

Home Guard and Civil Defense Vision 2030

Vision

- To provide adequate support to the police and military forces in terms of maintenance of law and order

Mission

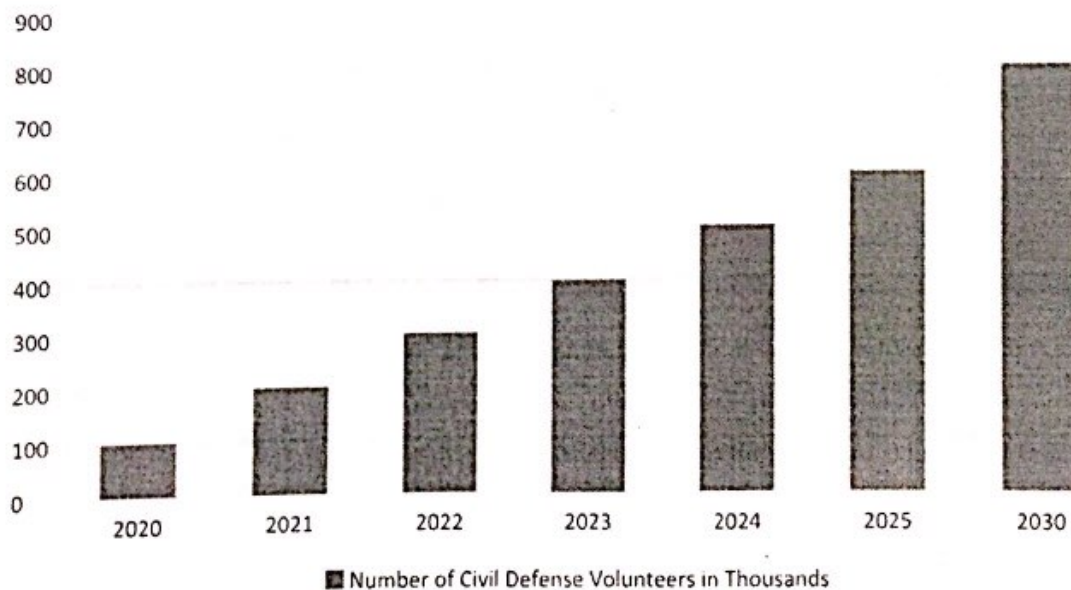
- Creation of a superior para military force in terms of swiftness, efficiency and efficacy of operations.
- Creation of at least 7.5 Lakhs Civil Defense Volunteers amongst the population of Madhya Pradesh.
- Setting up strong IT Systems and Communications Networks, by leveraging existing and future technologies to support the network of Home Guard Force, SDERF and Civil Defense Volunteers
- World Class Infrastructure amongst the main cities and towns of Madhya Pradesh acting as a nodal point for Home Guard, Civil Defense Volunteers and SDERF

1. Rationale for preparation of Vision Document

A vision document serves as a guiding principle from the baseline to the organization using it effectively. There are many assumptions made in the Vision Document based on which future projections about the organization's progress are made. The utility of the assumptions makes it clear to the user for Vision Document about the validity and practicality of proposals in Vision Document about the implementation hurdles. Accordingly, the Vision Document can be utilized citing the changes in the assumptions and appropriate measures to interpret and implement the vision in its spirit and not just the letter.

2. Vision 2025 – Home Guard, Civil Defense and SDRF (Short Term)

As per the directives of Government of India, Director General – Fire and Civil Defense, every state is directed to have at least 1 percent population of the state prepared as Civil Defense Volunteers. Accordingly the following graph shows the projections for the State of Madhya Pradesh as a target population to be trained as Civil Defense Volunteers till 2025.



3. Better Co-ordination amongst different government agencies

It is expected that in order to maintain public law and order, all government agencies should work in close co-ordination and understanding with each other. While due to the rules and regulations of the government procedures, this might seem difficult at times, especially in emergency situations, latest technology including communication network, IT hardware and software and mobile applications have greatly enhanced the capacity to ensure a possibility of greater co-ordination between different government agencies responsible for law and order.

In this regard, Home Guard, Civil Defense and SDERF are expected to have a good interface with MP Police to ensure better measures of public safety and security.

4. Training to enhance Self Defense capabilities in women

Given the rising nature of crimes against women, especially in deep rural hinterlands and urban pockets where police or other government security agencies find difficult to reach, women are expected to defend themselves in emergency situations, both physically and mentally. Modern communication tools like mobile applications are being developed to enable more women to immediately alert their family, friends, relatives or government agencies in case they sense a danger in difficult situations. But in addition to this, maximum women in the State of Madhya Pradesh should be trained to physically defend themselves against any potential danger by being trained in martial arts and physical fitness measures.

