

Inter School Quiz and Student Speech Contest

The National Information Centre of Earthquake Engineering (NICEE), IIT Kanpur, successfully conducted its annual Inter School Quiz on Earthquake Tips on January 26, 2026, as part of its outreach activities aimed at promoting seismic safety awareness across the country.

NICEE has been organizing this interschool quiz competition since 2009, and this year marked the seventeenth consecutive edition of the event. The quiz is based on the widely used NICEE publication “IITK-BMTPC Earthquake Tips” authored by Prof. C. V. R. Murty, which provides simple and practical guidelines for making buildings safer against earthquakes. The publication is freely available at the NICEE website.



Participants of the final round held on January 26, 2026

The quiz consisted of four rounds, namely Round Robin, Picture Round, Rapid Fire Round, and Lucky Number Round. A total of eight schools participated in the final round held at IIT Kanpur:

KD Ambani Reliance Foundation School, Jamnagar; DAV Public School, Ludhiana; Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan’s Prism School, Satna; Gwalior Glory High School, Gwalior; Indraprastha International School, New Delhi; Nehru World School, Ghaziabad; Blue Bells Model School, Gurugram; and Sheiling House School, Kanpur.

The team from Gwalior Glory High School, Gwalior, secured the first position, followed by KD Ambani Reliance Foundation School, Jamnagar, in second place and Blue Bells Model School, Gurugram, in third place.

This year the quiz was conducted in hybrid mode, with the preliminary round held online and selected teams invited to IIT Kanpur for the final round. Schools across the country are approached in the month of March, and those expressing interest are provided with 10 copies of the Earthquake Tips publication to help them select a team of four students for participation.



Winners of the final held on January 26, 2026 - Gwalior Glory High School, Gwalior

In addition to the quiz, NICEE also organized the “NICEE-CSI Student Speech Contest: Advocating for Seismic Safety”, commemorating the 25th Anniversary of the 2001 Bhuj Earthquake, Gujarat. A total of 25 students participated in the contest, delivering 3-minute speeches highlighting the importance of earthquake safety and preparedness. The contest aimed to encourage students to think critically, speak confidently, and spread awareness on seismic safety, thereby contributing to the vision of a safer and more resilient society. The speeches were evaluated by a jury panel comprising ten members, including post-doctoral, doctoral, and master’s students specializing in earthquake engineering at IIT Kanpur.

In the Speech Contest, Mr. Angad Singh Bakshi and Ms. Harshita Hora from DAV Public School, BRS Nagar, Ludhiana, secured the first position, while Mr. Virat Handa from Sheiling House School, Kanpur, and Mr. Trinabh Gaithe from Blue Bells Model School, Gurugram, secured the second and third positions, respectively.



Participants of the NICEE-CSI Student Speech Contest

Participation certificates were presented to all teams and cash prizes were awarded to the winners in recognition of their excellent performance by Prof. Durgesh C. Rai, Coordinator, NICEE. Prof. Rai appreciated the active involvement of the schools and emphasized that educating young minds about earthquake risks plays a vital role in building community awareness and effective disaster mitigation.

The event was conducted by the NICEE team, including Mr. Shivesh Pandey, Ms. Shradha Shukla, Mr. Moti Lal, and Mr. Malikhan Singh. Prof. Rai expressed his gratitude to the participants, teachers, principals, parents, the authorities of IIT Kanpur, the Department of Civil Engineering, Visitors' Hostel, and the Outreach Auditorium for their support in the successful conduct of the event.

For further details, please contact Prof. Durgesh C. Rai, Coordinator, NICEE, IIT Kanpur, at +91 512 259 7717 or via email at nicee@iitk.ac.in.