



The Indian Engineer

"For a successful technology, reality must take precedence over public relations, for nature cannot be fooled." Richard P Feynman
Do't read stories of success. Read stories of failure. Because stories of success give only messages. But stories of failure give new ideas to win- Unknown

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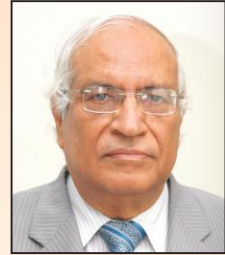
The Institute of Marine Engineers (India)

Shri P. N. Shali

Director

From the Chairman's Desk

To commemorate the ECI's 10th Foundation day on April 4, 2012, an Eminent Engineer Award was instituted, to be given to a person with engineering background who has contributed significantly to any field of engineering such as academics, research, design, consultancy, project implementation, industry, while holding top level engineering/management positions in corporate, government, industry, academic, research and other institutions, etc. S/he should have demonstrated innovative thinking and leadership qualities, have impeccable and unblemished record, not subjected to any disciplinary or criminal proceedings and have contributed significantly to sustainable economic development and social welfare.



A top-level Jury had been constituted for selecting the candidate for the prestigious Award under the Chairmanship of Shri K.C. Pant, former Dy Chairman, Planning Commission, with Dr Kirit S. Parikh, Dr. V. Krishnamurthy, Dr. R.A. Mashelkar, Shri. B. Muthuraman, Dr. P.V. Indiresan and Shri AC Wadhawan as its distinguished members.

The Eminent Award has been institutionalized, to be given every year on ECI's Foundation day. For 2013 Award, the same Jury has continued, except Shri K C Pant and Dr. P V Indresan who are no longer in this world. The Jury is now chaired by Dr V Krishnamurthy.

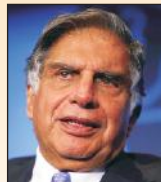
Out of the 17 nominations received for the Award and 4 added by the Jury members, the Jury has decided to confer 2 Awards this year, one for Industry and the other for Consultancy and Research category. For this prestigious Award in 2013, they have selected two eminent engineers- Dr F C Kohli, who is considered the father of the IT industry in India and Mr. Mahendra Raj, who is perhaps the senior most practicing consulting engineer in the country. The Awards will be presented on April 4 at the 10th Foundation Day function.

To expediting the processing of the draft Engineers Bill, I met the Minister of HRD, Dr. M. Pallam Raju and Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Shri Ashok Thakur. More discussions will be held soon.


(Uddesh Kohli)

It's God's responsibility to forgive the terrorist organizations & It's our responsibility to arrange the meeting between them and God.
- Indian Armed Forces

Awaken country men, the nation is above everything else



As told by someone from Tata Administrative Services: Few months after 26/11, Taj group of Hotels owned by TATAs launched their biggest tender ever for emodeling all their Hotels in India and abroad. Some of the companies who applied for that tender were also Pakistanis. To make their bid stronger, two big industrialists from Pakistan visited Bombay House (Head office of Tata) in Mumbai without an appointment to meet up with Ratan Tata since he was not giving them any prior appointment. They were made to sit at the reception of Bombay house and after a few hours a message was conveyed to them that Ratan Tata is busy and can not meet anyone without an appointment. Frustrated, these two Pakistani industrialists went to Delhi and through their High Commission met up with a Minister (and solicited his help in the matter). He immediately called up Ratan Tata requesting him to meet up with the two Pakistani Industrialists and consider their tender "enthusiastically". Ratan Tata replied..."you could be shameless, I am not" and put the phone down. Few months later when Pakistani government placed an order of Tata Sumo's to be imported into Pakistan, Ratan Tata refused to ship a single vehicle to that country. This is the respect and love for motherland that Ratan Tata has. You got to stand up for something in your life...else you will fall for everything..... (via e-mail, Admin@Harsh Yagnik (Hindi Version) via Facebook.)

Engineering Council of India

EDP-4 on Project Management for Engineers, which was scheduled for, February 18-22, 2013, was postponed to April, 2013 due to some technical reasons.

IAStructE & CEAI

Structural Engineering World Congress is organizing an International Colloquium on "Architecture -Structure Interaction For Sustainable Built Environment" in association with IAStructE & CEAI from 18th to 20th November, 2013 at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. For details send a mail to : iastructe@iastructe.co.in, iastructe@gmail.com, ceai.ceai@gmail.com or visit : www.iastructe.co.in, www.ceaindia.org

The Indian Institute of Metals (IIM)

The 51th National Metallurgists' Day (NMD) and the 67th Annual Technical Meeting (ATM) of IIM would be held during November 14-16, 2013 at IIT- Banaras Hindu University, Banars. NMD awards will also be given on this occasion. For details send a mail to : iimcal@dataone.in, or visit: www.iim-india.org

Indian Society of Non Destructive Testing - ISNT

14thAPCNDT, November, 2013 at Mumbai. ISNT has been entrusted with the responsibility of organizing the 4th Asia Pacific Conference on NDT in November, 2013 at Mumbai. For details send a mail to: isntho@eth.net or visit : www.isnt.org.in

