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Name of Scholar: Mohd Amir Jafri
Name of Supervisors: Prof. Mohd. Shakeel, Prof. Saif Said, and Prof. T. Vijay Kumar
Department: Department of Civil Engineering, Faculty of Engineering & Technology, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

Topic of Research: Experimental Investigation of Channel Responses at Bends against Different Configurations of Groynes for Erosion Control

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Key Findings

Here are ten key findings from my Ph.D. thesis, *"Experimental Investigation of Channel Responses at Bends against Different Configurations of Groynes for Erosion Control"*:

1. **Role of Groynes in Flow Modification**: Groynes effectively alter the hydraulic behavior of meandering channels by redistributing flow velocity, reducing shear stresses, and mitigating bank erosion. Various configurations (Basic, L, T, and inclined L-Groynes) impact sediment deposition and scour patterns differently.
2. **Meandering Channel Dynamics**: The study highlights the complex velocity and shear force distributions in sinuous channels. These distributions are influenced by channel sinuosity and groyne placement, demonstrating the critical interaction of primary and secondary flow fields.
3. **Erosion Control Efficiency**: Groynes significantly reduced erosion by up to 80%, but their effectiveness depended on their shape, size, and positioning. The inclined L-groyne (135°) provided the most optimal erosion control among the tested configurations.
4. **Scour Depth Patterns**: Scour depth near groynes increased with higher Froude numbers and sharper placement angles, with peak scouring occurring around 75° groyne inclinations.
5. **Sediment Deposition and Stability**: The arrangement of groynes influenced sediment deposition patterns, creating stable zones near banks. Proper spacing and configuration facilitated uniform sedimentation, enhancing bank stability.
6. **Velocity Profile Insights**: Detailed velocity measurements revealed that horizontal velocity dissipation varied with groyne configurations and channel sections, emphasizing the importance of precise modelling for flow prediction.
7. **Use of Advanced Techniques**: The application of Acoustic Doppler Velocimetry (ADV) provided high-resolution insights into velocity profiles, enabling accurate visualization of flow dynamics along meandering paths.

8. **Hydraulic Characteristics of Groynes**: Variations in groyne geometry (e.g., L and T shapes) and spacing altered hydraulic forces, influencing sediment transport and deposition mechanisms.
9. **Environmental and Structural Impact**: The study confirmed that groynes could restore aquatic habitats by promoting sediment deposition and vegetation growth along riverbanks, supporting ecological balance.
10. **Research Gaps Addressed**: The work bridged gaps in understanding the efficacy of groyne configurations under varying flow conditions, providing empirical models for erosion management and practical guidance for future river training projects.