



# KERALEEYAM

1.11.2023 – 7.11.2023



**CAPACITY BUILDING FOR AAPDA MITRA, CIVIL  
DEFENCE VOLUNTEERS AND CHILDREN**



**KERALA STATE DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY  
GOVERNMENT OF KERALA**



## **Document Title**

KERALEEYAM

1.11.2023 - 7.11.2023

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR AAPDA MITRA, CIVIL DEFENCE  
VOLUNTEERS AND CHILDREN

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## **Prepared By**

Dr Midhila Mallika

State Project Officer, KSDMA

## **Reviewers**

Dr Sekhar L. Kuriakose

Member Secretary, KSDMA & Head - KSEOC

Mr. Pradeep G. S

Hazard and Risk Analyst, SEOC, KSDMA



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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The resounding success of Keraleeyam 2023 would not have been possible without the collective effort and unwavering support of a remarkable group of individuals and organizations. While the event itself served as a celebration of resilience and volunteerism, the true heart of Keraleeyam lay in engaging with the heroes within our communities.

We extend our deepest gratitude to the dedicated staff and committee members of the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA). Their tireless efforts, late-night preparations, and round-the-clock involvement were instrumental in bringing our vision to life. Their commitment to service and community engagement is exemplary, especially considering their existing professional responsibilities.

Furthermore, we express our sincere appreciation to the Aapda Mitra volunteers and Civil Defence personnel who actively participated in Keraleeyam. Their presence at workshops, training sessions, and interactive displays not only contributed to the event's success but also showcased their dedication to continuous learning and improvement. Their commitment to serving their communities in times of need is truly inspiring.

A special thank you goes to the enthusiastic school students who embraced the spirit of Keraleeyam. Their eagerness to learn and participate in interactive learning experiences served as a source of inspiration for everyone involved. The future of disaster preparedness in Kerala rests on their shoulders, and their enthusiasm is a promising sign.

Finally, we are grateful to the broader community, stakeholders, observers, and attendees who recognized the importance of our efforts. Your encouragement and positive feedback fuel our mission of building a safer and more resilient future for Kerala.

In closing, we acknowledge and appreciate the invaluable contributions of each and every individual and organization involved in making Keraleeyam 2023 a resounding success. Together, we have demonstrated the transformative power of collaboration and collective action in creating a more prepared and resilient society.



## **FOREWARD**

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While many saw Keraleeyam 2023 as merely a celebration, we viewed it as an opportunity to ignite the flames of volunteerism and resilience. At the heart of our approach lay a deep commitment to engaging with Aapda Mitra volunteers, Civil Defence personnel, and the children from schools across the region.

Unlike other areas of Keraleeyam, where the focus was on public displays, KSDMA took a different path. Our space on the second floor wasn't just a showcase; it was a vibrant hub of activity, pulsating with the spirit of collaboration and learning. Here, visitors delved into immersive disaster management games and marveled at miniature models depicting KSDMA's excellence in disaster response.

However, the real magic unfolded on the first and second floors, where our focus was singular: nurturing volunteers and empowering school children. We envisioned a society rebuilt stronger and more resilient, and we believed that the key lay in inspiring and educating our volunteers and future leaders.

For us, Keraleeyam was more than just an event; it was a call to action, a rallying cry for building a sustainable future. It was about fostering a community of changemakers, equipping them with the skills and knowledge needed to make a difference. In the halls of KSDMA, passion met purpose, and together, we dared to dream of a brighter, more resilient tomorrow.

**Dr Sekhar L. Kuriakose**  
**Member Secretary**  
**Kerala Disaster Management Authority & Head,**  
**Kerala State Emergency Operations Centre**  
**Government of Kerala**



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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Keraleeyam 2023 presented a unique opportunity for the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA) to reinvigorate its approach to disaster preparedness and community engagement. Unlike traditional celebratory events, KSDMA's focus was on igniting the flames of volunteerism and resilience across Kerala.

Central to this initiative was the comprehensive training of Aapda Mitra volunteers and Civil Defence personnel, alongside efforts to inspire and educate school children towards volunteerism.

The event, held at KSDMA's auditorium, provided a dynamic platform for interactive learning and engagement. Participants were immersed in workshops, training sessions, and interactive displays featuring state-of-the-art equipment and resources. Notably, Aapda Mitra volunteers played a pivotal role, engaging directly with students and facilitating meaningful interactions aimed at fostering mutual understanding and collaboration.

Keraleeyam at KSDMA exemplified the organization's commitment to building a resilient community through proactive engagement and education. By nurturing a culture of volunteerism and preparedness, KSDMA aims to empower individuals and communities to effectively mitigate the impact of disasters and contribute to a safer, more resilient future for Kerala.

In summary, Keraleeyam 2023 at KSDMA served as a beacon of hope and inspiration, uniting stakeholders in a shared mission to create a more resilient society. Through innovative training initiatives and community-focused programs, KSDMA continues to lead the way in disaster management and preparedness, setting a commendable example for regions worldwide.

**Dr Midhila Mallika**  
**State Project Officer**  
**Kerala Disaster Management Authority**  
**Government of Kerala**

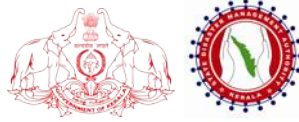


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## PREFACE

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In the framework of Keraleeyam 2023, the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA) embarked on a significant initiative aimed at refreshing the training of Aapda Mitra and civil defence volunteers in Thiruvananthapuram. This endeavor sought not only to enhance the capabilities of these volunteers but also to acquaint and motivate school students towards volunteerism.

To achieve these objectives, KSDMA meticulously organized a series of workshops and training sessions held at its auditorium. The venue was equipped with an array of resources including technical tools, games, models, satellite phones, hotlines, high-end computers, and weather forecasting systems. The atmosphere was set for interactive learning and engagement.

A highlight of the event was the presence of Aapda Mitra volunteers who actively interacted with students. Interaction sessions between students and volunteers were thoughtfully arranged, fostering mutual understanding and collaboration.

Throughout the event, over 300 Aapda Mitra volunteers and numerous Civil Defence Volunteers graced KSDMA with their presence, alongside enthusiastic school students. Each Aapda Mitra volunteer had the opportunity to explore the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and engage with sophisticated instruments like satellite phones and satellite hubs. They even experienced the activation of the KaWaCHaM (Early Warning Dissemination System), gaining first-hand knowledge of early warning protocols.

Furthermore, volunteers were introduced to essential resources such as the Orange Book, Automated Weather Stations, UV Radio Meters, and various mitigation models including subsurface dykes, water kiosks, and landslide prevention measures. Engaging games and simulations were employed to familiarize participants with hazards, response strategies, and recovery best practices.

Keraleeyam at KSDMA emerged as a platform not only to ignite the spirit of voluntarism among students but also to provide invaluable refresher training to Aapda Mitra volunteers. The event encapsulated the spirit of community resilience and underscored the importance of preparedness in mitigating the impact of disasters.

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## CHAPTER I

### THE CONTEXT

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Keraleeyam, an annual celebration of Kerala’s culture and heritage, serves as an ideal platform to familiarize the people of Kerala with the exceptional initiatives of the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA).

#### 1.1. AIM

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Raising awareness about the importance of disaster management and community involvement.

#### 1.2. OBJECTIVES

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*Strengthening the community and volunteer capacities in disaster management.*

The objectives are outlining the strategies and actions that will be undertaken to achieve its overarching goals of community engagement, volunteer empowerment, and heightened disaster preparedness. Through a combination of education, training, and collaboration, we aspire to create a safer, more resilient future for all.

#### GENERAL:

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- To engage, educate, upscale and inspire the community become active volunteers in disaster management, fostering a culture of preparedness and resilience particularly emphasizing the participation of children.
- To raise awareness within the community about the significance of volunteerism in disaster management.

#### SPECIFIC:

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- Enhance the **awareness** of Aapda Mitra volunteers in disaster management, thereby boosting their effectiveness in responding to emergencies.
- Showcase the pivotal role of Aapda Mitra volunteers in handling disasters and their involvement in building robust **response** initiatives.
- Strengthen the capacity of Aapda Mitra volunteers through comprehensive training, positioning them as pioneers in preparedness and **resilience** amidst disaster management challenges.
- Foster networking opportunities for Aapda Mitra volunteers and community members, promoting collaborations that fortify disaster response and recovery efforts through **training**.



### 1.3. THE PLAN INFERENCES

The observation of Keraleeyam 2023 a week-long event at KSDMA is aligned with the Disaster Management Annual Work Plan for 2023 – 2024, closely adhering to the SENDAI<sup>1</sup> framework. This framework underscores the significant reduction of disaster risks and the protection of lives, livelihoods, health, as well as the economic, physical, social, cultural, and environmental assets of individuals, businesses, communities, and nations.

Additionally, also considered the working group report on disaster management for the fourteenth five-year plan (2022-2027) and one of the Prime ministers Ten point agenda.

These include:

#### ANNUAL PLAN 2023-2024

PRIORITY	TARGET
<b>SENDAI: 4<sup>th</sup> Priority<sup>2</sup></b>	Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to “Build Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction.
<b>SENDAI: Target 1 Reduce Disaster Mortality by 2030<sup>3</sup></b>	KERALA ACTION: Strengthen anticipatory actions through Disaster Literacy Campaigns
	SAJJAM: <sup>4</sup> Disaster Management Literacy

#### 14<sup>TH</sup> FIVE YEAR PLAN 2022-2027 (Working Group Report on Disaster Management)

##### 3.7. Climate Change:<sup>5</sup>

- Currently, a disaster management plans are made based on past events. As a result, the state is less prepared when a disaster hits.

<sup>1</sup> UNDRR, what is the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, SENDAI FRAMEWORK FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION 2015-2030, <https://www.undrr.org/implementing-sendai-framework/what-sendai-framework>

<sup>2</sup> Disaster Management Annual Work Plan 2023 – 2024, Kerala Disaster Management Authority, Government of Kerala, SENDAI Priority 4, pg.05.

<sup>3</sup> Disaster Management Annual Work Plan 2023 – 2024, Kerala Disaster Management Authority, Government of Kerala, SENDAI Target 1, pg.09.

<sup>4</sup> സജ്ജം - കേരളം സുരക്ഷിത പാതയിൽ, ദുരന്ത നിവാരണ സാക്ഷരത, കേരള സംസ്ഥാന ദുരന്ത നിവാരണ അതോറിറ്റി, 2/9/2022.

<sup>5</sup> State Planning Board (2022). *Chapter III, Future Perspectives and Critical Issues*, Report of the Working Group on Disaster Management (Formulation of Fourteenth Five Year Plan 2022-2027). Thiruvananthapuram, Government of Kerala, pg. 42.



## PRIME MINISTERS TEN POINT AGENDA<sup>6</sup>

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### POINT 8:

- Build on local capacity and initiative to enhance disaster risk reduction.

## UPSCALING AAPDA MITRA SCHEME, CIVIL DEFENCE AMENDMENT ACT AND DM ACT

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### a. Up- scaling of Aapda Mitra Scheme:

- Part. 4.2 - The proposed scheme is to provide the community volunteers with the basic skills they will require for responding to their communities' immediate needs in the aftermath of a disaster. These trained volunteers can assist in saving lives using the basic techniques of disaster response, coordination and management.<sup>7</sup>
- Annexure A – Part. 5 (5.2) – “To develop/improve the training modules for the set of trainings under the scheme”.<sup>8</sup>
- Part 8 (8.5) - “Documentation, refreshers training, regional meeting with Relief Commissioner and Yearly Regional Workshop”.<sup>9</sup>
- Annexure B - Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) “Upscaling of Aapda Mitra Scheme” Part 3- “Training institution/SDMA shall arrange accommodation, hospitality, invitation letters, printing of identity card, certificates, etc or the volunteers”.<sup>10</sup>

Vide GO (Rt) No. 385/2022/DMD dated 26-4-2022, a steering committee has been constituted for implementation of the Aapda Mitra Scheme, in Kerala:

- The Steering Committee chaired by the Director General, Fire and Rescue Services decided upon a clear expenditure pattern from the available funds so as to achieve the desired results of the scheme as envisaged;
  - - 4300 trained, continuously refresher trained Aapda Mitra Volunteers ready for deployment.

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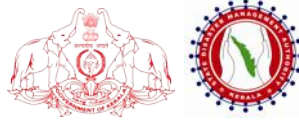
<sup>6</sup> Disaster Management Annual Work Plan 2023 – 2024, Kerala Disaster Management Authority, Government of Kerala, pg.06.

<sup>7</sup> Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), “Implementation of the "Up-scaling of Aapda Mitra Scheme" under the Preparedness and Capacity Building funding window of National Disaster Response Fund” National Disaster Management Authority, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India and State Disaster Management Authority, Government of Kerala, 2021, pg. 10.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid

<sup>9</sup> Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), “Implementation of the "Up-scaling of Aapda Mitra Scheme" under the Preparedness and Capacity Building funding window of National Disaster Response Fund” National Disaster Management Authority, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India and State Disaster Management Authority, Government of Kerala, 2021, pg. 11.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid, pg.30.



## b. Civil Defence Amendment Act

The governing body overseeing voluntarism in the nation is the Civil Defence, established under the Civil Defence (Amendment) Act of 2010 (Central Act).<sup>11</sup> Aapda Mitra operates as a sister scheme to Civil Defence, and in Kerala, all Aapda Mitra volunteers are integrated into the Civil Defence framework.

The primary objective is to adhere to the guidelines outlined in the Handbook for Training and Capacity Building of Civil Defence & Sister Organizations, 2012, issued by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA),<sup>12</sup> to equip these volunteers with essential skills.

Civil Defence volunteers, including those from Aapda Mitra, are mobilized for various tasks, including:

- Preparedness:
  - Ensuring knowledge of disaster risk reduction and mitigation principles.
- Rescue and Relief efforts.
- Animal care during disasters.
- Utilization of technological solutions:
  - Emergency Operations Centers and
  - Early Warning Systems.
- Assisting in packaging and sorting at collection centers.
- Participating in house cleaning activities.
- Distribution of relief materials to affected areas.
- Providing counselling services to affected individuals and communities.

This comprehensive approach ensures that volunteers are trained and deployed effectively to address the diverse challenges presented by disasters and emergencies.

## c. DM ACT

Disaster Management Act, 2005 Section 30 (xii) clearly states:

- “Organize and coordinate specialized training programmes for different levels of officers, employees and voluntary rescue workers in the district”.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> <https://dgfscdhg.gov.in/civildefence#:~:text=The%20Civil%20Defence%20Act%2C1968%2C%20has%20been%20suitably%20amended%20by,while%20retaining%20its%20primary%20role.>

<sup>12</sup> <https://ndma.gov.in/sites/default/files/PDF/Reports/ndmacivildefencepart-1.pdf>  
<https://ndma.gov.in/sites/default/files/PDF/Reports/ndmacivildefencepart-2.pdf>

<sup>13</sup> Disaster Management Act, 2005, Chapter IV, District Disaster Management Authority, Sec.1, Part 2, pg. 13.



