

A report on
International Conference on Infrastructure Development (ICID-2018) 21-22nd
December, 2018 at Jorhat Engineering College

Dept of Civil Engineering, Jorhat Engineering College and Civil Engineering Dept of Malnad College of Engineering, Hassan, Karnataka organized a 2-day International Conference on Infrastructure Development (ICID-2018) during 21-22nd December, 2018. The conference organized in the premises of Jorhat Engineering College, witnessed participation of 9 keynote speakers of international repute and 45 technical presentations spread over 9 technical sessions.

The inaugural function was held on 21st of December with Prof. Reeta Sarmah, Principal, JEC as the chairperson and Dr Atanu Kumar Dutta, Associate Professor, Dept of Civil Engineering as the anchor. The welcome address was given by Prof. Prasanna Kumar Khaund, HoD Department of Civil Engineering in the capacity of the President ICID-2018. He dwelt on the role of infrastructure on the overall development of the society. Prof Dharendra Nath Buragohain, Retd. Director IIT Guwahati, and currently Prof Emeritus, Dept of Civil Engineering, IIT Guwahati, graced the occasion as the chief guest. Prof. Buragohain emphasised on proper planning of infrastructure and illustrated how lack of planning led to chaos. He elucidated his point exposing the faulty planning of flyovers in Guwahati. Guest of honour, Dr. Subodh Kalita, Director-in-charge, CSIR NEIST, Jorhat stressed on the use of locally available materials in construction. Er. Bhaskar Jyoti Phukan, Technical Director, NRL opined that to change the process of development, the students should inculcate the habit of challenging each and every process. He stressed on collaboration for growth. Prof Jayantha, Principal Malnad College of Engineering, stressed upon role of civil engineering in shelter and connectivity emphasizing these to be two major areas of infrastructure development. Principal, Jorhat Engineering College as the chairperson of the inaugural session hoped that the conference would benefit not only the civil engineering students but would act as a forum for interdisciplinary discussions. Dr. Nayanmoni Chetia, the organizing secretary of the event, delivered the vote of thanks.



A souvenir and book of abstract was published on this occasion. The souvenir gave brief introduction of the Department of Civil Engineering, Jorhat Engg College and Jorhat town emphasising on the history and development of these.



The keynote session started with Prof Taiichi Hayachi from Professor Center for South East Asia Studies, Kyoto University, Japan presenting a review of studies of meteorological disasters in the North-East India. The next speaker Prof. Hemanta Hazarika, Professor Kyushu University, Japan talked about the approach of artificial intelligence for modeling



ground improving materials used in earthquake hazard mitigation. Prof STG Raghu Kanth, IIT Madras dwelt on ground motion simulations in North-East India citing interesting examples from *buranjis* of Assam. Dr. Hemanta Doloi, University of Melbourne elucidated on opportunities and challenges in infrastructure development with examples how development without community participation would be futile. A technical presentation by Mr. Himanshu Agrawal, Senior Vice President, International market Zydex also enlightened the delegates with possible use of nanotechnology for road protection.

In the afternoon session of the first day, 5 parallel technical sessions saw 26 numbers of technical presentations of research papers. An interaction of representatives of Indian and foreign universities and representative from industry was organized with faculty of civil engineering dept Jorhat Engineering College for possible research collaboration. A cultural evening showcasing the cultural heritage of Assam was held in the conference venue.

On day 2, keynote presentation started with Prof Arup Kumar Sarma, IIT Guwahati delivering a talk on river-research to evolve sustainable-projects for people with eco-friendly climate-resilient technology with reference to Brahmaputra. The next speaker Prof. Nayan

Sharma, Former Professor, IIT Roorkee, gave a talk on upgrading development infrastructure in Assam. He debunked concept of dredging of river Brahmaputra as a fruitless exercise. He also warned that the last year flood situation of Kerala could happen in Assam too as Assam's dams over Ronganadi and Doyang were not multipurpose dams. Er. K.C Dhimole, technical advisor to Chief Minister, Arunachal Pradesh talked on development of rural road infrastructure under PMJSY in Arunachal Pradesh. Dr. Kamal C. Sharma, IBN Inc., USA emphasised on proper drainage of city roads, without which situation would worsen in Guwahati and other cities of Assam, He also professed for change in attitudes of Assamese youth, specially in engineering students and encouraged them to start small and medium enterprises without banking solely on government jobs. The last speaker of the keynote session Architect Pradeep Saxena talked on rethinking urbanism accommodating rural migration. The morning session ended with a business presentation from Shyam Steel.

The afternoon saw 4 parallel technical sessions chaired by experts in different fields. More than 19 technical papers were presented by delegates from various institutes across the country. The conference ended with a valedictory function.

