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SOIL MECHANICS

CIVIL ENGINEERING

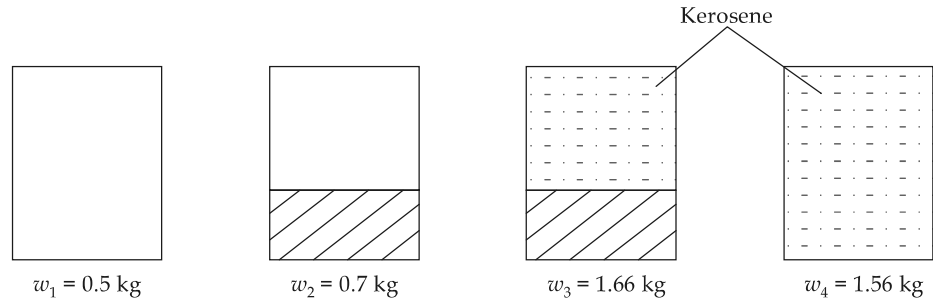
Date of Test : 12/08/2025

ANSWER KEY ➤

1. (c)	7. (c)	13. (b)	19. (b)	25. (a)
2. (d)	8. (b)	14. (c)	20. (c)	26. (a)
3. (c)	9. (a)	15. (c)	21. (a)	27. (a)
4. (c)	10. (c)	16. (b)	22. (b)	28. (d)
5. (c)	11. (c)	17. (c)	23. (b)	29. (b)
6. (c)	12. (a)	18. (a)	24. (d)	30. (b)

DETAILED EXPLANATIONS

1. (c)

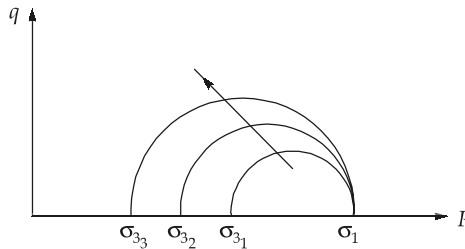


$$G_s = \left(\frac{w_2 - w_1}{w_4 - w_3 + w_2 - w_1} \right) \times G_k = \left(\frac{0.7 - 0.5}{1.56 - 1.66 + 0.7 - 0.5} \right) \times 0.8 = \left(\frac{0.2}{0.1} \right) \times 0.8$$

$$G_s = 1.6$$

2. (d)

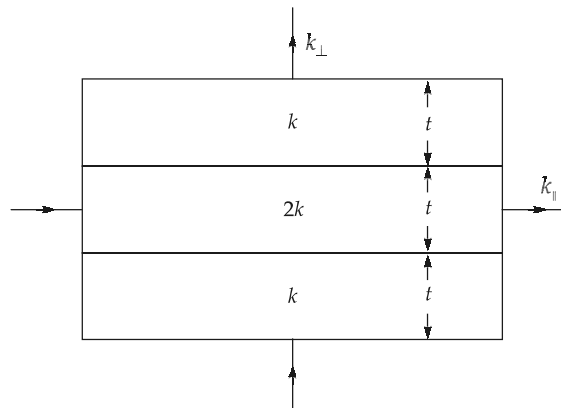
Stress path will be from right to left upwards as minor principal stress is decreasing over the time in the case of active earth pressure on retaining walls.



3. (c)

- With decrease in size, maximum dry density is lower and occur at higher water content.
- With increase in compactive effort, maximum dry density is higher and occurs at lower water content.

4. (c)



$$k_{\perp} = \frac{\sum k_i z_i}{\sum z_i} = \frac{kt + 2kt + kt}{3t} = \frac{4kt}{3t} = \frac{4k}{3}$$

$$k_{\parallel} = \frac{\sum z_i}{\sum \frac{z_i}{k_i}} = \frac{3t}{\frac{t}{k} + \frac{2t}{k} + \frac{t}{k}} = \frac{3t}{\frac{4t}{k}} = \frac{3}{4}k$$

$$\text{Ratio} = \frac{K_{\perp}}{K_{\parallel}} = \frac{\frac{4}{3}k}{\frac{3}{4}k} = \frac{16}{9} = 1.78$$

