

NICEE Seminar at Imphal, April 15, 2016



A seminar regarding “Achieving Seismic Safety in Manipur through Confined Masonry Construction” was successfully conducted at the conference hall of Public Works Department (PWD), Manipur, Imphal on Friday April 15, 2016. There was an overwhelming response to the seminar with presence of over 150 participants. The interest in the seminar was influenced by the recent events of January 04, 2016 (M6.7) and April 13, 2016 (M6.9) which shook the region and brought the issue of seismic safety to the fore, specially the damage to the during the January 04 event. The participants were from various organisations viz. Engineers from Government organisations such as Public Works Department, Public Health Department, Command Area Development Authority, MPHE, etc.; faculty and students of Manipur Institute of Technology Imphal, NIT Manipur, etc. and practicing engineers and Architects of the region.

Mr. Lokendro Singh, Chief Engineer, PWD, Manipur who was the chief guest impressed upon the participants that the time was ripe to lay stress on the seismic safety of the region which lies in an earthquake prone area. The damage during the recent shocks felt in the region was at alarming levels and necessitated approaching the experts in the field to limit the damages during such unforeseen fateful events of future.

Prof. Hemant B. Kaushik of IIT Guwahati discussed regarding the effects of M6.7



January 4, 2016 Imphal Earthquake and highlighted the seismic deficiency that led to poor performance of the recently constructed buildings. Prof. Durgesh C. Rai of IIT Kanpur presented evidence of poor performance of infrastructure in the region during the recent past earthquake which underscore the ever increasing seismic risk due to proliferation of vulnerable structures. The superior earthquake

resistant Confined Masonry as an alternative to Infilled RC Masonry was suggested for the region since these structures do not require much involvement of engineers in design and construction. Prof. Vaibhav Singhal of IIT Patna apprised the participants about the design and construction details of Confined Masonry.

Mr. Khuraijam Temba Singh, Additional Chief Engineer, PWD Manipur was the guest of honour at the seminar and was also instrumental in organising the seminar with the support of Mr. Ibohanbi Singh, A Narendradhwaja Singh, Khumbongmayum Randhir Singh, Ch Bishwachandra Singh, Rubee Kongbrailatpam, Juba Chandra, Helena Huidrom and Sachida Sagoloem , at such a short notice.

A strong endorsement to this initiative of NICEE and its activities was reflected in the generous donation of ₹ 75,000/- and a sale of NICEE publications for ₹ 25,000/- , during the seminar. NICEE acknowledges the supporters.

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