

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER, 2025



ceai.ceai@gmail.com | info@ceai.org.in | +91 9871166102 | www.ceai.org.in

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Annual General Meeting
18 December 2025

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PRESIDENT'S DESK

Dear Members,

As we conclude one of the most successful editions of the CEAI Annual Conference & Awards 2025, I am delighted to share that this year has set a new benchmark for our association. We witnessed record participation, both in terms of registered delegates and sponsorship support, underscoring the growing confidence the wider infrastructure community places in CEAI. The scale, diversity and depth of discussions across the two days reaffirmed CEAI's role as the apex voice of consulting engineering in India.

The programme this year was truly far-reaching, bringing together leaders from every corner of the infrastructure ecosystem - EPC contractors, developers, consulting firms, financial institutions, climate and sustainability specialists, technology innovators, lawyers, dispute-resolution experts and more. The breadth of participation is also reflected in the conference agenda, which spanned sustainability, financing, new technologies, contractual frameworks, strategic partnerships, carbon management, inclusive design and much more. The conversations, keynote speeches and dialogues were equally engaging and informative.

Many attendees - including our speakers, endorsing partners, supporting associations, official media partners and strategic collaborators expressed a strong desire to stay engaged with CEAI and contribute more actively to our ongoing initiatives. This is a significant outcome, and it presents a tremendous opportunity for us to broaden CEAI's influence and strengthen industry-wide collaboration.

We also received excellent media coverage, further amplifying the conference's impact and helping communicate CEAI's vision of Engineering India Forward to a larger national audience.

While we have much to celebrate, I must also share a note of concern. Despite the unprecedented interest from outside stakeholders, active participation from several CEAI members and Governing Council members fell short of expectations. For an association built on collective leadership, professional commitment and industry stewardship, this gap is worrying. CEAI's strength lies in the active involvement of its members. When external stakeholders show more enthusiasm than some of our own senior members, it is a signal that we must introspect.

As we move forward, I urge all CEAI members - especially our GC colleagues - to renew their commitment, participate proactively in events and committees, and help carry forward the momentum generated by this year's conference. CEAI today stands at a pivotal moment, with new partnerships forming, new programmes planned, and the trust of the broader engineering community stronger than ever. Let us not lose this energy; instead, let us build on it.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to our sponsors, partners, speakers, and the CEAI Secretariat for their exceptional effort in making this event not only memorable but truly transformative.

Let us step into the coming months with renewed purpose, deeper engagement, and a shared resolve to elevate the consulting engineering profession. The conversations that began at this conference must now evolve into sustained action - and that can only happen when all of us come together as one CEAI.

Warm Regards,

Prashant Kapila
President, Consulting Engineers Association of India (CEAI)

CEAI ANNUAL CONFERENCE

ENGINEERING INDIA FORWARD: Strategy, Sustainability & Innovation for Inclusive Infrastructure

CEAI successfully organised the Annual Conference and Award Ceremony on 26-27 November 2025. CEAI welcomed more than 200 attendees.

The Inaugural Session set the vision for the conference.

Mr. Shalabh Goel, Managing Director, National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) was the Guest of Honour. Mr. Manmohan Prakash, Former Senior Advisor, Asian Development Bank and Mr. Irakli Khergiani, FIDIC Board Member were the Keynote Speakers.



Mr Prashant Kapila, President-CEAI welcoming the Guest of Honour



President Setting the context of the conference



Mr Alok Bhowmick, Vice President-CEAI, Welcoming the Speakers & Participants



Vote of Thanks by Mr Somenath Ghosh, Vice President - CEAI



View of participants



CEAI leadership emphasized India's rapidly evolving infrastructure demands, the vital role of consulting engineers, and the need to embrace global best practices. Keynote speakers highlighted the importance of innovation-driven growth and strategic financing for future-ready infrastructure. The Guest of Honour stressed the role of efficient and sustainable transport systems.