5. (c)

$$\begin{aligned} Q_{up} &= Q_{eb} + Q_{sf} \\ Q_{up} &= 0 + Q_{sf} \quad (\text{Neglecting end bearing}) \\ Q_{up} &= \alpha C_u (\pi DL) \\ &= 0.75 \times \frac{100}{2} \times \pi \times 0.5 \times 16 \\ Q_{up} &= 940 \text{ kN} \end{aligned}$$

6. (c)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Given, initial area, } A_0 &= 18 \text{ cm}^2 \\ \text{Failure strain} &= 25\% = 0.25 \\ \text{Corrected area} &= \frac{A_0}{1 - \epsilon} = \frac{18}{1 - 0.25} = \frac{18}{0.75} = 24 \text{ cm}^2 \end{aligned}$$

7. (c)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Given, } C_c &= 1.2 \\ \text{But, } C_c &= \frac{D_{30}^2}{D_{60} \times D_{10}} \\ \Rightarrow 1.2 &= \frac{(3.2)^2}{D_{60} \times 0.6} \\ D_{60} &= \frac{3.2 \times 3.2}{1.2 \times 0.6} = 14.22 \text{ mm} \\ \text{So, } C_u &= \frac{D_{60}}{D_{10}} = \frac{14.22}{0.6} = 23.70 \\ \therefore C_u &> 6 \text{ and } C_c \text{ lies between 1 and 3.} \\ \text{Hence the soil is well graded sand.} \end{aligned}$$

8. (b)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{For Taylor's square root of time fitting method,} \\ U &= 90\% \\ \text{For } U &= 90\% > 60\% \\ T_v &= 1.781 - 0.933 \times \log_{10} (100 - \%U) \\ &= 1.781 - 0.933 \times \log_{10} (10) \\ &= 0.848 \end{aligned}$$

9. (a)

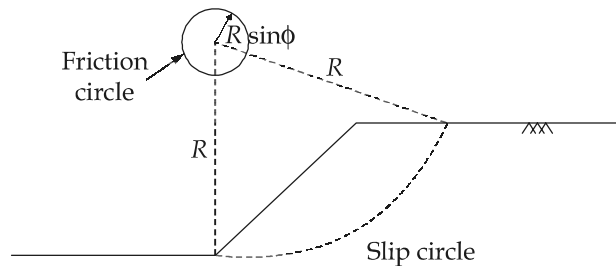
For line load, we know that

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_z &= \frac{2q}{\pi z} \left[\frac{1}{1 + \left(\frac{x}{z}\right)^2} \right]^2 = \frac{2 \times 169}{\pi \times 3} \times \left[\frac{1}{1 + \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2} \right]^2 \\ &= \frac{2 \times 169}{\pi \times 3} \times \frac{9^2}{13^2} = \frac{2 \times 169}{3 \times \pi} \times \frac{81}{169} \\ \therefore \sigma_z &= 17.19 \text{ kN/m}^2\end{aligned}$$

10. (c)

Friction circle method:

- Based on total stress analysis.
- In this method it is assumed that the resultant force R on the rupture surface is tangential to a circle of radius $R \sin \phi$, which is concentric with trial slip circle.



11. (c)

Given, $\gamma_b = 19 \text{ kN/m}^3$, $w = 17\%$

So, dry density, $\gamma_d = \frac{\gamma_b}{1 + w} = \frac{19}{1 + 0.17} = 16.24 \text{ kN/m}^3$

Also, $\gamma_d = \frac{G\gamma_w}{1 + e} = \frac{2.7 \times 9.81}{1 + e} = 16.24$

$$\Rightarrow e = \frac{2.7 \times 9.81}{16.24} - 1 = 0.631$$

When the soil is fully saturated, $S = 1$,

$$\therefore S \cdot e = w \cdot G$$

So, new moisture content,

$$w = \frac{S \cdot e}{G} = \frac{1 \times 0.631}{2.7} = 0.2337 \text{ or } 23.37\%$$

