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Details:

1. IITK-GSDMA Project on Codes and Commentaries

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), 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 or nicee@iitk.ac.in

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

IITK-BMTPC are pleased to release the twenty first (**Why are Open Ground Storey Buildings are Vulnerable in Earthquakes?**) of the "IITK-BMTPC Earthquake Tips". The tip is available online at http://www.nicee.org/EQTips/IITK_BMTPC.htm

3. Earthquake Engineering Review Workshop for M-Tech Students, 23-28 August 2004, IIT Kanpur

IIT Kanpur is organising Earthquake Engineering Review Workshop for Master Students from Engineering College Across India at IIT Kanpur during 23-28 August 2004. The Workshop has been sponsored by the National Programme on Earthquake Engineering Education (NPEEE). The filled nomination forms should reach IIT Kanpur before 31 July 2004. For more details visit http://www.nicee.org/MTechWorkshop_2004.doc

4. ACTAHEAD - II: International Conference on "Partnership in Community Based Disaster Management (CBDM) in Asia", 24-26 August 2004, Delhi

ACTAHEAD-II - a conference as a pre-event for the World Conference on Disaster Reduction is being organised by United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD), United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN ISDR), Kyoto University Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies and Sustainable Environment and Ecological Development Society (SEEDS) in collaboration with Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES), India. This event will be held in Delhi, India from August 24th - 26th 2004.

SEEDS and UNCRD, with their other partners are working for last several years in the field of CBDM, and are committed to increase the strength and scope of present partnerships in the Asian region. The proposed international workshop would be an endeavor towards this commitment.

The specific objectives are as follows:

- To discuss the CBDM issues and activities over last 10 years from the perspective of different stakeholders
- To suggest possible ways of partnership of CBDM in Asia, and
- To draft a plan of action of CBDM in Asia for the next 10 years

The conference has been designated by the UN-ISDR as a preparatory meeting for the UN- World Conference on Disaster Reduction, Kobe, Japan to be held in January, 2005.

The conference participants will be a diverse group of stakeholders from different countries in Asia. This will include Country Governments, Non-government Organizations, International Organizations (UN, bilateral donors, regional bodies, and regional organizations) and Academic Institutions.

For further details please contact: partnership@hyogo.uncrd.or.jp

5. 2003 NEHRP Provision (FEMA 450) is available online for downloading

The 2003 NEHRP Recommended Provision for Seismic Regulation for New Buildings and Other Structures and accompanying Commentary is now available online for viewing and downloading. This document can be downloaded from the Building Seismic Safety Council website (<http://www.bssconline.org>)

6. Internet-based Computer Simulation of Site Earthquake Response and liquefaction (Cyclic 1D)

Cyclic 1D is an Internet-based nonlinear Finite Element program for execution of one-dimensional site amplification and liquefaction simulations (for level as well as mildly inclined sites). Here, you can build and analyse your own soil profiles, and view and download the computational results. The analysis can be done at <http://cyclic.ucsd.edu>

Windows version of *Cyclic 1D* can be downloaded from http://cyclic.ucsd.edu/Cyclic1DBeta_Setup.exe. This version is compatible with Windows 98/NT/2000/XP.

7. 9th World Seminar on Seismic Isolation, Energy Dissipation and Active Vibration Control of Structures, 13-16 June 2005, Kobe, Japan
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Japan Association of Vibration Technology is organising 9th World World Seminar on Seismic Isolation, Energy Dissipation and Active Vibration Control of Structures, 13-16 June 2005, Kobe, Japan. Both abstracts of contributed papers and invited lectures must be sent to Prof. Takayoshi Kamada (E-mail: paper@cc.tuat.ac.jp) as pdf files before **November 30, 2004**. For more details visit <http://www008.upp.so-net.ne.jp/javit/seminar/>

8. International Conference on World of Innovations in Structural Engineering, 1-3 December 2004, Hyderabad
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Association of Consulting Civil Engineers (India), Hyderabad and Nagpur centres are organising International Conference on World of Innovations in Structural Engineering, 1-3 December 2004, Hyderabad. For more details visit www.accewise2004.com

9. 7th International Conference on Multi-Purpose High-Rise Towers and Tall Buildings, 14-16 March 2005, Dubai
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Innovation Institute of Science and Management (IISM) is organising 7th International Conference on Multi-Purpose High-Rise Towers and Tall Buildings, 14-16 March 2005, Dubai. For more details contact:
IFHS 2005 Conference,
IISM, Abu Dhabi,
P. O. Box 4644
United Arab Emirates

10. International Conference on Advances in Concrete Composites and Structures (ICACS 2005), 6-8 January 2005, Chennai
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Structural Engineering Research Centre, Chennai is organising International Conference on Advances in Concrete Composites and Structures, 6-8 January 2005, Chennai. For more details contact:
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