### 1.3.1. PLANS RELEVANCE TO KERALEEYAM:

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The plan and agenda components primarily address disaster preparedness, emphasizing the importance of awareness about disaster management and the need to build local capacity and initiatives for enhancing disaster risk reduction. Achieving these goals goes beyond institutional efforts and requires active community involvement and participation.

To initiate active community involvement, the first crucial step is to raise awareness about disaster management within the community. The people of Kerala are closely connected to disaster management, often effectively handled through volunteerism. Therefore, it is essential and timely to promote the idea of volunteerism throughout Kerala. Keraleeyam, organized by the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority, aims to build a resilient community through volunteerism, illustrating how preparedness can enhance disaster management.

The 14th five-year plan (2022-2027) highlights future perspectives and critical challenges in the working group report on disaster management. It emphasizes that disaster preparedness is often based on past events, leaving the state less prepared when a new disaster occurs. In Keraleeyam 2023, community preparation for disasters is considered a prime factor. The plan involves emphasizing the significance of volunteerism to the Kerala community and educating volunteers on how preparedness contributes to enhanced risk reduction.

Further In the pedagogical framework of skill and knowledge dissemination, incorporating elements such as gamification, models, hands-on training with live instruments, interactive platforms, and audio-visual media is imperative. Civil Defence Volunteers, including Aapda Mitra Volunteers affiliated with the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA), are regularly stationed at the KSDMA office during Emergency Operations Centre activations.

Consequently, their familiarity with the SEOC and its array of equipment and tools is of utmost importance. Moreover, as per the training Handbook of Civil Defence and Sister Organizations, these volunteers must also possess knowledge pertaining to risk reduction and mitigation strategies.

Considering these factors, Keraleeyam plans to conduct a 7-day capacity-building program for Aapda Mitra volunteers, a significant disaster management volunteer battalion. The training, known as ARR-T for volunteerism through Aapda Mitra volunteers, will be imparted to children, promoting a holistic, community-oriented approach to disaster management.

With a strong focus on school students, the objective is to educate and empower the younger generation, transforming them into advocates of disaster literacy who can share knowledge about resilience with their elders.





## 1.4. ARR-T -CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK FOR VOLUNTEERISM

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The detailed conceptualisation and contextualisation of Keraleeyam 2023, by the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA), are intricately developed in accordance with the overarching aim of the program. This comprehensive approach involves careful consideration and planning to ensure that the event is purposefully designed to meet the objectives set forth by the program's aim.

First and foremost, volunteerism serves as the vanguard of immediate response during crises. Their rapid mobilization and agility enable them to reach remote and vulnerable communities, bridging gaps where formal systems may falter. This prompt and agile response can make a pivotal difference in saving lives and mitigating the impact of calamities.

It also acts as a powerful force in promoting social cohesion and understanding. It breaks down barriers of prejudice and fosters a sense of shared humanity. Volunteers often come from diverse backgrounds, and their collaborative efforts send a strong message that compassion knows no boundaries. Through interaction and shared experiences, volunteers contribute to building bridges of understanding, tolerance, and empathy in a world that is too often divided.

Moreover, the impact of volunteerism extends beyond the tangible outcomes of projects. It nurtures a culture of civic engagement and responsibility, inspiring individuals to actively participate in the betterment of society. Volunteers become ambassadors of positive change, influencing others to join the collective endeavor of making the world a more compassionate and equitable place.

### 1.4.1. WHY VOLUNTEERISM FOR KERALALEEYAM 2023?

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One of the pillars of strength within the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA) lies in its robust capacity-building domain.<sup>14</sup> Recognizing the significance of reaching the furthest reaches of the community, the authority emphasizes the necessity of equipping every individual with essential capacities to adeptly confront, manage, and comprehend diverse spectrum of disaster scenarios. KSDMA's capacity-building initiatives are dedicated to empowering even the most marginalized groups, ensuring their readiness to confront the challenges posed by disasters.

The capacity-building efforts of KSDMA operate on four distinct levels, guided by the adoption of the H<sup>3</sup>S approach.<sup>15</sup> This approach serves as the foundational framework for the development and implementation of all capacity-building programs, projects, and interventions at KSDMA. By adhering to this approach, the institution aims to create a

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<sup>14</sup> <https://sdma.kerala.gov.in/capacity-building-2/>

<sup>15</sup> Refer figure: 1.



comprehensive strategy that addresses the diverse needs of the community and effectively enhances its resilience to various disaster scenarios.

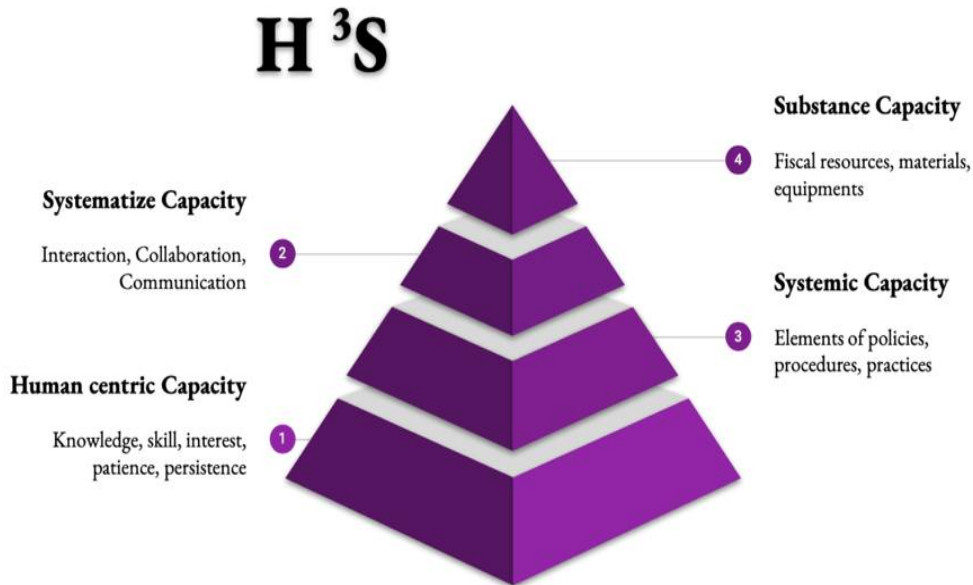


FIGURE 1: THE CAPACITY BUILDING FRAMEWORK OF KERALA STATE DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (SOURCE: KSDMA)

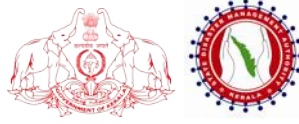
### H<sup>3</sup>S approach Definition:

“The H<sup>3</sup>S approach is a strategic capacity-building framework intended to foster inclusive and need-based training and awareness within communities. The principal objective is to enhance the preparedness of both individuals and the community at large by methodically developing their capacities at different levels. This approach is tailored to address the diverse needs of diverse stakeholders, ensuring a comprehensive and effective strategy for disaster management.”

Given that the overarching goal of Keraleeyam<sup>16</sup> is to serve as a platform for showcasing Kerala’s development models to the global stage and to facilitate the assimilation of innovative ideas from the international academic community, the pivotal role of individuals and communities cannot be overstated. In accordance to this, the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA) has strategically chosen to prioritize ‘Human Centric Capacity’ as the central theme for Keraleeyam.

Within this framework, volunteerism has been identified as a key strategy to directly engage with the community, providing an avenue for educating and raising awareness about disaster management. This deliberate focus on human-centric approaches underscores the belief in the transformative impact of individual and community involvement in promoting resilience and preparedness in the face of disasters.

<sup>16</sup> [https://keraleeyam.kerala.gov.in/?page\\_id=1670](https://keraleeyam.kerala.gov.in/?page_id=1670)



#### 1.4.2. VOLUNTEERISM AND KERALA FLOODS<sup>17</sup>

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The 2018 Kerala floods underscored the significance of community-driven volunteerism as a powerful force for recovery and rebuilding. The dedication and selflessness displayed by volunteers during this challenging time left a lasting impact on the affected communities and served as an inspiring example of unity and compassion in times of crisis.

The volunteer's activities during the flood in Kerala extended beyond the immediate crisis, encompassing rehabilitation and rebuilding efforts. Communities organized clean-up drives to remove debris and restore normalcy to the affected areas. Rehabilitation initiatives included rebuilding homes, schools, and other essential infrastructure that had been damaged or destroyed during the floods. In addition to rescue operations, volunteers played a vital role in setting up relief camps to provide shelter, food, and basic amenities to displaced families.

Apart from that numerous local youth groups, NGOs, and community organizations collaborated with government agencies to coordinate volunteer efforts effectively. The spirit of volunteerism not only demonstrated the resilience of the communities but also highlighted the importance of collective action in the face of natural disasters.

#### 1.4.3. ARR-T FOR VOLUNTEERISM

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Volunteerism, the selfless act of dedicating time, skills, and resources for the betterment of others transcends the boundaries of social, cultural, and geographical divides, embodying the universal language of empathy. In times of crisis, be it natural disasters, conflicts, or pandemics, volunteers emerge as the first responders, offering solace and aid to those caught in the throes of adversity.

However, it is noteworthy that volunteerism often tends to be more prevalent only during the occurrence of an actual disaster. In line with SENDAI's primary target of reducing disaster mortality, it becomes imperative for the community to extend volunteer efforts beyond just response phases and incorporate them into the preparedness processes of disaster management. This proactive approach holds the potential to enhance the community's resilience in the face of catastrophic situations in the long run.

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<sup>17</sup> <https://volunteeringjourneys.com/kerala-floods-bringing-communities-together/>  
<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/sons-of-the-sea-kerala-s-fishermen-are-the-unsung-heroes-of-relief-work-during-the-floods/story-WVD860u37XusZ5WTENqLiO.html>  
<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Thiruvananthapuram/relief-centres-flooded-with-volunteers/article24733132.ece>  
<https://www.freecodecamp.org/news/at-the-eye-of-the-flood-5ddec61a87b8/>  
<https://indianexpress.com/article/india/faceless-volunteers-untiring-work-to-reach-out-to-those-in-distress-in-flood-hit-kerala-5314732/>  
<https://www.onmanorama.com/news/kerala/2018/08/29/revolution-volunteerism-flood-hit-clean-houses-kerala.html>

Leghu, M. M., Thomas, T. M., & Sasikumar Sindhu, G. (2023). Death attitudes and volunteering motives of youth during the flood in Kerala, India. *Psychological Trauma: Theory, Research, Practice, and Policy*, 15(S1), S135.

Beevi, B. (2021). Motivational Analysis of Web Volunteering in Kerala Flood Disaster Management. *J Clin Exp Nephrol*, 8(2), 64.



In pursuit of this objective, Keraleeyam 2023, organized by the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority, introduces a capacity-building training program. The primary goal of this initiative is to promote and propagate the significance of volunteerism not only during the immediate aftermath of a disaster but also in the pre and post-phases of disasters.

By encouraging active involvement in preparedness and recovery, the program aims to instil a culture of volunteerism that contributes to the overall resilience and well-being of the community.

#### 1.4.3.1. Aapda Mitra<sup>18</sup>

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The Government of India has been placing significant emphasis on fostering a culture of volunteerism in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR).<sup>19</sup> In accordance Aapda Mitra scheme is designed to train community volunteers in disaster response. Spearheaded by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), this program collaborates with State Disaster Management Authorities (SDMAs) to implement training at the state level. The primary objective of the Aapda Mitra scheme is to equip community volunteers with the necessary skills to address immediate needs within their communities during a disaster.

Since the initiation of the centrally mandated Aapda Mitra initiative, Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA) has swiftly launched effective training programs for these volunteers in collaboration with the Kerala Fire and Rescue Services Academy.<sup>20</sup> The authority has successfully facilitated the passing out parade for 4,300 Aapda Mitra volunteers, who form an integral part of the State's Civil Defence. These volunteers are equipped with Emergency Response Kits, covered by insurance, and form the district-level Emergency Response Reserve.<sup>21</sup> Presently, the state of Kerala have a total of 4,500 Aapda Mitra volunteers, serving as essential first responders with 400 of them situated in Thiruvananthapuram.

As mentioned earlier in the paragraph focusing on nurturing a culture of volunteerism in Disaster Risk Reduction, and considering the involvement in community centric activities in Kerala<sup>22</sup> Aapda Mitra volunteers stand out as the optimal option to advocate, educate, and

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<sup>18</sup> <https://aapdamitra.ndma.gov.in>

<sup>19</sup> Up-scaling of Aapda Mitra Scheme *Rationale, point, 2.1*, National Disasters Management Authority, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India. <https://aapdamitra.ndma.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Up-Scaling-of-Aapda-Mitra.pdf>

<sup>20</sup> <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala/aapda-mitra-to-be-extended-across-the-state/article36570407.ece>

<https://sdma.kerala.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/AapdaMitraKottayam2021.pdf>

<https://sdma.kerala.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/AAPDA-MITRA-Refresher-Report.pdf>

<sup>21</sup> [https://www.linkedin.com/posts/sekharlk\\_today-in-the-presence-of-honble-chief-minister-activity-7065702862697222144-sLoS/](https://www.linkedin.com/posts/sekharlk_today-in-the-presence-of-honble-chief-minister-activity-7065702862697222144-sLoS/)

<sup>22</sup> <https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/kerala/2019/Jun/23/flood-lessons-aapda-mitra-volunteers-train-to-tackle-emergency-situations-1994351.html>

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala/aapda-mitra-volunteers-to-be-provided-emergency-response-equipment-cm/article66875061.ece>



engage the community in comprehending the significance of volunteerism in disaster management.

### 1.4.3.2. ARR-T FOR VOLUNTEERISM FRAMEWORK

The ARR-T (Awareness, Response, Resilience and Training) framework for volunteerism has been developed to align with the specific goals and objectives identified for KSDMA’s Keraleeyam 2023. This framework serves as a strategic guide to enhance the capabilities of Volunteers and is particularly tailored to address the unique challenges presented by disaster management in the state.

Primarily, they undergo extensive training, with a predominant focus on the response phase in disaster management. However, an insightful observation from the working group report for disaster management spanning 2022-2027 emphasizes that many existing plans are rooted in the experiences of past disaster events. This reliance on historical data indicates a potential gap in adequately preparing for future events. To strengthen resilience, prevention, and preparedness, a crucial pivot towards community capacity building is imperative. The emphasis, in this case, is on human-centric capacity building, acknowledging the significant role that individuals play as volunteers in effective disaster response.

