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Roll No. of candidate

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B.Tech. 5<sup>th</sup> Semester End-Term Examination

Civil Engineering

GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING - I

(New Regulation & New Syllabus)

Full Marks - 70

Time - Three hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks  
for the questions.

Answer question No. 1 and any *four* from the rest.

1. Answer the following :

(10 × 1 = 10)

- (i) The range of sand size as per Indian standard soil classification system is.
  - (a) 00.1 - 0.075 mm
  - (b) 0.002 - 0.100 mm
  - (c) 0.002 - 0.075 mm
  - (d) 0.075 - 4.75 mm
- (ii) The water content of a soil has a range from 0% to 100%.
  - (a) true
  - (b) false
- (iii) Dry unit weight and unit weight of solids are one and same.
  - (a) true
  - (b) false
- (iv) At shrinkage limit, the soil remains fully saturated.
  - (a) true
  - (b) false
- (v) The equation  $\sigma' = \sigma - u$  is true only for a completely saturated soil.
  - (a) true
  - (b) false
- (vi) During compaction, soil always remains unsaturated.
  - (a) true
  - (b) false
- (vii) A falling head permeability test is better suited for measuring the permeability of fine sand and silts.
  - (a) true
  - (b) false

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- (viii) Newmark chart can be used to determine the vertical stress at a point even if the point lies outside the loaded area.
- (a) true (b) false
- (ix) A plot of void ratio versus log of effective stress is a straight line for normally consolidated clay.
- (a) true (b) false
- (x) Thixotropy of a soil refers to the loss of strength of a soil with passage of time after remoulding.
- (a) true (b) false
2. (a) A saturated undisturbed sample of clay has a volume of  $19.2 \text{ cm}^3$  and mass of  $32.5 \text{ gm}$ . After oven-drying at  $105^\circ\text{C}$  for 24 hours, the mass reduces to  $20.9 \text{ gm}$ . For the soil in its natural state, find
- (i) water content ( $w$ ),
- (ii) specific gravity ( $G$ ),
- (iii) void ratio ( $e$ ),
- (iv) saturated unit weight ( $\gamma_{sat}$ ) and
- (v) dry unit weight ( $\gamma_{dry}$ ). (5 × 2)
- (b) Sketch the plasticity chart used for classifying fine grained soil in the Indian standard soil classification system and classify the soil having its liquid limit,  $w_L = 60\%$  and plastic limit,  $w_P = 32\%$ . (5)
3. (a) State Darcy's law. Define coefficient of permeability of a soil from this law. (2 + 2)
- (b) How can you estimate the coefficient of permeability of a soil from the particle size distribution curve? (2)
- (c) Is falling head permeability test suitable for determination of the coefficient of permeability of sand? Give reasons in support of your answer. (2)
- (d) How many litres of water will flow through a cylindrical soil sample of  $8 \text{ cm}$  diameter and  $12 \text{ cm}$  height in a day under a constant head of  $65 \text{ cm}$ , if the coefficient of permeability of the soil is  $0.01 \text{ mm/s}$ ? (7)

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4. (a) Draw an ideal 'compaction curve' and discuss the effect of moisture on the dry unit weight of soil. (5)

(b) A soil having a specific gravity of solids  $G = 2.75$ , is subjected to Proctor compaction test in a mould of volume,  $V = 945 \text{ cm}^3$ . The observations recorded are as follows :

Observation number	1	2	3	4	5
Mass of wet sample (gm)	1389	1767	1824	1784	1701
Water content (%)	7.5	12.1	17.5	21.0	25.1

What are the values of maximum dry unit weight and the optimum moisture content? Draw 100% saturation line. (10)

5. (a) A footing settles instantaneously if constructed on a sand stratum but takes a long time to settle if constructed on clay. Explain the reasons. (4)

(b) Draw a typical  $e$  vs  $\log p'$  curve. Hence define the 'compression index of a soil'. (5)

(c) A soil sample has a compression index of 0.3. If the void ratio ( $e$ ) at a stress of  $1.4 \text{ kg/m}^2$  is 0.5, compute the void ratio if the stress is increased to  $2 \text{ kg/m}^2$ , and the settlement of a soil stratum of 4 m thick. (6)

6. (a) What constitutes a flow-net? Write the practical applications of a flow-net. (5)

(b) Explain a graphical method of determining uplift pressures on the base of a concrete dam founded on permeable foundation. (10)

7. (a) A cylindrical soil sample, having cohesion ( $c$ ) of  $5 \text{ kN/m}^2$  and angle of shearing resistance ( $\phi$ ) of  $20^\circ$ , is subjected to a cell pressure ( $\sigma_3$ ) of  $10 \text{ kN/m}^2$ . Calculate the maximum deviator stress at which the sample will fail. (5)

(b) A sample of cohesionless soil in a direct shear test fails under a shear stress ( $\tau_f$ ) of  $160 \text{ kN/m}^2$  when the normal stress ( $\sigma_3$ ) is  $140 \text{ kN/m}^2$ . Find the shear parameters of the soil. (5)

(c) A uniformly distributed pressure of  $200 \text{ kN/m}^2$  is transferred by a square footing  $2 \text{ m} \times 2 \text{ m}$  at the ground surface. Find the vertical stress depth of 2 m below the footing. (5)