Indian Building Congress

IBC is organizing Mid Term Session & Seminar on State - of- the -Art Building Technology during 26-28, 2013 at Patna, Bihar. For details send a mail to: info@ibc.org.in or visit website:www.ibc.org.in

The Institution of Engineers (India), Roorkee Local Centre

The Institution of Engineers (India), Roorkee Local Centre organizing a workshop on Ground Improvement Techniques for Difficult Ground Conditions at IIT Roorkee in April, 2013. Noted speakers from IIT Roorkee and Ground Improvement Industry are going to deliver expert lectures. For detail send a mail to: satyendramittal@gmail.com

The Institute of Marine Engineers (India) (IMEI)

IMEI is organizing IWCEM2013 on May 18-20, 2013 at Pune. For details send a mail to: info@iwcem.com or visit www.iwcem.com.

Flash

The Institution of Engineering & Technology (India) has joined ECI as its permanent member.

From Editor's Desk

Some points on the reform of engineering education



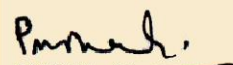
A pragmatic approach for healthy balance between wholeness of knowledge and engineering specialization that caters to current technological demands along with character building is need of the hour. The government must play the key role in facilitating the reform process of engineering education system so that it is made relevant to the industry and R&D; while leaving the actual work for it to the stakeholders. There should be less regulation and more freedom to the stake holders in this task. The government should only intervene through suitable policy instruments as and when it deems it necessary. The execution of pre defined and accepted reforms need to be smooth. For improving our innovative thinking in the global economy and hence becoming more competitive, joint research programs by the industry and academia should be encouraged by the government through appropriate incentives.

The present faculty shortage can be met by allowing practicing engineers and engineer consultants to teach. The prevailing academic practice does not give scope to practicing engineers and engineer consultants to teach. The practicing engineers would not replace them, but supplement their role. It would go a long way in meeting the faculty shortage. This needs a policy intervention and change of mind set of our academic establishments. We should also make faculty jobs more attractive as a matter of policy for attracting the right talent to these jobs. We should also know how to retain the faculty in their positions.

For making a subject that is included in the engineering curricula relevant to the industry, conceptually, there should be near similarity between the theory and practical aspects of that subject. This will call far more exposure to the faculty to the industrial problems on a regular basis and to its future requirements. It will be possible through assignments to the faculty from the industry on a regular basis. All engineering institutes should join hands for sharing their faculty and facilities. The grading system of faculty should be well laid as per the international standards. There is a need for mandatory industry –academia interactive mechanism at the national level. The industry and institutions should come forward and play a role in creating this mechanism. This is a regular feature of engineering education system in the developed countries. During-the-course industrial training should be made a regular project-based training programme. This training should also be assessed; and passing it should be made mandatory for the students. After the engineering course is over, there should be a mandatory paid internship of six to one year in an industrial unit. This should also be assessed; and passing it should also be made compulsory. The industry should come forward and support this. The expenditure that the industry may incur on this training and on during –the-course training should be compensated via the tax route or through the budget of CSR.

The present predicament that we have is that the teachers teach the subjects that are imposed by the university. It is not the consideration whether these subjects are relevant to the industry or not. Most of the time is lost in covering just the syllabus, leaving no time to the students to do some thinking elsewhere of their own. What we need today is imparting multi-skills to the students. This would be possible when we move beyond the syllabus. But the syllabus is such as would not give the students enough time to go beyond it. Perhaps, we need to integrate skill development with the formal education system.

Globalization of higher technical education reflects global out look. This will not only help in reducing competent engineers going out of our country, but also it would rather attract to our shores the students from other countries. So our technical education should be opened to DFI as a matter of policy with safeguards built in the policy as deemed necessary.


(P.N. Shali)

Eminent Indian Engineer : Dr. Faqir Chand Kohli

Dr. Faqir Chand Kohli is a visionary and pioneer by nature, is acknowledged as the 'Father of the Indian Software Industry'. Be it the propagation of computerization in India at a time when no one realized its potential, or bringing the benefits of IT to India's rural masses through computer based Adult Literacy programme, Dr Kohli saw IT as an instrument of national development. Under Dr Kohli's dynamic and dedicated leadership, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), which was established in 1968 to take part in IT development, pioneered India's IT revolution and helped the country to build the IT Industry. TCS carried out complex assignments for banks, telephone companies and the government in early 1970s. In the latter part of 1950 and early 1951, he worked with Ebasco International Corporation, New York Connecticut Valley Power Exchange, Hartford; and with New England Power System, Boston for training in Power System Operation Planning. He returned to India in early August 1951, and joined Tata Electric Companies as an engineer and rose through the ranks to become the Deputy General Manager of Tata Power Company in 1967 and helped to set up the Load Dispatching System to manage the system operations. Simultaneously, he worked as consultant to Tata Consulting Engineers. He became Director of Tata Electric Companies in 1970. During his years with Tata Electric Companies, he introduced advanced engineering and management techniques for the operation of power systems. He was also responsible for significant use of digital computers for power system design and control, using the CDC 3600 mainframe computer at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research. He was offered the reigns of Tata's fledgling IT Company, TCS, in 1969. Over the next two decades and more Dr. Kohli shaped the destiny of TCS. In 1974, he was made the director-in-charge. He took over the position of Deputy Chairman of TCS In 1994. He was the first to talk about tandem, first to import an IBM 3090, to maintain that mainframes are not dead, and to question the openness of open systems-even before most of the world addressed these concerns. He continues to work on projects that will spread computing in the country, and in recent years he has been focusing on hardware and microelectronics. Dr. Faqir Chand Kohli has secured a place in the Indian IT annals of history.



