DFI India Overview

Who we are

DFI of India (DFII) is a non-profit organization and is a chapter of Deep Foundations Institute (DFI), a US-based international non-profit organization established with the goal of advancing the deep foundation construction industry.

DFI is an international association of owners, contractors, consultants, specialized contractors, manufacturers, suppliers, service providers and academia in the deep foundations industry. Our multidisciplinary membership creates a consensus voice and a common vision for continual Improvement in the planning, design and construction of deep foundations and excavations. DFI is committed to ensuring safety, promoting quality, enhancing durability and increasing sustainability of foundation projects.

DFI brings together members through networking, education, communication and collaboration. DFI promotes the advancement of the deep foundations industry through technical committees, educational programs, seminars, webinars, workshops and conferences, publication of guides and specifications, a peer-reviewed journal, a flagship magazine, research, government relations and outreach.

History

DFI has a rich history of 45 plus years. DFII was formed in 2013 following the success of the “Deep Foundation Technologies for Infrastructure Development in India” Conference held in Chennai, India, in 2012. DFII established its full-time office in December 2017.

Membership

DFI has more than 4,000 involved, knowledgeable and committed members making an impact in the deep foundations industry worldwide. The diverse membership encompasses all disciplines of the foundation industry and performs the various specialties that comprise deep foundations. The Regional Chapter provides joint membership in DFI and DFII and the added benefit of a local DFI presence.
What we do

Our Vision, Purpose, Mission

India has set its sights on becoming a $5 trillion economy by year 2024. As a first step in this direction, Government of India appointed task force which firmed up plans for investing INR 111 lakh crores in infrastructure projects over next five year period. This development augurs well for future prospects of the Indian construction industry.

There is a phenomenal scope for advancing foundation construction practices in India to reach the global best level on technology and skill development fronts, by deploying modern equipment and good work practices. These advancements will mitigate severe time/cost overruns in the implementation of major infrastructure projects on account of recurring geotechnical and foundation issues in Indian scenario. Improvements will add huge financial savings to the government/owners/contractors and others on major infrastructure projects.

DFII’s mission is to support the Indian foundation industry on a continuous and sustained basis in measured and measurable steps, to become very professional and to embrace new technologies for faster development of India. The chapter looks to provide a platform for continuous interaction to stakeholders of the Indian foundation industry including those international agencies who have India focus.

Conferences, workshops, seminars, and webinars are conducted regularly, by involving best expertise from the global level, for propagating good practices in Indian geo foundation industry by presenting interesting case studies. Interesting case studies and panel discussion are presented to raise technical awareness and propel the state-of-practice in foundation design, construction, testing, contracting methods, and risk sharing in the India foundation industry.
Current Initiatives

CFA Pile Technology Implementation Project

DFI of India, as a trial project, installed six numbers of Continuous Flight Auger (CFA) piles and tested for vertical compression, tension and lateral capacities. Reports on design and construction, installation, and load testing are available for sharing with the industry planning to adopt this technology.

The trials were successful and a guideline manual is being finalized for the benefit of the Indian Foundation Industry. It is expected that the speed of foundation construction may be increased to four fold using this technology.

(visit http://www.dfi.org/commhome.asp?ICFA)

DFI-CMRL (Chennai Metro Rail Ltd) International Geo-Engineering Working Group

DFI and CMRL have established a collaborative working group of global experts who will facilitate formulation and implementation of guidelines covering planning, design, contractual issues, equipment management, and construction testing aspects of phase 2 of the project. This will mitigate time and cost overrun risks on account of geotechnical and foundation issues greatly which is common challenge in most of the metro rail projects.

In 2018, a five-year MoU was signed between CMRL and DFI aimed at aligning the goals of both organizations as they pertain to metro rail projects and specifically to the geotechnical, soil condition and deep foundation scope of those projects.

Together, CMRL and DFI will educate the industry on best practices and encourage an ongoing dialogue on critical issues that promote safety, quality and sustainability of metro projects. The success of this collaboration can be replicated in other metro rail projects.

