

17th Edition



# SOIL MECHANICS AND FOUNDATIONS

Dr. B.C. Punmia

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# SOIL MECHANICS AND FOUNDATIONS





# SOIL MECHANICS AND FOUNDATIONS

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**(INCLUDING LABORATORY EXPERIMENTS)**

**(ENTIRELY IN SI UNITS)**

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## SOIL MECHANICS AND FOUNDATION

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# Preface

## PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION

Soil Engineering, soil mechanics or geotechnique is one of the youngest disciplines of civil engineering involving the study of soil, its behaviour and application as an engineering material. The term ‘Soil Engineering’ is currently used to cover a much wider scope implying that it is a practical science rather than a purely fundamental or mathematical one. Good soil engineering embodies the use of the best practices in exploration, testing, design and construction control, in addition to the basic idealised theories.

The field of Soil Mechanics is very vast. The civil engineer has many diverse and important encounters with soil. Apart from testing and classification of various types of soils in order to know its physical properties, the knowledge of soil mechanics is particularly helpful in the designs of foundations, rigid and flexible pavements, underground and earth retaining structures, embankments, and excavations, and earth dams.

This textbook is intended to present the currently accepted theories, design principles and practices of soil mechanics and foundation engineering. The assumptions and limitations used in developing a theory or a method are pointed out and sufficient number of examples and practice problems are included to illustrate the application of basic principles of practical problems. The text provides sufficient material, ranging from the simple to very complex, for the undergraduate and postgraduate courses in the subject of soil engineering in the engineering colleges, universities and professional examinations in India. The book should also prove a useful design aid for the practising engineer and a convenient reference source.

The book has been sub-divided into eight parts : (1) Elementary Properties, (2) Soil Hydraulics, (3) Elasticity Applied to Soils, (4) Compressibility, (5) Strength and Stability, (6) Foundation Engineering, (7) Pavement Design and (8) Miscellaneous Problems. More advanced topics have been indicated by an asterisk which may be omitted in the first reading or at the undergraduate level. In addition, *twenty-one* more common laboratory experiments have been included to illustrate the practice of soil testing. The test procedures conform to the latest Indian Standards issued to date. Metric Units have been used in the text. The author is highly thankful to Dr. Alam Singh for his kind permission to reproduce the matter of the first edition of the book published in his collaboration. Account has been taken throughout of the suggestions offered by the many users of the book and grateful acknowledgement is made to them. Further suggestions will be greatly appreciated.

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**B.C. PUNMIA**

**PREFACE TO THE THIRD EDITION**

In the Third Edition, the subject-matter has been updated. In order to make the book more useful to the students appearing at the A.M.I.E. Examinations, questions from the examination papers of section B have been given in Appendix.

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**PREFACE TO THE FOURTH EDITION**

In the Fourth Edition of the book, the subject-matter has been thoroughly revised and enlarged to incorporate the latest developments. An article on 'dynamic analysis of block foundations' having six modes of vibrations has been added. The author is thankful to many readers of the book for useful suggestions.

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**PREFACE TO THE FIFTH EDITION**

In the Fifth Edition, the subject-matter has been revised, and an Appendix on SI units has been added at the end of the book.

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**PREFACE TO THE SIXTH EDITION**

In the Sixth Edition, the subject-matter has been revised and updated. Matter on under-reamed pile foundation has been added in Chapter 26.

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**PREFACE TO THE EIGHTH EDITION**

In the Eighth Edition, many new articles have been added and the subject-matter has been revised and updated.

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## PREFACE TO THE NINTH EDITION

In the Ninth Edition, few new articles have been added. Notable amongst these are : bored compaction piles, field set-ups for plate load test, field set-up for pile load test and pneumatic caissons. The subject-matter has been revised and updated.

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## PREFACE TO THE TENTH EDITION

In this edition, few misprints of the previous edition have been removed and the subject-matter has been updated.