University in 2000, Aberdeen, U.K., University of Roorkee, UP in 2000, from IIT Bombay in 2004, Jadavpur University, Kolkata in 2004 and IIT Kanpur in 2006.

Corporate Positions

He has been on the Board of Directors of Many companies. These include: Director, Tata Infotech Ltd., Bradma of India Ltd., WTI Advanced Technology Ltd., Tata Elxsi (I) Ltd., Tata Technologies (Pte) Ltd., Singapore, Triveni Engineering Works Ltd, HOTV Inc., US, Engineering Analysis Center of Excellence Pvt. Ltd., eBIZ Solutions Ltd., Edutech Informatics India (P) Ltd., Technosoft SA, Switzerland, Sun F&C Asset Management (I) Pvt. Ltd, Director, Aerospace Systems Pvt. Ltd., and Media Lab Asia Ltd. He was the Chairman, WTI Advanced Technology Ltd.

Awards

He has received many awards. The President of India conferred on Dr. Kohli the Padma Bhushan, India's third-highest civilian honour, for his contribution to the Indian software industry. Besides, some of the other notable awards that he has received include Dadabhai Naoroji Memorial Award, Lifetime Achievement Award for Management, All India Management Association (AIMA), Gold Medal and Cash Award for paper on 'Economics of Long Distance, Extra High Voltage Transmission Lines', Gold Medal from Central Board of Irrigation and Power, for the best paper on 'Inter-System Contracts and Organizational Requirements for Economic Operation of Inter-connected Systems', Dr. V.M. Ghatge prize for lecture on 'Automation in Power Systems Operations', Electronics Man of the Year Award of the Electronic Component Industries Association, Lifetime Contribution to Information Technology-Dataquest, Platinum Standard Award (QIMPRO Foundation) for Outstanding Contribution in the field of Quality, Lifetime Achievement Award, World HRD Congress, Juran Quality Award, Indian Merchants Chamber, National Citizens Award, "for outstanding contribution in the field of Information Technology", Lifetime Achievement Award, the Economic Times, and Lifetime Achievement Award, Indian National Academy of Engineers, etc.

Born in Peshawar (British India), Dr. Faqir Chand Kohli completed his schooling and matriculation in Peshawar. He obtained BA and B.Sc. (Hons.) degrees from the Punjab University - Government College, Lahore. Thereafter, he went to Queen's University, Canada and received his B.Sc. (Hons.) degree in Electrical Engineering in 1948. He worked with the Canadian General Electric Company for a year, and proceeded to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, USA, where he received his MS degree in Electrical Engineering in 1950.

Professional Positions

Dr. Kohli is a fellow of IEEE USA, IET UK, The Institution of Engineers (India), Computer Society of India and many others.

Doctorate in Engineering (Honoris Causa)

He received Doctorate in Engineering (Honoris Causa) from the University of Waterloo, Canada in 1990, from Robert Gordon

Awards

The ITM Universe Vadodara is recognized as the Best Technical Campus in terms of Academic & Educational Environment with Educational Excellence Award given by the Planet Research - Indo Italian Research Center, New Delhi in Feb. 2013. The Award was presented by Shri Sharad Yadav, President (JDU). ITM Universe Group was established by Samata Lok Sansthan Trust. It established ITM University in Gwalior, MP State under section 2(f) of UGC Act and notified in MP gazette. ITM Universe, Vadodara was established in June 2011 with a mission to develop students in all



aspects by imparting quality education and a vision to develop a world class university in Gujarat. ITM Universe, Vadodara is located around 25 Kms. from Vadodara City on Halol Highway and approximately 2 Kms. from Jarod Town. Presently, this Institute of Technology and Management Universe is offering B.E. and Management (MBA) courses recognized by the AICTE and affiliated by Gujarat Technological University. The institute is likely to include Architecture, Applied Art-Craft, MCA, Polytechnic, Nursing institutions during the academic year 2013-14. The campus in-houses some of the monumental sculptures, and painting of artists of national and international repute. Apart from being an eco-friendly campus, an area of 20 bighas of sapodillas and mango orchids adds to the beauty of the campus.

Our congratulations

News Corner

The New Integrated Air Terminal Building at Kolkata inaugurated by Shri Pranab Mukherjee, President of India



Shri Pranab Mukherjee, President of India inaugurated the new integrated air terminal building at Kolkata on 20th January 2013. The new building has built up area of 2.0 million Sq. Ft. of the main building and 0.6 million Sq. Ft. of underground parking in front of the main building. The building has large column free spaces and the span of trusses varies from 72 to 90 mtrs with cantilever projection upto 27 mtrs.

