

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (IDDR)

OCTOBER 2024

REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF MSW-DISASTER MANAGEMENT

LOYOLA COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES SREEKARIYAM in COLLABORATION
WITH KERALA STATE DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY.



INTRODUCTION

The International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (IDDRR), observed annually on October 13, serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of building a disaster-resilient world. Initiated in 1989, IDDRR emphasizes fostering global awareness and action to reduce disaster risks, with the 2024 theme, “Empowering the Next Generation for a Resilient Future,” reflecting a commitment to engaging youth in disaster risk reduction (DRR). This theme highlights the role of education in equipping young people with the skills and knowledge needed to effectively prepare for and respond to disasters, positioning them as proactive agents in building safer and more resilient communities.

In Kerala, the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA), plays an instrumental role in DRR, promoting policies and interventions to reduce disaster risks across the state. KSDMA’s initiatives underscore the importance of local government leadership in disaster preparedness and resilience-building. On this International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction, we recognize the critical role of both educational and governmental bodies in empowering youth, promoting community engagement, and enhancing disaster preparedness at every level of society.

EVENT AT KULATHOOR HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL

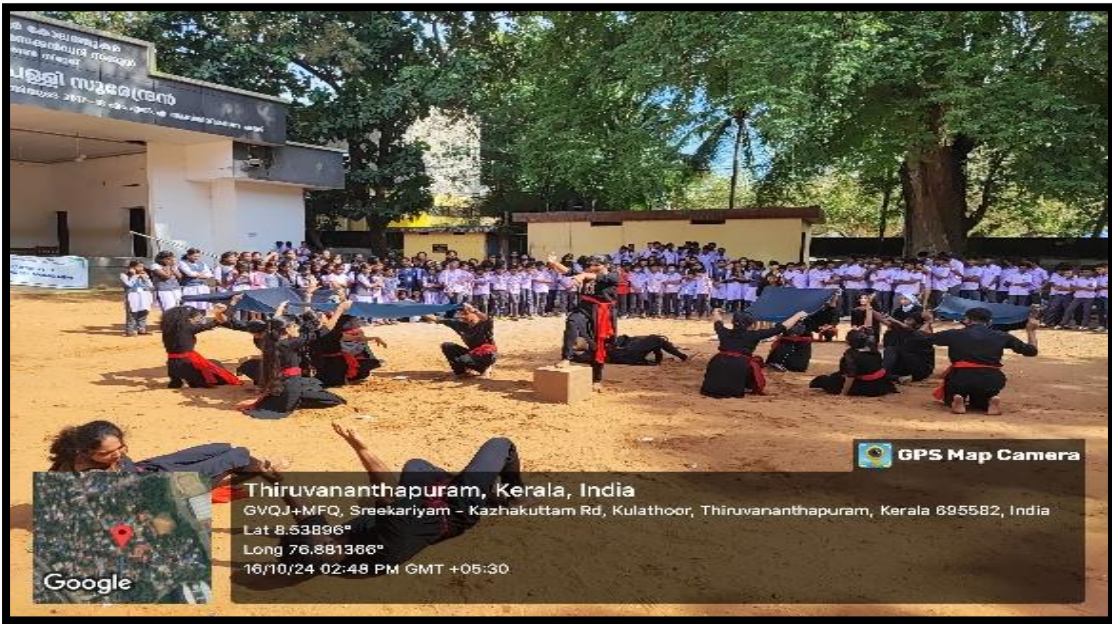
On October 16, 2024, the Department of Disaster Management at Loyola College of Social Sciences organized an impactful awareness initiative in observance of International Disaster Risk Reduction Day (IDDRR). The program aimed at educating school students about disaster preparedness and risk reduction, aligning with the 2024 IDDRR theme, "Empowering the Next Generation for a Resilient Future." This theme emphasizes the crucial role of educating children and youth to better face disasters.

Social work trainees, under the guidance of two faculty members, conducted the program at Government Higher Secondary School (GHSS), Kulathoor. The initiative featured a street play based on the recent Wayanad landslide, a disaster that profoundly impacted communities in the region. Working on the script of the play proved to be learning experience. The play creatively highlighted the causes and consequences of landslides while focusing on preventive measures to mitigate such risks.

The dramatic presentation captivated the audience, consisting of students and teachers, and effectively communicated the importance of disaster awareness and community preparedness. Alongside the play, educational materials, including timetable cards containing disaster preparedness tips, were distributed to reinforce the message.

This initiative by the Department of MSW Disaster Management succeeded in fostering a sense of responsibility and awareness among young individuals. By engaging the school community through creative and educational means, the department contributed meaningfully to the observance of International Disaster Risk Reduction Day. The program underscored the significance of empowering the next generation with knowledge and skills to build a resilient future.





