

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT COMMISSIONER SONITPUR, TEZPUR
(DISASTER MANAGEMENT BRANCH)

File No. SLR.36/MISC/DDMA/2023-24/ 178

Dated Tezpur 11th April'2025

To,

**The Deputy Secretary to Govt. of Assam &
State Project Coordinator, ASDMA,
Assam Secretariat, Dispur, Guwahati-781006**

Sub: - **Regarding the Programmatic Report of District level IRS Training and Mock Exercise**

Ref: **No-565773/70 Dtd. 08/04/2025**

Sir,

With reference to the subject cited above, I am to submit herewith the comprehensive programmatic report of District level IRS Training and Mock Exercise conducted at Sonitpur District.

This is for your kind information and necessary action.

Enclosed: **As stated above.**

Yours faithfully,



**Addl. District Commissioner cum
CEO, DDMA, Sonitpur, Tezpur**

Memo No. SLR.36/MISC/DDMA/2023-24/ 178

Dated Tezpur 11th April'2025

Copy to:-

1. P.A to D.C for kind appraisal to the District Commissioner, Sonitpur, Tezpur.



**Addl. District Commissioner cum
CEO, DDMA, Sonitpur, Tezpur**

**REPORT
ON
DISTRICT LEVEL IRS TRAINING AND MOCK EXERCISE
OF
SONITPUR DISTRICT, HELD ON 6th& 7th Dec, 2024**

Introduction

The District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA), Sonitpur, in coordination with Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA) and relevant stakeholder departments of Sonitpur district administration, organized a mock drill based on the Incident Response System (IRS) to test disaster preparedness, response coordination, and operational readiness across multiple departments and agencies.

An Incident Response System (IRS) is part of a standardized emergency management framework designed to respond to disasters and major incidents effectively. This exercise forms part of the district's continuous efforts to enhance resilience and capacity for effective disaster response.

A Table Top Exercise was held with all the key stakeholders of Sonitpur District on 6th December, 2024 at DC Office Conference Hall where more than 100 officials participated. For the Mock Exercise, 40 (Forty) Civil Defence volunteers and students were briefed in the Table Top Exercise. The Mock Exercise was conducted on 7th Dec, 2024 where more than 150 officials participated. The events were graced by the presence of:

Sri Ankur Bharali, ACS, District Commissioner, Sonitpur
Sri Lakhinandan Saharia, DDC, Sonitpur
Sri Garga Mohan Das, ADC cum CEO, DDMA, Sonitpur
Sri Rajesh Dutta, Engineering Consultant, ASDMA, Guwahati
Sri Bibek Mahato, TSU, DRR, ASDMA, Guwahati

Circle Officers and dignitaries from various line departments actively participated in the training session and mock drill.

Objective of the Mock Drill

- To test the functional integration of the IRS framework during a multi-hazard emergency.
- To strengthen inter-agency coordination and communication.
- To assess the effectiveness of the Incident Command System in real-time.
- To train field personnel in role-based responsibilities.
- To identify operational gaps and improve areas in current response protocols.
- Establish a clear chain of command during emergencies.
- Ensure effective resource mobilization.

Hazard Context of Sonitpur

Sonitpur is classified as a multi-hazard-prone district. The major hazards include:

- Earthquakes (Seismic Zone V – high-risk zone)
- Annual floods and riverine erosion from the Brahmaputra and its tributaries
- Cyclonic storms and lightning
- Soil erosion
- Man-made disasters such as industrial fires, road/rail accidents, man animal conflicts etc.

These hazards necessitate a robust and well-tested emergency response framework like the IRS.

IRS Framework in Practice

The IRS framework is a structured response mechanism with specific roles, hierarchies, and coordination models. The core components activated during the mock drill included:

- District Emergency Operation Centre
- Responsible Officer: District Commissioner, Sonitpur
- Staging area
- Incident Command Post:
- Relief Camp
- Medical Aid
- Triage Area
- Support Sections: Fire Services, SDRF, Health, PWD, PHE, and NGOs

Scenario and Drill Execution

Mock Scenario:

- An earthquake measuring 6.8 on the Richter scale strikes Sonitpur at 09:00 AM, causing:
- Collapsed structures (school buildings, apartments and an office building)
- Search and rescue operation by response agencies
- Mass casualties and injuries transported to hospitals
- Panic and road blockages
- Relief camp management

Key Drill Activities:

- Activation of District Emergency Operation Centre (DEOC)
- Accumulation of resources at staging area
- Establishment of Incident Command Post (ICP) near the mock incident site
- Deployment of search and rescue teams (Army, NDRF, SSB, SDRF, F&ESS)
- Medical triage and first aid stations set up by the Health Department
- Evacuation of school children & general public
- Traffic management and access control by police
- Public communication and crowd control
- Setting up of temporary shelters and relief camps
- Media briefing and information dissemination protocols

Participation and Stakeholders

Total Participants: 300 (approx.)

