Best Practices – Field Study Tours

The Department of Geography & Disaster Management conducts field-based programs and training sessions for the Masters Programme in Geography and Disaster Management.

For Geography tours, the areas of special socio-economic and geographic significance i.e. Gurez, Ladakh, Chenab Valley and different hydro-electric power projects of the country are visited. The students are trained in field exercises and to have a broader outlook of the rural development and community empowerment programmes in such areas. Experiences on the ground are assessed and disseminated in order to highlight socio-economic setup and different geographic parameters. The prime focus of such field tours is to estimate the change in the income, sources of income, asset ownership, incidence, depth and severity of poverty and associated social characteristics of the poor households. The people's accessibility to use of basic social and public services, such as access to water and sanitation, education, health, civil acts registration, etc. are also the focus of such studies. To basic objective of such practices is to provide students with means enabling them to implement community-driven socio- economic development interventions, an increased voice and capability to influence public policy decision making through active engagement with local authorities for quality, inclusive, and equitable service delivery, and civic-oversight. A consultative approach is generally adopted in such studies with the aim of developing a survey that is based on shared expectations followed by various consultative meetings with the local community members.

For the Disaster management Program, the aim of such programs is to introduce the students to the bio-geo-physical environments, and provide teach them about frequent disaster situations such as floods, earthquakes, flashfloods, GLOFS, etc. The field visits are carried out in the different terrains of the Jammu, Kashmir, Ladakh, and other parts of the country. The aim is also to provide a direct interaction of the students with the communities and stakeholders in the disaster-prone areas. The programs help to spread knowledge and awareness among the community members and act as capacity building initiatives for the stakeholders so as to train them to take community-level mitigation measures and develop local Disaster Risk Reduction plans. This helps to propagate disaster risk awareness and promotion nature-based solutions vis-à-vis use of recent data and technologies for disaster risk reduction. The glimpses of some of the field study tours conducted in the last three years are;

Best Practices – 2019

Field Study Tour of DM students Batch 2021 - Kishtwar - 2019

Dr. Mohd. Shafi Bhat and Dr. Zahoor Ul Islam along with the 3rd Semsetr DM Batch-2017 in while interacting with Javed Ahmad of Panditgam, Kishtwar whose small house was hit by a huge boulder after rains in July 2019.

Landslide awareness programme for the residents of Panditgam village of District Kishtwar

The awareness programme was held between 01.08.2019. The areas is highly prone to landslides, slope failure and road accidents. The programe helped to improve disaster resilience in these poor communities. They were apprised of the proper construction practices, different safety and risk reduction cum preparedness measures.

An awareness programme was also conducted for the public transport drivers of Kishtwar, Doda and Badhrewah, J&K. The aim was to assess the perception of the drivers towards the causative factors for the accidents. The road safety measures were discussed and they were apprised of the importance of safe driving and regular vehicle maintenance.

