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**WEBINAR ON NATIONAL YOUTH DAY**  
**ROLE OF YOUTH IN**  
**DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

January 12, 2022

Zone4solutions





## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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Indian adolescents (10-19 years) and young adults (16-24 years) have the fifth highest average age in the world (10-24 years). It is critical to invest in this generation in order to benefit from the nation's demographic dividend. To appreciate the energy of this population group, it is critical to comprehend the reality of young India. We must not undervalue the great amount of energy that youngsters possess, nor their potential to come up with unique ideas that adults have not considered. Through youth engagement in disaster preparedness and recovery operations, we can help spread the word about the significance of disaster preparedness, and the skills they learn will be beneficial to your community for a long time.

We attempted to address the needs of young people and the importance of their engagement in DRR at this event. It emphasises that in order to fully meet the needs of youth in a rapidly globalising world and enable the country to benefit from the demographic dividend, policymakers, programme implementers, researchers, and family members of young people will need to work together to ensure that the full potential of youth in India is realised. We have speakers from around the nation and from different sector to discuss these issues. At the outset, I would like to express our sincere thanks to the honourable Chief guest Mr. Rajender Singh, *Member, NDMA* and Prof. Dr. Anil Kumar Gupta, *NIDM, Government of India*. I also thank the imminent speakers, Er. Awdhesh Kumar, *Asst. Professor, Invertis University, India*; RJ Rohan, *FM Radio*; Mr. Ashutosh Nema, *Programme Coordinator, Kailash Satyarthi Children Foundation*; and RJ Shashi, *Radio Mirchi, Patna* for enriching technical sessions.

It gives me immense pleasure in acknowledging the cooperation and I extend my gratitude to Er. Awdhesh Kumar as programme's National Coordinator, Ms. Tanushree Verma, Head (Training and Research), Zone4solutions who immensely moderated the webinar and the supporting staff of Zone4Solutions and the audience as without them it would not have been possible to organize the webinar.

Mr. Nakul Kumar Tarun  
*Director, Zone4solutions*



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## INTRODUCTION

A disaster occurs when a community's usual functioning is disrupted unexpectedly and severely, resulting in human, economic, physical, livelihood, and environmental losses and consequences that exceed the community's ability to cope (UNISDR, 2009). On the other hand, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) is the concept and practice of reducing disaster risks through systematic efforts to analyse and manage disaster causal factors, such as reduced exposure to hazards, proactive approach to people and property vulnerability reduction, smart land and environmental management, and improved preparedness for adverse events (UNISDR, 2009). This includes:

- In the local community, create a disaster coping and resilient culture.
- Integrate shared interests and experiences connected to youth-led processes across the community, authorities, and agencies. Level.
- Consider local perceptions of risk and risk response capabilities.
- Build local DRR skills and competences for existing and future risks.
- Give local actors more control over the management and settlement of their issues.
- Incorporated of DRR initiatives in into development plans and budgets; institutional strengthening for the same.

For this, community active participation is essential in order to integrally manage the risks and their impacts at the community level (CBDRR) because communities are at the front lines of disasters, they are the first and most affected by the disaster's negative impacts, but they are also the most benefitted from risk reduction. The Youth-Led Initiative for DRR is a sort of CBDRR that strives to empower young people by improving skills, establishing an environment that allows them to develop their competencies, and promoting active engagement in families and communities to decrease disaster risks and consequences. Not only that, but the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, which aim to eradicate poverty, protect the planet, and assure equality and prosperity by balancing and coordinating the social, economic, and environmental components of sustainable development, place the young people at the centre. Other frameworks such as the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the Istanbul Declaration and Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020, the Small Island Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action Pathway, the New Urban Agenda, and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, World Programme of Action for Youth also promote youth participation and guide the development of youth policies.



