



The Annual Newsletter of the Department of Civil Engineering Assam Engineering College

Inside this Issue

卷 EVENTS

 2nd Annual Workshop on Smart Villages at Assam Engineering Colleges in collaboration with University of Melbourne.

Dr. Jayanta Pathak and Dr. Bipul Talukdar

- A report on GeoMEast 2017 International Congress and Exhibition in Sharm El-Sheikh
 Dr.Binu Sharma
- Indian Geotechnical Conference Organised by IGS Guwahati (NE) Chapter.
 Dr. Binu Sharma

 In conversation with Mr. Debendra Nath Sarma
 Priyam Deka, Biswajyoti Deka, Diganta Nath and Prachurjya

Bhuyan
 An interview with Mrs. Sanjukta Dutta
 Violeena Deka

* PERSPECTIVE

- Water Quality Status of the Kamrup Metro District
 Priyanka Kotoky
- Journey towards my dreams
 Ankita Goswami
- A journey of thousand steps begins with a single step"- A cherished opportunity
 Pranami Das

* ACCOLADES

- The list of PhD holders
- Publications
- Achievements
- Activities

Principal's Message

It gives me immense to know that the Civil Engineering Department, Assam Engineering College coming up with its 6th issue of the annual newsletter titled 'AADHARSHILA'.

I take to opportunity to convey my best compliments to all the concerned members who are connected with the noble venture of publishing 'AADHARSHILA'. I hope it successfully portrays the various facades of the civil department so that the upcoming generations of civil engineers get enlightened and inspire to contribute towards creating a healthy society.



Dr. Atul Bora Principal Assam Engineering College

Message from the Head of Department

I am pleased to present the issue of 'AADHARSHILA', the annual departmental newsletter of the civil engineering department, Assam Engineering College. I extend my best wishes for the occasion and request all the concerned to make it a success. I hope this issue will maintain the high standard of the previous and will be beneficial all the concerned.

Dr. P.J. Hazarika Professor & Head Civil Engineering Department Assam Engineering College





EDITORIAL

At the very beginning, we on behalf of the Department of Civil Engineering, Assam Engineering College, would like to welcome you to the sixth edition of 'AADHARSHILA', our annual departmental newsletter. A small step few years back has taken big leap today. The newsletter showcases the legacy of the department and the milestones achieved in the past year by the department.

Since the inception of Assam Engineering College in 1955 as a premier technical institution of Northeast India, the Civil Engineering Department has been a pioneer in the field of technical education and development. It has stacked up countless milestones and witnessed exponential growth throughout its 63 years of existence. To acknowledge and document the inner functioning of this pioneer department, an idea was brought to life as AADHARSHILA, which means "foundation stone", a reflection of the activities, achievements and departmental portfolios of this premier department. First published on 26th January 2013, it was a dream of the students and the faculty who wanted to capture the aspirations of the department and set benchmarks to surpass in the years to come. The AADHARSHILA has become a platform to document and showcase the various new advancements in the fields of education and technology. Hence, with the combined effort and determination of our entire team, we proudly bring to you the sixth issue of AADHARSHILA.

We would like to express our gratitude to the people who helped and inspired us throughout. First of all we would like to thank Dr. Atul Bora, Principal, Assam Engineering College and Dr. Palash Jyoti Hazarika, Head of the Department, Civil Engineering for giving us the opportunity to publish this newsletter. We express our deepest sense of gratitude to Dr Bibhash Sharma, professor-in-charge of 'AADHARSHILA' for guiding us throughout without which it would not have been possible for us to come this far. We would also like to thank our nonteaching staffs for constantly supporting us in the journey of this newsletter. And lastly the journey wouldnot have been possible without the constant tireless effort of the fellow members of the editorial board.

We are hopefull that our efforts would provide an overall view of the department and also provide an opportunity to showcase the research work carried out by the faculty members and students in the field Civil Engineering. With prayers for its success, we present before you the sixth edition of 'AADHARSHILA'

Editors



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Write to us:

Send us your comment, suggestions and feedback about the newsletter to aadharshila_ced@aec.ac.in

Aadharshila



2nd Annual Workshop on Smart Villages at Assam Engineering Colleges in collaboration with University of Melbourne

Jayanta Pathak Bipul Talukdar

The University of Melbourne in collaboration with the government of Assamrecently concluded the 2nd Annual Workshop on Smart Villages at Assam Engineering Colleges' Guwahati campus. The short course was conceived with the aim of creating a knowledge base through interactive sessions with local stakeholders and developers that could serve as a reference point for the government of Assam in the days to come.

With urbanisation on an upward trend in the region, the smart village lab programme was initiated to enable structured development through cross-cultural analysis and capacity building in construction management practices focusing on the housing andinfrastructure sectors in Assam and Australia. In the collaborative Capacity Building research project between the University of Melbourne and the Government of Assam, an attempt has been made to capture community specific data for supporting localised planning processes focusing on the housing and infrastructure sectors. Appropriate policy framework and governance models informed by the relevant scientific principles and best practice knowledge will be devised so that the best steps can be put forward and so that mistakes elsewhere are adequately reflected and rectified. The research effort is expected to support



conceptualising the "Smart Villages" in Assam by empowering the rural community withlocalised planning and policy support

The first week of the programme which was held between the 27th of November and the 2nd of December was designed to interact with the stake holders including government agencies, contractors, industry and academia.

