

**Outreach & Dissemination Services Office
CSIR – Central Building Research Institute
Roorkee – 247667 (UK)**

on

‘WORLD HERITAGE PROGRAM 2026’

28th April, 2026

Organized under the aegis of CSIR

On the occasion of **World Heritage Day 2026**, the **CSIR–Central Building Research Institute (CBRI), Roorkee**, organised a meaningful and thought-provoking program on the theme **“Emergency Preparedness for Safeguarding Living Heritage in the Face of Conflicts and Disasters.”** The event aimed to highlight the urgent need for protecting living heritage through awareness, preparedness, and the integration of scientific and traditional approaches. The program began with an inaugural address by **Dr Neeraj Jain**, Senior Principal Scientist and ODS Head, who emphasised the shared responsibility of safeguarding heritage for future generations. He stressed that heritage is a living identity that connects communities to their roots and must be preserved through collective efforts.



This was followed by a keynote address by **Prof. R. Pradeep Kumar**, Director of CBRI, who highlighted the pivotal role of scientific research in heritage conservation. He emphasized the importance of **integrating traditional knowledge with modern conservation techniques** to achieve sustainable and effective outcomes, especially in the face of disasters and conflicts.

A major highlight of the event was the insightful talk delivered by **Dr. Achal Kumar Mittal**, Emeritus Chief Scientist. He shared valuable perspectives on contemporary challenges in heritage conservation, supported by real-world case studies and practical strategies. His address provided a deeper understanding of how preparedness and innovation can significantly reduce risks to heritage structures and traditions. The session was further enriched by the contributions of **Dr. Siddharth Behera** and **Er. Hina Gupta**, who offered additional insights into technical and practical aspects of safeguarding heritage.

To enhance engagement, a short film on the **Centre of Excellence (CoE) – Heritage** was screened, showcasing ongoing initiatives and advancements in the field. An interactive quiz session was also conducted, which witnessed enthusiastic participation from the audience and helped reinforce key concepts in an engaging manner.

The program concluded on a reflective note, emphasizing that safeguarding living heritage is not merely about preservation but about **preparedness, innovation, and collective action**. It served as a strong reminder that protecting our cultural legacy requires continuous effort, awareness, and collaboration among individuals, institutions, and society at large to ensure its sustainability for future generations.