 \therefore Additional moisture content required

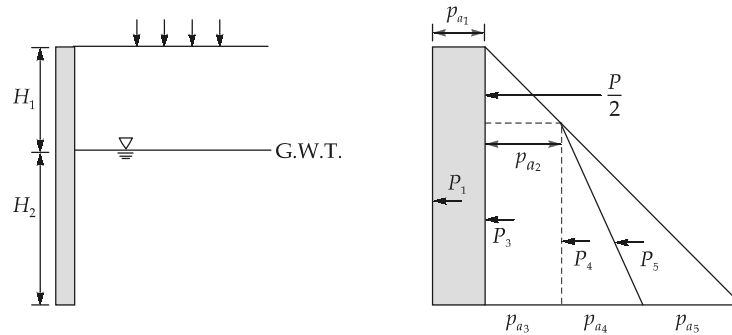
$$= 23.37 - 17 = 6.37\%$$

12. (a)

$$K_a = \tan^2 \left(45 - \frac{\phi}{2} \right) = \frac{1 - \sin \phi}{1 + \sin \phi} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\gamma_{\text{sat}} = \frac{G + e}{1 + e} \cdot \gamma_w = \frac{2.65 + 0.65}{1 + 0.65} \times 9.81 = 19.62 \text{ kN/m}^3$$

$$\therefore \gamma' = \gamma_{\text{sat}} - \gamma_w = 19.62 - 9.81 = 9.81 \text{ kN/m}^3$$



$$p_{a1} = K_a \times q = \frac{1}{3} \times 14 = 4.67 \text{ kN/m}^2$$

$$p_{a2} = K_a \cdot \gamma_d \times H_1 = \frac{1}{3} \times 15.755 \times 3 = 15.755 \text{ kN/m}^2$$

$$p_{a3} = p_{a2} = 15.755 \text{ kN/m}^2$$

$$p_{a4} = K_a \gamma' H_2 = \frac{1}{3} \times 9.81 \times 7 = 22.89 \text{ kN/m}^2$$

$$p_{a5} = \gamma_w \cdot H_2 = 9.81 \times 7 = 68.67 \text{ kN/m}^2$$

$$P_1 = p_{a1} \times H = 4.67 \times 10 = 46.7 \text{ kN/m}$$

$$P_2 = \frac{1}{2} \cdot p_{a2} \times H_1 = \frac{1}{2} \times 15.755 \times 3 = 23.633 \text{ kN/m}$$

$$P_3 = p_{a3} H_2 = 15.755 \times 7 = 110.285 \text{ kN/m}$$

$$P_4 = \frac{1}{2} \times p_{a4} \cdot H_2 = \frac{1}{2} \times 22.89 \times 7 = 80.115 \text{ kN/m}$$

$$P_5 = \frac{1}{2} \times p_{a5} H_2 = \frac{1}{2} \times 68.67 \times 7 = 240.345 \text{ kN/m}$$

$$\therefore \text{Total } P_a = 46.7 + 23.633 + 110.285 + 80.115 + 240.345 = 501.08 \text{ kN/m}$$

13. (b)

Given:

Weight of pile,

$$P_s = 22 \text{ kN}$$

Shaft diameter,

$$D_0 = 340 \text{ mm}$$

Under-ream dia,

$$D_u = 700 \text{ mm}$$

Undrained shear strength,

$$C = 60 \text{ kPa}$$

$$\alpha = 0.3, N_C = 9$$

Ultimate tensile capacity will be due to

1. Friction along the length of pile (P_1)
2. Bearing action caused by under-reamed portion (P_2)
3. Self weight of pile (P_3)

Tensile capacity due to friction

$$\begin{aligned} P_1 &= f_s \times A_s \\ &= \alpha \cdot C (\pi D_0) (L - \text{Depth of under-ream}) \\ &= 0.3 \times 60 \times \pi \times 0.34 \times (10 - 0.42) = 184.19 \text{ kN} \end{aligned}$$

