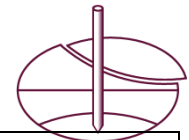


**ISSMGE FOUNDATION  
REPORT ON CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE**

<b>Your Name:</b> Arvind Kumar Jha	<b>Your Organization:</b> Indian Institute of Science	<b>Date of report:</b> 23 <sup>th</sup> September, 2015
<b>Conference Title:</b> XVI ECSMGE-2015 Geotechnical Engineering for Infrastructure and Development	<b>Location of Conference:</b> EICC, Edinburgh, United Kingdom	<b>Dates of Conference:</b> 13-17 <sup>th</sup> September, 2015
<b>What you learned:</b> I attended the conference and presented my paper. I have presented my paper on the 15 <sup>th</sup> September, 2015, in the session under theme titled “Problematic materials”. Attending the XVI ECSMGE-2015, Geotechnical Engineering for Infrastructure and Development at EICC, Edinburgh, United Kingdom and presenting my paper as a young researcher, it provided me an excellent opportunity to enhance my knowledge and familiar with current ongoing research in the various field of Geotechnical Engineering. This platform also provided me an opportunity to interact with many popular researchers and experts working in the field related with my research work and beyond. The interaction with researchers and their feedback helped me to improve my current research and provided some guidelines for future researches. The presentation of my paper gave me more confidence in presenting my work at an international level audience. The keynote, invited and discussion lectures by Prof. Kenichi Soga, Prof.Sobhan, Prof.Batali, Prof. B. M. Das and Prof. Olinic were very interesting and gave a vision into the area of Ground improvement and Geo-environmental Engineering. The various paper presented by researchers in several sessions provided me to discuss and keep my queries with them which is very supportive for my research works. Finally, the poster presentations were also very interactive, particularly electronically displayed posters. Apart from the technical gains, I have also got a chance to visit various places and experience the uniqueness of the socio-culture in Scotland and Newcastle.		
<b>People you met:</b> The conference gave an opportunity to meet and interact with many researchers, professional leaders from industry and academia. The name of some are listed below: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Prof. Mike Winter (Chair of the XVI ECSMGE Organising Committee), Trasport Research Laboratory, &amp; University of Portsmouth</li><li>2. Prof.Anand J. Puppalla, Unversity of Texas, USA</li><li>3. Prof.Kenichi Soga, University of Cambridge, UK</li><li>4. Prof. Khaled Shobhan, Florida Atlantic University</li><li>5. Prof. Loretta Batali, Technical University of Civil Engineering Bucharest, Romania</li><li>6. Prof. E. Olinic, Technical University of Civil Engineering, Bucharest, Romania</li></ol>		
<b>Main features of conference:</b> XVI European Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, 2015 (XVI ECSMGE-2015) was aimed to provide an international platform to share and develop the		



current ongoing researches in the field of soil mechanics and geotechnical engineering. The conference was very well organized and managed in all five days from 13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2015. Further, all the oral and poster sessions of each day are well distributed and divided. However, electronic poster was a special attraction of conference. The 5-days conference consisted of 686 papers published including 3 keynote lectures by prof. Kenichi Soga, Prof. António Gomes Correia and prof. Giulia Viggiani, 6 invited lectures by Prof. Dietmar Adam, Dr Mike Long, Prof. Kyriazis Pitilakis, Prof. Pierre Delage, Prof. Joek Peuchen, Prof. Helmut F. Schweiger and many others terrific papers and lectures, poster presentations, large number of exhibitions, technical tours and nice welcome reception, whisky party, special dinner at national museum of Edinburgh. Each part of the conference was very interesting which gave nice opportunity to interact with other researchers, professional communities and so many other experiences. Also, Prof. Mike winter during the closing remarks informed that this proceeding consists of 7 volumes and is the largest book that ICE has ever published in its near 200 year history. This felt me proud that i am lucky to be a part of such a huge conference. Thanks to ISSMGE Foundation for providing me grant to attend the conference.

***Your comments on the conference:***

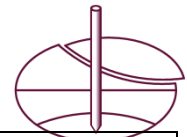
My appreciations and heartfelt gratitude to the organizing committee of XVI ECSMGE-2015 for organizing such a wonderful event. The technical quality of the conference was excellent. The organization of the conference is admirable. Especially the variety of themes in the keynote lectures, invited lectures, discussion sessions and poster presentations were excellent. There were many pioneer personalities, delegates, researchers, and industrial engineers from the different places of the world with whom i got to interact and exchange ideas. I encourage my friends and juniors to attend the next XVII ECSMGE-2019, Reykjavik Iceland.

***Please attach short report suitable for publication in the ISSMGE Bulletin:***

**“XVI European Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering”  
13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2015, Edinburgh, United Kingdom**

The conference was organized by the International Society of Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE) in the association with the British Geotechnical Association (BGA). The conference theme “Geotechnical Engineering for Infrastructure and Development, was broad and inclusive which provided a multitude of opportunities for all parts of researchers and the industry (including consultants, contractors and materials and equipment manufacturers, as well as academics) and at all career stages to attend and to present papers.

The conference was started on 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2015 with warm welcome reception and registration. However, opening ceremony was started on 14<sup>th</sup> September and followed by “Skempton Lecture” delivered by Prof. Kenichi Soga, University of Cambridge, UK. It was followed by various outstanding and inspiring parallel main and discussion session including keynote lectures and invited lectures by well renowned researchers in the field of geotechnical engineering (3 keynote lectures by prof. Kenichi Soga, Prof. António Gomes Correia and prof. Giulia Viggiani, 6 invited lectures by Prof. Dietmar Adam, Dr. Mike Long, Prof. Kyriazis Pitilakis, Prof. Pierre Delage, Prof. Joek Peuchen, Prof. Helmut F. Schweiger).



