



Miranda House

UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

Society Annual Report

Society Activities

Society: Disaster Preparedness Team

Year: 2023-24

Student Office Bearers:

1. Vice President- Naimisha Verma
2. General Secretary- Haridra Bora
3. Treasurer- Sneha

Staff Advisors:

1. Prof. Rakhi Parijat
2. Dr. Ankita Medhi
3. Dr. Shipra Singh

Part A.1

Events/Seminars/conferences/workshops/Extension Activities organized

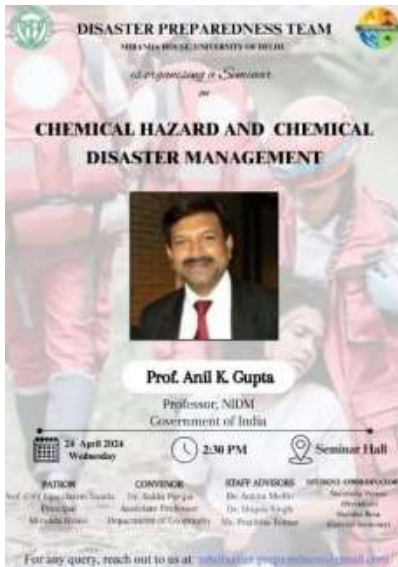
1. **SEMINAR ON “CHEMICAL HAZARD AND CHEMICAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT”**

Date- 24th April, 2024

Speaker- Prof. Anil K Gupta,
Professor, NIDM



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The Disaster Preparedness Team organized a distinguished speaker session led by Professor Anil K. Gupta at the National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM). The focus of the session was on "Chemical Hazard and Chemical Disaster Management." Emphasizing the principle that "prevention is better than cure," Professor Gupta underscored the significance of awareness and preparedness in mitigating the impacts of chemical disasters. By equipping participants with essential knowledge and strategies for managing chemical hazards, the session aimed to enhance safety, preparedness, and resilience.

Professor Gupta, renowned for his engaging presentation style, effectively employed humorous anecdotes to elucidate the complexities of chemical disaster management. This approach not only facilitated a deeper understanding among students but also highlighted the practical importance of proactive disaster management practices. The session underscored that an informed and prepared community is better positioned to avert and respond to potential chemical hazards, ultimately contributing to the broader goal of disaster risk reduction and public safety.



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1. SEMINAR ON “WOMEN’S LEADERSHIP AND ROLE IN DISASTER RISK REDUCTION”

Date- 14th March, 2024 Day-

Thursday

Speaker- Mr Rajendra Singh, Member, NDMA; Former Director General, Indian Coast Guard





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The seminar on “Women’s Leadership and Role in Disaster Risk Reduction” featured Mr. Rajendra Singh, a distinguished Member of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and former Director General of the Indian Coast Guard, as the keynote speaker. Mr. Singh provided valuable insights into the significant role of women in disaster risk reduction and their leadership in shaping effective disaster management strategies. The seminar aimed to highlight successful women-led initiatives and explore how women's perspectives can be integrated into disaster management practices. Major insights from Mr Singh’s lecture involved the following-

On August 11, 2024, discussions highlighted that, despite substantial funding and comprehensive plans from the NDMA and state governments, challenges persist in disaster management, particularly in urban flooding and landslides. In Delhi, urban flooding has worsened due to the conversion of water bodies into residential areas. Recent Yamuna floods, driven by climate change, resulted in workspace closures and livelihood losses. Emphasizing professional input in construction, learning from past disasters, and fostering community involvement are crucial for effective disaster management. Continuous sharing of experiences and maintaining a culture of preparedness are essential.

Alongside the lecture, the seminar also included the presentation on “Floods in Delhi, 2023- A Case Study of Urban Flooding” by the interns of Centre For Environmental Studies and Disaster Management (CESDM).

