



**SIDDHARTH GROUP OF INSTITUTIONS: PUTTUR  
(AUTONOMOUS)**

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**QUESTION BANK (DESCRIPTIVE)**

**Subject with Code:** Soil Mechanics(19CE0152)

**Course & Branch:** B.Tech - AGE

**Regulation:** R19

**Year & Sem:** III-B.Tech & I-Sem

**UNIT –I**

**INTRODUCTION TO SOIL MECHANICS AND INDEX PROPERTIES OF SOILS**

<b>1</b>	a) Define Flow index , Toughness index and Liquidity index	[L1] [CO1]	[6M]
	b) Explain briefly about Plasticity index and Shrinkage limit	[L1] [CO1]	[6M]
<b>2</b>	a) Explain the phenomenon of formation and transportation of soils.	[L2] [CO1]	[6M]
	b) Explain with sketches of various types of soil structures.	[L2] [CO1]	[6M]
<b>3</b>	a) Explain the formation of soil by weathering in detail.	[L2] [CO1]	[6M]
	b) Discuss the characteristics and construction of kaolinite and Illite minerals groups.	[L2] [CO1]	[6M]
<b>4</b>	a) Using three phase diagrams of soil, derive an expression for water content in terms of Void ratio, Specific gravity and degree of saturation.	[L2] [CO1]	[6M]
	b) A saturated soil sample has a water content of 25% and unit weight of 20 kN/m <sup>3</sup> . Determine the Specific gravity of the solid particles, dry unit weight and void ratio.	[L3] [CO1]	[6M]
<b>5</b>	Using three phase diagrams of soil, derive an expression for saturated unit weight of soil in terms of void ratio, unit weight of water, specific gravity and degree of saturation.	[L2] [CO1]	[12M]
<b>6</b>	A sample of clay soil of volume $1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3$ and weight 17.62 N, after being dried out in an oven had a weight of 13.68 N. If the specific gravity of the particle was 2.69 find void ratio, saturated unit weight, dry unit weight and water content.	[L3] [CO1]	[12M]
<b>7</b>	a) A soil has a liquid limit of 25% and flow index of 12%. If the plastic limit is 15% determine the plasticity index and toughness index. If the water content of the soil is in natural condition in the	[L3] [CO1]	[6M]

	field is 20%, find the liquidity index and relative consistency.		
	b) What was the relative density. Write the importance of this term?	[L1] [CO1]	[6M]
<b>8</b>	a) Explain Relative density.	[L2] [CO1]	[6M]
	b) How to determine field density by using sand replacement method	[L2] [CO1]	[6M]
<b>9</b>	a) Briefly explain the Procedure of core cutter method.	[L2] [CO1]	[6M]
	b) Explain Determination of specific gravity in the laboratory.	[L2] [CO1]	[6M]
<b>10</b>	a) Describe in detail about wet and dry sieve analysis of soils.	[L2] [CO1]	[6M]
	b) What are the consistency limits?	[L1] [CO1]	[6M]

