

KARL TERZAGHI MEMORIAL LECTURE

Under the mentorship of Prof. Deoyani Joshi and Dr. Jigisha Vashi along with support of Head of Department Dr. Meenal Mategaonkar Team CESA (Civil Engineering Student Association) 2023-24 Event of “Karl Terzaghi Memorial Lecture” was successfully organized and executed on October 20, 2023, at 4:00 PM. This event brought together students, faculty, and professionals in civil engineering. Dr. Kshitija Nadgouda, an accomplished expert in geotechnical engineering, delivered the lecture on "Modern Techniques in Geotechnical Engineering”.

Modern geotechnical techniques are crucial in today's rapidly evolving civil engineering landscape. They ensure the safety and stability of infrastructure. Dr. Nadgouda's lecture explored these contemporary techniques, shedding light on innovative solutions shaping the future of geotechnical engineering.

Dr. Kshitija Nadgouda's lecture illuminated the path to a more advanced and sustainable future in civil engineering, showcasing the institution's dedication to providing enlightening opportunities for its academic community.



SPEAKERS PROFILE

Dr. Kshitija Nadgouda, the esteemed speaker brings a wealth of expertise and experience to the field of civil engineering. Her academic and professional journey is marked by significant achievements and contributions, making her an exemplary figure in the world of geotechnical engineering.

Academic Qualifications: Dr. Nadgouda's academic journey is a testament to her dedication to the field. She earned her Ph.D. in Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering from the prestigious IIT Bombay in 2022. This accomplishment showcases her commitment to delving into complex geotechnical challenges, particularly in the context of seismic considerations. Her master's in civil engineering from Lehigh University, PA, USA, which she completed in 2001, provided her with a strong foundation in the field. Her academic pursuit began with a bachelor's in civil engineering from Mumbai University in 1997, highlighting her deep-rooted connection to the Indian engineering landscape.

Professional Experience: Dr. Nadgouda boasts an impressive professional background that spans over 14 years, during which she has made significant contributions to academia and geotechnical consultancy. Her experience includes working as a freelancing Geotechnical Consultant in India and positions as a Staff Engineer in well-known engineering firms in the United States, including ENGENEO Incorporated in CA and Langan Engineering and Environmental Services in NJ. Her roles in these organizations exposed her to diverse geotechnical challenges, further enhancing her knowledge and problem-solving skills.

Contributions to the Field: Dr. Nadgouda's contributions to the field of geotechnical engineering are multifaceted. She has played a critical role as a reviewer for the International Journal of Geomechanics, indicating her active involvement in the academic discourse of the field. Her participation in the scrutiny of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) Detailed Project Reports as a member of the State Technical Agency (STA) underscores her commitment to contributing to critical infrastructure projects in India. Her work in preparing soil testing reports for private agencies and freelancing in geotechnical investigation reports in Mumbai and Thane further showcases her practical expertise.

Academic Publications: Dr. Nadgouda's academic contributions are highlighted by her publications in international journals and her presentations at international conferences. Her research papers delve into topics such as seismic bearing capacity, numerical modeling of soil arching, and the use of innovative materials in construction. These publications not only contribute to the existing body of knowledge in geotechnical engineering but also signify her dedication to advancing the field.

In conclusion, Dr. Kshitija Nadgouda's profile exemplifies a fusion of academic excellence and practical experience in geotechnical engineering. Her journey, marked by academic achievements, a diverse professional background, and active contributions to the field, makes her a distinguished authority in the domain of geotechnical engineering. Her expertise in the subject matter undoubtedly enriched the guest lecture on "Modern Techniques in Geotechnical Engineering" and provided valuable insights to the attendees.



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Dr. Kshitija Nadgouda's guest lecture was an impactful session which covered a range of crucial geotechnical engineering areas, providing valuable insights.

