



BURDWAN UNIVERSITY MOUTHPIECE

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From the VC'S DESK

Prof. Sankar Kumar Nath

Hon'ble Vice Chancellor
The University of Burdwan

Nurturing Knowledge in Harmony with Nature

Our University is blessed with rich biodiversity, a heritage we must collectively preserve. As responsible global citizens, we must work toward reducing and registering our carbon footprint through sustainable practices. Let us strive to make our campus energy-efficient and environmentally friendly, complementing our pursuit of academic excellence. With the upcoming NEP-aligned curriculum, we aim to integrate the Indian Knowledge System, reinforcing ecological wisdom rooted in our traditions. Together, we can build a campus that not only nurtures intellect but also inspires harmony with nature.

Vice Chancellor Leads University into a New Academic Era: NEP 2020 Implementation at PG Level

The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor has successfully steered the university through two major institutional responsibilities: the long-due NAAC Peer Team visit and the long-pending convocation. Both events marked significant milestones, reflecting the university's commitment to improving academic standards and strengthening its administrative framework. With these crucial tasks accomplished, the institution now faces an even greater challenge—implementing the NEP 2020-based syllabus at the postgraduate level from the upcoming academic session.

The transition to the NEP 2020 framework demands extensive academic restructuring and curriculum redesign. The university's preparedness in these areas will play a critical role in shaping the academic environment in the years to come.

The future academic progress of the university depends on how smoothly the new syllabus is introduced. With proper planning and timely action, the university hopes to meet national education goals and offer a more flexible and relevant learning experience to postgraduate students.

The visionary leadership of the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor continues to inspire confidence as the university undertakes this crucial academic transformation.



The 39th Convocation of The University of Burdwan



The 39th Convocation of The University of Burdwan was held on 20th August 2025 at the University Auditorium on the Golapbag campus of the University.

**XXXIX
CONVOCAATION
2025**



Opening of the Ceremony

The proceedings commenced with the ceremonial procession—comprising the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, the Special Guest of the Convocation, Deans of Faculty Councils, and distinguished members of the Court and the Executive Council—led by the Registrar. Upon entering the auditorium, the procession took their respective seats on the dais. This was followed by the rendering of the National Anthem by the cultural wing of the University.

Addresses and Welcome

The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor declared the Convocation open, welcomed the dignitaries, and briefly highlighted the University's achievements since the last Convocation in 2023, along with a blueprint for the future. He urged the students to dedicate themselves to the service of society for the holistic development of the nation. At the request of the Vice Chancellor, the Special Guest, Prof. Prithvish Nag, Former Surveyor General of India, addressed the gathering. As a token of gratitude, the Vice Chancellor presented him with a memento.

Conferment of Honorary Degrees

The Vice Chancellor conferred the Degree of Doctor of Science (Honoris Causa) upon:

Dr. V. Narayanan, Chairman of ISRO, a legendary scientist who has been at the forefront of landmark missions such as Chandrayaan-2, Chandrayaan-3, Aditya L1, and the Gaganyaan human spaceflight programme.



Prof. Padmanabhan Balam, former Director of IISc Bangalore, celebrated for his pioneering contributions in membrane biology, transmembrane peptide channels, and peptide chemistry

Dr. Syamasis Bandyopadhyay, an eminent rheumatologist at Apollo Multispeciality Hospitals, Kolkata, with over three decades of clinical excellence in diagnosing and treating complex autoimmune and musculoskeletal disorders.



Dr. Devi Prasad Shetty, renowned cardiac surgeon and founder of Narayana Health, who has revolutionized affordable healthcare in India through innovative initiatives such as the Yeshaswini micro health insurance scheme (The degree was presented to him in absentia.)





Following this, Dr. V. Narayanan presented the Chancellor's Gold Medals to the students who secured first position in First Class in the postgraduate examinations of 2023 and 2024, while Prof. P. Balaram presented the Vice Chancellor's Gold Medals to the first position holders in First Class in the undergraduate examinations of the same years.

He underscored India's national achievements in space and technology as a source of motivation for the students, emphasizing their role in advancing the country's future. Prof. Padmanabhan Balaram and Dr. Syamasis Bandyopadhyay also highlighted the pivotal role of education in nation-building.



