
***American Society of Civil Engineers
India Section***

ANNUAL REPORT 2010

January 2011

American Society of Civil Engineers – India Section

Annual Report 2010

January 2011

C O N T E N T S

1.0	From the President’s Desk	3
2.0	Technical Activities	5
3.0	Professional Achievements by ASCE-IS Members in 2010	6
4.0	Induction of New ASCE-IS Members	11
5.0	Current Activities	11
6.0	Future Plans	12

1.0 Form the President's Desk

I welcome all the new and existing ASCE-IS members and wish them a very happy and prosperous New Year ahead. During the year 2010 ASCE-India Section went through significant changes and this Annual Report will give a brief outline of the formation of ASCE-IS, what activities it undertook over the past year, its current and future plans.

The ASCE-India Section kept up its good work in the form of publishing a bi-monthly magazine, arranging monthly technical meetings/presentations, annual conference and occasional press meetings on topical issues on which views of civil engineers could enrich the society. The Calcutta Municipal Corporation adopted recommendations made by ASCE-IS in making new constructions safe.

The name of American Society of Civil Engineers became a familiar name to civil engineers, if not to the society.

The activities of ASCE-IS encouraged a President and an Executive Director of ASCE as well as several International Directors visit us in Calcutta. Two of the International Directors, who visited us, later became Presidents of ASCE.

The founding members of ASCE-IS, being all from Calcutta (also known as Kolkata), the programs of ASCE-IS were mostly based in Calcutta. However, many civil engineers from other cities and states of India regularly contributed technical articles for publication in the bi-monthly magazine. Some from distant places in India and abroad participated in the annual seminars and monthly meetings.

The programs of ASCE-IS attracted many civil engineers in and around Calcutta, and they contributed to the success of these programs.

There was a keen interest among civil engineers in becoming members of ASCE, but the membership dues were considered to be too high in the context of their earnings (the starting monthly salary for civil engineers being about US \$ 400-500). Also, unlike a member of ASCE in the USA, ASCE members in India do not enjoy any financial benefits in the form of reduced insurance premiums, and discounted car rentals and hotel charges.

Keeping in view the interest of civil engineers in the programs of ASCE-IS, an arrangement was made whereby well over a thousand civil engineers became dues paying members of ASCE-India Section in the hope that

- a) they could facilitate the programs of ASCE-India Section, and
- b) they would in course of time take steps to become members of ASCE's parent body

Many such engineers, who were members of ASCE-India Section, and not of ASCE, dedicated themselves to the cause and success of the programs of ASCE-IS.

A situation developed where through dedicated work, non-members of ASCE essentially took over the Executive Committee of ASCE-IS, though the Constitution of ASCE-IS required that of eight members, no more than three could be non-members (but dues paying members of ASCE-India Section) of ASCE.

After discussions and written communication with members of the Executive Committee of ASCE-IS, ASCE Headquarters disbanded the Committee a few months ago and ASCE Headquarters requested Dr Debabrata Kar, Fellow and Life Member of ASCE, to help form an Interim Executive Committee which would

- a) Form an Executive Committee through an open election that would solicit votes from all members of ASCE-India Section who are members of ASCE
- b) Involve members of ASCE from other cities/states of India in the administration of the affairs of ASCE-IS
- c) Re-draft a constitution for ASCE-IS

On a request from Dr. Debabrata Kar and others, and also having been the first president of ASCE-IS, I agreed to serve as the President of ASCE-IS until an elected Executive Committee will take over.

An Interim Executive Committee (ExCom) has been formed with Dr. Debabrata Kar as the Mentor and me as the President. The other two members are Prof. S K Das as Secretary cum Treasurer and Dr. Ayanangshu Dey as the Event Coordinator. Mr. B G Gupta has been selected to serve in this ExCom as Member.

Anil K Kar, Ph.D, F.ASCE
President
ASCE-India Section

2.0 Technical Activities

A brief account on the meetings convened by the Executive Committee and technical activities performed by the ASCE-IS over the past year is furnished as under.

