



An Institute for Civil Services

INTERVIEW GUIDANCE SERIES

IAS
2024

SELF MOCK QUESTIONS

DISASTER
MANAGEMENT (PART-1)

for UPSC INTERVIEW PREPARATION



An Institute for Civil Services

INTERVIEW GUIDANCE PROGRAMME 2024

Give **Mock Interview** with the **India's Most Eminent Panel**
of **Acclaimed Civil Servants & Academicians**



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DISASTER MANAGEMENT (PART-1)

1. **UTTARKASHI TUNNEL COLLAPSE**

- Q. What were the key factors contributing to the collapse of the Silkyara Bend - Barkot tunnel in Uttarakhand?
- Q. How has the state government's "Operation Zindagi" played a role in the rescue mission for the trapped workers?
- Q. What are the strategic and economic implications of the Silkyara Tunnel in Uttarakhand once completed?
- Q. What initiatives and departments have been established in India to ensure the safe construction of tunnels?
- Q. In light of the Uttarkashi tunnel collapse, what lessons can be learned for future tunnel construction projects in India?

2. **ODISHA DISASTER**

- Q. Can you elaborate on the key factors contributing to the Balasore Train Tragedy in Odisha?
- Q. How did the Odisha Disaster Rapid Action Force (ODRAF) emerge as a frontline responder, and what were the key elements of its response in the Balasore disaster?
- Q. What proactive measures were taken by the Odisha government to mitigate the impact of the Balasore Train Tragedy?
- Q. How did the Odisha government handle the aftermath of the triple train accident at Bahanaga following the Balasore tragedy?

3. **FIRE INCIDENT IN DELHI: MUKHARJEE NAGAR**

- Q. How did the district administration and police effectively manage and control the fire incident in Mukherjee Nagar, ensuring the safety of the trapped individuals?
- Q. Can you elaborate on the specific responsibilities and functions of the Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) in terms of disaster assessment, planning, and implementation?
- Q. How does the DDMA ensure seamless coordination between the Central and State Governments during disaster events, and what role does the Divisional Commissioner of Delhi play in disaster management?

- Q. What proactive measures and strategies has the DDMA implemented to prevent and mitigate disasters in Delhi, particularly focusing on planning, training, and resource allocation?

4. SURAT GAS LEAK

- Q. Can you provide a comprehensive overview of the gas leak incident in Sachin, Surat, including the date, location, and the number of casualties and injuries?
- Q. What was the leaked substance identified as, and what are its characteristics and potential dangers?
- Q. How did the government and the textile mill owner respond in terms of compensation, and what legal actions were taken against those responsible for the chemical dumping?
- Q. Can you elaborate on the swift response from the district administration and police? How did they manage the situation and ensure control?
- Q. What role did the National Green Tribunal play in response to the incident, and how did it contribute to the investigation and resolution?
- Q. Could you provide details about the nine-member committee formed by NGT for investigation? What were the key findings of the final report accepted in March 2023?
- Q. How is the Disaster Management Authority of Gujarat actively working to prevent and mitigate disasters in the state? What measures are in place to enhance resilience?

5. MORBI BRIDGE COLLAPSE (2022)

- Q. What are the preliminary findings regarding the causes of the Morbi bridge collapse, particularly in terms of structural issues, material defects, and engineering oversights?
- Q. How did emergency services respond immediately after the bridge collapse? Can you elaborate on the swift deployment of fire brigades, police, and medical teams for search and rescue operations?
- Q. What measures were taken for casualty management, including the provision of medical aid on-site and the transportation of the injured to hospitals? How was the identification and documentation of casualties handled?
- Q. Can you explain the steps taken by local authorities, such as the declaration of a state of emergency, and how government resources, including the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), were mobilized for a coordinated disaster response?
- Q. How were community engagement and support established, including the setup of community centers for information dissemination and counseling services? What role did volunteers play in providing relief efforts and supporting the affected community?

