

Two Days National Conference at Sikkim University

The Department of Geology, Sikkim University organised a Two Days National Conference on "Himalayan Resilience: Cryosphere, Climate Change, and Disaster Risk Reduction," on 26th and 27th February, 2025. The inaugural session of the programme was held on 26th February, 2025 at Hotel Ramada, Gangtok. The Chief Guest for the programme was Dr. Kalachand Sain Former Director Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology Dehradun, Uttarakhand.

The Himalayan region, renowned for its breathtaking landscapes and rich biodiversity, is increasingly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. The cryosphere, a critical component of this ecosystem, is undergoing rapid transformations due to rising temperatures and environmental stressors. Recognizing the urgent need for comprehensive disaster risk reduction strategies, this national conference aims to foster collaboration among scientists, policymakers, and local communities. By integrating research on the cryosphere and climate change with practical applications in disaster management, we seek to enhance resilience in the Himalayan region. Join us in Gangtok, Sikkim, on February 26-27, 2025, as we explore innovative solutions to these pressing challenges. Recognizing the urgent need for comprehensive disaster risk reduction strategies, this national conference aims to foster collaboration among scientists, policymakers, and local communities. By integrating research on the cryosphere and climate change with practical applications in disaster management, we seek to enhance resilience in the Himalayan region. Join us in Gangtok, Sikkim, on February 26-27, 2025, as we explore innovative solutions to these pressing challenges. Recognizing the urgent need for comprehensive disaster risk reduction strategies, this national conference aims to foster collaboration among scientists, policymakers, and local communities. By integrating research on the cryosphere and climate change with practical applications in disaster management, we seek to enhance resilience in the Himalayan region. The valedictory session of the National Conference was held on 27th February, 2025 which was presided over by the Hon'ble Vice- Chancellor of Sikkim University Prof. Dr. Jyoti Prakash Tamang. In his address Prof. Tamang gave a brief background of the University and also highlighted on the strengths of the University. Referring to the significance of the Conference he mentioned about the importance of microorganisms that may act as indicators in the study of climate change in the fields of Earth Sciences, and also the application of AI in early prediction of risk disaster risk. The chief guest of the valedictory session was Dr. Sandeep Tambe (IFS), Principal Secretary, Dept. of Science and Technology, Govt. of Sikkim. Dr. Tambe highlighted the initiative taken by government of Sikkim for the mitigation cryospheric hazards especially GLOF. The advisory committee headed by Dr. Rakesh Kumar Ranjan, HOD, Department of Geology, Sikkim University informed about the recommendation of the conference. The committee endorsed the need of common portal of data sharing. It is also recommended to develop the observatory network of seismic and hydrometeorological stations. This network will be used for developing the AI/ML based early warning system for the monitoring and mitigating of cryospheric hazards in Sikkim Himalaya. The representative from Ministry of Earth Sciences, Govt of India, Dr Jagveer Singh, Scientist G has also endorsed the recommendations and assured the possible support from the ministry. Prof. Pradhan Partha Sarthi from Central University of South Bihar has proposed for the collaboration in sharing the data and developing the models for hydrometeorological observations. Closing remarks were also Dr. D.K. Bansal, Former Head, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Govt. of India, Dr. D. P. Dobhal, Former Scientist, Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology. Finally, the Certificates of participation were distributed to the participants. The conference was funded by Sikkim University and Ministry of Earth Sciences and ANRF, Government of India.