SN	Date and Venue	Activity
1	January 5, 2010, Auditorium of Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers, Jadavpur University, Calcutta	Condolence meeting due to sad demise of Mr. C R Dutta, Founder Secretary, Immediate Past President of ASCE-IS
2	February 11, 2010, 32, Hazra Road (Previous office address of ASCE-IS)	Extended Executive Committee Meeting
3	February 18, 2010, Auditorium of Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers, Jadavpur University, Calcutta	Technical Lecture on Underground Car Park at B B D Bag, Calcutta on topic "A practical approach to design and construction"
4	March 11, 2010, 32, Hazra Road, Calcutta	Extended Executive Committee Meeting
5	March 18, 2010, Auditorium of Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers, Jadavpur University, Calcutta	Technical Lecture on Curtain Raiser on Observance of World Water Day-2010
6	April 5, 2010, 32, Hazra Road, Calcutta	Extended Executive Committee Meeting
7	April 14, 2010, 32, Hazra Road, Calcutta	Extended Executive Committee Meeting
8	April 29, 2010, 9/1, Hungerford Street, Calcutta	Extended Executive Committee Meeting
9	May 20, 2010, Auditorium of Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers, Jadavpur University, Calcutta	Technical Lecture on Global Climate Change
10	June 17, 2010, Auditorium of Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers, Jadavpur University, Calcutta	Technical Lecture on Green Roof – Need of the hour

3.0 Professional Achievements by ASCE-IS Members in 2010

The Interim Executive Committee made an effort to document the professional achievements of current ASCE-IS members. The members were contacted in the middle of December 2010 and the inputs that were received from the members are given here.

These inputs are arranged in alphabetical order of their contributor's last name. Contributions from a few members could not be included for having insufficient information as decided by the current ExCom.

SN	Name and Affiliation	ASCE Member #	Activities
1	Soli Arceivala, WHO/UN Regional Adviser, SE Asia Region, and Chairman Emeritus, AIC-WATSON Consulting Engineers (India) (Retd.)	-	Dr. Arceivala is "Distinguished Member" of ASCE. He has written a book entitled "Global Warming and Climate Change" that was published by the Indian Environmental Association, India, in Nov 2010.
2	Nishi Bhuvandas, Lecturer, Dept. of Civil Engineering, M M Engg. College, M M University, Mullana, Ambala, Haryana	-	Ms. Bhuvandas Published and presented a paper at the 2 nd National Conference on "Sustainable Development of Urban Infrastructure" at Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology, Nagpur, Maharashtra, India held in June, 2010. She was part of the core organizing committee of the National Conference on Hydraulics, Water Resources, Coastal and Environmental Engineering, HYDRO 2010 jointly organized by MMEC, ISH and IAHR held at M. M. Engineering College, Mullana, Ambala, Haryana, in Dec,2010 and also presented a paper. She has presented and participated in the International Conference on Methods and Models in Science and Technology (ICM2ST-10) held in Dec, 2010 at Chandigarh.

SN	Name and Affiliation	ASCE Member #	Activities
3	D. Choudhury, Associate Professor of Department of Civil Engineering, IIT Bombay	-	<p>Prof. Choudhury received prestigious Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellowship (for Experienced Researchers) from Germany and visited Technical University Darmstadt, Germany during January to June, 2010 as Humboldt Fellow. He is serving in Technical Committee of Unsaturated Soils of Geo-Institute, ASCE, USA since 2008 as an active member responsible for selection of Award winning papers for nomination from UNSAT-GI group of ASCE.</p> <p>Prof. Choudhury received APACM Award for Young Investigators (below 40 years age) in 2010 for his outstanding contributions in the area of Computational Mechanics through research publications from The Asian Pacific Association for Computational Mechanics. The award was given at Sydney, Australia in July 2010 and he is the First Indian to receive this award. Prof. Choudhury has been selected as Honorary Secretary of Technical Committee (TC 212) on 'Deep Foundations' and Honorable Member of Technical Committee (TC 203) on 'Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering' of International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE), UK for block year 2010-2013.</p> <p>He is serving as an Editorial Board Member and Coordinator of Asia Region for ISSMGE Bulletin published from UK for 2010-2013 and working as Managing Editor for December 2010 issue of this bulletin. Prof. Choudhury has also received U.P. Government National Award for outstanding work done in specified area of Engineering and Technology (Colleges) from the Indian Society for Technical Education (ISTE) New Delhi, India in 2010.</p>
4	Dipankar Das, Assistant Manager, Engineering Project (India) Ltd.	-	Mr. Das got promoted to the post of Assistant Manager after completing a challenging project before the scheduled time frame in Silchar, Assam.