6. DISASTERS PUT FOCUS ON CITIES' 'CARRYING CAPACITY'

- Q. Explain the significance of 'carrying capacity' in urban planning for ecologically sensitive areas like Himalayan hill stations. Provide an example.
- Q. How can policymakers balance the economic importance of tourism with preserving the carrying capacity of hill stations in India?

- Q. Propose strategies to integrate carrying capacity considerations into urban development plans for hill stations, ensuring environmental sustainability and economic growth.
- Q. Discuss the implications of neglecting carrying capacity in disaster management for regions prone to natural calamities.
- Q. Given the shortage of urban planners in Himalayan States, suggest approaches to incorporate carrying capacity considerations effectively.
- Q. Explain the role of stakeholder engagement in assessing and managing the carrying capacity of hill towns. How can local communities be involved?
- Q. How would you navigate political and economic pressures to sustainably manage hill stations, considering tourism interests and long-term sustainability?

7. ROLE OF TECHNOLOGY IN DISASTER MANAGEMENT

- Q. How does technology play a crucial role in each stage of the disaster management cycle, namely preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation? Can you provide examples of how different technological tools contribute to these stages?
- Q. In the context of disaster management, what are the key responsibilities of technology? How does technology aid in evaluating disaster risks, communicating with stakeholders, developing mitigation plans, and establishing early warning systems?
- Q. Can you elaborate on the spectrum of technologies used in disaster management? How do remote sensing, Geographical Information System (GIS), Global Positioning System (GPS), and satellite communication contribute to enhancing disaster preparedness and response?
- Q. Could you provide specific examples of how drone technology is utilized in disaster management, especially in rescue operations and damage assessment after events like earthquakes? Additionally, how is Artificial Intelligence (AI) employed for retrospective image recognition in satellite data for identifying damaged infrastructure?

8. PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS FUND

- Q. Can you explain the concept of Financial Intermediary Funds (FIFs) and how they serve as independently governed collaboration platforms for the global development community?
- Q. What factors and challenges led to the approval of a Financial Intermediary Fund (FIF) for Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness, and Response (PPR) by the World Bank Board of Directors?
- Q. With future pandemic threats looming, how does the establishment of a separate fund address the need for sustained high-level attention to strengthen health systems? What are the primary roles and objectives of this fund in providing long-term financing to low or middle-income countries during a pandemic?
- Q. Can you elaborate on the specific areas that the Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness, and Response (PPR) fund aims to address in terms of building capacity, such as zoonotic disease surveillance, emergency communication, laboratory capabilities, community engagement, and the health workforce?

9. DISASTER INDUCED DISPLACEMENT

- Q. Can you elaborate on the scale of disaster-induced displacement, as estimated by the International Organisation on Migration (IOM), and the potential global impact, with figures ranging from 25 million to 1 billion people compelled to migrate due to climate change and environmental degradation by 2050?
- Q. What are the implications of widespread displacements caused by disasters, including shoreline erosion, coastal flooding, and agricultural disruption? How do these displacements affect livelihoods, education, healthcare systems, urban infrastructure, and services? Additionally, what vulnerabilities do women and children face in such scenarios?
- Q. How are disaster-induced displacements currently addressed in India, and what role does the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) play, along with its state-level counterparts?
- Q. In the context of climate action, how is India contributing on the international stage, particularly as a party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)? How might India's G20 presidency provide a platform for addressing concerns related to human mobility?

10. URBAN FLOOD MANAGEMENT (TO TACKLE FREQUENT FLOODS)

- Q. Could you elaborate on the reasons behind the increasing frequency of floods in urban areas in India, highlighting factors such as callous urbanization, excessive mining, rapid development, and unsustainable human activities? Additionally, how do wide variations in rainfall patterns and inadequate river capacities contribute to this issue?
- Q. What specific challenges do urban areas face in the context of floods, particularly with high volumes of polluted run-off and breakdowns in the urban drainage system?
- Q. Considering the inevitability of urbanization and the continuous growth of urban areas, how do you propose addressing the challenges associated with urban flood management?
- Q. Could you discuss the impacts of floods in urban areas, including the heavy human costs, effects on agriculture, threats to coastal cities, and economic losses?
- Q. In the context of urban infrastructure development, how have initiatives like the Smart Cities Mission, Swachh Bharat Mission, and Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation contributed to flood management in urban areas?