Figure 1: SDGs related to youth engagement



## 1.1. WHAT ROLE DOES YOUTH PLAY IN DISASTER RISK REDUCTION?

According to the United Nations, "children" are those under the age of 14 and "youth" are those between the ages of 15 and 24. India has the world's greatest young population, with over 66 percent of the population (about 808 million) under the age of 35. Nearly 40% of India's population is between the ages of 13 and 35, classified as youth under the National Youth Policy. Youth participation in DRR procedures will benefit them, their families, and their communities by increasing patriotism, leadership skills, social integration, network building, and better-prepared citizens. In this regard, it is obvious that the local community may play an important role in disaster risk reduction. With their potential characteristics such as knowledge, creativity, observation capacity, energy, excitement, agency power, teaming capability, new ideas, and social networks, plans and strategies youth engagement will further ensure long-term investments and sustainability. Furthermore, youth can operate through both informal and formal risk communication networks, serving as both suppliers and users of risk information, which is a valuable attribute, hence, they can absorb and communicate new information as communicators very effectively. Other than this, young population can provide support in many other DRR activities, such as:

<b>Assessing community vulnerabilities, risks, and capacities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify hazards, risks, threats</li> <li>• Identify the causes and impact of the risks</li> <li>• Collecting socio-economic and demographic data</li> <li>• Mapping the vulnerabilities and capacities of the community</li> <li>• Identifying the concerned stakeholders</li> <li>• Monitoring the activities</li> </ul>
<b>Preparedness and mitigation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating evacuation plans</li> <li>• Community drills</li> <li>• Generate community awareness and hazard education in schools</li> <li>• Potential Risk Communication</li> <li>• Providing disaster and climate resilient ideas for livelihood, infrastructure</li> </ul>
<b>Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Warning Dissemination</li> <li>• Immediate risk communications</li> <li>• Resource mobilization</li> <li>• Assistance in emergency response</li> </ul>
<b>Recovery and rehabilitation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resource mobilization</li> <li>• Search and Rescue</li> <li>• Providing aid and resources</li> <li>• Peer counselling</li> <li>• Assisting in construction of resilient infrastructure</li> </ul>
<b>Environmental Protection</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organizing campaigns</li> <li>• Environmental volunteering</li> </ul>
<b>Others</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reflecting on pre-existing designs, strategies, results</li> <li>• Critical thinking, data analysis and interpretation</li> </ul>

## 1.2. BARRIERS FOR YOUTH ENGAGEMENT IN DRR INITIATIVES

To get the greatest results from DRR interventions in youth involvement, it's important to understand their perspectives, concerns, and what they accept in order to properly orient them. In this direction, there might be:

<b>Lack of knowledge and capacity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Absence of disaster and climate related knowledge</li> <li>• No access to DRR related training, materials, and skill development related activities</li> <li>• Lack of resourceful infrastructure</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of primary, secondary, and higher secondary education facilities</li> </ul>
<b>Community Support</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of family support</li> <li>• Lack of learning environment</li> <li>• No community support</li> </ul>
<b>Lack of willingness and response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Insufficient willingness to provide community services</li> <li>• Insufficient financial resources</li> <li>• No access to tools, networks, and funds</li> </ul>
<b>Other Issues</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unemployment</li> <li>• Poverty</li> <li>• Health concerns</li> <li>• Gender equality and security</li> <li>• Lack of Career counselling/vocational training</li> <li>• Substance abuse</li> <li>• Lack of basic amenities</li> <li>• Child labour</li> </ul>

During the COVID-19 Pandemic, the youngsters, particularly those from low-income families, were the worst impacted. The lockdowns and other travel restrictions has also slowed young Indians' progress toward economic independence, since rising rates of youth unemployment have afflicted the Indian economy in recent years. Prior to the pandemic, unemployment in the 15–23-year-old age bracket was at 25%, compared to 6% overall. The pandemic has also widened socioeconomic disparities and forced millions of students to drop out of school. Because of these difficulties, the youthful population may become a burden. As a result, engaged adults are needed to strengthen the youth engagement process by acting as facilitators, models, advisers, or leaders, as well as supporting and guiding them. This can be done by informing, consulting, involving, collaborating, and empowering the youth.

Lastly, all responsibilities pertaining to youth revolve around their role as responsible citizens. Every individual employed in some capacity, whether a doctor, engineer, trader, farmer, or gatekeeper, should execute his or her job thoroughly. In terms of the possibilities and resources available, the ecosystem has become most favourable for Indian youth. India's youth population been so huge, and there will never be a time when they have so much potential to transform the country's face. Youth should also actively support and initiate DRR and development initiatives at this point for the benefit of today's and tomorrow's worlds.



