



The Indian Engineer

Strength does not come from physical capacity. It comes from an indomitable will – Mahatma Gandhi
Justice will not be served until those who are unaffected are as outraged as those who are – Benjamin Franklin

NEWSLETTER OF THE ENGINEERING COUNCIL OF INDIA

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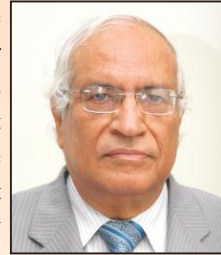
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Message from the Chairman

I am grateful to the Board of Governors for nominating me as the Chairman for the Term 2014-16. I must thank all ECI members for their continued support. One of main unfinished agenda of ECI is the Engineers Bill. Despite our best efforts, the earlier government was reluctant to take it to Parliament, presumably because a large number of their Bills were already pending before the Parliament and they did not want to add one more Bill. With the new government having taken over, we will renew our efforts and hopefully the legislation will soon see light of the day.



Engineering Council of India (ECI) celebrated its 12th Foundation Day on April 4, 2014 when Eminent Engineer Awards was conferred on Mr. N. R. Narayana Murthy, Executive Chairman, Infosys Limited under the industry category and Dr Baldev Raj, President-Research PSG Institutions, Coimbatore & Former Director, IGCAR under the Research and Consultancy Category. The Jury Chaired by Dr. V. Krishnamurthy, with Dr Kirit S. Parikh, Dr. R.A. Mashelkar, Mr. B. Muthuraman and Mr. A C Wadhawan as its distinguished members selected them for the Award from out of 17 nominations received for the Awards from public and private sector companies, Industry Associations Academic and Research institutions and other bodies. Details are covered elsewhere in this newsletter. The function was attended by over 200 engineers. ECI organized its 5th EDP on Project Management for Engineers during April 14-18, 2014 at New Delhi. 44 participants from leading public and private sector companies attended the programme. The programme was appreciated by all the participants.

In an earlier issue of the Indian Engineer I had referred to the judgment of the Hon'ble Delhi High Court pronounced by Justice V K Jain on September 23, 2013 (in the matter of W.P. (C) 2106/2012–Premendra Raj Mehta and Ors versus National Building Construction Corp. Ltd & Ors), which clearly stated that the Architects Act, 1972 does not restrict the practice of architecture or architectural consultancy to only registered architects. The COA appealed against this order (LPA 854 of 2013, in Permendra Raj Mehta v. NBCC) which was listed before the Division Bench in the Delhi High Court on 25.11.2013. The Court disposed off their appeal but noted that since the Single Judge had found that the petitioner had no locus standii he should not have made further findings on the issue of qualification etc. and thus those findings will be considered as “obiter” i.e. as judicial observations and not binding. However the observations of Justice VK Jain regarding the scope of the Act will remain persuasive. The joint efforts by ECI and its member associations will continue in the matter so that engineering profession is no adversely affected.


(Uddesh Kohli)

Engineering Council of India (ECI)

ECI is organizing 8th national convention on the reform of engineering education for better employability of engineers – Students Conclave on September 3, 2014 at the Jadavpur University Campus, Kolkata. The students will be the main speakers in this conclave. It is sponsored by the Tata Steel. For details send a mail to eci@ecindia.org, pnshali@gmail.com, director@ecindia.org.

Computer Society of India- ISCON 2014

CSI jointly with the PSG College of Technology, University of South Australia is organizing an International Conference on Information Systems & Computer Networks. For details visit www.csi-india.org or send a mail to hq@csi-india.org.

Mining Engineers Association (India) - MEAI

MEAI is organizing "All India Exploration Geologists Meet" on August 21-22, 2014 at Hyderabad. The objective of the meet is to develop the requisite knowledge and managerial competence of all professionals working in mining and mineral-based industry as a part of 'Competence Building Mission' with focus on sustainable mining. For details send a mail to meai1957@gmail.com.

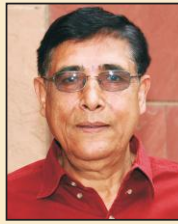
Indian Geotechnical Society (IGS), IGC-2014

IGS is organizing Indian Geotechnical Conference and Exhibition on the theme: Geotechnics for inclusive development of India (GEOINDA) during December 18-20, 2014 at Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Kakinada, AP.F. For details send a mail to kramujntu@gmail.com, baburd1108@hotmail.com, or, visit website: www.igc2014kakinada.org.

