



Aftermath of the 1979 Machhu II dam failure

Who is Responsible?

Dam owners are responsible for preparing EAPs. However, responding to an emergency requires the coordinated efforts of many.

Dam Owners/Operators

- Identification of an emergency at the dam
- Initial notifications sent to disaster management agencies
- Implementation of repairs
- Security and technical assistance on site

Local Disaster Management and Local Responders

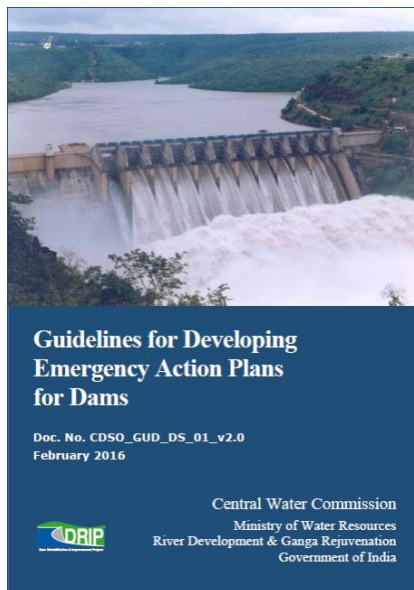
- Public warning issuance
- Possible evacuation
- Emergency shelter plan activated
- Rescue and recovery operations
- State of emergency declaration
- Termination of emergency status

State Disaster Management Agencies

- Provide assistance to the affected area when requested
- Coordinate specialized assistance
- Notify appropriate state agencies

EAP Guidelines

Guidelines for developing EAPs for dams have been prepared as part of the Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP). A template is provided in the guidelines to help Dam Owners prepare EAPs that follow the basic five-step response process.



Contact Us

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Emergency Action Planning for Dams

Every large dam in India needs an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) to save lives and reduce property damage in the event of a failure or large water releases during extreme weather conditions.



Central Water Commission
 Ministry of Water Resources
 Government of India

What is a Dam EAP?

An Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for a dam is a written document that identifies potential emergency conditions and specified pre-planned actions to be followed in the event of dam failure or large reservoir releases during extreme weather conditions that will save lives and reduce property damage. At a minimum, an EAP includes

- Dam ownership information
- A vicinity map showing the location of the dam and nearby downstream communities and transportation routes
- A map showing potential areas that would be inundated by a flood resulting from a dam breach or large controlled releases from the reservoir
- Procedures for warning downstream disaster management authorities
- Sources of emergency materials

At their discretion, dam emergency managers may include other information in an EAP such as evacuation routes, locations of emergency shelters, locations of critical infrastructure such as schools, hospitals, and large industrial facilities, and flood hazard zone maps showing areas most at risk from flooding.



The EAP Five-Step Response Process

Five steps should generally be followed when an unusual or emergency incident is detected at a dam. These steps constitute the EAP response process as outlined in the flowchart below. Responses for each alert type -- Internal Alert for **BLUE** level emergency (monitor and repair), or External Alert for **ORANGE** (prepare to evacuate) or **RED** (evacuate immediately) level emergencies -- contain all five steps. Depending on the type of alert to be issued, these steps will contain different procedures. Careful preparation and review of all five steps will provide guidance during an unusual event or emergency.

