



Report on the Third International Conference on Digital Technologies for Design, Construction, and Management in Civil Engineering (DigiTeC 2021) (23-24 April 2021)

The Dept. of Civil Engineering (PSG iTech), in association with Deakin University, Australia, the Indian Society for Technical Education (ISTE), and the American Concrete Institute, organized the Third International Conference on Digital Technologies for Design, Construction, and Management in Civil Engineering (DigiTeC 2021) during 23-24 April 2021. Dr Krishna Kanth Pulicherla, Scientist, TDT Division, Dept. of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Govt. of India, participated as the chief guest and delivered the inaugural address.

Dr G Chandramohan, Principal, welcomed the gathering and presented a memento to the chief guest virtually. In his welcome address, members of faculty were appreciated for organizing a useful conference on a need-based topic in a professional manner. Dr PV Mohanram, Secretary, spoke about the significant role played by digital technologies in the design and construction management field. In his address, the role of Additive Manufacturing (AM) and Conceiving, Designing, Implementing, Operating (CDIO) approaches, application of Virtual Reality (VR), Lean Construction (LC), and Design Thinking, and, several other latest initiatives in the engineering field were highlighted.

Ms K Govarthanambikai, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Civil Engineering, elaborated the conference theme and shared the unique features about the conference. It was stated that the two-day international conference will feature six keynote speakers from different parts of the world and eight technical sessions on various interesting topics. Around fifty four research papers will be presented after a careful scrutiny of 104 papers received from various Colleges and Universities across the world.

Dr Krishna Kanth Pulicherla, in his address, emphasized on the importance of strengthening the infrastructure of the country for boosting the economy and the necessity of building bridges, roads, power plants, industrial units to enhance the societal living conditions. It was stated that the biggest focus area for the Govt. of India is infrastructure development and various initiatives taken by the Govt. like the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), Smart City, metro rail policies, housing were highlighted. At the same time, it was mentioned that the advancements in the Digital Technology like Big Data and Artificial Intelligence are creating waves of innovation in Construction Management. Further, he appealed to civil engineers to understand the application of digital tools for surveying, building



and planning, virtual reality and other associated latest technologies that are related to the field. The importance and reliance of Drone Technology in construction site was discussed to enlighten the participants on the use of advanced technologies. The crucial roles played by Augmented Reality, Virtual Reality, and pre-fabrication were also highlighted.

Importantly, the speaker appealed to the participants to **focus on developing indigenous technologies, which are efficient and customizable to suit the needs of the country.** Various programmes and projects introduced by the Dept. of Science and Technology to develop indigenous technologies were discussed succinctly during the talk. The need to automate the construction industry was also emphasized. Further, it was stated that technology-driven systems and highly-skilled capable human resources are the key pillars for infrastructure development. Finally, he urged the members of faculty to give industry-driven problems statements at the under graduate, post graduate and for PhD level project works.

Finally, Dr M.I. Abdul Aleem, Professor and Head, Dept. of Civil Engineering, proposed the vote of thanks. The conference proceedings was released at the end of the inaugural function. Dr. M. Devasena, Associate Professor, Mr. P Balakumar, Ms K Govarthanambikai, Asst. Professors, Dept. of Civil Engineering, were the organizing secretaries of the conference. Members of Faculty in the Dept. of Civil successfully coordinated the event.



From the Left: Dr. M. Arun, Associate Professor, Dept. of Civil, Dr. G Chandramohan, Principal, Dr. PV Mohanram, Secretary, Dr M.I. Abdul Aleem, Professor and Head, Dept. of Civil Engineering, Dr. P. Perumal, Professor of Civil Engineering are in the



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photo during the third international conference on Digital Technologies for Design, Construction, and Management in Civil Engineering (DigiTeC 2021).



Dr Krishna Kanth Pulicherla, Scientist, TDT Division, Dept. of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Govt. of India delivering the inaugural address during the Third International Conference on Digital Technologies for Design, Construction, and Management in Civil Engineering (DigiTeC 2021)