

The Indian Concrete Institute (ICI) has recently published '**Handbook on Concrete Durability**'. The Handbook contains state-of-the-art information on the topic of durability of concrete, including the foremost national and international trends.

The Durability Committee of ICI, which prepared the Handbook with painstakingly efforts, was drawn from a diverse background, representing around two dozen practicing senior professionals from cement and concrete industries, consulting engineers, government officials, contractors, academics, researchers, etc.

The contents of the handbook are organized in 11 chapters that are divided in three major sections, namely, *(i)* Background and Fundamentals, *(ii)* Durability Assessment and Design and *(iii)* Practical Aspects and the Way Forward.

The 100-page handbook underwent many revisions and re-revisions. The contents of the Handbook have been reviewed by three renowned experts from abroad and many of their suggestions have been incorporated in the document.

The Handbook is intended to assist the specifiers, clients, consultants and engineers in making informed decisions about the control of durability in their concrete construction. It contains a variety of recommendations, chief amongst which include: realignment of the existing definitions of exposure classes in the Indian Standards in line with the anticipated severity of exposure during the service life of structures, specifying appropriate test methods for assessing durability, control on cover to the reinforcement, adoption of service life design, adoption of performance-based specifications for critical civil engineering structures such as bridges, metro-rails, viaducts, tunnels, ports, airports, industrial structures, commercial complexes, etc.

The Handbook fulfils the long-felt need of a user-friendly and educative document on the topic of concrete durability.