All the keynote and invited lectures were very informative and educational. Various parallel discussion sessions were arranged after the lunch in all day of conference. Also, poster presentation was organized during coffee and lunch breaks. This poster presentation provided an opportunity to interact and discuss directly with researchers and share an idea with them. Apart from paper presentation, this conference gave an opportunity to know various industrial organization, software developers and companies working in the field of geotechnical engineering. Further, the whisky testing and dinner at national museum of Edinburgh organized by the organizing committee were quite interesting and awesome. Various technical tours were organized after completing of presentation session and lunch on 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2015 by the conference committee.

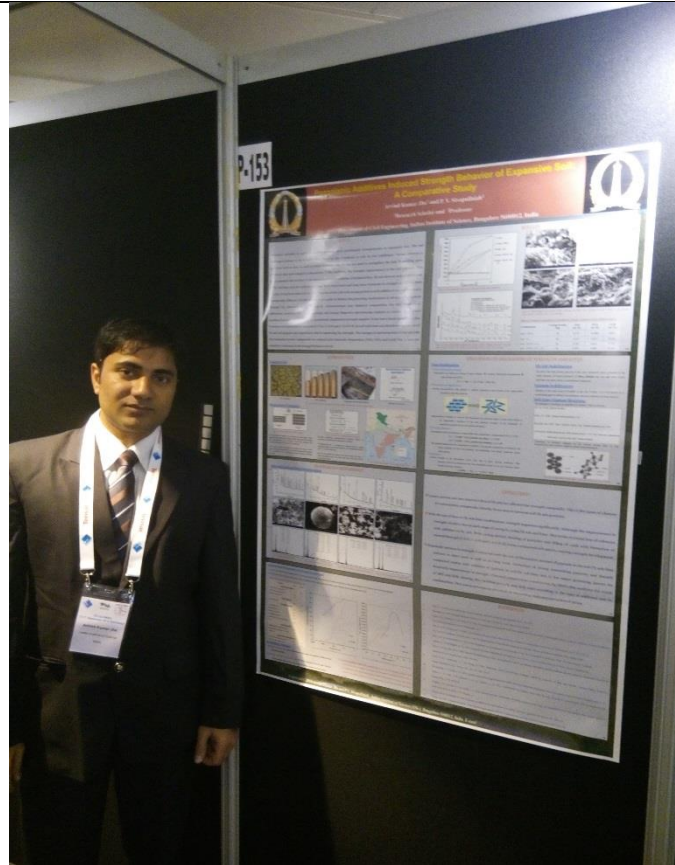
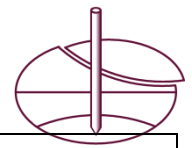
Also, this conference gave me an extra opportunity to visit various beautiful and attractive centre of Scotland in Edinburgh and Newcastle. I also visited university of Edinburgh and interact with students. These visits provided me a chance to know the socio-culture of Scotland which was amazing.

In the last but not least, the conference gave me a right platform to learn and understand the different aspects of geotechnical engineering and also provided me an opportunity to extend knowledge in my area of research. I would like to express my sincere thanks to ISSMGE foundation for providing financial support for participating and presenting my work in the conference.

***Photographs from Conference:***



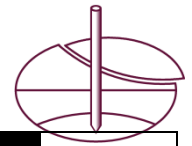
With Prof. Mike Winter (Right), Chair of the XVI ECSMGE Organising Committee



During my presentation



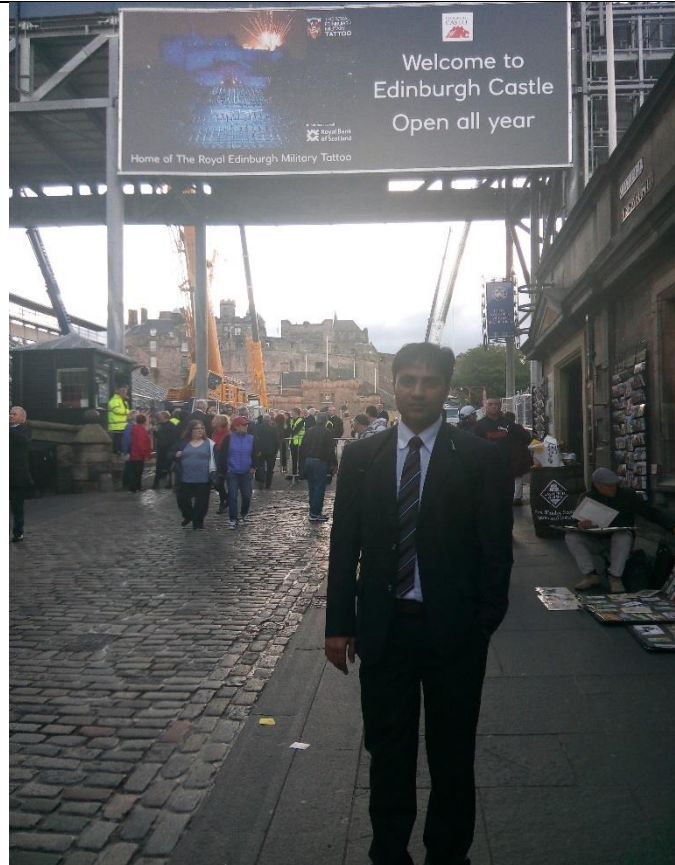
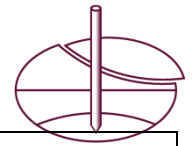
With Prof. Anand J. Pupalla (Right), University of Texas



During Opening Ceremony at Pentland hall, EICC



Visited National Museum of Edinburgh



Visited Edinburgh Castle



Visited University of Edinburgh