Conferment of Degrees and Medals

The ceremony commenced with the conferment of D.Sc., Ph.D., and M.Phil. degrees, followed by postgraduate and undergraduate degrees, and concluded with the presentation of medals to meritorious students.

- The Dean of the Faculty of Science presented the recipients of the Doctor of Science (D.Sc.) degree to the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor who admitted the scholars. A total of 2 candidates were awarded the D.Sc. degree.
- The Dean of the Faculties of Arts, Commerce, etc., presented the candidates for the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree, followed by the Dean of the Faculty of Science. The Vice Chancellor admitted the scholars and presented the certificates. The Ph.D. degree was conferred on a total of 413 candidates.
- The Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.) degrees for the academic years 2021, 2022, and 2023 were then awarded.

Distribution of M.Phil. Degrees:

YEAR	ARTS AND COMMERCE	SCIENCE
2021	57	04
2022	46	20
2023	62	09

- Following this, the postgraduate degrees (M.A., M.Com., LL.M., MBA, MBA-HR, MBA-Tourism, M.Ed., M.P.Ed., M.F.A., M.L.I.S., MSW, M.Sc., M.E., and M.Tech. in ECE-Microwaves) for the academic sessions 2023 and 2024 were conferred on candidates by the Vice Chancellor on the recommendation of the respective Deans.
- Subsequently, the Registrar presented the candidates for the undergraduate degrees who were duly admitted by the Vice Chancellor.
- The final segment recognized academic excellence, with the Vice Chancellor personally awarding the University Medals and Endowment Medals for the postgraduate examinations (2023, 2024) and the undergraduate examinations (B.A., B.Sc., B.Com., and LL.B.).

Upadesha and Closing

After the conferment of degrees, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor delivered the Upadesha to the graduates. The cultural wing of the University presented the closing song, followed by the national anthem.

The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor then formally declared the Convocation closed. The ceremonial procession, led by the Registrar, departed from the hall.

The entire programme was conducted with solemnity and dignity, befitting the grandeur of the occasion.



National Sports Day 2025 Celebrated by the Department of Physical Education

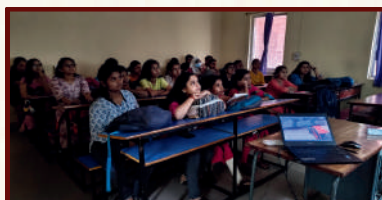


The Department of Physical Education proudly celebrated National Sports Day 2025 on 29 August, embracing the vibrant spirit of athleticism and paying heartfelt tribute to the legendary Major Dhyani Chand whose excellence continues to inspire generations. The celebration began with a warm and engaging inaugural ceremony, setting a lively and empowering tone for the entire day. Students from various departments joined with remarkable enthusiasm, reflecting the true essence of unity, teamwork, and sportsmanship. Esteemed professors enriched the occasion with insightful speeches, emphasizing the role of sports in shaping character, discipline, and a healthy lifestyle.

The highlight of the event was the “Fitness Run 2025” – a thrilling 5 km run, which infused the atmosphere with excitement, determination, and competitive zeal. Participants showcased exceptional endurance and commitment, making the run a powerful symbol of fitness, spirit, and youthful energy. Adding further prestige to the occasion was the inspiring presence of Ms. Sayani Das, a renowned international swimmer and role model for young sports enthusiasts. Her motivational interaction captivated the audience as she shared her journey of perseverance, passion, and achievement. She also presented medals and certificates to the outstanding athletes – Monojit Saren, Abhrajit Sarkar, Dhanbabu Hembram, Mampi Mondal, Sabiha Kahtun and Mondira Samanta - of the Fitness Run and other activities, encouraging them to continue striving for excellence. The event, a celebration of strength, spirit, and the unstoppable energy of youth, truly embodied the message that fitness, discipline, and sportsmanship are the pillars of holistic development.

Anti-Ragging Week Celebrated In The Department of Mass Communication

The Department of Mass Communication observed Anti-Ragging Week with active participation from students and faculty. As part of the initiative, students launched a social media campaign featuring digital posters to spread awareness about the harmful effects of ragging. Additionally, an anti-ragging film was screened in the department to reinforce the message and encourage a safe, inclusive campus environment.