The CEAI Awards presented during this session recognized excellence in engineering consultancy, innovation, and professional service - inspiring the industry to uphold high standards of delivery and sustainability.

The Inaugural session concluded with acknowledgment of Guest of Honour, Keynote Speakers Sponsors, Exhibitors and participants.

PLENARY SESSION 1: SHAPING THE FUTURE OF CONSULTING ENGINEERING, EPC & DEVELOPERS



This session focused on how India's infrastructure landscape is changing with the surge of mega-projects.

Key points discussed:

- Consultants must expand beyond traditional design roles into integrated advisory and digital engineering.
- EPCs and developers need earlier involvement to enhance constructability and project outcomes.
- Skilling, adoption of digital technologies, and business model diversification will define future competitiveness.
- Strengthened collaboration among stakeholders is essential for timely delivery and reduced risks.

The Q&A reinforced a strong expectation for consulting engineers to lead innovation and governance improvements.

Mr. Prashant Kapila, President, CEAI & Managing Director, ICT Pvt Ltd was the moderator of this session.

Session Panelists:

- Mr. Hardik Agarwal, Director, DRA Infracon Pvt. Ltd.
- Mr. R K Bansal, Ex. VP & IC Head, Transportation Infrastructure, L&T Construction
- Mr. Sandeep Fuller, CEO (PS), Systra India
- Mr. Irakli Khergiani, FIDIC Board Member

PLENARY SESSION 2: EMBEDDING SUSTAINABILITY IN MEGA PROJECTS



Speakers emphasized sustainability as a non-negotiable parameter in infrastructure planning.

Key points discussed:

- Early-stage integration of sustainability yields long-term performance and cost benefits.
- Healthcare, urban infrastructure, and commercial projects must prioritize energy efficiency and low-carbon solutions.
- Green certifications and climate-responsive design are creating new engineering opportunities.
- Policy support and strong client commitment are crucial to accelerate adoption.

Mr. Ashish K Jain, Partner, AEON Integrated Building Design Consultants LLP was the moderator of this session

Mr Ashish Rakheja, Managing Partner, AEON Integrated Building Design Consultants LLP was the Keynote Speaker of this session

Panelists:

- Ms. Nidhi Gupta, Associate Director, Environmental Design Solution Global
- Mr. D N Suresh, Senior Vice President – Infrastructure, Max Healthcare Institute Ltd.
- Mr. Aneesh Kadyan, Director, CBRE
- Mr. Anurag Bajpai, Director, GreenTree Global

PLENARY SESSION 3: DELIVERING SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR SOCIETY, EQUALITY, CLIMATE & NATURE



This session underlined the human and ecological priorities of modern infrastructure.

Key points discussed:

- Circular economy practices can drastically reduce waste and resource dependency.
- Nature-based solutions and biodiversity protection must accompany urban expansion.
- Sustainable waste management represents both environmental necessity and business opportunity.
- Financial institutions increasingly demand ESG compliance for project funding.

Discussions pointed to sustainability not just as compliance, but as a driver for inclusive growth.

Mr. Yash Singh, Partner, KPMG was the moderator of this session

Ms. Neha Kumar, Head South Asia, Climate Bonds Initiative was the Keynote Speaker

Panelists

- Dr. Suneel Pandey, Director, Circular Economy & Waste Management, TERI
- Ms. Nivedha RM, Founder & CEO, Trashcon
- Mr. Kanagaraj Ganesan, Director, Integrative Design Solutions
- Mr. Shrikant Budholia, Manager Xynteo and Programme Manager, Build Ahead Coalition
- Ms. Aafsha Kansal, BD for Green Buildings- South Asia, International Finance Corporation, World Bank Group
- Ms. Namrata Rana, Partner, National Head ESG, KPMG India

PLENARY SESSION 4: FORGING STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS - CONSULTANTS, VENDORS & EPCs



This session stressed that infrastructure success depends on mutual trust, aligned objectives, and data transparency.