1. SASHAKTH- THE ANNUAL FEST

Dates- 5th February, 2024 Day-

Monday

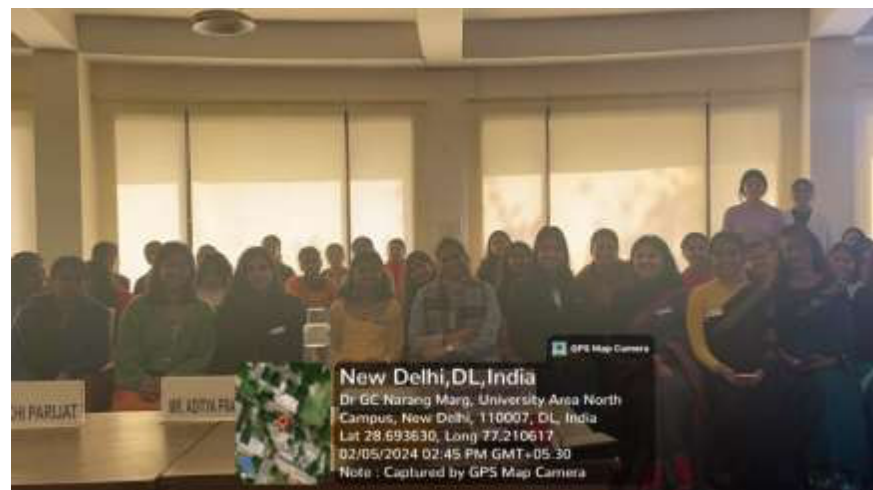
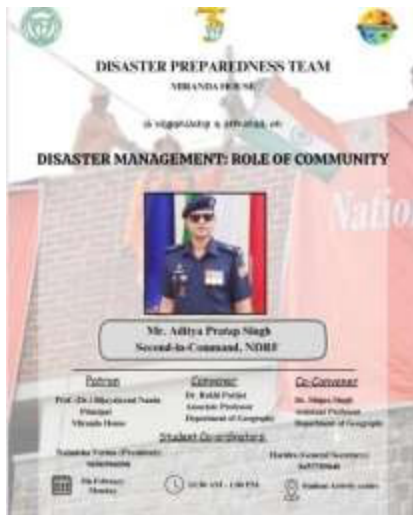
Events-

- Lecture on “Disaster Management: Role of Community” by Mr. Aditya Pratap Singh (SECOND-IN- COMMAND, NDRF)
- Career Counselling Session on “Disaster Studies” by Miss Jnanita Asapu

(Alumni of Miranda House, and former president of DPT MH and is currently pursuing Disaster Studies as specialisation from JNU)



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The Disaster Preparedness Team (DPT) of Miranda House successfully organized its annual



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fest, SASHAKTH, on February 5, 2024, from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM. The event commenced with an inspiring speaker session at 11:30 AM, which continued until 1:30 PM. The keynote address was delivered by Mr. Aditya Pratap Singh, Second in Command of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF).

Mr. Singh was felicitated by our esteemed teacher and guide, Ms. Rakhi Parijat, who presented him with a gift as a token of gratitude. Mr. Singh emphasized the need for integrating disaster preparedness into the education system, advocating for its inclusion as a subject to foster awareness and vigilance among young leaders. He shared insights from his extensive experience in managing crises, including the Kerala floods of 2018 and the Shakeri building collapse. Mr. Singh described the critical response measures during the Shakeri building collapse, highlighting the importance of staying calm, being alert, and knowing basic safety norms. He provided practical advice for disaster scenarios, such as avoiding lifts during earthquakes and seeking shelter under sturdy objects. Following the speaker session, we conducted a career counseling session led by a senior student from Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU). The session emphasized the importance of ambitious career goals and the value of internships for gaining knowledge and experience. The fest also featured a variety of engaging activities, including a photography competition with the theme "Surviving in Risk – The Disasters of Everyday Life," an online quiz competition titled "Crisis Chronicles – Tales of Preparedness and Response," a treasure hunt named "Rescue Race: First Edition," and cultural performances. The photography competition showcased participants' skills and creativity, while the quiz tested general knowledge and current affairs related to disaster management. The treasure hunt involved finding clues hidden throughout the college, and the cultural performances included solo dance, solo singing, and group dance.

1. SELF DEFENCE WORKSHOP

Date- 29th and 30th November, 2023

Day- Wednesday and Thursday



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The Disaster Preparedness Team of Miranda House, Delhi University, organized an engaging two-day workshop on self-defence on November 29th and 30th, 2023. The workshop was held from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM each day in the sports lawns area and was led by women police officers Anshu and Rinku from the Office of the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Special Police Unit for Women and Children, Nanakpura, Moti Bagh, New Delhi. The event was attended by students from various courses within the college.

