

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION PROGRAMME REPORT ERNAKULAM

As the world celebrates the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (IDDRR) on October 13, 2024, Ernakulam District in Kerala, India, reaffirms its commitment to Disaster risk reduction and management. The DRR Day was indeed celebrated at the conference hall of the District Collectorate in Ernakulam on October 22nd at 2.30 pm organized by Kerala State Disaster Management Authority & District Disaster Management Authority, Ernakulam. The DRR Day program organized by KSDMA this year honored Aapda Mitra volunteers across all districts, conferring the prestigious Badge of Honor to 10 exemplary individuals, while the remaining volunteers were acknowledged with certificates for their disaster risk reduction efforts. This event aligns with the global IDDRR focusing on the theme "The Role of Education in Protecting and Empowering Youth for a Disaster-Free Future". Aapda Mitra, comprises over 4,500 trained volunteers across Kerala who are pivotal in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) efforts. This focus is particularly relevant for Kerala, where the Aapda Mitra volunteers play a crucial role in disaster preparedness and response. Aapda Mitra serves as a model for integrating youth into DRR strategies.

Mr. Manoj K, the Deputy Collector of Disaster Management, Ernakulam delivered the welcome speech at IDRR Day Celebration. Mr. Vinod Raj, Additional District Magistrate, Ernakulam, delivered the presidential address, highlighting the importance of collective efforts in disaster risk reduction. Mr. Manoj Mootheden, District Panchayat President, inaugurated the event emphasizing the 2018 flood, Volunteer service, influence of youth and their importance. Mr. Harikumar K, District Fire Officer and Fire Rescue Services, Ernakulam shared valuable insights on Aapda Mitra volunteers' work and background.

Mr. Umesh N S K, IAS, Honorable District Collector and Chairman, District Disaster Management Authority Ernakulam, shared his experience Disaster management, drawing from his tenure as Sub Collector in Wayanad and in recognition of their exceptional contributions to disaster risk reduction efforts, 10 dedicated volunteers were honored with the Badge of Honour and Certificates. The recipients of the Badge of Honour and Certificates were

- Sabeer K B
- Sukesh P
- Nithin K
- Thara Renju

- Akshaya
- Nasiya N H
- Abdul Manaf
- Kiran K K
- Surabhi Suresh
- Rabeena K A

The other volunteers were awarded with certificates. The event also featured felicitations from esteemed dignitaries including Mr. Anjeet Singh, IAS, Assistant Collector shared his thoughts and discussed Disaster reduction and resilience. Mr. Abbas V E, Deputy Collector (R.R), delivered a heartfelt felicitation speech and praised the Aapda Mitra volunteers emphasizing their selfless dedication to disaster risk reduction efforts. Ms Nasiya N H and Akshaya, Aapda Mitra volunteers shared the challenges faced and their experiences and needs. The event was graced by distinguished officials Mr. Bibin Kumar, Deputy Collector (L.A), Ms. Rachel K Varghese, Deputy Collector (L.R), Mr. Manu Solaman, District Law Officer, Ms. Gayathri, Financial Officer, Mr. Anil Kumar Menon K, Huzoor Sheristadhar. Ms Anjaly Parameshwaran, District Hazard Analyst, Ernakulam delivered the vote of thanks at the event. She expressed gratitude to District Collector Umesh N S K, dignitaries, volunteers and participants for their presence and contributions.