Key points discussed:

- Early collaboration reduces cost overruns and enhances procurement efficiency.
- Technology vendors are strategic innovation partners, not just suppliers.
- Long-term partnerships improve maintenance outcomes and lifecycle performance.
- Joint capability development supports future infrastructure challenges.

Participants emphasized removing silos to enable value-driven partnerships.

Mr. K. Ramesh, President and Advisor to MD, Tata Consulting Engineers Limited was the moderator.

Panelists:

- Mr. Ramadurai Raghavan, Vice President, Tata Consulting Engineers Limited
- Mr S K Puri, Executive Director, Intercontinental Consultants & Technocrats Ltd
- Mr. Sachin Pant, Managing Director & CEO, IQT IN Pvt. Ltd.
- Mr. Harsh Pareek, Vice President, Direct Sales - AECO, APAC, Trimble

PLENARY SESSION 5: USE OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND INNOVATIONS



The discussion focused on digital transformation as a cornerstone of future infrastructure.

Key points discussed:

- AI, BIM, and digital twin technologies can significantly enhance design accuracy and risk prediction.
- Digital data governance is critical for interoperability and safety.
- Intelligent mobility and smart city tools present exciting avenues for engineers and entrepreneurs.
- Advanced monitoring systems reduce downtime and improve asset sustainability.

Mr. Somenath Ghosh, Vice President, CEAI was the moderator of this session.

Mr. Pushpendra Kumar Singh, Pr. Advisor (Qos, CA & IT), TRAI was the Keynote Speaker.

Panelists:

- Dr. Raghav (Bhanu) Vadhera, Global AI Leader, Innovator and Educator
- Mr. Kasturi Srinivas, Regional Director, Bentley Systems India Pvt. Ltd.
- Ms. Prerna Kalra, Co-Founder, Road Athena

PLENARY SESSION 6: BRIDGING THE FISCAL GAP - INNOVATIVE FINANCING AMID RISING DEBT



Speakers examined current financial pressures and evolving infrastructure funding models.

Key points discussed:

- PPPs must evolve with smarter risk-sharing structures.
- Green finance and climate investments are expanding funding opportunities.
- Strong governance improves investor confidence and reduces project delays.
- Innovative instruments - blended finance, infrastructure bonds, and viability gap funding - are essential.

The financial sector called for project pipelines with measurable outcomes and stable policies.

Mr. Sachin Pant, Managing Director & CEO, IQT IN Pvt. Ltd. was the moderator of this session.

Panelists:

- Mr. Karan A Singh (IAS Retd.), Former Chief Secretary, Govt. of Punjab
- Mr Kishore Kumbhare, Chief Risk Officer, IIFCL
- Mr Debal Mitra, Senior Program Manager, CPI Global
- Mr. Manjunath Sekhar, Director, GIZ India
- Mr Ambarish Bhandari, General Manager, Export-Import Bank of India

PLENARY SESSION 7: BEYOND CONFLICTS - SMART STRATEGIES FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION & COST OVERRUN MITIGATION



This session tackled recurring issues affecting major projects in India.

Key points discussed:

- Proactive contract design prevents disputes more effectively than arbitration.
- Real-time monitoring and accountability help manage unforeseen risks.
- Neutral evaluation frameworks build trust between contractors and consultants.
- Judicial bodies support streamlined resolution for large public projects.

Speakers emphasized early resolution mechanisms as crucial to safeguarding infrastructure value.

Mr. Gagan Anand, Managing Partner, Legacy Law Offices was the moderator of this session.

Panelists:

- Hon'ble Justice Sachin Datta, Delhi High Court
- Mr. Irakli Khergiani, FIDIC Board Member
- Mr. Ashok Lavasa, Former VP, ADB, ECI & Finance Secretary, Govt. Of India
- Mr. Ajit Mishra, Director (Works), IRCON International
- Mr. Srimant Jain, Director, Crisis & Resilience Practice, Grant Thornton Bharat LLP

PANEL DISCUSSION: TRANSLATING INSIGHTS INTO ACTION



This forward-looking dialogue encouraged converting identified challenges into industry reform.

