PULL DOWN TEST on EXISTING BUILDING in KATHMANDU, NEPAL

Most of the fatalities in past earthquakes have occurred due to the collapse of buildings that are constructed using brick masonry and are considered as “Non-Engineered Construction”. Knowing seismic risk of such widely available masonry buildings in the region and to identifying possible structural mitigation measures, ERRP Regional programme has planned to conduct a full scale-pull down test of an existing non-reinforced masonry building in Nepal as part of its technical assistance and knowledge sharing initiatives. UNDP has been implementing ERRP programme in five South Asian Countries (Bhutan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Pakistan) with the funding support from the Government of Japan.

The purpose of the test is to investigate the potential of seismic performance of existing buildings in a retrofitted and non retrofitted environment. The test will extend further opportunity to review and analyze the retrofitting method for masonry building. It is expected that the test will enhance the knowledge and technical capacity of the ERRP project teams and national stakeholders on building retrofitting that would be disseminated and applied at the national level project implementation. Asian Disaster Reduction Center, Japan has been providing technical support to conduct the test.

Test will be conducted in Three phase:

- **Phase 1 (October 15):** Pull down of existing building using power shovel and measure the seismic performance of the building with data documentation;
- **Phase 2:** (November 02): Pull down of the retrofitted existing building using power shovel and measure the seismic performance with data documentation;
- **Phase 3:** (December 09-11): Present the detail analysis of the test with recommendation in the ERRP regional workshop to be held in Bangladesh.

Phase 1 test plan: October 15, 2009
08:30 - 10:30: Briefing meeting at the Department of Urban Development and Building Construction government of Nepal, Babar Mahal, Kathmandu
10:30 - 11:00: Travel from DUDBC venue to pull down test site
11:00 - 01:00: Pull down of existing building using power shovel and field analysis

Test site address: Bhainsepati road (next to Radio Nepal Tower), Lalitpur, Nepal

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