

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

**Term-End Examination**

**June, 2014**

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

*Time : 2 hours*

*Maximum Marks : 70*

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- Note :** (i) *Question No. 1 is compulsory and answer four questions from the remaining.*  
(ii) *Assume missing data if any.*
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1. (a) Which of the soil constituents has higher specific gravity ? 2  
 (i) Calcite  
 (ii) Quartz  
 (iii) Talc  
 (iv) Magnetite
- (b) If a sample of saturated clay has water content 50% and  $G = 3.00$ . Then its  $n =$  2  
 (i) 0.5  
 (ii) 0.6  
 (iii) 0.7  
 (iv) 0.55
- (c) Permeability varies approximately as the square of the grain size. (TRUE/FALSE) 2
- (d) A local shear failure is associated with considerable vertical soil movement before soil bulging takes place. (TRUE/FALSE) 2

(e) Sample obtained from SPLIT - SPOON sampler for standard penetration test is an un - disturbed sample. (TRUE/FALSE) 2

(f) Equation for zero air voids line : 2

$$(i) \quad \rho_d = \frac{(1 - n_a)G \rho_w}{1 + \omega G}$$

$$(ii) \quad \rho_d = \frac{G \rho_w}{1 + \omega G}$$

$$(iii) \quad \rho_d = \frac{(1 + n_a) G \rho_w}{1 + \omega G}$$

$$(iv) \quad \rho_d = \frac{\rho_w}{G(1 + \omega G)}$$

(g) Which of the following test is used for measuring shear strength ? 2

- (i) Un - confined compression test
- (ii) Constant head permeability test
- (iii) Horizontal capillarity test
- (iv) None of the above

2. (a) Define : 4x1.5=6

- (i) Degree of saturation
- (ii) Density Index
- (iii) Uniformity co-efficient
- (iv) Co-efficient of curvature

(b) The voids ratio of a clay sample is 0.5 and the degree of saturation is 70% compute the : 8

- (i) Water content
- (ii) Dry unit weight
- (iii) Bulk unit weight and
- (iv) Air void ratio

Assume  $G=2.7$  and  $\gamma_w=9.81 \text{ kN/m}^3$

3. (a) List out different classification systems of soil and explain Indian standard classification system. 7
- (b) What do you mean by consistency ? Explain Attenberg limits and their significance. 7
4. (a) Define co-efficient of Permeability and list out factors affecting permeability in brief. 8
- (b) Define total stress, effective stress and neutral stress and explain their inter-relationship with the help of a diagram. 6
5. (a) List out the methods of measurement of shear strength of soil and explain direct shear test. 9
- (b) What are the different factors that contribute to shearing resistance ? 5
6. (a) A laboratory compaction test on a soil specimen having specific gravity equal to 2.5 gave a maximum dry density  $1.25 \text{ g/cm}^3$  and a water content of 40%. Determine the degree of saturation (s), air content (ac) and air voids (na). 7
- (b) Explain the effects of compaction on soil behaviour and properties. 7
7. (a) What do you mean by safe bearing capacity, net safe bearing capacity and surcharge (or overburden) and relate them with an equation ? 4
- (b) Explain the plate load test method for determining the ultimate bearing capacity of soil. 10

8. Write short notes on **any four** : **4x3.5=14**
- (a) Phase diagram of soil
  - (b) Validity of Darcy's law
  - (c) Soil Exploration
  - (d) Stress Strain Curve
  - (e) Optimum water content - Zero air voids line
  - (f) Necessity of Raft footing
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