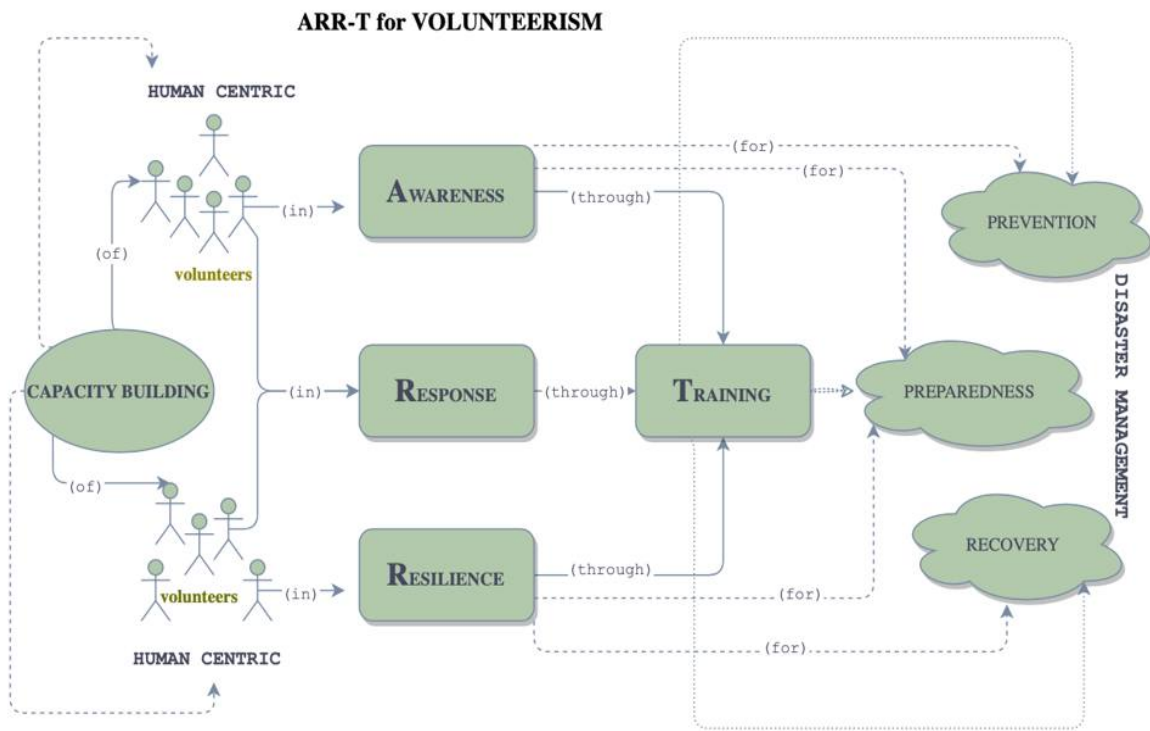


FIGURE 2: ARR-T FOR VOLUNTEERISM FRAMEWORK (SOURCE: KSDMA)



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## AWARENESS:

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The first pillar of this training focuses on raising awareness among the volunteers. By instilling a deep understanding of disaster management principles, potential risks, and the importance of proactive measures, volunteers can play a more effective role in the prevention and preparedness phases.

Through interactive sessions, workshops, and educational materials, volunteers will gain insights into the broader context of disasters, enabling them to contribute meaningfully to community readiness.

As the foundation of human-centric capacity building, awareness training empowers volunteers to recognize the early signs of impending disasters, fostering a culture of vigilance and quick response. The role of awareness training extends beyond imparting knowledge; it also serves to foster resilience and community cohesion. By raising awareness about the importance of collaboration, communication, and mutual support, awareness training encourages communities to come together and support one another during times of crisis. This sense of solidarity strengthens community resilience and enhances the effectiveness of disaster response efforts.

- **In Prevention and Preparedness**

During the **prevention phase**, awareness training equips volunteers with the knowledge and understanding needed to identify potential risks and vulnerabilities within their communities. By raising awareness about various types of hazards, such as natural disasters, industrial accidents, or pandemics, volunteers become adept at recognizing early warning signs and taking proactive measures to mitigate risks. This proactive approach helps communities to reduce their susceptibility to disasters and prevent or minimize their impact.

In the **preparedness phase**, awareness training prepares volunteers and communities to respond effectively when disaster strikes. By educating volunteers about emergency procedures, evacuation routes, and communication protocols, awareness training ensures that individuals are equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to act swiftly and decisively during crises. Furthermore, awareness training fosters a culture of preparedness within communities, encouraging individuals to stockpile emergency supplies, develop family emergency plans, and participate in disaster drills and simulations.

In summary, awareness training plays a critical role in the prevention and preparedness phases of disaster management by empowering volunteers with the knowledge, skills, and mindset needed to identify risks, take proactive measures, and respond effectively to emergencies. By fostering a culture of preparedness and resilience, awareness training helps communities to mitigate the impact of disasters and build a safer, more resilient future for all.



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## RESPONSE:

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The second dimension of the human-centric capacity-building initiative is centered around response training. Recognizing that volunteers are predominantly trained for the response phase, this aspect aims to refine and augment their response capabilities. Response training goes beyond the technical aspects of handling emergencies; it delves into honing communication skills, teamwork, and swift decision-making.

Through simulated scenarios and practical exercises, volunteers are exposed to a variety of crisis situations, allowing them to apply their knowledge in real-time. This hands-on approach ensures that volunteers develop a heightened sense of situational awareness, enabling them to respond effectively when confronted with actual disaster events.

Moreover, response training emphasizes the importance of coordination and collaboration among volunteers, emergency services, and community members. Volunteers are trained to act as liaisons between affected communities and response agencies, ensuring a seamless and efficient flow of information. This collaborative approach not only enhances the overall response effectiveness but also fosters a sense of solidarity within the community.

By investing in comprehensive response training, the volunteers become a reliable and agile force, capable of mitigating the impact of disasters swiftly and efficiently. This preparedness is essential for minimizing casualties, damage, and the overall socio-economic impact of unforeseen events.

- **In Preparedness**

Preparedness training for the response aspect encompasses a range of activities aimed at enhancing the readiness of volunteers to handle various crisis situations. This training recognizes that volunteers are often the first line of defence during disasters and thus need to be well-prepared to respond promptly and effectively.

By strengthening their preparedness in the preparedness phase, volunteers become a reliable and responsive force, capable of minimizing casualties, damage, and socio-economic disruptions resulting from unforeseen events.

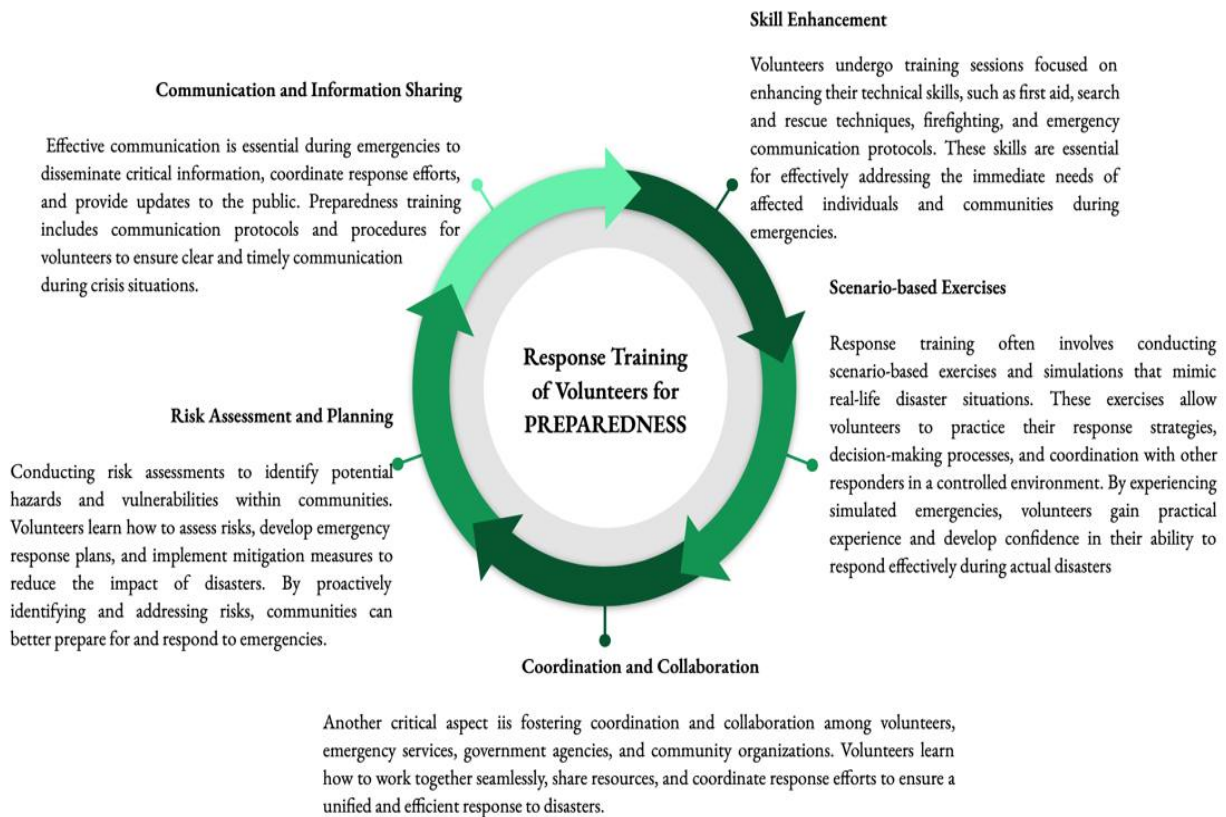


FIGURE 3: RESPONSE TRAINING OF VOLUNTEERS FOR PREPAREDNESS (SOURCE: KSDMA)

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## RESILIENCE:

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The third pillar of human-centric capacity building focuses on resilience training, acknowledging that building resilience is a cornerstone of effective disaster management. Resilience training equips volunteers with the mental, emotional, and strategic tools needed to cope with and adapt to the aftermath of disasters. This phase goes beyond immediate response activities and delves into the more extended process of recovery and preparation for future events.

Resilience training emphasizes the psychological well-being of volunteers, teaching them coping mechanisms to deal with stress, trauma, and the challenges posed by disaster-affected communities. Volunteers are trained to serve as pillars of support, offering not only physical assistance but also emotional support to those affected. Understanding the long-term impact of disasters on communities, resilience training ensures that volunteers are prepared for the complexities of the recovery phase.





- **In Recovery and Preparedness:**

Volunteers play a pivotal role in both the recovery and preparedness phases of disaster management. In the recovery phase, volunteers engage in activities that facilitate the rebuilding of communities, restoration of essential services, and rehabilitation of affected individuals. This may include organizing community clean-up efforts, providing psychological support, and collaborating with local authorities to implement recovery plans.

Moreover, volunteers actively contribute to the preparedness phase by engaging in community education initiatives, conducting drills and simulations, and developing emergency plans. By leveraging their knowledge gained from awareness, response, and resilience training, volunteers become advocates for proactive disaster management measures within their communities.

The involvement of volunteers in the recovery and preparedness phases not only accelerates the restoration process but also establishes a resilient foundation for future events. Their continuous presence fosters a sense of community cohesion and empowerment, creating a culture of readiness that significantly reduces the vulnerability of the community to future disasters.

In this way, the volunteers become instrumental in the sustainable and holistic approach to disaster management, ensuring that communities not only recover but also thrive in the face of adversity.

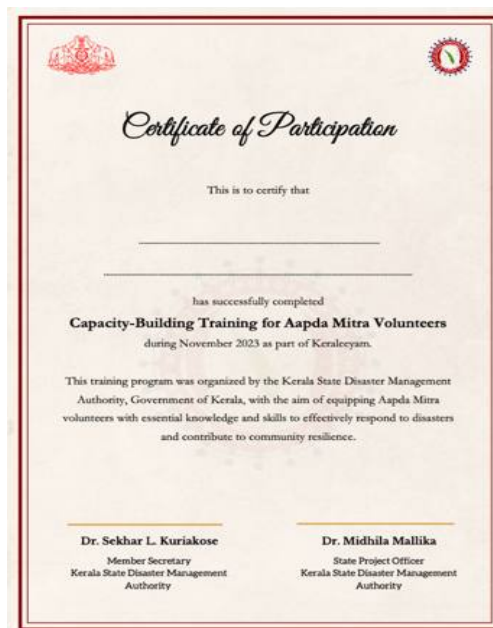


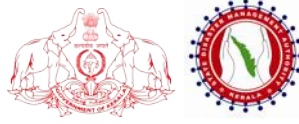
## CERTIFICATION

Certificates of participation were crafted by KSDMA as part of Keraleeyam 2023 for attendees of the Training and Capacity Building Workshop for Volunteers. Additionally, certificates were also prepared for 11 Aapda Mitra volunteers who actively contributed to KSDMA Keraleeyam 2023.



FIGURE 4: CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION AND PARTICIPATION CURATED BY KSDMA FOR THE VOLUNTEERS





## CHAPTER II

### THE EVENT

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With the goal of raising awareness about the importance of disaster management and community involvement, Keraleeyam 2023, a seven-day event, is hosted at the KSDMA office. Aligned with the defined objectives, the two-story office building of KSDMA has been transformed into an immersive experience, starting from the entrance and extending throughout the premises, with various thematic exhibits.

#### THE PARTICIPATION:

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The focal point of engagement centered around volunteers from Aapda Mitra, Civil Defence personnel from Thiruvananthapuram, and students representing diverse schools and the public from across Kerala.

Considering that some visitors may not have registered themselves, the total number of attendees at KSDMA Keraleeyam 2023, as recorded at the registration desk, amounted to 2699 visitors including 679 schools students from Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam and Wayanad and 20 post graduate students from ILDM Thiruvananthapuram also visited KSDMA.

#### GROUND FLOOR

##### Exhibit 1 - Thematic Entrance Arch: (KSDMA Entrance)

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The entrance serves as the gateway to understanding disaster management, featuring a thematic arch that introduces visitors to the essential components of disaster management. Through innovative design and interactive elements, visitors are introduced to key concepts, such as risk assessment, preparedness, response, and resilience. The thematic arch sets the tone for the entire event, captivating visitors and drawing them into the world of disaster management.

#### AIM:

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The thematic entrance arch is meticulously designed to capture the attention of visitors and set the stage for their journey through Keraleeyam 2023. As visitors approach the entrance, they are greeted by a visually striking arch adorned with symbols and imagery representing different aspects of disaster management.

#### OBJECTIVES ALIGNED:

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- To engage, educate, and inspire the community become active volunteers in disaster management, fostering a culture of preparedness and resilience particularly emphasizing the participation of children.

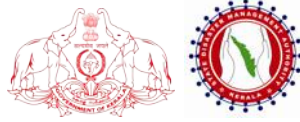


Figure 5: Blue Print of the Thematic Arch



Figure 6: Thematic Arch of KSDMA Keraleeyam 2023

## Exhibit 2 – The Photo Point: (KSDMA Premises)

The unwavering support and assistance extended by the fishermen community in Kerala during the devastating 2018 floods exemplifies the pinnacle of humanity.<sup>23</sup> Their selfless volunteering efforts stand as a beacon of inspiration for the entire world. Without any governmental mandate or formal request for aid, the community rallied together to assist the most severely affected regions of Kerala during the floods. Their actions were driven solely by the desire to save and aid as many people as possible amidst the flood crisis.

