

## **PRESS NOTE**

### **NDRF conducts ‘Mobilization Drill’ in Pune; PDRF showcases disaster response prowess!**

**Pune** | In a significant exercise aimed at synchronizing disaster response capabilities, the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) conducted its ‘Annual Mobilization Drill 2026’ across Pune district on Saturday. The Pune Metropolitan Region Development Authority’s (PMRDA) fire department, operating as the Pune Disaster Response Force (PDRF), played a pivotal role in the exercise, demonstrating high-level rescue skills and technical readiness. The drill, executed on February 28, spanned 10 strategic locations across the district. It was designed to bolster inter-agency coordination between the NDRF, local self-government bodies, the District Disaster Management Cell, 108 Ambulance services, and the Pune Police. The PDRF teams were actively deployed at three major simulation sites, tackling complex rescue scenarios. At the treacherous Tiger Point in Lonavala, teams performed ‘Rope Rescue’ operations, simulating the extraction of individuals from deep valleys and high-rise structures. Simultaneously, a specialized simulation for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) emergencies was conducted at Loni Kalbhor. Furthermore, water rescue techniques, focusing on flood-related evacuations, were demonstrated at the Mulshi Dam area. "Disasters strike without warning; preparedness is our only shield against the loss of life and property," said Devendra Potphade, Chief Fire Officer, PDRF (PMRDA). "Whether it is a flood or a chemical leak, our mantra remains readiness, coordination, and teamwork. We are committed to providing a rapid response to ensure citizen safety." As the PMRDA jurisdiction expands to include massive industrial hubs, IT parks, and rapid urban sprawls outside municipal limits, the PDRF has emerged as a specialized 'First Response Team.' Modeled after the NDRF, the force is trained in advanced Search and Rescue (SAR) operations. Operating under the guidance of Metropolitan Commissioner Dr. Yogesh Mhase and Additional Metropolitan Commissioner Deepak Singla, the PDRF acts as a critical safety net for the burgeoning Pune Metropolitan Region, extending its expertise beyond firefighting to complex disaster management.

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#### **To, The Editor / Correspondent**

We kindly request you to give wide publicity to the aforementioned news in your daily newspaper, news channel, and digital media platforms.

#### **Purushottam Sangle**

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