Comparative Analysis of Underground & Underwater Tunnel

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Abstract:- With the urban population increasing, congestion is getting more and more crowded, traffic jam happens everywhere. In this case, utilization of the underground and underwater space has become an effective way to undertake this set of problems. Tunnel construction is one of the important infrastructure projects, which is vital for enhancing the transportation networks, especially in congested cities. This review project presents a framework for selecting the appropriate tunneling method and transportation network with respect to the induced ground surface settlements. Parameters which have significant influence on the ground surface settlement will also be discussed in this project. This paper will help the contractors, engineers and designer in selecting appropriate method and estimating the required cost and time for construction of a tunnel.

Keywords: Settlement, tunneling method, tunnel geometry, geological condition, parameters effecting tunnel.

I. INTRODUCTION

Tunnel construction for transport routes is becoming increasingly important worldwide. Transport is accelerated and optimum protection is provided for the environment and the landscape. Many tunnels are considered technological masterpieces and governments have honored tunnel engineers as heroes. Constructing a tunnel, however, is one of the most complex challenges in the field of civil engineering. Tunnels are attractive solutions for railways, roadways, public utilities and telecommunications.

Worldwide population is increasing rapidly so the need of rapid or quick transportation to counter this approximately 3/4th of earth floor which is under water is to be used. This give rise to construction of underwater tunnel. An underwater tunnel is a passage, gallery or roadway beneath a body of water. Underwater tunnels are used for highway traffic, rail road and subways to transport sewage, oils, gas or vehicles and also for military and civil defense purpose.

Modern underwater tunneling begins by constructing an immersed tube within a pre-dug trench on the river or sea floor, to do this pre-fabricated sections of steel and concrete tube are floated into position and strategically sunk into the trench. Immersed tunneling is an art of guiding the great natural force, the water, to do Engineering works: “guiding” buoyancy for transportation, “guiding” water weights for immersion, and “guiding” hydrostatic pressure for connection.

II. LIMITATION EXISTING SYSTEM

1) Immersed tunnels are often partly exposed (usually with some rock armour and natural siltation) on the river/sea bed, risking a sunken ship/anchor strike.
2) Direct contact with water necessitates careful waterproofing design around the joints.
3) The sectional approach requires careful design of the connections, where longitudinal effects and forces must be transferred across.
4) Environmental impact of tube and underwater embankment on existing channel/sea bed.

III. SCOPE AND OBJECTIVE

SCOPE:
1. Due to shortage of land and rapidly growing traffic and population, various underwater tunneling construction techniques should be implemented.
2. As underwater tunnel have shorter routes than bridges and roadways, its saves our important time.
3. Different materials such as oils, gas and drinking water can be simultaneously transported along with the traffic route.
4. By using advanced technologies transparent tube can be built which gives very aesthetic and attractive view for passengers and tourist.
5. Therefore making the overall project cost effective.

OBJECTIVE:
Tunnels are underground passages used for transportation. They could be used for carrying freights and passengers, water, sewage, etc. Tunnels are more economical than open cuts beyond certain depths. Tunnels avoid disturbing or interfering with surface life and traffic during construction. Tunnels prove to be cheaper than bridges or open cuts to carry public utility services like water, sewer and gas. Feasibility of these constructions in natural materials, such as rock and soil, causes the geological conditions to play a major role in their stability. Aspects of major importance and that is decisive for the feasibility of a tunnel project is geological conditions, construction time and costs. The objective of this lesson is to provide the general aspects of importance in tunnels, their types and methods of tunnelling.
IV. LITERATURE REVIEW

1) Douglas Allenby & John W.T. Ropkins, (2006), Creating underground space at shallow depth beneath our cities using jacked box tunneling. This paper describes the jacked box tunnel method with example, its use and detailed about the sensitivity. Jack box tunnel is a method of construction that enables Engineers to create underground space at shallow depth in a manner that avoids disruption of valuable infrastructure and reduces impact on environment.

2) Kamaladdin Edalat & Mohammad Javad Vahdatirad, (2010), Choosing TBM for Tabriz subway using multi-criteria method: Case study of Tabriz Urban Railway Line is presented in this paper. The TBM model is used for construction of tunnel. Two kinds of TBM model suggested, EPH (Earth Pressure Balance), SS (Slurry Shield) are used and compared for various parametric, environment, technical, and economical effect on the project.

3) Ford, Charles (1997): Immersed tunnel techniques 2. Proceedings of the international conference organized by the Institution of Civil Engineers in association with the Institution of Engineers of Ireland and held in Cork, Ireland on 23-24 April 1997. Thomas Telford, London (United Kingdom), ISBN 9780727726049, pp. 368.

4) Mouratidis, (2008), The “Cut-and-Cover” and “Cover and-Cut” Techniques in Highway Engineering: The use of “Cut & Cover” and “Cover and Cut” methods are studied in this paper for construction of underground tunnels or subways. In this paper, the overview of both the methods is presented which includes describing main features, advantages and field applications.

5) Mariagrazia Di Pilato; Anna Feriani; Federico Perotti (17 March 2008). “Numerical models for the dynamic response of submerged floating tunnels under seismic loading”. Earthquake Engineering & Structural Dynamics, Volume 37 Issue 9, pages 1203–1222. Archived from the original on 5 January 2013.

d. INVESTIGATIONS FOR TUNNELLING

1. Geological Investigations – relation between bed rock and top soil.
2. Morphology, Petrology, Stratigraphy
3. Electrical Resistivity Methods – positions of weak zones - faults, folds and shear zones.

VI. DEVELOPMENT OF TUNNEL AND CONSTRUCTION METHODS

• UNDERGROUND TUNNEL

a. Cut and Cover Method of Tunnel Construction

Cut and cover method of tunnel construction is generally used to build shallow tunnels. In this method, a trench is cut in the soil and it is covered by some support which can be capable of bearing load on it.

b. Bored Tunnel Method

Bored tunnel method is modern technology. In this case, tunnel boring machines are used which automatically work and makes the entire tunneling process easier. It is also quicker process and good method to build tunnel in high traffic areas.

c. Clay Kicking Method of Tunnel Construction

This method is used for strong clayey soil conditions. This is an old method and used for small works like sewage pipes installations etc. In this method, a hole is excavated into the ground and after some depth tunnel is excavated which is done by the clay kicker which lies on a plank at...
45° angle. An excavating tool is provided under clay kicker foot.

d. Shaft Method of Tunnel Construction
   In this method tunnel is constructed at greater depth from the ground surface. The shaft is built up to the depth where tunnel is required.

e. Pipe Jacking Method of Tunnel Construction
   Pipe jacking method is used to construct tunnels under existing structures like road ways, railways etc. In this method, specially made pipes are driven into underground using hydraulic jacks. Maximum size of 3.2-meter diameter is allowed for tunnels.

• UNDERWATER TUNNEL

A. Immersed tube tunnel
   An immersed tube tunnel is made up of many prefabricated tubes constructed on land, which are then floated and moved to its dredged location by romorks in the sea. The tubes are lowered and connected with each other underwater.

I. STEEL SHELL TUNNELS

a. SINGLE STEEL SHELL
   A single steel shell element has an external steel shell fabricated typically from 10 mm steel plate. This does not have to be the traditional circular steel tunnel shape as can be seen in Figure. The steel shell provides strength and water tightness.

b. DOUBLE STEEL SHELL
   The cross section of a double steel shell has two steel skins. There is an inner steel shell, which is thinner than the steel shell of a single shell tunnel and typically 8 mm thick. This outer form plate is slightly thinner than the inner shell at typically 6 mm.

II. CONCRETE TUNNELS

a. MONOLITHIC CONCRETE ELEMENT CONSTRUCTION
   The first, simplest and most straightforward of the concrete tunnel options is the monolithic element. Each tunnel element is a continuous structure that acts as a beam.

b. SEGMENTAL CONCRETE ELEMENT CONSTRUCTION
   The segmental form concrete tunnel element was developed from the original monolithic tunnel element to avoid the need for an external waterproofing membrane.

c. PRESTRESSED CONCRETE
   A variation of the monolithic reinforced concrete element is to prestress it with permanent longitudinal prestress. This form of tunnel element can have advantages in reducing the amount of longitudinal reinforcement and also the overall compressive stress it provides tends to close any cracks in the concrete, reducing the likelihood of leakage.

d. COMPOSITE SANDWICH TUNNEL
   The use of steel–concrete composite sandwich construction is a more recent development that has mostly been promoted in Japan, although a lot of research and testing has also been carried out in the United Kingdom. The concrete is placed between the steel plates, so a very fluid self-compacting mix is required. Placing this concrete and ensuring sufficient compaction and complete filling of the void between the plates is one of the main challenges of this method.

