



The Indian Engineer

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From the Chairman's Desk



Some of the Member Associations of Engineering Council of India (ECI) are regularly conducting examinations and issuing Associate Membership Certificates. Presently, these certificates are recognized by the Ministry of HRD, Government of India as equivalent to a Degree in Engineering for the purpose of employment in the public sector. However, these certificates are, by and large, not recognized as an engineering degree by the industry in the matter of employment or by many institutes of higher learning for the postgraduate courses. In the matter of promotions, even in the public sector, engineers with these certificates are often not treated at par with the candidates having university degrees. Also, in the context of opening up of the trade in engineering services, which is round the corner, it has become necessary that engineers holding these Associate Membership Certificates (or of such other nomenclature) of the professional engineering associations should not be left out from this trade basket. Engineering Council of India (ECI) has, been making efforts, therefore, to seek a university degree cover for these certificates. Accordingly, Prof. G. D. Sharma, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Assam Central University was invited to the 6th Annual General Meeting of ECI held in June, 2008 at New Delhi. He observed at the meeting that the idea of university degree for those passing the Associate Membership Examinations was very good. If prospective engineers get the proper university degree cover for the examinations of ECI's Member Associations they pass through, it will enable them not only to compete at the national level but also at the international level. They can go overseas for higher education. They can also get better employment in the industry. A proposal has been submitted to the Assam Central University which is under their active consideration.

Realising that the reform of the engineering education, which is very much needed for making engineers employable and to meet the challenges that are emerging at a fast pace in the present world economic order of which India has also become a very important part, ECI has initiated a debate in the country by organising three National Conventions on Seamless Engineering. The issue was also discussed at the last National Conference in November 08. There was a general feeling that engineers need to acquire multi-skills in view of complex processes and projects. ECI is working on short courses for skill - building of engineers. In this context, a one-week course on economics for engineers is at an advance stage of planning. For long-term course, the area identified is Project Management. It is contemplated to start an MBA degree programme on Project Management for working engineers. The matter has been discussed with the Vice Chancellor of the Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, New Delhi and a draft MOU has been submitted to the university. It is proposed to be a part-time three years' course to be conducted during week-ends. Member Associations will be kept informed of the developments and their valuable advice will be sought once some progress takes place.

Uddesh Kohli
(Uddesh Kohli)

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6th National Conference : Re-engineering Engineers

One of the many recommendations made was that efforts should be made to restrain the engineers from moving out of engineering into areas like finance, marketing, human resource development and so on. Ways and means would have to be looked for with a view to arresting this brain-drain and to enabling them to concentrate on their engineering profession leading to further industrial growth/development of India. It was felt that the only way to arrest the brain-drain is by the industry (1) re-visiting the compensation packages offered to core engineering discipline graduates and (2) supporting the nearby engineering colleges/technical institutions through scholarships, R & D sponsorship, consultancy, recruitments, etc. in their own long-term interest in view of the likely HR crunch that they may face in the coming years. Industry must also come forward and spend on education to the extent possible.

National Workshop on Engineering Education in India : What it is and what it should be for the better employability of engineers was organized by the Engineering Council of India at Madurai, TN on March 23, 2009. The workshop was supported by the Association of Consulting Civil Engineers (India). A large number of delegates both from the industry and the academia participated in the workshop. About 50 students from the local engineering colleges also attended. A consensus emerged at the workshop that the engineering education needs an urgent reform for making it more specific to industry and for seizing opportunities and meeting challenges of the present global economic order. Recommendations will be covered in the June, 2009 issue of the Indian Engineer.

There is a need for Re-engineering Engineers, K.K. Kapila, CMD-ICT (Pvt.) Ltd., President, Indian Builds Congress and President, Consulting Engineers Association of India

About 3,50,000 students graduate in various branches of engineering every year in India. Many of these young engineers lack in skills, because of lack in facilities and appropriate faculty in a number of colleges. They are not ready to take up various assignments in the profession. There is an urgent need to re-engineer them, so that they can meaningfully participate as engineers. The skill up gradation is required

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From Editor's Desk

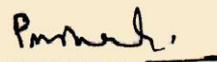


Ensuring relevance of the engineering education and professional experience to the global economic order of the day

