



## Research papers presented at meet on precast, pre-stressed concrete

Coimbatore, Jan 17:

Investment in infrastructure is a major factor that propels the overall development of Indian economy. Many of these heavy constructions and urban development activities can be focused around precast pre-stressed structural elements, as they bring in enhanced quality into the fast-track projects. Even though the expertise needed for the implementation is currently available in India, the execution of this technology is only on a limited scale due to engineering, policy and other reasons.

At a seminar organised by Department of Civil Engineering in association with the Coimbatore Centres of Association of Consulting Civil Engineers (ACCE) and Indian Concrete Institute (ICI), Inki Choi- Head, Design (Bridges), L&T Construction highlighted the adoption of iconic bridges in India using precast prestressed segments and also



the critical design challenges associated with construction.

Around 200 delegates including practicing engineers, structural consultants, architects, administrators of govt departments, precast concrete manufacturers, cement, admixture & ready-mixed concrete manufacturers and from academia on a common platform to actively took part in the two day deliberations.

The seminar discussed two themes; one relating to heavy infrastructure and the other with respect to commercial and residential buildings. Case studies on implementation and performance evaluation of

high performance concrete precast prestressed concrete bridge girders and the use of precast pavement panels for highways in the US were presented by Prof. Vellore S. Gopalaratnam, University of Missouri, Columbia & Fullbright Specialist & Adjunct professors. Engineer Subir Das - Chief Engineering Manager (Bridges), L&T Construction discussed the construction engineering aspects of production and full span launching of precast prestressed segments for railway viaduct bridges which is currently being executed in the WDFC (Western dedicated freight corridor).

The significance of

the planning aspects of structural systems with respect to production, transportation and erection of precast elements for commercial and residential buildings were discussed by S.Sathiyaseelan, (Principal Structural Manager- Teemage Precast) and Surya Prakash.P (SatyaVani Projects and Consultants, Hyderabad). The sessions were followed by a panel discussion on technical, logistical & policy-related opportunities and challenges. Prof. K. M. Mini, Chairperson, Department of Civil Engineering concluded the sessions with identification of potential follow-up tasks in terms of better academia and industry interactions to solve the technical problems faced in the industry in terms of sponsored research, Certification of trained engineers to get qualified people in the field and, arrangement of more such seminars to bring all the stake holders under one umbrella.