

The Third NEA-JC Annual Workshop on Current and Future Technologies

8 November 2009, Tokyo, Japan

SUMMARY

Nepal Engineers' Association – Japan Chapter (NEA-JC) has successfully organized a one-day Workshop on Current and Future Technologies on 8 November 2009 as a part of its annual program. The workshop was organized at Hongo Campus of the University of Tokyo in Japan. Twenty-six persons representing a wide spectrum of engineering and environmental disciplines and affiliated with several government organizations in Nepal and research institutes, universities, and private companies in Japan had actively participated in the workshop. Nine papers had been presented by Nepali and Japanese participants.

The workshop was divided into four sessions. The first session was opened with a welcome address from the NEA-JC president Dr. Ved Prasad Kafle and was followed by two keynote speeches. Er. Michinori Hanko, a Japan Society of Civil Engineers (JSCE) representative and former JICA expert to Nepal, presented on “Road project policy, road issues and approach to the challenges in Nepal”, while Dr. Netra Prakash Bhandary, Assistant Professor in Ehime University, presented on “Geotechnical perspectives of earthquake disaster risk in Kathmandu Valley”. The first session was conducted by Er. Vishnu Prasad Pandey.

The second session, named as “Opening Plenary”, was moderated by Dr. Surya Prasad Acharya. In that session, Dr. Acharya, Dr. Netra Prakash Bhandary, and Dr. Bhuwaneshwor Sah expressed their views on the theme “*How the research community in Japan can work collectively and establish a right communication channel with policy makers in Nepal to contribute to the development of Nepal*” as a panelist. From the participants, Mr. Dibya Raj Pokharel, Namaraj Ghimire, Rajesh Babu Ghimire, Anju Regmi etc expressed their critical suggestions on the proposed theme. The participants suggested that the research community can utilize the respective professional organizations in Nepal such as Nepal Engineers Association or Nepal Medical Council to forward the visions or ideas that are applicable for the development of Nepal. Their opinion was to utilize any available channel through the related ministry to reach to the policy makers.

In the third and fourth sessions chaired by Dr. Jhabindra Prasad Ghimire and Dr. Dinesh Manandhar respectively, seven research papers were presented. Er. Netra Gyanwali, Er. Vishnu Prasad Pandey, Er. Kabir Shakya, and Er. Laxmi Prasad Suwal presented in the third session; and Er. Chandi Subedi, Er. Kamal Adhikari, and Er. Kumar Simkhada presented in the fourth session. The presentations covered issues related to microgrid control strategy, groundwater storage in Kathmandu Valley, seismic pounding of buildings, elastic wave measurement transducers, cloud computing, next generation network and WiMAX for Nepal, and E-voting possibilities and challenges in the Nepalese context. Interesting discussions were held after each presentation with active participation of participants.

The workshop was closed with closing remarks from Dr. Bhoj Raj Pantha, a co-chair of the organizing committee.