5. Establishment of Infrastructural Facilities

Home Guard, Civil Defense and SDERF need to have latest infrastructure not only in terms of technology but also basic infrastructure like office buildings, camp offices and other supporting infrastructure. Infrastructure at the division and district level needs to be upgraded to world class standards, through construction of sufficient office space, storage area for rescue equipment and camp offices. The state of Madhya Pradesh should have at least 10 good buildings belonging exclusively to the Home Guards department dedicated to Home Guards office related works and co-ordination purpose. The buildings should be provided with good three phase electricity supply connections from appropriate state authority, technological infrastructure like communication equipment, rescue equipment and storehouse for all rescue related works. The 10 major centers of Home Guard should be created at division or district level in such a way so as to optimize the speed of rescue operations to the rescue spot with all the available

resources to the department and keeping in mind the supply chain / logistics of manpower, equipment and other rescue material to the rescue spots as well as the Home Guard Centers. The existing land bank available with the department in different urban centers of Madhya Pradesh can be utilized efficiently for this purpose.

6. Development of SDERF

SDERF is established fundamentally to respond to emergency situations based on national institutions like NDRF and therefore it is of utmost importance to respond to flood, earthquake and any kind natural or man-made calamities effectively and efficiently. Similarly a state district command center should be established in each of the 51 districts of Madhya Pradesh for responding to the emergency situations at district level. Emergency Operations Centers should be established at district level to support the SDERF as well as Home Guards and Civil Defense. At every district headquarters, there should be at least one Home Guard office in proper shape with all supporting staff for administrative matters. Technological infrastructure should be made available to the extent possible. At the field level, the Home Guard / SDERF foot soldiers should get all the technical support mostly from the district office if possible rather than the state headquarters of Home Guard / SDERF at the state capital Bhopal. The headquarters in state capital Bhopal should only be used as an administrative, technological support center to the district headquarters' office rather than directly supporting the field officers. This will ensure that in emergency situation, any lack of communication, communication infrastructure gaps, administrative hurdles are minimized and the public shall get the maximum benefit of the services of SDERF and Home Guards.

Budgeting is an important aspect of providing rescue support, because modern rescue operations cannot be carried out without supporting state of the art equipment and the same shall be provided to the SDERF team especially for buying rescue related equipment smoothly and seamlessly. Exclusive staff for SDERF should be allotted rather than the SDERF piggy-backing on Home Guard staff to ensure more efficient operations of SDERF.

Four major division centers should be identified so as to establish infrastructure facilities for supporting the operations in those regions. There four centers are proposed to be namely

1. Bhopal Division
2. Indore Division
3. Jabalpur Division
4. Gwalior Division

In Indore Division, Ralamandal village on Mumbai – Agra Highway is located nearly 12-15 Km. south-east from Indore, Home Guard departments 15 Acre land bank could be utilized to establish a Regional Command Center to serve the Indore Division. The Detailed Project Report (DPR) for this project is already available and the same could be utilized towards the achieving this through proper government process and after getting in place the necessary administrative and financial sanctions / approvals by Government of Madhya Pradesh.

7. Establishment of Quick Response Teams (QRTs)

Quick Response Teams are the most important building blocks in rescue operations because of their agility, flexibility and speed of operations. It is important to understand and plan how their mobility can be enhanced during the next 7 to 10 years towards achieving maximum strike rate of QRTs reaching the spot by pre-empting the emergency situation and preventing the calamity rather than performing damage control post the event. An All-Terrain Vehicle should be designed and procured for the QRTs by understanding the geographical features, terrain and topology in the hinterlands of Madhya Pradesh. Also, if needed help from automobile industry should be sought in designing such vehicle, on a make-to-order basis. Communication Networks should be upgraded and brought to the existing state of the art technological maturity level through the support of MAPIT / MPSEDC / MAPCOST and other government agencies responsible for technological and IT / Communication support either at Government of India or Government of Madhya Pradesh. Science and Technology Department of Government of Madhya Pradesh / Government of India could be consulted to ensure availability of latest technology with the QRTs. Emerging technologies from other countries (Mobile Apps like WhatsApp, SnapChat, Hike Messengers) could be utilized after following due process and approvals from the government authorities by QRTs and after making sure that there are enough checks and balances to prevent the misuse of such technologies and only constructive use is possible.