Debate Competition Organized by the Department of English and Culture Studies as Part of the Anti-Ragging Week



The Department of English and Culture Studies observed Anti-ragging week by organizing a students’ debate competition on 18 August 2025. Anti-Ragging Week is observed from 12 August to 18 August with the objective of raising awareness and preventing ragging in educational institutions across India. The topic of the debate was “Ragging Can Be Eradicated Completely”. There were two groups, the “Optimistic Group” and the “Pessimistic Group”. Each group had four members. The participants engaged in an energetic and vibrant exchange of thought and opinion. The major idea to emerge from the debate was the need to promote a safe and inclusive environment for students on academic campuses. With an exchange of wit and logic, the debate came to an end.



Another highlight of the day’s programme a one-act dance-drama in the form of a solo performance on the anti-ragging theme which was performed by Tanushree Konar. The performance, based on the song “Ore Chiraiya”, was appreciated by everyone present.



Celebration of 167th Birth Anniversary of Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose on 30 November 2025 by the Department of Botany (UGC Centre of Advanced Study-DS-FIST Sponsored Department)

The Department celebrated the 167th birth anniversary of Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose on 30 November 2025 to recall the life, work and legacy of the great visionary and scientist. The event was initiated with floral offerings at the bust of Acharya J. C. Bose in front of the Department, followed by a lecture and interaction session in the Prof. P.N. Bhaduri Seminar Hall in the Department. Dr. Saikat Naskar, the Head of the Department of Botany, welcomed the august gathering, following which the students and research scholars shared their thoughts on Acharya J. C. Bose's life and work. Prof. Rajib Bandopadhyay and Prof. Soumen Bhattacharjee delivered motivating lectures on this occasion to illuminate the pioneering work of Acharya J. C. Bose on radio waves and plant biology.



Achievements of the Department of Environmental Science

Between 16 July 2025 and 30 November 2025, the Department of Environmental Science has covered some remarkable milestones in the field of research publications and events. We are proud to announce that four of our M.Sc. students, who passed their final semester examinations in 2025, have joined as Trainee Environmentalist at Yukti Vridhi Pvt. Ltd. Another student, Ms Koyel Hati, who pass the final semester examinations in 2025, has joined as Research Assistant in IISER Kolkata. Ms Raumi Ganguly (M.Sc., 2024 batch) has joined as JRF at NIT, Agartala. In the last quarter, the Department has published 18 research papers.



A One-Day International Teachers' Training Workshop Organized by the Department of Arabic

The Department of Arabic, The University of Burdwan, in collaboration with the Indo-Arab Cultural Trust, Kolkata successfully organized a One-Day International Teachers' Training Workshop on "Teaching Language Skills: Effective and Innovative Methods" at Kadambini Ganguly Hall on 16th September 2025. The workshop brought together eminent speakers, distinguished guests, and enthusiastic participants from various universities, colleges, schools, madrasahs, and other institutions.



The program began with a beautiful recitation, followed by the felicitation of guests. Then Dr. Mohd Alamgir, TiC/ HOD & Director of this Workshop delivered a welcome address while the Dean of Science, Prof. Sunil Karforma, spoke about language opportunities, useful apps, student-centric methods, and the need for new approaches in teaching. The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Professor Sankar Kumar Nath and the Dean of Arts Prof. Pradip Chattopadhyay extended their best wishes for the workshop.



A special presence was Mr. Ahmad Hasan Imran, Chairman of the West Bengal Minorities Commission, who appreciated the initiative and talked about the connection of the Bengali and Arabic languages. Valuable speeches were delivered by academics from India and abroad such as Prof. Md. Yousuf Siddiq, Visiting Prof., ICSBA, Prof. Awadh Bin Ali Al-Jum'ah, King Saud University, KSA, Dr. Saidur Rahman, Asst. Prof., Department of Arabic, Aliah University, Dr. Sumama Faisal, Assoc. Prof., MANUU, Lucknow & Dr. Md. Mehedi Hasan, Assistant Professor, Department of Arabic, UGB. The speakers highlighted the significance of Arabic language teaching and innovative

strategies for effective classroom practices in the inaugural session which ended with a vote of thanks by Dr. Md Shamim Nizami, Asst. Prof. & Convenor of the workshop. This session was followed by five academic sessions focused on practical training in teaching the four language skills. These sessions provided valuable insights.