Two international architects and two Indian architects were involved in the architectural design. Mehro Consultants under the leadership of Mr S C Mehrotra was the structural consultant. IAStructE congratulates Mr S C Mehrotra for this achievement.

Prime Minister expressed concern over the "badly inadequate" number of competent mathematicians in the Country

Dr Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister expressed concern over the "badly inadequate" number of competent mathematicians in the country during the function to mark the 125th birth anniversary of maths wizard Srinivasa Ramanujan. He also declared 2012 as the 'National Mathematical year' as a tribute to Srinivasa Ramanujan. He said the mathematical community has a duty to find out "ways and means" to address the shortage of top quality mathematicians and reach out to the public, especially in the modern context, where mathematics has tremendous influence on every kind of human endeavour. Students have not pursued mathematics at advanced levels over more than three decades, which has resulted in a decline in quality of mathematics teachers at schools and colleges.



Pre Engineered Buildings

Theory and practice of "Pre Engineered Buildings" is becoming order of the day fast. Conceptually, it is a building which is pre fabricated with all the accessories pre inculcated before taking it to the site and then erected there to qualify to be called Pre Engineered Building or in short PEB. It is usually misunderstood. PEB is not

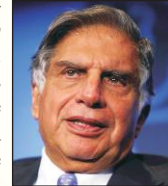
restricted to any particular material or system. With numerous advantages, PEB is fast replacing the conventional method of making buildings at site. Ever since labour costs in developed countries have started going up, more and more mechanization is to be needed to increase productivity. Hence, PEBs have become popular; and it is replacing the conventional systems.

India Energy Congress (IEC)

On 7 and 8 February, the India Energy Congress (IEC), a top congregation of energy professionals from across the sector and the annual flagship event of the World Energy Council, India, took place in New Delhi with this year's main theme being "Securing Tomorrow's Energy Today : Policy and Regulation".

The idea of leadership - Roll up your sleeves

One of Mr Ratan N Tata's first assignments was the stewardship of the ailing electronics company in the Tata portfolio - Nelco. Story goes that a team of senior managers from Nelco was driving to Nasik along with Mr Ratan Tata. Halfway into the journey, the car had a flat tyre, and as the driver pulled up, the occupants - including Mr. Tata - got off for a comfort break, leaving the driver to replace the tyre. Some of the managers welcomed the forced break, as it allowed them a much-needed chance to light up a cigarette. Some used the opportunity to share a joke. And then, noticed that Mr. Tata was wondered aloud where vanished. Was he behind wandered off inside the quick cup of tea? Or was passers-by, listening to their stories? None of these! In fact while his colleagues were taking a break, Ratan Tata was busy helping the driver change tyres. Sleeves rolled up, tie swatted away over the shoulder, the hands expertly working the jack and the spanner, bouncing the spare tyre to check if the tyre pressure was ok. He had droplets of sweat on the brow, and a smile on the face. In that moment, the managers accompanying Ratan Tata got a master class in leadership they haven't forgotten. And that's a moment that the driver of that car probably hasn't forgotten either (Maj Gen N K Dhir).



Letters to the Editor

Dear Shri Shali,

May I draw your attention to the news item in the recent TOI titled : US trade mission under cloud for breaching WTO norms. This required lot of pursuit from the Council of Architecture and some other professionals. As a result, encroachment on Indian turf by foreign firms is checked. It underscores two points. One, the need to have a professional regulator. As a member of brother profession, I would like to see engineering on the same footing as other major professions like Medical, Law, Accountancy. The second, establish principle of reciprocity in rendering of consultancy service.

Regards & Best Wishes

Ravi Kakar

Former CA CPWD / Consultant,
CPWD

Dear Sir,

During the ISAE Convention at Hyderabad it was recommended that ISAE should make all possible efforts to establish "Agricultural Engineering" degree programme at central universities and newly established IITs. It was also suggest that we should have as many people devoted to this effort as possible, especially people with strong linkages with governments in states. Based on this, we should identify states where we could concentrate our efforts. In my view BHU and AMU with agricultural and engineering faculties are good candidates. Regarding new IITs, we could use IIT Kharagpur as an example of a very broad based program in "Agricultural & Food Engineering" and put in our efforts in Bihar, Gujrat, Rajasthan, MP and a few other states to establish similar programmes. Please share this idea with as many people as possible and identify committed and devoted people to carry this idea towards implementation. Prof Suresh Prasad of IIT Patna. should be in this group.

Best regards and best wishes,

Prof. Gajendra Singh

News from the Member Associations

Association of Consulting Civil Engineers (India), ACCE (I)

ACCE (I) Mangalore Centre organized a two-day convention and consultants colloquium on innovative infrastructure for incredible India during January 11-12, 2013 at Mangalore. This was a programme wherein the awards were also given for achieving excellence in various avenues of construction at the national level. A national conference on steel structure is being organized by the Mysore Centre of the ACCE(I) during April 26-27, 2013 at Mysore, Karnataka. For details send a mail to: admin@accehq.net, or, visit : WWW.accehq.net.

