

**DIPLOMA CIVIL ENGINEERING  
(DCLEVI) / ADVANCED LEVEL  
CERTIFICATE IN CIVIL ENGINEERING  
(ACCLEVI)**

**Term-End Examination**

**December, 2012**

**BICE-024 : SOIL MECHANICS AND  
FOUNDATION ENGINEERING**

*Time : 2 hours*

*Maximum Marks : 70*

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**Note :** Attempt *any five* questions. Question No.1 is *compulsory*. All questions carry *equal* marks. Use of *scientific* calculators allowed.

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**7x2=14**

1. (a) Ratio of the volume of voids to the total volume of soil mass called its \_\_\_\_\_ .
- (b) The moisture content that gives the maximum dry unit weight is called the \_\_\_\_\_ .
- (c) Relationship between  $e$ ,  $w$  and  $S_r$  \_\_\_\_\_.
- (d) Soil is said to be well graded if  $C_c$  lies between 1 and \_\_\_\_\_.
- (e) Vibratory roller is used for \_\_\_\_\_ soils.
- (f) \_\_\_\_\_ is the maximum bearing capacity of soil at which the soil fails by shear.

- (g) The property of a porous material which permits the passage or seepage of water through its interconnecting voids is known as \_\_\_\_\_.
2. (a) Explain phase diagram of the soil. Define water content and Degree of Saturation. 7
- (b) Discuss the corrections made to the Hydrometer Readings. 7
3. (a) Define permeability and its importance. Explain the factors affecting the permeability. 7
- (b) Define total stress, effective stress and neutral stress. Write the importance of effective stress in engineering problem. 7
4. (a) Write Coulomb's Law. Explain the procedure for determining shear strength of soil. 7
- (b) An unconfined cylindrical specimen of clay fails under an axial stress of  $240 \text{ kN/m}^2$ . The failure plane was inclined at an angle of  $55^\circ$  to the horizontal. Determine the shear strength parameters of the soil. 7
5. (a) Compare the following (i) Compaction and Consolidation (ii) Standard Proctor and modified proctor test. 7

- (b) A small cylinder having volume of  $600\text{cm}^3$  is pressed into a recently compacted fill of embankment filling the cylinder. The mass of the soil in the cylinder is  $1100\text{g}$ . The dry mass of the soil is  $910\text{g}$ . Determine the void ratio and the saturation of the soil. Take the specific gravity of the grains as 2.7. 7
6. (a) What do you mean by soil exploration? List different methods of soil exploration. 7
- (b) Discuss the steps of planning of a soil investigation. Explain the Hand operated augers method of in-situ field test of soil? 7
7. (a) Define bearing capacity. List and explain the factors affecting bearing capacity. 7
- (b) A strip footing of width  $3\text{m}$  is founded at a depth of  $2\text{m}$  below the ground surface in a  $(c-\phi/)$  soil having a cohesion  $C = 30\text{kN/m}^2$  and angle of shearing resistance  $\phi = 35^\circ$ . The water table is at a depth of  $5\text{m}$  below ground level. The moist weight of soil above the water table is  $17.25\text{kN/m}^3$ . Determine  
 (a) the ultimate bearing capacity of soil  
 (b) the net bearing capacity, for  $\phi = 35^\circ$ ,  $N_c = 57.8$ ,  $N_q = 41.4$  and  $N_r = 42.4$ . 7

8. Write short note on *any four* of the following :  $3\frac{1}{2} \times 4 = 14$

- (a) Grillage Foundation.
  - (b) Negative skin friction.
  - (c) Atterberg Limits.
  - (d) Efficiency of pile group
  - (e) Static cone penetration test (CPT)
  - (f) Constant head permeameter.
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