ISSMGE FOUNDATION
REPORT ON CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

Your Name: Siddharth Pandey	***Your Organization:*** Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee	***Date of report:*** 29-06-2026
Conference Title**:** 21st International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ICSMGE-2026)	***Location of Conference:*** Vienna, Austria	***Dates of Conference:*** 14th to 19th June 2026

What you learned: The conference was quite useful for me. Attending the conference provided exposure to recent advances across a wide range of sub-disciplines of geotechnical engineering. The technical sessions covered topics including site characterization, soil and rock mechanics, constitutive modelling, ground improvement, geotechnical earthquake engineering, underground construction, offshore geotechnics, transportation geotechnics, application of artificial intelligence etc. It also provided an opportunity to interact with several academic and industrial experts in geotechnical engineering. Keynote lectures, TC lectures during the conferences provided deeper insight into the realm of geotechnical engineering. The conference enhanced my understanding of recent advances in geotechnical engineering, particularly in tunnel engineering, reliability analysis, and numerical modelling, which is my core area of research. Technical presentations and discussions provided valuable insights into current research trends and practical engineering applications. Presenting my research and interacting with experts from academia and industry helped to refine my research approach, improve technical knowledge, and broaden my perspective on future directions in geotechnical engineering.

People you met:
Dr. Sergei Terzaghi (A O'Sullivan & Associates)
Dr. Jirayut Suebsk (Rajamangala University of Technology Isan)
Dr. Krishna R Reddy (University of Illinois)
Dr. Rao Martand Singh (Norwegian University of Science and Technology)
Dr. Shengjie Rui (National University of Singapore)
Dr. Anand Puppala (Texas A&M University College of Engineering)
Dr. Habibollah Sadeghi (Norwegian Geotechnical Institute)
Dr. Md Mizanur Rahman (University of Adelaide)
Dr. Rajibul Karim (University of Adelaide)
Dr. Surya S C Congress (Michigan State University)
Dr. Pierre Delage

Main features of conference: The 21st International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering was very well organised, focused on covering wide areas of geotechnical engineering. Plenary Sessions, TC Honour Lectures, Bright Spark lectures, TC meetings, Invited Lectures, oral presentation and poster presentation were the main attraction of the conference. Moreover, the Get-together of Young Members helped to interact with several young geotechnical experts from various parts of the world. Collectively, the event provided an excellent platform for presenting research findings,

networking with experts, fostering international collaborations, and learning about current research trends and engineering practices.
Your comments on the conference: It was a great privilege to participate in the prestigious 21st International conference on soil mechanics and geotechnical Engineering (ICSMGE 2026) in Vienna, Austria. The conference was exceptionally well organized and provided an excellent platform for knowledge exchange and professional interaction. The high-quality technical presentations and plenary sessions offered valuable insights into recent developments in geotechnical engineering. The opportunity to interact with internationally renowned researchers, academicians, and industry professionals facilitated meaningful discussions and networking. Presenting the research work at such a international forum was a rewarding experience and provided constructive feedback for further improvement. Overall, the conference significantly contributed to enhancing technical knowledge, broadening research perspectives, and strengthening professional career in geotechnical engineering.

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

The 21st International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ICSMGE 2026) was held in Vienna, Austria, bringing together researchers, academicians, consultants, and industry professionals from around the world to discuss recent advances in geotechnical engineering. The conference featured Plenary Sessions, TC Honour Lectures, Bright Spark lectures, TC meetings, Invited Lectures, oral presentations, and poster presentations, which cover a broad spectrum of geotechnical engineering. The technical sessions highlighted emerging research trends, sustainable engineering practices, and innovative solutions to contemporary geotechnical challenges.

At the conference, my research paper entitled "Stability of Tunnel in Spatially Variable Cohesive Frictional Soils using Random Finite Element Limit Analysis" was presented. In the study, random finite element limit analysis (RFELA) was conducted to study the effect of soil spatial variability in the tunnel stability. Parametric studies are conduced for various coefficient of variation and correlation length of effective cohesion (c'), effective friction angle (ϕ') and unit weight (γ) of soil. The study also compares the computational requirements of RFELA and random finite element method (RFEM). The presentation generated constructive discussions and valuable feedback from experts, providing useful insights for further enhancement of the research.

Participation in the conference provided an excellent opportunity to interact with internationally renowned researchers and professionals, exchange ideas, and establish valuable academic and professional connections. The experience enhanced technical knowledge, broadened understanding of current developments in geotechnical engineering, and reinforced the importance of international collaboration in advancing research and engineering practice. The gathering of young geotechnical professionals facilitated networking with peers from different countries, encouraged the exchange of research ideas and experiences, and promoted discussions on emerging opportunities in geotechnical engineering. Overall, participation in ICSMGE 2026 was a highly enriching experience that will contribute positively to future research and professional development.