SN	Name and Affiliation	ASCE Member #	Activities
5	S K Das, Secretary/Treasurer, ASCE-IS Interim ExCom, Senior Project Manager (Retd.) of Indian Railway Service of Engineers (IRSE)	398899	Prof. Das joined as a guest faculty member in an engineering college (CIT, Uluberia, West Bengal) in 2010. He is associated as a visiting faculty in the Institute of Engineering and Management, Salt Lake, delivers technical lectures in India and abroad, writes regularly in technical journals, newspapers, and appears for short technical talk in electronic media as well.
6	Urmil V Dave Senior Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Institute of Technology, Nirma University, Ahmedabad	501389	Dr. Dave guided the thesis entitled “Strengthening of RC Beam using NSM FRP Reinforcements” for one of her students which won the 1st Prize from “Indian Society for Technical Education National Award” for Best M. Tech. Thesis in Civil Engineering.
7	Ayanangshu Dey, IL&FS, Event Coordinator, ASCE-IS Interim ExCom	459976	Dr. Dey published a book entitled “Nutrient Management in On-site Wastewater Treatment” based on his doctoral dissertation. His two research papers on modeling of biological nitrogen removal process were published in Environmental Engineering Science journal. One of his research papers was presented in WEFTEC 2010 held at New Orleans, USA in October 2010.
8	Veena Gore, Retired Principal, Government Polytechnic, Pune, Maharashtra	-	Ms. Gore has co-authored a text book titled "Limit State Design of Steel Structures" IS 800-2007 which was published by Structures Publications, Pune. The book is useful for undergraduate students of Civil Engineering in lieu of revision of IS 800.
9	Ankit Gupta, Transportation Engineering Group, Civil Engineering Department, IIT Roorkee	-	Mr. Gupta is working as a Research Scholar in the Civil Engineering Department and working on Structural Analysis of Flexible Pavements. His research contributes to the structural and functional performance of flexible pavement with its deterioration modeling.

SN	Name and Affiliation	ASCE Member #	Activities
10	Anil K Kar, Proprietor, Engineering Services International, Kolkata and President, ASCE-IS	119493	Proposed and patented a new rebar with a deformed axis and a plain surface with a view to minimize corrosion and thereby enhance the life span of concrete structures without any added cost.
11	Debabrata Kar, Mentor, ASCE-IS Interim ExCom	105311	Dr. Kar delivered a lecture on “Analysis and Control of Delay in Construction” at B E College Ex-Students' Club, Bidhannagar. His paper on “Water Resources Development in India” was approved by EWRI of ASCE for presentation in the International Conference to be held in Singapore, Jan, 2011. His article on “Water Development Projects - An Indian Perspective” is approved for publication in ICE Journal "Management, Procurement and Law". Dr. Kar's note on “AILA 2009 and its Aftermath in West Bengal” was presented in IPHE Seminar, Calcutta, in Feb 2010 and another paper was presented in WB Science and Technology Congress, Calcutta held in March, 2010.
12	Ashish Kumar Mishra	-	Mr. Mishra was University topper this year and Editor of College Newsletter. He participated in a seminar on Global Warming and won a 2 nd prize in House making competition.
13	Sriram Narayanamoorthy, Department of Civil Engineering, National Institute of Trichy	-	Mr. Narayanamoorthy worked on a Summer Fellowship Project entitled “Calibration of Four Step Travel Demand Model for Chennai” under the guidance of Dr. Karthik K Srinivasan, Department of Civil Engineering, IIT Madras to develop and validate the four step model. He worked in the capacity of an “Enumerator” on User Needs Survey for Advanced Traveler Information Systems in Indian Cities with Department of Information Technology, Government of India. He is currently working on "Impact of Introduction of MRTS in Chennai" under Dr. Moses Santhakumar in Department of Civil Engineering, NIT Trichy.