During the second week of the programme,held between the 4th to 7th of December 2017, professors from IIT Guwahati and from Melbourne University participated.

Dr. Hemanta Doloi, Senior Lecturer in Construction, The

University of Melbourne

Prof. Mark Burry, Professor o Urban Futures, Swinburne University of Technology

Prof. Mark Burry, Professor of Urban Futures, Swinburne University of Technology

Prof. Ray Green, Professor and Chief Investigator, The University of Melbourne

Geoff Kimm, Research Fellow, The University of Melbourne

Dr. Sally Donovan, Research Fellow, The University of Melbourne

community through a series of welldesigned short courses. It was coordinated byAtul Bora, Principal, AEC, PradipBaishya, Sasanka Bora, BipulTalukdar, and JayantaPathak, with active support from Sudip Kumar Deb and PlabonKakotyfrom Assam Engineering College. A range of topics including fundamentals of project management, construction materials, constructionmethods and equipment, buildingconstruction, building services and operations, and building regulations were discussed throughout the week. The topics were designed to address key elements involving all Several key topics were addressed over thecourse of the week through lectures and interactive sessions. Dr. Hemanta Doloi, Sr. Lecturer in Construction from the University of Melbourne kick-started the proceedings with his presentation on "Linking Construction Management and Project Management for Successful Project Delivery". Prof. Mark Burry, Professor of Urban Futures, Swinburne University of Technology, Sasanka Borah department of Civil Engineering, Assistant Professor, Assam Engineering College, Dr. Sally Donovan, a research fellow from the University

Aadharshila

of Melbourne followed this upwith presentations on Sustainability and Construction that focused on developing Villages in a way that not only protects the environment, but enhance ees its capacity and resilience.

Dr. Robert Crawford, Sr. Lecturer, University of Melbourne, Prof. Bipul Talukdar, department of Civil Engineering, Assam Engineering College, and Pradip Baishya, Asst. professor, Assam Engineering College on "Environmental Sustainability", "Sustainable Solution to Flood and ErosionProblem of Assam". and on "Affordable Waste Management Solutions for Smart Villages of Assam" respectively. Following the two days of presentations, round table discussion was conducted withall participating stake holders. The objective of the discussions was to enable a brain storming environment that focused on current issues. Several plausible outcomes and solutions were identified and extensively deliberated during the course of the se discussions.

A report on Geo M East 2017 International Congress and Exhibition in Sharm El-Sheikh

Dr. Binu Sharma Professor, Civil Department, Assam Engineering College

I availed the chance to visit Egypt to attent the GeoMEast 2017 International Congress and Exhibition in Sharm El-Sheikh with Dr. Malaya Chetia. This is the first of a long and distinguished line of such conferences to be held in Middle East's great cities. The GeoMEast 2017 was hosted by Egypt in Sharm El-Sheikh at the International Congress centre, one of the best venues in the Middle East. The conference theme was Sustainable Civil Infrastructures: Innovative Infrastructure Geotechnology.

Recently there has been rapid construction in Egypt and the Middle East. GeoMEast 2017 provided a showcase for recent developments and advancements in design, construction, and safety inspections of transportation infrastructures and offered a forum to discuss and debate future directions for the 21st century. The proceedings of GeoMEast 2017 was published in 15 Edited Books in Sustainable Civil Infrastructure(SUCI) Book Series by Springer-DE, which was indexed in EI and submitted for inclusion in ISI "Thomson Reuters". The GeoMEast 2017

provided me an opportunity to meet and attend the lectures of pioneer personalities in geotechnical engineering. High quality technical papers were presented and allowed for discussions in the panel during the technical sessions.

Sharm El-Sheikh is also known as the city of peace.We strolled through the streets of the city beyond midnight without any fear.

Considered as a cradle of civilisation, ancient Egypt saw some of the earliest developments of ancient civilisation. Amongst the Iconic monuments we visited were the Pyramids of Egypt, which remains as one of the significant focus of scientific interest, and the Egyptian Museum.We were enthralled to see the mummies in the Egyptian Museum. The Great Pyramid of Giza is a defining symbol of Egypt and the last of the ancient Seven Wonders of the World. The pyramid rises to a height of 146 metres with a base of 230 metres and is comprised of over two million blocks of stone. Some of these stones are of such immense size and weight that the logistics of raising and positioning them so precisely seems an impossibility by modern standards.

We also had the good fortune to visit Mount Sinai and the Saint Catherine's Monastery. These two attractions are surrounded by the majestic barren mountains and is responsible for the

Mummies in the Egyptian Museum

magic and uniqueness of the Sinai region. What enthralled me most was the journey from Sharm El-Sheikh to Mount Sinai through the vast sea desert surrounded by barren mountains. Saint Catherine Monastery has been one of the world's greatest pilgrimage centre for over fifteen centuries.Within its impressive walls rests a citadel, extremely rich in significant religious and historical structures. It is one of the oldest functioning Christian continuously Monasteries. It is also considered a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The monastery's hearth is the Chapel of the Burning bush, an ordinary structure of remarkable religious worth. A few feet away from the Chapel is the well-known bushthat burned with fire, and was not consumed when God spoke to Moses for the first time.

A Pyramid of Egypt

The Burning bush

Aadharshila

Indian Geotechnical Conference Organised by IGS Guwahati (NE) Chapter.

