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. DFI of India was formed in 2013 following the success of the “Deep Foundation Technologies for Infrastructure Development in India” Conference held in Chennai, India, in 2012. It established its full-time office in Chennai 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 ample 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 implementing 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, become very professional, and embrace new technologies for India's faster development. The chapter looks to provide a platform for continuous interaction among the Indian foundation industry stakeholders, including those international agencies with an India focus.

Conferences, workshops, seminars, training programs, and webinars are conducted regularly by involving the global level's best expertise for propagating good practices in the Indian foundation industry by delivering technical presentations. 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 Programs

CFA Pile Technology Implementation Committee

First three years’ consistent efforts of this committee resulted in installing six numbers of Continuous Flight Auger (CFA) piles and testing them for vertical compression, tension and lateral capacities. Reports on design and construction, installation, and load testing records shared with major stakeholders in India and available on the DFII website. CFA pile guidelines document developed and referred to BIS piling committee for consideration of IS Code. BIS formed a sub-committee based on the reference and is set to come up with Guidelines for CFA Pile construction in India in 2023.

The technology is already gaining confidence in the Indian industry and first time CFA piling work is being implemented in India during 2023. Based on interest being shown by some of the major owners, contracting, and consultancy companies, DFII is hopeful to see this technology implemented in more projects in 2023-24. This initiative can pave the way for executing more projects in India with CFA pile in future and in enhancing the productivity of piling jobs significantly (possible to achieve 400 m piling per day).

For progress details, visit https://www.india.dfi.org/communities/technologies-and-methods/cfa-pile-india/

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

This committee strives to address the current challenges of executing geotechnical investigation jobs with required due diligence which impacting the implementation of many major projects.

It aims to achieve this by enhancing skills of soil lab technicians, field supervisors, geotechnical engineers through various training programs, engage owners, decision makers and others by means of constructive dialogue. It achieved first milestone event by conducting pilot training and certification program catering to working soil lab technicians during April 2022 in Nagpur, later more training programs were successfully conducted during June 2022 in Bangalore and Dec 2022 in Hyderabad. Similar Training programs will continue during 2023 in more cities.

More DCGCF programs including webinars to promote good work practices are on the anvil in the future.

For progress details visit https://www.india.dfi.org/communities/practice-standards/geotechnical-characterization-for-foundations-india/
Current Programs

Women in Deep Foundation (WiDF) India Team

WiDF team comprises of women and men who advocate and encourage women practitioners to take on key roles in the deep foundations, civil engineering, and construction industry through its various programs.

The committee’s goal is to foster greater success and interest of professional women in the industry by promoting networking events, endorsing outreach and building mentoring relationships.

They regularly organize webinars and panel discussion programs, from 2018 onwards, including the highly acclaimed webinar series “Civil Engineering Careers – Connect & Grow” in 2021, and panel discussion sessions in DFI India’s annual conferences in Nov 2021 and Sept 2022. More programs and interactions are planned during 2023-24.

Students Outreach Program ‘Groundwork’

The main goal of the DFI Groundwork is to supplement academic coursework with practical industry learning & case studies for providing overall professional development of a civil engineering student. Helping the students on personal growth by discussing business topics, highlighting various project roles in the deep foundations’ industry, and describing different career options.

Its current programs include the popular monthly webinar programs ‘Groundwork’ delivered by experts of international repute on topics of interest to student community, student competition & awards as a part of DFI annual conferences, tying students and different interested companies in providing internship programs & site visits. Groundwork 2023 webinar series started in Feb 2023.

For more details visit: https://www.india.dfi.org/communities/groundwork-students/

Training Programs/Educational Series

To achieve its mission, DFI Leadership set up a separate committee to provide online and offline training programs covering design/ planning/costing /field engineers for enhancing current deep foundation construction practices. Current team comprises 8 experts representing different organizations. During 2021-22, it implemented two programs, and three to four more training programs including one on support fluids is planned in 2023-24.
Current Programs

Conferences and Workshops

DFII annual conference programs are very popular in India for its rich content, deliberations/case studies from global experts on topics of interest and technological advancements. Workshops on specific topics are also very educative and professionals from the industry look forward to attending these programs. The schedules of conferences/workshops are updated from time to time in DFI website and also shared with all members.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Novotel Hyderabad</th>
<th>IIT Bombay</th>
<th>IISC Bangalore</th>
<th>IIT Madras</th>
<th>NAC Hyderabad</th>
<th>FSGR Tirupati</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>2022</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DFI India 12th Annual Conference - Vadodara
How we work

Collaborative Approach

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

For achieving the specific goals, DFII also choses to work with other professional bodies, institutes, owner organizations to put collective efforts for advancing the deep foundation construction practices.

