



स्वास्थ्य सेवा महानिदेशालय
निर्माण भवन
नई दिल्ली-110 011
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF HEALTH SERVICES
NIRMAN BHAWAN
NEW DELHI 110 011

DR. A.K.MUKHERJEE
DIRECTOR GENERAL

Dated 30th Jan..1993

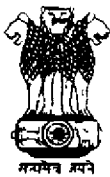
FOREWORD

This is for the first time that the Govt. of India (Ministry of Agriculture) is hosting the 4th Session of the Scientific and Technical Committee from 1st to 5th February, 1993. As we all know that General Assembly of United Nations has declared the current decade as International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction(IDNDR). For the concerted international action for reducing the occurrence and reducing the adverse impact of natural calamities, the specific goal of IDNDR is aimed at enhancing the capabilities of countries to face the challenge of natural disasters. In India, the focal point of IDNDR is the Ministry of Agriculture. For Health Sector preparedness there is a separate unit (Emergency Medical Services and Relief) under the Director General of Health Services in the Ministry of Health & F.W. The Emergency Medical Relief (EMR) is also working closely with WHO and over the past several years have developed activities within the framework of national programme.

The STC meeting will give an opportunity to expose the Indian Disaster Managers of Health Sector to look from close angle the planning process of STC so that they learn about Global activities and at the same time they will get an opportunity to present their preparedness plans and programmes to STC members. The planning and programmes of this decade in the direction of minimising the effect of natural disaster will go a long way and will help the humanity in general.

I wish all success to the Review and Planning Meeting and forthcoming S.T.C Meeting to be held in Delhi shortly.

(Dr A.K.Mukherjee)



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Dy. Asstt. Director General (EMR)

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Dr. B.K.Verma who is the Director, Emergency Medical Relief in the Directorate General of Health Services under the Ministry of Health and F.W has started the work of disaster management in health sector even before the General Assembly of United Nations declared this decade as International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction. Since then he has been tirelessly working in refining and improving the various aspects of health sector disaster management activities. He has set a new trial ablaze in this field which is being followed by the rest of us. He is instrumental in identifying various institutions in the country which in near future will be designated as WHO Collaborating Centres. He will be remembered for a long time to come in the Ministry for doing the original and innovative work in this field but at the same time I would like to point out that our programmes could not have succeeded without monetary support and moral support of W.H.O. and Dr K.Olavi Elo, WR (India), (Director Designate of IDNDR). He has been a moving spirit behind the whole movement of IDNDR in India. I am sure that he will be getting much more important positions and responsibilities to shoulder in United Nations so that IDNDR becomes a success. He will be remembered for all times to come in our Department as a manager who has been very active, enthusiastic and energetic in this field so much so that for us he has become a synonym with disaster management. He has fully devoted himself for the cause of IDNDR. We wish all success to him and to Dr. Verma towards fulfilling the goal of IDNDR.

This would be incomplete without mentioning the names of my Division people who have worked together to make it a success. Mr. C.K.Jain, Mr. R.Dayanandan, Mr. Santosh Kumar, Mr. S.L Prasad, Mrs. Sudha Jose, Mrs. Lalita Ailawadi, Mr. S.N.Mitra, Ms.Manju and last but not the least Mr. R.S.Kathuria have done excellent work in organising all the disaster related activities of our department.


(Dr. Brij Bhushan)

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