Best Practices – 2023

Field Study Tour of Geography students Batch Gurez - 2021

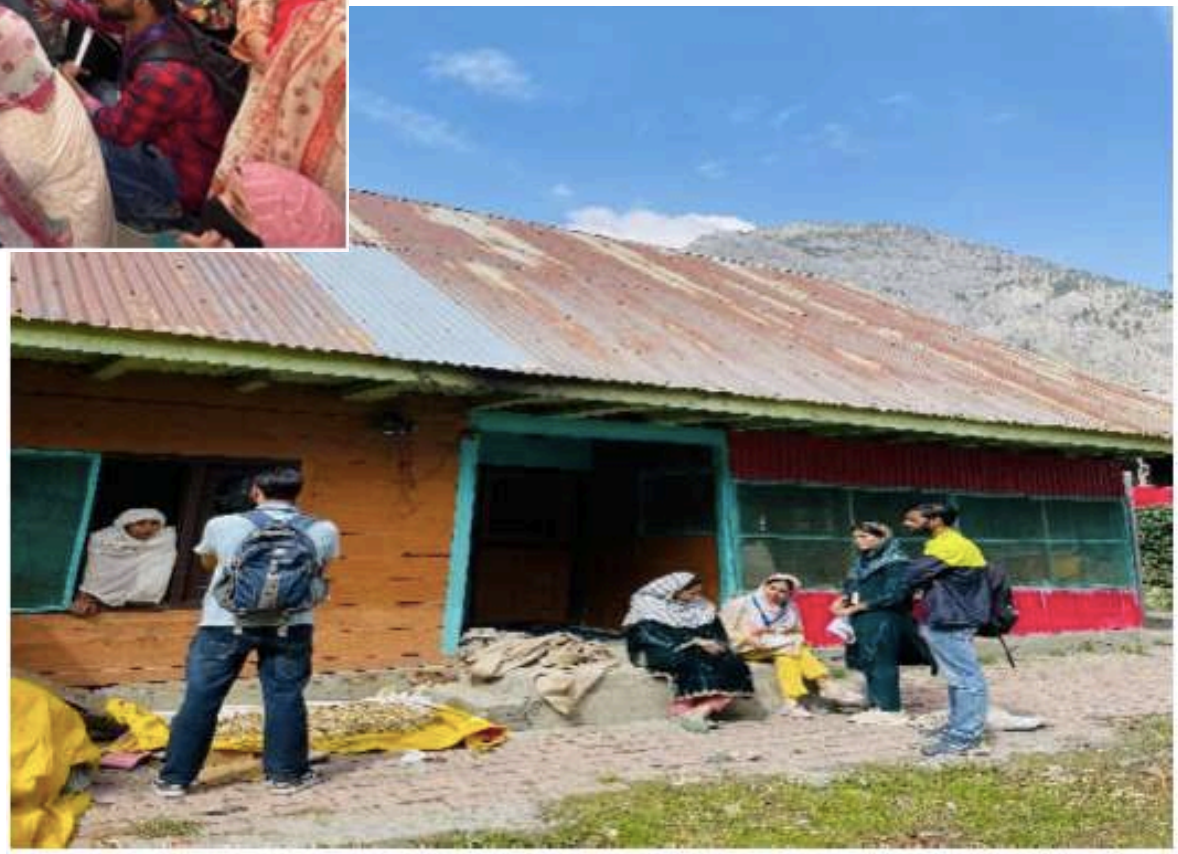
Dawar: Interaction with Sericulture department officials about the scope of the sector in the region high altitude areas

A field study tour was conducted in Gurez Tehsil of Bandipora from 11-09-2023 to 20-11-2023. One of the significant component was community outreach and to have a broader outlook of the rural development and various empowerment programmes. Experiences on the ground were assessed and disseminated in order to highlight socio-economic setup and different geographic peremeteresin Khandyal, Markoot, Kanzalawan, Dawar, Gujran, Badugam, Baduab, Saradab and Niru in both Gurez and Tulail Valley. The prime focus was to estimate the change in the income, sources of income, asset ownership, incidence, depth and severity of poverty, and associated social characteristics of the poor households.

The people’s accessibility to use of basic social and public services, such as access to water and sanitation, education, health, etc. was also the focus of the 2023 study.To basic objective of such practices is to provide students with means enabling them to implement community-driven socio-economic development interventions, an increased voice and capability to influence public policy decision making.

Markoot Villege: Accessing cropping pattern and the indigenous practices to make agriculture possible in view of limited crop growing season.

