



Message from the President



Dear Friends,

At the outset, I express my sincere apology for our inability to publish the newsletter for March 2020, which was mainly due to sudden announcement of lock-down in Delhi on 22nd March (Sunday).

We are passing through the most difficult period of our lifetime due to outbreak of COVID-19. The situation has no precedent. The pandemic has increased uncertainty and caught us completely unprepared - psychologically, financially, and infra-structurally. We in India are under lock-down for last 38 days and we are not sure for how many more days we have to lead our life in lock-down. At the time of writing this piece, the global COVID-19 score card tells me that nearly 2 million people around the world have tested positive for COVID-19 out of which 1000K people have recovered and 220K people have lost their lives and most importantly, no one knows when we can get this virus off from our shoulder. The pandemic has exposed the collective vulnerability of our world.

The Indian Association of Structural Engineers (IAStructE) recognizes the hard fact that the COVID-19 pandemic threatens the health and well-being of public in specific; that interpersonal contact has been identified as the vehicle for the pandemic; and that minimization of the risks caused by personal contact is a civic responsibility. IAStructE is committed to developing and disseminating best practices regarding fulfilment of critical engineering functions in a manner consistent with both our ethical obligations and our civic responsibility. At this time, IAStructE has the following recommendations for all structural engineers, post lock-down period :

Work-from-home: Work be done remotely at home rather than in the office or on the job site, except for specific items that require in-person, on-site observation.

Virtual site visits: Avoid construction site visits. Engineers who are working with contractors, shall utilize technology in order to facilitate remote site observations and reduce the need for in-person site visits. Periodic in-person observation may nevertheless be required, but the frequency and duration be reduced considerably.

In-person site visits: In-person site visits, if unavoidable, be thoroughly planned in advance, including the need for personal protective equipment, the need to share spaces such as elevators or construction lifts, and the items and areas to be reviewed. Any indoor in-person meetings should be avoided in favour of web meetings.

IAStructE remains committed to our members and to the safety and wellbeing of the public at large.

With best wishes & Warm Regards


ALOK BHOWMICK

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Call for Articles

The Chairman and other members of the SED Editorial Board invite article contributions for the quarterly Journal of the Indian Association of Structural Engineers, the Structural Engineering Digest, which will be published in E-Book Format.

Write to iastructe@gmail.com for

Journal subscription | Article Submission | Sponsored Advertisement

The Editorial Board also invites the articles for the April – June 2020 SED issue, which will be dedicated to the **Theme “Structural Connection & Detailing”**. Sub themes are i) Concrete Structures; ii) Steel Structures; iii) Hybrid / Composite Structures; & iv) Post Installed Connections. Interested Professionals may submit the Abstract and full paper by 15th May 2020.

Submission template and ethics statement can be availed by emailing iastructe@gmail.com

Interested professionals may also send the articles for publishing in monthly Newsletter, which can be sent to iastructe@gmail.com

Explanatory Handbooks on Various Codes

As you are aware that IAStructE is undertaking the task of preparing the professional documents and the commentary of various BIS and IRC codes, so that the practicing structural engineers can understand the code better and comply with the requirements of the code with confidence. Under this activity the Publication Committee of IAStructE is now in the process of preparing the commentary on the following codes, which shall be released soon:

- i) Commentary on Code and Explanatory Handbook of IRC 6
- ii) Commentary on Code and Explanatory Handbook of IS : 13920
- iii) Commentary on Code and Explanatory Handbook of IS: 1893 (part 1)
- iv) Commentary on Code and Explanatory Handbook of IS 875 (part III)
- v) Model Consultancy Agreement for Buildings Projects
- vi) Professional Liability of a Structural Engineer
- vii) Documents on Learning from Structural Failures – Case Studies

Webinars Conducted

1. The Webinar on "Lessons Learned From Bridge Bearing Failures" by Mr Alok Bhowmick, President IAStructE and Managing Director, B&S Engineering Consultants Pvt Ltd organized on 13th April 2020 in association with The Faculty of Technology, CEPT University. The recorded presentation has been uploaded on the youtube, which can be seen from the following link https://youtu.be/K_wrjlk8Szc
2. The Webinar on "Reinforced Soil Walls: Time to Analyze & Review"" by Mr Rajiv Goel, Managing Director, Earthcon Systems (I) Pvt Ltd organized on 13th April 2020 in association with The Faculty of Technology, CEPT University. The recorded presentation has been uploaded on the youtube, which can be seen from the following link: <https://youtu.be/PkgI3RGrd-Y>
3. The Live Facebook Session on "Challenges Being Faced for Design of Industrial Structures and Way-Forward" by Mr Bhavin Shah, GC member IAStructE and CEO, VMS organized on 27th April 2020. The recorded video is available at the following links:

-At Facebook (along with comments):

<https://www.facebook.com/iaseguj/videos/234149254336797/>

- At YouTube: <https://youtu.be/S7P3WWwR4LU>

Overwhelming response was received for all three webinars organized by IAStructE and looking to this, forthcoming webinars by IAStructE are being planned.

