



# International Association of Geomorphologists

## 11<sup>th</sup> IAG International Conference on Geomorphology

Christchurch, New Zealand, 2–6 February 2026

and

## ICG2026 Young Geomorphologists Training Program

### “Methods for assessing geomorphic processes and change”

Christchurch, New Zealand 30, January–7 February 2026

## Report

**Koushik Saha**

*University of North Bengal  
Koushiksaha09@gmail.com*

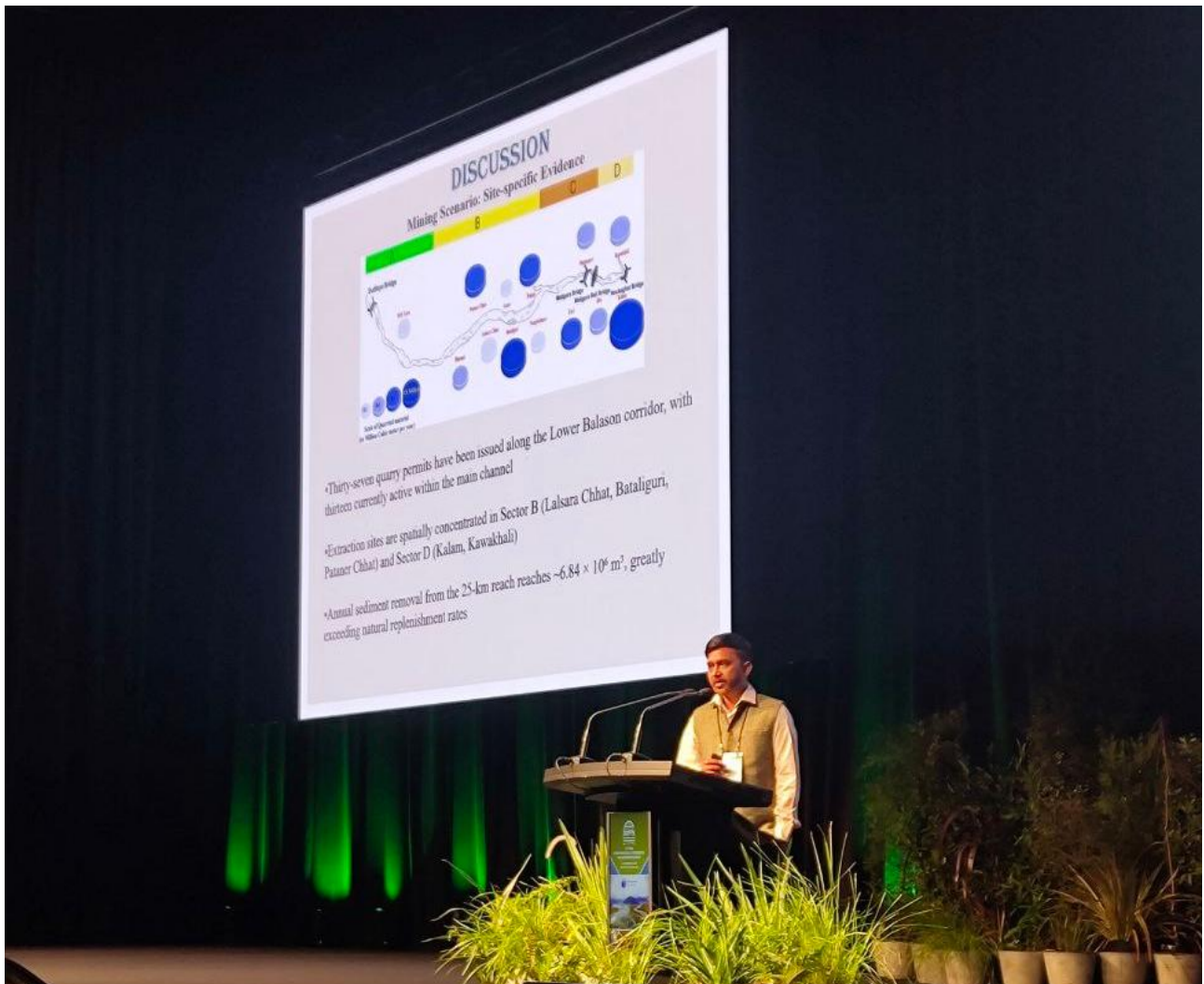
I gratefully acknowledge the financial support provided by the International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG), which enabled my participation in the 11th IAG International Conference on Geomorphology (ICG 2026) and the associated Young Geomorphologists Training Program held in Christchurch, New Zealand. I sincerely thank the IAG Training Officers, Anita Bernatek-Jakiel and Efthimios Karymbalis, for their coordination, support, and guidance throughout the grant process and the event.

I have participated in the pre-conference fieldwork on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026 as part of the Young Geomorphologists training program through the Cass field trip. This field excursion introduced tectonic, glacial, fluvial, and karst geomorphology within Arthur’s Pass National Park and the Cass Mountain Research Area in the upper Waimakariri Catchment. I have examined active geomorphic processes, landforms, and natural hazards characteristic of a tectonically active alpine environment, and I have further developed my geomorphic observation and sketching skills. The fieldwork was led by Sam McColl, with expert guidance from Peter Almond and Carol Smith, whose explanations effectively linked field observations with regional geomorphic processes.



***Figure 1: Field observations of glacial and tectonic landforms in the Southern Alps during the Cass Field Trip, 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026.***

I have delivered an oral presentation on the opening day of the conference (2<sup>nd</sup> February 2026) entitled “*Assessing the effects of extensive bed material extraction on the granulometric and fluvial characteristics in a sub-Himalayan River in India*” as part of “*Session 03A: Learned lessons about anthropogenic drivers in the river evolution.*” In this presentation, I have discussed the geomorphic impacts of intensive in-channel bed material extraction in the Lower Balason River using surface grain-size analysis from 49 gravel bars and hydraulic modelling along a 25-km river reach. I have demonstrated spatial variability in transport- and supply-limited conditions, channel widening and incision, sediment fining, and increasing risks to riverine infrastructure. The presentation prompted valuable discussion on sediment connectivity, anthropogenic thresholds, and sustainable river management in mountain environments.



**Figure 2: Presentation delivered at the 11<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Geomorphology (ICG 2026), held in the Te Pae Christchurch Convention Centre auditorium (2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2026).**

I have participated in a mid-conference field excursion on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026 focusing on glacial and fluvial geomorphology of the Waimakariri Valley, guided by James Shulmeister of the University of Canterbury. During this fieldwork, I have observed a range of surficial geomorphological features formed by glacial processes, reflecting ice advance, retreat, and meltwater activity. I have also examined a detailed lithological section at the end of the excursion, which represents a natural archive of ancient depositional processes preserved within the valley and provides important evidence of Late Quaternary glacial and fluvial sedimentation.



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***Figure 3: Field observation of sequential Quaternary glaciogenic deposits and lithological sections within the Waimakariri Valley, Southern Alps (4<sup>th</sup> February, 2026).***

In addition to scientific sessions and fieldwork, I have attended professional development activities. I have participated in the Peer Review Workshop, where Ann Rowan, Editor-in-Chief of *JGR: Earth Surface*, explained the peer-review and editorial process and addressed questions related to academic publishing. I have also attended the Consulting Careers Night, chaired by Ian Rutherford, which provided opportunities for interaction with industry professionals. Overall, I have gained significant scientific, methodological, and professional benefits from participation in the conference, field training, and career development activities. The experience has strengthened my understanding of geomorphic processes and will directly inform my ongoing research and future collaborations.