

# HAZARD ASSESSMENT

# Learning objectives

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- Describe the concepts of hazard and secondary hazards.
- Explain hazard characteristics such as magnitude, frequency, intensity and rate of onset and their importance
- To discuss the hazard assessment process

There is a  
potential for  
occurrence  
of an event



# Classification of Hazards





# Classification of Hazards



- **Natural**
- **Technological**
- **Societal**



# Origin or Causes of Hazards

| Hazards           | Origin or Causes |
|-------------------|------------------|
| <b>Earthquake</b> |                  |
| <b>Tsunami</b>    |                  |
| <b>Volcanoes</b>  |                  |
| <b>Landslides</b> |                  |
| <b>Epidemic</b>   |                  |

# Origin or Causes of Hazards

| Hazards           | Origin or Causes  |
|-------------------|---|
| <b>Earthquake</b> | Shaking of earth by the waves below the earth's surface   |
| <b>Tsunami</b>    | Due to earthquake in sea/ocean/lake   |
| <b>Volcanoes</b>  | Magma pushed upwards through internal pressure developed by dissolved gases   |
| <b>Landslides</b> | Down slope transport of soil & rock by natural vibrations changes in direct water content or removal of lateral support |
| <b>Epidemic</b>   | Rise in parasitic infestations due to exposure to contamination   |

# Origin or Causes of Hazards

| <b>Hazards</b>                 | <b>Origin or Causes</b>                                   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>Cyclones</b>                | Wind currents that spin                                   |
| <b>Floods</b>                  | River and coastal rising of water due to intense rainfall |
| <b>Drought</b>                 | Rainfall deficit over long time periods                   |
| <b>Environmental pollution</b> | Caused by air, marine & fresh water pollutants            |
| <b>Storm Surges</b>            | Due to cyclones or tides in ocean/sea                     |



# One Hazard Causing a Secondary Hazard

In case of Earthquake, what will be the secondary hazards associated with EQ

??????



# One Hazard Causing a Secondary Hazard

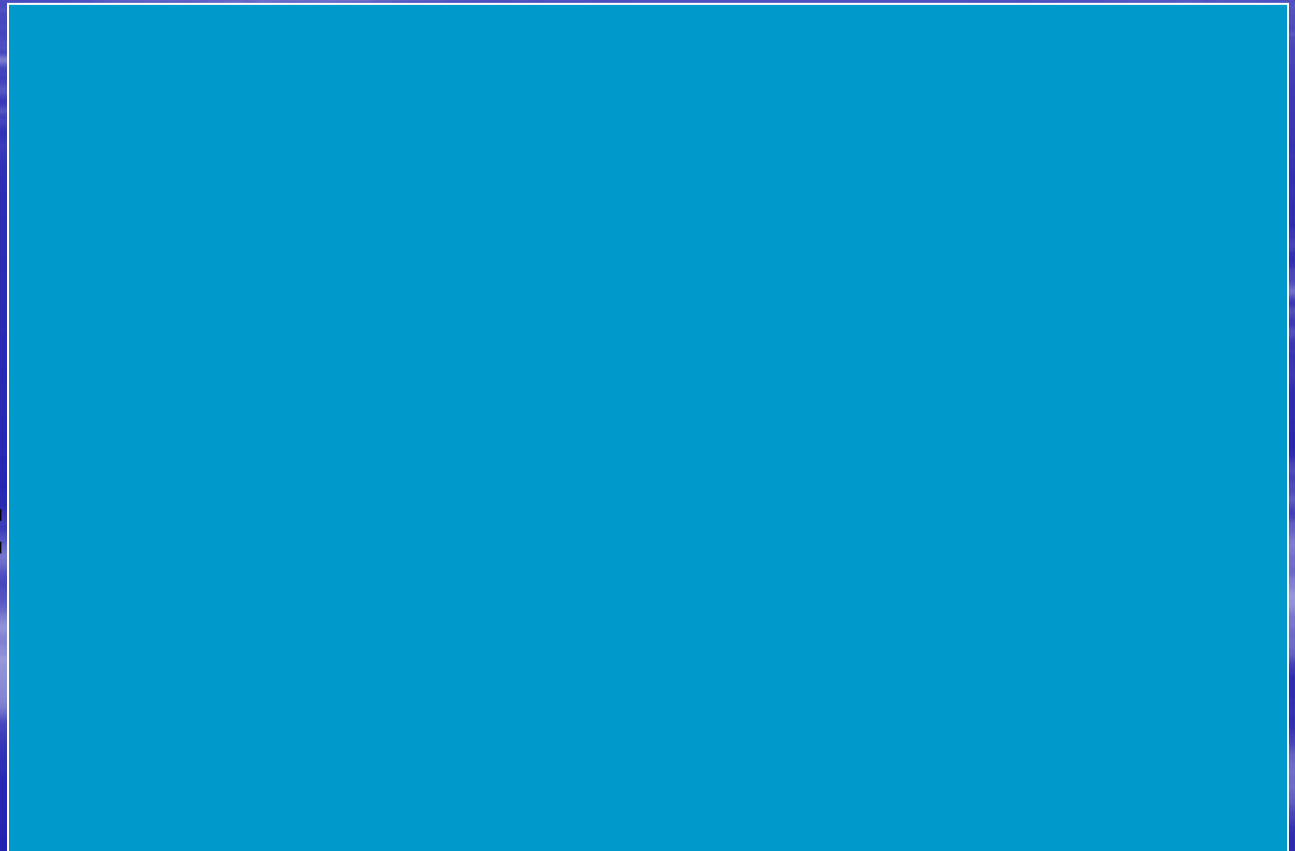
In case of Earthquake, which can bring further hazards like

