

The Institution of Engineers (India)

AN ISO 9001:2008 CERTIFIED ORGANISATION
(ESTABLISHED 1920, INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1935)

JAMMU LOCAL CENTRE

Institutional Complex, Sector-3, Channi Himmat, Jammu -180 015

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Chairman
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Press Release

The Institution of Engineers (India), Jammu Centre celebrates World Water Day



The Institution of Engineers (India), Jammu Centre celebrated World Water Day on 22nd March, 2025 with the theme "Glacier Preservation". The event was attended by Engineers from various Departments, Organizations and Senior Engineers along with Members of the Committee of IEI, Jammu Centre.

On this occasion, Mr. Javed Ahmed Rana, Hon'ble Minister, Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs Department, Government of J&K UT was the *Chief Guest* and Mr. Satish Sharma, Hon'ble Minister for IT, Youth Services & Sports, Transport, Science & Technology, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, ARI & Training graced the occasion as Guest of Honour. Mr. Khurshid Ahmad Shah, JKAS, Mission Director, Jal Jeevan Mission, J&K, also accompanied as another *Guest of Honour*. Further, Er. Iftikhar Ahmed Kakroo, Chairman, J&K Water Resources (Regulation & Management) Authority (JKWRRRA) & Mr. Jose George Pottakkal, Head, Western Himalayan Regional Centre, National Institute of Hydrology, Jammu were the *Keynote Speakers*. Er. Anil Verma, FIE Chairman, IEI, Jammu Centre presided over the function.

Er. Anil Verma, Chairman in his Welcome Address introduced the day's theme to the audience. He drew an analogy between blood and glaciers and explained that the way blood is important for human life so are the glaciers for sustenance of water on this planet.

Mr. Javed Ahmed Rana, Chief Guest stressed upon preservation of glaciers which is not only important to protect the environment but also necessary for ensuring the wellbeing of millions of people. He further said that we should re-affirm our commitment to protect these vital resources of fresh water through research, policy measures, community involvement and innovative solutions to safeguard our glaciers for future generations.

Mr. Satish Sharma, Hon'ble Minister highlighted that we should try to lead simple life in order to protect the environment and at the same time go for afforestation to protect the environment thereby preventing further degradation of glaciers so that the future generations can also enjoy the fruits of mother nature.

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Mr. Khurshid Ahmad Shah, MD, Jal Jeevan Mission conveyed that local communities should be engaged in conservation efforts. He stressed upon initiatives like sustainable practices, such as rainwater harvesting and organic farming which reduced the strain on glaciers resources. He also administered World Water Day Pledge to the audience.

Mr. Iftikhar Ahmed Kakrood described the current position of glacier reduction because of erratic weather patterns & drying of water bodies. He advocated for research by Govt. Agencies & Academia for adoption of Water Conservation Management Strategies. He also emphasized that water scarce districts must be focused by Govt. to address the issue and community engagement be encouraged.

Mr. Jose George Pottakkal highlighted the importance of glaciers and their current state including the situation of glaciers in the state of Jammu and Kashmir. He also stressed upon consequences of glacier melting & various efforts for glaciers preservation.

During the seminar, Er. P. K. Nanda, FIE; Er. B. L. Rawal, FIE; Er. Sachin Tickoo, MIE; Er. Gopal Sharma, MIE; Er. Ranjeev Sawhney, MIE; Er. Hemdeep Singh Ishar, AMIE; Er. Joy Ganjoo, AM Technologist, Er. Akash Dugotra, AMIE & Er. Anil Kumar, AMIE also presented their papers on the theme.

Er. Avneet Gupta, MIE, Honorary Secretary, IEI Jammu Local Centre presented the Vote of Thanks to the august gathering and media personnel for active participation.


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