## News

## Asian Young Geotechnical Engineers Conference 2008 (AYGEC 2008) 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> December 2008



AYGEC 2008 conference was held jointly by Department of Civil Engineering, Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and Karnataka Geotechnical Center (KGC), Bangalore Chapter of Indian geotechnical Society (IGS). This event was part of the centenary celebrations of the Indian Institute of Science, which is a premier research Institute in India. Further, AYGEC 2008 was also a part of the celebrations of Diamond Jubilee of the Indian Geotechnical Society (IGS), affiliated to ISSMGE. IGS was established in 1948. The Inauguration of the conference was done by Professor N. Balalkrishnan, Associate Director of Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. Other dignitaries present were Professor Madhav, VP(Asia), ISSMGE. (Professor.Muzumdar, Chairman of Department of Civil Engineering, Prof.Pinto (President of ISSMGE -from Portugal), Prof. Neil Taylor (Secretary General, ISSMGE from UK), Prof. Roger Frank, VP, ISSMGE (France), Prof. Mounir Boussida, VP, ISSMGE(Tunisia), Prof. Waldemar Hachich, VP, ISSMGE (Brazil), Prof. Osamu Kusakabe, VP, ISSMGE (Japan),

Prof. Robert Holtz, VP, ISSMGE (USA); Prof. Michel Lisyuk, VP, ISSMGE (Russia) and many others.

The International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE) had been instrumental in the development of geotechnical engineering in almost all parts of the world through the organization of international conferences. Recently, organizing conferences for young geotechnical engineers has become one of the formal events conducted by ISSMGE. ISSMGE board met on 19<sup>th</sup>

Dec 2009 in Bangalore, India for the first time. Prior to this conference, Indian Geotechnical Conference 2008 (IGC 2008) was also held during 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> December 2008 at IISc, Bangalore.

AYGEC 2008 brought together young geotechnical engineers (less than 35 years) from 10 countries of Asian Region from universities, academicians, researchers, industries, government organizations and others with interest in Geotechnical Engineering to interact and exchange experiences in Asian context. This is the first time an Asian Young geotechnical conference was held in India and this is the sixth in the series.



The main theme of the conference was "Next generation Geotechnics". Eminent persons delivered keynote lectures on different aspects of the conference themes. 7 keynote speakers presented their work and they are: Prof. Neil Taylor, Prof. Roger Frank, Prof. Mounir Boussida, Prof. Waldemar Hachich, Prof. Osamu Kusakabe, Prof. Michael Lisyuk, and Prof. T.G. Sitharam. The 29 contributions from the delegates (Bangladesh-2 papers, India-8 papers, Japan-2 papers, Korea-3 papers, Kazakhstan-3 papers, Malaysia -1 paper, Pakistan-2 papers, Srilanka-1 paper, Singapore-2, Taiwan - 3 papers, Thailand -2 papers) was received in the following sub themes and were included in the conference proceedings.



- 1. Geotechnical Testing
- 2. Foundations
- 3. Rock mechanics and Tunneling
- 4. Ground Improvement
- 5. Seismicity and Mitigation
- 6. Numerical and Analytical modelling

Delegates from Pakistan and Japan were not able to attend because of Mumbai blast attacks. Among others, 1 delegate from Korea is not here because of health reason. 22 delegates attended the conference and presented their papers.

As part of the technical programme, a technical quiz for the young geotechnical engineers was organized and two awards were presented. The presentations by the delegates were reviewed and two best presentations and 9 certificate of appreciation were awarded to the delegates.