GOVERNMENT POLYTECHNIC SIWAN

Bawandih, Chainpur – 841203, Bihar

REPORT ON EARTHQUAKE SAFETY FORTNIGHT – 2026 Duration:

15th–29th January 2026

Government Polytechnic Siwan, organised **"Earthquake Safety Fortnight" from 15th to 29th January 2026** with a series of educational and awareness activities aimed at promoting earthquake safety, disaster preparedness and risk reduction among students. The programme was inaugurated by the respected **Dr. Praveen Pachauri, Principal of the institution**, who emphasised the importance of earthquake safety measures, particularly in Bihar, where seismic hazards make awareness, preparedness and safe construction practices especially important.

The fortnight-long initiative focused on developing students' understanding of earthquake hazards, seismic risk assessment, earthquake-resistant construction, emergency response procedures and the role of civil engineers in disaster mitigation. Various academic, technical, creative and participatory activities were incorporated to connect theoretical knowledge with practical safety measures and encourage students to contribute to building a safer and more disaster-resilient society.

The programme also highlighted the importance of following applicable building codes, adopting scientific construction practices and developing a safety-conscious attitude among future engineering professionals. Through lectures, competitions, awareness campaigns and practical demonstrations, the initiative sought to strengthen students' technical knowledge, communication skills, teamwork and sense of social responsibility.

Objectives of the Programme

The major objectives of organising Earthquake Safety Fortnight 2026 were as follows:

1. To create awareness among students about earthquakes, their causes, effects and associated hazards.
2. To familiarise students with seismic zones and earthquake risk assessment, particularly with reference to Bihar.
3. To promote an understanding of earthquake-resistant construction and the importance of applicable building codes and safety standards.
4. To educate students about appropriate safety precautions, evacuation procedures and emergency response measures during an earthquake.
5. To highlight the role of civil engineers in structural safety, disaster mitigation and the development of resilient infrastructure.
6. To introduce students to the contribution of modern technologies in earthquake monitoring, detection and risk reduction.

7. To encourage student participation through technical lectures, poster-making, quizzes, debates and public-awareness activities.
8. To develop teamwork, critical thinking, communication skills and professional responsibility among students.
9. To promote a culture of disaster preparedness and safety awareness within the institution and the surrounding community.

Inaugural Programme

The Earthquake Safety Fortnight commenced with an inaugural programme attended by faculty members and students. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Praveen Pachauri, Principal, Government Polytechnic Siwan.

In his address, the Principal emphasised the importance of earthquake awareness and preparedness in reducing the potential loss of life and damage to property. He highlighted the need for students, particularly those pursuing engineering education, to understand structural safety, disaster preparedness and the importance of adopting appropriate construction practices.

The inaugural session encouraged students to actively participate in the planned activities and apply the knowledge gained to their academic studies and future professional responsibilities. The session established the foundation for the fortnight-long initiative and reinforced the institution's commitment to safety awareness and disaster risk reduction.

Activities and Proceedings

Poster-Making Competition

A poster-making competition was included to encourage students to communicate earthquakesafety messages through drawings, illustrations, slogans and creative visual presentations.

The activity focused on themes such as earthquake preparedness, safe construction, emergency response, structural safety and public awareness. It provided students with an opportunity to present technical information in an accessible and engaging manner.

The competition also encouraged creativity, teamwork and effective communication while reinforcing the importance of spreading reliable earthquake-safety information.

Technical Lectures and Awareness Sessions

Technical lectures and awareness sessions formed an important component of the programme. These sessions covered fundamental scientific concepts and practical engineering measures related to earthquake safety.

The major topics included:

- Introduction to earthquakes and their causes.
- Seismic zones and earthquake risk assessment in India, with reference to Bihar.
- Principles of earthquake-resistant building design.
- Importance of structural stability and safe construction practices.
- Relevant building codes and engineering safety standards.