In recognition of their exceptional dedication and service, the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA) has decided to commemorate the fishermen community's noble deeds. As a tribute to their invaluable contribution, a model of a boat has been installed on the premises of the KSDMA, serving as a poignant symbol of their selflessness and bravery during the floods. This gesture not only honors the fishermen's unwavering commitment to

<sup>23</sup><https://www.indiatimes.com/news/india/kerala-salutes-its-fishermen-who-became-the-unlikely-heroes-by-saving-thousands-during-flood-352094.html#>

<https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/in-kerala-a-fisherman-offers-his-back-as-a-step-for-elderly-women-to-climb-into-rescue-boats-1903007>

<https://indianexpress.com/article/india/kerala-floods-fishermen-relief-rescue-operation-5317511/>



humanitarian relief but also serves as a reminder of the remarkable resilience and compassion displayed by communities in times of adversity.

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**AIM:**

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The purpose of the photo point model is to stand as an enduring tribute, inspiring individuals and nurturing a sense of unity and compassion amidst adversity, particularly emphasizing the pivotal role of volunteerism in effective disaster management.

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**OBJECTIVES ALIGNED:**

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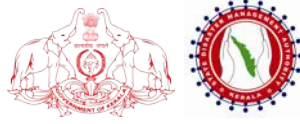
- To raise awareness within the community about the significance of volunteerism in disaster management.



Figure 7: Model of the Boat installed at the Photo Point



Figure 8: Aapda Mitra Volunteers in front of the Photo Point



### Exhibit 3 : The Help Desk – (KSDMA Ground Floor)

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At Keraleeyam 2023, the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA) established a 10.00 AM to 10.00 PM registration and help desk's on the ground floor, which was efficiently managed by KSDMA staff members. The primary functions included providing orientation to visitors, and recording the details of attendees.

The registration and help desk's served as a central point of contact for individuals attending Keraleeyam 2023, offering assistance and guidance as needed. KSDMA staff members stationed at the help desk were responsible for welcoming visitors, providing information about the event, and addressing any queries or concerns raised by attendees.

Furthermore, it facilitated the smooth entry and exit of visitors by maintaining a systematic record of attendees.

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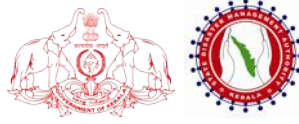
#### AIM:

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The record-keeping process enabled KSDMA to monitor the flow of visitors throughout the event and ensure efficient management of the premises.



Figure 9: The Registration and Help Desks at Keraleeyam 2023 at KSDMA



## Exhibit 4 – The EOC: Emergency Operation Centre (KSDMA Ground Floor)

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KSDMA is widely recognized through social and print media, but the exact process of data generation, collection, coordination, dissemination, and community assistance in disaster management remains unfamiliar to the majority. Therefore, it is crucial to educate and engage the community in disaster management, particularly through volunteerism, by understanding the early warning systems<sup>24</sup> and EOC's operations.

### **FIRST PHASE hands-on Training of Aapda Mitra/Civil Defence Volunteers:**

As first responders, volunteers play a pivotal role in ensuring effective emergency response procedures. They must grasp the intricacies of how emergency operations are planned, coordinated, and executed to swiftly address crises.

Understanding the functioning of emergency call centers and helplines is crucial, as these platforms serve as lifelines for individuals seeking assistance during disasters. Volunteers also need to learn how information is gathered, verified, and disseminated to the public, enabling communities to prepare adequately and mitigate the impact of potential disasters.

During the training session, Aapda Mitra volunteers are immersed in a comprehensive tour of the Emergency Operation Center (EOC). This immersive experience allows them to gain insights into the sophisticated functionalities and operational workflows of the EOC. They receive detailed explanations regarding the utilization of advanced technologies, communication protocols, and decision-making processes during emergency situations.

Additionally, volunteers engage in practical exercises and simulations to enhance their understanding of real-world scenarios and develop the necessary skills to respond effectively during crises.

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### **AIM:**

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- Providing Aapda Mitra volunteers with comprehensive training on emergency operations and EOC functionalities is to empower them with the knowledge, skills, and confidence needed to serve as effective first responders during disasters. By equipping volunteers with a thorough understanding of emergency response protocols and procedures, the training aims to enhance the overall resilience of communities and minimize casualties in the face of adversity.
- Educating the public by enhancing their understanding of KSDMA's operations and its integral role within Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs), thereby fostering greater community engagement and preparedness in disaster management efforts.

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<sup>24</sup> <https://sdma.kerala.gov.in/early-warning-systems/>



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### OBJECTIVES ALIGNED:

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- To engage, educate, and inspire the community become active volunteers in disaster management, fostering a culture of preparedness and resilience particularly emphasizing the participation of children.
- Enhance the awareness of Aapda Mitra volunteers in disaster management, thereby boosting their effectiveness in responding to emergencies.
- Showcase the pivotal role of Aapda Mitra volunteers in handling disasters and their involvement in building robust response initiatives.
- Foster networking opportunities for Aapda Mitra volunteers and community members, promoting collaborations that fortify disaster response and recovery efforts through training.



Figure 10: Pictures of Aapda Mitra/ Civil Defence Volunteers attending the EOC Training Program





## FIRST FLOOR

### Exhibit 5 – The Short Film Screening

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The rising number of drowning deaths in Kerala<sup>25</sup> has become a pressing concern, escalating with each passing day and prompting urgent attention from society. Recognizing the gravity of this issue, the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA) has taken multifaceted approaches to create awareness and promote water safety initiated by knowledge-sharing and capacity-building programs starting from 2022.<sup>26</sup>

In response to the alarming trend, the KSDMA integrated a dedicated exhibit on human-centric capacity building for drowning prevention at Keraleeyam 2023. Understanding that children constitute a significant portion of drowning victims, the initiative aims to educate children and Aapda Mitra volunteers about their role in raising awareness and implementing drowning prevention measures.

As part of this effort, screening of the KSDMA short film “Neerarivu,”<sup>27</sup> which has garnered acclaim and recognition, was held at the training hall located on the first floor of the KSDMA building.

This initiative seeks to equip volunteers with the knowledge and resources necessary to contribute effectively to drowning prevention efforts and underscores the importance of community involvement in addressing this critical issue. Through such awareness programs and initiatives, the KSDMA endeavors to mitigate the impact of drowning incidents and promote water safety across Kerala.

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#### AIM:

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To address the rising number of drowning deaths in Kerala and the urgent need for water safety measures.

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<sup>25</sup>Veetil, Jaseena Nadu, Vijayan Ampaya Parambath, Bijayraj Rajanbabu, and Sangeetha Suresh. "An epidemiological study of drowning survivors among school children." *Journal of family medicine and primary care* 6, no. 4 (2017): 844.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala/in-kerala-drowning-claims-over-6700-lives-in-five-years/article38130448.ece>

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kochi/3-sisters-drown-in-pond-in-front-of-their-father/articleshow/103225083.cms>

<https://english.mathrubhumi.com/news/kerala/4-children-drown-in-two-separate-incidents-in-kerala1.9258905#:~:text=In%202021%2C%20the%20number%20was,second%20to%20road%20accidents.>

<sup>26</sup> [https://sdma.kerala.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Drowning\\_prev\\_Day - Report.pdf](https://sdma.kerala.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Drowning_prev_Day - Report.pdf)

<sup>27</sup> <https://sdma.kerala.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/11.Drowning.pdf>



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## OBJECTIVES ALIGNED:

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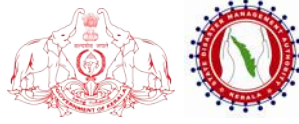
- To engage, educate, and inspire the community become active volunteers in disaster management, fostering a culture of preparedness and resilience particularly emphasizing the participation of children.
- Enhance the awareness of Aapda Mitra volunteers in disaster management, thereby boosting their effectiveness in responding to emergencies.
- Showcase the pivotal role of Aapda Mitra volunteers in handling disasters and their involvement in building robust response initiatives.



Figure 11: Aapda Mitra/ Civil Defence Volunteers at the Short Film Screening



Figure 12: Aapda Mitra/ Civil Defence Volunteers facilitating the Screening of the Short Film and leading discussions on Water Safety.



## SECOND FLOOR

### Exhibit 6 – The Galleria – Miniature Models

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The Galleria on the second floor offers an immersive journey into the realm of disaster management, inviting visitors to engage their senses and delve into the intricacies of disaster risk forecasting. Crafted by the skilled team at KSDMA, the interactive exhibition showcases a variety of miniature models that illustrate cutting-edge technology and methodologies utilized in disaster management.

At this unique venue, visitors are not only spectators but active participants in the learning process. They have the opportunity to interact with experts, explore the intricacies of disaster preparedness, and gain invaluable insights into effective risk mitigation strategies. The Galleria serves as a pivotal space where theoretical knowledge meets practical application, offering a hands-on experience that fosters a deeper understanding of disaster management principles.

During its opening to the public, the Galleria also served as the primary venue for crucial hands-on training sessions conducted for Aapda Mitra volunteers. Through interactive sessions and engagement with the community, volunteers had the opportunity to apply their training and interact with visitors, fostering a culture of collaboration and community involvement in disaster preparedness.

The Galleria stands as a testament to the commitment of KSDMA in empowering both volunteers and the public to build resilience and respond effectively to disasters.

---

#### AIM:

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The aim is to familiarize visitors with cutting-edge technology and methodologies in disaster management through the exhibition of miniature models while providing crucial hands-on training sessions for Aapda Mitra volunteers, fostering interactive engagement with the community to enhance disaster preparedness and response capabilities.

---

#### OBJECTIVES ALIGNED:

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- To engage, educate, and inspire the community become active volunteers in disaster management, fostering a culture of preparedness and resilience particularly emphasizing the participation of children.
- Enhance the awareness of Aapda Mitra volunteers in disaster management, thereby boosting their effectiveness in responding to emergencies.
- Showcase the pivotal role of Aapda Mitra volunteers in handling disasters and their involvement in building robust response initiatives.
- Strengthen the capacity of Aapda Mitra volunteers through comprehensive training, positioning them as pioneers in preparedness and resilience amidst disaster management challenges.



- Foster networking opportunities for Aapda Mitra volunteers and community members, promoting collaborations that fortify disaster response and recovery efforts through training.



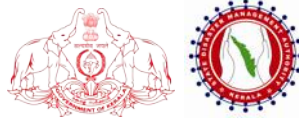
Figure 13: Aapda Mitra Volunteers/ Civil Defence attending the Training and giving Awareness Session to Students



Figure 14: (Top) Dr V Venu, The Chief Secretary of the Government of Kerala, attending The Capacity Training Session for Aapda Mitra Volunteers at Keraleeyam 2023 organized by KSDMA.

(Down) Aapda Mitra/ Civil Defence Volunteers Engaging in a discussion with Prasanth N IAS, Special Secretary- SC/ST Development & Backward Classes Development, detailing their Emergency Kit.





## Exhibit 7 – The Rainbow World – Game Zone

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Learning becomes not only informative but also enjoyable when it incorporates with elements of fun. Understanding the pivotal role of resilience in disaster management, KSDMA has established a dedicated gaming area aimed at imparting essential disaster management skills through interactive activities.

In this gaming zone, participants engage in a series of nine distinctive games meticulously designed by the KSDMA team. Each game offers a unique learning experience, fostering a deeper understanding of disaster preparedness, response, recovery and resilience strategies:

1. Disaster Preparedness Snake and Ladder: Players navigate through a game board depicting disaster scenarios, learning about preparedness measures and challenges along the way.
2. Pack Your Emergency Kit: Participants assemble virtual emergency kits, learning about essential items needed during disasters and emergencies.
3. Disaster Word Puzzle: A challenging word puzzle game where players uncover disaster-related terms and concepts, enhancing their disaster vocabulary and understanding.
4. The Rescue Operation: This game simulates rescue operations in disaster scenarios, requiring players to make strategic decisions to save lives and mitigate risks.
5. Disaster Basketball: A fun and interactive game where participants shoot hoops while learning about disaster management principles and strategies.
6. Disaster Dart Game: An engaging dart game that educates players about target areas for disaster response.
7. Disaster Helpline Memory Game: Participants test their memory skills by matching disaster-related helpline numbers and emergency contacts.
8. Disaster Match the Following: A matching game where players pair disaster scenarios with appropriate response actions, reinforcing key concepts of disaster management.
9. Disaster Word Scribble: A creative game where participants unscramble letters to form disaster-related words, promoting literacy and awareness of disaster terminology.

Each of these games serves as a valuable tool for educating participants about disaster preparedness, response, and resilience in an interactive and engaging manner.

---

### AIM:

---

To make learning about disaster management enjoyable and interactive, fostering a deeper understanding among participants. Through a variety of engaging games, participants acquire essential disaster management skills and knowledge, empowering them to respond effectively to emergencies and contribute to community resilience.

---

### OBJECTIVES ALIGNED:

---

- To engage, educate, and inspire the community become active volunteers in disaster management, fostering a culture of preparedness and resilience particularly emphasizing the participation of children.



- To raise awareness within the community about the significance of volunteerism in disaster management.
- Enhance the awareness of Aapda Mitra volunteers in disaster management, thereby boosting their effectiveness in responding to emergencies.
- Showcase the pivotal role of Aapda Mitra volunteers in handling disasters and their involvement in building robust response initiatives.
- Strengthen the capacity of Aapda Mitra volunteers through comprehensive training, positioning them as pioneers in preparedness and resilience amidst disaster management challenges.







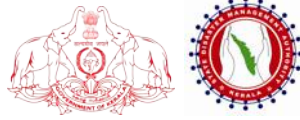


Figure 15:Aapda Mitra Volunteers/ Civil Defence Capacity Building Training through Disaster Games

### Exhibit 8 – KaWaCHaM: The Early Warning System

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Project KaWaCHaM Kerala warnings, crisis and hazards management system will bring the entire early warning system under a framework that will disseminate the knowledge, issue the warning, monitor a developing crisis and ensure a response capacity network.

The unique element of dissemination includes setting up of 126 sirens and strobe lights in towers and government buildings, pre-recorded voice and hooting incorporated for various types of warnings. These can be activated at state, district and taluk level.

The siren and strobe attached in the towers were displayed and functioning was explained to the visitors.

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#### AIM:

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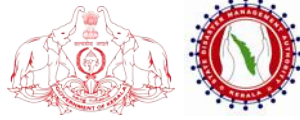
To raise public awareness and understanding of KaWaCHaM, the early warning system framework (Kerala Warnings, Crisis, and Hazards Management), designed to improve public safety and resilience through the timely dissemination of warnings and the promotion of efficient crisis management at various administrative levels. Additionally, to elucidate the practical utility of this system for individuals and communities.