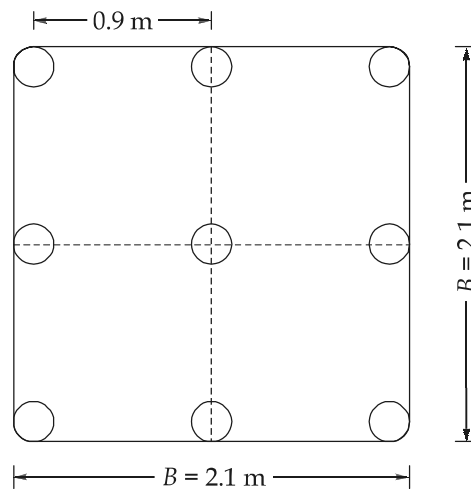
Tensile capacity due to bearing action

$$\begin{aligned} P_2 &= C N_C \cdot A \\ &= \frac{60 \times 9\pi(D_u^2 - D_o^2)}{4} = \frac{60 \times 9 \times \pi(0.7^2 - 0.34^2)}{4} = 158.79 \text{ kN} \end{aligned}$$

\therefore

$$\begin{aligned} P &= P_1 + P_2 + P_3 \\ &= 184.19 + 158.79 + 22 = 364.98 \simeq 365 \text{ kN} \end{aligned}$$

14. (c)



$$C_u = \frac{q_u}{2} = \frac{1.5}{2} = 0.75 \text{ kg/cm}^2 = 7.5 \text{ t/m}^2$$

$$B = 2 \times 0.9 + 0.3 = 2.1 \text{ m}$$

(a) Pile acting individually

$$\begin{aligned} P_n &= n \cdot \alpha \cdot C \cdot A_s \\ &= 9 \times 0.9 \times 7.5 \times (\pi \times 0.3 \times 10) \\ &= 572.6 \text{ t} \end{aligned}$$

(b) Piles acting in a group

$$P_g = C (4 BL) = 7.5 \times 4 \times 2.1 \times 10 = 630 \text{ t}$$

\therefore Efficiency for pile group,

$$\eta = \frac{P_g}{P_n} = \frac{630}{572.6} = 1.1$$

15. (c)

- Local shear failure, generally occurs in soil having somewhat plastic stress-strain curve e.g., loose sand and soft clays.
- Cyclic pile load test is carried out when it is required to determine, skin friction and end bearing capacity separately for a pile load on a single pile.

16. (b)

$$q_u = 1.3 C N_C + \gamma D_f N_q + 0.4 \gamma B N_\gamma \cdot R_\gamma$$

$$C = 0$$

$$\therefore q_u = \gamma D_f N_q + 0.4 \gamma B N_\gamma \cdot R_\gamma$$

$$R_\gamma = 0.5 \left(1 + \frac{D}{B} \right) = 0.5 \left(1 + \frac{2.5}{3} \right) = 0.917$$

$$\therefore q_u = 18 \times 1 \times 21 + 0.4 \times 20 \times 3 \times 17 \times 0.917$$

$$= 752.136 \text{ kN/m}^2$$

$$\therefore q_{nu} = q_u - \gamma D_f = 752.136 - 18 \times 1$$

$$= 734.136 \text{ kN/m}^2$$

$$\therefore q_{ns} = \frac{q_{nu}}{\text{FOS}} = \frac{734.136}{2.5} = 293.65 \text{ kN/m}^2$$

17. (c)

Shrinkage limit,

$$w_s = w_1 - \Delta w$$

$$= w_1 - \frac{\Delta V \cdot \rho_w}{M_s}$$

$$= \frac{M_1 - M_d}{M_d} - \frac{(V_1 - V_d) \rho_w}{M_d}$$

$$= \frac{55.4 - 39.8}{39.8} - \frac{(29.2 - 21.1) \times 1}{39.8} = 0.188$$

$$\text{i.e., } w_s = 18.8\%$$

18. (a)

$$S \times e = wG$$

$$\Rightarrow e = \frac{2.7 \times 0.2222}{1} \simeq 0.6$$

$$\gamma_{\text{sat}} = \left(\frac{G + e}{1 + e} \right) \gamma_w = \left(\frac{2.7 + 0.6}{1 + 0.6} \right) \times 10$$

$$= 20.625 \text{ kN/m}^3$$

Effective stress at centre of clay layer

$$\bar{\sigma}_0 = (18 - 10) \times 2 + (20.625 - 10) \times 0.5$$

$$\Rightarrow \bar{\sigma}_0 = 21.31 \text{ kN/m}^2$$

Load distribution dimensions at the centre of clay layer = $2 + 0.75 + 0.75 = 3.5 \text{ m}$