- Earthquake preparedness, emergency response and evacuation procedures.
- Applications of modern technologies in earthquake monitoring and risk mitigation.
- Role of civil engineers in disaster-resilient infrastructure development.

The resource persons identified for the technical sessions were **Mr. Vivek Kumar Gupta, Mr. Piyush Kumar, Mr. Niranjan Kumar and Mr. Waquif Rahman**.

The sessions were intended to strengthen students' understanding of earthquake-related hazards and the engineering principles used to minimise their effects. They also highlighted the importance of integrating safety considerations into the planning, design, construction and maintenance of buildings and infrastructure.

Quiz Competition

A quiz competition was included to reinforce students' understanding of earthquake-related concepts and safety practices.

The activity covered topics related to earthquake awareness, seismic risk, structural safety, emergency preparedness and disaster management. It provided an interactive platform for students to recall technical information, assess their understanding and learn through participation.

The quiz also supported knowledge reinforcement, healthy academic competition and the development of confidence among students.

Debate Competition

The debate activity encouraged students to examine earthquake safety from technical, social and environmental perspectives. Students were provided an opportunity to express their views, present arguments and consider the importance of disaster preparedness and safe construction.

The activity emphasised the role of public awareness, responsible engineering practices, government regulations and community participation in reducing disaster risks.

The debate format also supported the development of critical thinking, logical reasoning, communication skills and the ability to discuss engineering-related issues effectively.

Webinar on Earthquake Safety and Preparedness

A webinar activity was included to provide an additional platform for learning and discussion on earthquake safety and disaster preparedness.

The webinar component was intended to broaden students' exposure to specialised knowledge and help them understand the importance of scientific awareness, emergency planning and engineering interventions in reducing earthquake-related risks.

The use of digital learning also offered an opportunity to connect theoretical concepts with broader disaster-management concerns and contemporary approaches to safety awareness.

Street Play for Earthquake Awareness

A street play was included as an awareness activity to communicate important earthquakesafety messages in a simple, engaging and understandable manner.

Through this activity, students could convey the importance of preparedness, appropriate protective actions, safe evacuation and responsible behaviour during emergencies. The use of performance-based communication helped present safety information in a format accessible to a wider audience.

The activity also promoted teamwork, creativity, public communication and social responsibility among participating students.

Earthquake Safety Awareness Rally

An awareness rally was included to promote earthquake preparedness and disseminate safety messages beyond the classroom environment.

The rally was intended to encourage awareness of earthquake hazards, the importance of safe construction and the need for responsible action during emergencies. It also highlighted the role of educational institutions and students in spreading disaster-safety information within the community.

The activity provided a platform for students to participate in public outreach and understand the importance of collective responsibility in disaster risk reduction.

Mock Drill and Emergency Preparedness

A mock drill was included to familiarise students with the importance of preparedness, coordinated action and orderly evacuation during an earthquake-related emergency.

The practical component highlighted the need to remain calm, follow instructions, adopt appropriate protective actions and move towards designated safe areas when evacuation is advised.

The activity complemented the theoretical sessions by emphasising the practical application of emergency procedures. It also reinforced the importance of advance planning, awareness of evacuation routes and coordination during emergency situations.

Valedictory Programme and Recognition

The programme concluded with a valedictory session highlighting the importance of continuing earthquake-safety awareness beyond the fortnight-long initiative.

The concluding session reinforced the key messages of disaster preparedness, earthquakeresistant construction, structural safety and community participation. The programme also included provision for certificate and prize distribution, wherever applicable, to recognise student participation and achievement.

The valedictory session provided an opportunity to reiterate the responsibilities of future engineers in promoting public safety and contributing to the development of disaster-resilient infrastructure.

Learning Outcomes

The programme was designed to enable students to achieve the following learning outcomes:

1. Explain the basic concepts of earthquakes and identify their potential impacts on buildings, infrastructure and human life.
2. Describe the importance of seismic zoning and earthquake risk assessment in safer infrastructure planning.
3. Explain the significance of earthquake-resistant structural design and compliance with applicable building codes.

