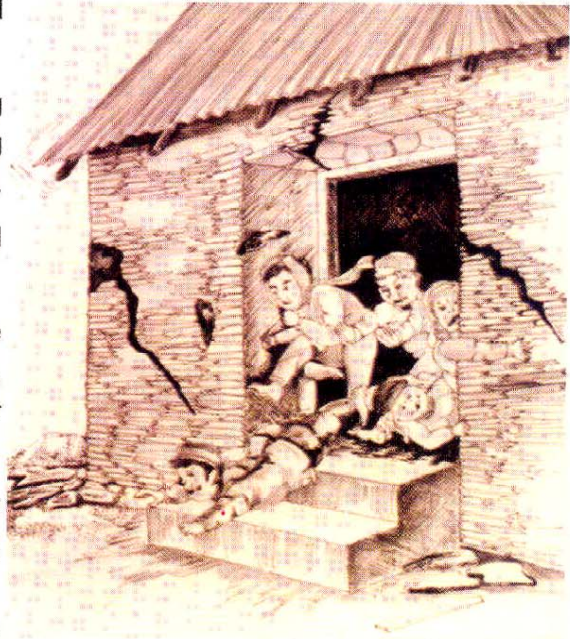


HOW TO RESPOND TO EARTHQUAKE

DURING AN EARTHQUAKE

- Remain calm and try to calm and reassure others.
- Do not run outside in panic, falling sunshades, parapet and other projecting parts of the building may hurt you.
- Never use lifts. You may get trapped inside.
- If indoors, watch for falling objects like plasters, bricks/stones, lighting fixtures, high bookcases, shelves and other cabinets. They may slide or topple.
- Always cover your head with a pillow or cushion to save you from falling objects.
- Get under a table, desk or bed to avoid injuries or stand in a strong doorway or take shelter near an inner wall, as maximum damage occurs in outer wall.



- Do not stand in balconies.
- Stay away from glass windows, mirrors, chimneys and other projecting parts of the building.
- Switch off gas and electric connections
- If outside, avoid being close to high buildings, walls, power poles and other objects that could fall. If possible, move to an open area away from buildings.

WHAT TO DO AFTER AN EARTHQUAKE

Be prepared for 'aftershocks'.

Check house for damages, evacuate if it is damaged.

Do not enter damaged buildings.

Try to help douse fires in case you see it.

Wear shoes in all areas near debris and broken glass.

Check service lines and appliances for damage. Do not use matches or lighters until it has been established that there is no gas leak.

Cooperate with the Government Authorities. Respond to requests for cooperation and help from Government Authorities, Police and Fire Services.

Do not crowd damaged areas unless help has been requested.

Keep clear the roads for emergency operations.

Do not spread rumors.

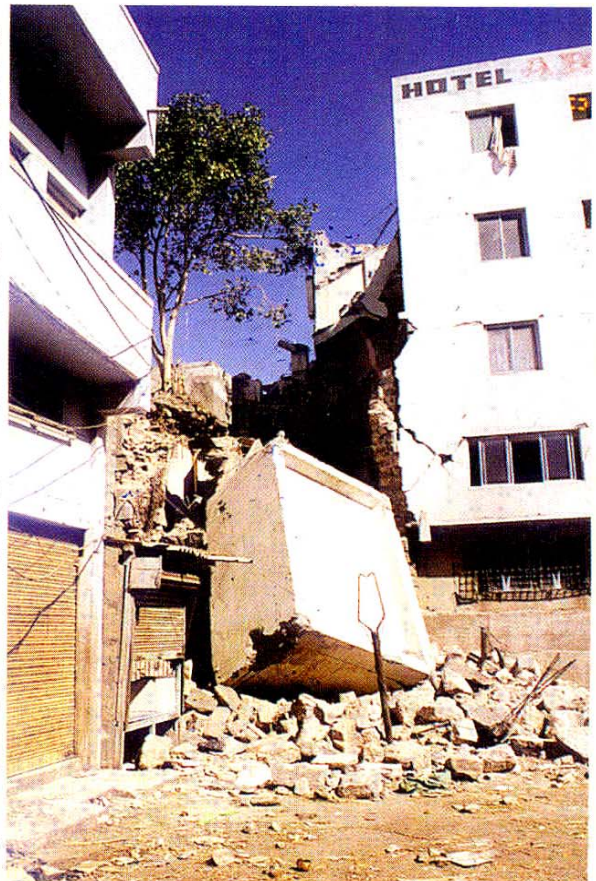
Save water as it may be required for fire fighting.

DO NOT use your telephone, EXCEPT for a medical or fire emergency. You could tie up the lines needed for emergency response. If the phone doesn't work, send someone for help.