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#### OBJECTIVES ALIGNED:

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- To educate and inform the public about the significance and operation of the KaWaCHaM early warning system, emphasizing its role in enhancing public safety and resilience.



### Exhibit 9 – The Feedback Zone

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The feedback zone at KSDMA Keraleeyam 2023 serves as a crucial platform for gathering insights and opinions from visitors regarding their experience at the exhibition. To facilitate this process, each visitor is provided with a unique colored thread based on their gender, with blue for children, yellow for women, pink for men, and orange for others.

Within the feedback zone, visitors are prompted to respond to a series of questions aimed at evaluating their overall experience. These questions include inquiries about whether they learned anything new, found the exhibition interesting, were able to participate in all games, and if they are interested in learning more about disaster management and in the future, do you believe you will be better equipped to actively participate in disaster situations? Visitors are encouraged to select a thread corresponding to their gender and demographic representation preference and then rate their likelihood on a scale from 1 to 5 by tying the thread accordingly.

This structured approach to feedback collection allows KSDMA to gain valuable insights into the effectiveness of Keraleeyam 2023 and identify areas for improvement. By analysing the feedback provided by visitors from diverse demographic groups, KSDMA can tailor future exhibitions and disaster management initiatives to better meet the needs and expectations of the community.

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#### AIM:

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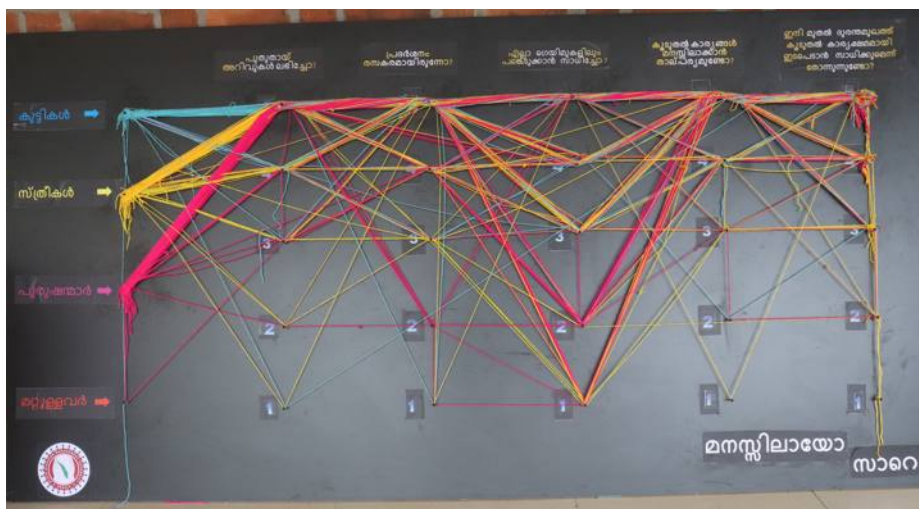
To gather valuable insights and opinions from visitors, enabling a comprehensive evaluation of their exhibition experience. Through structured feedback collection, including questions about learning, interest, and disaster preparedness, KSDMA aims to refine future exhibitions and initiatives to better serve the diverse needs of the community.



Figure 16: The Beginning of the Feedback Board



Figure 17: The partially filled Feedback Board and (Top Left) Dr V Venu Chief Secretary Government of Kerala assessing the Feedback Board (Top Right) younger visitors filling their Feedbacks using the colourful thread





## CHAPTER III

### THE GALLERIA – MINIATURE MODELS

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Within the Galleria, meticulously crafted by the adept team at KSDMA, an interactive exhibition unfolds, presenting an array of miniature models that depict advanced technology and methodologies employed in disaster management. Designed to engage visitors actively, this section encourages participation rather than passive observation. Visitors can interact with experts, delve into the nuances of disaster preparedness, and acquire invaluable insights into effective risk mitigation strategies. The Galleria serves as a testament to KSDMA's dedication to empowering both volunteers and the public, fostering resilience and enabling effective responses to disasters.

The notable miniatures models are explained below:

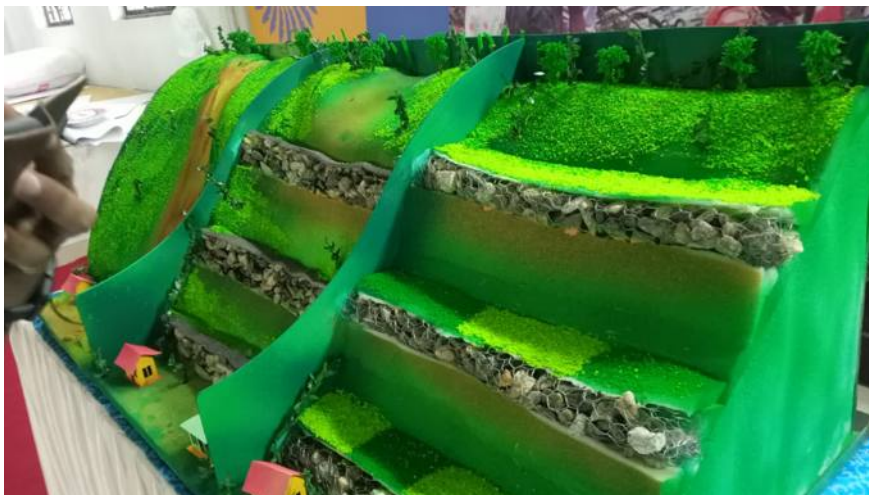
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#### GEOLOGY

#### **“BALANCING NATURE AND ENGINEERING: A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO LANDSLIDE RISK REDUCTION”**

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A comprehensive strategy for mitigating landslide risk integrates both natural (green) and engineered (grey) solutions. Green solutions emphasize vegetation management, encompassing tree and shrub planting to stabilize soil, establishment of vegetative buffers along slopes, and implementation of erosion control measures like terracing and bioengineering techniques. These methods work to mitigate erosion, decrease soil saturation, and bolster slope stability, thereby reducing the likelihood of landslides.



Conversely, grey solutions entail the construction of engineered structures such as retaining walls, gabion baskets, and drainage systems to reinforce unstable slopes, redirect water flow, and alleviate groundwater pressure. This dual approach aims to enhance public understanding of the necessity for implementing both green and grey strategies in landslide risk reduction endeavors.



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## GIS

### 1. “UNVEILING THE REMOTE SENSING PROCESS: FROM DATA CAPTURE TO ANALYSIS”

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Remote sensing, a pivotal method in modern monitoring practices, involves the examination of physical characteristics within an area by analysing its reflected and emitted radiation from a distance, typically conducted via satellites or aircraft. The model delineates the intricate process of remote sensing, which encompasses essential components: a sensor, target area, and data processing system.

The sensor plays a critical role in the remote sensing process by capturing electromagnetic radiation reflected from Earth's surface. This captured data is subsequently transmitted to a base station, serving as the central hub for dissemination to various institutions. Upon reception, the data undergoes meticulous analysis to derive meaningful insights, such as the extent of a disaster or land cover classification.





This systematic approach enables remote sensing to provide invaluable information for a multitude of applications, ranging from environmental monitoring to disaster management. By facilitating the acquisition and interpretation of spatial data, the remote sensing process empowers decision-makers with the tools necessary to make informed choices regarding resource allocation, risk assessment, and environmental conservation efforts.



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## 2. “DECIPHERING RAINFALL ALERT CYCLE: UNDERSTANDING IMD’S VISUAL CODING SYSTEM”

---

The Rainfall Alert Cycle, as depicted by the static model, elucidates the anticipated weather patterns for rainfall alerts disseminated by the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD). IMD employs a color-coded system to visually convey the severity of expected precipitation, facilitating swift comprehension and response.



The colors utilized in IMD’s daily rainfall alerts serve as a visual language, indicating the magnitude of rainfall intensity in distinct regions.



- Green denotes light to moderate rain
- Yellow signifies heavy rain.
- Orange alerts warn of very heavy rainfall
- Red alerts signal extremely heavy rainfall conditions.

This intuitive color-coded system enables stakeholders, including emergency responders, policymakers, and the general public, to swiftly gauge the potential impact of impending rainfall events.

By providing clear and concise information, IMD's rainfall alert cycle enhances preparedness and facilitates timely decision-making to mitigate the adverse effects of heavy rainfall and related hazards.

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## HYDROLOGY

### **"INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT IN AGRICULTURE: HARNESSING POWER AND SUSTAINABILITY"**

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The Water and Agriculture Model exemplifies a holistic approach to water resource utilization, prominently featuring the construction of a dam across a river, creating a reservoir upstream. The stored water serves a dual purpose: electricity generation and irrigation for agricultural fields.

Water from the reservoir is channelled through a penstock, directing its kinetic energy toward a turbine. The turbine's rotation drives a generator, producing electricity. This electricity is then transmitted through high-voltage lines to substations, where it undergoes voltage conversion for distribution to homes and businesses.



Excess water, not needed for power generation, is released through a spillway in the dam. This water is diverted for irrigation, nourishing various crops including perennials, seasonal



vegetables, and paddy fields. To optimize water usage, advanced water-saving technologies such as drip irrigation and sprinkler systems are implemented.

Furthermore, sustainable agricultural practices are embraced, integrating environment-friendly technologies for soil stabilization. Techniques such as vetiver grasses and geotextiles enhance soil quality and prevent erosion, ensuring long-term agricultural viability while minimizing environmental impact.



Through the integration of water management and agriculture, this model showcases a symbiotic relationship between power generation, irrigation, and sustainable farming practices, highlighting the importance of efficient resource utilization and environmental stewardship in agricultural development.





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## ARCHITECTURE

### “STILT HOUSES: RESILIENT SOLUTIONS FOR FLOOD-PRONE ENVIRONMENTS”

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Constructing stilt houses represents a strategic and adaptive approach to mitigating the impact of flooding in vulnerable regions. These elevated structures serve as a resilient defense against rising waters triggered by heavy rainfall, storm surges, or river overflow. Elevated on stilts, these houses provide a practical solution by allowing floodwaters to pass underneath the living area, thereby minimizing structural damage and safeguarding inhabitants and belongings.

Designed with open spaces beneath the elevated living quarters, stilt houses not only mitigate flood risks but also contribute to sustainable urban planning efforts. By reducing vulnerability to water-related disasters, they enhance community resilience and promote safer living environments. This architectural innovation is crucial for addressing the challenges posed by changing climatic conditions and increasing flood hazards.



In addition to offering protection from inundation, stilt houses enhance safety, resilience, and adaptability in flood-prone areas. Their elevated design not only mitigates immediate risks but also fosters long-term sustainability by integrating flood resilience into urban development strategies. As a result, stilt houses emerge as invaluable assets in the ongoing efforts to build resilient communities and mitigate the adverse effects of water-related disasters.



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## URBAN

### **“SPONGE CITIES: INNOVATING URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT FOR SUSTAINABILITY”**

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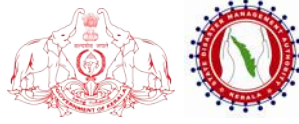
The term “sponge city” refers to urban areas that implement forward-thinking water management practices to tackle challenges associated with flooding, water scarcity, and environmental degradation. Inspired by the natural function of a sponge, these cities aim to absorb, store, and effectively manage water resources.

Key to the concept of sponge cities is the integration of sustainable water management techniques such as green infrastructure, permeable surfaces, and rainwater harvesting systems. By incorporating these elements into urban design, cities can enhance their resilience to extreme weather events while improving water quality and promoting environmental sustainability.

Green infrastructure, including vegetated rooftops and urban parks, helps absorb and filter rainwater, reducing the risk of flooding and enhancing groundwater recharge. Permeable surfaces allow water to infiltrate the soil, replenishing aquifers and mitigating surface runoff. Rainwater harvesting systems capture and store precipitation for later use, reducing reliance on centralized water sources.



Through the implementation of sponge city principles, urban landscapes are transformed into dynamic, water-sensitive environments that adapt to changing climatic conditions. By embracing innovation and sustainability in water management, sponge cities pave the way for resilient, liveable, and environmentally conscious urban spaces.



## CHAPTER IV

### THE RAINBOW WORLD – GAME ZONE

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#### GAME 1: DISASTER PREPAREDNESS SNAKE & LADDER

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##### AIM

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To learn about preparedness, response and emergency warning.

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##### SCOPE

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Volunteers play a pivotal role in disaster preparedness and response, often taking on more active roles compared to their involvement in recovery efforts. Recognizing this, a creative approach has been adopted to educate the public, children and enhance volunteer engagement through a custom-designed snake and ladder game focused on disaster management. By integrating dice featuring emergency warning color themes, this interactive game serves as an engaging and educational tool to raise awareness about disaster preparedness among individuals of all ages. Through this initiative, the aim is not only to educate the public but also to empower volunteers and children with essential skills and knowledge to effectively respond to emergencies in their communities.

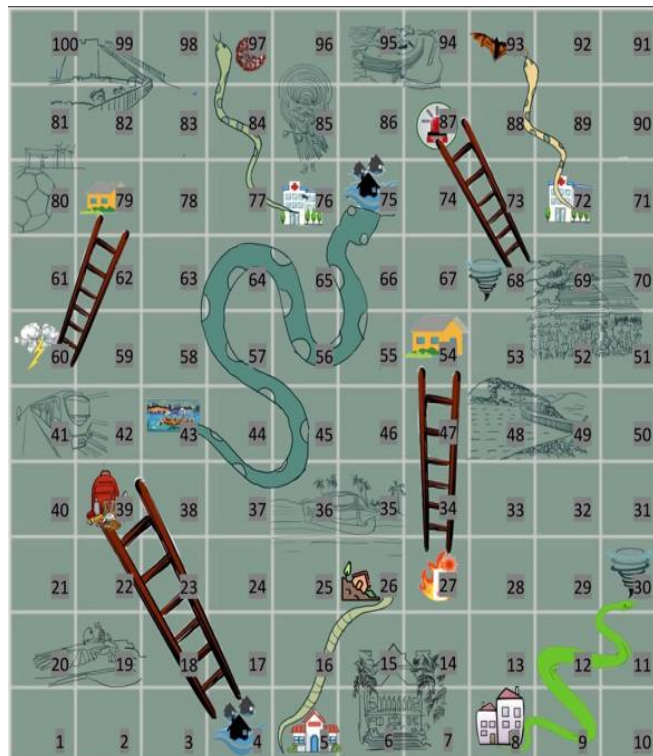


FIGURE 18: THE DISASTER PREPAREDNESS SNAKE AND LADDER



## GAME 2: PACK YOUR EMERGENCY KIT

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### AIM

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To learn about importance emergency kit during disasters.



### SCOPE

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Preparedness stands as the paramount factor in mitigating and lessening the severity of any disaster. Frequently, there is an anticipation that the government will address all essential needs; however, when faced with unforeseen and intense disasters, individual preparedness becomes imperative alongside governmental efforts. One proactive measure that each person can take is the preparation of an emergency kit.

