

LEST WE FORGET - THE TEESTA VALLEY DISASTER OF OCT 2023



TALK / PHOTO
EXHIBITION /
FILM SCREENING

21 JAN

4 PM ONWARD
CAFE KALIMPONG, EAST MAIN ROAD, KALIMPONG

THE DISASTER EVENT WAS OF UNIMAGINABLE SCALE AND HAS LEFT A LASTING SCAR ON THE LANDSCAPE AND COMMUNITIES WHO FACED THE BRUNT OF THE DISASTER.

SAVETHEHILLS DOCUMENTATION OF THE IMPACTS OF THE DISASTER WILL BE PRESENTED ALONG WITH RECOMMENDATIONS.

A PHOTO EXHIBITION ON THE DISASTER SHALL ALSO BE DISPLAYED FOR VISITORS TO UNDERSTAND THE MAGNITUDE OF THE DISASTER.



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PRAFUL RAO IS A RETIRED INDIAN AIR FORCE OFFICER WHO HAS DEDICATED HIS TIME TO DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND CREATING AWARENESS OF LANDSLIDES IN THE DARJEELING SIKKIM HIMALAYA THROUGH HIS ORGANISATION SAVE THE HILLS FOR THE PAST 17 YEARS. PRAFUL ROA HAS BEEN CLOSELY WATCHING AND DOCUMENTING THE TEESTA DISASTER SINCE DAY ONE, VISITING THE MAJORITY OF THE AFFECTED AREAS UP TO CHUNGTHANG, NORTH SIKKIM.

TALK BY PRAFUL RAO
21ST JAN, 2024 - 4PM



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VOICES OF TEESTA

THE FLASH FLOOD OF RIVER TEESTA IN THE EARLY HOURS OF OCTOBER 4TH, 2023 WAS A FORCE OF NATURE THAT UPROOTED THE LIVES AND BELIEFS OF MANY PEOPLE LIVING ALONGSIDE THE RIVER TEESTA. THE SWELLING WATERS SWEEP AWAY THE 1,200 MEGAWATT HYDROPOWER DAM IN CHUNGTHANG, NORTH SIKKIM TAKING WITH IT MANY LIVES AND PROPERTIES DOWNSTREAM. ALONG WITH THE IMMENSE LOSS OF HUMAN LIVES, FLORA AND FAUNA, PEOPLE HAVE BEEN DISPLACED FROM THEIR HOMES AND MANY ARE STILL IN SEARCH OF THEIR LOVED ONES. IN THE MIDST OF REBUILDING OURSELVES "VOICES OF TESTA" NOT ONLY OFFERS A REFLECTIVE LENS TOWARDS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF RIVER TESTA BUT ALSO TRIES TO TRACE THE FAINT AND UNHEARD VOICES OF THE LOCAL PEOPLE. THROUGH A SERIES OF PANEL DISCUSSIONS, THE SCREENING SESSIONS WILL ALLOW US TO REFLECT ON OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR RIVERS AND WATERS

VOICES OF TEESTA

DIRECTOR : MINKET LEPCHA

21ST JAN, 2024 - 6PM