The police officers provided an overview of the importance of self-defence, emphasizing that it is crucial for managing intense situations and gaining the confidence needed to control potentially dangerous circumstances. They highlighted that self-defence skills are beneficial for individuals of all ages, promoting confidence, health, positivity, and stress reduction. Following a warm-up exercise, the officers demonstrated several self-defence techniques, including executing effective punches, standing kicks, and defensive maneuvers for use in various scenarios such as public transport. Participants practiced different blocking techniques and learned to target vulnerable areas of an attacker, such as the eyes, nose, and throat, for maximum impact. Techniques for escaping from an attacker's grip and the importance of adopting a bold, loud, and courageous stance were also covered. The workshop underscored the significance of both physical and mental health in self-defence. The involvement of the police officers, embodying the spirit of "Nari Shakti" (Women Power), provided an empowering and invaluable experience for all attendees.



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1. ABILITY WEEK CELEBRATION

Date-29th November, 2023 Day-

Wednesday

Collaborators- Agamy, The Mentor Mentee Club for Social Outreach



On November 29, 2023, the Disaster Preparedness Team (DPT), in collaboration with Agamy, the mentor-mentee club of Miranda House, celebrated Ability Week with a significant event. The occasion was honored by the presence of students from Shiv Nadar School, Noida, who were accompanied by Ms. Shakti Pandya.

The event featured a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation and a skit, both designed to enhance understanding of disaster management practices. The PowerPoint presentation provided an in-depth exploration of essential do's and don'ts during crises. It underscored the importance of preparedness, effective response strategies, and the actions required to mitigate the impacts of disasters. Key topics included planning ahead, maintaining communication, and executing safety protocols. The skit served as a practical demonstration, bringing to life the principles outlined in the presentation. Through dramatized scenarios, it depicted both appropriate and inappropriate responses during various disaster situations, thereby offering a vivid illustration of correct procedures and common mistakes. This interactive approach aimed to reinforce the critical lessons of disaster management by vividly portraying real-life applications. The collaboration between DPT and Agamy, combined with the engaging contributions from Shiv Nadar School, significantly enhanced the educational impact of the



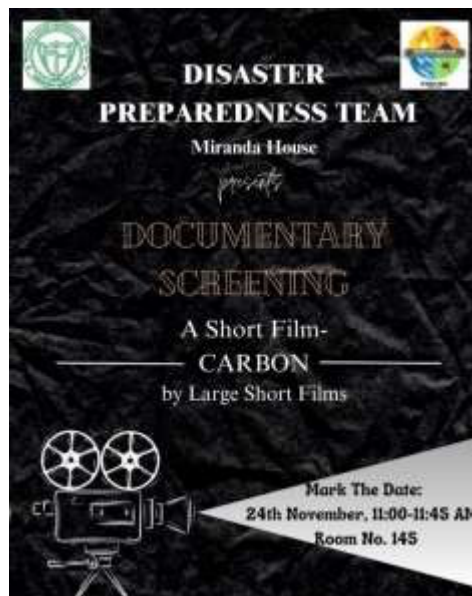
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event, fostering greater awareness and preparedness among participants.

2. DOCUMENTARY SCREENING ON “CARBON-THE STORY OF TOMORROW”

Date- 24th November, 2023 Day-

Friday



Disaster Preparedness Team organised a Film Screening of the short film, ‘Carbon: THE STORY OF TOMORROW’, by Royal Stag on 24th November, 2023 from 11:45 to 12:55 PM in room number 145, Miranda House. This short film by Maitrey Bajpai and Ramiz Ilham Khan was screened and attended by a large gathering of students .

This Indian Hindi-language science fiction short film was based on global warming. It stars Jacky Bhagnani, Nawazuddin Siddiqui and Prachi Desai. The film is set in 2067, in an Earth where carbon is in abundance, and oxygen is supplied by industries. Bhagnani plays a man with an artificial heart and Siddiqui plays the role of a man from Mars and Desai plays a robot. The film was released on the YouTube channel of LargeShort Films. The whole movie revolves around the prevailing environmental issues in Delhi. The film showcases scarcity of oxygen and water and its adverse effects on the environment and the forthcoming generations. This



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futuristic film portrays a scenario where there will be a dearth of oxygen and only carbon will prevail.

