

Preventive Measures for disaster during Mass Gathering

Do's and Don'ts for Various Stakeholders

Visitors

Do's

1. Travel light. Carry medicines, if advised by doctors.
2. Register for the event.
3. Get acquainted with the venue location and layout: entry/exit points, routes, stay/ food/ medical facilities.
4. Follow rules and regulations. Where there is obstruction in the front don't push through or push back. Hold and alert the others behind to hold till the obstruction is removed.
5. Note emergency contact numbers.

Don'ts

1. Don't carry valuables, unnecessary food and clothing.
2. Don't trust strangers. Don't stay/eat at unauthorized places.
3. Don't rest/sleep on roads, at entry/exit points. Don't litter.
4. Don't jeopardize your own safety by pushing, fighting, provoking the peers.
5. Don't panic and spread rumours.

Organizers

Do's

1. Know your visitors.
2. Own up responsibility and accept obligation to provide safe, hassle free, and memorable experience to visitors.
3. Develop comprehensive crowd management plan
 - a. Identify the hazards and their likely impact.
 - B. Decide whether arrangements are adequate or more needed.
 - c. Act, Review, and Revise.
4. Work closely with various stakeholders. Have regular communication and meetings.
5. Comply with laws and regulations in place.

Don'ts

1. Don't rest on laurels from the past incident -free periods.
2. Don't continue with the event if you yourselves are not sure about the venue arrangement.
3. Don't admit visitors beyond the holding and movement route capacities.
4. Don't compromise on safety and security agencies to save money.
5. Don't delay reporting of signs of build -up of an emergency situation.

Security Agencies

Do's

1. Do risk assessment and check venue suitability.
2. Develop a system for restricting, holding, regulating number of people arriving and entering the venue.
3. Work closely with event organizers and other stakeholders. Coordinate actions.
4. Establish clear criteria for use of force, opening the exits, removing the barricades etc.
5. Monitor, monitor, and monitor. Plan rehearses and execute

Don'ts

1. Don't allow the event to happen if crowd management preparedness is found wanting.
2. Don't use force, unless no other option left.
3. Don't get provoked. Don't act emotionally.
4. Don't ignore the thousands of peaceful visitors, in dealing with a handful of rowdy ones.
5. Don't consider other security agencies deployed as competitors.

Local administration

Do's

1. Assess venue to determine intention, motive of the gathering.
2. Help venue/event manager develop crowd management plan.
3. Have regular internal/external communication with stakeholders.
4. Develop dedicated resource teams of NGOs and Civil Defence for various crowd management activities.
5. Run crowd hazard awareness campaigns.

Don'ts

1. Don't allow the event to happen if crowd management preparedness is found wanting in either of the areas of fire prevention, adherence to structural safety, electricity, hygiene, medical, traffic etc.
2. Don't ignore the local economic activities around the venue and possible impact of displacement.
3. Don't forget the power of random inspections and mock drills.
4. Don't forget that places of mass gatherings have the Potential to act as a showcase for harmonious balance between human activity, resource use and minimum Environmental impact as opposed to typical resource guzzler and garbage producing place.
5. Don't discriminate against anyone in rescue and relief.

Media

Do's

1. Do raise alarms if crowd management preparedness is found wanting.
2. Play a constructive role for the smooth crowd movements at the venue/event.
3. To give wide publicity to Do's and Don'ts and potential mitigation plans and their likely benefits well in advance.
4. Provide timely, factual and unbiased information before/ during/ after a disaster.
5. Review rescue, relief, and rehabilitation work by the government machinery.

Don'ts

1. Don't infringe upon privacy of the victims and their families.
2. Don't sensationalize the incidence on the basis of incomplete information for gaining commercial mileage.
3. Don't act emotionally. Don't provoke and get provoked.
4. Don't make value judgments.
5. Don't interfere and obstruct rescue operations.

