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*Details:*

1. IITK-GSDMA Project on Codes and Commentaries

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IITK is engaged in a project sponsored by Gujarat State Disaster Management Authority (GSDMA) Gandhinagar wherein new codes, revision to existing codes, commentaries on codes, and explanatory examples are being developed on codes related to earthquake, wind, and fire.

In wind, the focus is on IS: 875 (Part 3) and on protection against cyclones.

In Fire, the project has taken up work on commentary of the Draft of Part 4 of National Building Code related to Fire and Life Safety, and on fire-related building bye laws.

Within earthquake, the topics taken up are:

- a) IS:1893 Part I (General seismic provisions and those on buildings)
- b) Ductile detailing of RC Buildings IS:13920
- c) Liquid storage tanks
- d) Masonry code IS1905 (new provisions on reinforced masonry have been developed)
- e) Seismic evaluation and strengthening of existing buildings
- f) Earth embankments and dams.

These documents have been developed as a collaborative effort of a large number of persons in the country. The project now invites all interested colleagues to contribute some of their time and review these documents and give feedback, suggestions and comments.

Considering the huge documentation that has emerged in the project, it is believed that this will be of great value to the profession for many years. Hence, it is a great opportunity for the knowledgeable professionals to help improve the same.

The draft documents are available at the web site of NICEE ([www.nicee.org](http://www.nicee.org)), and as these get modified, new versions will replace the older versions at the site. All suggestions and comments should be sent to [codes@iitk.ac.in](mailto:codes@iitk.ac.in) or [nicee@iitk.ac.in](mailto:nicee@iitk.ac.in)

2. IITK-BMTPC Earthquake Tips Series: Twenty Second Tip Released

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IITK-BMTPC are pleased to release the twenty second (**Why are Short Columns more Damaged During Earthquakes?**) of the "IITK-BMTPC Earthquake Tips". The tip is available online at [http://www.nicee.org/EQTips/IITK\\_BMTPC.htm](http://www.nicee.org/EQTips/IITK_BMTPC.htm)

### 3. Reprint of IAEE Guidelines for Earthquake Resistant Non-Engineered Construction

National Programme on Earthquake Engineering Education (NPEEE) has reprinted the IAEE manual "Guidelines for Earthquake Resistant Non-Engineered Construction". A soft copy of the same is available at

[http://www.nicee.org/Manuals/iaee/iaee\\_manual.htm](http://www.nicee.org/Manuals/iaee/iaee_manual.htm)

Printed copy can be requested from:

National Information Centre of Earthquake Engineering  
Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur  
Kanpur 208016  
Email: [nicee@iitk.ac.in](mailto:nicee@iitk.ac.in)

### 4. Earthquake Engineering: An ICJ Compilation

*The Indian Concrete Journal* ([www.icjonline.com](http://www.icjonline.com)) (ICJ), a 77-year old reputed civil engineering Journal from India, is pleased to announce the publication of its Compilation on "Earthquake Engineering" guest edited by Prof. Sudhir K. Jain. ICJ has been in the forefront in disseminating information relating to Earthquake Engineering and it had published a few Special Issues on the subject in recent years. As its name suggests, the above publication is a compilation of select papers from the archives of spanning over a decade. The publication can be obtained directly from the ACC. For more details visit [http://www.nicee.org/News/EE\\_ICJ.pdf](http://www.nicee.org/News/EE_ICJ.pdf)

### 5. Nominations Sought for Prakash Award

The Shamsheer Prakash Foundation is soliciting nominations for the 2004 Shamsheer Prakash Annual Prize for Excellence in the Practice of Geo-technical Engineering, which is given to a young (less than 45 years old) engineer, scientist, or researcher from anywhere in the world. Candidates should be specialists in geotechnical engineering or geotechnical earthquake engineering have made significant independent contributions to the field, and show promise of future excellence. The award includes a cash prize of \$1,100.

Nominations are due on or before October 31, 2004. Additional information on submitting nominations can be found at [www.rollanet.org/~prakash1/yoga10/geotechengg.htm](http://www.rollanet.org/~prakash1/yoga10/geotechengg.htm), or by contacting Sally Prakash at [sallyp@umr.edu](mailto:sallyp@umr.edu).

### 6. EERI Small Grants Program

Project proposals are now being accepted for EERI's Small Grants Program for Developing Countries launched recently by the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute, USA. The program is a new initiative of the Special Projects and Initiatives Committee, funded by members' generous donations to the EERI Endowment Fund. Information on the program can be found at <http://www.eeri.org/> or at <http://www.nicee.org>

### 7. International Workshop on Risk Assessment in Site Characterization and Geotechnical Design, 26-27 November 2004, IISc Bangalore

Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore with Risk Assessment and Management Committee- Geo Institute of American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) is organizing international Workshop on Risk Assessment in Site Characterization and Geotechnical Design, 26-27 November 2004 at IISc Bangalore. For more details visit <http://civil.iisc.ernet.in/~georisk/>

8. First International Conference on Substantial Habitat for Cold Climate, 16-18 September, Leh

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Chief Engineer, Srinagar Zone is organising First International Conference on Substantial Habitat for Cold Climate from 16-18 September at Leh. For more details contact:

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9. Fifth International Conference on Earthquake-Resistant Engineering Structures (ERES 2005), May 30 -June 1 2005, Skiathos, Greece

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The Fifth International Conference on Earthquake-Resistant Engineering Structures (ERES 2005) will take place May 30-June 1, 2005, in Skiathos, Greece. More details are available at [www.wessex.ac.uk/conferences/2005/eres05/](http://www.wessex.ac.uk/conferences/2005/eres05/)

10. Third International Conference on Construction Materials: Performance, Innovations, and Structural Implications (ConMat'05), August 22-24, 2005, Vancouver, Canada.

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The Third International Conference on Construction Materials: Performance, Innovations, and Structural Implications (ConMat'05) will be held August 22-24, 2005, in Vancouver, Canada. For more information, visit [www.civil.ubc.ca/conmat05/](http://www.civil.ubc.ca/conmat05/)