4. Identify essential safety precautions and appropriate emergency response procedures during an earthquake.
5. Recognise the contribution of civil engineers and modern technologies to disaster risk mitigation.
6. Communicate earthquake-safety information through technical discussions, creative presentations and awareness activities.
7. Demonstrate awareness of teamwork, critical thinking, public communication and social responsibility.
8. Appreciate the importance of integrating disaster preparedness and structural safety into engineering education and professional practice.

Educational Significance and Institutional Impact

Earthquake Safety Fortnight 2026 provided an opportunity to connect classroom learning with practical safety awareness and disaster preparedness. The combination of technical sessions, competitions, public-awareness activities and a mock drill offered students multiple ways to engage with earthquake-related risks and their mitigation.

The programme was particularly relevant to civil engineering education because earthquakeresistant construction, structural safety and compliance with applicable building standards are essential considerations in infrastructure development.

The activities were intended to promote technical awareness, analytical thinking, communication skills, teamwork and professional responsibility among students. They also highlighted the importance of public participation and the dissemination of reliable safety information in reducing disaster-related risks.

At the institutional level, the initiative supported the promotion of a safety-conscious learning environment and provided a framework for documenting co-curricular and awareness activities. The programme complements the broader objectives of technical education by encouraging students to apply engineering knowledge responsibly and contribute to the development of safer and more resilient communities.

Organising Committee

The following faculty members and institutional representatives were associated with the organisation of the programme:

1. Ms. Payal Singh, Lecturer (Electronics Engineering)
2. Mr. Waquif Rahman,Guest Lecturer (Civil Engineering)
3. Mr. Niranjan Kumar, Guest Lecturer (Civil Engineering)
4. Mr. Piyush Kumar,Guest Lecturer (Civil Engineering)
5. Mr. Vivek Kumar Gupta,Guest Lecturer (Civil Engineering)
6. Mr. Jitendra Kumar, Guest Lecturer (Science and Humanities)
7. Ms. Supriya Kumari,HOD-In-Charge (Civil Engineering Department)


राजकीय पॉलिटेक्निक सिवान
विज्ञान, प्रौद्योगिकी और तकनीकी शिक्षा विभाग, बिहार सरकार
भूकंप सुरक्षा पखवाड़ा
(15 जनवरी - 29 जनवरी 2026)
आपदा से सुरक्षा - सजगता ही बचाव
भूकंप के दौरान
भूकंप के दौरान शांत रहें और मजबूत मेज जैसी वस्तु के नीचे छुप जाएं।
शीशे के दरवाजे, ग्लास पैन, खिड़की और बाहरी दरवाज़े से दूर रहें।
भूकंप रुकते ही घर से बाहर निकलें और खुली सुरक्षित जगह पर आ जाएं।
Co-ordinator:
Mrs. Supriya Kumari
HOD (Civil)
External Expert:
Dr. Pankaj Kumar
Assistant Prof. (NIDM)
Patron: Dr. Praveen Pachauri
(Principal, G.P. Siwan


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Conclusion

Earthquake Safety Fortnight 2026 at Government Polytechnic Siwan was an educational awareness initiative focused on earthquake safety, disaster preparedness, structural resilience and community responsibility. The programme brought together technical learning and participatory activities to highlight the importance of understanding earthquake hazards and adopting appropriate measures to reduce their consequences.

The initiative emphasised the role of engineering education in developing safety-conscious professionals who understand the importance of structural integrity, applicable building codes, emergency preparedness and responsible construction practices.

Such activities complement academic learning by encouraging technical awareness, teamwork, communication skills and social responsibility. The programme also reinforced the importance of sustained institutional efforts towards disaster risk reduction and the development of resilient communities.

HOD-IN-CHARGE

CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT