Report on participation by NJB JGT Cell in 79th IRC held at Nagpur from 22nd to 25th Nov’2018.

This year 79th session and exhibition of the IRC (Indian Roads Congress) was held at Nagpur from 22nd to 25th Nov’2018 being organized by the PWD, Maharashtra. IRC HQs. as well as the organizing committee of 79th IRC invited National Jute Board to participate in this event. The invitation was accepted by NJB considering its importance towards promotion of JGT. As nominated by NJB, Sri P K Choudhury Principal Technologist & Sri S N De, Sr. Civil Engineer actively participated in the programme. Around 4000 delegates and 149 exhibitors from India and abroad attended the IRC conference and technical exhibition respectively. Around 63 papers were presented during the 4-day annual session.

The technical exhibition was inaugurated by Sri Nitin Gadkari - Hon’ble Minister of Road & Surface Transport, Govt. of India while the annual session was inaugurate by Sri D evendra Fadnavis – Hon’ble CM of Maharashtra. During the inauguration session Sri Malik, Secretary MoRT&H mentioned in his speech that innovation should be given priority and new material and methods should be adopted in the road construction works. For this purpose, pilot projects are to be taken up and in case of failure of roads by adopting new materials & technologies the concerned Engineers / Technologists would not be responsible. He also opined that in IRC Codes / Guidelines, installation methodology should also be mentioned and that should be strictly followed during construction works at site.

The exhibition stall of NJB was visited by about 500 delegates and among them more than 170 delegates including some decision making engineers have shown active interest on application of JGT. Lot of queries on effect of biodegradable JGT raised by road Engineers were addressed. More than 100 copies of newly published combined book on application of JGT were distributed among the enthusiastic delegates. A complete set of documents including manual was given to Sri R Hotwani - SE, PWD who is also looking after PMGSY projects in the state. One of the leading newspapers of Maharashtra, “Lokmat” had covered a news on JGT — the clipping enclosed.

Further, being convinced with the interactions made by NJB JGT Cell with Sri Hotwani, SE PWD Maharashtra regarding efficacy of jute geotextiles, he had agreed to show a rural road site under PMGSY scheme on 26th November, 2018 that might be constructed with JGT. Accordingly as accompanied by the concerned site Engineers inspection of a 1.5 km stretch of rural road at Digma Nagpur (having glow CBR of about 3 % ) was made. They were asked to collect the soil, traffic data etc. for further study of NJB prior to sending them final proposal of using JGT. The Dept. was however convinced to use JGT in principle. Photographs taken at site are enclosed for ready reference.

I. From participation & interactions in the 79th session of the IRC following inference has been drawn:

II. Some of the high level IRC committee members informed the receipt of draft document on design & construction of low volume roads using JGT ‘and stated that same is under process

III. Scientists & technologists are showing immense interest in the usage of jute geotextiles due to its technical applicability and echo friendly nature. Participants
from some of the states confirmed that they are aware about the usage of such material and using this material in the road constructions.

IV. From the huge demand for supply of booklets on ‘application of jute geotextiles’ as observed during the exhibition it is proposed that printing of small booklets may be considered for wide range of circulation amongst the interested participants.

Apart from other states, there is immense possibility of using JGT for the first time in the state of Maharashtra.

PROPOSED ROAD WITH CBR-3% AT DIGMA, NAGPUR TO BE STRENGTHENED WITH THE USE OF JUTE GEOTEXTILE


PICTURE SHOWING NJB STALL NO.(A-3) WITH VISITORS AND INAUGURATION OF THE TECHNICAL EXHIBITION BY SHRI NITIN
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<th>DELEGATES</th>
<th>GADKARI, HON.MINISTER OF ROAD &amp; TRANSPORT</th>
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<td><img src="image2.jpg" alt="INTERACTION WITH DELEGATES AT THE STALL OF NJB" /></td>
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**INTERACTION WITH DELEGATES AT THE STALL OF NJB**

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