

Special Service and Features



## CSIR-SERC organises Seminar on Earthquake safety of precast and prefabricated structures

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A one-day seminar on earthquake safety of precast and prefabricated structures was conducted in hybrid mode by CSIR-SERC on 26 November 2025. More than 270 participants joined the event online, and over 50 participants attended in person.

Dr. P. Kamatchi, Head, ASTaR Laboratory, delivered the opening remarks. Dr. N. Anandavalli, Director, CSIR-SERC and Coordinating Director, CMC, provided an overview of the technologies developed at CSIR-SERC particularly emphasizing the

Centre's significant role in precast and prefabricated structures on precast housing. The seminar featured expert talks from leading academicians, researchers, and industry professionals.

Dr. Pinar Okumus, Associate Professor, University at Buffalo and Prof. Yogendra Singh, Professor, Department of Earthquake Engineering, IIT Roorkee presented state-of-the-art research on the seismic performance of precast structures. Shri. Yogesh Kajale, BG Shirke Construction, Shri. Prasad CA, Metey Engineering and Consultancy, Shri. Amit Barde, L&T Construction and Shri. S. Sathiyaseelan, Teemage Precast Inc, discussed the challenges and opportunities in India's precast construction landscape, stressing the importance of transitioning from conventional methods to meet the nation's rapid infrastructure demands.

Dr. G. V. Rama Rao, Principal Scientist, CSIR-SERC presented insights from laboratory tests at CSIR-SERC on precast concrete shear walls and joint systems.



Dr. Mohit Verma, Principal Scientist, CSIR-SERC and Dr. C. Bharathi Priya, Principal Scientist, CSIR-SERC highlighted the full-scale testing capabilities of the ASTaR Laboratory, including lateral load testing of precast buildings up to G+2 storeys.

The seminar concluded with a panel discussion moderated by Dr. N. Gopalakrishnan, Former Director CSIR-CBRI, Roorkee, and Former Chief Scientist CSIR-SERC summarized the key technical takeaways and outlined a roadmap for

advancing seismic testing, standardization, and safe construction practices in precast structures.

Dr.K.Muthumani, Former Chief Scientist CSIR-SERC highlighted the challenges of precast and the need for R&D in such an important area, and the role of CSIR-SERC.

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