The engineering education and professional experience of the Indian engineers in the present world economic order should meet the global quality standards. More so, it is important in view of the opening up of the engineering services to international markets, which is round the corner. Obviously, global and local quality considerations have unified to a large extent. There cannot now be two standards as such for engineering education and professional experience. There has to be only one quality standard for both of these areas of the engineering profession. In short, what it means is that the globalization is leading to a convergence of recognition systems both of engineering degrees and of professional experience. For this, we need to ensure that the degree in engineering given by the Indian universities and institutions and professional experience of engineers are recognised internationally, which at present are not, by and large, recognised, though there are some exceptions to this. The indigenous and international marketability of engineers will, therefore, demand India meeting both of these requirements. The Washington Accord is the international agreement for the mutual recognition of the degrees in engineering of each of the signatory countries. Similarly, the Engineers Mobility Forum (EMF), in essence, is the international agreement for the mutual recognition of professional experience of engineers of each of the signatory countries. These agreements facilitate international mobility of registered professional engineers by establishing a framework for the recognition of their engineering degrees and professional experience based on confidence in the integrity of national assessment systems and procedure, secured through continuing mutual inspection and evaluation of these systems and procedure. There are some other international accords and agreements namely, Sydney Accord, Dublin Accord, Asia Pacific Accord, APEC Engineer Agreement, the Engineering Technologist Mobility Forum (ETMF), etc., facilitating mobility of practising engineers and technologists. These are regional accords and agreements. Presently, India is a provisional member of the Washington Accord and EMF.

For ensuring the relevance of our engineering education and professional experience to the global economic order of the day and mobility internationally of the Indian engineers, therefore, India should become a full member of the Washington Accord, the EMF and reform engineering education. Further, India needs to bring in Engineers Act on the statute at the earliest which will facilitate setting up of a statutory council for registering professional engineers under the Act and as per the system and procedure which are equivalent to that of the EMF. These should be priority components of our policy on the engineering education and professional development.

Engineering Council of India has developed the system and procedure for registering professional engineers as per the EMF norms. It has also initiated a discussion in the country on the reform of engineering education and professional development.


(P.N. Shali)

Contd. from page 2...

both in hard and soft attributes. There is a need to strengthen their knowledge in Information Technology. This would in turn assist them and would lead to sharpening of skills to enable them to address complex technical problems of design by using available software. More emphasis needs to be given in spoken skills. The interpersonal relationships are considered exceedingly important and need to be sharpened along with better communication skills. They need to be sensitized towards changing requirements. There is a requirement to change the syllabus. In the current syllabus there is too much emphasis on the theoretical aspects which are again concentrated in a small area of a specific branch of engineering. As a result of this situation, when these engineers go to field they find themselves lost. There is a need for extensive on the job training. This training should be more interactive with assignments in the field to enable them to get feel of real life situation.

We find a scenario where engineers are shifting from engineering to non-engineering jobs. This scenario needs to be checked and addressed. To check it, the engineering industry must offer compatible scales. We can only pay compatible rates if we charge appropriate rates for the services we provide. It is, therefore, necessary to charge appropriate rates for professional services. This can only happen if the selection of consultants is made on Quality cum Cost Based Selection (QCBS) or Quality - Based Selection (QBS) for highly complex problems. The Ministry of Finance has agreed for introduction of QCBS system. These guidelines will be sent from CEAI to all government departments, public sector undertakings, SCOPE and others. Besides, these will be forwarded to all engineering associations to propagate it. We must inculcate a sense of pride in the engineers. FIDIC is trying to promote the role of engineers as Advisor to help the society at large. Let us join hands in this effort. There is another aspect of re-engineering which, to my mind, is equally important. Re-engineering of mindsets of fellow engineers - when we will learn to work in synergy and stop pulling each other's legs. We are our own enemies because instead of giving a helping hand to a fellow engineer, we take pride in how to derail him/her. The feeling that one must pull down the other fellow colleague, while going up the ladder, must be shunned. Let us stop this negativity. Only positive vibes will bring positive results. Let us start with this Re-engineering.

