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**Competence based licensing for structural engineers: Jain**

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Published by: Noor Khan  
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Ahmedabad, Aug 20 Competence based licensing for structural engineers is required to ensure compliance of Indian Earthquake Codes and construction of safer buildings across the country, a top official said here today.

"Licensing of structural engineers today is done on a degree based system in India which is not the correct methodology of checking expertise, instead it should be competence based," Director Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar(IIT-G) Dr Sudhir Jain said.

Compliance of Indian Earthquake Codes was made mandatory after the Bhuj 2001 Earthquake in Gujarat.

"Although, the present construction scenario in the country has improved post-Bhuj Earthquake but still it has miles to go before enforcement of standard codes can be ensured," Jain said.

He was delivering lecture on Roadmap to Seismic Safety, at the Healthy Construction Lecture Series organised by the Dr Fixit Institute.

Jain, a researcher in earthquake engineering, is developing Rapid Visual Screening (RVS) methodology that will help engineers in screening seismic strength of buildings and prioritise them accordingly for retrofiting.

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