## WEBINAR SUMMARY

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### 2.1. RATIONALE OF THE SESSION

National Youth Day is celebrated on the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda all over India. Every year, the National Youth Day Celebration inspires the younger generation to come up with innovative ideas and plans to make India a developed nation. Consistently, the National Youth Day Celebration moves all the young people of the nation towards the way of thinking of Swami Vivekananda and his thoughts. This day means to create everlasting energy among youth to empower them for large endeavours towards the advancement of the nation. His methods of reasoning, instructing, and thoughts are an incredible social resource for India. It is celebrated to inspire all the youth of the country towards the philosophy of Swami Vivekananda and his ideas. This day aims to generate eternal energy among youth to encourage them for big efforts towards the development of the country. His philosophies, teaching, and ideas are a great cultural asset for India.

Empowering young people is the world's best chance of building resilient communities as they comprise the largest and most interconnected generation in history. Yet, young people are particularly vulnerable to disasters. Contributing as powerful change actors and resilience-builders, young people must be part of disaster risk reduction activities. Acknowledging their capacity to influence decision making processes on behalf of their communities and their ability to communicate and bring meaningful change in behaviour and attitudes, UNDRR supports and harnesses the energy and motivation of youth to find solutions to risk and participate in disaster risk reduction for enhanced resilience, aligned with the UN Strategy (UNDRR).

Youth are the fundamental source of community strength and resilience that exists in all societies throughout the world. Various global, regional frameworks also acknowledged the roles of youth volunteers in disaster risk reduction including SFDRR, GFDRR. In the Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR) 2016, which was held in New Delhi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India enlisted 10-point agenda in 2016 and emphasized upon building local capacity. National Disaster Management Plan, 2019 also strongly emphasizes upon the role of volunteers in risk reduction and strengthening their skills with adequate training and capacity building. The Government of India recognizes the need to evolve a participatory process of decision making in disaster management with the active involvement of volunteers like NYKS, NSS, Aapda Mitra, Bharat Scout & Guide, and Civil Defence as they largest pool of grass root level youth organizations and thus promote "development cadre of trained youth volunteers".

Zone4solution organized a Webinar on National Youth Day (12th January 2022) and the role of youth in Disaster Risk Reduction. The webinar was attended by school and college-going students, NYKS, NSS, Aapda Mitra, Bharat Scout & Guide, and Civil Defence to discuss the role of youth in DRR.

#### 2.1.1. SESSION OBJECTIVES

The webinar aimed to shed light on the inclusive lens to explore pathways and considers, through the voices of eminent speakers across the globe, to understand the complexities of implementing effective disaster risk reduction (DRR) in schools comprising children with



disabilities. Besides that, it also identifies obstacles and offers technical recommendations to deal with the same problem. The objectives are mentioned below:

- Youth as a change agent of society- Motivational speech
- Policy, Programme, and Scheme for the welfare of youth in India.
- Mainstreaming youth in DRR – Issues and challenges.
- Youth and Social development – case studies

## 2.2. SESSION PROCEEDINGS

### 2.2.1. WELCOME ADDRESS: MR. NAKUL KUMAR TARUN, DIRECTOR, ZONE4SOLUTIONS



Figure 2: Welcome Address by Mr. Tarun

Mr. Nakul Kumar Tarun, director of Zone4Solutions, opened the event by welcoming the distinguished speakers, guests, and audience. In his speech, he noted that the youth of this country inspire us to work better; that is what the webinar is all about. India is home to one-fifth of the world's adolescents and young people, based on the 2011 Census. The youth mainly work in the technology and innovation sectors, contributing to the growth of a nation. The Indian government is dedicated to meeting the diverse needs of young people. The National Youth Policy, the National Population Policy 2000, lay the groundwork for youth. However, effective policy and programme implementation has been challenging, and there has been a lack of comprehensive evidence on the circumstances and needs of young people. The only issue is how to channelize youth energy for constructive changes around the nation and globe. Thus, it is important to make the youth productive, providing them with leadership so that we can reach the goal of USD 120-160 billion FDI each year till 2025.