Eminent Indian Engineer : Prof. C.V. Sundaram

Prof. C.V. Sundaram, an eminent and distinguished metallurgist, metallurgical engineer and technologist was born on 7th November 1929 at Ottappalam, Kerala. He had his early training in chemistry and metallurgy. He commenced his research work in chemical metallurgy in 1952 under the supervision of Prof. Brahma Prakash at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. He joined Department of Atomic Energy in 1956. At the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) Prof. Sundaram was in charge of the extractive metallurgy section till 1975 and later, till 1982, he headed the Metallurgy Division. Prof. Sundaram's research career was marked by creative abilities as evidenced by several original and innovative contributions in the area of extractive metallurgy of rare, reactive and refractory metals such as zirconium, beryllium, titanium and tantalum, and their commercial production utilising indigenous resources and expertise, with important consequences for the development of atomic energy programme in India. His research contributions led to the establishment of a production facility for nuclear-grade materials such as zirconium sponge, niobium and tantalum metal products at Nuclear Fuel Complex, Hyderabad. Further systematic research work carried out by him at BARC on extractive metallurgy of titanium enabled to demonstrate the feasibility of production of titanium sponge at Nuclear Fuel complex on a pilot plant scale. This experience led to the establishment of a large-scale production facility for titanium sponge at DMRL Hyderabad. The quality of titanium sponge has been acclaimed to be on par with Japanese and western technologies. With his excellent understanding of thermo-chemistry and thermodynamics, he had quickly perceived that development of technology for the separation of hafnium held the key for zirconium extraction and embarked on full-fledged R&D for the separation of two



similar metals by selective vapour phase de-chlorination of tetra-chlorides. This Indian innovation in metallurgy created a sensation among the scientific world at the First Geneva Conference on the peaceful uses of Atomic Energy and triggered fresh attempts in many laboratories in the World for confirming the thermo-chemical data of zirconium and hafnium tetra-chlorides. This was the first original pyrochemical approach to an interesting problem of separating these two very similar elements. Prof. Sundaram developed an integrated process flow-sheet for the extraction of reactor grade zirconium metal and demonstrated the zirconium sponge production on a pilot plant scale. Prof. Sundaram successfully applied the experience gained during the production of zirconium in establishing the process flow sheets for Hafnium, Titanium, Thorium and Beryllium. Prof. Sundaram also initiated the R&D efforts at BARC during early seventies and developed the integrated flow-sheets for the extraction of beryllium from Indian beryl. He was invited in 1982, to assume leadership of the Fast Breeder Reactor Programme as the Director of Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR) at Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu at a crucial stage when the construction of the Fast Breeder Test Reactor (FBTR) was nearing completion. Through his dedication, hard work and inspiring leadership, he led the team of scientists and engineers at IGCAR towards the successful criticality of FBTR which was attained in October 1985. It made India the seventh country in the world and the only developing country to have an operating fast breeder test reactor. Subsequent to his retirement from DAE in 1989, he served as a consultant to the Nuclear Fuel Complex and was subsequently a Homi Bhabha visiting Professor and then a Honorary Visiting Professor to the National Institute of Advanced Studies at Bangalore till July 2001. In his role as a visiting professor, he contributed significantly to the human resources development.

Atomic Energy in India- 50 years

Prof Sundaram co-authored with Dr.L.V. Krishnan and Dr. T.S. Iyengar a

comprehensive compilation on the history of atomic energy programme in India for the period 1948-1998 in 1996 which was released by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Prime Minister of India on August 10, 1998.

Positions Held

He served as the Chief Editor of Transactions of the Indian Institute of Metals (1973-81), Vice-President (1978-1981), President (1981-1982) and Honorary Member of the Indian Institute of Metals. President of Indian Nuclear society (1991-92), Elected Fellow of the Indian National Science Academy, Indian Academy of Sciences, Indian National Academy of Engineering, Electrochemical Society of India Prof. Homi Bhabha Visiting Professor (1991-1997) and Honorary Visiting Professor (1998-2001) at the National Institute of Advanced Studies in Bangalore.