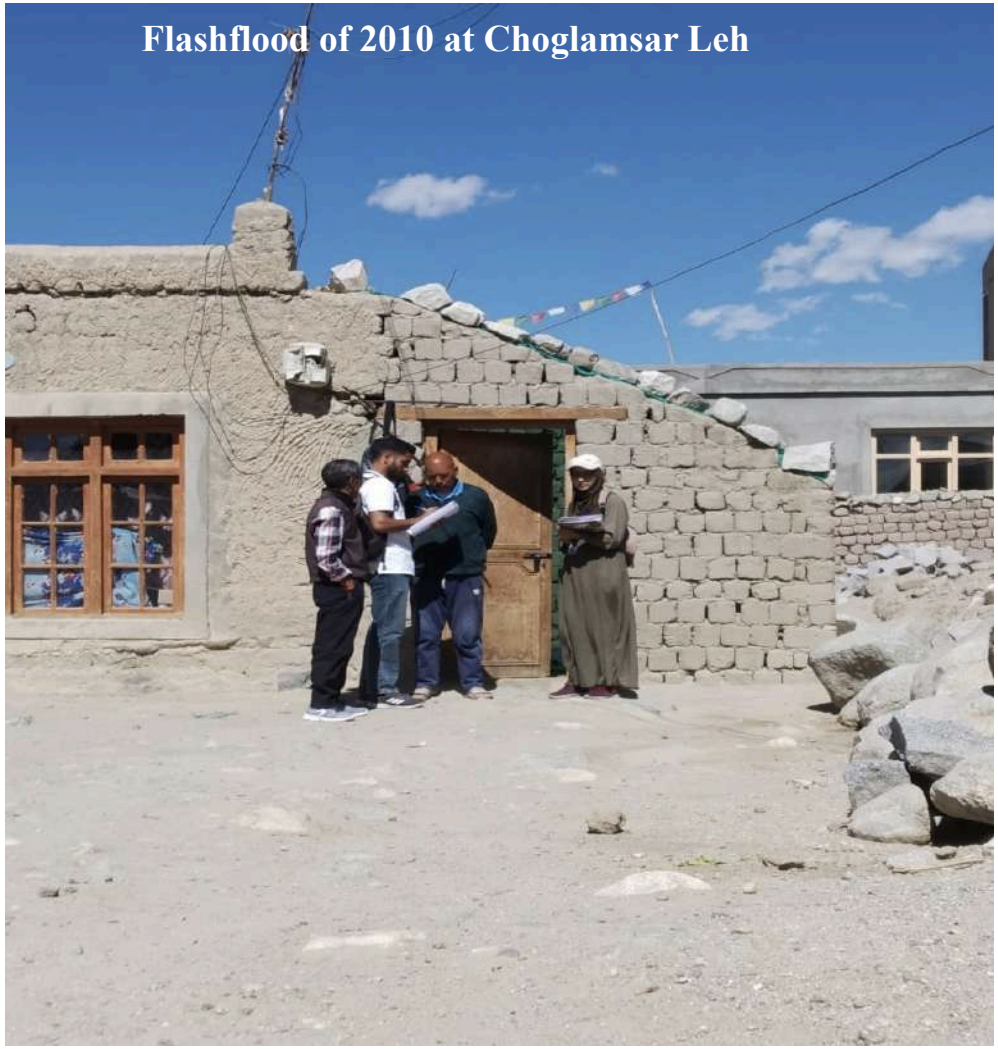
Kishanganga Hydro-Electric Project: First-hand experience about how hydro-power project work



Tulail Valley: interaction with local households about basic social and public services like water, education, health, etc.

Best Practices – 2023

Field Study Tour of DM students Batch 2021 - UT Ladakh - 2023



Visit of students to the disaster-hit and disaster-prone areas of UT Ladakh (Drass, kargil, Leh, Zanaskar, Nubra, etc.) and the interaction with the villagers about the recent disasters (Flashflood, cloudbursts, etc.) & their data collection-

Best Practices – 2024

Field Study Tour of DM students Batch 2022 - UT Ladakh - 2024

Students in the field during the visit to Vlacial Valley

Dr. Akhtar Alam during discussion with the students in in the field

Best Practices – 2024

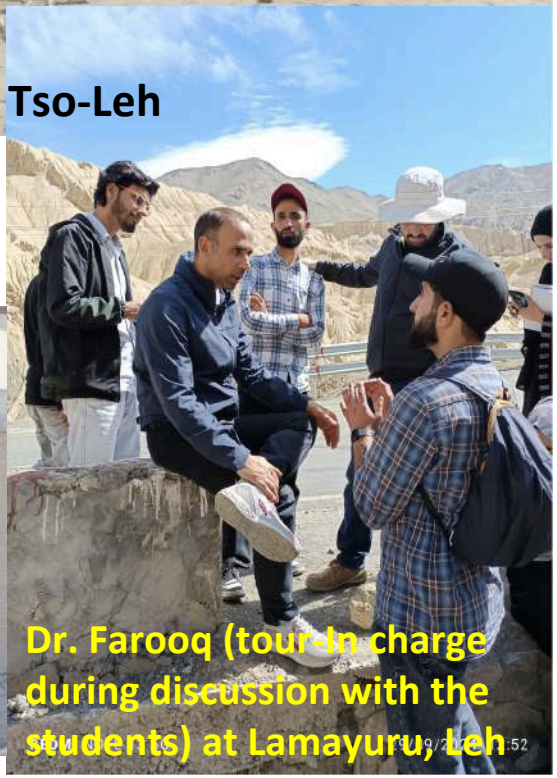
Field Study Tour of DM students Batch 2023 - UT Ladakh - 2024