Departments and Agencies Involved:

- District Administration (Revenue, PWD, Transport, Health, Education)
- Response agencies (NDRF, Army, SDRF, SSB, Fire & Emergency Services)
- Civil Defence,
- Assam Police
- NGOs (Edupur Foundation)
- NCC, Scouts & Guides
- Ward members, PRI representatives, community volunteers
- Local schools and college students

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Key Observations

Strengths:

- Prompt activation of IRS structure and DEOC
- Timely deployment of first responders
- Effective public awareness and crowd management
- Role clarity among officers
- Functional use of communication tools and channels

Gaps Identified:

- Slight Delay in initial communication between field teams and DEOC
- Need for more hands-on IRS training

Evaluation and Feedback

At the conclusion of the drill, a debriefing session was conducted at the DEOC, where team leads presented their observations and feedback. External evaluators provided feedbacks:

- Response Time: Good
- Coordination: Very Good
- Communication: Good
- Resource Management: Good
- Public Engagement: Good

Recommendations

- Conduct refresher training and orientation on IRS roles and responsibilities for all line departments/response agencies.
- Improve inter-department communication protocols, especially within the first 30 minutes of a crisis.
- Implement an annual mock drill calendar with diversified scenarios (e.g., flood, fire, etc.).

Conclusion

The IRS mock drill in Sonitpur proved to be a significant step in reinforcing disaster preparedness and response capability. While the operational structure was successfully activated, the drill also highlighted several critical learning areas. Moving forward, continuous training, community engagement, and infrastructure strengthening are essential to ensure a resilient and responsive disaster management system in Sonitpur.



**Addl. District Commissioner cum CEO DDMA,
Sonitpur, Tezpur**



Orientation & Table Top exercise held on 6th December, 2024 at DC Office Conference Hall



IRT Team at DEOC



Search & Rescue at Apartment



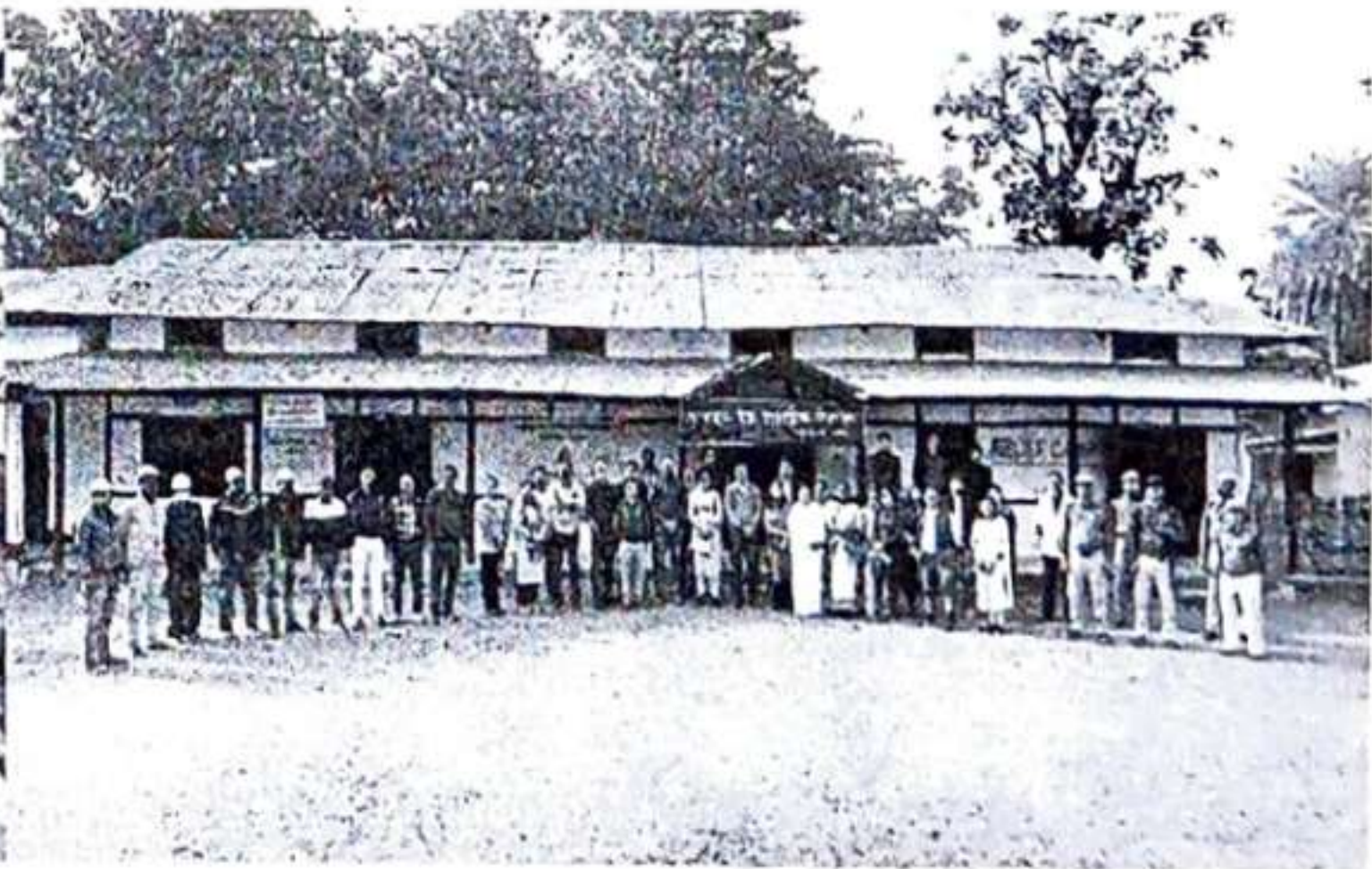
Transportation of casualties



Treatment of casualties at hospital



Medical aid at incident site



Relief Camp

**Addl. District Commissioner cum CEO DDMA,
Sonitpur, Tezpur**