Broadcast Engineering Society (India) (BES)

BES EXPO 2013 and the 19th International Conference and Exhibition on Terrestrial and Satellite Broadcasting, was held during January 29-31, 2013, at New Delhi. It was very well attended both by the industry and academia.

Computer Society of India (CSI)

CSI organised a national conference on IT in Defence (NC-ITD) 2013 at NIMHANS Convention Centre, Bangalore during January 23-24, 2013. It was very well attended by both the industry and academia. Many students also participated in the conference. A Faculty Development Program was organized during January 10-11, 2013 at the VTU campus, Belgaum. It was very well attended.

Consultancy Development Centre (CDC)

The Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, has notified guidelines for selection of consultants in line with criteria formulated by the World Bank, ADB, UNDP, etc, and other international funding agencies. These guidelines provide for selection of consultants with appropriate consideration for quality and cost. CDC has a network of more than 10,000 consultant/consultancy organizations/experts spread across the country in various disciplines both engineering and management. It has collaboration with state level technical consultancy organisations (TCO's), who have presence in major cities across the country. Besides these consultancy organizations, CDC is associated with a number of educational institutions such as IIT's, IIM's, and other leading engineering institutes and business schools for the promotion and development of consultancy capabilities in the country. CDC is working closely with various ministries, departments, state govts., psus, client's organizations; and it has also facilitated selection/empanelment of consultants for various ministries/departments, public sector undertakings and R&D institutions.

Consulting Engineers Association of India (CEAI)

Consulting Engineers Association of India (CEAI) is an apex body of Consulting Engineers in India and represents the majority of Consulting Engineers. CEAI is the only member association from India representing the Indian engineering consultancy profession at the International Federation of Consulting Engineers (FIDIC). CEAI endeavors to promote the interests, enhance the status of engineering consultants and protect their rights and privileges, as well as creating a proper forum for sharing information and views on issues which are of topical interests to the engineering fraternity <http://www.ceaindia.com>

Construction Industry Development Council (CIDC)

The 5th CIDC Vishwakarma awards were held at a glittering ceremony on 7th March 2013 at New Delhi. This year, a total of 107 awardees were chosen and distributed



trophies, medals and certificates in eleven prime categories. The chief guest for the ceremony Dr. Pronab Sen, Chairman, National Statistical Commission & Former Principal Adviser, Planning Commission, Government of India who was also the Chairman of the Jury, for the 5th CIDC Vishwakarma Awards, lauded the efforts of CIDC for its role towards improvement & betterment of the construction industry. He made a special mention of CIDC's efforts for training of grass root construction workers, for its encouragement to small construction companies, individual entrepreneurial firms, and focusing on skill development. For details visit www.cidc.in or send a mail to cidc@cidc.in.

Indian Association of Structural Engineers (IAStructE)

IAStructE took up certifying structural stability of buildings in Haryana which affected a good number of structural engineers. The Prsident of IAStructE visited Chandigarh along with Mr Manoj Mittal, Vice- President (North) on 12th March 2013 and met Director General, Town & Country Planning Department, Haryana. He met the DG again on 2nd April 2013. The President also visited Bangalore and had a meeting with the officials of ACCE(I) and ICI for promoting a Seminar on Metro Rail Projects in Bangalore. Structural Engineering World Congress is organizing an International Colloquium on "Architecture -Structure Interaction For Sustainable Built Environment " in association with IAStructE & CEAI from 18th to 20th November, 2013 at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. Dr Suresh Bhalla, Associate Professor, IIT Delhi gave a talk on Structural Health on 24th January 2013. Shri Rajwansh Bedi, Managing Director, Cold Steel Corporation gave a talk on history, theory and practice of Pre Engineered Buildings on 21st February 2013. National Seminar on Safety of Structures will be held on on 26th April 2013 at PHD House, New Delhi.

Indian Society for Technical Education (ISTE)

ISTE organised Srinivasa Ramanujan Mathematical Competition Award Function on 2nd March, 2013 at Institute of Mathematical Sciences, Chennai. The function was organized in collaboration with society joined National Board of Higher Mathematics (NBHM) and Institute of Mathematical Sciences (IMSc) Madras. Various events were held including seminars, workshops, etc, particularly in engineering colleges and polytechnics. The competition for students and teachers from both polytechnic and engineering college level has been conducted separately in different states comprising of 16 ISTE sections. The competitive examination



was also conducted at three levels namely ISTE chapter level, zonal level and national level. Students and teachers from 17 states participated in this examination with a total of 2280 candidates. Twenty Ramanujan Mathematics Awareness Program (RMAP) are being conducted throughout the country in engineering colleges. The ISTE-SRMC Award distribution ceremony was held on 2nd March, 2013 at the Institute of Mathematical Sciences, Chennai.

