

MANAGING EARTHQUAKE DISASTERS THROUGH ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING

SESSION 6

Concluding session

While designing any building, Architect tend to give various elevational treatments or design elements like cladding, veneers, ornamentation, glazing etc. for aesthetics and various other purposes. These elements, if not designed considering the earthquake can cause major loss to life and property.

Structural engineers design for forces acting on the building, majorly considering the structural elements. But the non-structural elements are not considered in most of the cases. From past earthquakes, it is analysed that non-structural elements in the building like the furniture, ceilings, partitions, bookcases etc, also makes the building vulnerable for damages during an earthquake.

There is a lack of awareness and also, research needs to be done on this complex system of built and unbuilt urban fabric on how buildings could be made safer against earthquake and other natural disasters. For practising architects, being aware of these possibilities of once in a life time scenario is important.