- **Cutting-Edge Techniques:** Dr. Nadgouda explored the latest advancements in geotechnical engineering, emphasizing innovative approaches like seismic analysis, soil investigation, and new construction materials to address contemporary challenges.
- **Interactive and Engaging:** The lecture encouraged interaction, with Dr. Nadgouda's approachable style fostering questions, discussions, and an enriching learning experience.
- **Practical Insights:** Dr. Nadgouda bridged theory with practical examples from her extensive professional experience, offering a tangible understanding of modern geotechnical techniques.
- **Relevance to Contemporary Challenges:** The lecture underscored the techniques' relevance to pressing issues in geotechnical engineering, such as earthquake engineering, soil stability, and environmental concerns.
- **Networking Opportunity:** In addition to the lecture, the event facilitated networking among students, faculty, and professionals interested in geotechnical engineering, fostering potential collaborations.

In summary, the lecture was an informative, interactive, and practical event that offered networking opportunities. It expanded attendees' knowledge and encouraged discussions on the future of geotechnical engineering amid contemporary challenges, reflecting NMIMS' MPSTME's dedication to continuous learning and knowledge sharing.



Audience Reception

Dr. Kshitija Nadgouda's guest lecture received an overwhelmingly positive response from a diverse audience, leaving a profound impact on both students and faculty members.

- **Student Enthusiasm:** A significant portion of the audience, primarily students, displayed remarkable enthusiasm and curiosity. Dr. Nadgouda's adeptness in simplifying intricate concepts and relating them to real-world applications resonated strongly with the students. Their active engagement through thoughtful questions and expressed interest showcased their eagerness to grasp the subject.
- **Eager Participation:** The lecture's interactive format facilitated active involvement from the audience. Students seized the opportunity to seek clarifications on complex ideas and engage in meaningful discussions with the speaker. Dr. Nadgouda's approachable style created a comfortable environment for participants to contribute to the discourse.
- **Knowledge Enhancement:** Students departed from the lecture with a significantly deeper comprehension of modern geotechnical engineering techniques. The practical insights generously shared by Dr. Nadgouda not only expanded their knowledge but also ignited a passion to delve further into the subject. The lecture acted as a catalyst for academic growth and career development.
- **Inspiration for Future Engineers:** Dr. Nadgouda's illustrious professional journey and achievements served as a powerful source of inspiration for budding engineers in the audience. Her trajectory, from academic accomplishments to hands-on field experience, deeply resonated with students aspiring to make substantial contributions to geotechnical engineering.
- **Relevance to Coursework:** The lecture closely aligned with the academic curriculum, making it exceptionally pertinent to civil engineering students. The discussion of practical applications proved particularly advantageous for those seeking to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and its real-world implementation.

In summary, the predominantly student-oriented audience wholeheartedly embraced the lecture on "Modern Techniques in Geotechnical Engineering" with unwavering enthusiasm and active involvement. Dr. Kshitija Nadgouda's ability to connect with students, simplify intricate concepts, and provide practical insights left an indelible mark. The lecture not only deepened their understanding of geotechnical engineering but also ignited a fervor for the subject and their future careers.



CONCLUSION

The guest lecture on "Modern Techniques in Geotechnical Engineering" delivered by Dr. Kshitija Nadgouda was a resounding success, leaving a profound impact on the academic community at NMIMS' MPSTME. The event, organized by Team ASCE CESA, not only served as a platform for learning but also as a testament to the institution's dedication to providing students with enriching opportunities.

Dr. Nadgouda's in-depth knowledge, practical experience, and engaging presentation style made the lecture informative and engaging. Students left the event with an enhanced understanding of modern techniques in geotechnical engineering and a newfound enthusiasm for the subject. The interactive format allowed students to actively participate, ask questions, and contribute to meaningful discussions.

In conclusion, the guest lecture on "Modern Techniques in Geotechnical Engineering" was a valuable addition to the academic calendar of NMIMS' MPSTME. It exemplified the institution's commitment to promoting knowledge sharing, enhancing the learning experience, and preparing students for the challenges of modern engineering. The lecture, the speaker, and the engaged

audience collectively created an environment where knowledge was celebrated, and inspiration for future engineers was kindled.

