

EDITORIAL PREFACE

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It is with great pleasure we present this year's first issue of the International Journal of Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering (IJGEE) to our readers. In this short span of time, we were indexed in Scopus, Bacon's Media Directory, Cabell's Directories, Google Scholar, INSPEC Journal TOCs and Media Finder. In this issue we have four papers and all the papers are reviewed by experts before publication.

This issue starts with the paper titled "*Mitigation of Seismic Accelerations by Soft Caissons*" by Brennan, A. J.; Klar, A and Madabhushi, S. P. G. They investigated the response of a simple structure whose foundation has been completely enclosed by a layer of soft material. Based on the physical and numerical analysis, it has been highlighted that not only the linear acceleration significantly attenuated by soft material system, but also, the foundation-structure system was able to rock in antiphase to the translational motion to further reduce acceleration.

The article on "*Liquefaction potential for Kolkata City*" by Ravi Jakka; Amit Shiuly and

Ranjit Das has carried out liquefaction potential assessment for Kolkata city through SPT field data. They concluded that the Kolkata city soils are less prone to liquefaction even though there is significant ground amplification due to the presence of thick soil deposit.

In the paper titled "*A Case Study Of Accelerometric Records Analysis Of May 21st, 2003, Boumerdes (Algeria) Earthquake*" by Abdel wahab Mourad Khellafi, Zamila Harichane, Hamid Afra and Amina Sadouki has reported the analysis of strong motion data from May 21st 2003 North Algeria earthquake. They have concluded that the corner periods of the seismic near field normalized pseudo acceleration response spectra of the 2003 Boumerdes earthquake are shifted compared to seismic codes (e.g. Eurocode8 and UBC97).

The paper titled "*Site response evaluation of Agartala City using geophysical and geotechnical data*" by Arjun Sil and T G Sitharam addressed how the local geology and soil condition affects the ground motion of

Agartala city. In their study, stochastic point source seismological model has been generated using the synthetic ground motion. It has been concluded that Indian standards overestimates the mean response spectrum for all the periods except the periods from 0.26-0.42.

We welcome suggestions, corrections and submissions from our readers.

Best Wishes,

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T. G. Sitharam is a professor in the Department of Civil Engineering at Indian Institute of Science (Bangalore, India). He obtained master's degree in geotechnical engineering from Indian Institute of Science (Bangalore, India) in 1986 and a PhD in civil engineering from University of Waterloo (Waterloo, Ontario, Canada) in 1991. Further, he worked as a post doctoral researcher at Center for Earth Sciences and Engineering (CESE), University of Texas at Austin (Texas, USA) until 1994. He has served as a visiting professor in Dalhousie University and University of Waterloo (Canada) and Yamaguchi University (Japan). His research interests are in the area of earth science and engineering in particular geotechnical engineering, soil dynamics, geotechnical earthquake engineering, and rock mechanics. He is convener and member of working group of experts of geotechnical engineers in geohazards programm of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Govt of India. He is also member of Programme Advisory and Monitoring Committee (PAMC) for the nationally coordinated programme on Seismicity by Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) and Department of Science and Technology (DST) DST, Govt of India. He was a member of TC 29 Laboratory Stress Strain Strength Testing of Geomaterials, International Society of Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE) for the year 2001-2005. Professor Sitharam has guided twelve Ph.D students, three MSc(Engg) students and several ME project students. Currently he has six doctoral students working with him for their PhD degrees. He has written two text books, one on applied elasticity and the other on soil mechanics and foundation engineering, and also guest edited volumes on geotechnics and earthquake hazards for Current Science and seismic microzonation for Journal of Earth System Science.

Dr. J S Vinod is currently a senior lecturer at school of Civil, Mining & Environmental Engineering, University of Wollongong, Australia. He received his Doctorate degree from Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, in the area of Geotechnical Engineering in 2006. He has worked as a research fellow in an ARC Linkage project on chemical stabilisation of soils at the University of Wollongong (UOW). At UOW, he has been involved in the area of improving the bearing capacity of soil using tyre soil mixture, soft ground stabilisation using chemical admixtures and micro- mechanical behaviour of granular materials under static and cyclic loading using DEM. The findings of the above research have wide application in stabilising transportation embankments (road and rail) raised on soft clay formation and railway engineering. To date, he has published over 55 technical papers including 24 refereed international Journal papers, 30 refereed conference papers including Keynote papers and 1 book chapter. He is also a member/ life member of many professional societies.