Indian Building Congress (IBC)

IBC organized a national seminar on training, skill upgradation and competence development in building industry during January 17-19, 2013 at New Delhi. It was vey well attended. A seminar is proposed to

be organized on state of the building technology during April 26-28 at Patna, Bihar. It is also proposed to organize a programme on safety aspects in construction, scaffolding and shuttering in, and mechanization in building construction. Specific date and duration of the programmes will be intimated in shortly. For more details visit www.abc.org.in or send a mail to; info@abc.org.in.

Indian Society of Trenchless Technology

It is to inform you about a recent development on the No Dig India Show 2013. We are communicating with government agencies to support the No Dig India Show 2013 so that more of their engineers and officers join the event for a better networking and technology promotion. Though we have received the assurance of support for the event from such agencies, there is an overall request to alter the event dates as against the currently scheduled dates of Jan-end since many new projects are being announced and the later period suits the engineers. As they are one of the major users of Trenchless Technology in India with several on-going projects as well as future trenchless projects, they represent a major business development opportunity, and we are contemplating to alter the dates so that the participants get a better networking assistance.

Indian Geotechnical Society (IGS)

International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering organised jointly with the IGS, Indian Institute of Science and ASCE South India Region fourth international seminar on forensic geotechnical engineering : TC 302: Forensic Geotechnical Engineering during January, 10-12, 2013 at Bengaluru. The seminar was very well attended. Forensic geotechnical engineering involves scientific, legalistic investigations and deductions to detect the causes as well as the process of distress in a structure, which are attributed to geotechnical origin. Such a critical analysis will provide answers to "what went wrong, when, where, why, how, and by whom". Cases of remedied installations, particularly those which, fall under public / or government category, where the analysis and evaluation of adopted remedial measures with regard to their effectiveness and economy may be subjected to judicial scrutiny also, fall under this purview. It also gives strong inputs to improve future designs.

Indian Institute of Industrial Engineering (IIE)

The industrial engineering discipline has been fostered and developed in our country by the Indian Institution of Industrial Engineering. During the last five decades and more, the Institution has been consistently doing extensive and pioneering work in disseminating, fostering, developing and advancing the discipline and profession of industrial engineering in our country.

Indian Institution of Plant Engineers (IPE)

In series of its training programmes since 1974, the Indian Institution of Plant Engineers (IPE) has planned to hold their 23rd Advanced Maintenance Management Programme at Vadodra. The modalities for holding this program in July end/August were discussed at length in a meeting held by Chairman, AMMP Maj Gen Gurmukh Singh on 7th of March 2013. The brochure for the 23rd AMMP is being finalised and will be sent to all major industries in the country. It was also announced in the meeting that M/S Desein-Indure Group of companies and NTPC Ltd have since joined IPE as Life Institutional Members. This was applauded by all present.



Indian Concrete Institute (ICI)

ICI and Central Public Works Department are jointly organising a workshop on "Construction & Demolition (C&D) Waste Recycling" during 28th Feb - 1st March, 2013 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. Construction and Demolition (C&D) Waste is a major waste stream, the quantum of which is increasing as a result of increasing construction, maintenance, retrofitting and demolition activities in India. It is estimated that the construction industry in India generates about 10-12 million tons of waste annually. The waste generation in Delhi is estimated to be around 5000 tons per day. This creates huge challenges in terms of space for disposal, unauthorized dumping, mixing with biodegradable waste, etc. Even though there is high potential for large-scale recycling of this waste material stream, production of recycled aggregates with properties comparable to natural aggregate, recovered from C&D waste is currently at very low level in India. This is an excellent opportunity to gain insight into the national and international expertise and experience in the field of C&D waste recycling. For details about the workshop please write to: Shri Gaurav Gupta, Occasions, LGF, E-19, Sushant Arcade, Sushant Lok-1, Gurgaon. Email : Gaurav@theoccasions.in, Tel : +91-9811826651, 0124-4000880

Indian Society of Agricultural Engineers (ISAE)

ISAE organized its 47th Annual Convention and International Symposium on Bio-Energy. Challenges and Opportunities in association with Acharya N G Ranga Agricultural University and Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture during Jan 28-30, 2013 at Hyderabad. Issues related to agricultural engineering research, education, extension and industrial promotion with major theme on Bio Energy were discussed. A General Body Meeting of ISAE Gujarat Chapter was held on 28th February 2013 at Junagadh.

Indian Society of Non Destructive Testing (ISNT)

Indian Society for Non Destructive Testing (ISNT), cordially invites all professionals associated with the field of Non Destructive Testing and Evaluation, Quality Control and Inspection to participate in the 14th Asia Pacific Conference on Non Destructive Testing -APCNDT to be held in Mumbai during November 18-20, 2013. India has a wealth of scientific community and has proven capabilities in atomic energy, space, defence, automobile, software, pharmacy, biotechnology, power sectors, manufacturing, infrastructure and a whole lot of other sectors. It is natural to visualize that NDE shall grow at a fast pace. The predicted growth rate is 40 percent based on the performance. Contributions in terms of papers, participation and exhibition towards making 14th APCNDT relevant and excellent are also solicited. For details send a mail to: isnttheadoffice@gmail.com, or, visit website: www.isnt.org.in

