



KANNUR UNIVERSITY

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Re-accredited by NAAC with 'B++' Grade



Policies of Kannur University

**Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)
Kannur University**

Disaster Management Policy

1. Introduction

Natural and manmade disasters cause frequent and intense hazardous impact on human life at local and global level. At global level several strategies were worked out to setup disaster resilient communities. The academic institutions can play a major role in booting young minds to develop institutional disaster management plans. Here focus will be on developing apt values and necessary approach to develop a culture of disaster preparedness and mitigation. In addition to this, universities and other institutions of higher education have to adopt relevant research in the areas of disaster management.

2. Scope of disaster management policy

Disaster is an event which is unpredictable and unavoidable, but with proper planning, mitigation and preparedness the vulnerability of various hazards can be reduced to a great extent. This urges the requirement of a University level policy that focus its vision and strategy for disaster management in its jurisdiction.

3. Need of Emergency Management at Kannur University

Kannur University is a decentralized Public University in Kerala and the campuses are spread in Kannur, Kasargode and Wayanad Districts. These districts experiences over population, urbanization, long coast line, impact of climate change, spread of epidemic diseases and hazards related to terrorism. Considering this fact, the Kannur University Disaster Management Cell has prepared the 'Kannur University Disaster Management Policy.

4. Disaster Management Policy of Kannur University

As per the Kannur University Disaster Management Policy, the disaster will be an event which leads to serious disturbance in the function of a society, resulting in large scale human, environmental or material and other losses, beyond the ability of the affected society to tackle the situation by adopting existing resources.

4.1. Vision of the Policy

The policy will provide comprehensive and holistic disaster management services to establish a more comfortable and safe society with better quality of life in the jurisdictions of Kannur University.

4.2. Aim of the Policy

The aim of Disaster Management Policy of Kannur University is to develop an organized structure and systems to equip the students and staff of the University to manage the disaster and also to formulate directive principles for the effective management of disasters.

4.3. Approach and strategy of the Policy

The institution must have a mandate to develop as an environmentally-responsible campus. It must move beyond theory and argument to physical demonstration, so that environmental related studies, discussions and tasks can also be given a chance of thought among young students, teaching/non-teaching staffs, parents and local people.

Kannur University Disaster Management Policy involves an integrated approach following administrative decision and operational activities which are to be operated at various stages such as pre - disaster, at disaster and post disaster levels. It includes all kind of activities prepared to monitor and control disasters/ emergency situations and to provide proper strategies for helping the society to easy recover from disaster strikes. The proposed Kannur University Disaster Management Policy based on the above said integrated approach covers all these basic elements into a series of disaster management phases (pre-disaster, at disaster and post disaster phases).

4.4. Emergency Management at Kannur University

An “emergency” is any event or condition that presents an imminent risk of death, serious injury or illness to the University community, suspension or significant disruption of University operations, significant physical or environmental damage, or a significant threat to the University’s financial well- being.

4.4.1. Types of hazards/ Emergency Situations

Kannur University is subjected to a variety of hazards and must contend with the possibility of an emergency or threat hazards.

- Landslides, Flood, Lightening, Earth quake, Wind, cyclone and winter storms are the most prevalent geological and weather related hazards.
- Hazardous materials (chemical, biological, radiological and explosive) may be transported and used at fixed facilities throughout campus or transported via adjacent roadways.
- Incidents such as fires, motor vehicle crashes, civil unrest, and building collapse may result in cases of mass casualties or mass fatalities, or both.
- Public health emergencies present a significant threat to the well-being of Kannur University and can result in loss of life and interruption in delivery of goods and services with the potential of a tremendous economic loss to the entire community.

4.4.2. Disaster Risk Reduction Force (DRRF)

The Disaster Management cell of the University will take initiative to constitute a University level Disaster Risk Reduction Force with the support of National Service Scheme volunteers all University Departments and affiliated colleges and Post Graduate students of Department of Environmental Science. The Directorate of student services of the University will support the Disaster Management Cell for the constitution of the force.

4.5. Standard Operation Procedure (SOP)

- The Head of Disaster Management Wing is authorized to implement the Disaster Management Plan during an emergency.
- The Regional Campus Director is authorized to activate the plan for their campus. Once activated, the Director has the responsibility and commensurate authority for the campus emergency management function.
- The Head of Disaster Management Wing or his designee will mobilize resources and personnel as required by the situation.
- The Regional Campus Director or his designee will mobilize resources and personnel as required by the situation.

- Kannur University will coordinate the development of the Kannur University Disaster Management Plan with local emergency management agencies.
- Kannur University will use the Guidelines of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) of Govt. of India.
- Any special facilities on the campus (e.g., animal lab, health centre) are required to develop emergency plans in accordance with their licensing regulations, with support and assistance from Public Safety.
- Incidents will require full cooperation of the campus community.

4.5.1. Mode of Activation of Emergency Plan

The plan will be implemented when an emergency has been declared by the Vice Chancellor or his designee, or an incident is considered imminent or probable and the implementation of the Kannur University Disaster Management Plan is considered a prudent and proactive response to the incident. This plan is effective for operational purposes when:

- ☐ An emergency is declared by the Vice Chancellor or their designee
- ☐ As directed by the Head, Disaster Management Wing or his designee
- ☐ An incident occurs or is imminent

When an emergency occurs or is imminent, local first responders (police, firefighters and emergency medical technicians) must be contacted as soon as possible. This single point of contact facilitates the emergency response for all types of incidents.