Start of the tour-University Campus

Group at the Pangong Tso-Leh

Students collecting field data

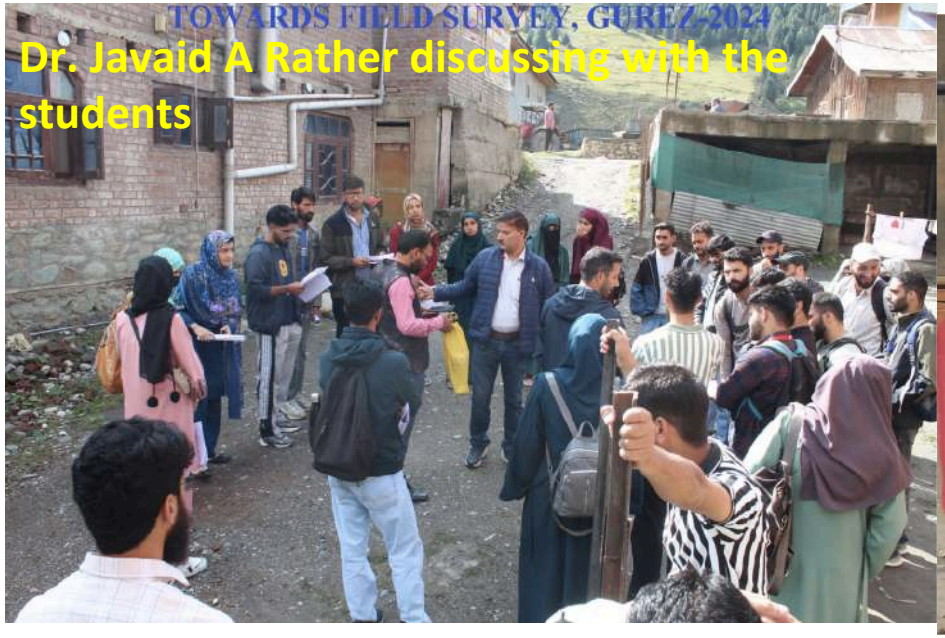
Student interaction with the community and collecting field data



Dr. Farooq (tour-In charge during discussion with the students) at Lamayuru, Leh

Best Practices – 2024

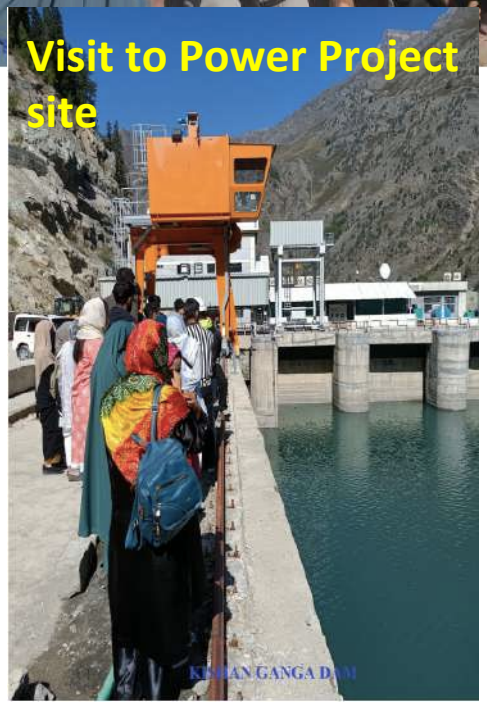
Field Study Tour of Geography students Batch 2022 – Gurez Valley- 2024



Dr. Javaid A Rather discussing with the students

Students with the local people of Gurez while collecting data

Students with the local people of Gurez while collecting data

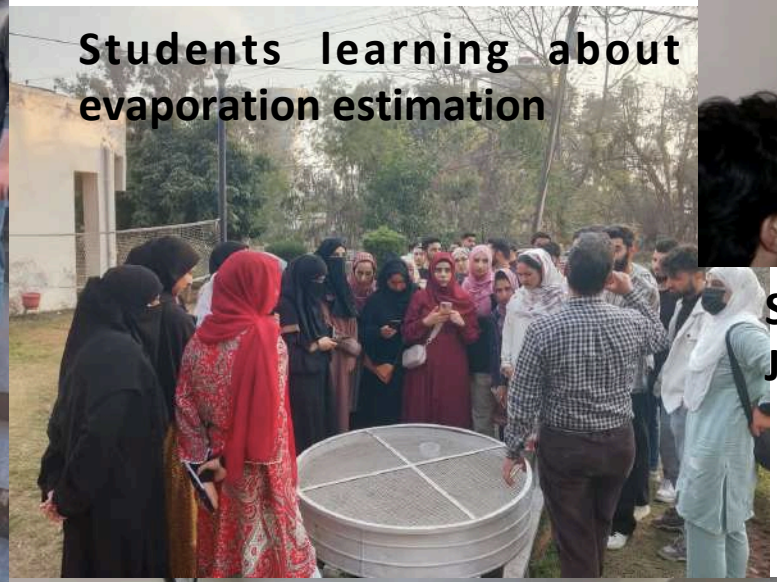


Visit to Power Project site

Best Practices – 2024

Field Study Tour of Geography students Batch 2023 – Gurez Valley- 2024

Dr. GM Rather while interacting with students



Students learning about evaporation estimation

Students visiting NIH office Jammu

Dr. Riyaz A Mir (scientist NHI) delivering a lecture to students at NIH office Jammu