Key points discussed:

- Forming sectoral working groups for technology adoption and ESG guidance.
- Cross-stakeholder digital data frameworks.
- Knowledge sharing and capacity building through CEAI channels.
- Positioning Indian consulting engineering as globally competitive.

Ms. Sayona Philip (Member of Presidents' Council, CEAI and Independent Advisory Consultant) was the moderator of this session.

Panelists:

- Mr. Rakesh Bhatia, Sr, Vice President, Ecofirst Services Limited
- Ms. Vidya Basarkod, Managing Director, COWI India Pvt Ltd
- Mr. Amit Kumar, Sr. Vice President, Mott MacDonald
- Mr. Stéphane Y. Bessadi, Senior Procurement Specialist, Asian Development Bank

VALEDICTORY SESSION: INDUSTRY TRENDS & FUTURE OUTLOOK



The closing session summarized sectoral shifts:

- India's infrastructure investment cycle remains strong and opportunity-rich.
- Engineering services must scale up capabilities for energy transition, mobility and digital economy.
- Talent development and ethical engineering are vital national imperatives.
- CEAI will continue advocacy for policies that empower consulting engineers.

The conference concluded with appreciation for speakers, partners and delegates.

Mr. Prashant Kapila, President, CEAI & Managing Director, ICT Pvt Ltd was the moderator of this session.

Panelists:

- Mr. Gagan Anand, Managing Partner, Legacy Law Offices
- Mr. K.K. Kapila, President Emeritus, IRF Geneva
- Mr. K. Ramesh, President and Advisor to MD, Tata Consulting Engineers Limited
- Mr Navneet Sharma, Managing Director, Lion Engineering

CONFERENCE SPONSORS

MSRDC | Integra Design & utility Electric India Company | Systra India | Legacy Law Offices | Lion Engineering | DRA | Holtec | Sarathy Geotech & Engineering Services Pvt. Ltd | Trimble | Exim Bank | IIFCL | Mr OP Goel

EXHIBITORS

Nuovafil Infoteck Pvt Ltd | Bouw Consultants | Evershine Dynamic Corporation Limited | Parivartan Partners | Symbroj Media Pvt Ltd

CEAI NATIONAL AWARD 2025

Engineering consultancy plays a pivotal role in any form of National development. To encourage and motivate the practitioners of engineering consultancy in the Country, the Consulting Engineers Association of India (CEAI) instituted the National Awards for Excellence in Engineering Consultancy Services across various sectors. The awards recognise both individual engineering consultants and engineering consulting organisations.

WINNERS OF CEAI NATIONAL AWARDS 2025

FOR INDIVIDUALS

CATEGORY A : PROJECT ENGINEERING

- **Dr C R Parthasarathy**

CATEGORY B - ENGINEERING INNOVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY

- **Mr V N Heggade**
- **Mr Rajdeep Bhattacharya**

FOR ORGANISATIONS

GROUP #1 CATEGORY B : ENGINEERING INNOVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY

WINNER: CIVTECH Consultants Pvt Ltd

GROUP #2 CATEGORY A : PROJECT ENGINEERING

WINNER: SYSTRA MVA Consultant Pvt Ltd

MERIT AWARD

- **Intercontinental Consultants & Technocrats Pvt Ltd**
- **Nippon Koei India Pvt Ltd**

GROUP #2 CATEGORY B - ENGINEERING INNOVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY

