

## Compliance Audits

### Compliance Audit on Disaster Management in the State

#### HOME DEPARTMENT

The Disaster Management (DM) Act, 2005, lays down the institutional framework for disaster management including disaster risk reduction at various levels, for drawing up the State and District plans for disaster management, integrating measures for disaster prevention and mitigation and makes necessary funding arrangements to be put in place by State Governments.

The DM Act, 2005 mandates the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) to lay down policies and guidelines for the statutory authorities to draw their plans. The NDMA formulated guidelines on various types of disasters and related issues.

*(Paragraph 2.3)*

The Compliance Audit on Disaster Management in the State, implemented by the Nagaland State Disaster Management Authority (NSDMA), covering the period 2014-19, revealed the following:

There was no planning activity for disaster management in the State. State Disaster Management Plan and the District Disaster Management Plans (2012-13) had not been approved by the State Authority. None of the State Departments had prepared and submitted their Disaster Management Plans for approval to the Nagaland State Disaster Management Authority.

*(Paragraphs 2.3.9.1 and 2.3.9.2)*

Structural designs of buildings in the State for protection against natural disasters of earthquake and others were not enforced as the State Government did not implement the Nagaland Building Bye Laws (NBBL) 2012.

*(Paragraph 2.3.9.4)*

The NSDMA has spent ₹ 327.57 crore against available funds of ₹ 351.05 crore during the period 2014-19. The un-spent funds at the end of each year had not been invested as per stipulated guidelines.

*(Paragraph 2.3.10.1)*

The State Executive Committee (SEC) budget allocation for various activities as notified in July 2017 was not as per the NDRF guidelines of the GoI. They had further diverted funds of ₹ 6.46 crore out of the SDRF during 2014-19 on salaries and travel expenses, which were not permissible and violation of the guidelines.

*(Paragraph 2.3.10.3)*

The State Government had not constituted District Disaster Response Fund and Disaster Mitigation Fund for both District and State as per Disaster Management Act, 2005, thereby impacting disaster response and mitigation activities at district level.

*(Paragraph 2.3.10.5)*

There were irregularities in 85 civil works executed by the NSDMA, noticed during joint physical verification by the audit, on account of doubtful works/unexecuted works and land development of private individuals in which cost involved was ₹ 60 crore.

*(Paragraph 2.3.11.1)*

The NSDMA and DDMA could conduct only one mock drill each in 2014-15 and 2018-19, 12 locations specific programmes and 36 training programmes, in order to create awareness for disaster preparedness in the State, indicating the need to step up awareness on disaster management amongst the citizens and government agencies. The NSDMA was yet to set up a proper communication augmentation plan with police/paramilitary authorities besides a dedicated alert or warning system for deployment during major disasters.

*(Paragraph 2.3.12.1)*

The State Emergency Operation Centre continue to operate from a rented building in Kohima since February 2017, without any video conferencing facilities. A State contingency plan and details of NGOs/responders to be contacted in event of disaster striking were not in place. At district level too, absence of facilities were noticed, reflecting ill preparedness of the NSDMA in event of disasters. The NSDMA had not updated the India Disaster Resource Network (IDRN), a nationwide platform for management of equipment/resources with the facilities available in the State.

*(Paragraphs 2.3.12.2 & 2.3.12.3)*

Thus the Nagaland State Disaster Management Authority was not adequately geared up to handle disasters in the State for want of plans and a robust organisation capable and fully equipped with manpower and equipment to deal with disasters.

## Compliance Audit Paragraphs

### FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Failure of the Drawing and Disbursing Officers and Treasury Officers to exercise prescribed checks resulted in fraudulent/double/excess drawal of ₹ 5.16 crore out of which ₹ 4.94 crore was yet to be recouped/ recovered.

Despite these instances being pointed out in previous C&AG Reports, the Finance Department have failed to take corrective action to strengthen the internal controls and checks to prevent such fraudulent withdrawal of funds from Treasuries. A series of recommendations have been made in the Report to plug these irregularities.

*(Paragraph 2.4)*