

Office of the Divisional Commissioner Kashmir

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No: DivComK/Dev/71/2023/ 0360-05

Dated: 02/06/2023

**Commissioner,
Srinagar Municipal Corporation**

**Deputy Commissioner,
Ganderbal**

**Director,
Urban Local Bodies, Kashmir**

Sub:- One week program on Waste management in Kashmir.

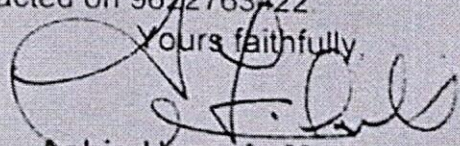
Sir/Madam,

Kindly find enclosed herewith copy of application submitted by Er. Abdul Rashid Bhat (Engineer/Environmentalist) EMRC, University of Kashmir wherein he has informed that Ms. Priti Rao, President BEAI, National President WICCI Bio-enzyme Council along with other experts are visiting here for conducting one week program regarding waste recycling and management, regenerating soil and water eco-system and promoting chemical free life and living. It has been requested for arranging meeting with the aforesaid experts from 5th June to 10th June for organizing the said program.

In this connection, Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir has desired to request you to conduct meeting with the visiting expert wherein she will give a presentation regarding the subject matter.

As such, I am directed to request you to kindly share any convenient date in between 6th June & 10th June, 2023 except 7th June for organizing the meeting in your office.

For Smooth conduct of the program, Er. Abdul Rashid Bhat (Engineer/ Environmentalist) EMRC, University of Kashmir may be contacted on 9622763422

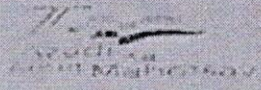
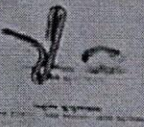

Yours faithfully,

Ashiq Hussain Malik
Deputy Director (E&S)

With Divisional Commissioner,
Kashmir

Copy to the:

1. Pvt. Secretary to Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir for information of worthy Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir.
2. Shri Ab Majid Butt (Ex-KAS Officer & Geo-Scientist, (7006887972) & Er. Abdul Rashid Bhat (Engineer/ Environmentalist) EMRC, University of Kashmir for information with the request to coordinate with the concerned HODs.



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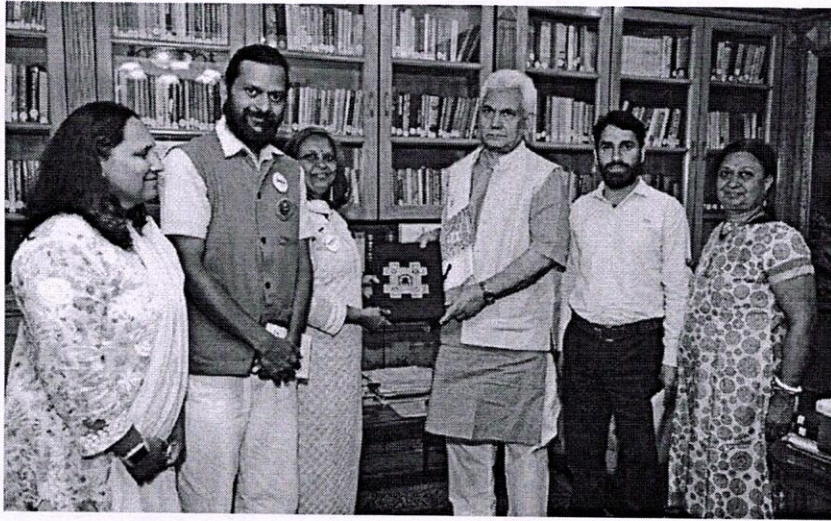
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One Week Waste Management Activities Report In Kashmir from 5th June to 12th June, 2023, submitted to Hon'ble Governor Sahib.