Street Play at Kulathoor High School

ONE DAY EXHIBITION AT LOYOLA COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES- 18.11.2024

The exhibition was conducted on 18th October, 2024 in Loyola College of Social Sciences, Sreekariyam. The theme of the exhibition was 'Chrysalis'. Students made still models to depict diverse disaster scenarios. Preparation for the same was a collective effort.



Working on exhibition models

A number of exhibits were placed in the room. The main exhibit, a working model of eight different disasters - flood, tsunami, drought, earthquake, war, wildfire, tornado and volcanic eruption was exhibited. The putting together of this model was a good learning experience for all students and was much appreciated by the visitors as well. A still model of Wayanad landslide was also exhibited.

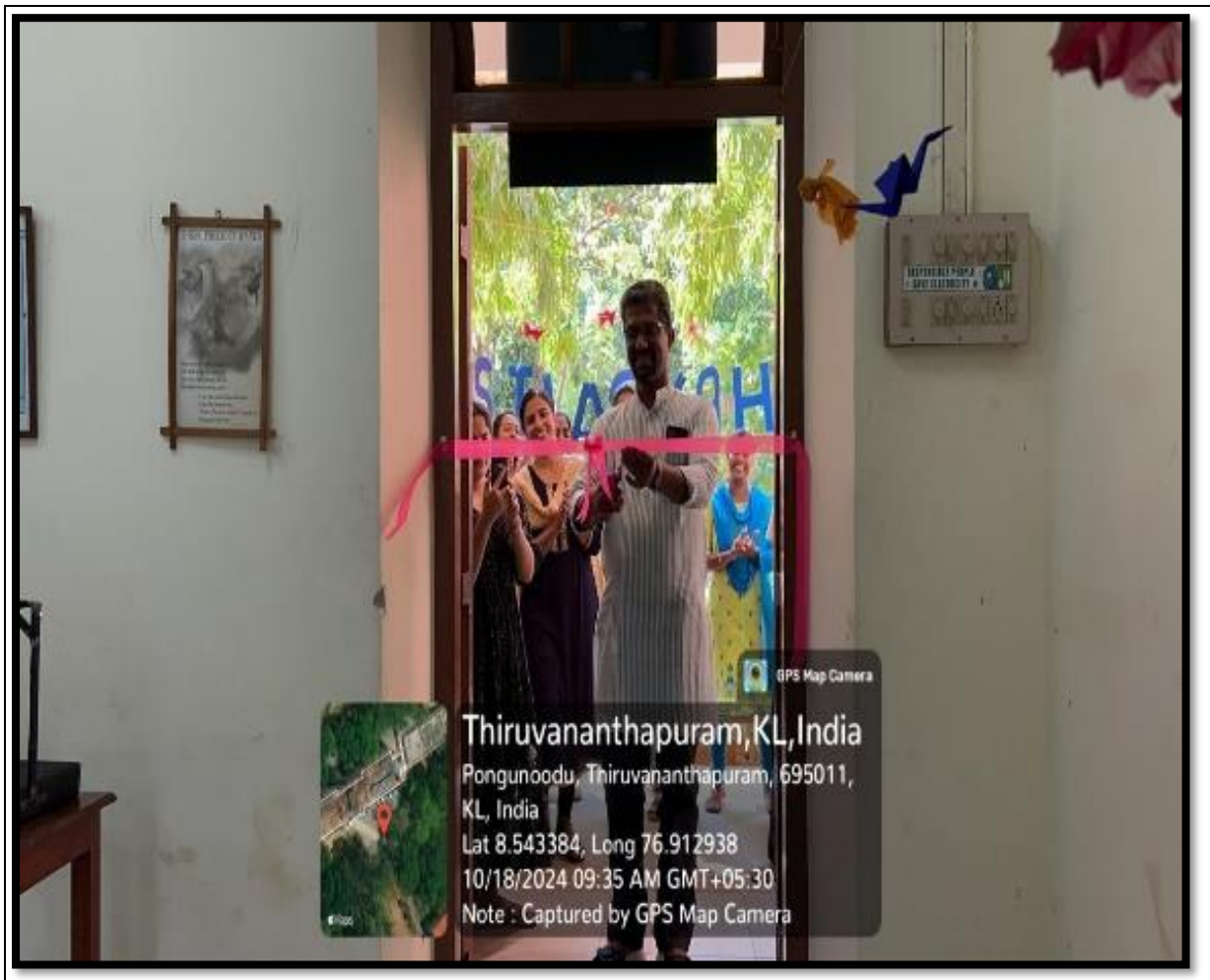
All the social work trainees coordinated together to volunteer and conduct the exhibition. The use of two types of fire extinguishers were explained and exhibited. A first aid kit and

emergency tools needed in the time of disasters were exhibited. A still model of a seismograph was also exhibited. A still model of a disaster (stampede) was also exhibited. Information on five main mobile applications - Weather and Radar: Live Forecast, Windy, Sarpa, Damini and Sachet for emergency management in the time of different disasters like cyclones, lightning, etc. was explained and exhibited.