In the future, we will continue to see an increase in the frequency and intensity of disasters. In order to reduce economic losses, it is important to share the burden with the youth and prepare them for the future. There is a need for all to come together to educate the youth about DM and



DRR. On the one hand, youth as changemakers can aid in disaster preparedness and disaster risk reduction, while on the other, they can provide employment in the disaster management sector.

**2.2.2. INAUGURAL ADDRESS: MR. RAJENDER SINGH**

*Member, National Disaster Management Authority( NDMA), Government of India*

**KEY TAKEAWAYS**

- Youth are the leaders of tomorrow and hence, our responsibility today. They have the capacity and knowledge, just need guidance. As an example. Kerala model, in which 13 lakh volunteers (one for every ten people) monitor their health and comprehend their problems.
- Remembering Swami Vivekananda, Mr. Singh emphasised that an inclusive education system is necessary for children's entire growth and knowledge of our value system, societal duties, and capacity building are all part of this.
- He mentioned that National Policy on Disaster Management, 2009 recognized the pivotal role played by volunteerism and encouraged it at all levels such as NCC (14 lakh nationwide), NSS (38 lakhs nationwide), etc.
- Mr. Singh appreciated the work done by skilled youth and volunteers during the COVID-19 pandemic inspiring all to educate the youth and children for a secure, self-reliant, and sustainable India with a motto 'Swachh Bharat, Shikshit Bharat'.
- Finally, he complimented Zone4Solutions efforts and urged the organisation to host a webinar for volunteers around the country.



Figure 3: Mr. Singh addressing the audience

**2.2.3. KEYNOTE ADDRESS: PROF. DR. ANIL KUMAR GUPTA**

*Head,ECDRM,Division,National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM), Government of India*

**KEY TAKEAWAYS**

- Prof. Gupta firstly compliments the organization about the theme.
- Swami Vivekananda has given us four pillars: power, wisdom, serenity, and spirituality. Prof. Gupta stated that youth is power, therefore, it's critical to encourage youth, young professionals, and volunteers to think outside the box to disrupt and innovate in the field of disaster risk reduction and risk management especially in CBDRR.
- Youth are the core and strength of the CBDRR, especially in disaster preparedness and response as volunteers. They work during golden hour therefore; their strengthening (learning new skills, new methods) is important.
- He also stressed on disaster education, school safety, and a safe campus as important for DRR programmes aimed at and managed by young professionals.



Figure 4: Prof. Gupta addressing the audience



- Prof. Gupta enlightened the audience that WHO has redefined and categorized youth: early youth, grownup youth, adult youth and functionally youth.
- Extreme hydro-meteorological events have become more common, and there are several reasons to believe that such recurrent occurrences are the result of climate change, which is the sour fruit of conventional, unscientific, and irrational development strategies. It goes without saying that the non-conventional and out-of-the-box trends are the need of the hour. The youth, young professionals, and those who follow the actual meaning of volunteerism (Apda Mitra: Trained Volunteers in each district of India) have the capacity to do so.

#### 2.2.4. WEBINAR SESSIONS

##### SESSION 1: POLICY, PROGRAMME, AND SCHEME FOR THE WELFARE OF YOUTH IN INDIA

RESOURCE PERSON: ER. AWADHESH KUMAR

*Assistant Professor, Deptt. of Civil Engineering, Invertis University, Uttar Pradesh, India*

##### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Er. Awdhesh initiated the discussion by giving a brief overview of disasters, classifying them, and defining DRR as the process of decreasing risk as much as feasible. He introduced the global international disaster resilience frameworks such as HFA (2005-2015), SFDRR (2015-2030) intended to accomplish a significant decrease in disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods, and health, as well as in the economic, physical, social, cultural, and environmental assets of individuals, enterprises, communities, and nations, during the time period specified through capacity building, policy and advocacy, youth action and knowledge management; SDGs setting out a vision to combat poverty, hunger, disease and disasters (10 out of 17 goals are in the view with DRR).
- Er. Awdhesh stated that youth can be recognized as an asset for disaster prevention and reducing vulnerabilities in two folds:
  - Recognizing that youth have assets; and
  - Recognizing that youth collectively can be an asset to development at local, regional, national, and international levels.
- The fact that disasters are collaboratively affecting each region of the globe and the threats are real is no longer a surprise for the youth. Therefore, recognizing them as victims misses the vast potential of their unique and collective capacities to drive solutions. They can take actions to reduce disaster risks at school, home and in their communities as recognized by NDMA. Rural youth can play a pivotal role in developing a distinct DM strategy through awareness generation, mapping the risks and vulnerabilities, developing preparedness mechanisms, etc.
- He also focuses on the distinct PM 10 Point Agenda for DRR, pointing out Agenda 6 i.e. develop a network of universities to work on disaster issues as they have social responsibilities. He also mentioned that IUINDRR-NIDM was created specifically to support this cause.
- By shedding light on the statistics related to the youth population Mr. Kumar pointed out that according to different definitions of 'youth', India has the largest young population in the world. According to India's definition of young (15-30-year age group), youth