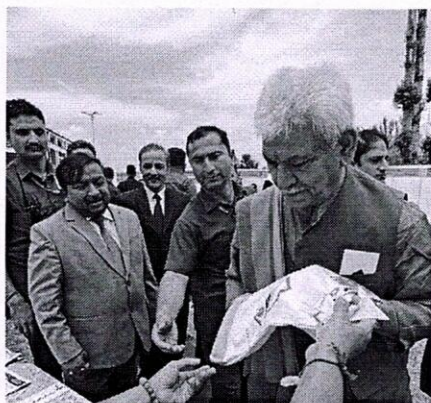
Introduction :

Bio Enzyme Entrepreneurs Academy of India from Bengaluru visited Kashmir Valley from 5th June to 11th June 2023. The visit was initiated by Er. Abdul Rashid Bhat Of EMRC, University of Kashmir, organized in collaboration with the Divisional Administration, Kashmir and sponsored by Science & Technology Department J & K. The purpose of the visit was to explore and discuss the use of bioenzymes for landfill treatment and ecological restoration.

Delegation of Bio-enzyme Entrepreneurs Academy of India (BEAI), led by its President, Ms Priti Rao, called on Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today at Raj Bhawan. The members of the delegation including Sh Shrekanth RG and Er. Abdul Rashid Bhat, a noted Environmentalist, discussed with the Lt Governor the promotion of sustainable solutions using Bio-enzymes and various pressing environmental issues in J&K. They also briefed the Lt Governor on the BEAI's endeavours to train the youth in enzyme technology and extending support to budding entrepreneurs under Skill Development programs, and the remediation activities being carried out in J&K UT.

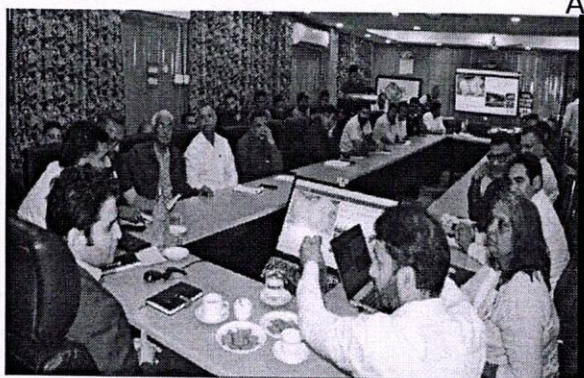
Summary of Activities:

1. SKICCE Environment Day Stall and Visit of Lt. Governor: On 5th June, BEA setup



a stall at the SKICCE Environment Day event to raise awareness about bioremediation and the use of bioenzymes for waste management. The Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir visited the stall, showing interest in the project. We received an instant invitation to Rajbhavan on 11th June to discuss the proposed projects in Kashmir.

2. Meeting with SMC, Pollution Board and Science & Technology Department:



A productive meeting was held at the Jammu Municipal Corporation (SMC) Commissioner's office. Representatives from the Pollution Control Board, Solid Waste Management department, Ward charges and Achin Dumping site supervisor were present. The meeting was

encouraging, and it was agreed to explore the use of bioremediation for the landfill site at Achin and fix Baba Demb Lake. Abdul Majid Butt (Geo Scientist) was with us.

Discussions with the Commissioner Science & Technology Department, Shri Sourabh Bhagat, were also fruitful, with support and funding commitments for the projects.



3. Landfill Treatment and Monitoring:

BEA treated the landfill with bioenzymes, addressing the issue of toxic gases and leachate generation. However, it was observed that SMC is not well-equipped for bioremediation. The Pollution Control Board collected air and water samples for testing, but they were unable to measure methane

emissions. An MoU was signed with the Science and Technology Department to further collaborate on the project.



4. Training Program and Proposal for Animal Waste

Management: A visit to Achin Landfill was conducted to plan a training program for staff on bioenzyme production. Due to improper raw materials, the training was postponed to the next day. BEA identified the upcoming festival that would generate a significant amount of animal waste and proposed a waste management plant to

SMC. The proposal has been submitted to the Science and Technology Department, and BEA has offered assistance in handling the waste.