SN	Name and Affiliation	ASCE Member #	Activities
14	Nagesh Ramamurthy PMP, VP and CEO, A.N. Prakash Construction Project Management Consultant Pvt. Ltd.	-	Mr. Ramamurthy appeared for PMP certification from Project Management Institute, and got certified as "PMP". He enrolled himself for Young Professionals Management Training Programme (YPMTP 2010) conducted by FIDIC. He and his associates in "ANP CPMC" have now organised a school for graduate civil engineers called "School of Construction Management Excellence" (S-CME), which will be launched on 12 th January 2011, in Bangalore.
15	Arun K. R. Rao	-	Mr. Rao assisted International Civil Aviation Organisation in developing the framework for the new Continuous Monitoring Approach of Safety Oversight Audit in the Aerodromes area. He conducted ICAO safety oversight audit of the Maldives, Introduction to ICAO Annex 14, and Aerodrome Certification courses at the Singapore Aviation Academy. He served as the Safety Audit Advisor to the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore for the surveillance audit of Singapore/Changi International Airport and advised the Director General of Civil Aviation, as a member of the Civil Aviation Safety Advisory Council (CASAC), India.
16	Kannadasan S	944647	Mr. Kannadasan was selected from an Associate to Associate Member, has cleared Academic Assessment by ICE towards his CEng Certification, and was made an Associate Member (AM-0985611) of IE, Calcutta from Associate. He attended a one day training program on "Driving Efficiency through International best practices" at Bangalore on June 10 th 2010 organized by RICS, UK
17	Purnachandra Saha, Associate Professor, K L University, Andhra Pradesh	467674	Dr. Saha completed his PhD from IIT Bombay under Prof R S Jangid. The title of his Thesis was "Seismic control of benchmark cable-stayed bridge". He was awarded the degree on 3 rd March 2010. He is currently an Associate Professor in Department of Civil Engineering of K L University near Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh, India.
18	Neelima Satyam D, Earthquake Engineering Research Centre, IIIT, Hyderabad	-	Dr. Satyam D is an Assistant Professor in Earthquake Engineering Research Centre, International Institute of Information Technology (IIIT), Hyderabad. At present, she is a visiting faculty at National Academy of Construction, Hyderabad. Dr. Satyam D has two sponsored research projects from Department of Science & Technology and Ministry of Earth Sciences. She is now guiding one doctoral student.

SN	Name and Affiliation	ASCE Member #	Activities
19	Ananth Ramaswamy, Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore	-	Dr. Ramaswamy, apart from being an ASCE member since 1985, is currently an Associate Editor of the Journal of Bridge Engineering, ASCE since May 2010.

4.0 Induction of New ASCE-IS Members

The Interim Executive Committee of ASCE-IS has initiated a drive for the enrolment of new members of ASCE so as to strengthen its member base in India. The ExCom has requested all existing members for their help in this. An email to all members has been circulated for their support and cooperation with this membership drive.

The current membership subscription for India is \$105 yearly regardless of the grade of membership. In view of this apparently high rate, a request was made to the ASCE parent body to approve a reduction in this rate and that was subsequently accepted. The rate has now been reduced by 25% for new members for the year 2011. Consequently, a new ASCE member would have to pay a subscription rate of \$78.75 (i.e. about INR 3,600/-) as membership subscription for the year 2011. However, the rate is only applicable to new members and the existing members will have to pay the usual amount. The ExCom looks forward to a positive result in the coming months.

Depending on the response received with this reduced subscription rate for new members, the same can either be extended or stopped by the parent body in the subsequent years.

Subsequent to this, a membership drive has been initiated by the ExCom members and a few new membership applications have just been sent to ASCE Headquarters for their consideration. Hopefully, more applications will be sent soon.

5.0 Current Activities

The Interim Executive Committee is currently in the process of streamlining the activities of ASCE-IS and it is trying to sort out the following critical issues. Apart from this, the committee members are having regular meetings to discuss these issues and future courses of action.

- Assuming complete and absolute charge from the earlier (now disbanded) committee and holding an election at the earliest to install a unanimously elected Executive Committee.
- Taking stock of the situation in terms of membership database, financial aspects, and trying to sort out certain issues regarding members who were earlier inducted as members of ASCE-IS but not of ASCE.
- The bylaws for ASCE-IS are currently being reviewed by the ExCom and would get back to the

ASCE HQ with their findings.

Certain modalities are being discussed and firmed up in order to undertake and carry out the activities in a professional and organized manner. These are,

- Existing and future members will only be contacted by emails to reduce the time and effort. Such email will be communicated to ASCE HO first, and circulated amongst the members by the concerned person there. Exceptions to this arrangement can only be made by the ExCom in-charge and no postal correspondence will be made to the members unless it is absolutely necessary or advised by the ASCE HQ.

6.0 Future Plans

The Interim Executive Committee is currently in the process of streamlining the activities of ASCE-IS and is trying to sort out the following critical issues,

- Obtaining all financial papers from the previous committee and assuming charge of the existing Bank Account to regularize all future financial transactions,
- Collecting all relevant papers and information on the activities undertaken and member rosters, their contact details, etc. from the previous committee,
- Convene regular meetings of the ExCom members with other interested members to discuss future courses of action and other issues,
- Organize technical seminars/talks.