$$\text{Increase in stress due to load} = \frac{200}{3.5 \times 3.5}$$

$$\Delta\sigma = 16.33 \text{ kN/m}^2$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta H &= \frac{C_c H}{1+e} \log_{10} \left(\frac{\bar{\sigma}_0 + \Delta\sigma}{\bar{\sigma}_0} \right) \\ &= \frac{0.4 \times 1}{1+0.6} \log_{10} \left(\frac{21.31 + 16.33}{21.31} \right) \\ &= 0.06176 \text{ m} = 61.67 \text{ mm}\end{aligned}$$

19. (b)

Total load, $Q = 200 \times 4 \times 4 = 3200 \text{ kN}$

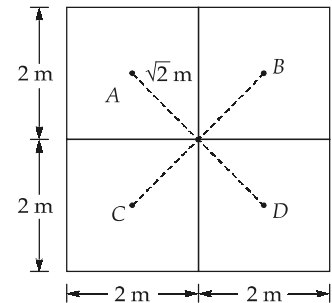
Divide this load in four equal squares of $2 \text{ m} \times 2 \text{ m}$ size, as shown in figure,

$$\therefore \text{Load in each part square} = \frac{3200}{4} = 800 \text{ kN}$$

The distance from A to O i.e. $AO = \sqrt{2} \text{ m}$

By symmetry, the stress σ_z at O at 4 m depth is four times of that caused by one load.

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_z &= \frac{4 \times 800}{4^2} \times \frac{3}{2\pi} \times \left[\frac{1}{1 + \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{4} \right)^2} \right]^{5/2} \\ &= 71.136 \text{ kN/m}^2 \simeq 71.14 \text{ kN/m}^2\end{aligned}$$



20. (c)

$$L = 10 \text{ m}, d = 0.3 \text{ m}, W = 25 \text{ kN}, H = 2 \text{ m}$$

Penetration in 5 blows = 40 mm

$$\therefore \text{In 1 blow, penetration i.e. } S = \frac{40}{5} = 8 \text{ mm} = 0.8 \text{ cm}$$

$$\begin{aligned}Q_{\text{safe}} &= \frac{WH}{S+C} \times \frac{1}{\text{FOS}} \\ &= \frac{1}{6} \left[\frac{25 \times 2}{0.8 + 2.5} \right] \times 100 = 252.53 \text{ kN}\end{aligned}$$

21. (a)

As more than 50% is retained on 75 μ IS sieve, the soil is coarse-grained.

$$\text{Coarse fraction} = 100 - 45 = 55\%$$

$$\text{Gravel fraction} = 100 - 60 = 40\%$$

$$\text{Sand fraction} = 55 - 40 = 15\%$$

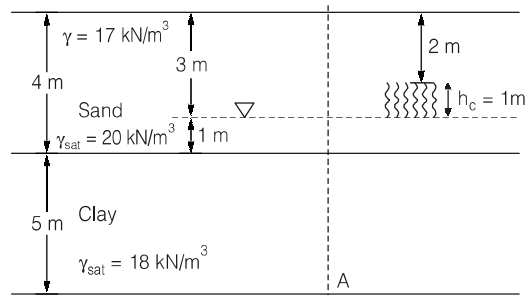
As more than half the coarse fraction is larger than 4.75 mm sieve, the soil is gravel.

$$\text{Also, } I_p = w_L - w_p = 40 - 12 = 28\%$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{A-line, } I_p &= 0.73 (w_L - 20) \\ &= 0.73 (40 - 20) = 14.6\%\end{aligned}$$

$\therefore I_p$ is above A-line, therefore the soil should be GC as per IS classification.

