall, Near Dighalipukhuri (East), Guwahati-781001
12.	14 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> December, 2015	Chemical & Industrial Disaster Preparedness (3 Days)	Don Bosco, Panbazar, Guwahati-781001
<b>13.</b>	<b>17<sup>th</sup> December,2015</b>	<b>Table Top Exercise</b>	<b>Ganeshmandir Indoor Stadium, Khanapara, Guwahati-781022</b>
14.	18 <sup>th</sup> December,2015	Field Drill	Veterinary College Play Ground, Khanapara, Guwahati-781022
<b>15.</b>	<b>18<sup>th</sup> December, 2015</b>	<b>Hot Wash &amp; Valedictory Function</b>	<b>Rabindra Bhawan, Guwahati-781001</b>