Aapada Mitra Programme

Why in News

Recently, the government has announced plans to have **Disaster Management** Volunteers **(Aapda Mitras)** in 350 districts of the country also released documents for **Common Alerting Protocol (CAP)**

> CAP is a simple but **general format for exchanging all-hazard emergency alerts** and public warnings over all kinds of networks.

Key Points

- **About:**
  - It is a **Central Sector Scheme** that was launched in May 2016. **NDMA (National Disaster Management Authority)** is the implementing agency.
  - It is a programme to identify suitable individuals in **disaster-prone** regions who can be trained to be first responders in times of disasters.
- **Aim:**
  > **To provide the community volunteers** with the skills that they would need to **respond to their community's immediate needs** in the aftermath of a disaster thereby enabling them **to undertake basic relief and rescue tasks during emergency situations** such as **floods, flash-floods and urban flooding.**
- **Objectives:**
  - **Training institutions** to be empanelled by respective States/UTs at the State/UT level.
  - **To train community volunteers** in life saving skills of disaster response (flood relief and rescue), coordination, assistance, and provide personal protective equipment and emergency responder kits;
  - To create a **Community Emergency Stockpile/Reserve** at the district/block level containing essential light search and rescue equipment, medical first aid kits, etc;
  - To **disseminate training and education tools** developed under the project to more flood prone districts in subsequent phases of the scheme.

National Disaster Management Authority

- NDMA is the **apex statutory body for disaster management** in India. It is headed by the Prime Minister of India.
- It was formally **constituted on 27th September 2006,** in accordance with the **<u>Disaster Management Act, 2005</u>.**
- Its primary purpose is **to coordinate response to natural or man-made disasters and for capacity-building in disaster resiliency and crisis response.**
- It **envisages to build a safer and disaster resilient India** by a holistic, proactive, technology driven and sustainable development strategy that involves all stakeholders and fosters a culture of prevention, preparedness and mitigation.

<u>Source: IE</u>