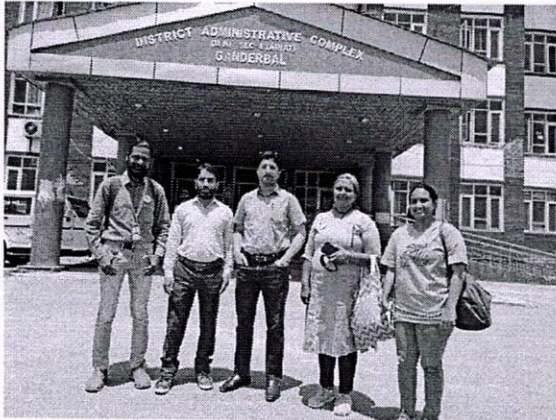


5. Training Program at Dumping Site and Visit to LCMA:

A training program was conducted at the Dumping Site using fruit waste from the Fruit Mandi. BEA will supply especially formulated bioenzymes for bioremediating the Achin landfill until locally

produced enzymes are ready on-site to treat the landfill in the future. A visit to the Lake and Conservation and Management Authority (LCMA) was successful, with LCMA agreeing to provide necessary details for bioremediation of Baba Dem Lake, Kushal Sar, and Gill Sar. We also visited number of lakes to understand the problem and plan the work around it.

6. **Visit to Ganderbal and Meeting with District Administration and Panchayat: BEA**



Visited Ganderbal to meet with the District Administration and Panchayat representatives to discuss waste management in the District.

7. Met Ganderbal ADC

Mehrajuddin Shahib and had a seminar on waste management. Met officials from Municipal Council Ganderbal and Officials from Pollution Control board

and a few Panchayat Sarpanchs.

8. We have a meeting in the ADC's office and then we proceeded to visit the waste segregating Centre in Ganderbal and had interaction with the staff who were setting up their new plant. Gave them inputs on how they can use Bio Enzymes after segregating their waste in treatment of their wet wastes.



The visit to Srinagar was highly productive, with positive interactions and commitments from various stakeholders.

Er. Abdul Rashid Bhat from EMRC, University of Kashmir invited Bengaluru based Bio Enzymes Entrepreneurs Academy to take part in World Environment Day 2023 celebrations at SKICC in Srinagar, Kashmir, with the support of The 00000

Divisional Administration. Through various connections, including Lt Governor of J&K, Department of Science & Technology, Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC), Lakes and Conservation & management Authority (LCMA), The State Pollution Control Board, Ganderbal District Administration and various other stakeholders, the academy was engaged to address environmental issues in the region. These activities involved tackling challenges at the Achan Landfill site, Dal Lake, Baba Damb, and other pressing concerns faced by the people of Jammu & Kashmir. The series of activities initiated by Er. Abdul Rashid Bhat for BEA commenced on June 5, 2023, with a presentation on the concept of Bio Enzymes for environmental sustainability and remediation to Honorable Lieutenant Governor Shri. Manoj Sinha and concluded with the submission of an activity report to Honorable Lieutenant Governor Shri. Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhavan, Srinagar, on June 11, 2023.

BEA looks forward to establishing a unit in Srinagar, which will not only provide various learning and development opportunities but also generate employment for local youth in the field of environment and sustainability. Through this initiative, BEA aims to promote industries that create value-added products and services based on Bio Enzymes, contributing to the region's economic growth and environmental well-being.

The support and collaboration of SMC, the Pollution Control Board, and the Science and Technology Department are crucial for the successful implementation of bioremediation projects in Srinagar. BEA is grateful for the warm reception and assistance received during the visit and looks forward to further collaboration towards sustainable waste management and ecological restoration in Jammu & Kashmir.

3 -day international festival on environment and wildlife commences at KU

Srinagar, Sept 24: A three- day international festival on Environment and Wildlife organized by Educational Multimedia Research Centre (EMMRC) KU in collaboration with CMS Vatavaran, New Delhi started here at University of Kashmir on Monday.

While addressing the audience on the inaugural day of the festival Vice Chancellor KU Prof Talat Ahmad said that Kashmir being a valley needs special attention toward environment and environmental issues.

Prof Talat added “Climate change is happening and is a reality now and we cannot shy away from it. We cannot stop climate change but together we can definitely mitigate it.”

In-charge Director EMMRC, Dr Salima Jan in her welcome address highlighted the aims and objectives of the three-day festival.

Joint director, CEC, Sunil Mehroo in his remarks reminded creative communicators to keep in mind their target audience.

Festival manager of CMS Vatavaran, Sabyesachi Bharti said that his organisation is a product of research work, and they are holding such festivals to raise awareness about environmental issues.