A video was also played in the exhibition room. It showed a brief description of the Wayanad The main working model exhibited eight disasters.

Visitors to the Exhibition

Students from all other departments and faculty members visited the exhibition. The highlight was the participation of about 700 school students from Loyola School, who came along with their teachers.



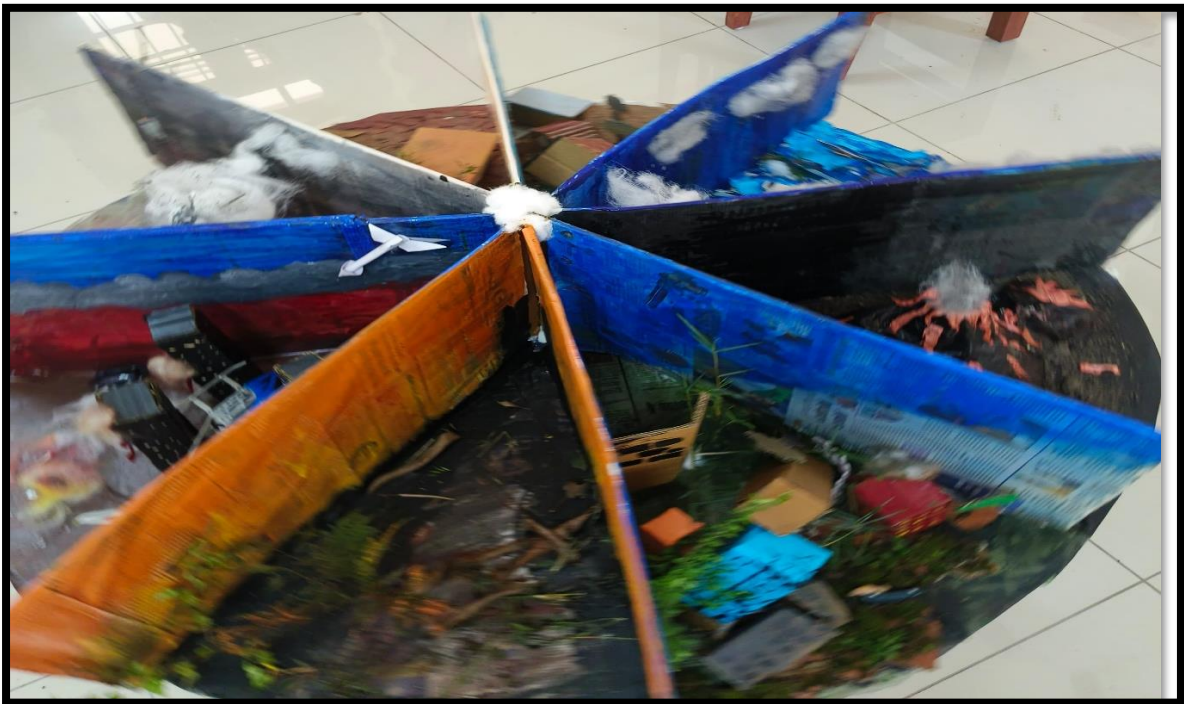
Inauguration of the Exhibition

"Chrysalis" was inaugurated on 18 October 2024 at 9.00 am. The ribbon cutting ceremony was presided over by the Chief Guest, Dr. Sabu P Thomas, Principal of the College. The

teachers emphasized the importance of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Day and made the event meaningful and effective.