B. Submerged Floating Tunnel
   A submerged floating tunnel (SFT), also known as submerged floating tube bridge (SFTB), suspended tunnel, or Archimedes bridge, is a proposed design for a tunnel that floats in water, supported by its buoyancy (specifically,
by employing the hydrostatic thrust, or Archimedes’ principle)

VII. HEALTH AND SAFETY, AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT IN TUNNELING

a. OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH
   Occupational health is seldom allocated the priority it should be, given the number of days lost to ill health. The reasons for occupational health provision are two-fold:
   • To address ill health due to work.
   • To ensure fitness for work.

b. WELFARE AND FIRST AID
   The provision of basic welfare in tunnels under construction is improving. Space for basic toilet and washing facilities is limited in small tunnels, but in larger tunnels there is enough space for toilet means of boiling water and heating food as part of the TBM equipment aids welfare and reduces the risk from improvised electrical installations. First aid provisions must be available to meet the requirements of the project in terms of shift working and remote working et and washing facilities on the TBM or in the tunnel.

c. EDUCATION, TRAINING AND COMPETENCE
   Large tunnelling projects may need to set up their own training facilities, for example Cross Rail in the UK set up its own ‘Tunnelling Academy’ to train the large number of workers required for this project.
   All new employees in the industry should undergo comprehensive induction training. Site-specific training, even for experienced employees who are new to a site, is also necessary. Engineers and managers now undertake training in health and safety matters as part of their professional education and continuing professional development.

d. FIRE, FLOOD RESCUE AND ESCAPE
   Among the most significant safety hazards of tunnelling, to which the workforce is exposed, are fire and smoke. Good housekeeping is another vital precaution in minimizing the buildup of flammable rubbish, which typically in tunnelling includes timber, plastic bottles, paper, discarded hoses and cables. All hydraulic systems should be well engineered.

e. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
   Environmental legislation is becoming stricter globally as awareness of potential impacts increases. At the same time, methods to manage impacts are becoming more sophisticated, and it is essential to understand the issues and how they can best be dealt with, whether as a planner, designer, constructor, or project sponsor. The production of an environmental impact assessment (EIA) is a standard requirement in most countries around the world and is used as a tool for ensuring impacts.

f. TUNNEL APPROACHES
   The major impact of an immersed tunnel scheme generally occurs during construction when disturbance of the waterway and the banks is inevitable. Often, the banks are environmentally sensitive, are recreational areas or protected wildlife areas, or are areas of outstanding landscape importance. In an estuary or tidal river location, constructing the approaches will almost certainly raise environmental issues relating to the intertidal mudflats.

g. MARINE WORKS
   The main activity in the waterway itself is the excavation, and subsequent backfilling, of the trench for the tunnel. Placing of tunnel elements is relatively fast and causes no real disturbance to the environment. Dredging, by its very nature, stirs up the bed of the river, resulting in an increased amount of sediment in the river.

h. FISHERIES
   Once a tunnel has been completed, there is no long-term effect on the movement of fish up and down the river. The one caveat to this is that if an impressed current cathodic protection system is installed, there is the potential for electric currents to disturb the fish, and this effect should not be overlooked.

i. ALGAE & WATER QUALITY
   At some tunnel sites there is the possibility of blooms of algae that can hinder construction. These can be a severe handicap to the construction process.
   As discussed, changes to the water quality during construction can adversely affect the marine biology. Oxygen content and turbidity are factors affecting the quality of marine life and strict limits on the extent of any changes during construction must be imposed.

   ![Table]

| Parameter                        | Typical target values                      |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Dissolved oxygen level to be     | 5 mg/L (95 percentile)                     |
| maintained during construction   | 3 mg/L absolute minimum                    |
| Turbidity limit                  | <30 to 50 FTU                              |
| Suspended solids limit           | 200 mg/L (95 percentile)                   |
|                                  | 500 mg/L absolute maximum                  |

j. VISUAL ASPECTS & AIR QUALITY
   A tunnel imposes far less visual intrusion on a waterway and the surrounding area than a bridge. Once completed it is often almost invisible, except from the air. These include service buildings, ventilation inlet and exhaust towers, the architectural appearance of the portals, and the type of approach structures.
   The tunnel design needs to consider air pollution. Overall pollution from the traffic is not increased but that pollution is concentrated. If longitudinal ventilation is being used, then the pollution is concentrated around the Portals.
whereas with transverse or semi-transverse ventilation the pollution is concentrated around the exhaust stack.

