

# Earthquake Safety Day

NSET Information Kit | 031 | 2011



## BACKGROUND

In commemoration of the Great Bihar-Nepal Earthquake of 1934, Government of Nepal has declared 2 Magh (15 January) as the Earthquake Safety Day (ESD). The government of Nepal began celebrating 2 Magh (or January 16) as the Earthquake Safety Day since 1999. It was a response to intense lobbying and advocacy by NSET and its partners during the KVERMP.

So every year on 15 January Nepal celebrates the national Earthquake Safety Day (ESD). It is the culmination of earthquake risk management works implemented in the country in the preceding 12 months, and allows taking stock of the achievements and shortcomings.

The National Society for Earthquake Technology - Nepal (NSET-Nepal) observes the Day by organizing activities with the purpose of raising awareness on earthquake risk reduction and preparedness. The program is organized in cooperation with government and non-government agencies. The Earthquake Safety Day program of NSET becomes a part of the national program, which is coordinated by the Earthquake Safety Day National Committee (ESDNC), located in the Ministry of Science and Technology, HMG, Nepal and chaired by Hon. Minister for Science and Technology.

NSET has successfully organized 11 Earthquake Safety Days in the past since January 1999 to January 2009 with an encouraging participation by individuals and institutions from Nepal, India, Pakistan, Thailand, Indonesia, Japan, USA.

The ESD program typically runs for 4-5 days, and it includes ceremonial parts (National meetings with Rt. Honorable Prime Minister as the Chief Guest, march along the streets, publications of posters and other awareness materials), a Symposium on Experiences of Earthquake Risk Management, an Earthquake Awareness Exhibition that runs for 4-5 days, various programs for school children, demonstration of Shake Table test of 1:10 scale building models with and without earthquake-resistant elements.

## OBJECTIVES:

To raise awareness on earthquake risk reduction and preparedness

## ACTIVITIES:

- Symposium, Awareness speech by the Minister, ESD Rally, High Level Meeting, Annual press conference.





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- Earthquake Safety Exhibition with
  - Shake table demonstration
  - Real scale model of earthquake-resistant construction
  - Exhibition of historical photographs of past earthquakes
  - Exhibition of disaster management related works, methods and products by various organizations (national/international)
- Children essay / paintings competition, street drama on earthquake safety
- Distribution of numerous publications such as information leaflets, calendars, earthquake resistant construction posters to the public
- Public talks about Kathmandu Valley's Earthquake Risk
- Media Campaigns

## PROGRAM OUTPUT:

A wide international and national participation of professionals and institutions in the ESD program

Increased number of well informed and aware communities



## Earthquake Safety Day Slogans

"Follow Earthquake Preparedness to be safe from Earthquake Disaster"

"Making School Safer from Future Earthquakes"

"Earthquake Risk Mitigation, Implementation of Non-structural measures"

"Follow Building Code to be safe from Earthquake"

"Earthquake cannot be PREVENTED, but its destructive effects can be minimized through PREPAREDNESS"

"Let's reduce earthquake risk with active involvement of informed and energetic youth"

"Earthquake-Safe Health Facilities Uninterrupted Health Services"

"Safe Behavior and Strong Residence, Increase Community Earthquake Resilience"

Implementing Partners: