



Editorial: 25 Years Glorious Journey of JRMTT

Hearty Congratulations to the readers, researchers, practicing engineers and academicians on the silver jubilee year of Journal of Rock Mechanics and Tunnelling Technology (JRMTT). ...Days followed weeks and weeks in turned embraced months. Months later approached years and the years gave into decades. Finally, the first decade in the new millennium was added in 2004 which was further added with one more decade and a half and thus JRMTT completed little tough but joyful journey and now am glad to mention that it has successfully completed the first silver jubilee in Jan 2019.

The silver jubilee is a blissful moment to look back to history and also towards the future. The founding members of the society (ISRMTT) Dr. K. Venkatachalam, Dr. V.M. Sharma, Prof. Bhawani Singh, Dr. A.K. Dhawan, Mr. Arvind Verma, Dr. Rajbal Singh, Dr. D.G. Kadkade etc were particularly keen with the idea of launching a bi-annual Journal on Rock Mechanics and Tunnelling Technology, the first of its kind from the sub-continent. I would like to say a big thanks to those who helped in laying the foundation of Journal. The sapling they planted has now fully grown up. I am fortunate to have been associated with the Journal since its inception in 1992-93, first as Editor (1994-1999) and then as Chief Editor since 1999 under the guidance of my academic and spiritual *Guru* (teacher) Prof. Bhawani Singh, Chairman, Editorial Board, and my senior colleague at IRI Roorkee Dr. V.K. Mehrotra, Chief Editor (1994-1999). The support of my great friend Dr. R. K. Goel as the Editor of JRMTT since 1999 has been amazingly joyful. During the journey, my another good friend Dr. R. D. Dwivedi as an Associate Editor since 2017 has also been quite helpful.

The Government of India vide its Gazette Notification dated 31.5.1991 had passed a resolution to form a high level committee under the title "Indian National Committee on Rock Mechanics and Tunnelling Technology (INCRMTT)". It was desired that the functions of the committee shall be to co-ordinate the research work in Rock Mechanics and Tunnelling Technology, in the country, which would essentially include the following also:

- (a) Updating the state of art in different branches of Rock Mechanics and Tunnelling Technology.
- (b) Identifying the areas in the field of Rock Mechanics and Tunnelling Technology needing immediate attention to solve the problems of river valley projects.
- (c) Promoting Centres of Excellence in different branches of Rock Mechanics and Tunnelling Technology and also to draw up a national programme for research studies by the various institutions in the country.
- (d) Ensuring effective participation of India in International level.
- (e) Disseminating information in the field of Rock Mechanics and Tunnelling Technology through publications.

Consequently ISRMTT was formed on 24th January 1992 and it was incorporated as a Society on 4th May 1992 by a group of engineers, scientists and practicing engineers with a total number of its members over 2000 as of today from India and abroad. As ISRMTT has chosen the JRMTT as its principal medium of publication, the humble journey of the Journal started with the publication of its first issue in January 1995.

After the publication of the first issue, Dr. F. Rummel, Professor at Ruhr University, Bochum, Germany wrote me vide his letter dated 16th March 1995, which I would like to place here after 25 years as follows:

“Dear Dr. Mitra, Thank you very much for your letter dated 28.02.1995 which I found today after my return from India. Although I have not received yet the copy of the RMTT inaugural issue, Dr. V. M. Sharma, CSMRS, New Delhi, presented one copy to me when I visited him on 13th March 1995.... Regarding the Inaugural Issue, I feel very honoured that my contribution was printed as paper No. 1 of Vol.1, No. 1. Also I like to congratulate you on the high quality standard of the inaugural issue and I hope you are able to maintain this standard. I also like the News & Views Section and Pioneer Section”

The encouraging words of Prof. Rummel boosted up our moral and the happy journey of JRMTT continued.

During the last 25 years of its smooth and steady journey, number of research/technical papers including technical notes were published. Eminent experts from India and foreign countries were invited to share their views on a particular topic as a guest editorial column of the Journal. A complete list till date is given here for reference. For further details, ISRMTT website www.isrmtt.com may be visited.

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- Landslide hazard zonation mapping of Tehri-Pratapnagar area of Garhwal Himalaya - *Pankaj Gupta, R.Anbalagan*

During two and half decades of the journey of this Journal, unfortunately we have lost three eminent members of the society, who made significant contribution by way of contributing important research papers and editorial from time to time. We hereby pay our humble tributes to Prof. J. A. Hudson, Dr. J.L. Jethwa (both also acted as members of Editorial Board) and Dr. A.K. Dube. Although they are not with us physically but their motivating thoughts and suggestions given from time to time will remain alive forever and guide us in our future endeavours.

India has made very useful contribution in the field of planning, design and construction in Hydro Power Projects, Metro Railways, Mining industries and other infrastructural developments. In this context, I would like to mention the names of chairman, Editorial Board and Editor, JRMTT - Prof. Bhawani Singh and Dr. R. K. Goel respectively, whose following books have been appreciated world over:

1. Rock Mass Classification – A Practical Approach in Civil Engineering, 1999, Elsevier Science Ltd., U.K.
2. Software for Engineering Control of Landslide and Tunnelling Hazards, 2002, Balkema/ Swets & Zeitlinger, Netherlands.
3. Tunnelling in Weak Rocks, 2006, Elsevier Ltd., U.K.
4. Engineering Rock Mass Classification: Tunneling, Foundations and Landslides, 2011, BH Elsevier Inc., USA.
5. Underground Infrastructures: Planning, Design and Construction, 2012, BH Elsevier Inc., USA (Prof. Jian Zhao, now at Monash University, Australia was also co-author of the book).

One of the above books (At Serial No. 4) has also been translated into Korean language. I on behalf of the entire Editorial Board and my own behalf congratulate Prof. Singh and Dr. Goel for their significant contribution to the subject of Rock Mechanics and Tunnelling Technology.

The advices of esteemed readers and researchers have been constantly motivating us to nourish this Journal for the last 25 years. I look forward to constructive criticism, suggestions and contribution from Rock Mechanics fraternity so as to maintain the quality of the Journal and bring it out as per their expectations.

- Dr. Subhash Mitra
Chief Editor, JRMTT