Photographs from Conference:



Siddharth Pandey (me) at Conference Venue



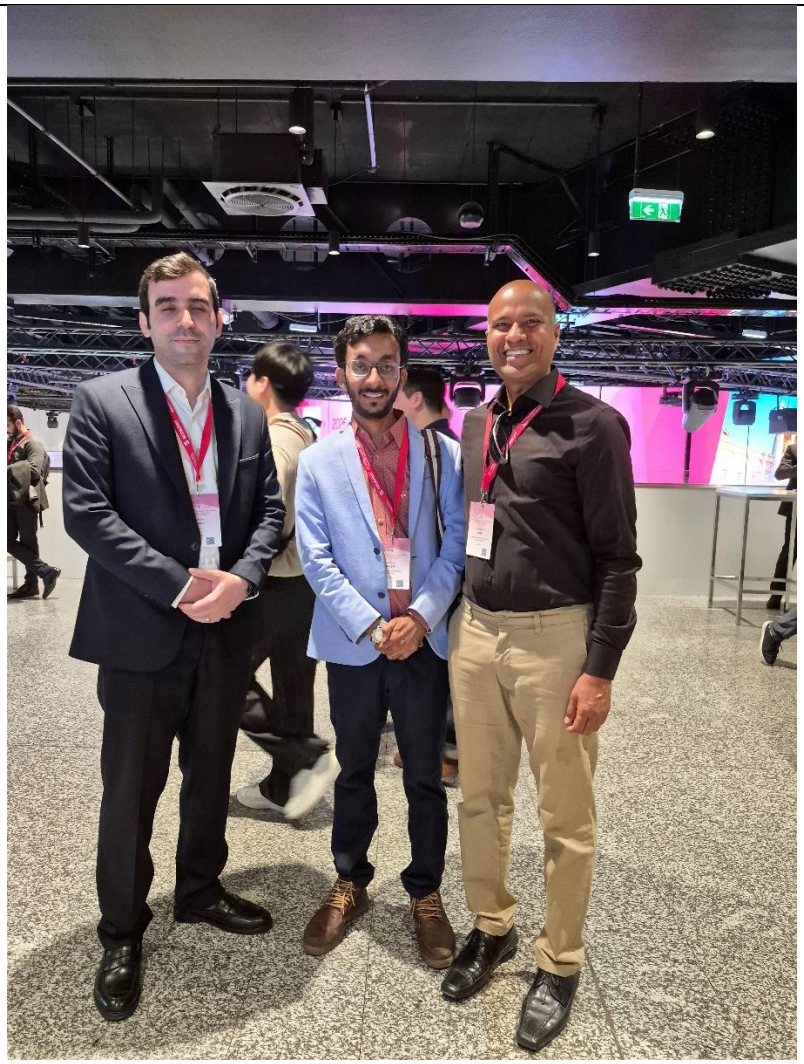
With Indian Delegates at the Conference Venue



With Prof. Akanksha Tyagi (Supervisor) and Prof. Ashish Juneja



With Dr. Sergei Terzaghi



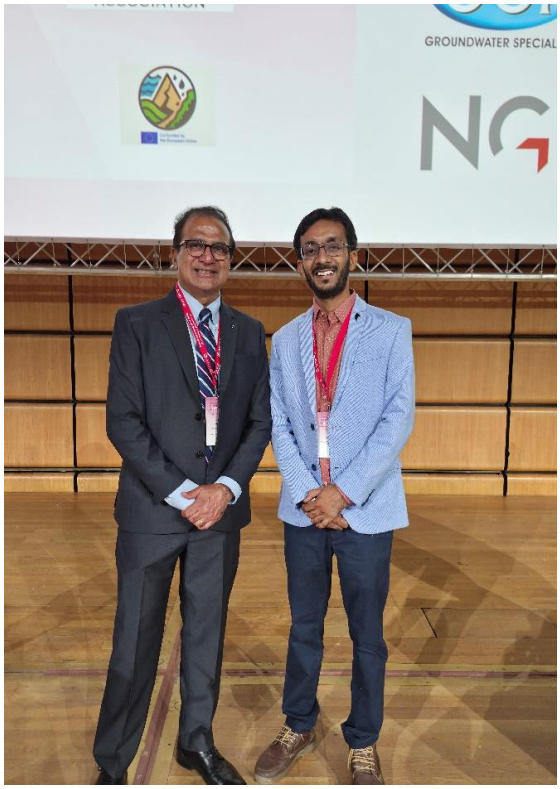
With Dr. Habibollah Sadeghi and Prof. Rao Martand Singh





With Dr. Sura S C Congress and Prof Jiyarut Suebsuk





With Dr. Pierre Delage and Prof Krishna R Reddy