

**Public Relations Office
Jamia Millia Islamia**

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Press Release

More than 80 Research Papers presented in National Conference on ‘Landslide Risk Assessment and Mitigation in India’ at JMI

The Department of Geography, Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI), New Delhi successfully organized a two-day National Conference on ‘Landslide Risk Assessment and Mitigation in India’ from 1st -2nd November, 2022.

Prof. Haroon Sajjad, Head, Department of Geography, JMI, warmly welcomed all the distinguished guests, delegates, faculty members, and researchers from different academic and research institutions across India in the Valedictory Function of the conference held on November 2nd November, 2022, at the FTK-Center for Information Technology Conference Hall, JMI.

Prof. Lubna Siddiqui, organizing secretary of the National Conference, anchored the valedictory ceremony and presented the conference report. Prof. Siddiqui informed that more than 80 research papers related to different sub-themes of the landslides were deliberated across 10 technical sessions and two plenary sessions. A few major takeaways from the two-day deliberations of the conference include:

- Optimize the utilization of mapping disasters, including landslides, for disaster mitigation and rehabilitation.
- Employing a multi-dimensional approach to streamline the early warning systems with a judicious mix of technology, field- based inputs, and community participation.
- Leveraging citizen science for enhancing the efficacy of landslide risk assessment, mitigation, and rehabilitation.

Prof. V.K. Malhotra, Member-Secretary, Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi was the Chief Guest of the Valedictory Function and conveyed his best wishes to the delegates for deliberating on landslide risk assessment and its mitigation in India (in absentia).

Guest of Honor of the Valedictory Function Prof. Chandan Ghosh, Head, Resilient Infrastructure Division, National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM), Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi. He highlighted an array of geological, hydrological, anthropogenic, and climatic factors responsible for landslides. Among other things, Prof. Ghosh emphasized the greater need to integrate field-based investigation with innovative modelling of landslides for precise action on the ground. He also calls for a greater degree of collaboration between science, society, and policymakers to address the emerging vulnerabilities and hazards linked with changing the human way of living.

The other Guest of Honor of the valedictory function was Prof. S.D. Attri, Deputy Director General, Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India, New Delhi. Prof. Attri highlighted the emerging climate-induced disaster risk and its challenges to be addressed at the global, regional, national, and local levels in the backdrop of the ensuing Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP27) meeting to be held at Sharm El Sheikh in Egypt during November 6–18, 2022.

He stressed the need for greater efforts to meet the financial requirements related to climate change-induced “losses and damages to human life and properties” as part of the adaptation needs of the Global South to emerge as an urgent priority for global leaders. Therefore, financial and people-to-people cooperation is a must for meeting the commitments of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. Most importantly, Prof. Attri underscored the greater relevance of active collaboration between society, universities, students, and governments for delivering sustainable solutions to emerging human-environmental challenges.

Dr. Asif, Department of Geography, JMI, proposed the formal vote of thanks to all the distinguished guests, delegates, sponsors (ICSSR, Ministry of Earth Sciences, SERB-DST, GoI) faculty members, university officials, and scholars for making the conference a grand success.

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