

Unit -3

Natural Hazards – Understanding of Disaster Management in Practice



Learning Objectives

- ❖ To understand the meaning of natural hazards and disaster
- ❖ To get familiarise with natural and man made disasters.
- ❖ To know about the disaster management and disaster management cycle
- ❖ To know several survival techniques



Introduction

Everyday almost all the newspapers and television news channels carry reports on Natural hazards and disasters that occur in several parts of the world. Neither all the hazards nor all the disasters can be preventable but the destruction can be minimized.

For better understanding, we must know, what is a Natural Hazard? What is a Disaster? What is Disaster Management? Let us learn about some important terminologies along with disaster management techniques.

Hazard

Generally, a hazard is a dangerous phenomenon, substance, human activity or condition that may cause loss of life, injury,

health impacts, property damage, livelihoods, services, social and economic disruption or environmental damage. Natural hazards are natural phenomenon that might have negative impact on human or the environment. Natural hazards are classified into two broad categories: Geophysical and biological.

Disaster

A disaster can be generally defined as “A serious disruption in the society causing widespread material, economic, social or environmental losses which exceed the ability of the affected society to cope using its own resources”. Disaster impacts may include loss of life, injury, disease and other negative effects on human physical, mental and social well-being, together with damage to property, destruction