No Safe Zone Left: Prof. S.K. Nath Warns of Rising Seismic Risks Across India



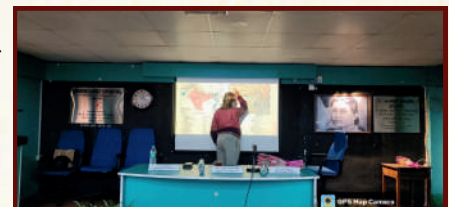
Prof. Sankar Kumar Nath, renowned Indian geophysicist and seismologist, remarked that “the entire Indian subcontinent has now been divided into 11 tectonic blocks, and none of them can be considered truly ‘safe’ anymore—the very idea of a ‘safe zone’ in India has effectively disappeared.” He made these observations while delivering the keynote address on **“Extreme Events in India: Earthquake Disasters in Northeast India and Landslide Hazards in the Darjeeling–Sikkim Himalaya— Perspectives on Mitigation and Management.”** The event was part of a Seminar on the International Day for Disaster Reduction, organised on 16 October 2025 by the NSS Cell of The University of Burdwan, in collaboration with My Bharat Purba



Bardhaman (under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India). Ms. Ultra Biswas, District Youth Officer, MY Bharat Purba Bardhaman under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, delivered the introductory address and explained why the Ministry is committed to organising such awareness programmes focused on science communication.

Prof. Nath, further explained the severity of India’s seismic vulnerability by noting that “tectonically, West Bengal and Bangladesh are a unified region. In the Bengal Basin—particularly at a depth of around 4.5 kilometres below Kolkata extending up to Mymensingh—we have identified faults capable of generating an earthquake of Magnitude 6.8.”

His remarks drew immediate concern during the interactive session, especially regarding the high population density of the region and the historical record of major earthquakes across these tectonic blocks. West Bengal was spared significant damage that time mainly because of the directivity of the seismic waves. “But we cannot always be that lucky,” he cautioned.



Drawing on his three decades of research on seismic hazards and vulnerability, Prof. Nath delivered a particularly alarming warning for Kolkata. He highlighted the term “liquefaction”—the process by which solid ground can temporarily behave like a fluid during strong shaking. “Places like Salt Lake and New Town in Kolkata,” he noted, “are highly liquefiable zones. When these earthquakes occur—and they will, because seismic activity does not follow simple linear predictions—we may face massive liquefaction and landslides occurring simultaneously with the tremors. While we cannot say when it will happen, we know the capability is there.”



One of the most pressing questions from the audience was whether such major events could recur in the near future. Prof. Nath responded with striking clarity: “We are effectively sitting on a volcano. Just as a volcano can erupt anytime, a major earthquake can strike at any point. For your information, along the Himalayas—which is capable of producing a Magnitude 9 earthquake—we have not yet received that Big One.”

Amid these daunting scenarios, he also addressed what steps are being taken at the administrative and policy levels. Prof. Nath acknowledged significant efforts from both State and Central agencies. “I must tell you,” he said, “that the Government of India—especially the Ministry of Earth Sciences—has been very, very proactive. They have fully funded our seismic microzonation projects not only for Kolkata but also for Guwahati, Sikkim, and the capital cities of Northeast India.” He explained that the West Bengal State Disaster Management Department is already using these vulnerability maps for scientific town planning. In sensitive areas like New Town and Salt Lake, the government is employing the research findings to identify safe evacuation routes, sites for emergency shelters, and to enforce strict building codes in new development zones.

Announcement

The University of Burdwan, in collaboration with the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, will be organizing “Vikshit Bharat Youth Parliament, 2026” in January 2026 at the University of Burdwan. A meeting was held with the representatives of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, along with the Hon’ble Chairman of the NSS Cell, Prof. Sankar Kumar Nath, Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor of the University of Burdwan. During the meeting, an official MoU was signed to organize this prestigious Youth Parliament.