On the inaugural day of the festival 10 documentaries were screened .Amongst those ‘The Terranoami Music Vedio’ jointly sung by Waheed Jeelani and American based Rockstar Terranoami “Say it` possible” produced and directed by Shafqat Habib which conveys and spreads the message about global warming and another documentary film ‘Pangolins in peril’: a story of rare scales” produced by a Pakistan documentary filmmaker, Muhammad Ali Ijaz were the main highlights of the day.

A panel discussion was held in which Justice (Retd) Hasnain Masoodi, Head Department of Geography from KU, Prof Mohammad Sultan Bhat, EMMRC producer, Shafqat Habib, and media personality Gowhar Geelani participated.

The panelists were unanimous in their arguments that climate change can be minimized if people from childhood are made aware of its repercussions. Producer EMMRC, Ajaz ul Haque moderated the discussion.

A painting competition was held on the sidelines of the festival in which students from various colleges and schools participated.

Students from the music and fine arts also performed on the inaugural function.

The three day film festival will delve on issues of the inter-connectedness of climate change and water, water struggles in a world dealing with global warming, livelihood insecurity, and highlighting the important issues affecting water through film screening, media workshop and open forum discussions.

Workshop on 'Cultural & Environmental Conservation' held at Leh Campus, KU



Srinagar, March 03: A one - day workshop on 'Cultural & Environmental Conservation' was organized by Leh Campus, University of Kashmir which was attended by the students and faculty members of Leh Campus and locals from the villages of Taru and Pheng, Union Territory of Ladakh.

Considering the significance of conservation of culture and environment the workshop was organized with the objective to acquaint the participants with the importance of the culture and environment and their understanding about the interlinkage of the culture, heritage, and environment.

Dr. Thumpstan Narboo, Editor, Cultural Academy, UT Of Ladakh who was chief guest on the occasion in his address stated the importance of conservation of the culture and environment in today's world.

In his speech he highlighted the challenges society is facing and the importance of the culture amid changing values and traditions with the modernization.

"Our ancestors passed on tradition, culture, values and heritage beautifully to us and it is our responsibility to pass it on to younger generation and the same responsibility also lies towards the youngsters to keep it alive and intact," said Dr Narboo.

Mr. Tashi Morup, Project Director, LAMO, UT of Ladakh who was the guest of honour at the occasion, emphasized on the spirit of culture & environment.

He said culture is the basic root of any community which gives way of life and root of culture is the script and language of the society, which needs to be preserved.

Rector, Leh Campus, Prof. Farooq Ahmad Khan, formally welcomed the dignitaries & emphasized upon the relationship between culture & environment.

He said there is need to take initiatives with the aim to preserve Ladakh Culture, history and heritage for coming generations.

Before extending vote of thanks to the participants by Miss, Sonam Angmo (AP Dept. Of MTTM), the prizes for painting competition were distributed by the chief guest among the winners.

2-day national seminar on 'Environmental Ethics' begins at KU



Srinagar, Mar 15: A two-day national seminar on 'Environmental Ethics: A Religious Perspective' started at the University of Kashmir on Tuesday.

Vice-Chancellor Prof Talat Ahmad inaugurated the national-level seminar, organised by Shah Hamdan Institute of Islamic Studies (SHIIS).

In his presidential address, Prof Talat referred to the new National Educational Policy-2020 and said that academic events like the present seminar have contemporary relevance where different branches of learning, including science, social sciences and humanities have to work together on a single platform to address the burning issues which are common to all, particularly the environmental crisis.

Prof Talat said it has been due to abnormal exploitation of natural resources by humans that the humanity is suffering from climatic disasters like floods and pollution.

Prof G N Khaki, Head of the Department and Seminar Director welcomed the dignitaries and introduced the theme of the seminar.

Prof Shakil Ahmad Romshoo, Vice-Chancellor Islamic University of Science and Technology, was the chief guest on the occasion and delivered the keynote address.

Prof Romshoo spoke on the climate change and the disaster it has created around the globe, even as he stressed on the need to create mass awareness to preserve natural resources. He made a special reference to the Himalayan glaciers.

Prof Mehrajuddin Mir, former Vice-Chancellor Central University of Kashmir, was the Guest of Honour on the occasion who spoke about religious teachings which

should be used by religious preachers of adherents of different faiths in mobilising people to make a harmony between humans and nature.