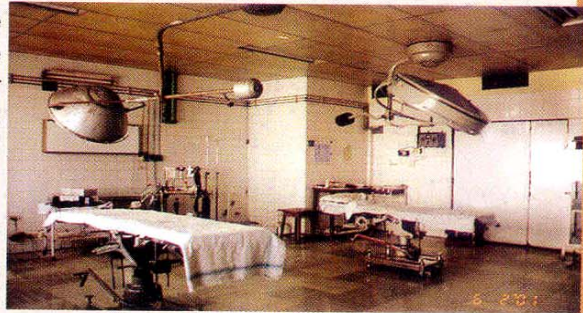
Avoid taking help from firefighters, police or paramedics until it is essential. Their services may be required for more emergent duties.

BEFORE AN EARTHQUAKE

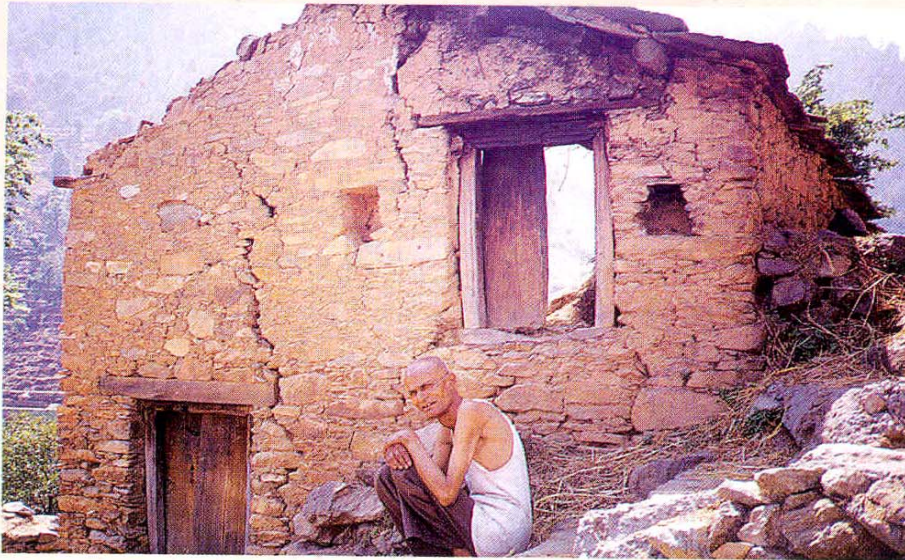
- While constructing a new building ask your architect/engineer/builder to make your building earthquake resistant by following building codes and other sound construction practices to minimize earthquake damage.
- Build on firm ground or go right up to the bedrock level when laying foundations. Avoid filled up areas for construction as far as possible. If it is essential to build on poor soil insist for special care and proper design of foundation.
- If purchasing a house, ascertain that the building is earthquake resistant.
- You can make your existing building earthquake resistant by Retrofitting. For this consult qualified engineer or architect.
- Take necessary and proper advice before renovations and alterations in the house.
- Do not remove walls of existing building without consulting architect/engineer.
- If ground floor of your building is open, it has higher probability of damage. Get it checked.
- Check that roof top water storage tanks are properly tied with the main structure. In recent Gujarat earthquake many such tanks fell down from the roof and even the buildings collapsed because of these tanks.
- False ceilings and electrical fittings must be properly anchored to avoid economic losses and injuries even during the minor earthquakes.
- Do not keep flowerpots on parapet wall.
- Take proper care to place hazardous chemicals in industries and labs. Use closed cupboards or provide restrainers/stoppers in the open storage racks.
- Fix up your TV and computer sets with table to avoid free fall during the earthquake, which is very common. In Chamoli earthquake many computers and its accessories fell down from table causing economic loss to organizations/individuals.



- In hospitals, check that all the equipments are properly tied with the wall, roof or floor. All racks used for storing medicines and instruments should be anchored to avoid overturning.



- Do not keep almirahs/racks in the passage in your office, schools, factories, hospitals, as they will block the exit routes during emergency.
- Teach members of your family how to turn off electricity and gas at main switches and valves.
- Train your family members in 'basic first aid' because medical facilities may be overloaded immediately after a severe earthquake.



Family Disaster Plan

- Know what to do and where to meet your family after an earthquake.
- Identify one relative in other city to provide information about your safety.
- Make emergency kit comprising of torch, fire extinguisher, water, money in cash, portable radio, first aid kit, candles, extra batteries for radio and torch, food items. This kit may be checked from time to time to keep it up to date.
- Identify emergency exit of your house and always keep it clear.
- Hold earthquake drill at regular interval and know what to do during an earthquake.
- Discuss with family members about what everyone does at school and at work in case of an earthquake.