Two - Day Rashtriya Ekta (National Unity) Seminar Organized by the Department of Education in Collaboration with Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi

The Department of Education, University of Burdwan observed the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel by organising a two-day Rashtriya Ekta seminar on “Legacy of



Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and National Integration for Viksit Bharat @ 2047” on 1–2 September 2025. Held under the leadership of Program Director Prof. Chandan Adhikary, Head, Department of Education and Program Convener, Dr. Subhankar Ghosh, Assistant Professor, Department of Education in collaboration with ICSSR, New Delhi the event highlighted Patel’s enduring contribution to national unity and explored contemporary challenges to integration.



Scholars and paper presenters from reputed institutions nationwide—such as IIT Madras, IIT Jodhpur, University of Delhi, JNU, Central Universities, Central University of Jharkhand, Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya, Central University of Punjab, CCS University, U.P. and several universities of West Bengal—actively participated. The seminar concluded with a brief valedictory session coordinated by Dr. Puja Sarkar, Assistant Professor, Department of Education followed by a certificate distribution and the national anthem.

The inaugural session was graced by the Hon’ble Vice Chancellor Prof. (Dr.) Sankar Kumar Nath, Registrar Dr. Arijit Chatterjee and the Dean, Faculty Council for PG Studies in Arts, Commerce, etc., Prof. Pradip Chattopadhyay and the Dean, Faculty Council for PG Studies in Science, Prof. Sunil Karforma. Distinguished speakers included Keynote Speaker Prof. Asheesh Srivastav, Professor, Higher Education Policy, Dean, Academic and Research, IUCTE, Varanasi, Guest of Honour Prof. M.S. Siddiqui, Department of Education, Aligarh Muslim University and Panel Chair Prof. K.C. Sahoo Department of Education, Visva-Bharati. The panellists were Prof. Bishnupada Nanda, Professor and former Head, Department of Education, Jadavpur University; Prof. Santosh Kumar Pal, Professor and former Head, Department of Philosophy, The University of Burdwan and Prof. Abhijit Kumar Pal, Head, Department of Education, West Bengal State University.



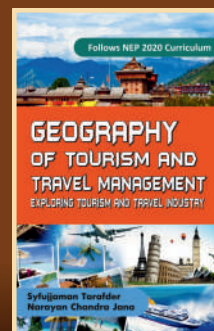
News from Centre for Distance and Online Education (CDOE)

Prof. Narayan Chandra Jana, Head, Department of Geography joined as Director (Additional Charge), Centre for Distance and Online Education (CDOE), The University of Burdwan on 6 November 2025.



Book Release

Prof. (Dr.) Sankar Kumar Nath, Hon’ble Vice Chancellor, The University of Burdwan formally released the book entitled *Geography of Tourism and Travel Management: Exploring Tourism and Travel Industry* authored by Dr. Syfujjaman Tarafder and Prof. Narayan Chandra Jana and published by Rajesh Publications, New Delhi. This book provides a comprehensive view of the multidimensional world of tourism. Designed primarily for undergraduate and postgraduate students, researchers, and professionals, the book explains both the fundamental and contemporary aspects of tourism and travel management in a structured and lucid manner.





A Glimpse of the Vice Chancellor's Expert Opinion in the Media on the 21 November 2025 Earthquake



The Vice Chancellor of the University of Burdwan, Prof. Dr. Sankar Kumar Nath, has brought immense pride to the institution as media reports identify him as one of the country's leading geophysicists and seismologists. Prof. Dr. Nath is renowned for his contributions to geotomographical studies, seismic hazard, vulnerability and risk assessment, seismic microzonation, landslide hazard zonation, slope stability modelling and extreme event modelling. A recipient of the prestigious Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize, he continues to guide national discourse on seismic risks. Leading newspapers recently highlighted his expert opinions on the 5.7-magnitude earthquake in Bangladesh, which was felt across West Bengal. Below are highlights of the Vice Chancellor's expert insights featured in recent media coverage.