11. LIGHTNING DISASTERS IN INDIA

- Q. Could you elaborate on the challenges associated with predicting lightning events accurately and the implications of this unpredictability for communities, particularly in regions prone to thunderstorms?

- Q. How do limited awareness and understanding of lightning risks contribute to the inadequate implementation of safety measures, and what measures can be taken to address this issue?
- Q. In the context of disaster management, what role can early warning systems play in providing timely alerts about impending thunderstorms, and how can these systems be enhanced for better effectiveness?
- Q. Considering the importance of public awareness, how do you propose conducting extensive campaigns to educate communities about lightning risks, safety measures, and the significance of seeking shelter during thunderstorms?
- Q. In terms of infrastructure resilience, what investments and upgrades can be made, especially in vulnerable regions, to minimize property damage and ensure community safety during lightning events?
- Q. Regarding emergency medical services, how can these services be strengthened to ensure a rapid response and effective medical care for individuals affected by lightning strikes?

12. GLACIAL LAKE OUTBURST FLOOD (GLOF) DISASTERS IN INDIA

- Q. How do Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs) in India lead to flash flooding downstream, and what are the immediate threats posed to human lives, settlements, and infrastructure?
- Q. In terms of infrastructure damage, could you elaborate on the specific impacts of GLOFs, including the destruction of critical elements such as bridges, roads, and hydropower installations?
- Q. Considering the consequences of GLOFs, particularly in regions dependent on agriculture and tourism, how does the occurrence of these floods lead to the loss of life, displacement of communities, and the disruption of livelihoods?
- Q. What ecological impacts are associated with GLOFs, including the erosion of soil, loss of biodiversity, and damage to ecosystems in affected areas?
- Q. Given the challenges associated with remote and inaccessible terrain, how does the difficult geography of regions prone to GLOFs impact the implementation of monitoring, early warning, and emergency response measures?

13. CLIMATE CHANGE AND DISASTERS

- Q. How does climate change contribute to rising sea levels, and what are the resulting consequences such as coastal flooding, erosion, and salinization of freshwater sources?
- Q. Considering the increased frequency of extreme weather events, can you elaborate on the impacts of hurricanes, cyclones, droughts, and heatwaves on infrastructure, agriculture, and human settlements?
- Q. In what ways do climate-induced disasters contribute to the loss of biodiversity, including habitat loss, ecosystem degradation, and the decline of plant and animal species?

- Q. How do climate-related disasters lead to humanitarian crises, particularly in terms of displacement, food and water shortages, and their disproportionate impact on vulnerable populations?
- Q. What economic impacts are associated with climate-related disasters, including the damage to property, reduced agricultural productivity, increased healthcare costs, and the challenges of recovery and reconstruction?

14. NEW DELHI: GOOGLE LAUNCHES EARTHQUAKE ALERT SYSTEM IN INDIA FOR ANDROID SMARTPHONE USERS

- Q. Can you provide an overview of Google's Earthquake Alert System recently launched in India for Android smartphone users?
- Q. How did Google collaborate with Indian authorities, specifically the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and the National Seismology Center (NSC), in the development of this Earthquake Alert System?
- Q. Could you explain how the system works, utilizing sensors in android smartphones equipped with accelerometers to detect and estimate earthquakes, particularly during their initial stages?
- Q. What are the two types of alerts provided by the system, namely "Be Aware" and "Take Action," and under what conditions are each of these alerts triggered?
- Q. How is the rollout of this earthquake alert feature planned for Android users in India, and what specific enhancements have been made to ensure the alerts are user-friendly and accessible in various Indian languages?