Dr. Binu Sharma Dr. Malaya Chetia

The Indian Geotechnical Society (IGS) has been continuously engaged for the progression and dissemination of knowledge among engineers and scientists in the Geotechnical Engineering and allied fields and their practical applications. For the development and promotion of geotechnical engineering in the North-Eastern (NE) region of India and to achieve cooperation among geotechnical engineers in the region, "IGS Guwahati Chapter (NE)" was established in 2005.

Every year General Sessions of Indian Geotechnical Society (IGS) are held in different

parts of the country. From 1978, regular Annual Conferences have been organized and now they are known as Indian Geotechnical Conferences (IGC). Indian Geotechnical Conference in 2017 was held atIndian Institute

of Technology Guwahati (IIT Guwahati) during 14-16 December 2017 organized by IGS Guwahati (NE) Chapter. The theme of the conference was "Geotechnics for Natural Engineered and Sustainable Technologies" (GeoNEST) which encompasses several subthemes. The conference was held under the chairmanship of Dr. A Murali Krishna, IIT Guwahati and Dr. Diganta Goswami, Chairman, IGS

Guwahati Chapter (NE). Dr. Sasanka Bora and Dr.Malaya Chetia, Civil Department, Assam Engineering College helped in the conference as secretaries and joint secretaries respectively. Prof. Binu Sharma, Dr. Indira G Baruah and Mr. Bhaskar jyoti Das worked as organising

members. Active help was also given by the Civil Engineering Department in the paper review process and as subtheme coordinators.

Academicians, Technocrats and Industrialist from different parts of the world and from India participated in the IGS annual event which was

held for the first time in Northeast India. The 39th IGS Annual lecture 2017 was given by Prof. M.N. Viladkar, Emeritus Professor, Civil Engineering Department, IIT Roorkee on the "Geomechanical topic Challenges : Practices and Innovations. There were in total 12 keynote lectures and several Subtheme lectures. The best part of the conference was that the Geotechnical challenges of the North Eastern Region were discussed in detail.

Aadharshila

Face of the issue: In conversation with Debendra Nath Sarma

Priyam Deka, Biswajyoti Deka, Diganta Nath and Prachurjya Bhuyan

A dignified civil engineer and brilliant AECian Mr. Debendra Nath Sarma has been associated with civil engineering for over 4 decades. During his service life he worked all over Assam for various organizations and even has the experience of working outside the India. A very humble man with a well accomplished career.

Interviewer: Sir, please tell us about yourself and your journey in the field of civil engineering.

D N Sharma: I was born on 1937 and matriculation passed my from PatacharkuchiVidyapith high school. After that I joined Cotton College and in the year 1956 I joined Assam Engineering College, I completed my graduation from this college in 1961 and then joined PWD. In the year 1966 under the Assam Government Foreign Scholarship Scheme I got the opportunity to pursue my master's degree from Manchester University. I returned to Assam in the year 1968 and joined PWD in shilling, which was then the capital of Assam. In 1972 after the separation of the states in Northeast I returned to Assam and was posted in AbhyapuriDivision. After that I joined Bongaigaon Refinery. While working at the refinery I was called for an interview by an Indian company for construction of refinery in Abu Dhabi wherein I got selected. After completion of my work there I returned to PWD and was promoted as Superintended Engineer. Then I joined State Transport Cooperation as Chief Engineer. After

about three years I joined Numoligarh Refinery Ltd. and I worked there till my retirement in 1996.

Interviewer: After your official retirement in 1996 have you been involved in any civil engineering work ?

D N Sharma: After my retirement was called for construction of B.Barooah Cancer Institute. I was then called by a Delhi based

company for the construction of Khanapara to Jalukbari Corridor i.e. NH-37. After this I could not do much work as I became physically weak. I have no regrets for my works in my entire service period.

Interviewer: How can a Civil Engineer contribute in the development of greater society?

D N Sharma: As a civil engineer we do not have any political power but we can propose various developmental works around our society to the government. After we join a public sector we are assigned with various development projects for our society which we should execute properly and with sincerely. There should not be any discontent among the people we are working for.

Interviewer: What role did AEC play in your highly moulding career?

D N Sharma: AEC provided me the foundation not just to build my career as an engineer but also as a good human being. The professors at my time were very that not only gave us technical knowledge but also taught us how to excel in our life in various aspects which help me lot to get over my fears and conquer challenges that I have faced in my life. My friends in AEC were very helpful and we shared a very strong bond.

Interviewer: What is your message to all the upcoming engineers of AEC?

D N Sharma: I feel that everyone should be hardworking punctual in your duty. Whatever you do you should do it sincerely and honestly. Along with your academics it is essential to get yourself engaged in co curriculum activities which will give you a healthy mind and energetic body that will go hand in hand.

Aadharshila

In Convertation with Sanjukta Dutta : Journy from a Civil Engineer to a Fashion Designer

Violina Deka

Interviewer : Tell us about your journey from an engineer graduated from Assam engineering college to a fashion designer

Ans: Yes frankly speaking my journey has been like a dream to me. When I graduated from AEC the idea of becoming a fashion designer was certainly not in my list of priorities but the passion to try doing something for Assam Silk and mekhela chador always there. So the decision to become a designer was not sudden but rather a passion built over a period of years. The final call came in 2012 when I quit my Govt. Job and chase my childhood passion of designing and giving a new look to our very own traditional Mekhela Chador. Be it the Lakme Fashion Week, London fashion show, Stardust Global Icon Award or my recent selection for The Cannes Film Festival 2018 I feel a sense of satisfaction inside me when I see my creations of the mekhela chador impressing the fashionsates across the world. I am also happy to say that my humble effort to promote the local fabric. Assam Silk is finally getting recognized.