Indian Institute of Metals (IIM)

The prestigious MMMM, 2014 - Exhibition & Conference is being organised by the Delhi Chapter of IIM during September 4-7, 2014 at the Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. The event is cosponsored by the Ministries of Mines, Steel, Commerce, External Affairs, Earth Sciences, Planning Commission, etc. The theme of the international conference being organised as a part of the event is : Emerging Trends in Metals & Minerals. For details of the event send a mail to iim.delhi@gmail.com or visit website : www.mmmmconferences.com.

From the Editor's Desk

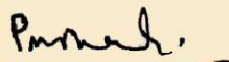


India is a permanent member of Washington Accord. We should now bring on the statute Engineers Act which will complete the requirement for ensuring international mobility of professional engineers

Our heartiest congratulations to AICTE and the NBA (National Board of Accreditation) team who made sincere efforts which has led to India becoming a permanent member of Washington Accord (WA), which is the recognition of equivalency of accredited engineering education programmes. The accreditation process, policies and procedures is expected to lead our engineering education to match the world standards. The NBA has the responsibility of accreditation of the engineering programmes in various institutions after evaluating the quality and standards. However, being signatory to WA does not automatically lead to acceptance of our engineering degrees of NBA accredited programmes. There is a separate mechanism for such equivalence and in India Association of Indian Universities (AIU) has the responsibility of establishing equivalence of foreign and Indian degrees.

For international mobility of India professional engineers, however, being signatory to WA is not enough. Various countries have their own system of registration/licensing of engineers and Indian engineers have to follow that if they have to practise there. But, foreign engineers can practice in India as there is no such statutory regulatory body. Therefore, we also need an Engineers Act and set up a statutory Council which will be responsible for registering or licensing professional engineers. This will provide a level playing field to our engineers; and for mobility of professional engineers across countries such a body can enter into multilateral / bilateral agreements.

A consensus draft of Engineers Bill was submitted by the Engineering Council of India in 2007 to the Ministry of HRD. Since then, it has been under consideration of the Ministry. This needs to be speeded up so that a statutory council as a regulatory body is set up without further delay. Such a body will also ensure proper accountability for the engineering profession in the country.


(P.N. Shali)

Think It Over

Cheerfulness is the state of being joyful, lively and of good spirits. Cheerfulness lightens sickness and burden of life and gives wonderful strength and great power of endurance. Be cheerful always. Cheerfulness is the best tonic. It gives radiant health, peace and makes mind serene. Light of a cheerful face diffuses itself. You are refreshed by the presence of a cheerful man. A cheerful man is like a sunny day. He radiates all round brightness and joy. Cheer transforms darkness into light, depression into brightness and sickness into health. What sunshine is to flowers, cheerful and happy smiles are to humanity. —Devinder Koul via email

Distinguished Engineer : Professor G.D. Yadav

Professor Ganapati Dadasaheb Yadav's contributions to development of the chemical engineering profession in India are incomparable. He ranks among the preeminent engineers and academicians in India, who is internationally recognized by many prestigious awards, fellowships and honours for his seminal contributions to education, research, innovation and development of clean technologies. He has provided inspiring academic and professional leadership to the Institute of Chemical Technology (ICT), the Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers (IIChE) and Catalysis Society of India, and Maharashtra Academy of Sciences. Prof. Yadav is a vociferous advocate of the chemical sciences and industry in the print, radio and television. He has been championing the rejuvenation of the chemical industry through adoption of sustainable clean and pollution-free technologies. He is also a widely sought after speaker who has traversed the world for delivering more than 450 lectures.



Awards & Honours

He has received numerous honours and distinctions for his path-breaking contributions to green chemistry and engineering, catalysis science and engineering, chemical reaction engineering, nanotechnology and energy engineering. He has been honoured by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India with its prestigious Jagdish Chandra Bose National Fellowship. Recently, he has been bestowed with the D. M. Trivedi Lifetime Achievement Award of Indian Chemical Council as well as the Dr. B. P. Godrej Lifetime Achievement Award of the Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers (IIChE). The Indian Specialty Chemical Manufacturers Association (ISCMA) and PSN College of Engineering TN has bestowed on him the Best Researcher award for 2012. Three Rotary Clubs in Mumbai have bestowed on him excellence in vocation awards. Prof. Yadav has been awarded with prestigious honours such as: IIT-Roorkee's Khosla National Award; RPG Life Sciences' Award, Prof. M.M. Sharma Medal and Chemcon Distinguished Speaker Award of IIChE, Institution of Engineer's Eminent Engineer Award, Prof. CNR Rao Medal & Chemcon Distinguished Speaker Award, Best Teacher Award of the Government of Maharashtra, Dr. Anji Reddy Innovator of the Year Award; Anna University's National Award for the Most Outstanding Academician, and VASVIK Foundation Award for Excellence in Research in Chemical Sciences and Technology. President of India honoured him with the National Award of Padma Vibhushan.