VIII. GROUND MOVEMENTS AND MONITORING

- UNDERGROUND TUNNEL:
  
a. GROUND DEFORMATION IN SOFT GROUND AND ROCK:

  When tunnelling in hard ground (rock), ground movements are not normally a problem, except in squeezing ground conditions, and ground movements propagating up to the ground surface as a result of the excavation are unlikely unless the cover depth of the tunnel is relatively small, i.e. in portal areas, or where the groundwater in the overlying soft ground may be affected. In soft ground, however, displacements can occur due to a number of reasons and these are shown for a shield tunnel on Figure

Component 1 is particularly important with open face tunnelling methods.
Component 2 can result if there is difficulty keeping the tunnelling shield on the correct alignment, or if there is a need to tilt the shield up slightly to prevent it from diving into the ground.
Component 3 can be minimized by immediate grouting of the void.
Component 4 is usually small compared to the other components once the lining ring is completed.
Component 5 can be important for soft clays, and results from the fact that the construction process changes the stress regime locally around the tunnel.

b. HORIZONTAL DISPLACEMENTS:

  From the point of view of damage to structures and services it is not only important to determine vertical displacements within the ground, but also the horizontal movements

\[ Sh = \frac{Sv}{H} \]  

Where \( Sv \) is the vertical ground displacement, \( Sh \) is the horizontal ground displacement and \( y \) is the transverse horizontal distance from the tunnel centerline.

c. LONG-TERM SETTLEMENTS:

  Long-term settlement is a phenomenon predominantly associated with fine grained soils and is associated with component 5 in Figure above

  1. The tunnel acting as a drain
  2. Time dependent distortion of the tunnel lining
  3. Time dependent dissipation of excess pore water pressures due to grouting behind the lining or due to mitigation measures such as compensation grouting
  4. Creep and secondary consolidation processes in soils

d. GROUND IMPROVEMENT AND STABILIZATION TECHNIQUES:

  This section describes a number of techniques that can be used to improve the stability of the ground to aid construction of the tunnel, and in soft ground to reduce/control ground displacements and hence mitigate the effects of the tunnelling operation on adjacent structures.

  - Ground Freezing
  - Lowering Of The Groundwater Table
  - Grouting
  
  - UNDERWATER TUNNEL:

a. SETTLEMENT:

  In a watercourse carrying a high sediment load, it is desirable to immerse the tunnel elements as soon after completion of dredging and trench cleaning as possible, and to perform the sand flow operation as quickly as possible after the elements have been immersed.

b. RISK OF SEDIMENTATION:

  Very important in planning the marine activities for forming the foundations to assess the risk of sedimentation and plan for monitoring and cleaning procedures, should it occur. If there is a risk of sedimentation, then exposure time between placing an element and under filling it should be minimized.

c. BEHAVIOR IN SEISMIC CONDITIONS:

  Sand foundations can perform satisfactorily under seismic load, provided some thought is given to the risks at the design stage. The issue to guard against is preventing liquefaction. This can be achieved by the selection of an appropriate grading or through stabilization. In highly active zones, a gravel or grouted gravel solution is more likely to give an appropriate solution.

d. GROUND IMPROVEMENT:

  Ground improvement may be required for a variety of reasons. Immersed tunnels are often built in the relatively poor fluvial or glacial deposits of rivers and estuaries, with sands and gravels often interspersed with layers of silt and clay. If the soils need to be improved, there are a number of recognized techniques that may be chosen:

  - Granular replacement
  - Stone columns
  - Sand compaction piles (SCPs)
  - Soil mixing
IX. FOUNDATION OF TUNNELS

• UNDERGROUND TUNNEL

a. EFFECT OF TUNNELLING ON EXISTING TUNNELS, BURIED UTILITIES AND FOUNDATIONS

BURIED UTENSILS In addition to buildings, it is important not to forget about structures that lie beneath the ground surface, for example existing tunnels and buried utilities.

EXISTING TUNNELS In terms of the effects of tunnelling on existing tunnels, the overall philosophy, though, was to minimize the ground movements at source, i.e. using high specification EPB tunnelling machines, and to use a risk-based engineering assessment of the effect of the tunnelling works on the existing tunnels.

b. UNDERWATER TUNNEL

A. SAND FOUNDATION LAYER

Immersed tunnels are frequently located in poor ground conditions. The foundation of an immersed tunnel can be considered to be made up of two parts:

1. The foundation layer placed on the dredged surface immediately beneath the tunnel structure.
2. The deep foundations in the substrata below the level of the dredged trench.