Figure 5: Er. Awdhesh Addressing The Audience



population signifying 27% of the population; looking at China's definition of young (15–35-year age group), 35% of the young population contributes to the Indian population; and according to UN's definition of young (15–25-year age group), 18% of India's population is youth.

- He also emphasised that though the armed forces play a major role in disaster recovery, national volunteers, Red Cross Youth, NCC, NSS, NYKS also have important responsibilities in handling disasters as first responders. He mentioned that the aim of these groups was to develop leadership, comradeship to serve people and provide a disciplined force of trained manpower for national emergencies.
- Additionally, Er. Awdhesh discussed strategies to motivate youth to take climate change action and ways to engage in disaster risk reduction. This includes engagement of youth in all phases of DM, natural resource management at the regional level, establishing institutional linkages to promote youth engagement, use of IT, communication technology and media to promote and connect volunteers, setting up a youth technical advisory board, strengthening the network of private organizations, NGOs and CSOs to promote volunteerism, developing a robust monitoring and evaluation plan and mobilizing resources for it, designing community-based DM strategies and implementing them with the involvement of the young population.
- Furthermore, he discussed four approaches for youth DRR education such as online, offline campaigns, e-learning; participatory learning for vulnerability and capacity assessments, DM planning, implementing the risk reduction measures, monitoring plans at organizational, community and household levels; informal education to establish social and behavioural change, and formal school level interventions including school DM plan, the conceptualization of DM, DRR and climate change in the school curriculum etc to support and develop capacity within the existing public education systems.
- Lastly, he urged that our skilled youth are our strengths. They can promote resilience through their participation in community activities and by organizing youth groups. Furthermore, there is a need for a Disaster Mitigation and Management Cell to monitor and coordinate the line departments, equipped with infrastructure to provide simulative training to youth volunteers in DM.

## SESSION 2: ISSUES AND CHALLENGES OF YOUTH DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

RESOURCE PERSON: RJ ROHAN

93.5 Red FM-Bajaate Raho

### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- RJ Rohan emphasised that due to COVID-19, youth have faced many issues, especially considering mental health. The young population is restricted from free movement by lockdowns and other measures, which have led to their limited mobility, anxiety, and depression.
- Further, he outlines a few other factors contributing to the problem, such as the inability to learn new skills outdoors, the increase in unemployment, the rise in price, and social disconnection from friends



Figure 6: RJ Rohan addressing the audience



and family. In contrast, he observed, this situation provided some start-ups with an opportunity to grow and unite the community. Therefore, it is time for us to motivate others in a right way to familiarize with the emergencies and be prepared.

- According to RJ Rohan, these situations have caused acute panic, anxiety, obsessive behaviours, paranoia, and depression in young people, preventing them from expressing or displaying their creativity in an appropriate manner.
- Hence, it is imperative that youth are involved in activities that let them express their emotions and creativity and one of the best ways to do so is to engage in indoor activities and engage in social interactions. Pandemics and disasters provide valuable learning opportunities to us and we should adapt to these changes.
- In addition, he noted that youth-led activities should be carefully planned so that youth are not overburdened with responsibilities and responsibilities that we all should face.
- In the view of disaster management, youth power is essential. Effective qualities such as the ability to influence and convey messages; observation skills, creativity, and enthusiasm; but overall, the agency power of the young population is what we need.
- We've all been affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic. Some people have lost loved ones, while others have lost their jobs, homes, or have been infected with COVID. As a result, he encouraged us all (as young) to come together in order to confront the COVID-19 Pandemic and improve the situation. We are change agents, and we should not be affected by the problems.

