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Press Release

JMI organises International Seminar on 'Architecture for Masses: Climate Change and Resilience in Architecture'

A three-day international seminar titled "Architecture for Masses: Climate Change and Resilience in Architecture" is being hosted by the Department of Architecture, Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) from 24th July 2024 to 26th July 2024. The inaugural program held on 24th of July, 2024 at the FTK-CIT building brought together experts, academics, and industry professionals to delve into the urgent challenges posed by climate change on the built environment and to explore innovative architectural solutions for a resilient future.

The seminar underscores the imperative need for a paradigm shift in architectural practices to effectively address the escalating impacts of climate change. The program was graced by the Chief Guest **Prof. Mohd Shakeel, Officiating Vice Chancellor of JMI**. Prof. Shakeel shared his expertise and insights, painting a comprehensive picture of the complex interplay between climate change and the built environment. The Guest of Honor Dr. P.S.N. Rao, former Director of SPA New Delhi offered valuable insights into the Indian government's growing emphasis on climate financing and the creation of sustainable cities.

Prof. Qamar Irshad, Head D/o Architecture emphasized the disproportionate impact of climate change on vulnerable populations, highlighting the urgent need for inclusive and equitable design approaches. He stressed the importance of considering social and economic factors in architectural planning to ensure that everyone benefits from climate-resilient infrastructure.

Prof. Hina Zia, Dean Faculty of Architecture & Ekistics delved into the increasing frequency and severity of urban flooding, a pressing challenge in many cities worldwide. She underscored the critical role of architects in designing flood-resilient buildings and urban spaces, emphasizing the need for innovative solutions that incorporate nature-based approaches and sustainable materials.

Prof. P.S.N. Rao highlighted the potential of public-private partnerships and innovative financing mechanisms to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon built environment. Dr. Rao also emphasized the importance of re-evaluating our

technological approach in light of the wisdom embodied in traditional building practices, suggesting a harmonious blend of ancient knowledge and modern innovation.

Prof. Mohd Shakeel, Vice Chancellor of JMI, drew attention to the durability and resilience of older buildings compared to newer structures, raising concerns about the construction quality and long-term performance of modern buildings in the face of increasing climate-related threats. He emphasized the need for rigorous quality control and the use of sustainable materials to enhance the resilience of the built environment.

Over the next three days, the seminar will delve into a range of critical issues, including the impact of climate change on building performance, the potential of vernacular architecture to offer climate-responsive design solutions, and the role of technology and traditional techniques in overcoming pertinent climate-induced issues on the built environment. The inaugural Program ended with the vote of thanks by Dr. Kulsum Fatima and the National Anthem.

Public Relations Office
Jamia Millia Islamia