Recognizing the foundational importance of assembling an emergency kit, this game seeks to foster awareness and educate children, volunteers and public about the essential components and process involved in preparing for emergencies. By engaging the participants in the activity of creating an emergency kit, the game aims to instil valuable knowledge and preparedness skills that can empower them to respond effectively in times of crisis. Through interactive learning, they can develop a proactive mindset towards disaster preparedness, contributing to overall community resilience.



Issued In Public Interest By



**Kerala State Disaster Management Authority**  
Observatory Hills, Vikas Bhavan PO, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala  
Toll Free Numbers: 1077, 1070, 1079 | [www.sdma.kerala.gov.in](http://www.sdma.kerala.gov.in) | [keralasdma@gmail.com](mailto:keralasdma@gmail.com)

Figure 19: Prepared by Kerala State Disaster Management Authority - The 14 important items for the Emergency Kit



### GAME 3: DISASTER WORD PUZZEL

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#### AIM

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To instil comprehensive readiness by emphasizing not only preparedness but also a profound understanding of key terms and components related to disasters and their management.

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#### SCOPE

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Comprehensive readiness in disaster management extends beyond mere preparedness to encompass a thorough understanding of essential terms and concepts. Without adequate knowledge of disaster-related terminology, individuals may struggle to respond effectively during crises, highlighting the critical need for participants to familiarize themselves with such vocabulary.

In the realm of disaster management, effective training and preparedness are paramount. Traditional instructional methods often fall short in fully engaging individuals and motivating them to grasp the complexities of crisis response.



This is where puzzle games emerge as a innovative approach, offering an interactive learning experience that enhances essential skills like problem-solving and decision-making in challenging situations. By immersing participants in engaging gameplay, these games provide a dynamic platform for learning and skill development, ultimately contributing to more effective disaster management practices.



## Disaster Management

FIND THE WORDS

R E E E T N I I T T J G C C D T E P V K Y O T E C O E M E R G E N C Y D D D Y F P L E H A T Q Q F Z O Q C B Q T M U D Z K B H A O O L Q K M S C K I A L G T L Z O D M F A S A J X H J R F H N L E M C V Y T I L I B A R E N L U V D C	ALERT DISASTER FLOOD RELIEF TSUNAMI WARNING	CAMP EMERGENCY HAZARD RESCUE VOLUNTEER CYCLONE	FIRE HELP RISK VULNERABILITY
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FIGURE 20: SAMPLE OF DISASTER WORD PUZZLE GAME

### GAME 4: RESCUE OPERATION

#### AIM

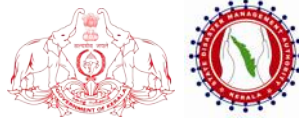
Through this interactive and educational game, participants can gain a deeper understanding of the complexities involved in disaster response and the critical role of prioritizing rescue efforts based on vulnerability.

#### SCOPE

To foster a heightened awareness and comprehension among the society regarding the concept of vulnerability in the context of disasters. By engaging participants in simulated rescue operations and prioritization exercises, the game seeks to instil a sense of empathy and understanding of the diverse needs and challenges faced by different groups during emergencies.

Ultimately, the scope is to cultivate a mindset that emphasizes the importance of prioritizing assistance based on individual vulnerabilities, contributing to a more informed and compassionate approach to disaster response.





## GAME 5: DISASTER BASKETBALL

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### AIM

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The aim of Disaster Basketball is to engage participants in a fun and interactive learning experience that enhances their understanding of disaster management principles and strategies through gameplay.

### SCOPE

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Disaster Basketball offers participants an opportunity to learn about disaster management in a dynamic and engaging way. By shooting hoops and participating in basketball-themed activities, players will gain insights into key disaster preparedness and response techniques. The game aims to promote active learning and retention of essential disaster management concepts while fostering teamwork and cooperation among participants.



## GAME 6: DISASTER DART GAME

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### AIM

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The aim of the Disaster Dart Game is to provide an engaging and educational experience for players by familiarizing them with target areas for effective disaster response. Through interactive gameplay, participants will develop a deeper understanding of key concepts related to disaster management and response strategies.

### SCOPE

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The Disaster Dart Game offers players an immersive experience where they learn about critical target areas essential for disaster response efforts. By throwing darts at designated





targets representing various aspects of disaster response, players gain insights into prioritized areas for intervention during emergencies. The game encourages strategic thinking and decision-making while reinforcing the importance of identifying and addressing key response priorities in disaster situations. Through interactive gameplay, participants develop valuable skills and knowledge that can contribute to more effective disaster preparedness and response efforts in real-world scenarios.



## **GAME 7: DISASTER HELPLINE MEMORY GAME**

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### **AIM**

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The aim of the Disaster Helpline Memory Game is to enhance participants' memory skills while familiarizing them with essential disaster-related helpline numbers and emergency contacts.

Through engaging gameplay, participants will develop the ability to recall and access critical information during emergency situations.

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### **SCOPE**

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The Disaster Helpline Memory Game offers participants an interactive and educational experience centered around disaster preparedness and response. By matching disaster-related helpline numbers and emergency contacts, players not only sharpen their memory skills but also become acquainted with essential resources for seeking assistance during disasters. The game covers a range of emergency contacts, including local authorities, medical services, and relief organizations, thereby providing comprehensive support information.

Participants engage in strategic thinking and cognitive stimulation while reinforcing the importance of having access to crucial helpline numbers in times of crisis. The game's scope extends to promoting proactive measures for disaster readiness and empowering individuals to respond effectively to emergencies in their communities. Through immersive gameplay,



participants acquire practical knowledge that can contribute to improved disaster resilience and community safety.



## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

National Emergency Number	112
DEOC (District Emergency Operation Centre)	1077
Police	100
Ambulance	108
Fire	101
Women Helpline	1091
Child Helpline	1098
Pink Police	1515
KSEOC (Kerala State Emergency Operation Centre)	1079
KSEB	1912
DISHA	1056



## GAME 8: DISASTER MATCH THE FOLLOWING

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### AIM

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The aim of the Disaster Response Matching Game is to reinforce players' understanding of disaster management principles by challenging them to match appropriate response actions with corresponding disaster scenarios.

Through interactive gameplay, participants will enhance their knowledge of effective response strategies and develop critical thinking skills essential for managing emergency situations.

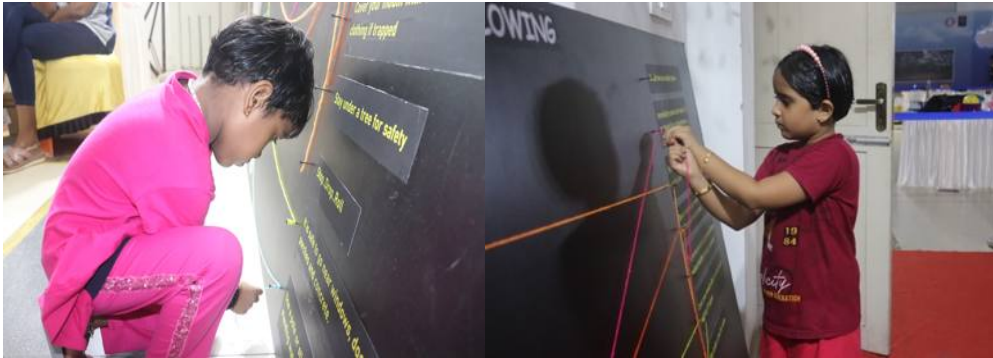
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### SCOPE

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The Disaster Response Matching Game offers players an engaging and educational experience focused on disaster preparedness and response. By matching disaster scenarios with appropriate response actions, players deepen their understanding of the complex dynamics involved in managing emergencies. The game covers a wide range of disaster scenarios, including natural disasters, technological hazards, and public health emergencies, thereby providing comprehensive insight into response strategies across various contexts. Participants engage in strategic decision-making as they assess the severity and characteristics of each scenario to determine the most effective response actions.

The game's scope extends to promoting teamwork and collaboration as players discuss and strategize response plans together. Through immersive gameplay, participants develop practical skills in identifying, prioritizing, and executing response actions, contributing to overall disaster resilience and community preparedness. The Disaster Response Matching Game serves as a valuable tool for fostering proactive attitudes towards disaster management and empowering individuals to respond effectively to emergencies in diverse settings.



## GAME 9: DISASTER WORD SCRIBBLE

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### AIM

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The aim of the Disaster Word Puzzle Game is to enhance participants' disaster literacy skills while increasing awareness of disaster terminology. By unscrambling letters to form disaster-related words, players develop their vocabulary and understanding of key concepts in disaster management.

### SCOPE

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The Disaster Word Puzzle Game offers an interactive and educational experience that promotes literacy and disaster awareness. Participants engage in word unscrambling activities that challenge their cognitive abilities and reinforce their understanding of disaster terminology. The game covers a wide range of terms related to disaster preparedness, response, and recovery, including hazard types, emergency procedures, and mitigation strategies. Through gameplay, players learn to recognize and comprehend common disaster-related words, thereby improving their ability to communicate effectively during emergencies.

The scope of the game extends to fostering teamwork and collaboration as participants work together to solve word puzzles and overcome challenges. Additionally, the game encourages creativity and problem-solving skills by presenting participants with engaging puzzles that require strategic thinking and attention to detail. Overall, the Disaster Word Puzzle Game serves as a valuable tool for promoting literacy, increasing disaster awareness, and empowering individuals to communicate confidently in disaster situations.

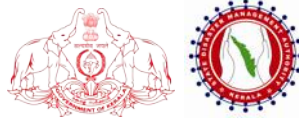


**DISASTER MANAGEMENT  
WORD SCRAMBLE**

1	ERCUSE	1	
2	IRELFE	2	
3	OCLCNYE	3	
4	EUAQAREHTK	4	
5	MGIITNAOTI	5	
6	EDRNPASEPESR	6	
7	EINVLRYLTUAIB	7	
8	IALEITBTHRNOIA	8	
9	NGCEMRYYE	9	
10	IRASTSDE	10	

Name : .....

Mobile Number : .....



## CHAPTER V

### CHILDREN – THE CHANGE MAKERS

---

#### WHY CHILDREN?

---

Children play a crucial role in disaster management and preparedness, as they are not only the most vulnerable group during disasters but also potential agents of change and resilience in their communities. Educating and preparing children for future disasters is essential for ensuring their safety and empowering them to effectively manage and respond to emergencies.

Firstly, children are the leaders of tomorrow. By instilling a sense of responsibility and preparedness in them from an early age, we are equipping them with the skills and knowledge needed to navigate and mitigate the impact of disasters in the future. They have the capacity to absorb information and adapt to new situations, making them invaluable assets in disaster-prone areas.

Furthermore, children act as conduits of information within their families, schools, and communities. By educating children about disaster preparedness and response measures, they can effectively disseminate this information to their parents, siblings, friends, and neighbors. This grassroots exchange of knowledge creates a ripple effect, enhancing community-wide resilience and preparedness.

Moreover, promoting voluntarism among children cultivates a culture of collective action and solidarity. By encouraging children to actively participate in community-based initiatives and volunteer programs focused on disaster management, they develop a sense of ownership and commitment to their communities' well-being. Volunteering not only empowers children to contribute meaningfully to disaster response efforts but also fosters empathy, leadership skills, and a sense of civic duty.

In essence, children represent the future guardians of our communities. By nurturing their understanding of disasters, equipping them with practical skills, and fostering a spirit of voluntarism, we empower them to face challenges with resilience and compassion. Investing in children's disaster preparedness and education is not just an investment in their future—it's an investment in the resilience and sustainability of our communities as a whole.



FIGURE 20: POSTER DESIGNED FOR KSDMA KERALALEEYAM- 2023 FOCUSING CHILDREN

## SCHOOL STUDENTS

On October 27, 2023, a formal invitation was extended to the Director, General Education Directorate in Thiruvananthapuram,<sup>28</sup> urging students to partake in the Keralaleeyam festivities at the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA).

Responding to the invite, 12 schools from various regions of Kerala in morning and afternoon batches, totalling 679 students, enthusiastically visited KSDMA.

<sup>28</sup> Refer appendix: 1



Sl. No:	School	Total Students
1	SSRVM – Sri Sri Ravishankar Vidhyamandir, Maruthamkuzhi	108
2	GHS Kattachakonam	44
3	Sree Saraswathy Vidyamandir, Vellanad	13
4	KV SAP Peroorkada	45
5	GMCHSS, Kumarapuram	15
6	Govt. LPS Nedumkulathu	51
7	NVUPS Vayala, Anchal, Kollam	72
8	K V Pangode	135
9	K V Peroorkada	40
10	G G HSS Peroorkada	84
11	Chinmaya	36
12	MRS Kaniyambetta, Wayanad	36
	MRS Lakkidi, Wayanad	

FIGURE 21: SCHOOLS AND NUMBER OF STUDENTS ATTENDED KERALEEYAM - 2023 AT KSDMA













FIGURE 22: FEW GLIMPSES OF STUDENTS PARTICIPATION IN KSDMA KERALEEYAM 2023

## STUDENTS FROM WAYANAD

As part of its commitment to fostering disaster resilience, KSDMA initiated a program titled “Disseminating Indigenous Knowledge for Disaster Resilience” (IDRR) 2023.<sup>29</sup> The initiative aims to cultivate traditional wisdom within communities, empowering them to become leaders in disaster management. In alignment with this endeavor, students hailing from different tribal communities in Wayanad were specially invited to participate in Keraleeyam at KSDMA.<sup>30</sup> A total of 36 students from two Model residential schools in the Wayanad district actively engaged in the event, contributing to its success and enriching the exchange of indigenous knowledge.

<sup>29</sup> <https://iddrr.undrr.org/event/kerala-state-disaster-management-authorities-iddrr-events-2023>

<sup>30</sup> Refer appendix: 2

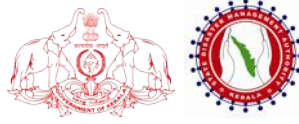


Figure 23: (Top) Students from Model Residential School Kaniyambetta & Lakkidi Wayand interacting with Dr Sekhar L Kuriakose & Prasanth N IAS, Special Secretary- SC/ST Development & Backward Classes Development (Down) Prasanth N IAS, Special Secretary.





FIGURE 24: STUDENTS FROM MODEL RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL KANIYAMBETTA & LAKKIDI WAYANAD PARTICIPATING IN THE EXHIBITION



## CHAPTER VI

### THE JOURNEY

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The disaster management games emerged as the focal point of KSDMA Keraleeyam 2023, garnering widespread attention and appreciation for their innovative approach to learning. Beyond captivating the interest of children, these games also captured the imagination of adults and elders, drawing participants of all ages to engage in the immersive experience of disaster preparedness.

#### THE DEDICATED STAFFS

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With selfless devotion and round-the-clock involvement, the committee members balanced their professional responsibilities with late-night preparations for the event. Their unwavering dedication not only contributed to the success of the games but also exemplified the spirit of service and community engagement.



