



CRVS in Emergencies and Disasters



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Emergencies & Disasters

- ◆ Several instances of Emergency & Disaster situations in India:
 - ◆ Tsunami
 - ◆ Earthquake
 - ◆ Flood
 - ◆ Severe accidents resulting in mass casualties



Recent Instances in India

- ◆ Tsunami in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Southern Coast due to massive undersea earthquake in December 2004 (16,000 dead / missing).
- ◆ Massive flood in Jammu & Kashmir in September 2014 (Around 2 Million people directly affected, 268 dead / missing).
- ◆ Massive flash flood due to cloud burst in Uttarakhand in June 2013 (700 thousands affected, 5700 dead / missing).
- ◆ Massive flood in Tamil Nadu in November 2015 (1.8 Million people affected, 500 dead / missing).



Problems Encountered

- ◆ Registration Functionaries are themselves affected during the disasters, hence death registration becomes challenging due to lack of adequate manpower.
- ◆ The volume of dead persons to be registered increases exponentially creating stress on the Registration Functionaries.
- ◆ Many people may not belong to the place where their death has occurred (example tourists).
- ◆ Difficult to ascertain when(Date and Time) and where(Place) death has occurred.
- ◆ Deceased may be unidentifiable.
- ◆ Missing persons reported in other regions need to be verified to have died in the calamity and not anywhere else prior to issuance of death certificates.



Interventions in CRVS

- ◆ RGI has issued circulars in such instances to provide guidance in extraordinary situations.
- ◆ Gear up the Registration Machinery in the affected areas.
- ◆ Special arrangements such as appointment of Sub Registrars with sufficient power for on-the-spot registration of the deaths.
- ◆ Opening registration counters at the places where deceased are disposed of and at the mortuaries where the deceased are kept.
- ◆ Relaxation in case of persons reported to be missing and in all likelihood have died but dead body is not traceable.
- ◆ RGI has issued procedures for registration of death of missing persons in natural calamities in affected areas immediately after the events, depending on the type of natural calamity.



Tackling Future Emergencies

- ◆ Formation of emergency response teams and on-the-spot teams for quicker and easier registration of deaths.
- ◆ Coordination with National Disaster Management Authority for fetching details of deceased.
- ◆ National/Integrated database and information system for reporting of missing persons in disasters.
- ◆ Coordination with State Police for missing persons.