

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, EGRWSE-2018 AT NIT JALANDHAR CONCLUDES

Department of Civil Engineering, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar National Institute of Technology, Jalandhar in collaboration with Department of Civil & Materials Engineering, University of Chicago, Illinois (US) hosted the First International Conference on Environmental Geotechnology, Recycled Waste Materials and Sustainable Engineering (EGRWSE-2018) from 29th – 31st March, 2018. The conference was aimed at sharing latest knowledge on pollution control, resource conservation and livable communities through innovative technologies, ultimately towards smart and sustainable cities.

Er.G.S Majithia, Chief Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board was the Chief Guest of the valedictory function. In the valedictory address, Dr. Arvind K Agnihotri, Professor and Head department of Civil engineering and also the co-chair & organizing secretary of the conference welcomed the chief guest, dignitaries and keynote speakers and summarized the conference proceedings. He reported that Conference, which was inaugurated on March 29, 2018 by **Prof L K Awasthi**, Director NIT Jalandhar, received a great response from the academic and research institutes of India and abroad as 102 full papers were presented during 3 days conference. **Prof Krishna Reddy** from University of Illinois Chicago USA, in his opening lecture discussed about the bioengineering systems that have the potential to be sustainable. Moreover, he encouraged to design sustainable engineering systems for sustainability triple bottom line concept (Environmental, economical and social issues). **Prof Kaimin Shih** from University of Hong Kong introduced the concepts of material characterization techniques and their role in exploring new environmental treatment and recycling opportunities. **Prof Junboun Park** from *Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea* has discussed about the new material developed to install bottom liner system of offshore waste disposal sites to overcome the waste disposal problems. **Dr Susana Gouveia** from University of Vigo, Spain introduced the necessity of valorizing industrial lignin from pulp and paper mills. Lignin, the second most abundant biopolymer on earth. She talked about the options of incorporating these lignins as the only adhesive element for medium density fiberboard. **Dr Ozgur Karaca** from Turkey discussed the environmental impacts of the mining sites and their problems. She talked about remediation possibilities of using abandoned mining sites and disposal sites. **Prof Claudio Camele** from

University of Vigo talked about sustainable soil remediation phytoremediation amended with electric current. He discussed the effect of AC/DC electric current in the soil properties, the development of the plant and the remediation of soil contaminated with heavy metals and PAHs.

Dr. Ajay Bansal, the conference convener, thanked all the participants/delegates & the entire team for making the event a great success.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Guest presented the case studies of some of the polluting industries in the past and the role of PPCB as a regulator in controlling air & water pollution in the state of Punjab. A panel discussion was also held in the end to have the comprehensive discussions between the Chief engineer, PPCB, speakers & the participants. During the same Dr.Krishna Reddy pointed out the importance of integrated solid waste management a solution to the existing problems being faced by the country. He also applauded the efforts by Dr.Arvind Agnihotri & Dr.Ajay Bansal for making the event a success.



