

Meeting held on mitigation of Lumsey landslide

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SUMMIT REPORT

GANGTOK, 11 AUG:

Meeting on mitigation strategies for landslide in Lumsey Area was held at the conference hall of Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority (SSDMA), Land Revenue & Disaster Management Department today, a press release informs.



On the directions of the Chief Minister, the meeting was organized under the chairmanship of Tadong MLA, G.T. Dhungel, and had the representation of Heads of Departments of Urban Development, Water Resources, Power, Gangtok Municipal Corporation, Mines and Geology, Roads and Bridges, Gangtok District Collectorate, Forest along with the presence of Councillor and Project Coordinator, Mangan mitigation project.

The meeting commenced with Welcome Address by Relief Commissioner cum Secretary, land Revenue & Disaster Management Department where he welcomed the Chairman of the meeting and the representatives of the departments and agencies. He highlighted the pres-

ence of senior officers in the meeting which he stressed showed the commitment of the departments to find a possible solution to the landslide problem at Lumsey Area.

This was followed by Rajiv Roka, Additional Director, SSDMA briefing the attendees on the objective of the meeting and highlighting the importance as has been emphasized by the Chief Minister to find possible solution to the landslide problem at Lumsey Area. The District Collector, Gangtok, Ragul K gave a brief report on the inspection of the affected area with release of immediate ex-gratia payments to the affected people.

The Joint Director, Mines and Geology Department, K.K. Luitel

gave the report on preliminary geological observation of the area and further informed that extensive study report will be shared with Land Revenue & DM Department on 1st of September.

The Project Coordinator, Mangan Landslide Mitigation project gave a detailed presentation on the Mangan Landslide Mitigation project and informed the house that similar extensive study should be undertaken at Lumsey area with the involvement of multilateral agencies. Prabhakar Rai, Director, SSDMA highlighted on the technical guidelines issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs on fund allocation and norms of usage. He suggested that the vulnerable areas should be declared as no construction zone to identify the

area as affected by a state level Disaster. He further informed that as per the Disaster Mitigation norms an appraisal committee would inspect the area along with technical team and Detailed Project Report will be formulated and sent to National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA).

MLA, Tadong, G.T. Dhungel in his address thanked all the departments and directed the departments to put words into action. He emphasized that the State Government is committed to reduce risks of the people and is working towards finding long term mitigation plans.

The house agreed that line departments will provide initial inputs by 18 August and after receiving the report from Mines and Geology Department, a final report will be presented. In the meantime, Nodal officers specifically for Lumsey Mitigation were appointed from the line departments. The Final report from SSDMA will be prepared by 09 September. It was informed that the next meeting will be held under the chairmanship of the Chief Minister.