WINNER: Rites Limited

PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

- **Mr R Balakrishnan**

SHRI MAHENDRA RAJ LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

- **Dr Vasudev V Nori**



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- Online Intensive Training Course on Detailed Project Report (DPR) Preparation for Highway Projects: A comprehensive overview of the DPR preparation process, scheduled from 20th December 2025 to 28th February 2026. The program covers traffic assessment, geometric and intersection design, hydrological and geotechnical investigations, and topographic surveys. It also integrates sustainability aspects such as climate resilience, alongside pre-construction essentials including land acquisition, utility shifting, and statutory clearances. The course further includes pavement and bridge design, project costing with economic and financial analysis, innovative technologies and materials, and key quality control and assurance practices.
- Online Training Programme on Certified Advanced Technology Professional in Artificial Intelligence (CATPAI): A 12-weeks training course, starting January end, covers 12 topics:
 - Artificial Intelligence: The Global Game Changer
 - Understanding Fundamentals of AI, ML, DL
 - Evolution of ICT, Big Data, Data Analytics, AI, and ML
 - Introduction to Large Language Model - Vehicle for AI
 - Use Cases of Prompting in 5 Professions Most Relevant to Nigeria
 - Applicability of Generative AI in Business
 - AI in Creatives Arts, Visual Design, Journalism, Media, Education
 - Customizing your work with AI
 - Impact of Generative AI on Cybersecurity - Opportunities and Threats
 - Advanced GenAI Threats, Mitigation, and the Human Element in Cybersecurity
 - Ethical & Legal Implications of AI
 - Emerging Trends, Ethics, Global Laws in AI, and Certifications
- Capacity Building Series Sustainable and Low-Carbon Built-Environment: Starting end of January 2025, this three-part capacity-building series equips consulting engineers to support India's climate goals under the Paris Agreement and the Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategy (LT-LEDS). The program focuses on decarbonisation of the built environment, the role of digital technologies, and alignment with national codes, green rating systems, and urban climate frameworks. Through expert-led sessions, real-world case studies, and practical strategies, the series strengthens engineers' ability to design climate-responsive, energy-efficient, and resilient infrastructure that contributes to India's net-zero transition.

MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

- Dr Harshavardhan Subbarao, GC Member has taken over the charge as President in "The International Association for Bridge and Structural Engineering" from 1st November 2025 for three years.
- Mr Gagan Anand, CEAI GC Member and Managing Partner has been named "Lawyer of the Year - Client Choice Awards (India)" at the asialaw Awards 2025 held on November 6, 2025 at the Hilton Saigon in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

This achievement is a testament to his passion, Commitment, and exceptional service to clients over the years.

- Dr A B L Srivastava, CEAI GC Member and Chairman & Director, Almondz Global Infra-Consultant Limited empanelled with NHAI also as an arbitrator.

DIRECTOR'S DESK

During the month of November 2025, CEAI conducted the following meetings:

- CEAI Foundation committee meeting held on 6th November 2025
- Finance Committee Meeting held on 18th November 2025
- Governing Council meeting held on 19th November 2025
- Discussion on DPR held on 27th November 2025

Mr. Navneet Sharma, Honorary Secretary of CEAI, has announced that the CEAI Annual General Meeting will be held on 18 December 2025.

VIEWPOINT

The theme for the December 2025 edition of ViewPoint is “Asset Management for Sustaining Built Facilities”.

Asset management for sustaining built facilities requires a strategic, long-term approach to asset and facility maintenance, which inter alia calls for focusing on optimal resource utilisation, such as energy, water, etc., by the usage of natural lighting or renewables or power and water saving fixtures, thus making a conscious effort to reduce harm to the environment through the asset's lifecycle. It would be appropriate to integrate sustainability into the asset lifecycle; eco-conscious decisions need to be taken from the initial design and construction phases, through the operational phase and eventual decommissioning of the facility.

With the spiralling growth in construction involving enormous investments of man hours, materials, and money, the need to correctly and fully understand what Asset Management is, in its correct perspective, and implement it in toto has become extremely essential especially for high-value built facilities especially physical assets which includes public and private buildings, hospitals, education centres, hotels, roads & highways, drainage, railways, ports & harbours, shipping, aviation, water and sanitation, flood protection, space research, defence, chemical & industrial plants, power generation and transmission, oil & gas, telecommunication, irrigation, etc. They are all particularly important since they form assets that will sustain and unlock value for a long period of time.

