

## News

### Report on International Symposium on “Forensic Approach to Analysis of Geohazard Problems” held during 14-15 December in Mumbai, India.



Photo Participants in the International Symposium on Forensic Geotechnical Engineering (ISFFE)

Technical Committee (TC-302) on Forensic Geotechnical Engineering (FGE) of International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE) organized an International Symposium on Forensic Geotechnical Engineering (ISFFE) on “Forensic Approach to Analysis of Geohazard Problems” in Mumbai during 14-15 December 2010. The Symposium was held under the auspices of Indian Geotechnical Society (IGS) in association with Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai and Mumbai Chapter of Indian Geotechnical Society. A number of experts from different countries and delegates participated in the symposium. The technical program spread over 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> December 2010 had eight invited lectures which were presented by the experts and they include

- Forensic aspects of professional services as geotechnical consultants by Dr. Kirty Dave, India
- Developments in liquefaction analysis from observations during earthquakes by Prof. Shamsheer Prakash, USA
- Some Problems in Soils of loess origin in case of geotechnical damage Prof. József Mecsi, Hungary
- Case studies on sulphate induced heaving by Prof. Anand J. Puppala, USA
- A Case Study of Floor Heaving of a Condominium RC-Building with Seven Stories by Dr. Yoshi Iwasaki, Japan
- Damage to a Metro Tunnel Due to Adjacent Excavation by Dr. R. N. Hwang, Taiwan, R.O.C.
- Diagnosis of geotechnical failure causes using Bayesian networks by Prof. Limin Zhang, Hong Kong and

## News (continued)

### Report on International Symposium on “Forensic Approach to Analysis of Geohazard Problems” held during 14-15 December in Mumbai, India.

- Role of Instrumentation in Investigation of Failure of Dams by Dr V M Sharma, India

In addition, fourteen contributory papers in the different areas of forensic studies on the topics ranging from failure of foundations in areas of liquefaction, back analysis, failure of reinforced earth walls, landslides and cloud bursts were presented. The proceedings in CD containing the invited lectures as well as contributory papers were brought out. On 14<sup>th</sup> December 2010 a meeting of Technical Committee was held at 6 pm in Civil Engineering Department, Indian Institute of Technology Mumbai. Dr VVS Rao, Chairman of the TC 302 presided over the meeting. Prof. G L Sivakumar Babu, Prof. József Mecsi, Dr. Yoshi Iwasaki, Prof. Dr. R. N. Hwang, Prof. Anand J. Puppala (invitee) attended the meeting and discussed activities related to TC 302. Prof. J. Mecsi presented the details of the International Workshop on “Failures, Disputes, Causes and Solutions in Geotechnics” held in Hungary during 24-25 September 2010 in Budapest, Hungary. Dr Hwang presented a brief on forthcoming sessions on FGE in Asian Regional Conference in Hong Kong during May 2011 (Organiser Prof. W F Lee). Dr. Yoshi Iwasaki indicated that he would be conducting a symposium in Japan during July 2011. Prof. G L Sivakumar Babu, Secretary TC 302 thanked all the members for the excellent support to the activities of the TC.

## News

### 3rd Indian Young Geotechnical Engineering Conference 2011: Brief Report

The Third Indian Young Geotechnical Engineers Conference (3IYGEC) was organized by Indian Geotechnical Society, Delhi Chapter at the Central Road Research Institute (CRRI), New Delhi, India, between 25th and 26th of March 2011. The Conference was inaugurated by Dr. S. Gangopadhyay, Director CRRI who also released the proceedings of the Conference. Prof. K. S. Rao, President, Indian Geotechnical Society was the Guest of Honor.

Mr. Ravi Sundaram, Chairman, IGS Delhi Chapter delivered the welcome address. Dr. R. Chitra Vice-Chairman of IGS Delhi Chapter presented the background of IGS Delhi Chapter, its activities and displayed the Best Chapter Plaque awarded to the Chapter. The Chief Guest lauded the activities of the Chapter and extended full support for future activities. Prof. K. S. Rao outlined this plan of IGS during his presidency term. Dr. Atul Nanda, Vice-Chairman of IGS Delhi Chapter addressed the vote of thanks.

About 120 delegates attended the conference. Majority of the delegates were students and young researchers from academic institutes, research laboratories, and practicing industries of the country. Twelve plenary lectures were delivered by eminent professionals in the two day conference. A total of 59 abstracts were received; 41 full papers were accepted and published after peer review. About 30 presentations were made by enthusiastic young geotechnical engineers in six technical sessions, chaired and co-chaired by eminent engineers and scientists.

Apart from technical deliberations, a job fair was organized wherein young engineers attended the interviews conducted by several companies from the geotechnical industry. A Geotechnical Dumb Charades added an element of fun and relaxation.

The presentations made by the young geotechnical engineers were judged by four distinguished judges and four best papers were selected. The following persons were awarded best paper awards:

- First Prize: Dr. B. Munawar Basha for his paper titled “Linear and Exponential Functions to evaluate Active Earth Pressure considering Strain Localization”.
- Second Prize: Mr. Deendayal Rathod for his paper titled “Migration of Sulphate in soil under Different Conditions”
- Third Prizes: Mr. Abishek Kumar for his paper titled “Amplification Factor from Intensity Map and Site Response Analysis for soil sites during 1999 Chamoli Earthquake” and to Ms. Sowmiya L.S. for her paper titled “Finite Element Analysis of Railway Tracks on Clayey Soil reinforced with Geosynthetics”.



Inauguration of Conference



Glimpse of Audience



Prize Distribution for Best Paper



Job Fair Organized for Young Engineers



Paper Presentations by Young Engineers