বর্তমান

কলকাতা সহ দক্ষিণবঙ্গে ভূপৃষ্ঠের সাড়ে ৪ কিমি নীচেই বড়সড় চ্যুতি

বাংলাদেশে মাটির বহু নীচে অবস্থিত 'মধুপুর ফল্ট'-এর এপিসেন্টার বা উৎসস্থল। সেখান থেকে শুক্রবার সকালে সৃষ্টি হয় তীব্র ভূকম্পন।

কলকাতা সহ রাজ্যে ভূমিকম্প নিয়ে গবেষণামূলক বহু কাজ করেছেন খড়্গাপুর আইআইটির জিওলজি বিভাগের অবসরপ্রাপ্ত অধ্যাপক শংকরকুমার নাথ। তিনি বর্তমানে বর্ধমান বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের উপাচার্য। শংকরবাবু জানিয়েছেন, ইওসিন হিনজ কলকাতার মাটির সাড়ে ৪ কিমি নীচে দিয়ে গিয়েছে। এখান থেকে সৃষ্ট কোনও ভূমিকম্পের উৎসস্থলের তীব্রতা রিখটার স্কেলে ৬.৮ মাত্রা পর্যন্ত হতে পারে। এদিন বাংলাদেশের নরসিংদি এলাকার উৎসস্থলের ভূমিকম্পটির তীব্রতা রিখটার স্কেলে ছিল ৫.৭। অতীতে এই জায়গায় শক্তিশালী ভূকম্পন সৃষ্টি হয়েছে বলে ভূতাত্ত্বিকরা জানিয়েছেন। শংকরবাবু জানান, ১৮৮৫ সালে ইওসিন হিনজে রিখটার স্কেলে ৬.৭ তীব্রতার ভূমিকম্প সৃষ্টি হয়েছিল। এই ভূমিকম্পটির ফলে বেশি ক্ষয়ক্ষতি অবশ্য হয়েছিল তৎকালীন পূর্ব বাংলা অর্থাৎ বর্তমান বাংলাদেশে। অতীত রেকর্ড থেকে জানা যাচ্ছে, ১৯৬৪ সালের ১৫ এপ্রিল রিখটার স্কেলে ৫.২ মাত্রার একটি ভূমিকম্পের উৎসস্থল ছিল সাগরদ্বীপ এলাকা। এই ভূমিকম্প ব্যাপকভাবে অনুভূত হয়েছিল কলকাতাসহ দক্ষিণবঙ্গের বিস্তীর্ণ এলাকায়। এটির সৃষ্টিও ইওসিন হিনজে হয় বলে মনে করা হয়। ভূমিকম্পের উৎসস্থলের মাত্রা যান্ত্রিকভাবে পরিমাপ করার ব্যবস্থা চালু হওয়ার পর থেকে এখনও পর্যন্ত পশ্চিমবঙ্গে উৎসস্থলের নিরিখে এটা তীব্রতম ভূমিকম্প বলে মনে করেন ভূবিশেষজ্ঞরা। এটা ছাড়া আরও বেশ কয়েকটি 'ফল্ট' ছড়িয়ে রয়েছে রাজ্যজুড়ে। এর মধ্যে উল্লেখযোগ্য হল—গড়মোহানা ও খণ্ডমোষ ফল্ট, পিংলা ফল্ট, রাজমহল ফল্ট, জঙ্গিপুর-গাইবান্ধা ফল্ট, মালদহ-কিষেনগঞ্জ ফল্ট, মেদিনীপুর-ফরাঞ্চা ফল্ট, নদার্ন রিজিয়ন ফল্ট প্রভৃতি। এসব জায়গায় অতীতে বহুবার ভূমিকম্প সৃষ্টি হয়েছে। তীব্রতার মাত্রা বেশি না-হওয়ায় ওইসব ভূমিকম্প নিয়ে বেশি হইচই হয়নি। তবে এই ধরনের ফল্ট, হিনজ জোন প্রভৃতি থেকে যেকোনও সময় বড়ো ধরনের ভূমিকম্পের উৎপত্তি হতে পারে বলে ভূতাত্ত্বিকরা মনে করছেন। কলকাতা বা কাছাকাছি এলাকায় কোনও মাঝারি মাত্রার ভূমিকম্পের উৎসস্থল হলে তার ভালোরকম প্রভাব মহানগরীতে পড়বে বলেই মনে করেন বিশেষজ্ঞরা। কলকাতা থেকে অনেকটা দূরে কোনও অতিশক্তিশালী ভূমিকম্প হলেও তার প্রভাব এই শহরে ভালোরকম হতে পারে। যেমনটা হয়েছিল ১৯৩৪ সালে ৮-এর বেশি মাত্রায়, বিহার ভূমিকম্পের ক্ষেত্রে। কলকাতায় বেশি মাত্রায় ভূমিকম্প অনুভূত হলে সবচেয়ে বেশি বিপজ্জনক হবে রাজারহাট-নিউটাউন, সন্টকালেক এলাকায়। বেশি করেন শংকরবাবু। কারণ এখানে জলা ভরাট করে স্থলভূমি সৃষ্টি করার জন্য একটু শক্তিশালী ভূমিকম্প হলে ভূগর্ভে 'লিকুইফ্রাকশন' বেশি হবে। ফলে মাটিতে ধস নামবে। এই পরিস্থিতি মোকাবিলা করতে ভূমিকম্প প্রতিরোধক বিধি মেনে নির্মাণকাজ করতে হবে। পুরোনো যে ভবনগুলি আছে সেগুলিকেও মজবুত করার জন্য নিতে হবে বিশেষ ব্যবস্থা।



