

Ministry of Home Affairs



5th Battalion, NDRF, conducts Workshop on “CBRN Preparedness & Response”

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A workshop on “*CBRN Preparedness & Response*” was organized by the 5th Battalion, National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), in Byculla, Mumbai today (21 November 2025). Notably, this was the *first-ever CBRN-focused workshop conducted in Maharashtra*, marking a significant step towards strengthening the state's preparedness to handle complex emergency situations.



The objective of the workshop was to enhance preparedness for **Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN)** emergencies, develop effective coordinated response strategies, and promote inter-agency cooperation. The sessions proved extremely beneficial in raising awareness and strengthening the disaster management capabilities of the state. Representatives from **NDMA, SDMA, SDRF, Police, CPCB, MPCB, BMC**,

PCMC, SRPF, NEERI, NIV, DISH, Fire Services, Civil Defence, and several other key emergency response agencies actively participated in the workshop. The presence of multiple agencies added to the collaborative environment and enhanced the overall impact of the programme.

District Disaster Management Officers (DDMOs) from various districts, along with NDRF personnel, took part in the workshop, thereby strengthening the on-ground disaster response mechanism.

Prof. (Dr.) Dinesh Kumar Aswal, Member, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), who was the Chief Guest on the occasion, provided valuable insights and guidance to all participants and motivated them with his encouraging remarks. He stated that Viksit Bharat may be brought about only by improvement In Human Development Index, which depends on access to education and health for all and also better per capita income, for which Industrial development is important. In this context, he stated that it is essential for all industries to have a Disaster Risk Mitigation (DRM) plan. Private investors also want to know about DRM capacities of industries, he added. The Member, NDMA, Prof. (Dr.) Dinesh Kumar Aswal also informed that NDMA will revise and update the CBRN Guidelines.



Shri Mohsen Shahedi, DIG (Ops), NDRF, set the tone for the day-long session that security systems should be in place for India which is the fastest growing economy. Maharashtra is an important state in the CBRN scenario, he stated. He also informed that the top 10 states with Major Accident Hazards are Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Telengana and Punjab.

Participants were briefed in detail on **initial response during CBRN incidents**,

safety protocols, use of detection equipment, and effective coordination among various response teams. The overall purpose and key issues of the workshop were also outlined comprehensively.

During **Session-1**, experts presented on topics including **CBRN Risk Mapping & Vulnerability Assessment, HAZAN, HAZOP, and HIRA-based Hazard Identification Techniques**, as well as **Institutional and Policy Measures related to Chemical Disasters**. In this session, extensive discussions were also held on **Inter-Agency Coordination, Environmental Regulations for MAH Units**, and processes under the **State Disaster Management Framework**.

In **Session-2**, participants received critical inputs on **Responding to Invisible Radiological and Nuclear Emergencies, CBRN Response Capabilities of Stakeholders, and Technology Integration & Innovation in CBRN Response**. NDRF also provided detailed information on the **Critical Elements of CBRN Response Systems, SOPs**, and practical strategies to be adopted during real-life scenarios. All sessions and presentations greatly enhanced participants' understanding of operational challenges, thereby significantly improving their CBRN preparedness, response capabilities, and technical proficiency.

This workshop has emerged as an important initiative in strengthening inter-agency coordination and enhancing collective response capabilities across the state.

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