Interviewer: Since you already had a handsome job at public works department what made you enter the fashion world (what was the turning point)

Ans: Sometimes in the journey of life there comes a time when you need to take a call. The final all or turning point as I said came in 2012 when I finally decided to take the plunge and quit my 10-4 Govt. job of being an Asst.Engineer in APWD. Taking up my passion to become a fashion designer gave me the opportunity to pursue my own creative ideas

Interviewer: How was your experience to design special Mugaangavastram for the duke and Duchess of Cambridge?

Ans: It was a very rare and special feeling seeing my design on them and even on their official pages. I had tried to give a holistic look into it- depicting my state, its tradition, culture and values and present them vividly.

Interviewer: You have been selected to design for The Red Carpet event of Cannes Film Festival, 2018 how is your feeling about it

Ans: No doubt getting selected is a new high in my designing career but then I know this comes with lot of responsibilities. So I am just keeping my fingers crossed and gave my best efforts.

Interviewer: What message would you like to convey to the students of your alma mater

Ans: AEC has given you wings to fly. So just FLY and don't stop at it.

Water Quality Status of the Kamrup Metro District

Priyanka Kotoky

M.E., Water Resources Engineering (2015-2017 batch)

The demand for potable water is escalating together with the world's populace. The implausible truth is that the natural water resources are under mounting intimidation from contamination by diverse water quality parameters with far reaching consequences for the health of the consumers and environment. For the Master of Engineering (M.E.) dissertation entitled "Assessment and Mapping of Groundwater Quality and Water Quality Index of The Brahmaputra River of The Kamrup Metro District of Assam, India Using Geographic Information System", an extensive study was conducted under the guidance of Dr. Bibhash Sarma, Associate Professor, Civil Engineering Department, Assam Engineering College that came out with a startling revelation of the presence ofhigh levels of toxic water quality parameters in the surface water and groundwater of the Kamrup Metro district, the study area.

As contaminated groundwater can have staid effects on health, subsequently, solemn efforts have been made to evaluate the status of potability of 166 groundwater samples that have been collected during September, 2016 to March, 2017 from different locations in the study area. 12 physical and chemical water quality parameters, viz. fluoride, iron, manganese, nitrate, pH, turbidity, total dissolved solids, alkalinity, chloride, total hardness, calcium hardness and magnesium hardness were selected for analysis. Groundwater quality maps depicting spatial distributions of all the water quality parameters were prepared through Kriging interpolation modelling method using GIS platform. The results

revealed the presence of high levels of fluoride (11 mg/l), iron (3.24 mg/l), manganese (1.43 mg/ I), pHand turbidityin some locations that exceeded the respective maximum permissible limits set by I.S. 10500:2010. Contamination of fluoride in groundwater was found to be endemic to the Hatigaon, Jayanagar, Narengi, Mathgharia and Beltola areas with high levels that pose health jeopardy to the residents. Finding the substantiation of fluoride contamination in groundwater of the Hatigaon area, a total of 115 groundwater samples were collected from the same. For this area, a graph of fluoride content versus well depths was plotted, which showed a linear and positive relationship (R^2 value = 0.827) and indicated the presence of a fluoride rich stratum. From the equation generated from the graph, the safe well depth came out to be 146.1538 feet. It would be prudent to prospect for groundwater at lower depths. Consequently, in April, 2017, two research papers entitled "Assessment and Mapping of Fluoride Contamination of Groundwater of the Hatigaon Area of Assam, India Using Geographic Information System" and "Fluoride Contamination of Groundwater of the Hatigaon Area of Assam, India and the Variation of Fluoride Content Levels with the Depth of Wells"were published. For the Kamrup Metro district, linear and positive correlations were found between fluoride contents and well depths; fluoride contents and alkalinity; fluoride contents and pH values; and iron andmanganese contents. Total hardness, calcium hardness, and magnesium hardness showed negative correlation with fluoride contents.

Aadharshila

Another studywas conducted in March, 2017 in order to assess the water quality index (WQI) of the Brahmaputra river to evaluate the river's pollution level. River water samples were collected from 5 locations along the river (11 km stretch from Uzanbazar to Pandu Ghat) and analyzed for 6 physico-chemical parameters, viz. pH, DO, BOD, COD, ammoniacal nitrate and suspended solids. The values of the parameters were used to calculate the WQI, which was found to be 61.71 in a scale of 0 to 100, where 0 indicated extreme pollution and 100 indicated very clean water. It fell in the class IV category indicating that the river water was polluted as on March, 2017 signifying that the raw river water is not fit for direct consumption. Such river water can cause harm to the sensitive aquatic life and agua-environment. It is known that fishes in river Brahmaputra aredeclining currently. Once river dolphins were copious in number but at present times, such river dolphins are rarely seen. Based on this study, the research paper entitled "Assessment of Water Quality Index of the

Brahmaputra River of Guwahati City of Kamrup District of Assam, India" was published in March, 2017.