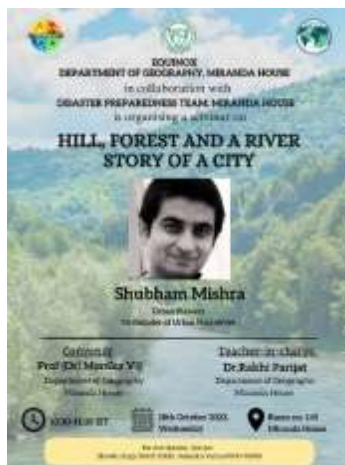
1. SEMINAR ON “HILL, FOREST AND A RIVER STORY OF A CITY”

Date- 18th October, 2023 Day-

Wednesday

Collaborator- Department of Geography, Miranda House

Speaker- Shubham Mishra, Urban Planner



On October 18, 2023, the Department of Geography and the Disaster Preparedness Team hosted a seminar titled "Hill, Forest, and River: The Story of a City." The event featured Mr. Shubham Mishra, Urban Planner and Co-founder of Urban Narratives, known for his expertise in urban space. Guided by Prof. (Dr.) Monika Vij and Dr. Rakhi Parijat, the seminar provided an insightful overview of urban challenges and future prospects. Mr. Mishra discussed the need for sustainable development, addressing issues such as congestion and environmental concerns, and proposed practical solutions including community engagement and smart infrastructure. The presentation was both thought-provoking and informative, enhancing attendees' understanding of urban planning and sustainability.

2. ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION

Theme- G20 Outcomes: Climate Change, Sustainability And Disaster Risk Reduction

The Disaster Preparedness Team recently organized an essay writing competition centered on



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the theme "G20 Outcomes: Climate Change, Sustainability, and Disaster Risk Reduction." This initiative aimed to raise awareness among students about the critical issues addressed in the G20 conference, particularly focusing on climate change, sustainability, and disaster risk management.

The competition saw enthusiastic participation from students, who demonstrated their understanding and perspectives on these pressing global topics. The essays provided valuable insights into how the G20 outcomes can influence policies and actions related to climate change and disaster risk reduction.

The winners of the competition are: Preksha

Rao - 1st Place

Prapti Das - 2nd Place
Bhawna

- 3rd Place

The poster is for an essay writing competition organized by the Disaster Preparedness Team at Miranda House. It features a green and yellow color scheme. At the top, it says "DISASTER PREPAREDNESS TEAM MIRANDA HOUSE" with the university logo on the left and a globe on the right. Below this, it states "is organizing an ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION on 'G20 Outcomes: Climate Change, Sustainability and Disaster Risk Reduction'". A quill pen icon is on the left. The "DEADLINE" is 30th September and the "Word Limit" is 100 - 150 words. On the right, there is an illustration of a hand holding a quill. Below the illustration, it lists: "Winners will get digital certificate and shoutout on Instagram.", "Plagiarism will not be entertained.", and "Open to all students of Miranda House". At the bottom, it says "Submit your entries at : DPT.PRESIDENT@MIRANDAHOUSE.AC.IN" and provides contact information for Nainisha Verma (President) and Haridra Bora (Gen-sec).

1. FRESHERS' ORIENTATION



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Date- 25th October, 2023 Day-

Wednesday



On 25th October, 2023, the Disaster Preparedness Team hosted an online orientation session designed specifically for freshers, addressing the crucial topic of disaster preparedness. This virtual event was conducted via Google Meet, utilizing the platform's capabilities to effectively reach and engage new students. It involved making the freshmen aware of working of DPT and how they can contribute towards making the society more disaster prepared.

1. WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY OBSERVATION

Date- 5th June, 2023 Day-

Monday

Events-

- Lecture on "Decoding Breast Cancer-Challenges & Sustainable Solutions" by Dr. Lopamudra Das Roy, (MS, Ph.D., MBA, Founder and President, Breast Cancer Hub)
- Quiz Competition
- Photography Competition
- Slogan Writing Competition

Dr. Lopamudra Das Roy, Founder and President of Breast Cancer Hub, delivered a special lecture titled "Decoding Breast Cancer Challenges and Sustainable Solutions." Dr. Das Roy, an esteemed expert with degrees in MS, Ph.D., and MBA, provided a comprehensive overview of breast cancer, addressing its epidemiology, risk factors, and underlying biological mechanisms.



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The lecture identified key challenges in breast cancer management, including issues with early detection, treatment disparities, and the need for holistic patient support. She emphasized the importance of policy advocacy and collaborative efforts in future breast cancer research and care. The session concluded with an interactive discussion, where attendees explored emerging research and practical applications, providing valuable insights into addressing breast cancer effectively.



1. VOLUNTEERING EVENTS- Crowd Management

The members of DPT have been consistently and ardently involved in various volunteering events specially those targeted towards Crowd Management. It's members have been actively engaged with managing crowds in events like-

- Tempest, Annual Fest of Miranda House
- Election of MHSU and DUSU
- Alumni Meet



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- Fresher





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