

Workshop on EARTHQUAKE RESISTANT PRACTICES FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS OF ARCHITECTURE

July 06-11, 2015, IIT Kanpur

National Information Centre of Earthquake Engineering (NICEE) at IIT Kanpur is committed to furthering earthquake safety in the built environment through empowering stakeholders in the building delivery process by information sharing and dissemination of the state of the art in earthquake engineering. NICEE has also actively engaged in awareness, sensitization and training programmes for faculty in architecture and civil engineering disciplines in colleges all over India through the NPEEE program that was in operation from 2003 till 2007. The National Advisory Committee of NICEE unanimously felt need of targeting the architecture professionals of tomorrow by offering training modules to the students of architecture in colleges all over India. The objective of this workshop was primarily aimed to equip the participants with the necessary expertise to arrive at architectural designs that are inherently adequate in resisting earthquake loads at a conceptual level.

To meet this objective, a pilot Workshop for Undergraduate students of Architecture in Earthquake Resistant Design Practices was first offered in 2008. The workshop was a grand success and it was decided to make it an annual event. The 8th National Workshop for UG students of Architecture was held in IIT Kanpur during July 06-11, 2015, in which 35 students who had completed six semesters of studies in their respective architecture programmes, from 13 institutes representing 9 cities from all over India participated in the 6-day workshop.

Workshop 2015

The general objective of the workshop was to sensitize the students to earthquake safety issues and in capacity building in the basics of earthquake resistant design at a conceptual level. It was expected that lectures and hands-on studio sessions in tackling a design assignment will help students in internalizing earthquake resistant practices as an integral part of their design decision making. The resource faculty for this workshop was from architecture and structural engineering disciplines in an attempt to recreate as closely as possible real life architectural practice. The selected participants were each sent a NICEE publication titled "Architectural Teaching Resource Material on Earthquake Design Concepts" authored by Murty and Charleson. The participants were advised to go through the book before coming for the workshop.

The following faculty members, Prof. Mahua Mukerjee, IIT Roorkee, Roorkee; Prof. Vasudha Gokhale & Meera Shirolkar of Dr. B.N. College of Architecture for Women, Pune; Prof. Atanu Dutta, Jorhat Engineering College, Jorhat; Prof Indrani Gogoi, Assam Engineering Institute, Guwahati Mr. Hari Kumar, GeoHazards, New Delhi and Ar. Ruchira Das, School of Architecture, Techno University, Kolkata were the resource persons of the workshop 2015.

Design Problem

The design brief was to Design a housing project in a hypothetical 135m x 90m site in Agartala, Tripura, located in Seismic Zone V. The workshop participants were divided into sixteen 2 member groups and one three member group where each member was from a different institute. They were asked to develop a design proposal which should be rational in functional, structural and aesthetic terms. While the participants were encouraged to adopt innovative design approaches, the objective of this design exercise was to evaluate their understanding of earthquake resistant architecture and application of the same in a design project.

Evaluation of Design

Six designs that incorporated earthquake resistant features without compromising the host of other requirements such as functionality, climate, etc. were shortlisted during the initial round by a Jury Board. The Jury Board consisted of following members:

Prof. Mahesh Tandon, TCPL Delhi

Prof. OR Jaiswal, VNIT Nagpur

Ar. Narendranath Mitra, Practicing Architect, Kolkatta

Prof. Rajeev Kacker, College of Architecture, Lucknow

The jury looked particularly for a clear understanding of structural system that would be effective in withstanding earthquake loads. The award winning designs are appended below.

First Position

Ms. Palak Hirawat, SMMCA Nagpur

Ms. Liz Mariya Jacob, CAT Trivandrum



2nd

Ms. Molsirie Nandanwar, SMMCA
Nagpur

Ms. Attreyee Goshe, MSRIT
Bangalore



3rd



Ms. Monika Surve, SSSMCA Solapur
Ms. Ayushi Chandani, MANIT Bhopal
Mr. Ayush Sitholay, VNIT Nagpur

The participants expressed a satisfaction level of 82.71%. The workshop was sponsored by Computers and Structures Inc (CSI); Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), New Delhi and Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), New Delhi.

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