Awards

Prof. Sundaram was a recipient of several prestigious awards including the National Metallurgists' Day award (1970), Platinum Jubilee Alumnus Award of the Indian Institute of Science (1985), Sanjay Gandhi award for S&T (1985), Padma

Bhushan Award (1986). INS Homi Bhabha Life Time Achievement Award of the Indian Nuclear Society (2001) and Life Time Achievement Award from the Ministry of Steel and Mines, Government of India (2006). He was elected 'Fellow' of the Indian National Science Academy, Indian National Academy of Engineering and Indian Academy of Sciences. He was awarded the Degree of Doctor of Science (h.c.) by BHU in 1998 and distinguished materials scientist of the year award by MRSI in 1999.

Prof. C. V. Sundaram was inspired by the thoughts of several leaders such as Swami Vivekananda and Mahatma Gandhi. He was always keen to foster talent and develop new leaders for the future. He had genuine pride in things that are Indian and was very keen to promote frontiers in science and technology in India. This great Indian scientist and eminent engineer, a humble and compassionate human being, an articulate speaker and writer passed away in the early hours of 15th August 2008. In his passing away, India has lost one of her worthy sons, who was a true leader in science, engineering and technology.

ECI offers its prayer to The Almighty to enable Professor Sundaram's soul to rest in everlasting peace.

News Corner

Global Industrial R&D Conclave

Recognising the importance of research, technology & innovation to emerge from this historic global economic crisis, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in partnership with Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India, is creating a platform to discuss and share models, best practices and R&D, strategies to encourage innovation-driven growth, commercial research and to convert knowledge to wealth. For this, Global Industrial R&D Conclave 2009 : Strategies to Drive Growth in Economic Crisis is being organised coinciding with India's National Technology Day during 11-12 May 2009 : Hotel Le Meridien, New Delhi. Details from: Anjan Das, E-mail: a.das@cii.in

IGNOU launches industry-based and employment oriented courses

At a time when the major economies of the world are experiencing downturn and when there are fears about the health of the whole enterprise called business process outsourcing (BPO), the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) has apparently swum against the current by instituting two diploma programmes - one is a diploma programme in Business Process Outsourcing Finance and Accounting and the other a PG Diploma in Legal Process Outsourcing - for the BPO-ready students across India in February this year. Registration for both these programmes is on and details can be had from the web site www.ignou.ac.in. Further, IGNOU will be offering around 17 new short-term industry-based courses in partnership with the industry. The first in the series is the diploma in Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) offered in collaboration with BPO major Accenture. The university also plans to launch short-term courses in hospitality, tourism, manufacturing and so on. A

course in manufacturing will be crucial because developing countries have neglected education in this field. All these courses will be inter-disciplinary.

IGNOU claims that the course in manufacturing is a first-of-its-kind programme in the country; one that is a judicious blend of theory and practical lessons. Anyone who has cleared plus two or equivalent with at least 50 per cent marks in aggregate and with English as a compulsory subject or anyone who has cleared a bachelor's degree programme with English as a compulsory subject can apply for the programme that requires 32 credits. While 16 credits would be for theory and practical lessons, the remaining 16 would be for courses in communication and IT skills. Even though the initial specialisations offered are finance and accounting, IGNOU plans to offer diplomas in other BPO specialisations such as HR, category management, insurance, banking, healthcare, pharmaceuticals, equity research, capital markets and so on. A sweetener that is being offered along with the course is the possibility of getting into the pay rolls of Accenture. The company says the university web site, will have the right to interview the successful candidates of the programme and consider first offering employment to them.

Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC), Kolkata organized a Summit on Mining to Steel Making 2009 at New Delhi

The development of any nation depends mostly on heavy industries and the steel sector has always been responsible for the lions' share. The steel industry, which has been witnessing considerable growth both in terms of demand and supply, is currently going through the doldrums because of the sudden recession across the globe. Steel has melted like ice in the recent global meltdown. Realising that this is perhaps the right time to have the best of the strategies in place, ICC organized



Dr. V. N. Rajasekharan Pillai, Vice-Chancellor, IGNOU says, "Industries have a lot of expertise. The way they operate is totally different from the way the academic world operates. It becomes difficult to change the curriculum to keep up with the changing times. But for job-oriented courses such as the BPO diploma course, it is important that the curriculum is changed and the corporate nature of functions is inducted. Global economic recession is a temporary phenomenon. Education and training in any field will never face any turmoil."

a Summit on Mining to Steel Making 2009 on February 18, 2009 at Hyatt Regency, New Delhi It addressed the issues such as impact of global meltdown on steel industry, industry-view on proposed new raw material policy, challenges in rail freight, outlook for ocean freight markets, right policy framework in alignment with the country's growth and development vision, raw material sourcing for small and medium scale enterprise and pricing of steel, role of steel sector during inflation, role and contribution of small and medium scale steel plants in India, financing of small and medium scale steel plants and challenges faced by small players in raw materials procurement, etc.

