

BRIEF REPORT ON IGC-2022

The Indian Geotechnical Conference IGC-2022 was held at Hotel Le-Meridian, Kochi from 15th – 17th Dec 2022 with the theme of the conference as GEOLEAP : **Geotechnical Learning, Evaluation, Analysis & Practice**.

Dr. Babu T Jose, Emeritus Professor of CUSAT Kochi & patron of IGS Kochi chapter was the Chairman, Org. committee of the Conference & Dr. Anil Joseph, the Hon. Secretary of IGS Kochi Chapter & National President Elect of IGS, was the Org. Secretary of the conference.

An Indo American Pre conference workshop was conducted on 14th Dec'22 at Hotel Holiday Inn, Kochi with the theme of 'Multi Hazard Disaster Management'. In today's world of climate change, natural hazards like flood, cyclone, landslides etc are on the rise. These disasters often occur together as one is the cause of the other. The multi hazard occurring one after another often leads to failure of buildings and infrastructure as these are designed to resist only one hazard at a time. Both from India and America, Geotechnical engineers who are experts in Hazard Management presented their experiences on how to mitigate such disasters. An MOU was also signed between IGS and Geo Institute of American society of Civil Engineers during this pre - conference workshop.

On 15th Dec'22 at Hotel Le-Meridian, the IGC 2022 was inaugurated by the Chief Guest Dr. Marc Ballouz, the President of International Society of Soil Mechanics & Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE). Dr. T G Sitharam, Chairman- AICTE, New Delhi and Dr. K N Madhusoodanan, Vice Chancellor of CUSAT, Kochi were the Guests of Honour.

A technical Exhibition was also inaugurated during this function which gave a venue to manufactures of equipment, materials, contractors, consultants involved in the field of Geotechnical Engineering, to display their products and expertise.

The three day conference was a feast of technical keynote lectures, theme lectures by eminent academicians & practicing engineers of this field of Engineering, both from India and abroad. About 400 plus technical papers were presented by Students, Academicians and Practicing Engineers during the three day conference. There were deliberations and discussions on various aspects of Geotechnical Engineering which was a bridge between the Academics & practice.

Several International delegates from America, Canada, Germany, **Kashakasthan**, South Korea, Australia attended the conference, in addition to the delegates from various states of India. The attendance of about 825 delegates is yet another record in the history of IGC.

In additional to the scheduled technical session conducted parallely in 5 different halls at the venue, there were three special sessions :

1. **Geo Vadis** – This session was held to focus on the future of Geotechnical Engineering. Presentations and discussions held by eminent personalities in the various activities of life narrated their perspectives in this regard and had discussion focusing on the future of Geotechnical Engineering.

2. **Geo Donna** – This session had eminent women speakers and expert women panelists to discuss on the challenges and the opportunities for women in Geotechnical engineering, both in Academic and Industry. It was deliberated about the aims to bring out the unique perspective of path-breaking women and Geotechnical Engineers.

District Collector of Ernakulam Dr. Renu Raj was the Chief Guest for this session. She has inspired the women fraternity with her crisp and clear message in her addressing the gathering.

3. **Indian Geo legends** – This special session was arranged to felicitate all the former Presidents/ Secretaries / Speakers of IGS Lectures & recipients of Kukkelmann Awards. About 18 out of the 24 living legends could attend this session. This get together was a unique one in the history of Indian Geotechnical Society. Each one of them shared their experiences and efforts put in for the development and growth of IGS.

In addition to the Technical sessions, the delegates were treated with extravagant cultural & music programs with a sumptuous feast of Kerala culture & cuisine. A well planned three day spouse programme was arranged during the conference.

The Annual General Meeting of IGS was held at the same venue in the evening of 15th Dec 2022. During this session Dr. Anil Joseph took over charge as the new National President for the year 2023-24 from Prof. N. K. Samadhiya.

The conference concluded with the valedictory session on 17th Dec'22 afternoon with Er. Snehal Kr Singh, IAS, the Director of IT Mission, Govt of Kerala as the Chief Guest. The conference organizing committee extended special thanks to all participants, honorary chairs, presenters, exhibitors, volunteers and all others for making the IGC-2022 a grand success and also help setting a new benchmark for the conferences.

A few photographs enclosed.