### SESSION 3: YOUTH AS A CHANGE AGENT OF SOCIETY- MOTIVATIONAL SPEECH

RESOURCE PERSON: MR. ASHUTOSH NEMA

*Programme Coordinator, Kailash Satyarthi Children Foundation*

#### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Mr. Nema commenced his discussion with Kailash Satyarthi's quote, 'The power of youth is the commonwealth for the entire world. The faces of young people are the faces of our past, our present and our future. No segment of society can match the power, idealism, enthusiasm and courage of the young people.'
- He expressed worry that while there are systems in place to address social concerns such as child labour, discrimination, starvation, child fatalities, violence and sexual abuse, and child rights, these mechanisms are insufficient. As a community, we have a responsibility to assist those in need. This can be expressed as voluntarism.
- He presented a few case stories to help the audience understand the impact of COVID on young people and possible solutions:
  - Child Welfare, Delhi: The children were abandoned, orphaned, and in need of foster care during COVID-19 because their parents died of Coronavirus. The Kailash Satyarthi Children Foundation assisted these children with the help of state governments (such as the Delhi Child Welfare Fund), which was eventually recognised and a national policy was developed, such as the PM CARES for Children scheme, which supports children who have lost both parents or a surviving parent, legal guardian, or adoptive parents due to the COVID-19



Figure 7: Mr. Nema addressing the audience



- pandemic, and care and protection under the provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.
- COVID Appropriate Behaviour, Bihar: Volunteers from the Kailash Satyarthi Children Foundation educate a village in Bihar about COVID-19 and encourage people to be vaccinated. Consequently, the entire community was vaccinated, and the inhabitants now encourage the vaccination of children.
  - Child Care Institution, Rajasthan: Masks were made and provided for the village in the Alwar district by volunteers from the Kailash Satyarthi Children Foundation and children from the care centre to help the people at the emergency peak.
  - Finally, to emphasise the notion that an individual may become a leader and begin activities for the development of society through volunteerism. Mr. Nema also spoke on the Kailash Satyarthi Children Foundation's history, underlining the importance of international child protection policy and legislation leading to the formulation of ILO Convention No. 182 calls for the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, which includes slavery, forced labour and trafficking. It forbids the use of children under 18 in armed conflict, prostitution, pornography, illicit activities such as drug trafficking, and hazardous work.

#### SESSION 4: YOUTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT – CASE STUDIES

RESOURCE PERSON: RJ SHASHI

*Radio Mirch, Patna, Bihar*

##### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- RJ Shashi commenced the session by stating that youth groups played a core role in the COVID-19 emergency response, which should be acknowledged. He further said that while the youth are aware of their societal responsibilities, on one hand, there are cases of youth substance abuse as a result of a variety of issues, including academic difficulties, health-related issues (including mental health), poor peer relationships, and involvement with the juvenile justice system, all of which are serious concerns.
- Second, during the COVID-19 lockdown and curfews, the social media platform became a vital component of the youth's lives. Social media has emerged as a tool for raising awareness and effecting change. As a result, we must educate and urge young people to recognise their societal worth by recognising their concerns and praising their positive actions online as youths are eager to find their place in society.
- Emergencies and disasters are the windows of opportunity, and youth is the gateway for converting crises into chances.
- Young people have extraordinary ability to mobilize resources around disaster preparedness and resilience, for present and future events and make the community understand the risks, strategies in their own language.



Figure 8: RJ Shashi addressing the audience



### QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

One of the participants asked for details about the Aapda Mitra Scheme. On this Mr. Rajendra Singh, Member NDMA and the chief guest of today's session provided the detailed outline of the initiatives taken under:

