

Workshop on “Bioengineering measures to control landslides and geo-environmental issues” held at IIT Mandi during 7th - 9th February 2017

A 3-day workshop was organised by National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM), on “Bioengineering measures to control landslides and geo-environmental issues”, at IIT Mandi. 30 participants from various offices and levels of Public Works Department (PWD), forest officials, town and country planning department, educational institutes, geotechnical engineers, horticulture and state disaster management authorities participated in the workshop.



Among the dignitaries were Prof. Chandan Ghosh and Dr. Anil K. Gupta from NIDM. In his inaugural address Prof. T. A. Gonsalves (Director, IIT Mandi) enunciated the initiation of studies at IIT Mandi, related to Disaster Management of the alarmed Himalayan regions.



Prof. Chandan Ghosh, Head of the Geo-Hazard Risk Management Division, NIDM, New Delhi, has raised an alarm in the requirement of research for finding sustainable solutions for the problems resulting from disasters like Landslide, earthquake and floods. Dr. Anil K. Gupta Associate Professor, Head of the Policy, Planning and Cross Cutting Issues Division, NIDM, New Delhi, has revealed the cross-cutting issues related to the bioengineering and highlighted the various environmental policies and planning strategies at different levels involved in decision making and implementation of the

bioengineering measures. Dr. K. V. Uday presented the talk on Landslides : types, forms, aspects, triggering factors and various mitigation strategies. Other speakers of the workshop were Dr. Shantanu Patra, Dr. Dericks P. Shukla, Dr. Shyam K. Masakapalli and Dr. Kaustav Sarkar from IIT Mandi.



The favourable outcome as highlighted by the participants is to identify field, sites prone to landslide and initiate the feasible bioengineering measure to mitigate landslide. Others have brought in the idea of rehabilitating existing ‘Landslide Scars’ with bio/green walls instead of conventional concrete walls. The participants requested more similar workshops to spread the concept of bioengineering and its application as an initiative towards Disaster Management.