22. (b)



Effective stress at A,

$$\begin{aligned}(\bar{\sigma}_A)_i &= 3\gamma_{\text{sand}} + 1(\gamma_{\text{sat}} - \gamma_w)_{\text{sand}} + 5(\gamma_{\text{sat}} - \gamma_w)_{\text{clay}} \\&= 3 \times 17 + 1(20 - 9.81) + 5(18 - 9.81) \\&= 51 + 10.19 + 40.95 \\&= 102.14 \text{ kN/m}^2\end{aligned}$$

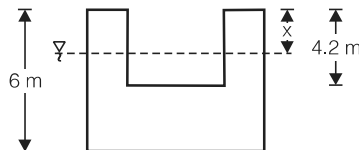
If the soil gets saturated by capillary action then,

$$\begin{aligned}(\bar{\sigma}_A)_f &= 2\gamma_{\text{sand}} + 1\gamma_{\text{sat, sand}} + 1\gamma'_{\text{sand}} + 5\gamma'_{\text{clay}} \\&= 2 \times 17 + 1(20) + (20 - 9.81) + 5(18 - 9.81) \\&= 34 + 20 + 10.19 + 40.95 \\&= 105.14 \text{ kN/m}^2\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\therefore \text{Increase in effective stress at A} &= (\bar{\sigma}_A)_f - (\bar{\sigma}_A)_i = 105.14 - 102.14 \\&= 3 \text{ kN/m}^2\end{aligned}$$

23. (b)

Let x be the depth of ground water table initially.



Total upward water force on the sand stratum at the bottom of excavation

$$= (6 - x) \times \gamma_w$$

Total downward force at the bottom of excavation

= Weight of soil in saturated condition

$$= \gamma_{\text{sat}} \times (6 - 4.2)$$

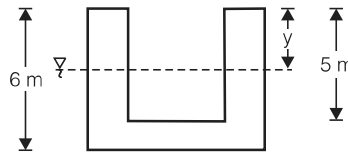
$$= (\gamma_{\text{sub}} + \gamma_w) \times 1.8$$

When quicksand condition occurs, then total upward water force becomes equal to total downward force i.e.

$$\begin{aligned}(6 - x) \times \gamma_w &= (\gamma_{\text{sub}} + \gamma_w) \times 1.8 \\ \Rightarrow (6 - x) \times 10 &= (11 + 10) \times 1.8\end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 6 - \frac{21 \times 1.8}{10}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 2.22 \text{ m}$$



Similarly, if the depth of displaced ground water table is y from the surface, then

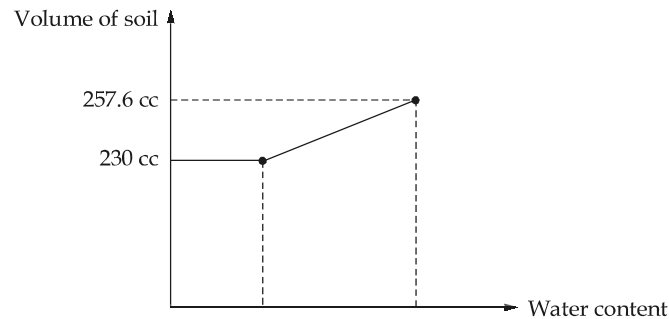
$$(6 - y) \times \gamma_w = (6 - 5) \times (\gamma_{\text{sub}} + \gamma_w)$$

$$\Rightarrow (6 - y) \times 10 = 1 \times (11 + 10)$$

$$\Rightarrow y = 6 - 2.1 = 3.9 \text{ m}$$

$$\therefore \text{Lowering of ground water table required} = y - x \\ = 3.9 - 2.2 = 1.68 \text{ m}$$

24. (d)



$$w_s = 0.151 \quad w_1 = \text{unknown}$$

$$w_{\text{soil}} = 450 \text{ gm} \quad w_{\text{solid}} = 391 \text{ gm}$$

$$w_{\text{solid}} = 391 \text{ gm}$$

$$w_w = 450 - 391 = 59 \text{ gm}$$

$$w_s = 0.51$$

$$\therefore \gamma_d = \frac{391}{230} = 1.7 \text{ g/cc}$$

$$V_2 = 1.12 \times 230 = 257.6 \text{ cc}$$

{ \therefore 12% increment in original volume}

Now, shrinkage ratio, $R = G_D = \frac{\gamma_d}{\gamma_w} = 1.7$

We, also know, $R = \frac{\frac{V_1 - V_s}{V_s}}{w_1 - w_s}$

$$\Rightarrow 1.7 = \frac{(257.6 - 230)}{w_1 - 0.151}$$

$$\Rightarrow w_1 = 0.22 \simeq 22\%$$

$$w_w = w_1 \times w_{\text{solid}}$$

$$\therefore w_w = w_1 \times w_{\text{solid}} = 0.22 \times 391 = 86.64 \text{ gm}$$

$$\Delta w_w = 86.64 - 59 = 27.02 \text{ gm}$$

$$\Delta V_w = 27.64 \text{ cc}$$

$$(\because \gamma_w = 1 \text{ g/cc})$$

25. (a)

