

RECOMMENDED GUIDELINES ON  
**PROOF CONSULTANCY  
SERVICES FOR BUILDINGS**



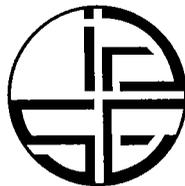
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**INDIAN ASSOCIATION OF  
STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS**



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**Price: ₹ 1000/-**  
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**ANNEXURE – D**

**SAMPLE PROOFCHECK CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE  
(For Proof Checking Level-3)**

Name of Project \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Structure \_\_\_\_\_  
Structure Ref. No. \_\_\_\_\_

- i. An independent Proof Checking review has been undertaken in relation to the structural designs represented by the Designer's Construction Drawings, Design Basis Report & Specifications as listed in the attached schedule S-1.
- ii. We certify that reasonable professional skill and care has been used by the PDC in the preparation of the Drawings of (name of structure). The execution drawings have been checked by us for compliance in accordance with the agreed Design Philosophy and relevant standards & specifications as stated in attached schedule S-2.
- iii. All relevant design actions and design assumptions are covered by the design basis report(DBR) and that these actions and assumptions and the overall concept meet the requirements of the Owner's Project.
- iv. A detailed independent design of individual structural elements and the structure as a whole has been carried out by us based on the construction drawings and we certify that the strength, stability, serviceability, and durability requirements, as defined in the Owner's Project Requirements are met.
- v. List of Drawings proof checked is given in the attached schedule S-1 and we certify that these drawings reasonably describe:
  - a. the accuracy of critical detailing and geometry;
  - b. the completeness of drawings for execution;
  - c. the adequacy of specifications & quality check for materials;
- vi. Review of Geotechnical matters for building works include a review of the Geotechnical parameters and ground water report for the site. The Geotechnical Report conforms to the requirements spelt out in IS codes and standards and includes the recommended design values and foundation types along with safety aspects.

Signed & Stamped \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Engineering Qualification \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_



To be signed & Stamped by  
the Team Leader of the PCs  
Organisation

Encl. Schedule S-1 & S-2

(NOTE: THIS CERTIFICATE IS TO BE GIVEN ON THE LETTER HEAD OF PC'S ORGANISATION)

## ANNEXURE – H

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING PROOF CHECKING

The following questions from Client, Consultants, Professional Engineers and answers hereby are intended to demonstrate how the principles outlined in this guideline can be applied to specific situations.

**Q1: What is meant by Proof Checking?**

A: Proof Checking is a documented evaluation of the structural design concept, details based on qualitative as well as quantitative examination of the structural design documents by an experienced professional or a team of professionals with specialised knowledge, who has not been involved in preparing the design, before the documents are issued for Construction.

**Q2: How is Proof checking different from Peer Review?**

A: Peer Review is performed to judge the performance of the work done by PDC. Proof Checking is performed to assess the correctness, completeness & appropriateness of the content in a document produced by the PDC. Proof Checking will result in a firm opinion about the quality of the output of work performed by the PDC while the Peer Review will only reveal qualitatively the performance of the PDC and NOT quantitatively the quality of the output.

**Q3: Who should appoint the Proof Checking Consultant - Owner, Contractor or Consultant?**

A: Though all the practices are prevalent, it is desirable that the PC be appointed by the Owner, so that the PC is not under any duress in expressing his technical opinion. If PC is appointed by the Contractor / PDC, he will be commercially dependent on his Client, which may put pressure on the PC while expressing his opinion. Regardless of who appoints the PC, the independence of the PC to express his opinion freely shall be ensured by the appointing agency.

**Q4: Should the PDC share all documents with the PC (including soft copies of worksheets) to facilitate proof checking?**

A: The documents to be shared by the PDC would depend upon the category and Model of proof checking. This should be clearly specified in the terms of reference of the contract of both the PDCs & PCs. For Model-1

checking, hard copies of all design calculations and drawings are to be shared. For Model-2 and Model-3 checking, only drawings and design basis report is to be shared. PC should not demand for the soft copies of worksheets from the PDC. He should carry out his own independent design calculations, wherever required.

**Q5: What is the way forward in case there is a deadlock when PDC and the PC disagree on any technical issue?**

A: It depends upon who has appointed the PC and PDC. In case Proof checking Consultant is appointed by the Owner and PDC is appointed by the Contractor, the views of PC will be treated as Owner's view. In case both the parties are appointed by Owner, choosing which of two professional opinions to accept is the prerogative of the Owner. If the two agencies disagree, the Owner can choose the option that is more acceptable to him/her. **The Owner can take the opinion of a third party, if he/she feels so, but finally, the decision regarding how to proceed further rests with the Owner.** Such difference of opinion needs to be highlighted by either party while issuing the Design Certificate / Check Certificate.

**Q6: If Proof Checking Consultant fails to identify deficiency in Design / Drawings prepared by the PDC, would the PC be held accountable for the oversight?**

A: Yes. The PC has to share liability for any oversight on his/her part.

**Q7: Is the PC responsible for failure arising out of his recommendations?**

A: Yes. PC is jointly responsible for the opinions given by him. The degree of liability will depend upon the terms of reference of his contract agreement.

**Q8: Should there be any limit regarding the liability of PC, in the contract agreement with clients?**

A: Yes. The extent of liability must be clearly defined in the contract agreement between PC and his Client.

**Q9: Is there any need for the PC to give comments in writing, formally? Will it not be better to informally discuss the issues with PDC & resolve without any**

**exchange of communication, to save time?**

A: All comments of the PC & the response of the PDC must be documented. The issues should be discussed with the PDC and resolved, but documentation of the comments and response should not be dispensed with.

**Q10: Should the PC give his technical opinion on issues which are outside his scope of work?**

A: PC should give opinions only on those matters, which is covered in his scope. Giving opinion on issues which are outside the scope of PC can lead to undesirable conflict between PDC and the PC.