## Nimal D. Hettiarachchi

Since Disaster Management is a relatively new area which the governments, especially in Asian region, are taking in keen interest due to causing eminent damage by unprecedented natural and human made disasters. During the last two decades, it has become absolute essential to avoid such a calamities and ensuring economic, social and environment development.



In this context, well-trained and highly experienced disaster related officials who can design meaningful and comprehensive

plan, making decision to dominate emergency situation are invaluable resources to the highly vulnerable countries to disasters in Asian region.

The Visiting Researcher Program, conducting by ADRC is a unique program and gives coherent and cohesive direction to produce well-earned disaster managers. In deed, it is designed to create trained and experienced disaster managers who will enrich high performance, eliminating underline causes of disasters and overcoming future challenges. It also provides requisite knowledge for planning and promotion in the areas of disaster management such as preparedness, mitigation response and recovery activities.

Absolutely, this program is not an another training program, of which it provides better environment to the researchers to share experiences and knowledge, and to extent contribution and cooperation among the disaster related experts and professionals at the ADRC and in Japan. Despite, the researchers have been provided a spectrum on disaster management field for promoting their knowledge, there are favorable opportunities to involve disaster related researches in Japan and Asia. The Researcher has also been benefited to visit disaster prone areas such as volcanic eruption, earthquake and flood prone areas and to review countermeasures, which are constituted, by agencies and institutions in Japan.

The Researchers can especially gather knowledge of information technologies and strategies, for example GIS, which are being used by ADRC for accumulation and dissemination disaster information. Furthermore, they have been provided benefits to attend seminars and conferences conducted by national or international organizations in Japan.