RILEM UPDATE

The International Union of Laboratories and Experts in Construction Materials, Systems and Structures

2021-2022 Technical report

The 2021-2022 RILEM Technical Report is now available! Please, download your copy here bit.ly/3Bei0zG and feel free to share it amongst your colleagues and contacts. The report is an overview of the activities of the RILEM Technical Committees over the last 12 months. If interested in joining one of the active RILEM Technical Committees (TCs), please fill in the form available here bit.ly/3C3kXlU. Anyone is welcome to join a TC, not only RILEM members!

RILEM fellows and honorary members

At the 2022 RILEM General Council last month, RILEM President Dr Nicolas Roussel announced the 2022 RILEM honorary and fellow members. Congratulations to Prof. P. A. Muhammed Basheer, University of Leeds, United Kingdom, for being elected 2022 RILEM fellow. You can check the other fellows and honorary members here www.rilem.net/news/550.

2023 Honorary president

RILEM would like to welcome the 2023 Honorary President, Prof. Nemkumar Banthia, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. Prof. Banthia will organise the 77th RILEM Annual Week in Vancouver, Canada, next year. bit.ly/3CjIL7s

Poster award

At the 76th RILEM Annual Week and ICRCS2022 last week in Kyoto, the Best Student Poster Award went to Suhas Suresh JOSHI, recently granted a PhD at the University of Tokyo, who presented a poster titled "Analytical investigation of corrosion cracking factors in multi rebar concrete panels using 3D-mesoscale simulation". Dr Joshi received a prize of 500 EURO from RILEM and a complimentary registration for the 77th RILEM Annual Week in Vancouver, Canada, next year. More info here www.rilem.net/news/551.

BUILDING RISK ASSESSMENT AND DISASTER RESILIENT CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGIES - FOCUS ON EARTHQUAKES AND FIRES

Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) in collaboration with National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM), Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), Government of India has organized a five-days training programme on "Building risk assessment and disaster resilient construction technologies - focus on earthquakes and fires" from 29th August to 2nd September 2022 at Maharaja Agrasen Institute of Technology, Sector 22, Rohini, Delhi. The programme was attended by eighty Assistant Engineers, Junior Engineers and Disaster Management professionals from the Delhi Government departments viz. Publick Works Department (PWD), Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC), Delhi State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd. (DSIIDC), District Disaster Management Authorities (DDMA), and Flood & Irrigation Department.

Dr Garima Aggarwal, Senior Consultant (Resilient Infrastructure), NIDM was the course coordinator for the programme. Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Rohini Mr Shahzad Alam, IAS from DDMA (NW) presided over the inaugural ceremony of the programme. Multiple experts from the industry and academia were invited to deliver keynote lectures on the topics of seismic and fire safety.

Following the inaugural session, Dr Garima Aggarwal conducted the first session on training need assessment, basic terminologies of disaster resilience, importance of the building risk assessment and construction technologies. Dr Hari Kumar covered salient points on the topic of "Structural issues in existing infrastructure and mitigation measures". In line with the same, Professor Chandan Ghosh delivered lecture on "Building grading system and health ratings and structural risk mitigation measures".

Day 2 had very insightful sessions on "Seismic safety of non-structural components and risk mitigation" by Professor Vasant Matsagar and "Building risk assessment, structural audit and health monitoring" along with a case-study of "Seismic retrofitting of building structure" by Mr Amandeep Garg. Subsequently, Mr Shounak Mitra shared about delivered lecture on "Post-installed fastening for steel-to-concrete connections and concrete-to-concrete connections - standards, assessment, and installation" in the context of the safety of connections for different applications.

Day 3 content was designed to address the topic of fire safety wherein Mr A. K. Malik and Mr R. C. Sharma in their respective sessions covered the topic of "Disaster mitigation through active fire protection" followed by deliberation on "Minimizing fire damage through compartmentation of buildings using passive fire protection systems" by Mr Aravind Chakravarthy and Mr Anup Karanth highlighted on "Fire-safety blueprint for resilient infrastructure in cities".

This was followed by a practical demonstration of an active fire control device along with a passive fire control system on Day 4. The engineers also underwent hands-on experience for the correct installation of post-installed mechanical and chemical anchors along with design validation as per standards, using Profis Engineering Software.

Mr Surendra Thakur, Joint Director (I/C), NIDM shared his views on "Institutional mechanism of disaster risk management in India".

During valedictory ceremony, a detailed session on summary, feedback, and way-ahead was conducted by Dr Garima Aggarwal. The participants were felicitated with participation certificates in presence of Mr Sudhakar, Additional District Magistrate (NW), DDMA, and NIDM officials.