There are two fundamental approaches that may be followed to form this bedding layer:

1. Place the tunnel elements in the trench onto temporary supports, under fill the space between the tunnel elements and the surface of the trench, and release the temporary support.
2. Lay a close tolerance foundation layer at the base of the tunnel trench that the tunnel elements can be placed directly onto.

• METHODS:

a. SAND JETTING METHOD

With this technique, the tunnel element is temporarily supported above the bed of the trench. The sand is then injected into the space under the element. Original sand jetting equipment is shown diagrammatically. It was developed in the 1930s by Christiani and Nielsen, the Danish contractor that was instrumental in the development of concrete immersed tunnels.

b. SAND FLOW METHOD

A new method was developed in which the sand/water mixture was pumped directly into the space under the tunnel through holes in the tunnel floor. This was called the sand flow method and has, subsequently, been widely adopted as the usual method of placing tunnel foundations.

Figure: 4.13 flow chart for depth, some idealized modes of behaviour for short buildings and long buildings due to a tunnel construction.
B. GRAVEL FOUNDATION LAYERS
Gravel bed foundations exhibit different characteristics than sand foundations. Gravel beds offer improved performance of foundations in seismic conditions. Although it is important to guard against shakedown effects, which may cause the gravel layer to compact, the gravel will not suffer liquefaction and can be used to relieve the buildup of excess water pressures in the substrata and reduce the risk of liquefaction & types of gravel foundation is
- Underwater screeding frames
- Scrading

X. ESTIMATION OF TUNNEL

Before planning and estimating the cost of a tunnel, it is necessary to understand the different equipment and work methods that can be used to accomplish the job. Tunnel construction equipment may be divided into three main groups:
(a) Excavation equipment such as drills, jumbos, tunnel-boring machines, road headers, and mucking machines;
(b) Tunnel haulage equipment such as front-end loaders, trains, and conveyors; and
(c) Service equipment and facilities such as ventilation and air conditioning, generators, hoists, and lights.

• METHODS OF ESTIMATION
  1. Manual method
     - Unit cost method
     - Tunnel cost curve
  2. With aid of computers
     - COSTUN (SOFTWARE)

• STEPS INVOLVE IN MANUAL METHOD-
  a. Obtain and study plans and specifications.
  b. Inspect site.
  c. Review aerial photographs, geological reports, and boring logs.
  d. Tabulate quantity takeoffs.
  e. Obtain quotes from suppliers, insurance and bonding companies, and subcontractors.
  f. Determine wage rates.
  g. Prepare construction schedule.
  h. Select excavation method.
  i. Select equipment.
  j. Estimate cost of equipment rental or purchase.
  k. Determine crew size and makeup.
  l. Estimate progress rates.
  m. Estimate cost of aboveground development.
  n. Estimate cost of tunnel excavation supplies.
  o. Estimate cost of tunnel excavation labor.
  p. Estimate cost of support and lining supplies.
  q. Estimate cost of plant.
  r. Estimate cost of concrete-lining labor.
  s. Estimate direct cost of other bid items.
  t. Tabulate all direct costs.
  u. Estimate indirect costs.
  v. Estimate camp costs.
  w. Estimate escalation.
  x. Tabulate total estimated costs of project in format required by request for bid.

• UNIT COST METHOD –
The unit cost method of estimating tunnel costs is a well-accepted simple technique for making preliminary or planning estimates. It relies on historical records of similar jobs. Basically, the estimator prepares quantity takeoffs for the tunnel and determines the unit cost of each item by comparison with other similar tunnels.

• TUNNEL COST CURVE-
One of the earliest reported developments to improve the reliability and reduce the time required for preliminary tunnel estimates was made by the California Department of Water Resources (1959). Preliminary estimates to aid in route selection led to the formulation of a family of "cost curves." Case histories were analyzed to determine the cost impact of all factors involved in tunneling.

They considered four major construction items affecting cost: excavation, support, dewatering, and lining. For each item, a family of cost curves was developed. Each curve represented a specified geological classification. The curves were plotted as item cost per foot of tunnel versus tunnel diameter.

• COSTUN–SOFTWARE
Costun was developed in 1973 by Harza Engineering Company under contract to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), U. S. Department of Transportation. Complete documentation of this program is contained in Report No. FRA-ORD&D-74-16 (Wheby and Cikanek 1973). The report is available through the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22151. Permission by the FRA to use excerpts from this report is gratefully acknowledged.

