

- Ministry of Road Transport and Highways issued a Circular No. RW/NH/33044/31/2014/S&R (R) (Pt) dt. **4th August, 2014** addressed to the Chief Secretaries of all the States/UTs, Principal Secretaries, Engineer-in-Chief and Chief Engineers of Public Works Departments of all the States/UTs and Chairman, National Highways Authority of India on “Usage of Rigid Pavement as an Alternative Option on National Highways”.

This Circular laid down clear preference of the Govt. of India for Rigid (Concrete) Pavements over Flexible (Bitumen) Pavements, unless the Highway Project involves minor improvements as in the form of paved shoulders or widening etc. The Circular further directs that preference to cement concrete roads be given even if they are costlier by upto 20%.

CMA circulated (in October 2014) the copy of above Circular to the Chief Secretaries, Principal Secretaries of Public Works Department and Urban Development Department of all the States/UTs requesting them to take a policy decision for using cement concrete for construction of Highways, major district roads, urban roads and rural roads in view of its distinct advantages over bitumen pavement as also in the spirit of the above circular of Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.

- Indian Concrete Institute & Ultra Tech Cement Ltd. organized a Technical Lecture for Engineers of Chennai Municipal Corporation on “**Quality Control and Maintenance of Cement Concrete Roads**” on **25th July 2014** at **Chennai**. CMA supported the event by providing its

publication “White-Topping of Roads-Concrete Overlay Technology” for the participants.

- Seminar on “**Concrete Roads and White-Topping**” was organized by Indian Concrete Institute on **24th March 2014** at **Bhopal**. Madhya Pradesh Public Works Department, M.P Rural Engineering Services Department and Madhya Pradesh Rural Road Development Authority (MPRRDA) were the supporting organizations. The seminar was supported by CMA by providing its publications to the delegates.
- CMA organized a meeting and Presentation for the civil engineers/staff officers (Civil) of Western Coalfields Ltd (WCL) on **20th March 2014** at **Nagpur**. Dr L. R. Kadiyali & Shri A. K. Jain made Presentations on “Advantage & Cost Economics of Concrete vs Bitumen Pavements” and “Methodology of construction of Cement Concrete Roads/ WhiteTopping” respectively. Shri Lalit Kumar Jain, Consulting Structural Engineer also made a presentation about the ongoing projects of Cement Concrete Roads in Nagpur region. He discussed the problems encountered due to black cotton soil prevalent in the region and the solutions to overcome this problem. Civil Engineers/ staff officers actively participated in the presentation and detailed interactive session.
- Two-day conference on “**Infrastructure and Sustainability- A Fresh Approach**” was held on the occasion of Concrete Show India by UBM India Pvt. Ltd. on **13-15 March 2014** at **Mumbai**. Presentations were made by the experts from India and abroad. CMA put up a stall in the exhibition in Concrete Show depicting broadly the growth achieved by the Cement Industry and its major concerns hindering sustainable growth; its initiatives towards Quality, Environmental Health and Safety, Corporate Social responsibility; CMA’s initiatives for encouraging adoption of Cement Concrete Roads, Advantages of Cement Concrete Roads/ White-Topping etc. More than 1000 participants visited CMA stall.
- CMA organized a Meeting and Presentations for the Engineers of Central Coalfields Ltd. (CCL) and Central Mine Planning & Design institute Ltd. (CMPDIL) on **23rd January 2014** at **CMPDIL Ranchi**.

Dr L. R. Kadiyali, Shri A. K. Jain made Presentations on “**Advantages &**

Cost Economics of Concrete Vs Bitumen Pavements” and **“Methodology of construction of Cement Concrete Roads/WhiteTopping”** respectively. Shri Ram Avtar, Consultant, CMA explained the application of a software developed by Dr L. R. Kadiyali for CMA to find design and cost comparison of Concrete and Bituminous Pavements. Sr. Engineer from both the organizations participated in the Presentations and detailed interactive session. CMA team also met Shri D. K. Ghose, Director Technical/ Engineering, CMPDIL, and Shri A. K. Debnath, CMD, CMPDIL and apprised them that for Coalfield area roads on which mostly heavy axle load traffic ply Cement Concrete Roads are most economical option. The Director & CMD of CMPDIL advised their Engineers to prepare comparative cost analysis for their future projects to enable the organization to take decision on the option between Bituminous and Concrete Pavements.

- Construction of 48 Km stretches of Cement Concrete Road was sanctioned under Indo-Nepal Border Road Project in the three district of Lakhimpur kheri, Siddharth Nagar and Maharaj Ganj in UP. On the request of Chief-Engineer-in-Charge Indo-Nepal Border Road Project, Public works Department, Lucknow, CMA arranged a presentation on “Design, Construction Methodology and Quality Control aspects of Cement Concrete Roads on **21st December 2013** at **Lucknow** for the Engineers involved in the construction of this Project.

Shri Binod Kumar, Scientist, CRRI, New Delhi made a detailed Presentation on the above subject on **21st December 2013**. Engineer-in-Chief and Chief Engineer in Charge of the Project were highly impressed by the presentation.