$\sigma_3 = 1000 \text{ kPa}$, $\sigma_3' = \sigma_3 - u$; $\sigma_d = 1600 \text{ kPa}$; $\sigma_1' = \sigma_1 - u$; $\sigma_1 = 2600 \text{ kPa}$; as $(\sigma_1 = \sigma_3 + \sigma_d)$

We know,

$$\sigma_1' = \sigma_3' \tan^2 \left(45 + \frac{\phi'}{2} \right) + 2c' \tan \left(45 + \frac{\phi'}{2} \right)$$

$$(\sigma_1 - u) = (\sigma_3 - u) \tan^2 \left(45 + \frac{\phi'}{2} \right) + 2c' \tan \left(45 + \frac{\phi'}{2} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow (2600 - u) = (1000 - u) \tan^2 \left(45 + \frac{25}{2} \right) + 2(220) \tan \left(45 + \frac{25}{2} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow (2600 - u) = (1000 - u)(2.463) + 691$$

$$\Rightarrow 2600 - u = 2463 - 2.463u + 691$$

$$\Rightarrow 1.463u = 2463 + 691 - 2600$$

$$\Rightarrow u = 378.67 \text{ kPa} \simeq 378 \text{ kPa (say)}$$

26. (a)

$$\text{FOS} = \frac{c' + \gamma' H \cos^2 \beta \tan \phi}{\gamma_{\text{sat}} H \cos \beta \sin \beta}$$

For

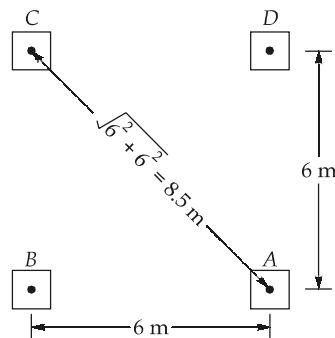
$$\text{FOS} = 1, \text{ at } H = H_C$$

$$\therefore H_C = \frac{C'}{\cos^2 \beta [\gamma_{\text{sat}} \tan \beta - \gamma' \tan \phi']}$$

$$\Rightarrow H_C = \frac{12}{\cos^2 (18^\circ) [19 \tan 18^\circ - (19 - 9.81) \tan 15^\circ]}$$

$$\Rightarrow H_C = 3.57 \text{ m}$$

27. (a)



For footing A, B, C, D, the $\frac{r}{Z}$ ratios are 0, $\frac{6}{3}$, $\frac{6}{3}$ and $\frac{8.5}{3}$ respectively.

$$\sigma_z = \frac{3}{2\pi} \left[\frac{1}{1 + \left(\frac{r}{Z} \right)^2} \right]^{5/2} \frac{Q}{Z^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \quad \sigma_z &= \frac{3Q}{2\pi Z^2} \left[\left(\frac{1}{1+(0)^2} \right)^{5/2} + 2 \left(\frac{1}{1+\left(\frac{6}{3}\right)^2} \right)^{5/2} + \left(\frac{1}{1+\left(\frac{8.5}{3}\right)^2} \right)^{5/2} \right] \\ \Rightarrow \quad \sigma_z &= \frac{3 \times 600}{2\pi(3)^2} [1.0398] \\ \Rightarrow \quad \sigma_z &= 33.09 \text{ kN/m}^2 \simeq 33 \text{ kN/m}^2 \end{aligned}$$

28. (d)

For test 1

$$\sigma_3 = 200 \text{ kPa}; \sigma_d = 600 \text{ kPa}; \sigma_1 = 200 + 600 = 800 \text{ kPa}$$

