



15th October, 2018

Visit of NDRF, Pune on 1st October, 2018

A team of 24 officers and 5 faculty officers from National Disaster Reserve Force (NDRF) visited NCL on 1st October, 2018. The visit was part of the Chemical Biological Radiological and Nuclear defence (CBRN) training program being offered to them during their orientation course work.

The officers visited NCL to understand the defence mechanisms and safety procedures followed by NCL with respect to use and spillage of chemicals and any major accidents or aid taken while assisting victims in an unavoidable situation or calamity. The officer Anantha Babulkar and his colleague gave an overview of their mission and the difficulties they face in a threatening disaster situation. They also briefed us about the difficulties they face in bringing situation under control and in handling the critical victims.

Dr C. V. Ramana briefed the audience on NCL's safety management. Dr. P. P. Wadgaonkar explained to the officers on the laboratory safety measures and precautions with respect to the guidelines laid in the MSDS database. Though Dr Wadgaonkar said for every compound there was a detailed instruction given to carry out and was not easy for all to understand. Dr Santosh Mhaske, Dr Syed Dastager and Dr Rajesh Gonnade too discussed with the officers about the possibility of rescue operations that could be used at the time of disaster. Mr S. M. Mane and Mr S S Jogdand were also present during the interactive session with the officers. They discussed the efforts taken in the past to control situations within the laboratory.

At the outset, it has been projected that there is a need of simplified MSDS information for NDRF. Addressing this issue needs information about the list/nature of fine chemicals that are being imported/manufactured in the surrounding zone of each battalion. This information should be available with the local/state pollution control board. If NDRF could get access and pass this information to nearby CSIR labs, it may allow them to come up with a mobile app that essentially comprises of simplified MSDS data that can be easily accessed.



Human Resource Management Unit



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The Battalion officers briefed on their CBRN training details and were happy to interact with scientists from NCL. They felt that a continued association would prove fruitful for them if they could collaborate with NCL scientists during such uneventful situations.





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