Prof Siddiq Wahid, founder Vice-Chancellor Islamic University of Science and Technology, who was also a guest of honour talked about how humans are moving towards greed than humanity. While referring to the Vedas, he mentioned that it is the duty of humans towards mother nature to preserve it and that all religions lead to the harmony with nature.

Prof Manzoor Ahmad Bhat, former Head SHIIS gave a report of the Department's activities in the last three years, including during the Covid lockdown period.

Dr Nasir Nabi, Coordinator of the seminar conducted proceedings of the inaugural session and also proposed a formal vote of thanks.

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KU organises series of events on environment protection, VC inaugurates seminar



Srinagar, June 6: Vice-Chancellor University of Kashmir Prof Nilofer Khan on Monday inaugurated a seminar on environment protection, a day after the varsity organised an awareness camp and a cleanliness drive to mark the World Environment Day-2022 (WED).

The day-long seminar titled "Living Sustainably in Harmony with Nature As There is Only One Earth", was organised by the Department of Environmental Science in collaboration with J&K Science Technology and Innovation Council, J&K Government.

Addressing academics and students at the inaugural session, Prof Nilofer said that academic institutions have to connect with society to minimise the deleterious impacts of environmental degradation.

"Our University's engagement at the community and school levels can certainly bring about a discernible change in our approach to environment protection. Young minds can lead this change keeping in view how their future is linked with environment and why they must strive to protect environment with their small interventions," the Vice-Chancellor said, urging the Department of Environmental Science to formulate a year-long roadmap of activities related to environment protection, including holding outreach programmes at the community level.

The Vice-Chancellor also highlighted the concept of having self-help groups of students to raise awareness about environment protection.

Dean Academic Affairs Prof Farooq Masoodi spoke about a host of emerging challenges including food security and safety, uncontrolled use of pesticides, climate change, diminishing natural resources, among others, to point out how almost everything in the world is directly or indirectly linked to environment protection.

Prof Shamim A Shah, Dean School of Earth and Environmental Sciences KU also spoke on the occasion and highlighted the historical perspective of WED-2022.

Dr Nasir A Shah, Additional Director J&K ST&I Council highlighted the programmes underway, as well as those in the offing, in areas of research and development (R&D). He said these programmes aim to solve regional and local environmental problems with popularisation of science.

Head Department of Environmental Science Prof Fayaz Ahmad gave a brief about the events held to commemorate the World Environment Day.

He said the Department organised a cleanliness-cum-awareness drive at Manasbal Lake on Sunday in collaboration with Wullar-Manasbal Development Authority.

District Development Commissioner Ganderbal Mr. Shyambir (IAS) inaugurated the drive, which saw an overwhelming participation from faculty, research scholars and students from the Department of Environmental Science, staff and volunteers from Manasbal Development Authority, students from Govt High School Kondabal and Govt Higher Secondary School Safapora.

Dr Arshid Jehangir, Dr Samiullah Bhat, Dr Mohammad Muslim from Department of Environmental Science coordinated the events.

CEO Manasbal Development Authority Gulam Mohammad Bhat talked about the historic perspective of WED and its relevance in regional context.

KU hosts DST-FIST meeting, VC addresses opening session



Srinagar, Oct 20: Continuing to host national-level meetings related to science research and development, the University of Kashmir on Thursday hosted the DST-FIST Presentation Meeting in the areas of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences.

The Fund for Improvement of Science and Technology (FIST) is a centrally-sponsored scheme of the Department of Science and Technology Government of India that aims to provide basic infrastructure and enabling facilities for promoting research and development (R&D) in new and emerging areas and attracting fresh talent in the universities.

Addressing the opening session of the meeting that assessed the project proposals for grant of DST-FIST packages to principal investigators from different parts of the country, KU Vice-Chancellor Prof Nilofer Khan said it adds to the University's credentials and visibility to host such important scientific meetings that offer an exposure to our faculty and students on key schemes like FIST. She said the University recently hosted an expert committee meeting of SERB where 15 experts from different parts of the country evaluated more than 700 proposals for grant of the SERB fellowship.

Former KU Vice-Chancellor Prof Talat Ahmad, the chairman of the DST-FIST expert committee, said the schemes like FIST have led to modernisation of laboratories of higher research to attune the country's research endeavours with national missions and priorities.