An extensive study was conducted in March, 2017 to evaluate the treatment efficiencies of 6 WTPs of Guwahati city, viz. Panbazar WTP

(GMC), Satpukhuri WTP (GMC), Kamakhya WTP (GMC), Panbazar WTP (PHED), Jalukbari WTP (PHED) and Zoo Road WTP (AUWSSB), taking into consideration 15 water guality parameters, viz. fluoride, iron, manganese, nitrate, pH, turbidity, total dissolved solids, alkalinity, chloride, total hardness, sulphate, arsenic, lead, residual chlorine and bacteriological parameter. The study revealed the presence of high levels of arsenic, lead and manganese, far above the respective maximum permissible limits, in untreated Brahmaputra river water and in the treated water supplied by the WTPs. If such high level of arsenic is consumed for a longer duration, it will lead to a dreadful disease called arsenicosis and can even cause cancer. At very high levels of lead, lead poisoning can be fatal and is found to be carcinogenic to infants, children, pregnant women and others. Furthermore, bacterial contents were detected in 4 WTPs except Panbazar WTP (GMC) and Kamakhya WTP (GMC). Results revealed that the treatment efficiencies of all the WTPs were less. The maximum treatment efficiency (29.19%) was for the Panbazar WTP (PHED) and the least (8.74%) was for the Jalukbari WTP (PHED). Consequently the research paper entitled "Comparison of Treatment Efficiencies of the Water Treatment Plants of Guwahati City of Assam, India" was published in May, 2017.

As the paper entitled "Treatment Efficiencies of Water Treatment Plants: A Case Study" was presented at the Institution of Engineers on World Water Day, the work got importance due to the involvement of imperative issues of drinkingwater of the public. The works were highlighted by both print and electronic media (Prag News, Prati Din Time and News 18 Assam). Invitation wasgiven from PHE Retired Engineer's Forum, GMC and different NGOs for presentation of the findings and for taking proper action to get potable water in Guwahati city. As a result, the grim scenario of the Brahmaputra water quality caught the eyes of

The Assam Tribune wherein the news of the study got published as "Levels of arsenic, lead in city drinking water very high: study", "Safe drinking water a myth" and "Meet on drinking water quality" regarding the consultative meeting heldfor the findings. The Telegraph published the article entitled "Excess lead in Guwahati water: Study" based on thestudy. Another article entitled "Brahmaputra water not potable: AEC researchers" was published inThe Sentinel.

It can be seen that thescenario of water quality of the Kamrup Metro district are grim and necessitate great attention of the government and the public to be sentient on the contamination of water resources by diverse critical water quality parameters. Present status of groundwater of the study area necessitates for the unremitting monitoring and implementation of indispensable groundwater quality improvement methodologies. The same holds true for Brahmaputra river water including the water supplied by the 6 WTPs of Guwahati city

JOURNEY TOWARDS MY DREAMS

Ankita Goswami

As a child, the United States of Americaalways fascinated me. I don't remember exactly when this attraction started.Maybe it was the stage when Taylor Swift completely made sense or when the Harry Potter series made every teenager wish they could attend Hogwarts. Whatever the reason, I knew by high school that I wanted to experience the student life in the US. I must tell you, getting education in the opposite end of the world might be a conformable decision today, it was neverthelessa very terrifying thought for me.

My dream started taking shape only when I stepped into my 6th Semester of Engineering. At that time, I was pursuing my Bachelors in Civil Engineering from the esteemed Assam Engineering College, Jalukbari, Assam. My contemporaries had started preparing for various competitive exams and it was high time for me to decide what I wanted to do next. I decided to give myself a shot and started researching the requirements for pursuing Masters in the US. After tons of web searching and talking to a few

Aadharshila

consulting companies, I started preparing for the GRE and TOEFL exams. I prepared with a lot of dedication for about 3 months and decided to take the exams early in my 7th Semester. The brief but diligent work paid off and I passed the exams with flying colours. Now, all I had to do was fill out the applications to the best schools in the States, write my Statement of Purpose, request my professors for glowing letters of recommendation and then wait for the decisions with my fingers crossed. All this was done by December 2015. When the decisions came in around March 2016, I was overwhelmed with ecstasy upon being admitted to the topmost University for Masters in Civil Engineering, the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Soon after, in June 2016, I completed my Bachelor of Engineering and started preparations for my travel to the US for further studies. I booked my tickets, applied for F1 visa, bid goodbye to my loved ones and was off in August 10, 2016. Off to a new college, new country, new culture full of nothing but strangers. My dad accompanied me to get me settled. The real emptiness struck the day he left. It took me almost a whole semester to get used to living away from my people. After a while, it just becomes a routine, you start meeting new people, and it gets easier to keep your mind away from the things missing from your life. My busy schedules and amazing new friends kept me occupied. Overall, though I was much more homesick than I expected, my UIUC college experience is a memory I will cherish for life.