4% of the world total CO₂ Emission. It has been estimated by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) that around 520 million tonnes of carbon dioxide was emitted in year 2007-08 from grid-connected power stations which has increased from 429.4 million tonnes since 2002-03. With the continued effort on improvement in energy efficiency in power generation and adoption of environment-friendly generation technologies, the weighted average emissions rate (tCO₂/MWh) has reduced to 0.79 in the year 2007-08 from 0.84 in 2004-05 and 0.85 in 2002-03.

Breaking new ground – the idea of an Excellence Enhancement Centre (EEC) for Indian Power Generation

The Indo-German Energy Forum, comprising Central Electricity Authority (CEA), India and VGB PowerTech e.V, Essen city, Germany, has come up with the idea of an EEC for facilitating performance improvement in Indian power generation in recognition of the need for improvement in efficiency and reliability. This proposal was disclosed at a conference held on February 13, 2009 at Hotel Ashok, New Delhi. P.N. Shali, Director, Engineering Council of India attended the conference.

Reform of the engineering education in India is much needed but very difficult to realize, Dr. S. C. Bhargava, Professor, Department of Electrical & Electronics Engineering, Sreenidhi Institute of Science and Technology, Hyderabad.

The dream of Engineering Council of India (ECI) to improve engineering education to its expectations is impossible to realize in India, considering what has been going on in the name of engineering education for the past many decades. The basic problem is owing to the admission process itself on account of various factors including reservations. Secondly, engineering education has become a commercial commodity. Thousands of engineering institutes have been and are being run as some kind of industry. The real culprits are the central and state governments, the AICTE/NBA, the universities granting affiliation and the parents themselves who blindly force their wards into the engineering profession.

Inauguration of International Road Federation's (IRF) office in New Delhi

The International Road Federation (IRF), Geneva, Switzerland has inaugurated a formal office in New Delhi to broaden and reinforce its presence and work in India. Shri K.K. Kapila, Chairman-cum-Managing Director of Intercontinental Consultants & Technocrats (Pvt.) Ltd, has been a very active Vice-Chairman of IRF and Chairman of the IRF India office for a number of years. Shri Kapila has an impressive experience and record in India and worldwide. He couples the efficiency and rigour of a successful businessman with an extraordinary talent for diplomacy and public affairs. He has been able to gather major stakeholders and government officials for the last three IRF Regional Conferences organised in India Under his initiative and guidance, the IRF activities and presence in India have flourished. Unanimously approved by the Board of Directors during their November meeting in Geneva, the new regional **IRF India Office** will facilitate - among others - the implementation of the recommendations and action plan formulated during the 3rd IRF Regional Conference on "Mobility and Safety in Road Transport" (New Delhi, 3-4 October 2008).

Carbon Dioxide Emission

India's per capita carbon dioxide emission is only 1.2 tonnes of CO₂ and is amongst the lowest in the world. The world average per capita carbon dioxide emission is around 4.5 tonnes of CO₂ and it is as high as 20.6 for US and 16.2 for Australia and in the range of 10 for UK and Japan. India's contribution is around

SJVN Bags Award for Excellence in Hydro Power Generation, Shimla

Public Sector Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Limited, operating the country's largest 1500 MW Nathpa Jhakri Hydro Power Station, has received the 2nd prize for "Excellence in Hydro Power Generation" on February 25, 2009.

Our congratulations

Bharati Vidyapeeth's Institute of Computer Applications and Management (BVICAM), New Delhi organized the 3rd National Conference on Computing for National Development (INDIACom-2009) on February 26-27, 2009. The conference was well attended both by the industry, the academia and the students. P.N. Shali, Director, Engineering Council of India also joined in the panel session and presented his views on the subject- highlighting the vast scope that the computing still had in the national development.

