NATIONAL SCHOOL SAFETY PROGRAMME

In June 2011 the Government of Meghalaya approved the National School Safety Programme (NSSP) - A Demonstration Project. This programme is a 100% centrally sponsored scheme being implemented by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) in collaboration with the ministry of Human Resource Development in partnership with the State Governments of the country falling in Seismic Zone 4 & 5 with in a time frame of 24 months. The main objective of NSSP is to promote a culture of safety in schools by initiating a policy level change, capacity building of officials, teachers, students and other stake holders by undertaking information, education and communication (IEC) activities, promoting non structural mitigation measures and demonstrative structural retrofitting in few schools.

The NDMA has selected East Garo Hills &Ribhoi Districts for the implementation of NSSP in the state. These programme districts could select 200 (two hundred) schools each for this programme. Guidelines for implementation of this programme has been framed by NDMA. The State Disaster Management Authority will implement this programme through its Secretariat as the SDMA is notified as the Nodal Agency at the State level for the implementation of this programme by the State Government. The NSSP is required to be tested and validated for its main streaming in the SarvaShikshaAvhayaan (SSA) for its upscaling and implementation. As this programme is linked with SSA programme close coordination amongst different departments of the State Government with SDMA is required for its successful implementation. The State Executive Committee (SEC) headed by the Chief Secretary will monitor the implementation of NSSP in the State.

The activities presently taken up under this programme are:-

(i)   *Developing a school disaster management plan.*
(ii)   *Translating, printing and circulation of IECs Materials.*
(iii)   *Supply of disaster management kits to all the identified schools.*
(iv)   *Sensitization of the stake holders about the programme at the State level.*

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