Indian National Group of the International Association for Bridge & Structural Engineering (INGIABSE)

IABSE conference on Assessment, Upgrading and Refurbishment of Infrastructures and Expo will be held during May 6-8, 2013 at Rotterdam, the Netherlands. The 36th IABSE Symposium on 'Long Span Bridges and Roofs - Development, Design and Implementation' will be held from September 24-27, 2013. The main topics that will be covered are planning, design, research and development, implementation, operation, and maintenance. For details visit www.iabse2013rotterdam.nl, <http://www.iabse.ethz.ch>, send a mail to: ingiabse@nde.vsnl.net.in,

Mining Engineers Association of India (MEAI)

MEAI is organizing, in collaboration with the Southern African Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, 9th international Heavy Minerals

Conference -2013- 'Overcoming New Challenges during November 27-29, 2013 at Visakhapatnam, AP. The heavy mineral industry, globally and particularly in India, is confronted with new challenges of exploration at depths, separating complicated assemblage, mining high slime deposits and reducing environmental footprint. Land, energy and water are extremely scarce resources world-wide. These and several other challenges being confronted globally call for a rethink of the way we do business. Our theme for HMC 2013 is, therefore, 'Overcoming New Challenges'. For details visit website www.meai.org or Email to - contact@meai.org or fax to +91 - 08942283758.

The Aeronautical Society of India (ASI)

Defence R&D Organization is organizing Aero India 2013-International Seminar on Aero Products - Challenges in Design in association with ASI at Bengaluru. For details send a mail to: seminar@aeroindiseminar.com or visit: www.aeroindiseminar.in.

The Institute of Marine Engineers (India) (IMEI)

IMEI is organising international workshop, conferences and expo for military and marine applications -IWCEM2013- during May

18-20, at Pune. It will focus on shipbuilding and maritime operations. The industry would be presenting their contemporary products during the technology meet to the users. The IWCEM2013 is also expected to initiate the process of product development, accounting for futuristic user requirement and available R&D talent.

The Indian Institute of Metals (IIM)

The IIM has prepared Generic Reports on three key areas of economy. These are (1) Non Ferrous Metals Resources in India, (2) Materials for Power Plants and (3) Environment Challenges in Metals Industry with Special Reference to Carbon Dioxide Emissions. The objective behind these generic reports is to assess the current Indian scenario in these areas, come out with a plan for long term and short term actions and strategies, so that this can be used as a tool in future dialogues with the policy planners. First two reports are ready and these are going to be presented in the Ministry of Mines, Planning Commission and the Ministry of Power.

Obituary

P.V. Indiresan: An endearing teacher passes away

Prof P.V. Indiresan, former Director of IIT Madras, and a current columnist of Business Line passed away in Pune on 24 February 2013 morning. The end came for this endearing teacher of electronics and electrical engineering in his hotel room, hours before he was to chair the Election Commission's technical committee meet on EVMs. He was 85, and is survived by his wife Jaya, two daughters and a son. Professor P.V. Indiresan, a Padma Bhushan award winner, was a strong critic of reservation in jobs and education. Indiresan pioneered several academic reforms including the credit system at IIT-Madras - which came to be known as a "forgiving and flexible system of allowing students to choose their courses and teachers. Professor Indiresan initiated industry-IIT cooperation as he believed that students should be trained to solve real world problems with industrial help. This paved the way for IIT- Madras to get more sponsored projects from the government and companies. India has lost an able teacher, a thinker, and a frequent writer on several academic issues. ECI conveys its condolence to the bereaved family and prays to Almighty to give peace to the departed noble soul.



and an extraordinarily dynamic and competent engineer. He was active till the last moment, always bubbling with new ideas and achieved many goals during his lifetime. He was Vice President of the Institution of Engineers (India) during 2000-2001. His passing away is a great loss to the engineering fraternity and his family. ECI mourns his death and conveys its condolence to the bereaved family and prays to the Almighty to give peace to the departed noble soul.

Shri S. Samarapungavan, Steel Man of India passes away

Shri S. Samarapungavan, Past President of the Indian Institute of Metals (IIM) passed away recently in US, where he was living with his son. He took over as the Chairman of the Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL) in 1980 formed by the Indian government in January 1973 and served as an umbrella organization for the steel industry in the public sector in India. He oversaw expansion of Rourkela, Bhilai, Durgapur and Bokaro integrated steel plants. Shri S. Samarapungavan also worked for the revival of the Indian Iron and Steel Company. Before coming to SAIL as one of its directors in 1978, he was Managing Director of Bokaro Steel Ltd. His passing away is a greater loss to the country, his family and to the engineering fraternity. ECI conveys its condolence to the bereaved family and prays to the Almighty to give peace to the departed noble soul.