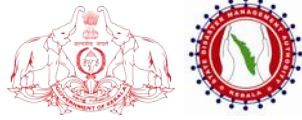


FIGURE 25: KSDMA MEMBERS IN THE MAKING OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT GAMES AND CRAFTS FOR THE EVENT VENUE

Furthermore, in line with the commitment to sustainability and eco-friendliness, the Game Zone team took proactive steps to maintain the green protocol. Many of the crafts and displays featured at the event were meticulously prepared by the committee members, showcasing their creativity and commitment to environmental stewardship.

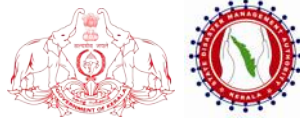






FIGURE 26: FEW OF THE FINAL OUTPUT OF CRAFTS MADE BY GAME ZONE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

In essence, the disaster management games stood as a testament to the power of innovation, collaboration, and dedication in promoting disaster resilience. Through the collective efforts of the Game Zone committee members and the enthusiastic participation of attendees, the games not only educated and entertained but also inspired a sense of empowerment and preparedness within the community.



## THE RECOGNITION

### 1. UNICEF VISIT

UNICEF is a prominent global organization dedicated to promoting the rights and well-being of children worldwide. Among its many endeavors, UNICEF actively engages in disaster management and response efforts, recognizing the vulnerability of children during and after disasters.

The collaborative endeavors of UNICEF and KSDMA in school safety and child-centric initiatives resonated profoundly with our Keralaleeyam theme, 'Kuttikalude Keralaleeyam,' where our aim is to empower children to become societal change-makers through championing disaster management and nurturing the spirit of volunteerism.

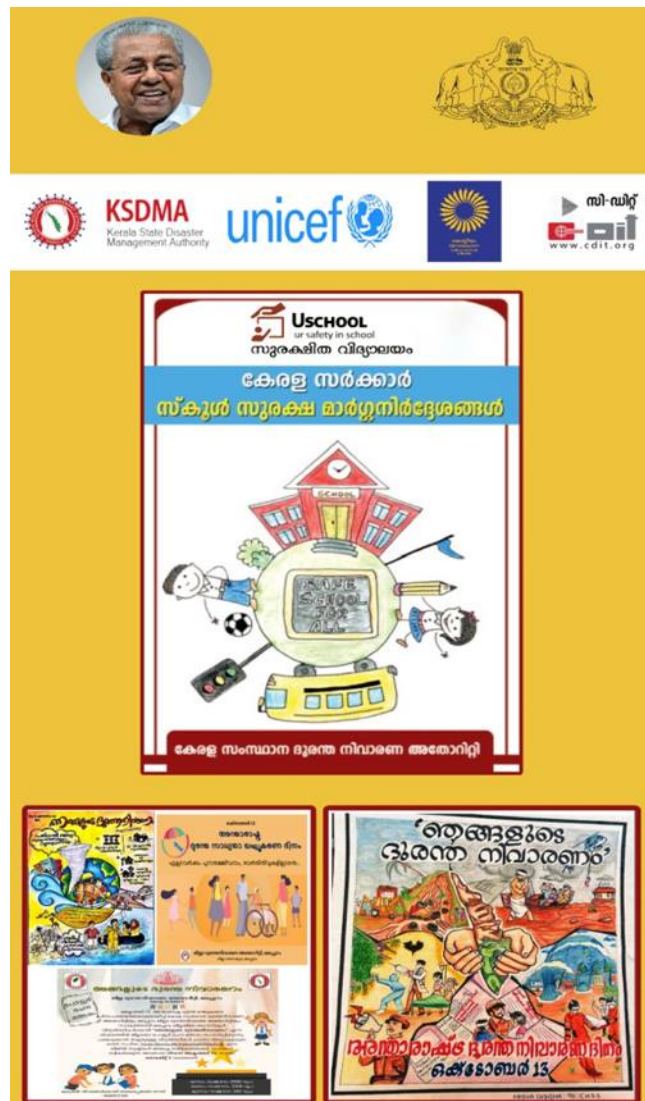


FIGURE 27: ONE OF THE PREPARED STANDEE FOR KSDMA KERALALEEYAM, SHOWCASING RECENT CHILD-CENTRIC INITIATIVES IN DISASTER MANAGEMENT



Mr Sarbjit Singh Sahota, Disaster Risk Reduction Specialist and Dr. Mahendra Rajaram, Risk and Resilience Officer of UNICEF honored the KSDMA Keraleeyam 2023 on November 3, 2023. Given UNICEF's unwavering dedication to child welfare, their presence served as a formidable source of motivation and support.



UNICEF's visit in the Keraleeyam event served as a powerful symbol of solidarity and support for Kerala's efforts to prioritize child welfare and disaster resilience. By nurturing the spirit of volunteerism and promoting child-centric approaches to disaster management, UNICEF and KSDMA are paving the way for a safer and more resilient future for Kerala's children and communities.

Both delegates approached the activities with paramount importance and enthusiasm, actively engaging in the prepared disaster management games. Their presence underscored the significance of our shared commitment to enhancing children's resilience and preparedness in the face of disasters.





FIGURE 28: SARBJIT SINGH SAHOTA, AND DR MAHENDRA RAJARAM, OF UNICEF VISITING AND PARTICIPATING AT THE KSDMA KERALEEYAM 2023

## 2. MEDIA

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The disaster management games took center stage at KSDMA Keraleeyam 2023, emerging as a focal point that not only captured widespread attention but also garnered deep appreciation for their innovative approach to learning. While initially designed to captivate the interest of children, these games transcended age barriers, captivating the imaginations of adults and elders alike. Participants of all ages were drawn to the immersive experience of disaster preparedness offered by these games.

The resounding success of the games reverberated far beyond the confines of the event venue, capturing the spotlight in newspapers and earning accolades from attendees and observers alike. This triumph was a testament to the tireless dedication and unwavering commitment of the Game Zone committee members, who spared no effort in ensuring the seamless execution of the games. Their relentless pursuit of excellence and their willingness to go above and beyond their regular duties played a pivotal role in making the disaster management games a resounding success at KSDMA Keraleeyam 2023.

Furthermore, the success of the games served as a catalyst for ongoing initiatives aimed at promoting disaster resilience and community engagement. Inspired by the positive reception of the games, local authorities and organizations expressed interest in integrating similar educational and interactive activities into their own programs and events. This ripple effect underscored the transformative potential of creative and engaging approaches to disaster education, highlighting the importance of fostering a culture of preparedness at all levels of society.



FIGURE 29: NEWSPAPER BRIEFS ABOUT THE DISASTER MANAGEMENT GAMES AT KSDMA KERALA 2023



## THE TOKEN OF APPRECIATION

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Recognizing and rewarding excellence is paramount in fostering a positive and supportive environment, especially in endeavors like disaster management games. Offering tokens of appreciation to game winners not only celebrates their achievements but also reinforces the value of participation and effort.



The act of giving a token of appreciation serves multiple purposes. Firstly, it acknowledges the hard work, skill, and dedication demonstrated by the winners. It affirms their accomplishments and encourages them to continue striving for excellence in disaster preparedness and response.

Moreover, tokens of appreciation serve as tangible reminders of the event and the valuable lessons learned. They act as symbols of recognition and gratitude, fostering a sense of pride and motivation among participants. In the context of disaster management games, offering tokens of appreciation adds an extra layer of significance.

It highlights the importance of these games in promoting disaster resilience and preparedness. By recognizing the winners, we also shine a spotlight on the critical role that individuals play in building community resilience. It sets the tone for a positive and inclusive atmosphere, where participants feel valued and supported in their efforts to learn and grow.



In conclusion, the practice of giving tokens of appreciation to disaster management game winners is not just a gesture—it is a symbol of encouragement, recognition, and gratitude. It enhances the overall experience of the game zone, making it a memorable and meaningful aspect of disaster preparedness education. By celebrating achievements and fostering a supportive environment, we inspire individuals to continue their journey towards building a safer and more resilient future.

The winners of the disaster management games received gifts in the form of smile balls, pens, and chocolates.



FIGURE 30: CHIEF SECRETARY DR V VENU HANDING OVER THE GIFT TO THE DISASTER MANAGEMENT GAME WINNER



## THE FEEDBACK

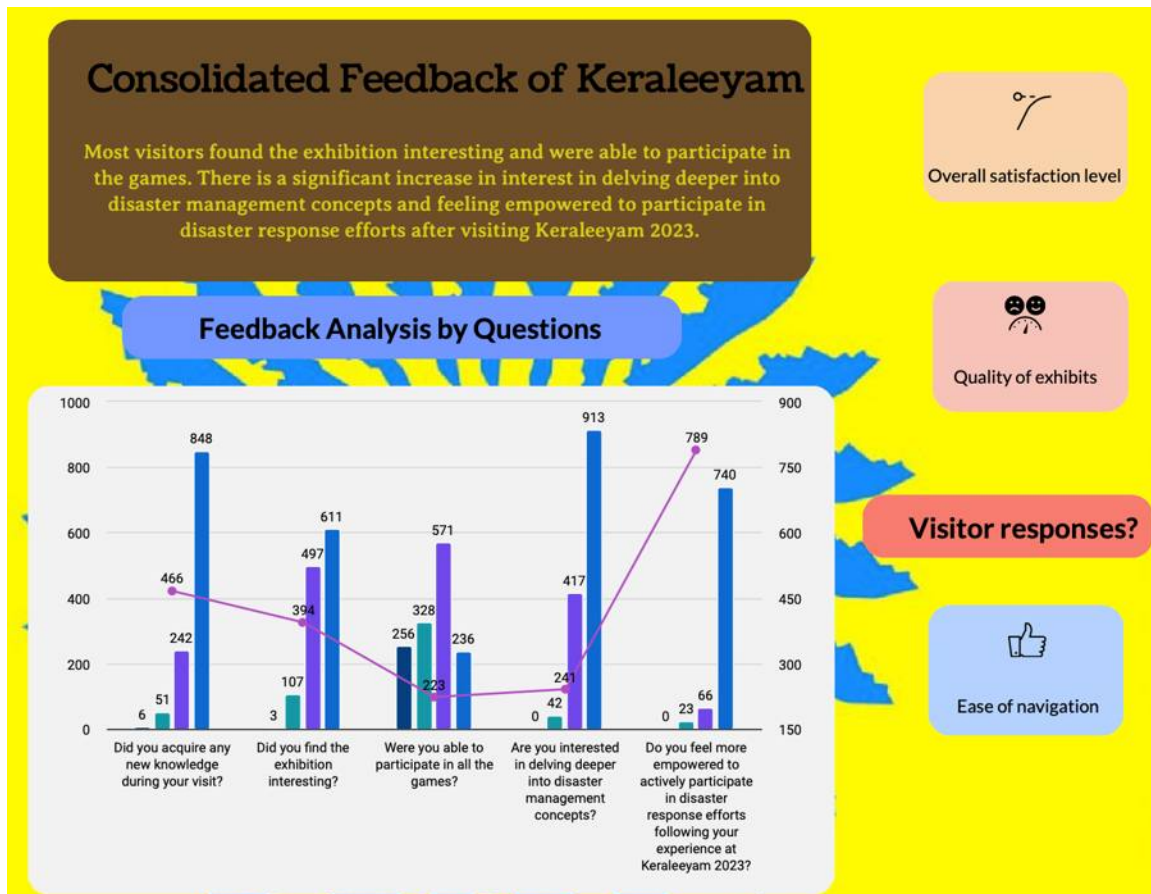
Instead of relying on written feedback, which may not engage all participants, we opted for a more innovative and captivating approach to gather insights from the public who attended Keraleeyam 2023, organized by KSDMA.

To gauge participants' and visitors' opinions about Keraleeyam 2023, we introduced four questions, each rated on a 5-point scale:

1. Did you acquire any new knowledge during your visit?
2. Did you find the exhibition interesting?
3. Were you able to participate in all the games?
4. Are you interested in delving deeper into disaster management concepts?
5. Do you feel more empowered to actively participate in disaster response efforts following your experience at Keraleeyam 2023?

These questions were designed to provide valuable insights into the attendees' experiences and perceptions, allowing us to enhance future events and initiatives.

### The Results:

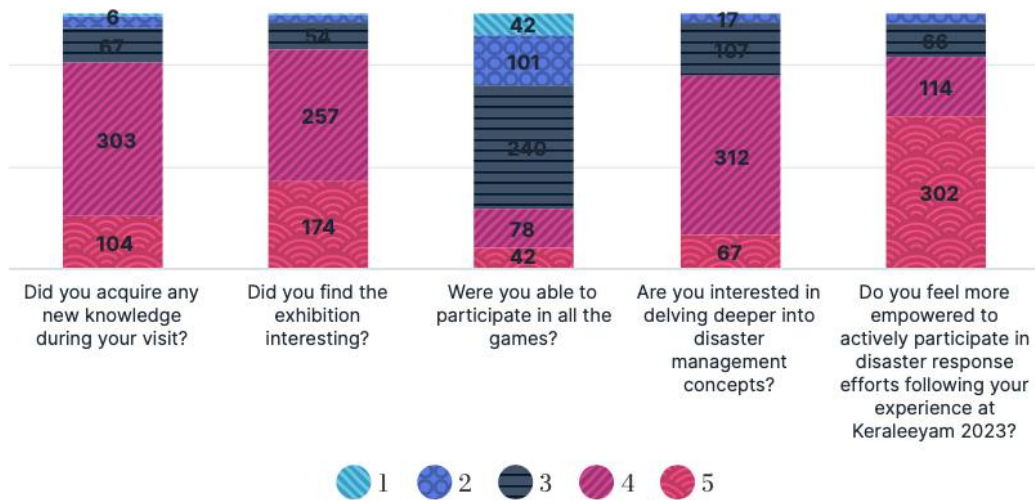






# Feedback of children

## Children's Feedback on Keraleeyam 2023

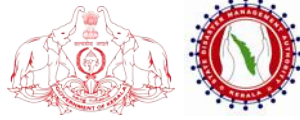


## Children's Feedback Shows Positive Trends

Children's feedback on the Keraleeyam 2023 exhibition indicates a mix of excitement and constructive criticism. The responses suggest an overall positive experience with some specific aspects that could be enhanced in future events.

