

# **MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF GREATER MUMBAI**

## **DISASTER MANAGEMENT UNIT**

### **Mumbai Emergency Management Exercises - 2010**

#### **Background**

The global migration of populations to large cities has opened up unprecedented socio-economic opportunities to millions across the world. It has also brought in its wake a significant threat to the urban millions that live in an increasingly volatile environment which is susceptible to both manmade and natural calamities leading to unprecedented humanitarian crises. This proposal seeks to examine and strengthen urban disaster response in Mumbai.

The proposal builds on prior successful local initiatives undertaken by the institutions collaborating on this project across India and Sri Lanka. Of note, are the International Center for Training in Emergency Medicine, Trauma and Disaster Preparedness Ahmedabad, Gujarat (2005-08) and the successful Disaster Training and Drill for Ahmedabad Civil Hospital (2007), the post-tsunami projects with the Sri Lankan Ministry of Health (2004-08), the Emergency Medicine Conference organized by NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital and Hinduja Hospital (Mumbai 2007), and Project Mumbai VOICES under the aegis of the National Knowledge Commission of India, Mumbai University, All India Disaster Mitigation Institute and the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative (2006-08). As well as Mumbai Emergency Management Exercises-MEMEx-I(2008)

#### **The Concept**

The Emergency Management Exercise will be a multi-institutional public-private partnership that will bring together local emergency responders, educational institutions, hospitals, humanitarian agencies and state agencies to explore and strengthen the city's emergency response system through a series of trainings and workshops followed by a table-top exercise and a field drill. Key components of the exercises this year include an evaluation track where local public health professionals will be trained in monitoring and evaluating disaster response systems to help them identify strengths and challenges in existing systems and a track on humanitarian response where humanitarian response professionals would hone their skills in sectoral assessment, interagency coordination and disaster response. It is proposed that this exercise will be linked with the ongoing Global Campaign of making cities resilient. Some of the mayors and administrative heads of other cities will be called to witness the proceedings of the exercise as well.