The cost calculations were based on cost curves for different size tunnels and various geologic conditions developed using the COSTUN’ program. The method described herein allows the user to develop a more comprehensive and accurate estimate. It must be remembered, however, that the accuracy of any estimating method depends on the accuracy of the required input data.

XI. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

ANALYSIS OF TUNNEL CONSTRUCTION METHODS

| Method               | Convenience & utility | Drawback & obstruction | Multipurpose & Existing tunnels |
|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| DRILL & BLAST        | Very adaptable and flexible | Safety of workers is a serious issue | Before beginning the use of tunnel boring machine, Drill and blast method was the only economic way for the construction of tunnel |
|                      | Short mobilization time requirement. | Performance rate of advance excavation is lower. Total labor cost is high. Involvement of hard and high manual labor. |                                  |
|                      | Any required shape tunnel cross section is possible. | Primary rock support can be |                                  |

(331)
| Method                  | Advantages                                                                 | Disadvantages                                                                 |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| TBM                    | Very high performance and low labor costs. High progress rate, especially in soft ground soil. Excellent cost efficiency and high automation. Level Continuous operation. Less noise and disturbance to surrounding structures. Best way for constructing deep and long tunnels. | Needs trained staff & skilled supervision. Imposition of caution order exists for a longer period. No scope of the night working. Once the vertical & the lateral alignment of box disturbed it becomes almost impossible to rectify it. |
| JACKED BOX             | Economical and Better quality control. Time of completion is less. Saving in man power & Machinery. No involvement of crane & heavy equipment. Less involvement of other Departments. | Not suitable for very deep excavations. More dust and noise impact may arise. Cause interference with traffic and other urban activities. |
| CUT & COVER            | Preservation of the environment. Safe initiation and completion of highway tunnels. Safe work progress in unstable weak ground. May applied as sequential construction in case of most adverse geotechnical conditions. Cheaper and more practical than other underground tunneling. Small risk, relative to other | |
| IMMERSSED TUBE TUNNEL  | Kuala Lumpur, SMART 2007 US$514M Multifunctional include storm water. | Partly exposed on river bed risking a sunken ship and anchor strike. Demanding high technologized water proofing. Impact of tunnel element and embankment on channel or sea bed. Careful design connection. |
| SUBMERGED FLOATING TUNNEL | Channel Tunnel MB 12.38n Utilities and light rail on lower deck. | Cost of project is too high. It is difficult to rescue people if any fire or hazardous thing happen. No stoppage of train or vehicles. Earthquake in sea is a big challenge. |

**DISCUSSION**

In tunneling projects, it is essential to control and predict the ground surface settlements observed during and after the excavation process that may cause damage to the structures present on the earth surface. Otherwise, project time and tunneling cost significantly increase due to damage to structures caused by the surface settlement that occurs above the bearable limits. Therefore, the tunnel construction methods need to be chosen and used very carefully. Also, deep understanding regarding the various aspects and issues related to these tunneling methods is very necessary. Improper use can lead to discrepant results and potential hazard if used in decision making. The selection of each tunnel construction method is done on the basis of their advantages, disadvantages and limitations.

Against this backdrop, the variable density tunnel boring machine is not just a further advancement of the convertible shield additionally an unequivocal development step. Variable density TBM can be very useful over other tunneling methods if utilized and handled properly. The idea unmistakably builds adaptability and security inside the tunnel and the machine is generally usable in variable (mixed) ground. For short range and
small km passing with poor ground and geological condition, immersed tube tunneling is best type of construction technique.

XII. CONCLUSION

Tunnels are constructed under high mountains and sea coming across the way. Both are necessary as per requirements. It depends on all kinds of things: local planning (does it fit the landscape), ground conditions, future planning of the surrounding area including use and ground levels, usage of the waterways below etc. The practical engineering judgement during the excavation and construction of a tunnel should be applied according to the context and type of problem case encountered. Problems like muck conveyance or face pressure in variable ground conditions within the tunnel alignments require innovative and new tunneling technologies. In this age of advanced tunneling technology, tunneling method such as drill and blast, NATM, Cut-and-Cover, Jacked box, Slurry TBM, Earth Pressure Balance Machine and immersed tube tunnel or SFT may not meet requirements under certain tunnel project conditions concerning economic efficiency and safety any more.

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