The perception that India has only recently become conscious of asset management may not be entirely accurate, as the industry has been growing over a considerable period, albeit sporadically and incrementally. There has been an increased awareness about asset management in recent times, driven by higher financial literacy, digitalisation, and supportive economic policies. Asset Management had been incorporated into the National Building Code of India 2016 to give a much-needed impetus to the proper maintenance of buildings.

Articles may include how digitalisation could support asset management, prevent setbacks by implementing regular maintenance and inspections; utilise asset management software for monitoring, tracking and automation; evaluate and conduct regular audits, and train employees on proper asset handling and performing risk analyses.

VIEWPOINT

Articles have to be in MS Word - Times New Roman 12 with single line spacing with before and after 6 pt and normal margin, on A4 size. A recent, clear and bright passport-size photograph of the author(s) is to be sent along with the article. For details of formatting, please refer to "Format for Articles for CEAI Viewpoint" on CEAI's website, under 'Publications'. The 'CEAI Conditions of Publication' can also be seen on the website.

Advertisement in ViewPoint

The rates for advertisements in VIEWPOINT are given below:

1) VIEWPOINT ADVERTISEMENT:

	Rate Per issue* (INR)	Discounted rate at 10% for 2 consecutive issues* (INR)	Discounted rate at 20% for 4 consecutive issues* (INR)
Back Cover	25,000.00	45,000.00	80,000.00
Inside Front Cover	18,000.00	32,400.00	57,600.00
Inside Back Cover	18,000.00	32,400.00	57,600.00
Full Page (Colour)	12,000.00	21,600.00	38,400.00
Full Page (Colour), if a specific page position is required	14,000.00	25,200.00	44,800.00
Full Page (B&W) (Conditions Apply)	8,000.00	14,400.00	25,600.00

*Notes: *GST @ 5% or as prescribed will be added to the above rates*

2) VIEWPOINT SPONSOR ADVERTISEMENT:

ViewPoint Sponsor Advertisement per issue for "THEME SPECIFIC SOLUTION PROVIDERS/ EXPERTS": the Rate will be Rs. 35,000/- and will provide the following:

1. Mention on the front cover
2. Two full-page color advertisements
3. Descriptive article on topic (not to exceed 300 of words)

FIDIC PUBLICATION

1	FIDIC Contracts Guide (2nd Ed. 2022)
2	EPC Turnkey Contract 2nd Ed 2017 Silver Book Reprinted 2022 with amendments
3	Construction Contract 2nd Ed 2017 Red Book, Reprinted 2022 with amendments
4	Plant & Design Build Contract 2nd Ed 2017 Yellow Book, Reprinted 2022 with amendments
5	The Short Form of Contract (2nd Edition, 2021)
6	Conditions of Contract for EPC Turnkey Projects (First Edition, 1999)
7	EPC/Turnkey Contract 2nd Ed (2017 Silver Book)
8	Conditions of Contract for Construction (First Ed. 1999)
9	Construction Contract 2nd Ed (2017 Red Book)
10	Conditions of Contract for Plant & Design-Build (First Ed, 1999)
11	Plant and design-build contract 2nd Ed (2017 Yellow book)
12	Dredgers Contract 2nd Ed (2016 Blue-Green Book)
13	Client/Consultant Model Services Agreement 5th Ed (2017 White Book)
14	GUIDE to Conditions of Contract for Design, Build and Operate Projects (2008 GOLD BOOK) 1st Ed 2011
15	Conditions of Contract for Works of Civil Engineering Construction (4th Ed. 1987 Reprinted 2011)
16	Conditions of Contract for Design-Build and Turnkey First Edition 1995 Reprinted 2011
17	Conditions of Contract for Underground works (2019 Emerald Book)