4.5.1.2. First Responders

At the onset of an emergency, first responders are likely to be the first “emergency managers” on the scene. Their immediate objectives are to protect life and assess the nature and scope of the threat posed by the emergency. Their initial response represents the beginning of a continuing flow of people, equipment and supplies necessary to protect persons and property from the harmful effects of the emergency.

4.5.1.3. Emergency Mass Notification

During the crisis phase of an emergency it is imperative to alert the public to the dangers associated with that event. Kannur University will employ a robust and multi-faceted mass notification system to broadcast emergency notifications.

The University Mass Notification System (MNS) consists of the following mediums, which can be activated individually or in tandem depending upon the nature and scope of the event:

- ☐ Outdoor sirens (Kannur University campuses)
- ☐ Outdoor speaker systems
- ☐ Indoor speaker systems
- ☐ Text messaging
- ☐ Mass email
- ☐ University website
- ☐ Print and broadcast Media

In order to expedite the decision-making process and ensure timely notification, Police Services on the University campuses will initiate emergency notification. As the central repository for emergency information from federal, state, local and University sources, Police Services can receive, assess and initiate notification from its 24-hour staffed Communication Center.

Regional campuses may differ in their ability to deliver emergency notifications in their facilities. The use of indoor speaker systems, word of mouth or other means of communication may be used.

University Communications, in collaboration with Disaster Management Wing, facilitates emergency notification for all campuses through mass email, the University website, text messaging and the dissemination of information to the print and broadcast media.

4.6. Emergency Levels

Emergency incidents are classified according to their severity and potential impact so that emergency response operations can be adjusted for actual conditions.

LEVEL 1:

A major disaster or imminent threat involving the entire campus and/or surrounding community

Mass notification is mandatory. Normal University operations will be reduced or suspended. The effects of the emergency are wide-ranging and complex. A timely resolution of disaster conditions requires University-wide cooperation and extensive coordination with external agencies and jurisdictions.

Level 1 incident will require activation of the Kannur University Disaster Management Policy and the Emergency Operation Center.

Examples: Major landslide, multi-structure fire or major explosion, major hazardous materials release, or a terrorism incident.

LEVEL 2:

A major incident or potential threat that disrupts sizable portions of the campus community

Mass notification is mandatory but scaled based on incident type and geography. Level 2 emergencies may require assistance from external organizations. These events may escalate quickly and have serious consequences for mission-critical functions, or may threaten life safety.

Level 2 incidents will require activation of the Kannur University Disaster Management Policy and the Emergency Operation Center.

Examples: Structure fire, structural collapse, significant hazardous materials release, extensive power or utility outage, severe flooding, multi-fatality incident, or an external emergency that may affect University personnel or operations.

LEVEL 3:

A minor, localized incident that is quickly resolved with existing University resources or limited outside help

A timely warning or a limited notification may be required depending upon the nature of the incident. A Level 3 emergency has little or no impact on personnel or normal operations outside the locally affected area.

Examples: Odor complaint, localized chemical spill, small fire, localized power failure, plumbing failure or water leak, and police calls.

4.7. Policy Maintenance and Revisions

As needed, the Head of Kannur University Disaster Management Cell (DMC) will review and update the Disaster Management Policy with assistance from the Emergency Response Team (ERT). Additionally, the policy will be reviewed immediately after any exercises, drills or incidents that activate the disaster management plan of the University.

Training

Training is vital to the success of the implementation of plan. Primary stakeholders of the University, typically through the auspices of the Emergency Rescue Team and Disaster Risk Reduction Force members, will take part in an exercise to test the plan through a tabletop, drill, functional exercise or full-scale exercise not less than annually.

The level and degree of training required depends on the role of the individual. Emergency Response Team (ERT) members will receive training on Unstructured Information Management System (UIMS) and emergency operations through the following methods:

- **Seminar** - Is an informal discussion-based exercise used to teach or orientate to new or existing plans, policies or procedures.
- **Workshop** - Is a formal discussion-based exercise used to develop new processes and procedures through coordinated activities, obtain consensus and collect or share information.
- **Tabletop Exercise** -Involves key personnel in an informal group discussion centered on a hypothetical scenario with the goal to identify strengths and weaknesses, and test existing plans and procedures.
- **Drill** – Is a supervised activity that tests a specific operation or function of a single agency or department. Drills test existing or new procedures, practice and maintain skills and prepare for more complex exercises.
- **Functional Exercise** – Is a single or multi-agency activity designed to evaluate capabilities and multiple functions using a simulated response.
- **Full-Scale Exercise** – Is a multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional activity involving actual deployment of resources in a coordinated response as if a real incident had occurred.

4.12. Disaster Management Cell (DMC) of Kannur University

Disaster Management Wing will be developed as all risk, flexible modular department ready to work at any level of natural and manmade emergency events. It works as an executive department based on the information derived from high-tech Disaster management Information System developed under the supervision of Kannur University. DMC will have Operations Desk, Information Desk, Logistics Desk, Health Desk, Service Desk and Resource Desk.