- Providing approx. 1 lakh volunteers to 350 high-prone districts depending upon the district population (5 lakh population - 200 volunteers, 10 lakh population - 300 volunteers, 20 lakh population - 500 volunteers); capacity building and training of these volunteers have been initiated in 2 districts and others will join in soon.
- In this 370 cr scheme, each district has been provided with 30-35-year-old volunteers with 12,000 personal kits and 20-22 lakh worth of equipment to the state.
- He also mentioned that the NDMA, SDMA team will surely be able to provide approx. 1 lakh volunteers till next year (75 thousand Aapda Mitra and 25 thousand Aapda Sakhi)
- Additionally, the NDMA plans to provide safety training to 120 schools in high prone districts by NDRF (in 2 years).
- Mission to conduct 696 training (2-day workshop in each district) by NDRF.
- Conducted a school safety mock drill in 6580 schools including retrofitting and non-structural measures for emergency as part of Phase 1, in phase 2 the school in high-prone districts the pilot studies will be accomplished including structural and non-structural measures of school, teacher and student training etc.
- Lastly, he added that to initiate this scheme, one needs to get consulted with the DDMA of that district. Furthermore, Mr. Tarun added that Zone4Solutions has developed an operational disaster management plan for approx.450 schools including a self-glow evacuation map. He urged to conduct school mock drills in accordance with school DM plans.



Figure 9: Mr. Singh addressing the question

Another query was related to the inclusion of disaster management in school and university curriculum. According to Mr. Tarun, the CBSE and a few other state boards have incorporated DM concepts into the school curriculum, while in colleges like Zone4Solutions certificate courses are offered by NGOs and DM professionals.



Figure 10: Mr. Tarun addressing the question

### CONCLUSION AND VOTE OF THANKS

Mr. Nakul Kumar Tarun, Director of Zone4Solutions, extended his gratitude to the presenters, guests, and audience for their vital contributions, underlining the fact that India's youth are its face. As a result, it's critical to identify major changes that young people go through, as well as the reasons behind their knowledge, attitudes, and life choices. He also stressed the need of young engagement in long-term DRR



programmes. Every stage must be monitored by disaster-resilient lens to involve individuals with smart development perceptive. We are all sailing on one ship thus, comprehensive, and collaborative actions can only save us all including COVID-19. He thanked the presenters for their valuable perceptions and knowledge. The program was insightful.



Figure 12: Mr. Tarun submitting the vote of thanks

## 2.3. THOUGHTS ON FUTURE STEPS

Youth are important assets in DRR operations since they have a lot of potential and capacities that may be used. It is critical to involve them in order to ensure the success and long-term viability of the CBDRR programmes and any DRR-related investments. Young-centered procedures are clearly worthwhile, not just for DRR results, but also for the social benefits to the community and the youth participating. Anecdotal evidence from many practitioners, non-governmental organisations, and independent studies indicates the youth's major participation to DRR-related activities. However, in order to optimise and deploy the full potential of its role and functions in the future design of DRR measures, it must be fully supported and understood via systematic analysis. Similarly, understanding of the mechanisms, techniques, and instruments of young engagement and empowerment must be expanded so that all future efforts are optimal. This might include:

### 2.3.1. DISASTER EDUCATION

- Advocate relevant departments to integrate DRR/CCA education into schools existing curriculum.
- Organize youth-led activities and campaigns at school and with communities related to DRR and CCA
- Peer-to-peer exchanges using international, national forums and media to promote young people's perceptive decision makers, local authorities, and young people on DRR

### 2.3.2. PARTICIPATORY APPROACH FOR CBDRR



Children, adolescents, and young adults are a diverse group. Children, adolescents, and young adults are not only beneficiaries of meaningful participation (i.e., youth for youth activities), but they are also agents for change in the larger community. This will ensure:

- The youth themselves identify topics of concern to address can such a process be useful.
- The process and consequences are under the authority of the youth.
- Adults are supports rather than leaders when they are needed.
- In this case, peer methods and accompaniment are crucial.

### **2.3.3. ISSUES WITH SOCIO-ECONOMIC RELEVANCE**

- Invest in fostering youth employment.
- Promote gender equity.
- Promote youth involvement in civil society and institutional processes.
- Address barriers to universal school enrollment (Sarva Shiksha).
- Create procedures to address the mental health of young people.
- Educate young people about the dangers of substance usage.



## 2.4. SPEAKER'S CORNER

We must be the change we seek. Our ideas shape our environment, and our actions have the capacity to transform it, thus our thoughts are who we are. The ability of youth to adapt to change and the diversity of nature can help to shape a better world.

**- MR. RAJENDER SINGH**

*Member, National Disaster Management Authority( NDMA),Govt.of India*

DRR is a reflection of change, both in terms of nature and in terms of the path to a more secure and resilient future. Because youth are the face of the future, youth participation can be at the forefront of disaster and climate resilient development.