Training Program On Advanced Surveying Using Remote Sensing, Total Station And Global Positioning System (GPS)

A week long skill enhancement training program on Advanced Surveying using Remote Sensing, Total Station and Global Positioning System (GPS) was organized by the Department of Geography and Disaster Management, School of Earth and Environmental Science University, Kashmir from 18th to 27th March-2024.

The program was a brain child of the Department of Geography and Disaster Management which has planned to bridge the gap between industry requirements and academics. The main objective of this initiative was to provide skill based training to the polytechnic, engineering and Geography students to cope up to the construction and survey field requirements and become industry ready which makes them really feel employable. This program was to gain the importance of setting a set of ambitious but realistic goals for each of the participants, and working closely with them to realize these goals over the course of the workshop.

The course was designed by qualified personalities from the University and by leading professionals and expert faculties from various noted institutions and industries of the country. The ultimate goal was to educate the upcoming leaders in the industry, to equip them with the very latest knowledge and skills to lead and innovate within their organizations, improving the performance, efficiency and sustainability of different sectors.

Besides having 12 technical sessions one full session was taken by an expert from Jammu & Kashmir entrepreneurship development institute (JKEDI), wherein the expert gave a brief outline of start-up policy 2024, by providing the participants extensive knowledge as how to assess the funding for start-ups, venture capital funds, loan guarantee programmes, seed funding, patent related assistance and assistance for mentorship,

Skill Enhance Workshop on Advanced Land Surveying USING Remote Sensing, GPS and Total Station

Department of Geography and Disaster Management, University of Kashmir

PROGRAMME

	MORNING SESSION		BREAK	AFTERNOON SESSION	
	1030 – 1130	1130 – 1300	1300 – 1400	1400 – 1500	1500 – 1600
Day 1 18-03-24	**Inaugural**	Lecture Fundamentals of Remote Sensing **Prof. Pervez Ahmed**		Downloading satellite data, Image interpretation **Prof. Pervez Ahmed**	Image Classification **Dr. Mohd Wasim**
Day 2 19-03-24	Lecture Introduction to GIS **Dr. Javeed Ahmad**	Lecture Introduction to GIS **Dr. Javeed Ahmad**		GIS Mapping (point, line and polygon) **Dr. Hakim Farooq**	Overlay Analysis **Dr. Hakim Farooq**
Day 3 20-03-24	Lecture **Dr. Janani L.** Civil Engineering NIT Srinagar	Lecture **Dr. Janani L.** Civil Engineering NIT Srinagar		Setting-up a Total Station [Base Station Leveling, Centering, and Northing] **Dr. Mohd Wasim**	Data collection using Total Station **Dr. Zahoor Ul Islam**
Day 4 22-03-24	Group Exercise Global Positioning System (GPS) **Dr. Akhtar Alam**	Group Exercise Global Positioning System (GPS) **Dr. Atiqullah Malik**		Data Collection (Point, line and polygon) using GPS **Dr. Akhtar Alam**	Data Collection (Point, line and polygon) using GPS **Dr. Hakim Farooq**
Day 5 25-03-24	Group Exercises **Prof. Shamshad Ahmad** Civil Engineering, JMI, New Delhi	Group Exercises **Prof. Shamshad Ahmad** Civil Engineering, JMI, New Delhi		Basic measurements: Area calculation, Distance measurement, REM **Prof. Shamshad Ahmad** Civil Engineering, JMI, New Delhi	Basic measurements: Area calculation, Distance measurement, REM **Prof. Shamshad Ahmad** Civil Engineering, JMI, New Delhi
Day 6 26-03-24	Group Exercises **Prof. Shamshad Ahmad** Civil Engineering, JMI, New Delhi	Group Exercises **Prof. Shamshad Ahmad** Civil Engineering, JMI, New Delhi		Lecture **Mr Abdul Rauf** JKEDI	Lecture **Mr Abdul Rauf** JKEDI
Day 7 27-03-24	**Valedictory**			Participant Feedback	

Hon'ble. V.C. Madam Prof. Nilofer Khan during the felicitation ceremony of the 07-day program held at the Department