



**Newsletter No. 13
March 2009**

D. P. A. R. T. S. A. R. - PAKISTAN *Disaster Preparedness And Response Team Search And Rescue*

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

www.dpart-sar.info

DPART SAR - PAKISTAN COMMUNITY EVENT PARTICIPATION - NVM ANTI-TOBACCO HIKE

Report by Alpha Team Leader Asad Asif

On Sunday March 1st DPART participated in NVM's Anti -Tobacco drive hike. Only two members registered and attended the event formally. DPART members present at the event were Zeeshan Nawaz and I.

We had the communication units (walkie talkies) with us but we didn't get a lot of chance to use them. I would recommend that members spare some time to go through the excellent manuals Asfandyar prepared for us, especially the section on communicating with Comm. Units. Good communication is essential in disaster situations

On the way up I spotted an African man coming back who had blood spatter on his clothes from his left arm but he passed too quickly for us to offer bandaging his injuries. I would venture a guess that the injuries were sustained due to the dry branches of bushes protruding on the path from the sides.

I returned at the half way point (2.5Km) since I was tired and had other things to attend to (my limbs are aching even now from the exertion of the hike :D). Zeeshan continued on with the hike. I would like to thank Zeeshan for his support (we did make many stops to regain breath).

It was an interesting event and I hope more members will join us in such future events. I appreciated the initiative of team member Abu Zafar Sahib who invited us to the event.



In light of the civil disturbances throughout the country it is advised that all members avoid all non essential travel. Violence can escalate dramatically, stay up to date with the situation and monitor all SMS alerts you receive from your Team Leaders.

Please read the safety brief on how to manage personal safety in Civil Disturbances.

KEEPALERT

Terrorist bomb attacks mostly happen in public places, especially where people gather or travel.

- Be vigilant
- Look out for suspicious behavior, vehicles or packages
- Do not hesitate to tell the police

General safety

- Avoid the appearance of carrying large sums of money, and do not draw attention.
- Avoid high-risk areas, crowds, and civil disturbances.
- Vary routes, times: don't be predictable.
- If being followed or threatened in any way, go immediately to a safe place such as a government building or a police point.
- Always maintain a low profile.

Driving safety tips

- Whether driving or riding as a passenger, use extreme caution and expect the unexpected: drive defensively.
- Expect others to ignore signs and intersection stops, always wear a seat belt

Maintaining a low profile

Unless on operational duty, wearing of uniform in public is not advised as this may heighten your profile and expose you to unnecessary risk.

RESPONSE

If there is a bomb warning at your place of work: follow the advice of those in charge.

If a bomb goes off in your building: look for the safest way out.

If you are trapped in debris: stay close to a wall and tap on pipes so that rescuers can hear you. Do not use matches or lighters in case of gas leaks.

If a bomb goes off outside your building: stay inside (away from windows, lifts and outer doors) in case there is a second bomb in the area.

If you saw the explosion: stay in the area in a safe place and tell the police what you saw.

A PowerPoint on IED threats in Pakistan is on file. Please view it for reference. Any further questions contact your team leader.

Asfandeyar Niazi

DPART SAR - PAKISTAN TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

AVERT Portugal Chapter and CERT Portugal have offered to develop a GIS (Mapping Team) for DPART, they will provide members of a GIS team with all the training and tools to allow trained members to prepare maps that may be used for: Needs based Analysis, Damage Assessment, Hazard Mapping, Response Planning etc.

The following members have been nominated and selected for the **GIS Team** - Norbert Almeida (Divisional Commander-South), Asad Asif (Alpha Team Leader-North), and Usama Najam (Bravo Team Leader-Central).

Once the team is trained and developed, these members will act as trainers and trained additional members interested in becoming part of the GIS Mapping Team.

DPART SAR - PAKISTAN CONTACT NUMBER

+ 92-51 58 58 580

is now functional. This number will replace the need to give out multiple contact numbers and provide a unified number for contacting the organization. This system also enables us to use the number in wireless mode making it portable and hence extremely useful when we set up a staging area in a disaster/emergency.

Thank you to Asad for this contribution.

Online resources

If you visit our new "redesigned" website please remember that we now have **FIRST AID PODCASTS "mp3 format downloads"** and free **FIRST AID MANUAL**, also we have available free **FIRE SAFETY VIDEO in English and FIRST AID VIDEO in Urdu**.

Some of the files are large so if you don't have Broadband/DSL then let us know these can be burned onto a CD.