School students visit the exhibition



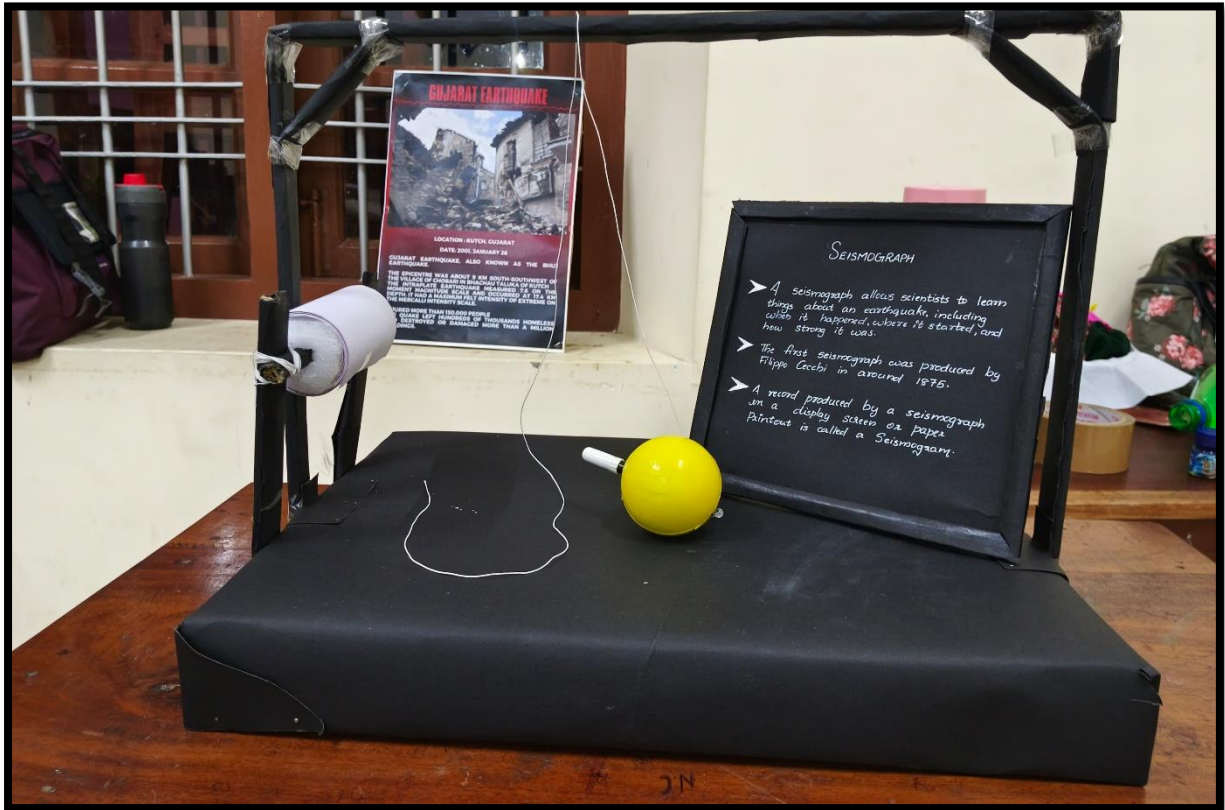
Model depicting eight disasters

Wayanad Landslide

A physical representation of the Wayanad landslide depicting the causes, impact, and aftermath of this natural disaster. The model highlights soil erosion, deforestation, and heavy rainfall as major contributors.

Seismograph

A working model of a seismograph illustrating how it detects and records the magnitude and intensity of earthquakes was exhibited. The model showcases its application in disaster preparedness and risk management



Model of the Seismograph

Stampede Scenario

A scaled-down representation of a stampede, focusing on crowd behavior, triggers, and safety measures to prevent such disasters was exhibited. It emphasizes the importance of crowd control and emergency response



Stampede Model

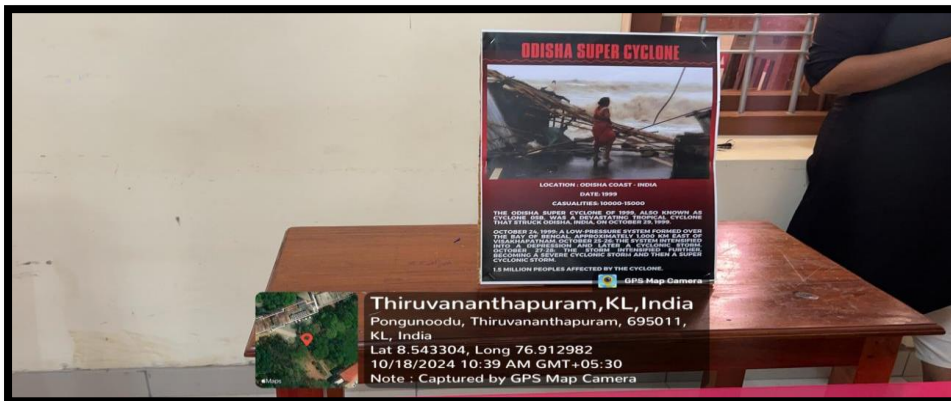
Emergency and First Aid Kit

The contents of the emergency kit were exhibited, along with a first aid kit.



Emergency Kit

In addition to the exhibits, posters depicting various disasters were exhibited, to raise general awareness about the different kinds of disasters that have hit the country. Posters covered the Kerala Floods, Nipah Virus outbreaks, Puttingal fire accident, Odisha Cyclone, Bhopal Gas Tragedy.





Conclusion

In conclusion, the preparation and presentation of the street play, along with the collective effort at installing an exhibition depicting different dimensions of disaster management, had high educative value. Presenting the street play at a school and the enthusiastic participation of school and college students at the exhibition, helped to convey the importance of education and empowering the youth in disaster risk reduction.