Academic Achievements & Publications

He has supervised 75 doctoral students and 74 MTech students, and has authored over 300 original research papers in 51 cross-disciplinary international peer-reviewed journals. He also holds 67 patents and has authored 3 books. He has over 5500 citations to his credit.

He is a Fellow of both, the Indian National Science Academy (INSA) and the National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI), among others. He is the only active university faculty member in the state of Maharashtra to be elected as Fellow of the World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) in Trieste, Italy.

Positions Held

He is Chairman, Research Council, CSIR-CSMCRI, and member of RC of IICT Hyderabad and NIIST Trivandrum. He also serves as Chairman, Advisory-Council of DSJ-National Centre for Catalyst Jalysis Research, IIT Madras. He is a member of UGC's Steering Committee on Universities with Potential for Excellence.

He serves as Director of the Asia- Pacific Confederation of Chemicals Engineering Institutes. He has been a member or Chaired several national and international committees on Green Chemistry of ministries and autonomous bodies of Government of India such as, Ministry of HRD, DST, DBT, UGC, AICTE, CSIR, FICCI, the PSA's, the Planning Commission's Pan India S&T Committee, and the Government of Maharashtra's Rajiv Gandhi S&T Commission Peers Group, and Maharashtra State Innovation Council. He has been the member of the DST's Special Peer Review Committee for Evaluation of Reports on the Bhopal Gas Disaster, and has led two delegations of Indian scientists to South Korea and Germany.

Notable international recognitions bestowed upon him include the Fellowships of The Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC), UK and The Institution of Chemical Engineers (IChemE), UK; the Canadian Catalysis Foundation's Cross-Canada Lectureship Award; the University of Amsterdam's John van Geuns Lectureship; the Park Reilly Distinguished Speakership of the University of Waterloo; the Johansen Crosby Visiting Professorship in Chemical Engineering at Michigan State University; the Distinguished Asian Visiting Scholar at Purdue University; Visiting Professorship at the Lunghwa University of Science and Technology, Taiwan; and Adjunct Professorship at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology and University of Saskatchewan, Canada. The American Chemical Society (ACS) has organized a special issue of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry Research in 2014 in his honour to highlight his immense and exceptional research contributions. The ACS has also elected him as the only non-American editor of its new journal, ACS Sustainable Chemistry and Engineering. He is also an editorial board member of 8 international journals of considerable repute.

Professor Dr. G. D. Yadav is the Vice Chancellor, R.T. Mody Distinguished Professor and J.C. Bose National Fellow (Govt of India), Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai. He is appointed as the Adjunct Professor at RMIT University, Australia and University of Saskatchewan, Canada. Dr. G. D. Yadav was born in Arjunwada in Radhanagari Tehsil of Kolhapur District (Maharashtra) and entirely educated in Marathi medium until his SSC.

News from the Member Associations

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

The Bangalore Centre of ACCE(I) is organizing an international seminar and exhibition on Precast Concrete Technology- Recent Developments in Design & Construction during November 9-13, 2014 at Bangalore. The main topics of discussion include "Precast is the way for speedy construction and "Precast is the way forward". For details visit website: www.accehq.net, www.redecon.in, or, send a mail to hq@csi-india.org.

Broad Cast Engineering Society (BES)

BSE has invited nominations for BES Awards-2014 which include Mukul N. Trivedi Award instituted by Mr. N.K. Trivedi, former Engineer-in-Chief, All India Radio in the memory of his son, late Mr. Mukul N. Trivedi, who passed away in 2001, Dr. Vassumal Hazarimal Merani Award instituted by Mr. C.V. Merani, a life fellow of BES (I) in the memory of his father late Dr. Vasumal Hazarimal Merani, D.V. Nirmal & Mangal Sain Award instituted by D.V. Niram and Mangal Sain Trust, Padmavati Ganesan Award instituted by Mr. N.S. Ganesan, Engineer-in-Chief, Doordarshan & immediate past president of BES (I) in the memory of his late daughter – Padmavati Ganesan and Venkateshwarlu Nori Award instituted by Mr. Venkateshwarlu Nori, former Chief Engineer, Doordarshan. All these awards are given for the best technical innovation in the engineering field of All India Radio and Doordarshan, outstanding contribution in the field of broadcasting, broadcast R&D, and outstanding trainer in broadcast engineering. The last date for entries is December 23, 2014. The entries may be sent to BES office in duplicate along with the details of work done/achievement (Hard copy + CD). The details may be sent by email also to bes@besindia.com.