For test 2

$$\sigma_3 = 350 \text{ kPa}; \sigma_d = 1050 \text{ kPa}; \sigma_1 = 350 + 1050 = 1400 \text{ kPa}$$

We know

$$\sigma_1 = \sigma_3 \tan^2 \left(45 + \frac{\phi}{2} \right) + 2C \tan \left(45 + \frac{\phi}{2} \right)$$

$$\sigma_1 = \sigma_3 \tan^2 \alpha + 2C \tan \alpha$$

Let

$$\tan \alpha = X$$

 \therefore

$$\sigma_1 = \sigma_3 X^2 + 2CX$$

$$800 = 200 X^2 + 2CX \quad \dots(1)$$

$$1400 = 350 X^2 + 2CX \quad \dots(2)$$

$$\frac{-600 = -150X^2}{\Rightarrow} \quad X = 2$$

 \therefore

$$\tan \left(45 + \frac{\phi}{2} \right) = 2$$

 \therefore

$$\phi = 36.87^\circ$$

 \therefore

$$C = 0$$

At X-X section

$$\tau = C + \sigma' \tan \phi$$

 \Rightarrow

$$\tau = 0 + [(17.5 \times 2) + (21.5 - 9.81)(3)] \tan 36.87^\circ$$

 \Rightarrow

$$\tau = 52.55 \text{ kPa}$$

29. (b)

As the flow is in upward direction.

 \therefore

$$P_H = H_1 + Z + iZ$$

Where,

$$H_1 = \text{Height of water above soil surface} = 2 \text{ m}$$

$$Z = \text{Vertical depth of section} = 1 \text{ m}$$

$$i = \text{Hydraulic gradient} = \frac{\Delta h}{L} = \frac{2}{4} = 0.5$$

 \therefore

$$P_H = 2 + 1 + 0.5 (1)$$

 \Rightarrow

$$P_H = 3.5 \text{ m}$$

$$\text{Datum head} = 3 \text{ m}$$

 \therefore

$$\text{Total head} = 3 + 3.5 = 6.5 \text{ m}$$

$$\text{Head loss} = \text{Total available head} - \text{Total head at } P$$

$$= (4 + 2 + 2) - (7.5) = 1.5 \text{ m}$$

30. (b)

For sample A:

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_d &= 105 \text{ kPa} \\ \sigma_3 &= 150 \text{ kPa} \\ \sigma_1 &= \sigma_3 + \sigma_d = 255 \text{ kPa} \end{aligned}$$

i.e.

$$\sigma_1 = \sigma_3 \tan^2 \theta_c + 2c \tan \theta_c \left[\text{where } \theta_c \left(45^\circ + \frac{\phi}{2} \right) \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma_1 = \sigma_3 X^2 + 2c X$$

$$\Rightarrow 255 = 150 X^2 + 2c X \quad \dots(i)$$

For sample B:

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_d &= 200 \text{ kPa} \\ \sigma_3 &= 300 \text{ kPa} \\ \sigma_1 &= \sigma_3 + \sigma_d = 500 \text{ kPa} \end{aligned}$$

i.e.

$$\sigma_1 = \sigma_3 \tan^2 \theta_c + 2c \tan \theta_c$$

$$\sigma_1 = \sigma_3 X^2 + 2c X$$

$$500 = 300 X^2 + 2c X \quad \dots(ii)$$

Solving equations (i) and (ii)

$$\begin{array}{r} 255 = 150 X^2 + 2c X \\ 500 = 300 X^2 + 2c X \\ \hline -245 = -150 X^2 \end{array}$$

$$\Rightarrow X^2 = 1.633$$

$$\therefore X = \tan \left(45^\circ + \frac{\phi}{2} \right) = 1.278$$

$$\therefore \phi = \left[\tan^{-1} (1.278) - 45 \right] \times 2 = 13.92^\circ$$

Put value of ϕ in equation (i)

$$255 = 150 \tan^2 \left(45^\circ + \frac{13.92}{2} \right) + 2c \tan \left(45^\circ + \frac{13.92}{2} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow c = 3.899 \text{ kPa} \simeq 3.9 \text{ kPa}$$

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