**UNIT –II**  
**PERMEABILITY OF SOILS AND EFFECTIVE STRESS PRINCIPLES**

1	a	what is meant by Darcy's law? Explain briefly flownet	[L1] [CO2]	[6M]
	b	Explain briefly total stress, effective stress and pore water pressure	[L1] [CO2]	[6M]
2	a)	Explain the phenomenon of capillary rise in soil and write an expression for the Capillary rise.	[L2] [CO2]	[6M]
	b)	What is Darcy's law? What are its limitations?	[L1] [CO2]	[6M]
3	a)	A constant head permeability test was run on a sand sample 30cm in length and 20 cm <sup>2</sup> in area. When a loss of head was 60 cm, the quantity of water to be collected in 2 minutes was 250ml. Determine the coefficient of permeability of soil.	[L3] [CO2]	[6M]
	b)	How would you determine the average permeability of a soil deposit consisting of number of layers? What is its use in soil engineering?	[L2] [CO2]	[6M]
4		What are the different methods for determination of coefficient of permeability in a laboratory. Explain any one method?	[L2] [CO2]	[12M]
5		Explain the constant head permeability test with the help of neat sketch?	[L2] [CO2]	[12M]
6		A falling head permeability test was performed on a sample of clean, uniform sand. One minute was required for the initial head of 100cm to fall to 50cm in the stand pipe of cross-sectional area 1.50cm <sup>2</sup> . If the sample was 4cm in diameter and 30cm long, calculate the coefficient of permeability of sand.	[L3] [CO2]	[12M]
7	a)	Explain factors affecting the permeability of soils?	[L2] [CO2]	[6M]
	b)	Estimate the quantity of flow of water through a soil mass in a 300 sec period when a constant head of 1m is maintained. The length of the sample is 150 mm and the cross-Sectional area is 100×100 mm. The coefficient of permeability of the soil sample is $1 \times 10^{-1}$ mm/s.	[L3] [CO2]	[6M]
8		What is flow net? Explain the characteristics and uses of flow net?	[L2] [CO2]	[12M]
9		Explain in details about Quick sand condition.	[L2] [CO2]	[12M]
10	a)	Prove that the effective stress ( $\sigma'$ ) for a standard soil can be expressed as $\sigma' = \sigma - u$ Where $\sigma$ = total stress, $u$ = pore water pressure	[L2] [CO2]	[6M]
	b)	An 8m thick layer of stiff saturated clay ( $\gamma = 19 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ) is underlain by a layer of sand. The sand is under an artesian pressure of 5m. Calculate the maximum depth of cut that can be made without causing a heave.	[L3] [CO2]	[6M]

## UNIT –III

## STRESS DISTRIBUTION IN SOILS AND COMPACTION OF SOILS

1	a	What are the factors affecting the compaction ? Explain briefly	[L1] [CO4]	[6M]					
	b	Discuss about Optimum Moisture Content and Maximum Dry Density	[L1] [CO4]	[6M]					
2		Derive an expression for vertical stress at a point due to a point load, using Boussinesq's theory.	[L2] [CO3]	[12M]					
3		Explain Westergaard's theory for the determination of the vertical stress at a point.	[L2] [CO3]	[12M]					
4		A concentrated load of 2000kN is applied at the ground surface. Determine the vertical stress at a point p which is 6m directly below the load. Also calculated the vertical stress at a point which is at a depth of 6m but at a horizontal a depth of 5m from the axis of the load.	[L3] [CO3]	[12M]					
5		A rectangular foundation 4m by 5m carries a u.d.l of 200 kN/m <sup>2</sup> . Determine the vertical stress at a point p located and at a depth of 2.5 m.	[L3] [CO3]	[12M]					
6	a)	Explain the concept of 'Pressure Bulb' in soils.	[L2] [CO3]	[6M]					
	b)	What do you understand by 'Pressure bulb'? Illustrate with sketches plane method.	[L1] [CO3]	[6M]					
7		Explain the standard proctor test with help of neat sketch.	[L2] [CO4]	[12M]					
8		Describe in detail about modified proctor test with neat sketch.	[L2] [CO4]	[12M]					
9		What are the factors affecting compaction soils explain them?	[L2] [CO4]	[12M]					
10	The following data are obtained in a compaction test. Specific gravity= 2.65		[L3] [CO4]	[12M]					
	Moisture content (%)	2			4	5.8	6.7	7.8	10
	Wet density (KN/m <sup>3</sup> )	20.4			20.9	21.4	22.2	22.4	22.0
	Determine the OMC and maximum dry density. Draw 'Zero-air-void line.								