Dr. Narendra D. Patel is no more with us

With great shock and sadness, we have learnt about the untimely passing away of Dr. Narendra D. Patel. He was a great human being

Appointments

Shri S C Mehrotra, Shri Mahendra Raj , Shri S Ghosh, Shri O P Goel, Ms Sangeeta Wij, Dr Harshavardhan Subbarao and Shri Manoj Mittal have been elected members of the Governing Council of the Consulting Engineers Association of India for the term 2012-14. Dr Harshavardhan Subbarao has also been elected as Chairman of CEAI Western Region Centre. The Consulting Engineers Association of India (CEAI) conducted the elections for its Governing Council for the term 2012-2014, and elected Shri A P Mull as the President, Shri M M Verma and Shri Amitabha Bhattacharya as the Vice President, Shri Somenath Ghosh as the Secretary and Shri Nirmalya Bandyopadhyay as the Treasurer for the term 2012-2014.

Our Congratulations

Academic

Mr Arundeb Gupta, FIAStructE has obtained PhD from Jadavpur University, Kolkata in December, 2012.

Our Congratulations

Publications

An article on A Low RPM (revolution per minute) Low Wind Velocity Aero-generator invented by Eng. Avinash D. Shirole, FIAStructE received international recognition and published in the Newsletter (February 2013) of World Federation of Engineering Organization (WFEO).

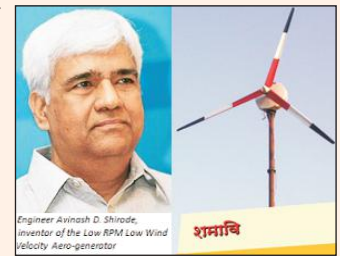
Our congratulations

US trade mission under cloud for breaching WTO norms: Manoj Mitta TNN

An American trade mission, for exploring business opportunities in the infrastructure sector, has come under a cloud. This follows a communication from the commerce ministry to its counterpart in the US that the mission fell foul of the WTO framework under which architects could be provided market access in each other's country only after a bilateral agreement relating to them had been signed. The absence of such a bilateral agreement could have been similarly held against other infrastructure-related professionals such as civil engineers, town planners and builders, who are all included in the trade mission. If the government still expressed concern only about architects, it was because, among the various professionals associated with the infrastructure sector, they alone have a statutory regulator in India. It was at the instance of the regulator, Council of Architecture (CoA), that the commerce ministry issued an office memorandum on January 24, affirming that the presence of architects in the impending trade mission was impermissible as India and US were yet to arrive at a "reciprocal arrangement". Recalling that another delegation had already visited India in October, the memorandum said that the matter be taken up with the US administration so that any "further violation of the existing regulatory framework does not take place by the forthcoming visit of the US trade mission to solicit architectural business in India". But the US embassy reportedly, when contacted, denied that the trade missions violated any norms. Its spokesperson Meghan E McGill said: "Trade missions include briefings and meetings to ensure that the U.S. participants understand the business and regulatory environment, including the relevant laws and regulations governing their business sector, such as the Architects Act, 1972, in the case of this mission. The participants are expected to comply with all applicable laws and regulations, whether of the United States or the foreign market." The bilateral agreement, which is required to be signed in terms of the 1995 General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS), will specify the mode of delivery of each of the professional services and the number of "natural persons" who can be exchanged.

Wind Energy - Avinash D. Shirode

Nowadays, electric power supply of state electricity is very uncertain and the voltage is also unreliable. With frequent load shading, interruptions, voltage fluctuation and shutdowns usually unannounced to consumers, and cost per unit increasing day by day, electrical energy is expected to become scarcer and more and more costly in the future. In houses and small offices, there are normally generators ran by petrol/diesel/kerosene which are used to supply electricity when there is no grid power, but the use of such appliances is not always satisfactory, is noisy and creates air pollution. And with wind speed available in most of the urban areas not exceeding 4-5 m/s; the present use of wind mills is not economically and technically viable to cater the needs of domestic household requirements. Leading to a real need for a type of equipment that will generate sufficient electrical energy for domestic use of 1 to 5 kW, and which could be adapted to a very low wind speed year-round throughout the world. The most innovative design of low RPM (revolutions per minute) low wind velocity Alternator starts generation of electricity (charging current) at as low as 0.6 meter per second wind speed and as low as 4 RPM for 12V System. This innovative product harnesses considerably what other windmills loose in the wind speed range of 0.6 m/s to 3 m/s. A Patent has been granted for 20 years. The wind energy, though not consistent, is quite cheaper to solar and other forms of no conventional energy. The cost of windmill as per this innovation, even if taken only as an alternative battery charging media, is within a reach of common man for their domestic energy needs. However, with an effective working windmill system, one may not require grid power at all. This windmill can be erected at any normally windy place, and can be used in remote areas where grid power has not yet reached. It is best suited for residential areas, homes, schools, hospitals, etc. The investment can be recovered, depending upon the wind condition, in a reasonable time span, as the running cost is almost zero. This gives pollution free, noise free, maintenance free constant power at constant voltage which safeguards electrical appliances as well.



Doctor becomes a practicing Doctor after s/he receives seven years of medical education- MBBS & then, MD or MS and registration by the MCI. The practice of architects and charter accountants is regulated; even nurses need registration. Engineers become practicing engineers only after four years of education because they do not need registration for practicing their profession in India. Engineering profession should also be regulated like the other professions mentioned above are regulated.

ENGINEERING COUNCIL OF INDIA

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