"A journey of thousand steps begins with a single step" A cherished opportunity

Pranami Das

Internships are a part of a student life in order to gain work experience or extra knowledge apart from regular academic studies. I consider myself fortunate enough to be selected for an overseas internship for the month of july – august 2017. It is a programme launched by DTE assam and edupack paving the way in fostering rich knowledge among engineering undergrads and infusing a research oriented constructive study. It all started one fine morning of 15thjuly 2017 when I finally reached **Aberdeen**, a port city in northeast

Scotland, the city with an offshore petroleum industry and a home to international population .It is also known as the granite city for its many enduring grey stone buildings. On 17thjuly Ireported to my guide dr. James Njuguna director of research school of **Engineering Robert Gordon University** commonly known as RGU was established as university in 1992 (origins mid 18th century). My days in the university was a total new experience meeting brilliant minds working under their guidance and one can never forget the highly equipped labs of the university.

internship was of 40 days duration. During this period I studied "polyethylene / organoclaynano composites" and also got training on conducting risk assessment for lab based research. I conducted some background literature review and followed on with laboratory activities to manufacture composite samples. During the first two weeks I was being asked to go on with the readings so that I could gain enough knowledge regarding various nanocomposite materials and I

was asked to choose my own polymer and the type of nano composite that I would be using . I was allotted my own cubicle along with other phd students in the research hub and one would be inspired to conduct their studies for hours in such an environment where there is pin drop silence with all brilliant mind working on their respective projects. Hence after two weeks of studying numerous papers and guidance from my guide I decided to conduct my study on polyethylene. The properties especially mechanical properties and thermal properties are being studied and how the introduction of various nanoparticles (MMT) montmorillionite clay is being studied and how it effects the properties of polyethylene. So that was all about the literature reading that was being done. The lab work starts after the risk assessment is being satisfactorily approved by

Alan macIn head lab incharge. Firstly I had to report him regarding my motive to use the lab. The proper location of my lab and hazard rating should be mentioned if there is any and also had to identify the hazards that could possibly arise while working with the machines or using hand tools. One must be aware about the controls that are already in place and must go through the SOP and H&S information available on H&S booklet school of engineering and should also report the likelihood of an accident occurring and the severity of the accident. Finally after completion of the risk assessment and after few questions by Mr alan which took me two to three days because they are quite particular about their labs and won't allow to use unless they are satisfied with the risk assessment .So I was then provided with my lab coat, shoes, gloves and protective glasses and I was thus ready for my lab studies. Though in my case there was least possibility of any injury even then when I entered the lab I had to be completely dressed all the time. I used two labs N402 and N442 one where the sample was manufactured and other was where thermal testing was being done. The sample were prepared using parallel twinscrew extruded and injection moulder which provide shape to the sample . The thermal properties were checked by conducting thermogravitic analysis test in which physical and chemical properties of material are measured as a function of increasing temperature (with constant heating rate) and differential scanning calorimetry test in which difference in amount of heat required to increase the temperature of the sample and reference is measured as a function of temperature. And it was seen that on increasing the percentage content of clay in polyethylene the thermal properties are significantly inproved and carefully processing it to form nanocomposite thus with this final observation my last day arrived. Considering it to be the finest summer till date. Not only from the context of weather but also from

Aadharshila

the amazing roll out of events that took place in the past weeks from visiting stupendous places, meeting different people from a myriad of origin to working and sharing the lab with some brilliant minds it's been an iconic journey for me altogether . It has provided a great exposure in my career and such programmes should come up every year because it will help the students to broaden their horizon and look beyond what is being provided, where the world is working, how advanced have people around the globe working and of course a lifetime experience in the four years period of undergrads.

Publications

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- 24. Sharma, B. and Sarkar, S. (2017). "A Study on Efficiency of Micropile Groups" Springer Conference Volume, Indian Geotechnical Conference-2016, 15-17 December, 2017, IIT Madras, India.
- 25. Sharma, B., Gogoi, B. and Sridharan, A. (2018), "Static Compaction Characteristics of Coarse and Fine Grained Soils", Accepted for publication in Sustainable Civil Infrastructures of GeoChina 2018, July 23-25, 2018, HangZhou, China.
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- Singh, P. K., Lahkar, H., Vir, I., and Goswami, D. (2017). "3-Dimensional Slope Stability Analysis using Plaxis- 3D". Proc. of the Indian Geotechnical Conference 2017, I.I.T. Guwahati, 14-16 December, 2017, Guwahati, India.
- 32. Sonowal R. and Borah M.K. (2017) "Comparative Evaluation of Reference Evapotranspiration Estimation Methods for Lakhhimpur District of Assam, India", International Journal of Science and Research (IJSR), Volume 6 (6) ISSN: 2319-7064.
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> December 2018 Department of Civil Engineering Assam Engineering College www.aec.ac.in

ACTIVITIES **2017**

Dr. Jayanta Pathak

- Research Supervision for PhD work Completed: 'Seismic Vulnerability Assessment and Prognostic Damage Scenario of Conventional and Traditional Housing around Urban Centres of Assam'- Research Scholar: NripendraNathPatwari, defended on 17th March 2017.
- Research Supervision for PhD work Completed: 'Site Response Analysis and Soil Structure Interaction In High Seismic Region', Research Scholar: Sasanka Borah, defended on 21st December 2017.
- PhD thesis external examiner for the thesis 'Seismic Hazard, Vulnerability, and Risk Assessment of Darjeeling-Sikkim Himalaya' - by Manik Das Adhikari, Department of Geology & Geophysics, IIT Kharagpur, was invited to conduct viva on 3rd January 2018 as the Indian examiner.
- Invited as speaker on 13th October 2017, to the workshop on 'Home Safe Home: Reducing Exposure, Reducing Displacement' - organised by the govt. of Assam in collaboration with UNICEF India country office, on the International Day for Disaster Reduction (IDDR) 2017.
- Visited, NORSAR, Norway during 6th July to 18th July 2017, for review of the collaborative AEC-NORSAR institutional cooperation project on Earthquake Risk Reduction in Guwahati, a project funded by Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA), Govt. of Assam.
 - Visited, University of Melbourne, from 21st August, 2017 to 25th September, 2017 as an Academic Visitor, under the project between Government of

Assam & University of Melbourne, Australia, to involve in research activities with the Faculty members of UoM, in order to develop the course curriculum for the proposed Construction Management Programme at Assam Engineering College.