উৎস বাংলাদেশ, কাঁপল কলকাতাও

নিজস্ব সংবাদদাতা

প্রবল ভূমিকম্পে কেঁপে উঠল বাংলাদেশ। শুক্রবার ভারতীয় সময়ে সকাল ১০টা ৮ মিনিট নাগাদ ওই ভূমিকম্পের তীব্রতা রিখটার স্কেলে ৫.৭ মাত্রা ছিল বলে ভারতের ন্যাশনাল সেন্টার অব সাইসমোলজি জানিয়েছে। এই কম্পনের উৎসস্থল বাংলাদেশের খোলাশালা। মাটির ১০ কিলোমিটার গভীরে হয়েছিল। রাত পর্যন্ত সে দেশের মোট ১০ জনের মৃত্যুর খবর পাওয়া গিয়েছে। এর মধ্যে বংশালে ভূমিকম্পে একটি বাড়ি ভেঙে পড়ে তিন জনের মৃত্যু হয়েছে বলে বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ জানিয়েছে। অন্য পিকে, ঢাকায় একটি বাড়ির ছাদ ভেঙে পড়ে তিন জনের মৃত্যু হয়েছে। আহত হয়েছেন বলেও বিভিন্ন সংবাদ সংস্থা জানিয়েছে।

শুধু বাংলাদেশ নয়, এদিন সকালে কেঁপে উঠেছে বাস কলকাতা-সহ ভারতের বিস্তীর্ণ এলাকাও। ধরমনি কম্পনে আতঙ্কিত হয়ে পড়েছিলেন কেউ কেউ। তবে কলকাতা সহ রাজ্যে তেমন কোনও ক্ষয়ক্ষতির খবর পাওয়া যায়নি। ভূতত্ত্ববিদেরা জানান, ভূগর্ভের তলায় থাকা ভারতীয় পাত ক্রমশ ইউরেশীয় পাতের তলায় ঢুকছে। তার ফলেই উপমহাদেশের ভূমিকম্প হয়। উৎসস্থল থেকে কম্পন তরঙ্গের আকারে বিভিন্ন চ্যুতি বরাবর ছড়িয়ে পড়ে।

খড়্গাপুর আইআইটির ভূবিজ্ঞানের অধ্যাপক তথা বর্ধমান বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের উপাচার্য শংকরকুমার নাথ জানান, ময়মনসিংহ থেকে কলকাতা পর্যন্ত একটি চ্যুতি (ইয়োসিন হিনজ) আছে। বস্তত, ভারত এবং বাংলাদেশ একই বেসিন (বেঙ্গল বেসিন) অবস্থিত। তাই এই অঞ্চলে ভূমিকম্প হলে তা চ্যুতি বরাবর ছড়িয়ে পড়ে। এদিন যে মাত্রার ভূমিকম্প হয়েছে সেটা বেশ শুরুরতর বলেও মনে করেন তিনি। শংকরকুমার আরও জানান, এদিন ভূমিকম্পে একটি রিভার্স ফল্ট লেবা গিয়েছে। অর্থাৎ চ্যুতির ব্লকের ডান দিকের অংশটি উঠে এসেছে এবং বাম দিকের ব্লকটি নেমে গিয়েছে। এদিন মূল ভূমিকম্পের পর আকটীশক হয়েছে বলেও তিনি জানান।

