

The comment by WMO regarding EWS in India before Cyclone PHAILIN explains the effectiveness of EWS in mitigating cyclone related losses is quoted here:-

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) regards political recognition of the benefits of developing and implementing EWS at the local and national level as one of ten principles of EWS good practice (WMO, 2011). "The role of cooperation and effective communication between local and national officials was evident during Cyclone Phailin. It was reported that coordination between the local and national levels was "remarkably good," which helped lead to successful preparedness efforts (Jain, 2013). For governments looking to emulate the collaborative approach the Indian government took, policies could be put in place to encourage participation at local and national levels for early warning communication, recovery and relief efforts. Moreover, the involvement of the community and the private sector are also essential to the establishment and implementation of prevention policy" (UNISDR, 2007).

7.11 Conclusions

7.11.1 Disasters Cost India \$ 10 bn Per Year New UN global assessment report on disaster risk says India's annual loss due to disasters is estimated to be \$9.8 bn. The global assessment report (GAR 2015)³⁹, produced by UN office for disaster risk reduction (UNISDR) urged countries, especially in

³⁹ The Times of India, dated 11 March 2015 New Delhi

Asia to treat this a wake up call and invest in disaster risk reduction(DRR), or it will hinder development. UN countries are to meet in Sendai, Japan to sign a new DRR protocol which will replace Hygo Framework for Action (HFA). India's 14th Finance commission has committed \$ 9 bn in the next five years towards disaster management. An annual investment of \$ 6 bn will generate benefits worth \$ 360 bn in terms of DRR.

7.11.2 Thus referring to the research questions to examine if we could find answers for them, a definite relation has been established between an effective Early Warning System and Risk reduction. An effective EWS will drastically reduce the loss of life as seen in cyclone Phailin. Hence in view of the outcome of the research and opinions of various world bodies like United Nations and WMO etc. the following recommendations are made for policy makers:-

- (a) Demographic factors need to be considered when evacuating people. Older people, women and children will require more assistance during evacuation.
- (b) An effective and reliable Early Warning System is very important if the intention is to reduce loss and damage to life and property.
- (c) Structural and Nonstructural measures brought out in the studies need to be adopted.
- (d) Easily accessible Multipurpose Shelters need to be built all around vulnerable areas. They need to be utilized in normal times to ensure maintenance. Record of location of schools and places of worship are held by disaster management authorities.
- (e) The EWS should have an effective communication facility with built in redundancies.

- (f) Political will is very important for ensuring all DM activities are well coordinated.
- (g) Creating Awareness regarding Disasters and the processes involved in evacuation etc is a very important part of preparedness. This will help in easy evacuation.
- (h) Policy makers and emergency workers need to be trained for their roles.
- (i) Transparency needs to be ensured in fund and relief material utilization.