## Government of Tripura Directorate of Information & Cultural Affairs \*\*\*\*\*\*

S-6801 Agartala, 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2022

## Mega mock drill to combat earthquakes conducted in 8 districts of the state

Mega mock drill to combat earthquakes was held yesterday in 8 districts of the state under the initiative of the Revenue Department. Officers of the Indian Army, CRPF, BSF, Assam Rifles, Air Force, State Police along with state level and district administration officials participated in the mock drill. Retired Major General Sudhir Bhel, Adviser of National Disaster Management Authority, gave this information in a press conference organized at the Press Conference Hall of the Secretariat yesterday.

In the press conference, the adviser of the National Disaster Management Authority said that 5-6 places in each district were pre-arranged for conducting earthquake mock drills. Last morning at around 9:30 am, the earthquake drill started together in pre-determined places of 8 districts of the state. There were drills on what to do in case if an earthquake occurs. In order to make this exercise successful, a table top discussion was held under the supervision of the National Disaster Management Authority on October 18, 2022 at the video conference hall of the Secretariat. In this table top discussion, the relevant issues were reviewed through video conference with the stakeholders of District Disaster Management Authorities of 8 districts of the state. Essentially, the review meeting laid emphasis on preparedness, keeping all information up-to-date and proper planning. State Project Officer of Tripura State Disaster Management Authority Dr. Sarat Das, Joint Director of NDRF Naval Prakash were present at the meeting.

West Tripura District Magistrate Debapriya Bardhan informed in a press conference last evening that North Eastern region including Tripura is in Zone-5 among earthquake prone areas. So we have to be more aware. Earthquake drills were conducted in the entire state including West Tripura district yesterday to create awareness about this. The exercise was held at 6 places in West Tripura district. In a press conference, the District Magistrate of West Tripura district informed that the exercise was held from 9 am to 2 pm yesterday at two places each in Sadar, Jirania and Mohanpur subdivisions of the district. NDRF, BSF, CAPF, Assam Rifles, Police, TSR, Red Cross Society, Revenue Department participated in the exercise. The District Magistrate said that this kind of exercise was organized to prepare for the rescue and relief work after the earthquake. He thanked everyone for participating in this exercise.

Mock drill was held yesterday at Atal Bihari Vajpayee Regional Cancer Hospital and Dasharath Deb Memorial Tribal Guest House in Agartala to deal with earthquake. Additional District Magistrate Asim Saha, Second in Command of 18 Assam Rifles Arun Kumar, Sadar Sub-Divisional Magistrate Arup Deb and others were present in the exercise. In Mohanpur sub-division, Swami Vivekananda Mahavidyalaya and Mohanpur Municipal Council office also conducted an earthquake response mock drill. Mock drills were held yesterday at Old Agartala Block at Khayerpur of in Jirania Sub-division. In Amarpur sub-division, mock drills were held at sub-divisional office of youth affairs and sports, Sankar Palli high school and Chandibari field. Earthquake drills were conducted yesterday at 5 locations in South Tripura district. In Belonia sub-division, mock drill was conducted in Rajnagar panchayat.

Additional District Magistrate of North Tripura district Jayanta Dey informed in a press conference that in North Tripura district, 3 sub-divisions including Dharmanagar, Kanchanpur and Panisagar held mock drill at the same time to deal with earthquake. In the press conference, he said that the situation arising in these exercises has been dealt efficiently in the district. Areas where there are deficiencies are identified. Necessary steps will be taken to meet all these deficiencies in the coming days. Mock drill exercise was held at the Sub-Divisional Magistrate office of Kanchanpur sub-division of the district. In Dharmanagar sub-division, the exercise was held in the government residence of the sub-divisional administration and Dharmanagar government college in Nayapara. In Khowai district, mega earthquake mock drills were held at Subhash Park Kohinoor Complex, Khowai District Hospital, Dasarath Deb Memorial College, Sub-Divisional Magistrate Office. District Magistrate DK Chakma, Additional District Magistrate Sushanta Kumar Sarkar, Sub-Divisional Magistrate Bijay Sinha and others were present in the exercise.

In Bishalgarh Sub-division of Sepahijala district, mock drills were also held at 5 places. In Kamalpur sub-division, an earthquake drill was held at Kamalpur Government College. Sub-Divisional Magistrate Abhijit Chakraborty conducted the exercise in Kamalpur. Mock drill was also conducted in Karbook Sub-division along with the entire state. The exercise was held at Panjiham H.S School. In Chailengta sub-division, mock drill was held in the Sub-divisional Magistrate office premises. In Kumarghat sub-division, mock drill to deal with the earthquake started from PWD office. The exercise was held at the Kumarghat sub-divisional hospital and on the bridge over the Manu river at Fatikroy.

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