Computer Society of India (CSI)

CSI, Kolkata Chapter will organize the 4th International Conference-2014 on Emerging Applications of Information Technology (EAIT 2014) during December 19-21, 2014 at the Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata. For details visit website: csi-india.org or send a mail to: hq@csi-india.org.

Consultancy Development Centre (CDC)

CDC, with the aim to develop skills and expertise for consulting, organised a certificate programme in technical consulting during April 27 to June 27, 2014 at Consultancy Development Centre, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi. CDC has started a certificate in management consultancy programme on June 7, 2014 and it will run up to September 14, 2014. An online programme on Master in Business Administration (MBA) in consultancy management was held during May 26 to June 26, 2014.

Consulting Engineers Association of India-CEAI

CEAI is organizing a workshop on FIDIC Conditions of Contract, India during August 4-5, 2014 at New Delhi and during August 7-8, 2014 at Mumbai. The workshop will explain how to use the FIDIC Conditions of Contract, administer and manage it; and It will also cover practical issues on the FIDIC 1999 Conditions of Contract including the Red Book, the Yellow Book, the Silver Book and the Pink Book. For details send a mail to ceai.ceai@gmail.com.

Construction Industry Development Council-CIDC

CIDC launched the vocational-cum-academic integrated program in "Construction Supervision (Civil)" for the Session 2014-2015. The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS), established by the Ministry of Human Resources Development, Government of India and Construction Industry Development Council (CIDC), established by the Planning Commission, Government of India - with its countrywide network of training centres', now provides the opportunity for all persons working or otherwise engaged elsewhere to acquire skills in construction trades and allied courses which will provide gainful opportunities for employment and entrepreneurship. CIDC jointly with NIOS is offering the course on "Construction Supervision (Civil)" for 12th class students who may simultaneously join 12th or 10th class academic courses with NIOS through open learning mode. The course will commence from July 1, 2014. Students can give their exam once every six months as per schedule laid down by the NIOS. For details send a mail to cidcnios@gmail.com, or visit website : www.nios.ac.in/www.cidc.in. **CIDC-Mewar University internship programme** for graduate engineers and diploma holders has also started from June 2, 2014 with 54 B.Tech and 75 Diploma students (129) from Mewar University. The internship programme is being conducted to provide hands-on engineering experience and to enhance capabilities of the engineering students in construction sector. **The UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) has signed an MoU with CIDC** to develop the framework required to ensure success in PPP projects for roads and highways sectors, a major focal area for development of infrastructure in India. The collaboration involves building a centre of excellence which will involve stakeholders from public and private sectors in India and also support the other South Asian countries with special attention to Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka & Bangladesh for creating such Institutions.

Indian Association of Structural Engineers (IAStructE)

A Technical Lecture was delivered by Mr. R. K. Gupta, Managing Director, Bridgecon, India on April 24, 2014 on Launching of Pre-Cast Elements in Construction Metro Rail Elevated Corridors, Flyover and River Bridges - A Brief Overview at New Delhi. The lecture was very well attended.

Indian Building Congress-IBC

75th Governing Council meeting of IBC was held on June 7, 2014 at the ICFRE, FRI Campus, Dehradun. A technical Seminar on "devastation due to natural calamities in Uttarakhand and its rehabilitation measures" was also held on June 7, 2014 in the ICFRE Auditorium FRI Campus, Dehradun. The seminar was very well attended and the problems caused by the natural calamities in Uttarakhand were discussed and remedial measures for these calamities were suggested.