### Children's feedback

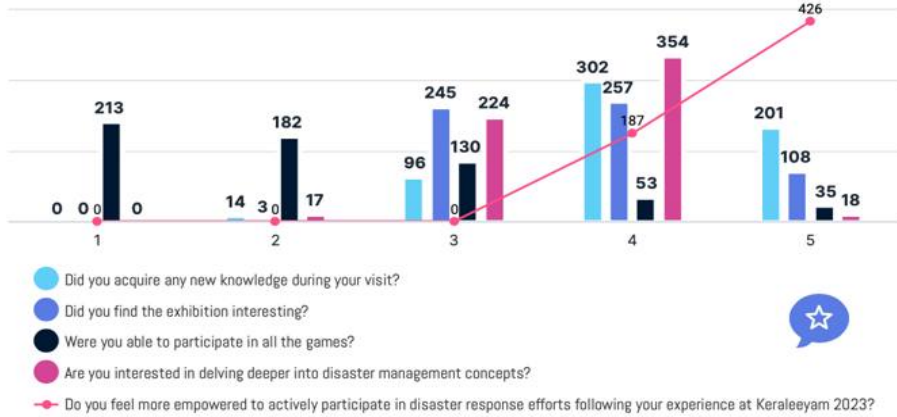




As the visit number increases, the number of visitors acquiring new knowledge, finding the exhibition interesting, and feeling empowered to participate in disaster response efforts also increases. However, interest in delving deeper into disaster management concepts decreases slightly.

Overall Satisfaction Levels

### Woman's Feedback on Keraleeyam Analysis

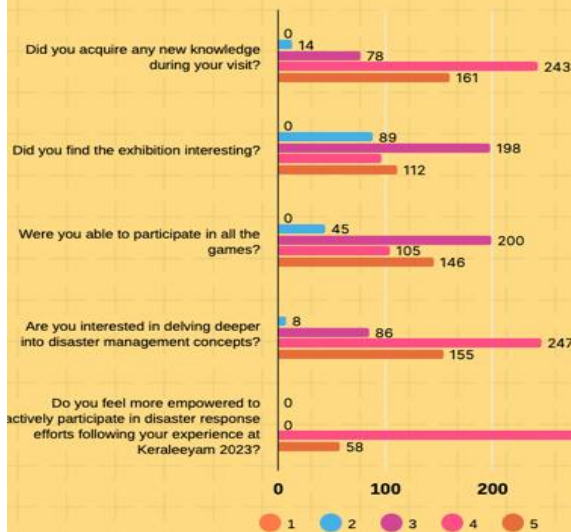


### Analyzing Women's Response to Keraleeyam

Positive Experience Ratings

An analysis of feedback provided by women during the Keraleeyam 2023 event revealed interesting patterns. The responses varied across different aspects, shedding light on the overall experience and perception of the event.

## Feedback of Men at Keraleeyam



Varied Reactions from men at Keraleeyam 2023

### Analyzing Mens's Response to Keraleeyam



The chart shows that a majority of visitors found the exhibition interesting and were interested in delving deeper into disaster management concepts. Additionally, a significant number felt more empowered to participate in disaster response efforts after visiting Keraleeyam 2023.



## Feedback of Others (LGBTQIA+)

The presence of two members from the LGBTQIA+ community was commendable and appreciated at Keraleeyam 2023. The data indicates differing levels of engagement and interest among them during the event. While one member gained new knowledge and found the exhibition intriguing, the other member showed a keen interest in disaster management concepts and expressed a sense of empowerment to participate in response efforts.

### The community views?



Accessibility & Inclusivity



Representation & Diversity

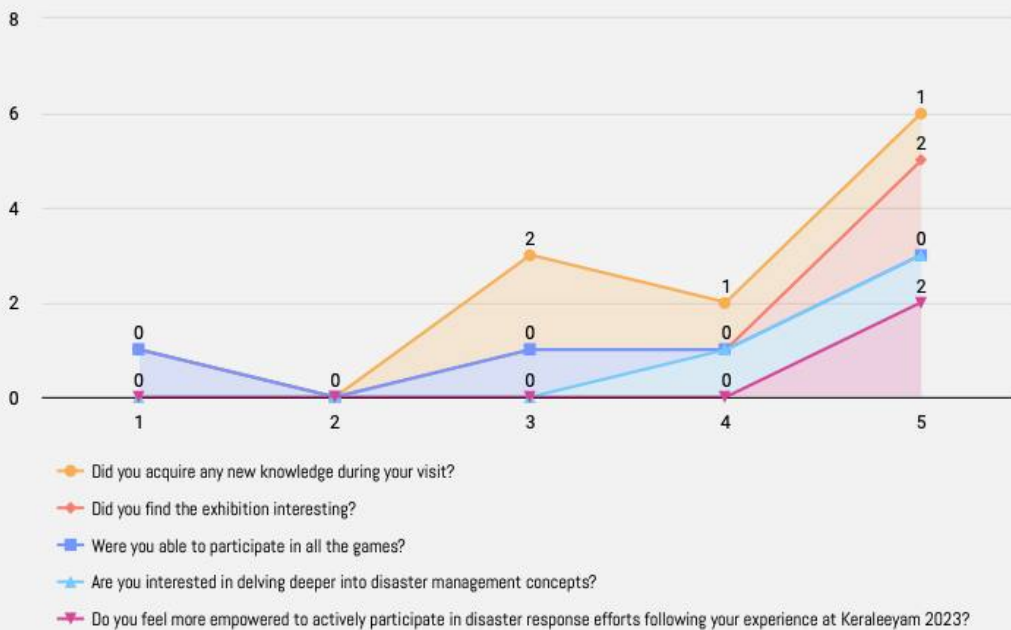


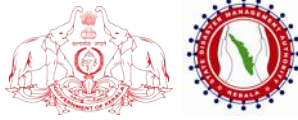
Educational Value



Satisfaction & Recommendations

### Feedback Analysis





APPENDIX 1

**കേരള സർക്കാർ**  
**കേരള സംസ്ഥാന ദുരന്ത നിവാരണ അതോറിറ്റി**  
 ബസ്സർവ്വേറ്റി ക്യൂസ്, വികാസ് ബസ് ഫി. ഒ, തിരുവനന്തപുരം -695033  
 ☎ 0471-2778866, 0471- 2364424  
 വെബ്സൈറ്റ്: [www.sdma.kerala.gov.in](http://www.sdma.kerala.gov.in), ഇ മെയിൽ: [keralasdma@gmail.com](mailto:keralasdma@gmail.com)

Government of Kerala KSDMA

No. MTO VII/1814/2023/Admin

Dated: 27.10.2023

From

The Member Secretary & Head SEOC

To

ഡയറക്ടർ  
പൊതുവിദ്യാഭ്യാസ ഡയറക്ടറേറ്റ്  
ജഗതി  
തിരുവനന്തപുരം

സർ

Sub:- കെ എസ് ഡി എം എ- കേരളീയം 2023- സ്കൂൾ വിദ്യാർത്ഥികൾക്ക് കാര്യലയം കാണുന്നതിനും സന്ദർശിക്കുന്നതിനുമായി തുറന്നു കൊടുക്കുന്നത്- സംബന്ധിച്ച്

Ref:- സ ഉ(കൈ)നം.114/2023/GAD തീയതി 13.07.2023

സൂചന ശ്രദ്ധിച്ചാലും. ഒരു സംസ്ഥാനമെന്ന നിലയ്ക്ക് കേരളത്തിന് ആർജ്ജിക്കാൻ കഴിഞ്ഞ നേട്ടങ്ങൾ ലോകത്തിന് മുന്നിൽ അവതരിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനായി തിരുവനന്തപുരത്ത് സെമിനാറുകളും അനുബന്ധ പരിപാടികളുമായി കേരളോത്സവം സംഘടിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിന് സൂചന പ്രകാരം ഉത്തരവായിട്ടുണ്ട്. ആയതിന്റെ ഭാഗമായി 2023 നവംബർ 1 മുതൽ 7 വരെ നടത്തുന്ന "കേരളീയം 2023" പരിപാടിയിൽ ഈ കാര്യലയത്തിൽ എക്സിബിഷൻ, വിദഗ്ധരുമായി ചർച്ചകൾ, കട്ടികൾക്കായുള്ള ഷോർട്ട് ഫിലിം പ്രദർശനം, ഗെയിം സോൺ എന്നിവ നടത്തുവാൻ തീരുമാനിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. കട്ടികൾക്കും പൊതു ജനങ്ങൾക്കും സന്ദർശിക്കുന്നതിനായി പ്രസ്തുത തീയതികളിൽ കാര്യലയം തുറന്നു കൊടുക്കുന്ന സാഹചര്യത്തിൽ വിവിധ സ്കൂളുകളിലെ കട്ടികളെ പങ്കെടുപ്പിക്കണമെന്ന് അഭ്യർത്ഥിക്കുന്നു. Satellite phones, Sirens, Strobe Lights, Weather Stations, Weather Analysis systems, high end computing facility, hot lines, decision support systems എന്നിവ എല്ലാം കട്ടികൾക്കായി തുറന്നു കൊടുക്കും എന്ന് അറിയിക്കും.

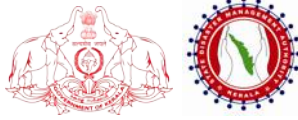
കൂടുതൽ വിവരങ്ങൾക്കായി ചുവടെ തന്നിരിക്കുന്ന നമ്പറിൽ ബന്ധപ്പെടാവുന്നതാണ്:

ഡോ മിഥില എം, സ്റ്റേറ്റ് പ്രൊജക്ട് ഓഫീസർ- Mob:- 9971628814  
ശ്രീ ക്ലിന്റ് മാത്യു, സോഷ്യൽ ക്ലാസിറ്റി ബിൽഡിങ് സ്പെഷ്യലിസ്റ്റ്- Mob:- 8765790407

Yours faithfully  
Dr.Sekhar L Kuriakose  
Member Secretary & Head SEOC

Approved For Issue

Office Manager



APPENDIX 2

**കേരള സർക്കാർ**  
**കേരള സംസ്ഥാന ദുരന്ത നിവാരണ അതോറിറ്റി**  
 ഒബ്സർവേറ്ററി ക്യൂസ്, വികാസ് റോഡ് പി. ഒ, തിരുവനന്തപുരം -695033  
 ☎ 0471-2778866, 0471- 2364424  
 വെബ്സൈറ്റ്: [www.sdma.kerala.gov.in](http://www.sdma.kerala.gov.in), ഇ മെയിൽ: [keralasdma@gmail.com](mailto:keralasdma@gmail.com)




Government of KeralaKSDMA

No. MTO VII/1814/2023/Admin

Dated: 27.10.2023

From

The Member Secretary & Head SEOC

To

ജില്ല കളക്ടർ  
&  
ചെയർമാൻ  
ഡി ഡി എം എ  
വയനാട്

സർ

Sub:- കെ എസ് ഡി എം എ കേരളീയം 2023- സ്കൂൾ വിദ്യാർത്ഥികൾക്ക് കെ എസ് ഡി എം എ കാര്യലയം സന്ദർശിക്കുന്നത് സംബന്ധിച്ച്

Ref:- സ ഉ(കൈ)നം.114/ 2023/GAD തീയതി 13.07.2023

സൂചന ശ്രദ്ധിച്ചാലും. കേരളീയം 2023 പരിപാടിയുടെ ഭാഗമായി ഈ കാര്യലയത്തിൽ നവംബർ 1 മുതൽ 7 വരെ നടത്തുന്ന എക്സിബിഷൻ, സെമിനാറുകൾ, ഗെയിം സോൺ, ഷോർട്ട് ഫിലിം പ്രദർശനം മുതലായവ കാണുന്നതിനും ഈ കാര്യലയത്തിന്റെ പ്രവർത്തനങ്ങൾ മനസ്സിലാക്കുന്നതിനും വേണ്ടി സ്കൂൾ കുട്ടികൾക്കും പൊതുജനങ്ങൾക്കുമായി ഈ കാര്യലയം തുറന്നു കൊടുക്കുന്ന സാഹചര്യത്തിൽ കെഎസ്ഡിഎംഎ സന്ദർശിക്കാൻ ട്രൈബൽ സ്കൂളുകൾക്ക് മുൻഗണന നൽകി രണ്ട് ബന്ധുക്കളിലോ/ട്രെയിനിലോ ആയി പരമാവധി 90 വിദ്യാർത്ഥികളെ കൊണ്ടുവരണമെന്ന് അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു. താമസത്തിനും ഭക്ഷണത്തിനുമായി ILDM മായി DDMA യ്ക്ക് നേരിട്ട് ബന്ധപ്പെടാവുന്നതാണ്. യാത്രയ്ക്കായി ഉപയോഗിക്കുന്ന ബസ്സിന് എല്ലാവിധ നിയമപരമായ ഫിറ്റ്നസ് ആവശ്യകതകളും ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കണം കൂടാതെ എംവിഡിയും പൊതുവിദ്യാഭ്യാസ ഡയറക്ടറും പുറപ്പെടുവിച്ച സർക്കുലറിൽ പറഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്നതുപോലെ യാത്രയെക്കുറിച്ച് എംവിഡിയെയും ലോക്കൽ പോലീസിനെയും അറിയിക്കണമെന്നും യാത്രാ ദിവസങ്ങളിലെ പ്രഭാതഭക്ഷണം, രാവിലത്തെ ലഘുഭക്ഷണം, ഉച്ചഭക്ഷണം, വൈകുന്നേരത്തെ ലഘുഭക്ഷണം, രാത്രി ഭക്ഷണം, തിരുവനന്തപുരത്തെ രണ്ട് രാത്രിയിലെ ILDM അല്ലെങ്കിൽ മറ്റൊരു സർക്കാർ സ്ഥാപനത്തിലെ താമസം എന്നിവയ്ക്ക് ചെലവാകുന്ന തുക ജില്ല ദുരന്ത നിവാരണ അതോറിറ്റിക്ക് സംസ്ഥാന ദുരന്ത നിവാരണ അതോറിറ്റി ലഭ്യമാക്കുന്ന പ്ലാൻ ഫണ്ടിൽ നിന്നും വകയിരുത്താവുന്നതാണെന്ന് അറിയിക്കുന്നു. ഓരോ ബന്ധിലും വിദ്യാർത്ഥികൾക്കൊപ്പം ജില്ലയിൽ നിന്നുള്ള ഒരു പുരുഷ അധ്യാപകനും വനിതാ അധ്യാപികയും ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കണമെന്നും ബന്ധപ്പെട്ട ഹസാർഡ് അനലിസ്റ്റ്, Consultant, DM, JS, ഒരു ക്ലാർക്ക് എന്നിവരെ DDMA അയയ്ക്കണമെന്നും അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു. കുട്ടികളുമായി യാത്ര ചെയ്യുന്നതിനാൽ പരമാവധി രാത്രി 8 മണിക്കും പകൽ 6 മണിക്കും ഇടയിൽ യാത്ര ഒഴിവാക്കണം എന്ന് അഭ്യർത്ഥിക്കുന്നു.

Yours faithfully  
Dr.Sekhar L Kuriakose  
Member Secretary & Head SEOC

Approved For Issue



## **KERALA STATE DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**

Observatory Hills, Vikas Bhavan P.O, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala – 695033

Phone: +91-471-2778855, Email: [keralasdma@gmail.com](mailto:keralasdma@gmail.com)

Website: [www.sdma.kerala.gov.in](http://www.sdma.kerala.gov.in)