News from the Member Associations

Computer Society of India (CSI)

CSI, Delhi Centre, jointly with Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, Delhi, the Institution of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineers, Delhi Centre and the Bharati Vidyapeeth's Institute of Computer Applications and Management, New Delhi, organised the 3rd National Conference on Computing for Nation Development (INDIACom-2009) on February 26-27, 2008 at New Delhi.

Construction Industry Development Council (CIDC)

CIDC is organizing a National Conclave & Exhibition on Construction Future Directions for Capacity Development in Construction Industry on August 12-14, 2009 at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. The objective of the proposed Conclave is to focus on various issues facing the construction industry. The conclave is also expected to deliberate on the challenges posed before the construction industry by the present global financial meltdown and indicate the required course of action to maintain the growth impetus. CIDC, in association with Assam University, Silchar (A Central University), has jointly announced the various Diploma/Post-Diploma Programmes in Construction Technology and allied streams for the session 2009-2010.

Consultancy Development Centre (CDC)

A Round Table Meeting on gem, jewellery and textile sectors was organized on February 26, 2009 with the objective of discussing the challenges confronting these sectors and exploring S&T interventions for sustaining the work force in the industry. A Panel discussion on consulting in turbulent times was organized on February 28, 2009 at New Delhi wherein renowned personalities participated. A one-day training programme was organised on selection of consultants and client-consultant agreement on March 05, 2009 at New Delhi. The programme assumes significance in the light of the fact that consultants' role extends from conceptualization to realisation of the Project. A two-day training programme was organised on project management at New Delhi on March 19-20, 2009.

Consulting Engineers Association of India (CEAI)

CEAI in association with the International Federation of Consulting Engineers (FIDIC) organised a special practical two-day training seminar on management of contract claims and resolution of disputes on March 25-26, 2009 at New Delhi. The training programme included the use of FIDIC conditions of contract for construction and for plant and design-build and was designed to help participants have confidence in working with these documents whether representing employers, consultants, contractors, quantity surveyors, architects, legal advisers and all others involved with international and domestic construction projects. It was conducted by eminent foreign and Indian faculty well-versed with FIDIC conditions of Contract.

Indian Association of Structural Engineers (IAStructE)

A Workshop on steel structures in buildings was held on February 06-07, 2009 at New Delhi. It was well attended.

The 1st meeting of the governing council of IAStructE, elected at the 5th annual general meeting on 20 December 2008, was held on January 09, 2009 wherein the process of streamlining professional activities into well-defined specific categories was initiated.

Indian Buildings Congress (IBC)

IBC organized a training programme on safety in construction for senior-level DDA engineers on 12th December, 2008. The faculty of the course consisted of experienced engineers from M.E.S.,

Larson & Toubro, Delhi Metro, ICT Pvt. Ltd. and School of Planning & Architecture. The Congress has held its mid-term session and seminar on environment protection in building industry" on January 9-10, 2009 at Nagpur. About 400 delegates from all over India attended the seminar. IBC is actively engaged in various technical activities for dissemination of knowledge relating to the built environment amongst the professionals and construction agencies from the government and private sector. In this connection, IBC has brought out recently two useful publications of international standard viz. handbook on seismic retrofit of buildings and handbook on energy conservation in buildings. For enhancing knowledge of the technicians and workmen engaged in construction, IBC is keen to set up 'Workmen Training Institutes', in UP, Rajasthan and Maharashtra and efforts are on to achieve this objective. The 15th Annual Convention of IBC will be held some time in May, 2009 together with a national seminar on innovative materials, machinery, techniques & technologies in building construction.

Indian Geotechnical Society (IGS)

IGS is organizing an international conference on infrastructure development on expansive soils (Index 09) at Hosur, Tamil Nadu on August 27-29, 2009 and another international conference on the recent advances in geotechnical engineering (Geotech-Visakhapatnam, 09) to be hosted by Gitam University, Visakhapatnam on October 01-03, 2009.

Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers (IIChE)

The regional centre of IIChE, Chandigarh hosted the most important event the 61st Chemical Engineering Congress (CHEMCON 2008) during 27-30 December 2008 at the Department of Chemical Engineering and Technology and Energy Research Centre, Panjab University, the central theme of event was green technology and sustainable development. The prestigious lectures of the event namely, Dr H L Roy and Prof. N. R. Kamath and Mrs. Ruzena Kamath memorial lectures were delivered on the first day of the event by Prof. G. D. Yadav of UICT, Mumbai and Prof. Ashutosh Sharma of IIT, Kanpur, respectively on 27 December. These lectures were sponsored by Jacobs H&G Inventaa. C. K. Murthy memorial lecture was delivered by Prof. Rakesh Agrawal, Purdue University on 29 December. Another prestige event, Shri Dhirubhai Ambani Oration, was presented on 28 December by Dr R B Grover, Dept. of Atomic Energy, Mumbai. The Mumbai Regional Centre of the IIChE was one of the principal participants in CHEMTECH 2009-EPC conference- held in Mumbai on 13 February 2009.

Indian Institution of Bridge Engineers (IIBE)

IIBE, Delhi State Centre, conducted a site-visit to Naraina flyover project on February 04, 2009. About 35 members participated in



Meeting in Progress

the visit. A talk on the technical aspects of the reinforced earth retaining walls and the methodology applied in the construction of the flyover was delivered by Shri Atanu D. Adhikari, Manager (Engineering) from the Reinforced Earth India.

Indian Institution of Industrial Engineering (IIIE)

IIIE, Delhi Chapter celebrated the IIIE Foundation Day on January 27, 2009 by organizing a programme with the theme Non-Conventional Energy. Mr. R. Sampat, Chairman, IIIE (Delhi Chapter) extended a very warm welcome to the participants and Mr. V. N. Rai, former Managing Director, KRIBHCO and presently Adviser, KRIBHCO, presented the keynote address. Shri P.N. Shali, Director, Engineering Council of India attended the function and participated in the discussions.

Indian Institution of Plant Engineers (IIPE)

A special meeting of all the regional Vice Chairmen presided by Er Rakesh Nath, President of IIPE and Chairman, CEA & Ex-Officio Secretary to the Government of India was held on 12th of January 2009 at the India International Centre, New Delhi. The



Meeting in Progress

topics deliberated included identifying national and international institutions for networking and synergic development, signing MOUs with them Involving corporate members of the professional bodies like IIPE and creating awareness among professionals, enhancement of education activities among working technicians who could not pursue their professional studies through recognized diploma courses in plant management, associating Engineering Council of India for facilitating due recognition of such courses from the competent authority, organising international seminar every two years, wherein plant professions from abroad are invited for exchange of views on various technical aspects and deciding on how IIPE participate in policy-making resulting in cost cutting and productivity enhancement.

The Aeronautical Society of India (ASI)

The ASI held its 60th Annual General Meeting on Jan 14, 2009 at New Delhi when a new Governing Council was elected. An international seminar titled futuristic air navigation system was also organised, which was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Shrimati Shiela Dixit, Chief Minister Delhi and Dr Vijay Mallya, Chairman and Managing Director Kingfisher Airlines was the Guest of Honour. In all, there were nine invited presentations by eminent professionals from India and abroad including four memorial lectures.

The Indian Institute of Metals (IIM)

Dr. Baldev Raj, Director IGCAR, Kalpakam and the Past President, IIM delivered the 2nd Y M Mehta Memorial Lecture, organised by the IIM Baroda and Mumbai chapters, on ethics, equity and energy on 26th January 2009. The Pune chapter of IIM