(Visit:https://www.dfi.org/aboutdfiindia.asp?alliances)
Current Initiatives

DFII Committee for Geo-technical Characterization for Foundation (DCGCF)

Improvements to the geotechnical investigation practices in India will advance the implementation of large size infrastructure projects and deployment of modern foundation technologies.

DFII is developing and implementing National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) approved skill training programs relevant to geo-technical investigation for lab technicians, and field supervisors. The committee is also working on other programs for enhancing geotechnical practices in projects by involving stakeholders.

An MoU has been signed with National Academy of Construction (NAC), Hyderabad to implement relevant training programs jointly with DFII.

(visit http://www.dfi.org/commhome.asp?IGCF)

Women in Deep Foundation (WiDF) Committee & Students Outreach Program

The goal of this program is to encourage and empower women practitioners to take on key roles in the deep foundations, civil engineering and construction industry.

Various programs are planned for engaging students with industry leaders to prepare them to be successful future leaders in the geotechnical foundation construction industry.

Separate Committees are formed for both of these initiatives for a wider and impactful reach.

(Visit: http://www.dfi.org/groups.asp?isi)
How we work

Our Organization

Dr. K S Rama Krishna, a veteran of construction Industry and also Trustee, DFI USA, holds the Chair of DFII supported by Mr. I V Anirudhan, Vice – Chair. DFI US leadership provides handholding to DFII team in all its activities including securing global expertise. The DFII robust executive committee comprising experts in different domains and drawn from major owner, contractor, consultant, academic & geotechnical organizations, equipment manufacturers provides strategical direction and other support for the success of organization.

DFII full-time office staff implements DFII leadership-approved programs under the stewardship of Director of Operations and DFII Board member Mr. G Venkata Prasad

We have the honor of Dr K S Rama Krishna, being selected for Distinguished Services Award by DFI USA for the year 2020.

(To know more visit http://www.dfi.org/aboutdfiindia.asp?board)

Collaborative Approach

DFII regularly interacts and collaborates with experts/professionals from major organizations in India and abroad in implementation of its various initiatives. There are currently more than 50 professionals, representing more than 30 Indian and international organizations, involved in different DFII initiatives.

DFII cooperates with other similar organizations like Indian Geotechnical Society, and premium educational institutes like IITs, NITs to conduct its various programs.

Alliances

♦ DFII has signed a 5-year MOU with Chennai Metro Rail Limited to implement good work practices, skill programs in their second phase project

♦ DFII has signed a 5-year MOU with National Academy of Construction (NAC), Hyderabad (which works under the guidance of National Skill Development Council) for jointly implementing skill development programs related to geotechnical investigation.

♦ We are working towards for a viable skill development programme for rig operators and in discussions with Infrastructure Equipment Skill Council (joint initiative of CII, ICEMA & NSDC) to put joint efforts to achieve this goal

(To know more visit http://www.dfi.org/aboutdfiindia.asp?alliances)
How we work
Conferences and Workshops

DFII holds its annual conference in November each year, partnering with IITs and governmental agencies. Since 2011, DFII has conducted numerous seminars, workshops and conferences throughout India to share information on new developments and international case studies pertaining to the deep foundations industry. In addition, DFII’s initiated joint educational events with various academic institutes are in pipeline covering different geotechnical/foundation-related topics to groom future leaders.
Organization

DFII Executive Committee
Dr K. S. Rama Krishna, Director, Chairman, DFI India
Mr Anirudhan I. V., Director, Vice Chair, DFI India
Mr G Venkata Prasad, Director Operations

DFII USA
Mrs Theresa Engler, Executive Director
Mrs Mary Ellen Large, P.E., D.GE, Director of Technical Activities

Support Committee
Mr Satyajit Vaidya, P.E., Langan Engineering
Mrs Srilakshmi Nagarajan, Giken America
Dr. Conrad Felice P.E., P.Eng., D.GE, C W Felice LLC
Dr Sastry Putcha, Smart Structures
Gianfranco DiCicco, Bauer Foundations
Jim Morrison, P.E., Cowi

DFII Office Team
We are working with a dedicated 3-member professionally qualified office team committed for the DFII Mission. We have plans to expand this team for playing bigger role for the benefit of Indian geo foundation industry.

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