Indian Concrete Institute-ICI

ICI jointly with the PWD, Govt. of Delhi is organizing a workshop on water proofing technologies in construction industry during July 18-19, 2014 at Lalit Hotel, New Delhi. Water is one of the most important component in constructing a concrete structure. At the same time, it also acts as the most destructive weathering element, if its ingress into the structure is not prevented. Effective waterproofing is the key to better performance and durability of the structure. The objective of waterproofing is to prevent the penetration of water/moisture into the structure in order to increase its service life avoiding costly repairs, maintenance and inconvenience to the users. Waterproofing technologies include integral waterproofing, admixtures to reduce permeability, coatings, specialized membranes, sealants, and injection grouting. Material used for water proofing will also be discussed during the workshop.

Indian Institute of Plant Engineers (IPEs)

IPE organised a two - day workshop on "Enhancing Profits Through Efficient Operation, Maintenance & Energy Management of Boiler System" during June 26-27, 2014, at Ashraya International Hotel, Bangalore. The programme was very well attended by both the academia and industry. The AGM of IPE Corporate Centre & AMMP Division was held on June 20, 2014 at New Delhi.



Indian Geotechnical Society -IGS



IGS Bangalore Chapter organised the prestigious Prof. B. K. Ramiah Memorial Lecture on "Geotechnical Challenges for offshore Foundations", twenty second in the series, which was delivered by Dr. C.R. Parthasarathy, Group Managing Director, Sarathy Geotech & Engineering Services Pvt. Limited, on April 1, 2014 at Bangalore. The lecture was

well attended by academia , industry and students. A website for IGS Bangalore Chapter with the URL was also launched during the AGM of the Chapter on 1st April 2014. The Pune Chapter of IGS organised under the joint aegis of TSSM's BSCOER a two- day workshop on "Geotechnical Engineering (Laboratory Experiments)" during June 11-12, 2014 at Pune. The workshop was inaugurated by Shri Ramesh Kulkarni, Chairman, IGS - Pune Chapter. The workshop imparted the essential training to faculty for conducting Laboratory work in geotechnical engineering. All the participants appreciated the programme.

Indian Society of Agricultural Engineers- ISAE

ISAE Kolkata chapter, which has been recently created, organised a seminar on "Role of Agricultural Engineers in Agriculture and related Sectors in West Bengal" on April 11, 2014 in the Faculty of Agricultural Engineering, Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Mohanpur. The long standing need for creation of a new ISAE chapter was strongly felt by all the fifty one (51) participants who attended the program. Accordingly, the participants resolved towards formation of a new chapter entitled. ISAE Kolkata Chapter with its working office at the Faculty of Agricultural Engineering, BCKV, Mohanpur.

Indian Society for Non Destructive Testing (ISNT)

ISNT, Pune Chapter is organizing NDE seminar -2014 during December 4-6, 2014 at Pune. NDE is an important annual event of ISNT and provides highly stimulating and interactive platform for all NDE professionals right from students to experts, equipment manufacturers, third party inspection agencies and service providers to explore and exchange latest ideas and advancements in the field of NDE. Along with this, there will be pre-seminar workshop and exhibitions related to NDE. For details send a mail to isnttheadoffice@gmail.com or visit website: <http://www.isnt.org.in/>

Indian Society for Technical Education-ISTE

ISTE-WPLP national workshop on "Library and Knowledge Management (Library Staff)" scheduled to be held on April 24-26, 2014 at Chennai, Tamil Nadu, was postponed due to Lok Sabha elections. The fresh date will be intimated in due course of time. ISTE's 44th national annual convention will be held at College of Engineering, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala during November 27-29,2014. The theme of the Convention is "Shaping Technical Education to Meet the Challenges Beyond 2020". For details send a mail to: istedhq@vsnl.net, executivesecretary2012@gmail.com or visit website: www.isteonline.in.

The Mining Engineers' Association of India (MEAI)

MEAI, with the objective to develop the requisite knowledge and managerial competence of all professionals working in mining and mineral based industry as a part of 'competence building mission' with focus on sustainable mining, proposes

to organize its first 'All India Exploration Geologists Meet (AIEGM) on August 21-22, 2014 at Hyderabad. The lead Speakers from the international and Indian organizations are expected to share their experiences and expertise in the meet. The special focus will also be on the emerging technologies. For details contact Secretary General, MEAI on his cell 09298759625 or send a mail to meai1957@gmail.com

The Indian Institute of Metals (IIM)

It is a great honour for the metallurgical engineering fraternity in Pune to host the 52nd National Metallurgists' Day (NMD) and 68th Annual Technical Meeting (ATM) in College of Engineering Pune from 12-15 November, 2014. NMD-ATM is an excellent forum for the best professionals from the minerals, metals and materials industry and academia & research institutions from all over the world to meet and share their experiences and learning on various aspects of materials and metallurgical engineering. The theme for NMD-ATM 2014 is

'Redefining the Horizons of Metallurgy/ Materials: Focus on Automotive, Aerospace, Defense and Energy'. A Special theme symposium will also be organized on several topics of interest and value to our industry - Integrated Computational Materials Engineering (ICME) for the realization of materials and products, Additive Manufacturing (also known as 3D printing), Materials for the Automotive Industry and IT enabled Manufacturing. For more details and updates visit website : www.nmdatm2014.org.

