ISSMGE FOUNDATION
REPORT ON CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

Your Name:	***Your Organization:***	***Date of report:***
Akshay Kumar Singh	Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee	23/06/2026
Conference Title:	***Location of Conference:***	***Dates of Conference:***
21st International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (21st ICSMGE)	Vienna, Austria	14th -19th June 2026

What you learned:

I enhanced my understanding of the application of multivariate statistical techniques in geotechnical and environmental engineering through various keynote lectures and technical sessions. The conference provided valuable insights into the behaviour of heavy metals in mining-affected regions and their impact on soil properties. I also gained knowledge about advanced analytical tools such as Principal Component Analysis (PCA) and Pearson's correlation for identifying pollution sources and assessing environmental risks. Additionally, discussions with experts broadened my perspective on integrating statistical methods with geotechnical analysis for sustainable engineering solutions.

People you met:

Prof. Marc Ballouz	Dr. Anil Joseph,
Prof. Krishna R. Reddy	Dr. Andrea Dominijann
Prof. Dimitrios Zekkos	Prof. Ashish Juneja
Prof. Deepankar Choudhury	Prof. Sarat K. Das
Prof. Madhavi Latha Gali	Prof. Narendra Kumar Samadhiya
Prof. Anand J. Puppala	Dr. Akanksha Tyagi

Main features of conference:

The 21st International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (21st ICSMGE 2026) was a highly reputable and well-organised international conference that brought together leading experts in soil mechanics and geotechnical engineering. The technical sessions covered advanced topics such as environmental geotechnics, soil–structure interaction, ground improvement techniques, and the application of data-driven and statistical methods in geotechnical engineering. The conference also included keynote lectures, panel discussions, and poster presentations, providing a comprehensive platform for knowledge exchange.

Your comments on the conference:

It was a great honour to participate in the prestigious 21st International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (21st ICSMGE 2026) held in Vienna, Austria. I had the opportunity to present my research paper and interact with leading experts and fellow researchers. The conference significantly contributed to my academic growth and provided valuable exposure to current research trends. The experience also helped build professional networks and explore future research collaborations.

Please attach short report (maximum 400 words) suitable for publication in the ISSMGE Bulletin:

The 21st International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (21st ICSMGE 2026), held in Vienna, Austria, was an enriching platform that brought together researchers and professionals from across the globe to discuss recent advancements in geotechnical engineering.

The conference featured a wide range of keynote lectures, technical sessions, and discussions focusing on emerging challenges and innovative solutions in soil mechanics, environmental geotechnics, and sustainable infrastructure development. Special emphasis was given to the integration of statistical and data-driven approaches in geotechnical engineering practices.

I had the privilege of presenting my research paper titled "***Multivariate Statistical Approaches for Source Identification of Heavy Metal Pollutants around Copper Mine Tailings Pond at Malanjkhand, India."*** The study focused on analysing heavy metal contamination in water samples using Principal Component Analysis (PCA) and Pearson's correlation techniques. The results indicated that heavy metals such as Cu, Ni, Fe, Zn, and Cd are significantly influenced by mining activities, while pH plays a crucial role in controlling their mobility. The findings also highlighted the impact of acid mine drainage on soil properties, including strength and permeability.

The conference provided excellent opportunities for networking and knowledge exchange through technical sessions, informal discussions, and social events. Interactions with experts and researchers offered valuable insights into advanced methodologies and future research directions.

Overall, 21st ICSMGE 2026 was a highly rewarding experience that contributed significantly to my academic and professional development, while also inspiring new perspectives in the field of geotechnical and environmental engineering.

Photographs from Conference: Insert here or attach to email



Akshay Kumar Singh (Me) at the conference venue



Indian delegates at the 21st ICSMGE 2026



With Prof. Marc Ballouz at 21st ICSMGE 2026



With Dr. Anil Joseph at 21st ICSMGE 2026



With Prof. Krishna R. Reddy



With Prof. Madhavi Latha Gali



With Prof. Dimitrios Zekkos



With Prof. Anand J. Puppala



With Dr. Andrea Dominijann at 21st ICSMGE 2026



With Prof. Narendra Kumar Samadhiya



With Prof. Sarat K. Das



With Prof. Deepankar Choudhury at 21st ICSMGE



With Prof. Ashish Juneja and Dr. Akanksha Tyagi



Presenting my presentation at 21st ICSMGE 2026