

Inter School Quiz on Earthquake Tips

The National Information Centre of Earthquake Engineering (NICEE) at IIT Kanpur conducts outreach activities to promote seismic safety in India. One of its initiatives is an annual inter-school quiz competition that started in 2009. The final round of the quiz was held on January 26, 2024, the 23rd anniversary of the Bhuj Earthquake.

The quiz is based on the NICEE publication called IITK-BMTPC Earthquake Tips, by Prof. CVR Murty. It contains simple tips on making buildings safe from earthquakes. The tips are available at <http://www.nicee.org/EQTips.php>.



Participants of the final round held on January 26, 2024

The quiz consists of four rounds, namely Round Robin, Picture Round, Rapid Fire Round, and Lucky Number Round. Seven schools participated in the final round, namely Nehru World School, Ghaziabad; Emerald Heights International School, Indore; Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan's Prism School, Satna; Indorama Public School, Amethi; St. Gabriels' Hr. Senior Secondary School, Jabalpur; Jagat Taran Golden Jubilee School, Prayagraj; and Sheiling House School, Kanpur.

The Nehru World School team won first place, with Indorama Public School and Sheiling House School taking second and third place, respectively. All participating teams received participation certificates from Prof. Durgesh C. Rai. Prof. Rai expressed gratitude to the schools for taking part in the quiz and underscored the importance of educating young minds about earthquake safety. He emphasized that educating young minds about earthquake risks can help create awareness in the community and lead to effective damage mitigation strategies.



Winners of the final held on January 26, 2024 – Nehru World School Ghaziabad

The quiz was conducted by the NICEE team, which included Cdr. Suresh Ailawadi (Retd.), Mr. Shivesh Pandey, Ms. Shradha Shukla, and Mr. Moti Lal. Cdr Ailawadi thanked the participants, teachers, principals, parents, authorities of IIT Kanpur, the Department of Civil Engineering, the Visitors Hostel, and the Outreach Auditorium for their support of the event. He also appreciated Mr. Girish Pant of the media cell for his continued support of NICEE activities.

Additionally, an online version of the quiz was organized for students who were unable to attend the event in person. A total of 457 students registered for the online quiz, with 379 shortlisted. Out of these, 49 students submitted their responses, with Priyanka and Daksh Sing from Delhi Public School, Kanpur, taking first and second place, respectively. Yash Raj Dixit from Delhi Public School, Kanpur, and Ishika from Dayavati Dharmavira Public School, Bijnor, tied for third place. The winners received certificates, and participation certificates were awarded to the other students.

The quiz aims to raise awareness among school-going children about earthquakes and their effects. The final round is held at IIT Kanpur on January 26 each year, commemorating the Bhuj Earthquake of 2001. Plans to expand the quiz to more cities are underway. Schools will be notified of the details for the 2024-25 quiz in February-March 2024. For more information and queries, please email nicee@iitk.ac.in or asuresh@iitk.ac.in, or call Cdr Suresh Ailawadi, Retd. at 9450162502.