celebrated the national metallurgists' day on 17th January 2009. The students' affiliate chapter of IIM Varanasi organized intra-departmental debate competition' on 17th January 2009. Shri L Pugazhenthay, President, IIM visited the IIM Kanpur Chapter on February 2, 2009 and interacted with faculty members, students, chapter office bearers and members. He delivered two lectures: global melt-down: adversity to opportunity and Indian non-ferrous Industry-current scenario & emerging prospects. Shri M Narayana Rao, CMD of MIDHANI and Vice President Nonferrous Section of the IIM, visited IIT Kanpur on February 4, 2009. He interacted with faculty members of the department of materials and metallurgical engineering, students and the members of the local chapter. He delivered a lecture on emerging challenges for metal processing in critical sectors. Dr Dinesh K Agrawal delivered a lecture, organised by the IIM Kanpur chapter, on challenges in microwave sintering of materials on 23rd February 2009. Dr Paul Craddock delivered a lecture, organised by the IIM Kanpur Chapter, on scientific authentication and examination of looted antiquities on 25th February 2009. In order to increase the awareness among school students about materials & metallurgical engineering, one of the initiatives that were taken by the IIM Kanpur chapter was to reach out to the schools and volunteer to deliver a series of lectures on various topics pertaining to materials. The Delhi chapter of IIM in association with the Babu Banarsi Das Institute of Technology, Ghaziabad, organized a national seminar on metallurgy and heat treatment processes on February 28, 2009. The First Training Course on surfaces, coatings and corrosion protection organised by the Human Resource Development Centre of IIM, Kalpakkam-Chennai during March 6 & 7, 2009 at IIT Madras, reportedly, received overwhelming response with nearly 80 delegates from all over the country and from many user industries of different sectors attending the programme.

The Institution of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineers (IETE)

The IETE has instituted eight corporate awards, which will be presented at the annual technical convention in September 2009, one in each of the four areas of electric components, computer & telecommunication systems, development of software and electronic instruments & instrumentation, separately for large enterprises and micro/small/medium enterprises for recognizing performance excellence of the corporate sector. Each award consists of a citation and a memento. The main criteria for evaluation will be: excellence in engineering, outstanding growth rates in manufacturing, exports, R&D efforts and their commercial deployment, optimum utilization of appropriate technologies and management practices or other initiatives that have resulted in accelerated growth in the country in the above-mentioned fields over the past three years.

The Institute of Marine Engineers (IME)

The IME organized the prestigious world maritime technology conference on January 21-24, 2009 at Mumbai. It was a historical milestone in the annals of the IME. Their success in securing the allocation to hold the event in Mumbai is an honour and distinction of unmatched dignity and charisma. The event was attended by the leaders and representatives from all segments of the maritime industry.

Flash

Application has been received from the Institution of Civil Engineers (India) for the membership & Engineering Council of India, which is under consideration.

Appointments

- Mr Srikumar Ghosh has been appointed as the Vice-President, Northern Region, Dr K K Ganguly as the Vice-President, Eastern Region, Dr Manamohan R Kalgal as the Vice-President, Southern Region and Dr Rasvihari N Vakil as the Vice-President, Western Region of the IAStructE for the term 2008-10.
- Mr Hari Om Gupta has been appointed as the Honorary Secretary of the IAStructE for the term 2008-10.
- Mr Manoj Mittal has been appointed as Chairman of the Action Plan Committee, Mr N S Savarkar as Chairman of the Finance Committee, Mr R Gogia as Chairman of the Membership Committee, Mr Sushil K Dhawan as Chairman of the Professional Development Committee, Mr Ganesh Juneja as Chairman of the Public Relations Committee and Dr Dulal Gold as Chairman of the Professional

Accreditation Committee of the IAStructE for the term 2008-10.

- Shri Ashok K Baweja has been appointed as the President of the Aeronautical Society of India (ASI) at its 60th Annual General Meeting held on Jan 14, 2009 at New Delhi. Shri Baweja joined the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) as a management trainee in 1972 and stands apart as the only officer from within who rose from the ranks to occupy the highest post of Chairman in Dec 2004.
- **IRCON International Ltd gets a new Managing Director.** Mr Mohan Tiwari, former Director (Projects), IRCON, has assumed charge as Managing Director of IRCON w.e.f. February 01, 2009

Our congratulations

Glimpses of the Events

6th National Conference & 22nd meeting of Board of Governors, ECI held on November 28, 2008 at New Delhi



Dignitaries Lighting of Lamp



Mr. Ashok K. Chauhan delivering his address as the Guest of Honour



Dr. Uddesh Kohli taking the 22nd meeting of the Board of Governors, Engineering Council of India



22nd Meeting of the Board of Governors, Engineering Council of India in progress.

ENGINEERING COUNCIL OF INDIA

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