• Appointed as member by the Govt. of Assam to the Technical Committee for incorporation of the provision of Model Building Bye-laws 2016 (India) to the Building construction (Regulation) Bye Laws of Guwahati.

Dr. Diganta Goswami

- Supervised Scholar Mrs. Indira BaruahGogoi for the award of Phd with the topic "A Study of River Borne Aggregates of some Rivers of Assam as Construction Material" along withDr.GirindraDeka (2017)
- Co-supervised Scholar Sashanka Bora for the award of Phd with the topic "Site Response Analysis and

Delivering the Inaugural Address at IGC 2017

Aadharshila

Felicitating Prof. M.R.Madhav at Third Indo-Japan Workshop

At Valedictory Function of IGC 2017

Soil Structure Interaction in High Seismic Region" along with Dr. Jayanta Pathak (2018)

- Organised the Third Indo-Japan Workshop on Geotechnics for Natural Disaster Mitigation and Management (IJ-GNDMM) in the capacity of Chairman, IGS- Guwahati Chapter (NE) in collaboration with Japanese Geotechnical Society, 13 December 2017 at I.I.T. Guwahati.
- Organised Indian Geotechnical Conference 2017 "Geotechnics for Natural and Engineered Sustainable Technologies (GeoNEst)" at IIT Guwahati during 14-16 December, 2017 in the capacity of Chairman, IGS Guwahati (NE) Chapter.

Being Felicitated by Prof. G.L.SivakumarBabu, President IGS, New Delhi

Performing cultural program at 38th Assam Convention 2017 at Totonto, Canada

Dr. Bipul Talukdar

- Lead Speaker in the Workshop on "Space Technology Inputs for Disaster Risk Reduction in North Eastern Region with Special Emphasis on Early Warning, Preparedness and Mitigation", March 16-17, 2017 organised by North Eastern Space Application Centre, ISRO, Meghalaya.
- Key Note Speaker on National Conference on Hydrology and Watershed Management, March 24-25, 2017, organised by National Institute of Technology, Silchar.
- Lead Speaker in "NIRMAN-2017", a technical conclave for contractors, engineers and

academicians organised by Assam Public Works Department, 15-16 July, 2017, Govt. of Assam.

- Visited University of Melbourne, Australia as an academic visitor from 14th August to 08thOctober, 2017 under Smart Assam Project, which is a collaborative project between Govt. of Assam and University of Melbourne.
- Conducted Short course on Construction Management and 2nd Annual Workshop on Smart Villages at AEC from 27th November to 7th December, 2017 in collaboration with University of Melbourne, Australia.
- Selected member of the Expert Committee on "Flood and Erosion Protection of Majuli Island", Water Resources Department, Govt. of Assam.

Visiting erosion effected areas in Dibrugarh district as a part of the Technical Advisory Committee Govt. Assam

Dr.Binu Sharma

- Delivered talk as resource person for the AICTE-NEQIP 5-day workshop on the theme "Current Development in Engineering", organized by the Civil Engineering Department of Tezpur University, 24th February, 2017.
- Delivered keynote speech in the National Conference on "Recent Advancement in Geotechnical Investigations and Ground Improvement Techniques", organised by NITS Geotechnical Society and the Civil Department, NIT Silchar, 14-15 May, 2017.
- Actively participated in the Indian Geotechnical Conference-2017 as a paper reviewer, theme
 Attended a workshop on "Overview of PFMS software and Uploading Procurement Plan" and

Mr. Sasanka Borah

Visited Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning at the University of Melbourne, Australia as a Visiting Academic Scholar for developing necessary expertise for the Proposed Course in Construction Management at Assam Engineering College during 24th April, 2017 to 18th June, 2017.

- Resource Person-Short Course on Construction Management organized by Assam Engineering College in Collaboration with University of Melbourne, Australia from 27th November, to 2nd December, 2017.
- Resource Person-2nd Annual Workshop on Smart Villages organized by Assam Engineering College in Collaboration with University of Melbourne, Australia from 2nd to 4th December 2017.
- Nodal Officer-Finance in TEQIP-III Project in Assam Engineering College.
- Attended a workshop on "Overview of PFMS software and Uploading Procurement Plan" and Expenditure filing through PFMS" at IIT Guwahati on 9th November, 2017

Attended a workshop on "Start-up activities & Preparation of Mini-action plan" at IIT Guwahati during 22-23 December, 2017.