In the past and currently it is closely working with various IITs and IGS chapters for conducting annual conference events, and organizations like CMRL (owner), NAC (Skill Training Institute), CERA (Construction Equipment Rental Association), IESC (Infrastructure Equipment Skill Council), NBMCW (New Building Materials & Construction World) to serve mutual interests in related areas.

Alliances

♦ DFII has signed a 5-year MOU with Chennai Metro Rail Limited to provide value based solutions corresponding to geotechnical and foundation scope of their second phase project.

♦ DFII has signed a 5-year MOU with National Academy of Construction (NAC), a Government of Telangana Organisation at Hyderabad to implement skill development programs related to geotechnical investigation.

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

♦ Signed an understanding with NBMCW for DFII Branding & Marketing.

To know more visit [https://www.india.dfi.org/about-dfi-of-india/alliances/](https://www.india.dfi.org/about-dfi-of-india/alliances/)
Organization

DFII is a non-profit company registered under Ministry of Company Affairs, Government of India, and has a board of directors. It has an executive committee with eminent members drawn from different stakeholders in the Foundation Industry.

Mr. Mohan Ramanathan, Managing Director of Advanced Technologies Limited, Chennai is the chairman of the Executive Committee. Dr. Sunil S Basarkar, General Manager (Geotechnical & Designs), Afcons Infrastructure Ltd, Chennai, is acting as the vice chair. Mr. I V Anirudhan, Geotechnical Solutions a foundation expert, was the chairman during the previous term.

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 organization’s success.

DFII Board
Mr. Mohan Ramanathan, Advanced Construction Technologies, Chair - DFI of India
Mr. I V Anirudhan, Geotechnical Solutions
Dr. K S Rama Krishna, Ex L&T ECC
Mr. G Venkata Prasad, Ex L&T ECC

DFII Executive Committee
Dr. Sunil S Basarkar, Afcons Infrastructure Ltd, Core Committee, Vice Chair - DFI of India
Mr. Ravikiran Vaidya, Geo Dynamics, Core Committee
Prof. Amit Prashant, IIT Gandhinagar
Mr. K Bikshapathi, NAC, Hyderabad
Mr. V K Panwar, Engineers India Limited
Dr. Anil Joseph, President, IGS
Mrs. Annapoorni Iyer, Encosym consultants
Mr. Madan Kumar Annam, Keller Ground Engineering India
Mr. Mohan Gupta, GEODATA India (P) Ltd.
Dr. Parthasarathy C R, Sarathy Geotech & Engineering Services Pvt. Ltd
Dr. A Murali Krishna, IIT Tirupati
Prof. Subhadeep Banerjee, IIT Madras
Dr. R P Singh, National High-Speed Rail Corporation Ltd
Mr. Sanjay Gupta, Cengrs Geotechnica Pvt. Ltd
Mr. Gagan Goswami, Heritage Infraspace India Pvt. Ltd
Mr. M Kumaran, L & T Construction
Mr. Viral Patel, Associated Engineers

DFII Office Team
DFII is 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.

Mr. T S Mahendran
MBA - Finance and System
Manager - Accounts & Administration
Email: dfiindiaoffice@gmail.com

Mr. Pranav Jha
B.E. - Civil Engineering
Manager - Operations
Email: activities@dfi-india.org

Ms. P. Sai Sindhu
M. Tech - Geotechnical Engineering
Technical Coordinator
Email: technical@dfi-india.org

DFI II is 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.
For more details contact
Deep Foundations Institute of India
Non-profit company registered under Ministry of Company Affairs,
Government of India (Regn. No: U91900TN2013NPL091176)
44/17 ‘BHASKARA’, 19 Usha Street, Dr. Seethapathy Nagar
Velachery, Chennai, TN, India
Email: dfiindiaoffice@gmail.com, www.dfi-india.org
M: +91-9710222444