পূর্ব, উত্তর এবং উত্তর-পূর্ব ভারতে ভূমিকম্প বিরল ঘটনা নয় বলেও ভূবিজ্ঞানীরা জানান। শুধু তাই নয়, কলকাতা-সহ আশপাশের এলাকা ভূমিকম্পপ্রবণ এলাকার মধ্যেও পড়ে। কয়েক বছর আগে বুর্সা অব ইন্ডিয়ান স্ট্যান্ডার্ড যে ভূমিকম্পপ্রবণ এলাকার মানচিত্র তৈরি করেছিল তার নিরিখে মহানগরী ৪ এবং ৫ নম্বর জোনে পড়ে। অর্থাৎ বড় মাত্রায় ভূকম্প হলে কলকাতার বিপদের আশঙ্কা আছে। এদিন কলকাতার বহুতলের বাসিন্দাদের বেশিরভাগই কাঁপুনি টের পেয়েছেন বলে জানিয়েছেন নিউটাউন, সেন্টার ফাইভের বহুতলের অফিস থেকে অফিসকর্মীরা অনেকেই তড়িঘড়ি অফিস ছেড়ে নীচে নেমে আসেন। সেন্টার ফাইভের একটি অফিসের কর্মী বলেন, "অফিসে ঢুক সবে কাজে বসেছিলাম। দেখলাম, সামনের কম্পিউটারটা কেঁপে উঠল। চেয়ারটাও কেমন দুলে উঠল। পাশের সহকর্মী ভূমিকম্প বলে চেঁচিয়ে উঠল। তখনই বাড়ি থেকে ফোন এল। স্ত্রী বলল, বাড়ির সিলিং ফ্যান দুলাছে। গেরি না করে অফিসের সবাই নীচে নেমে গিয়েছিলাম।"

বাইপাস সংলগ্ন বহুতলের বাসিন্দাদের কেউ কেউ জানাচ্ছেন, ভূমিকম্প টের পেয়েছেন তারা। কয়েক সেকেন্ডের জন্য টেবিল চেয়ার নড়ে উঠেছে। বড়বাজারের একটি বাহারি আলোর পোকানের বিক্রোতা জানান, সিলিংয়ে ঝোলানো ঝাড়বাতি কেঁপে উঠেছিল কয়েক সেকেন্ডের জন্য। তবে বাঁচোরা পোকানের কোনও ক্ষয়ক্ষতি হয়নি।

The Telegraph

Strong quake: City stirred and shaken

Sankar Kumar Nath, vice-chancellor of Burdwan University and former professor of geophysics and seismology at IIT Kharagpur, told this newspaper: "Bengal and Bangladesh belong to the same geotectonic unit. They are interconnected through the Bay of Bengal. A distance of 200-500km from the source is considered 'near field' in seismic parlance. Calcutta is barely 350km from Dhaka. So, the impact was tangible here."

Nath said the earthquake measured IX on the Modified Mercalli Intensity (MMI) Scale in Dhaka and VII on the same scale in Calcutta.

THE TIMES OF INDIA

Experts Say Tremors Reflect Build-Up Of Tectonic Stress

Subhro Niyogi & Prithvijit Mitra TNN

Kolkata: The 5.7-magnitude earthquake near Dhaka on Friday morning that jolted Kolkata and sent people rushing out of homes and offices may just be a dress rehearsal. Geologists and seismologists have warned of a build-up of tectonic stress in the region that could trigger more earthquakes.

The shallow-depth earthquake took place less than 10 km under the earth's surface at Narsingdi in Bangladesh. It had Intensity VIII in Dhaka, located 25 km west of the epicentre, and Intensity VII in Kolkata, around 239 km further to the east of the Bangladesh capital.

Experts said the tremors reflect a build-up of tectonic stress along the Eocene Hinge Zone, located about 4.5 km beneath Kolkata and stretching up to Mymensingh in Bangladesh. "This is a major hinge with the potential to generate earthquakes of magnitude 7," said Burdwan University VC Shankar Nath, a geophysicist and senior seismologist. "It intersects with the Jamuna Fault, which triggered the devastating 1885 Mymensingh quake (M 6.8) felt in Kolkata," he said.