- During an interaction of Shri H. M. Bangur, Chairman, Shree Cement Ltd. With Shri A. K. Sinha, Advisor Uttar Pradesh State Highway Authority (UPSHA) at New Delhi, Shri A. K. Sinha evinced interest in Cement Concrete Roads in UP. To take the matter forward, CMA arranged a Presentation on “Cost effective solutions for the Road Pavements for UP” on **27th November 2013** at **Lucknow**.

The presentation was made by Dr. L. R. Kadiyali, a renowned Highway Expert wherein Shri Mukul Singhal, IAS, Chief Executive Officer, UP Expressway Industrial Development Authority (UPEIDA)/ UP State

Highway Authority (UPSHA) and his team of Engineers were present. Engineers from PWD and Lucknow Development Authority also participated in the Presentation.

- A seminar on “**Business Opportunities Related to Industrial Corridors in India**” was jointly organized by Belgian Embassy and PHD Chamber for High Level delegation of Belgian companies and their government representatives on **25th November 2013** in **New Delhi**. CMA officials attended the seminar. CMA suggested to the President, PHD Chamber vide letter dated 25th November 2013 to request the Belgian Delegates to strongly advocate to the Indian Government the adoption of Cement Concrete Roads in place of Bitumen Roads, in view of the success achieved in their country in this regard.
- During the discussion at the Associations’ Council meeting of CII suggestions were invited as to how to bring the economy back on rail; reduce the current deficit; improve the foreign exchange etc., CMA responded to the President of CII, Shri Ajay S Shriram by D.O. letter dated **4th October 2013** that construction of Cement Concrete Roads will obviate the use of petroleum crude resulting in saving of foreign exchange required to import crude oil. CMA requested him to also take up the Recommendations of 95th Report of Department - Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce (DRPSC) and those in the Report on Working Group on Cement Industry for the 12th Five Years plan 2012-17 for construction of Cement Concrete Roads, with the Sr. officials of concerned Ministry/Departments in centre and states.
- On behalf of Cement Industry and CMA Dr. L. R. Kadiyali, a renowned Highway Expert had an opportunity in **October 2013** to present the case for adoption of Cement Concrete Road to the Minister Road Transport & Highways at Indian Roads Congress, New Delhi. Hon’ble Minister was impressed and indicated that the Ministry will favour Cement Concrete Roads.
- Workshop on “**Construction of Cement Concrete Roads- Dos and Don’ts**” organized by Indian Concrete Institute on **23rd September 2013** at **IIT Chennai** was supported by CMA by providing publications for delegates.

- On **24th June, 2013**, Secretary General, CMA along with Shri AK Jain, Dr. V. Ramachandra and Shri G. Srinivasa of UltraTech Cement Ltd. met Shri Arun Kumar Misra, Secretary, Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation (HUPA), Govt of India, New Delhi. Shri Brij Kumar Agrawal, Jt. Secretary, HUPA and Dr. Shailesh Kumar Agrawal, Executive Director, Building Materials and Technology Promotion Council (BMTPC) were also present in the meeting. Dr. Ramachandra made detailed presentation on Rapid Monolithic Disaster Proof (RMD) Technology, its advantages over conventional construction of Low Cost Housing.
- CMA and UltraTech Cement Ltd. jointly organized a Workshop on “Cement Concrete Roads and White-Topping” on **15th June 2013** at **Dehradun**. Shri Amit Singh Negi, IAS, Addl. Secretary, PWD,



Seated on Dais in the Centre : Shri Amit Singh Negi, IAS, Addl. Secretary, PWD, Uttarakhand. To his left: Shri K.R. Bhati, IAS (Retd.), Ex-Chairman, State Administrative Tribunal, Uttarakhand & Formerly Addl. Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways; Dr. L.R. Kadiyali, Chief Executive, M/s. L.R. Kadiyali & Associates; Shri Binod Kumar, Scientist, CRRI. To his right: Shri N.A. Viswanathan, Secretary General, CMA; Shri Lalit Mohan, Engineer-in-Chief, PWD, Uttarakhand; Shri Shashi Gaggar, Asstt. Vice-President, UltraTech Cement Ltd.

Dehradun inaugurated the Workshop as Chief Guest. During the Technical Session three presentations were made by the experts on different

aspects of Cement Concrete Roads and White-Topping.

All the three presentations, were well received and evinced keen interest amongst the participants and the discussion followed showed the openness of mind of the engineers and the officers of the Govt. and the authorities towards adoption of new technologies.

- Indian Concrete Institute, Kochi Centre, organized a National Workshop on **“Sustainable Concrete Pavements : Practices, Challenges and Directions”** on **1st June 2013** at Kochi. The Workshop was supported by providing technical publications of CMA for distribution to the delegates.
- The ASAPP Media Information Group organized an Indian Cement Review Conference – 2013 with the theme **“Enhancing Operational and Logistical Efficiencies”** on **23rd April, 2013** at Mumbai. The Conference was supported by the CMA.

- Workshop on **Construction and Performance Aspects of Cement Concrete Roads** was organized jointly by Task Force for Quality Assurance in Public Construction, Govt. of Karnataka and CMA on **28th March 2013** at **Bengaluru**. The event was supported by UltraTech Cement Ltd., the Nodal Company for popularizing the Cement Concrete



A view of participants at the Workshop on Cement Concrete Roads and White-Topping held on 15th June 2013 at Dehradun

Roads/White-Topping for Maharashtra, Gujarat, Goa and Karnataka.