4. The Webinar on the topic "Simplified Procedures for Earthquake Vulnerability Assessment and Retrofitting of Buildings in Moderate-to-Severe Earthquake Prone Areas in India" by Dr Ramancharla Pradeep Kumar, Vice President (South) IAStructE and Professor, IIIT Hyderabad on 25th April 2020 organized by ACC Limited. Lecture highlighted the following two points i.e., 1.) Assessment of vulnerability of a building using simplified procedure and 2.) Design of seismic retrofit for an existing RC building using simplified approach.

IAStructE Student Chapter

IAStructE Student Chapter at Delhi Technological University (DTU), Delhi conducted the Webinar on "Long Span Bridges – Past, Present and Future" by Mr Alok Bhowmick, President IAStructE and Managing Director, B&S Engineering Consultants Pvt Ltd on 30th April 2020. It was only kept for the students of the Civil Engineering Department, DTU.

Forthcoming Webinars

1. IAStructE is organizing a Webinar on the topic "Structural Health Monitoring Using Piezo Electric Transducers" by Dr Naveet Kaur, Scientist, Bridge Engineering and Structures Division, CSIR-Central Road Research Institute on 04 May 2020 at 05:30 PM. Interested members may register through the link <https://event.webinarjam.com/register/6/n6mnlcl>
2. IAStructE is organizing a Webinar on the topic "Understanding Ethics and it's Role in Engineering Profession" by Mr Manoj Mittal, Immediate Past President IAStructE and Chief Mentor, Shelter Consulting Engineers on 09 May 2020 at 11:00 AM. Interested members may register through the link <https://event.webinarjam.com/register/8/zkzv5fr>

Webinars organized by other Professional Bodies

1. The FIDIC (International Federation of Consulting Engineers) is organizing the COVID-19 WEBINAR SERIES (on-line). Already 6 webinars have taken place and many more are in the pipe line. This series will continue upto mid-June. All webinars are recorded. The following is the link for reaching these Webinars: <https://fidic.org/node/29213>
2. The Associated Chambers of Commerce of India is also organizing high quality webinars, which can be connected from <https://www.assochem.org/forthcoming-webinar.php>

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About IAStructE

Indian Association of Structural Engineers (IAStructE) is the national apex body of structural engineers in India established with the objective to cater to the overall professional needs of structural engineers. The association has become the source of expertise and information concerning all issues that involve structural engineering and public safety within the built environment. It has no commercial aim or objective. IAStructE is purely a professional learned society with the prime objective of supporting and protecting the profession of structural engineering by upholding professional standards and acting as a mouthpiece for structural engineers. IAStructE endeavors to ensure that its members develop the necessary skill in structural engineering and work to the highest standards by maintaining a commitment to professional ethics and standards within structural engineering. IAStructE strives for continued technical excellence; advancing safety and innovation across the built environment. It also strives to make available to the Government, Public Sector and Private Sector - a credible source of well qualified and experienced Structural Engineers. A nationwide database of Structural Engineers has been compiled and is being constantly updated. IAStructE undertakes a broad range of technical activities which are aimed at information sharing and capacity building. The association provides opportunity for all the members to develop various skills in structural engineering and helps members to be at the forefront of structural engineering practice. Towards achievement of its aims and objectives, IAStructE is engaged in organizing the following: CPD Courses for Professionals at all levels Refresher Courses for Fresh Graduate Engineers, Student's orientation program, Seminars/Workshops, Technical Lectures by Experts, Technical Discussions on Contentious Issues. IAStructE is currently operating from four regional centers. These regional centres located in the Eastern, Western, Northern and Southern parts of the country effectively cater to the professional needs of members residing/practicing all over the country.

How to become a member ?

Membership form and details are available at <http://www.iastructe.co.in/membership-form.html> ; For membership information and other details contact the Indian Association of Structural Engineers Secretariat

IAStructE Membership benefits

Membership of IAStructE is a sought after professional accreditation. Your membership of IAStructE can help you enhance your intellectual, academic, technical and professional status. It provides inter connectivity to the fellow professionals and the fraternity. Some of the benefits of membership is provided below:

- Complimentary magazine subscription: All members (except Student Members) receive a complimentary subscription to the Institution's flagship publication 'Structural Engineering Digest' (SED). Published quarterly, each issue allows members to remain connected to the association through the provision of technical papers, Industry and Institution News, Featured articles, Professional Guidance on everyday matters affecting the practicing structural engineers. [Released]
- Access to all Technical Lectures, organized every month, at no charge
- Access to Technical Discussions held regularly
- Access to the association's library (Including e-library)
- Discounts in attending Seminars and Workshops organized by the association
- Full on-line access to the current volume and entire e-archive of journal "Structural Engineering Digest (SED)", Refresher Course Materials, Technical Lectures E-Newsletters and other Technical Resources of the Association.
- Opportunity to network with professional structural engineers of eminence and to meet potential employers in the association.
- Opportunities for professional development

Indian Association of Structural Engineers

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