**-PROF. ANIL KUMAR GUPTA**

*Head,ECDRM Division,National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM), Government of India*

The power of youth is a shared resource for the entire globe. We cannot compare the young people's strength, enthusiasm, passion, and courage.

**- MR. NAKUL KUMAR TARUN**

*Director, Zone4Solutions,India*

Our responsibility to youth is great. We need to channel their energy in the right direction to find the right solutions. In doing so, they enhance local people's long-term security and responsibility for their own lives.

**-MR. AWADHESH KUMAR**

*Assistant Professor, Deptt. of Civil Engineering, Invertis University, Uttar Pradesh, India*

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Bringing about change requires the participation of young people, and the power of youth is empowered by their ability to communicate information and adapt to changes through their creative, idealistic, and passionate views.

**-RJ ROHAN**

*93.5 RED FM Radio*

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People who want to volunteer need to be pointed on the correct path. Volunteering does not simply follow instructions. It refers to a person's capacity and obligation to take a stand for the welfare of the community, to become a leader.

**- MR. ASHUTOSH NEMA**

*Programme Coordinator, Kailash Satyarthi Children Foundation*

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Allowing and supporting today's youth to express their voices, ideas, inspirations, viewpoints, and expertise will ensure that they own tomorrow's goals, resulting in a sustainable society.

**- RJ SHASHI**

*Radio Mirchi, Patna*



# ANNEXURE

## 3.1. PROGRAMME FLYER



Webinar on

# National Youth Day

## Role of Youth in Disaster Risk Reduction




*Commemorating the National Youth Day (राष्ट्रीय युवा दिवस) observed on the birth anniversary of spiritual father of modern India Swami Vivekananda.*



**12** January, 2022  
10:30 AM - 12.30 PM



Meeting Id: 816 9195 3190  
Password: ZONE4S

Panelists



**Shri Rajendra Singh**  
Member NDMA, GoI



**Dr. Anil Kumar Gupta**  
Head ECDRM Division  
NIDM, GoI



**Mr. Nakul Kumar Tarun**  
Director, Zone4solutions



**RJ Rohan**  
93.5 Red FM, Bajeate Raho



**RJ Shashi**  
Radio Mirchi



**Mr. Ashutosh Nema,**  
Project Officer, CBT  
Kailash Satyarthi Children Foundation



**Er. Awdhesh Kumar**  
Asst. Prof. (Civil Engg.)  
Invertis University, UP



**Ms. Tanushree Verma**  
Head Training & Research  
Zone4solution

BREAK THE CHAIN OF COVID19






**\*REGISTRATION IS FREE**  
**\*e-CERTIFICATE WILL BE PROVIDED TO ALL ATTENDEES**





### 3.2. PROGRAMME SCHEDULE



## WEBINAR ON NATIONAL YOUTH DAY ROLE OF YOUTH IN DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

**Date:** January 12, 2022

**Time:** 10.30 AM -12.30 PM

Time	Topic	Speaker
10:30-10:40	Welcome Address and Introduction	Mr. Nakul Kumar Tarun Director, Zone4solutions
10:40- 10:50	Inaugural address	Mr. Rajender Singh Member NDMA (Chief Guest of the Programme)
10:50-11:00	Keynote Address	Dr. Anil Kumar Gupta, NIDM (Special Guest)
<b>Technical session</b>		
11:00-11:15	Policy, Programme, and Scheme for the welfare of youth in India.	Er. Awdhesh Kumar Asst. Professor(Civil Engg), Invertis University,Uttar Pradesh, India
11:15-11:30	Issues and challenges of youth during COVID-19 pandemic	RJ Rohan Red FM
11:30-11:45	Youth as a change agent of society- Motivational speech	Mr. Ashutosh Nema Programme Coordinator, Kailash Satyarthi Children Foundation
11:45-12:00	Youth and Social development - case studies	RJ Shashi Radio Mirchi
12:00-12:30	Open house discussion and Vote of thanks	To be moderated by Ms. Tanushree Verma Head (Training and Research), Z4S

YouTube link: <https://youtu.be/pqBLP5e5y8s>



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