**UNIT- IV**  
**CONSOLIDATION OF SOILS**

1	a	Explain briefly Coefficient of compressibility and Coefficient of volume change .	[L1] [CO5]	[6M]
	c	Define Compression index Expansion index.	[L1] [CO5]	[6M]
2		Describe in detail about initial consolidation, primary consolidation, secondary consolidation.	[L2] [CO5]	[12M]
3		Describe the consolidometer test. Show how the results of this test are used to predict the rate of settlement and the magnitude of settlement.	[L2] [CO5]	[12M]
4		Discuss the Terzaghi's theory of consolidation, state the various assumptions and their validity.	[L2] [CO5]	[12M]
5		Discuss the spring analogy for primary consolidation. What are its uses.	[L2] [CO5]	[12M]
6		Obtain the differential equation defining the one-dimensional consolidation as given by Terzaghi listing the various assumptions	[L2] [CO5]	[12M]
7		A clay stratum, 5m thick has an initial void ratio of 1.50 and the effective overburden pressure of 120kN/m <sup>2</sup> when the sample is subjected to an increases pressure of 120kN/m <sup>2</sup> the void ratio reduces to 1.90. Determine the volume of compressibility and final settlement of stratum.	[L3] [CO5]	[12M]
8		Calculate the final settlement of the clay layer with an increase of pressure of 30kN/m <sup>2</sup> at mid height of layer take $\gamma = 10\text{kN/m}^3$ .	[L3] [CO5]	[12M]
9		A clay stratum, 7m thick has an initial void ratio of 2.05 and the effective overburden pressure of 140 kN/m <sup>2</sup> when the sample is subjected to an increases pressure of 140 kN/m <sup>2</sup> the void ratio reduces to 1.44. Determine the volume of compressibility and final settlement of stratum.	[L3] [CO5]	[12M]
10		The laboratory consolidation data for undisturbed clay sample are as follows $e_{1=1.00}$ , $\sigma_1 = 85\text{kN/m}^2$ , $e_{2=0.80}$ , $\sigma_2 = 465\text{kN/m}^2$ determine the void ratio for a pressure of $\sigma_3 = 600\text{KN/m}^2$	[L3] [CO5]	[12M]

**UNIT –V**  
**SHEAR STRENGTH OF SOILS**

<b>1</b>	<b>a</b>	Explain briefly about liquefaction of soil?	[L1] [CO6]	[6M]
	<b>b</b>	Explain the merits and demerits of triaxial test.	[L1] [CO6]	[6M]
<b>2</b>		Describe the direct shear test. What are merits and demerits?	[L2] [CO6]	[12M]
<b>3</b>		Explain the triaxial shear test? What are the advantages of triaxial shear test over the direct Shear test?	[L2] [CO6]	[12M]
<b>4</b>		What is unconfined compression test? Sketch the apparatus used what are its advantages over triaxial test?	[L2] [CO6]	[12M]
<b>5</b>		Write short notes on a) Mohr's circle b) Explain the Mohr's coulomb strength envelope.	[L1] [CO6]	[12M]
<b>6</b>		Describe the vane shear test with a neat sketch.	[L2] [CO6]	[12M]
<b>7</b>		The stresses at failure on the failure plane in a cohesion less soil mass was Shear stress = 5 kN/m <sup>2</sup> ; Normal stress = 18 kN/m <sup>2</sup> . Determine the resultant stress on the failure plane, the angle of internal friction of the soil and the angle of inclination of the failure plane to the major principal plane.	[L3] [CO6]	[12M]
<b>8</b>		A vane, 10.8 cm long, 7.2 cm in diameter, was pressed into a soft clay at the bottom of a bore hole. Torque was applied and the value at failure was 45 N-m. Find the shear strength of the clay on a horizontal plane.	[L3] [CO6]	[12M]
<b>9</b>		A triaxial compression test on a cohesive sample cylindrical in shape yields the following effective Stresses: Major Principal stress ...8 mN/m <sup>2</sup> Minor principal stress ...2 mN/m <sup>2</sup> Angle of inclination of rupture plane is 60° to the horizontal. Present the above data, by means of a Mohr's circle of stress diagram. Find the cohesion and angle of internal friction.	[L3] [CO6]	[12M]
<b>10</b>		The stresses at failure on the failure plane in a cohesion less soil mass was Shear stress = 4 kN/m <sup>2</sup> ; Normal stress = 10 kN/m <sup>2</sup> . Determine the resultant stress on the failure plane, the angle of internal friction of the soil and the angle of inclination of the failure plane to the major principal plane.	[L3] [CO6]	[12M]

**Prepared by:**

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