Aadharshila

Achievements

BhargavJyoti Borah, Graduate Engineer

- Soma Enterprise award for best Civil Engineering Graduate
- Completed the course "FUNDAMENTALS OF GIS" from University of California, DAVIS

HirakjyotiSarma, Graduate Engineer

Founder & CEO of "Momentum Super100", a free coaching centre for Engineering & Medical aspirants at Bharalumukh

DigantaNath and DharmendraNath, M.E. 4th semester

Participated in a Basic Course on "Remote Sensing and Geographical Information System – Technology & Applications" organized by North Eastern Space Application Centre Department of Space, Government of India, Umiam, Shillong, Meghalaya, 2017.

PriyankaKotoky and RukminiSonowal, M.E. 4th semester

Won the 3rd prize in the event X-Construction (a structure designing competition) in the regional level techno-cultural festival CONSENSIO-2017 at Royal Group of Institutions.

Rupam Choudhury, David Pratim Gogoi, Mousum Talukdar and NairitaSarma, 8thsemester

Winner of Ideathon (Youth innovation for brighter Assam) organised by UNDP and govt. of Assam.

JitendraDeka, 2nd semester, Master of Engineering

Winner of award from India's biggest river festival Namami Brahmaputra for creative writing(April 2017)

Winner of award from Indian Society for Technical

Education(ISTE) for technical writing(May 2017)

- Winner of All Assam Open Slogan Writing Contest hosted by Guwahati Metropolitan Development Authority on the occasion of 71st Independence Day of the nation(Aug 2017)
- Authored his debut book "The Rainbow Chaser" (November 2017). Launched on 4th November of 2017 in North East Book Fair, JitendraDeka's first book 'The Rainbow Chaser' is a short story collection based on Assam and the aspirations of greater Assamese community across the globe.

Gunendra Sharma & Chayanika Devi, students of 8th semester

Published a national conference research paper titled" Nano Modification of natural fiber to improve its efficacy as soil reinforcement material".

Awarded 1st prize in state level paper presentation competition in "**Aarohan 2017**" held at Assam Engineering College"

Awarded 2nd prize in national level paper presentation in 20th ISTEStudents National Convention held at USTM & RIST.

RisheedeepBordoloi, student of 8th semester

Participated in **16th Delhi International Open Grandmasters Chess** competitionheld on 9-12 January 2018.

ArindamBortamuly, student of 4th semester

Successfully completed the **MIT-IIT Make in India** Bootcamp on Fabrication, Innovation &Enterpreneurship conducted at Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi and Mandi from June 19-July 15, 2017.

NafisaNazneenChoudhury, student of 4th semester

Authored her debut book " Dream Tales of NNC: Revenge by Murder"

The list of candidate who obtained PhD from this Department is as follows:

- 1. Dr. GirindraDeka, 1994.
- 2. Dr. Kamal Ch. Borthakur, 1997.
- 3. Dr. Binu Sharma, 1999 .
- 4. Dr. KamaleshDeka, 1999.
- 5. Dr. Arup Kumar Sarma, 1999.
- 6. Dr. Nitish Das, 2000.
- 7. Dr. Manashmoni Deb Goswami, 2003.
- 8. Dr. Atul Bora, 2003.
- 9. Dr. Preetam Kumar Pathak, 2003.
- 10. Dr. Dharmaranjan Das, 2004.
- 11. Dr. Diganta Sarma. 2004.
- 12. Dr. Dilip Kr. Talukdar, 2006-2007.
- 13. Dr. Debasis Deb, 2010.
- 14. Dr. NripendraNath Das, 2011.
- 15. Dr. Utpal Kumar Das, 2011.
- 16. Dr. UtpalBarua, 2011.
- 17. Dr. Mrinal Kumar Borah, 2011.
- 18. Dr. Utpal Kumar Nath, 2012.
- 19. Dr. PankajGoswami, 2014.
- 20. Dr. Mrs. Indira BaruahGogoi, 2017.
- 21. Dr. NripendraNathPatwari, 2017.
- Mr.Sasanka Bora, 2017 Successfully defended, result awaited.
- Dr. Lakshmi Rani Konwar, Successfully defended, result awaited.
- 24. Mrs. BharatiMedhi Das, 2017, Thesis submitted.

Departmental Profile

The department of Civil Engineering College was established in the year 1955. the first branch to be introduced in Assam engineering college. The department has highly qualified faulty members and well equipped laboratories for field works. This includes the Soil Mechanics lab, Hydraulics lab, Strength of Materials lab, Transportation Engg. lab, Environmental Engg. lab, Geology lab, Survey store and the CAD centre. The annual intake capacity is 90 students per semester in B.E. degree course and 36 students in M.E. degree course. The department offers PhD courses. The department also offers consultancy services in all disciplines of Civil Engineering

Faculty List

Dr. Palash Jyoti Hazarika (HOD) Dr. Binu Sharma Dr. Jayanta Pathak Mr. Sunit Kumar Bhagabati Dr. Mrinal Kumar Borah Dr. Diganta Goswami Dr. Bipul Talukdar Dr. Bibhash Sarma Dr. Utpal Kumar Misra Mr. Bhaskar Jyoti Das Dr. Triptimoni Borah Dr. Utpal Kumar Nath Dr. Malaya Chetia Dr. Pankaj Goswami Ms. Bharati Medhi Das Ms. Puspanjali Sonowal Ms. Rupjyoti Bordoloi Mr. Abinash Mahanta Mr. Sasanka Borah Guest Faculty: Ms. Indira Baruah Gogoi (Geology) Ms Rhitwika Barman Ms. Mitali Mandal