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**B.C. PUNMIA**

## PREFACE TO THE ELEVENTH EDITION

In the Eleventh Edition, the book has been thoroughly revised and enlarged, using SI units. Care has been taken to distinguish between ‘mass’ and ‘weight’ and between ‘density’ and ‘unit weight’ and separate symbols have been assigned to these quantities to avoid confusion. Density ( $\rho$ ), based on laboratory measurements has been expressed in the units of  $\text{g/cm}^3$  (or  $\text{kg/m}^3$ ) while the unit weight ( $\gamma$ ) has been expressed in  $\text{kN/m}^3$ . The value of gravitational constant  $g$  has been taken as  $981 \text{ cm/s}^2$ . Thus, the density of water ( $\rho_w$ ) has been taken as  $1 \text{ g/cm}^3$  (or  $1000 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ) while its unit weight has been taken as  $9.81 \text{ kN/m}^3$ .

A chapter on ‘Advanced Measuring Instruments’ has been added at the end. A large number of photographic plates, illustrating various testing equipment used in ‘Soil Testing Laboratory’ have been added. The authors are thankful to M/s Associated Instruments Manufactures, India (AIMIL), Delhi and M/s HEICO Instruments, Delhi for supplying photographs and illustrative catalogues of the instruments/equipment manufactured by them.

It is hoped that this revised and updated edition will be useful to the students and practicing engineers. Further suggestions will be gratefully accepted.

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## PREFACE TO THE TWELFTH EDITION

In the Twelfth Edition, subject matter has been revised and enlarged. Chapter 24 on Bearing Capacity and chapter 25 on Shallow Foundations have been rewritten and many new articles and new examples have been added.

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**PREFACE TO THE THIRTEENTH EDITION**

In the Thirteenth Edition of the book, the subject matter has been thoroughly revised and updated. Many new articles and solved examples have been added. The entire book has been typeset using laser printer. The authors are thankful to Shri Mool Singh Gahlot and Shri Prem Singh Sankhla for the fine laser typesetting done by them.

JODHPUR  
14th Nov. 1994

**B.C. PUNMIA**  
**ASHOK K. JAIN**  
**ARUN K. JAIN**

**PREFACE TO THE SIXTEENTH EDITION**

In the Sixteenth Edition, the subject matter has been thoroughly revised and updated, and rearranged. In each chapter, many new articles have been added. All the diagrams have been redrawn using computer graphics and the book has been computer type-set in a bigger format, keeping in pace with the modern trend. At the end of each chapter, problems appearing at various central competitive examinations (such as Civil Services, Engineering Services and Gate) have been solved. In addition to these, a new chapter on 'Geotextiles' have been added at the end of the book.

It is hoped, this thoroughly revised and updated edition will be useful to the students, teachers and practicing engineers. Further suggestions will be gratefully acknowledged. The authors are thankful to Shri R.K. Gupta of Laxmi Publications (P) Ltd. for good printing and excellent get-up of the book and that too in a record short time.

JODHPUR  
1st March 2005

**B.C. FUNMIA**  
**ASHOK K. JAIN**  
**ARUN K. JAIN**

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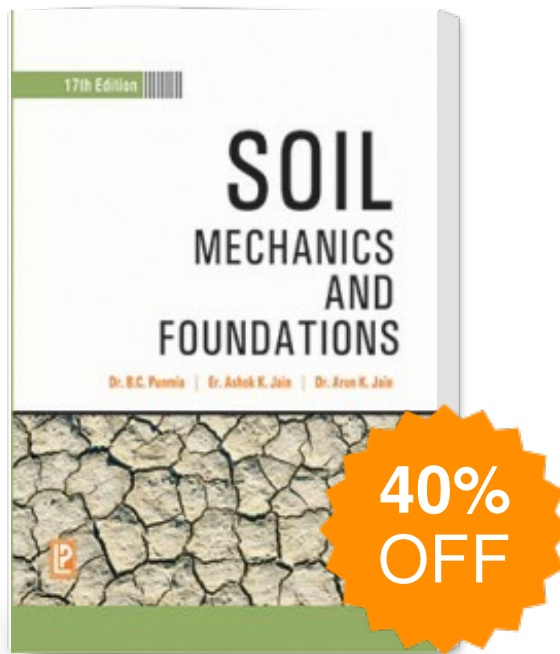
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# Soil Mechanics And Foundations



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