Lessons Learned from Disasters in Kerala



Agenda



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FIGHTING CORONAVIRUS

What the world can learn from Kerala about how to fight covid-19

The inside story of how one Indian state is flattening the curve through epic levels of contact tracing and social assistance.



Kerala's unique risk and demographic landscape





















A brief lookback at some of the disasters Kerala has faced...





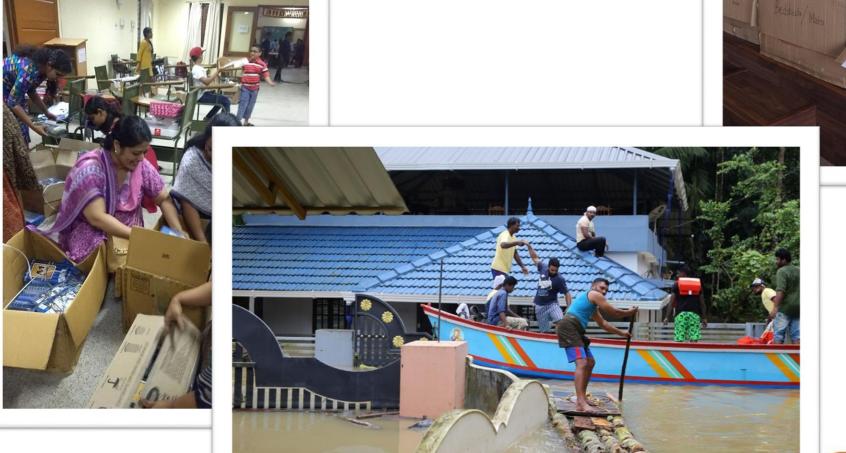


2020 COVID

2024 Wayanad

2018 Floods

2018 Floods







2020 Covid









2024 Wayanad











WHAT HAS MADE KERALA STANDOUT

Few 'Golden Nuggets'



What worked well

- Response of the Three Cs Communities, Citizens, and Corporates
- Local Level Leadership
- Rapid Healthcare Team Deployment
- Use Of Real-time Dashboards (Rebuild Kerala, War Rooms)
- Fishermen As First Responders In Floods
- The work done by Kudumbashree & ASHAs



What does this mean – few 'Golden Nuggets'

- Local Leadership > Central Command
- Trust In Institutions Drives Compliance
- Citizen Tech (WhatsApp, Gls, Helplines) Enables Scale
- Response ≠ Recovery Long-term Effort Needed
- Volunteers Are Not Backup They're The Front Line



What other states can learn from Kerala

- Ground level innovations matter
 - ResQ App, Ward Level COVID war rooms, Pre-monsoon drills and mock rescue operations, flood monitoring layers integrated into KSDMA
 - Institutions are important
 - KSDMA, LSGs, Inclusion of disaster management in schools, trained local volunteers, district level micro plans with ward inputs
 - Decentralization + Literacy + Public Trust
 - Preparedness is everyday governance
 - Success of community kitchens, mobile clinics, transparent briefings
 - Institutionalize local response units
 - Invest in public trust and communication
 - Invest in the latest technologies AI, IoT
 - Integrate climate vulnerability into infrastructure planning



Every disaster leaves behind not just a lot of tragedies and unfinished stories, but also a glimpse into the resilience of humans and at least a lesson. Let us not forget to learn from it and build on it.

Thank you