The applicant PIs made presentations before the expert committee, following which the committee chairman and members visited several KU departments to assess the progress made by them in utilising the already-sanctioned FIST grants.

Dean Research KU Prof Irshad A Nawchoo coordinated the meeting, which was also attended by Registrar Dr Nisar A Mir.

The expert committee members who attended the meeting in-person included Dr Reddithota J Krupadam, Prof D C Srivastava, Dr Sanat Kumar Das, Prof D Narayana Rao and Dr Srinagesh Davuluri, while Dr Arun Kumar Sarma and Dr (Mrs) Geeta Ram Kumar joined the meeting in online mode.

NSS KU holds cleanliness drive in peripheral areas of Dal Lake

Srinagar, August 13: The National Service Scheme (NSS), University of Kashmir organised a cleanliness drive in the peripheral areas of the Dal Lake.

The cleanliness drive was undertaken as an initiative under Swachhata Abhiyan.

Dr. Musavir Ahmed, Coordinator NSS, University of Kashmir said that NSS Volunteers have actively participated in the programmes aimed at mobilising communities at the local level to engage in cleaning, plantation, promotion of behaviour change and other swachhata related activities.

The NSS volunteers led by program officers Dr. Waqar Amin, Dr. Heena Basharat and Dr. Yasir Hamid launched an awareness campaign to highlight the importance of cleanliness and educate the masses on the importance of social distancing, wearing masks etc.

On this occasion, the NSS volunteers of Kashmir University reaffirmed their commitment towards building a cleaner and healthier future.

'Energy Efficient Economy': Green construction, resilient infra essential for Kashmir's environ'al challenges: KU VC

Varsity organises seminar on smart structures, sustainable energy solutions



Srinagar, Oct 10: To address the need for aligning academic efforts with societal and environmental requirements while focusing on smart structures, energy optimisation and sustainable infrastructure, the University of Kashmir organised a seminar here.

The day-long event titled 'Smart Structures: Energy Efficient Economy – JK 2024' was organised by the Institute of Technology, KU, in collaboration with the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar and the North Campus, University of Kashmir.

On the occasion, KU Vice Chancellor Prof Nilofer Khan emphasised the urgent need to transition towards sustainable energy solutions, especially given Kashmir's vulnerability to earthquakes due to its seismic zone location.

"It is crucial for the university to understand the needs of our society and environment and implement the recommendations of this workshop in letter and spirit," she said, calling for a swift adoption of green construction practices.

Dean, Academic Affairs, KU, Prof Shariefudin Pirzada, asserted that it is both timely and essential to promote innovation in construction practices.

"The construction industry must shift from traditional methods and embrace newer, smarter designs that consider local climate and energy efficiency," he stated.

Dean, Academic Affairs, NIT Srinagar, Dr M Shafi Mir, raised awareness about the fact that people spend around 90% of their lives in structures that are neither sustainable nor smart.

"We need to construct buildings that prioritise environmental considerations and renewable resources, alongside encouraging a culture of recycling materials," he urged.

KU Registrar, Prof Naseer Iqbal, underscored the role of academic institutions in advocating for sustainable living.

"The recommendations from this seminar should be communicated to the government, and all new structures on our campus must adhere to the principles discussed here," he added.

Dean, School of Engineering, KU, Dr Syed Muzaffar Ali Andrabi, highlighted the importance of designing homes that are suitable for Kashmir's unique climatic conditions.

"Constructing buildings without considering local environments often leads to unnecessary resource wastage," he noted, adding that these design choices could have long-term impacts on energy use.

Director, North Campus, KU, Dr Sheikh Ghulam Mohammad, pointed out the safety concerns of existing structures.

"There is a pressing need for a new generation of builders who can construct smart, self-sufficient buildings that can withstand natural disasters while also being energy-efficient," he said.

Director, Institute of Technology, KU, Prof M Tariq Banday, reaffirmed the institution's commitment to providing cutting-edge education in line with modern demands.

"KU has launched new courses, including a programme in Artificial Intelligence, as part of our efforts to equip students with the best resources and education," he informed.

The seminar concluded with discussions on strategies to promote smart and sustainable building solutions in the region.