- Building collapse
- Dam failure
- Fire
- Hazardous material spill Interruption of power/  
water supply/ communication/  
transportation/ waste disposal
- Landslide
- Soil liquefaction
- Tsunami (tidal wave)

# Hazard Causing a Secondary Hazard

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- ✓ Flood:
- ✓ Drought:
- ✓ Civil war:
- ✓ Landslide:
- ✓ Pollution:



# Hazard Causing a Secondary Hazard

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- ✓ **Flood:** Epidemics, snake bite, dam failure
- ✓ **Drought:** Epidemics, famine
- ✓ **Civil war:** Refugees & displaced persons
- ✓ **Landslide:** Epidemics, Temporary damming
- ✓ **Pollution:** Disease

## Rate of onset

Include rapid-onset and slow-onset natural hazards.



# HAZARD ASSESSMENT

"The process of studying the nature of hazards determining its essential features (degree of severity, duration, extent, impact on the area) and their relationship".

# Some Important Points to Consider in Hazard Assessment

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- ❑ Look at scientific and statistical data
- ❑ Historical record
- ❑ Approach other knowledgeable sources/people
- ❑ Understand the various intensities of the same hazard
- ❑ Hazard mapping

# Possible reasons for new hazards

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- **Natural** - changes in the pattern of weather leading to new forms of drought and flooding
- **Economic** - Fluctuations in the value of currency affecting livelihoods, trade related policy changes, structural adjustment measures

# Possible reasons for new hazards

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- **Social and political trends**- changes in policies, subsidy programs, re-locations of people
- **Structural changes**- decentralization / centralization, conflicts
- **Industrial hazards**- chemical accidents, poisonings
- **New forms of epidemics**- Bird Flu, AIDS, Hepatitis B & C



# Factors to consider in understanding the nature & behavior of hazards

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- **Origin**

Factors which create, result in a hazard. Can be natural or man made

- **Warning Signs and signals**

Scientific & indigenous indicators that hazard is likely to occur

Rainfall duration, intensity, quantity, speed of wind, temperature, movement of animals, insects and birds

- **Forewarning**

Time gap between warning signs & the impact of hazard

Relatively short but can vary from a few hours (over-night) to a few days

# Factors to consider in understanding the nature and behavior of hazards

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- **Force**

Factors that make the power of hazards, e.g. intensity and magnitude of earthquake

- **Speed of Onset**

Rapidity of arrival and impact

- **Frequency**

Time related patterns of occurrence of hazards

# Factors to consider in understanding the nature and behavior of hazards

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- **Seasonality**

Occurrence of a hazard in a particular time of the year

- **Duration**

Hazard's presence in a time scale

# Hazard Matrix

| Hazard Type | Origin   | Warning Signs  | Fore-warning   | Force           | Speed of Onset                               | Frequency | Seasonality          | Duration     |
|-------------|--|--|--|-----------------|--|-----------|----------------------|--------------|
| Flooding    | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Torrential RF</li> <li>2. Seasonal rainfall</li> <li>3. Storm Surge</li> <li>4. Dam burst</li> </ol> | Met data, Rainfall duration, intensity, quantity, speed of wind, temperature, movement of animals, insects and birds | Relatively short but can vary from a few hours (overnight) to a few days | Volume of water | Can often be predicted a few days in advance | Seasonal  | Wet / Monsoon Season | Days / Weeks |



| Hazard Type | Origin | Warning Signs | Fore-warning | Force | Speed of Onset | Frequency | Seasonality | Duration |
|-------------|--------|---------------|--------------|-------|----------------|-----------|-------------|----------|
|             |        |               |              |       |                |           |             |          |

