

Talk on Ground Improvement for Electrified Double Track Project



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THE evening talk on Ground Improvement for Electrified Double Track Project from Alor Setar to Padang Besar was recently organised by the Geotechnical Engineering Technical Division (GETD) at the Tan Sri Prof. Chin Fung Kee Auditorium, Wisma IEM. The talk was delivered by Ir. EG Balakrishnan with an attendance of 65 participants.

The speaker started his talk with an introduction to some details of the Electrified Double Track Project from Alor Setar to Padang Besar. He then showed the participants the proposed railway alignment that traverses through flat ground from Alor Setar to Bukit Ketri, where soft ground is expected as reflected in the Malaysia Geological Map. After Bukit Ketri, the railway alignment traverses through rolling ground. Subsequently, the speaker demonstrated how topography and land use could be utilised as an indication of the ground condition, which is a very powerful tool for desk study, especially to demarcate the areas of concern.

Then, the speaker continued to explain to the audience the adopted design methodology for embankment over soft ground. He also presented the stringent settlement design criteria for the double track. He also highlighted the main considerations for selection of adopted ground treatment such as prefabricated vertical drains (PVD) with surcharge and other techniques.

Towards the end of the talk, the speaker presented some settlement monitoring results of a constructed embankment where the recorded settlement was generally in line with the predicted settlement. He also briefly highlighted a trial embankment with stone column as ground treatment. After an interactive Q&A session, a token of appreciation was presented to the speaker and the seminar ended with a big round of applause from the floor. ■

NOMINATIONS PAPERS FOR COUNCIL ELECTION SESSION 2013/2014

A notice inviting nominations for the Election of Council Members for Session 2013/2014 will be posted on the IEM Notice Board and IEM website by **7th December 2012**. These nomination forms can also be obtained from the IEM Secretariat office on and after 7th December 2012.

Thank you.

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