Institute of Electronics and Electrical Engineers -IEEEs

IEEE Madras Section is sponsoring IEEE-RI0, region 10- Asia Pacific -HTC-2014, which is a conference to be held during August 6-9, 2014 at ITC Grand Chola, Hotel, No. 63, Mount Road Guindy, Chennai. Papers will be invited in all IEEE designated areas that address scientific, engineering and technological issues related to humanitarian problems. For details visit website: www.ieee.org

News Kiosk

National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB), a constituent Board of QCI, has signed the Multilateral Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MLA) of the Pacific Accreditation Cooperation (PAC) for its accreditation scheme for Food Safety Management Systems as per ISO 17021/ISO 22003 in Mexico recently, which confers international equivalence to our scheme. With this development, certification for Food Safety Management Systems from any certification body accredited by NABCB taken by any food business becomes acceptable within Asia Pacific region. This would help facilitate exports from Indian food industry. This is a step towards signing the multilateral agreement (MLA) of the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) which would confer full international acceptability to NABCB's accreditation scheme. PAC is one of the five specialists regional bodies of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC).

International Congress of International Institute of Welding (IC-2014) held during April 9-11, 2014 & Weld India Expo during April 10-12, 2014 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

The International Welding Congress (IC 2014) of the International Institute of Welding (IIW) was organized during April 9-11, 2014 at Pragati Maidan New Delhi on the theme of "Advancement in Welding, Cutting & Surfacing Technologies for improved economy, reliability and sustainable environment." More than 600 delegates attend the event and about hundred technical papers were presented including around 25 invited papers from distinguished experts from across the world. Concurrently, the 8th edition of Weld India, the biggest welding show of India, was organized at the same venue during April 10-12, 2014; and this show was organised for the first time in association with "Fabtech" the exhibition partner of the American Welding Society (AWS) and organizers of one of the world's largest metal forming, fabricating and welding exposition and conferences taking place in North America, Canada, Mexico and covering the full spectrum of welding and cutting equipment, technologies, products and materials used in metals and fabrication sector.

Appointments

Dr Baldev Raj former Director IGCAR, Kalpakam, TN, President, Indian National Academy of Engineering and President-Research PSG Institutions, Coimbatore, and Former President, IIM has been appointed the Director of National Institute of Advance Studies (NIAS) and he will join on 1st September 2014 at Bangalore. NIAS founded by the visionary JRD Tata and steered by eminent scholars like Dr. Raja Ramanna, Prof. Rodam Narasimha, Dr. K. Kasthurirangan and Dr.V.S. Ramamurthy have made the institute eminent and uniquely worthy.



Smt. Smriti Dagur has been elected President of IETE for the term 2014-15. She will be installed as the President at the 57th Annual Technical Convention on 28 Sept. 2014. She has M.S. in Computer Science from Rutgers University, USA, and B.E. (Hons) in Electronics Engineering from BITS, Pilani. She is teaching MIS in various Gujarat University colleges in MBA and MCA programmes.



Our Congratulations

Awards & Honours



Professor Kamlesh N. Tiwari, Faculty of Agricultural & the Food Engineering Department, IIT Kharagpur has been honored as a Fellow of National Academy of Sciences (FNASc) India, Allahabad for the year 2013 for his outstanding research contribution in the field of Land and Water Resources Engineering.

Our Congratulations

Obituary

Professor BPN Singh, a very towering personality and a great philosopher, professional and path setter, died in the morning on Friday, May 16, 2014 at Bangalore. He will always be remembered as a great professional, excellent teacher and very good human being. He was also a great. Agricultural engineering fraternity of India and abroad will miss him a lot. ECI conveys its deep condolence to his bereaved family, prays to Almighty to let his soul rest in peace and also to give strength to his bereaved family to bear this loss.

View Point

Qualifications vis-a-vis the position the new Union HRD Minister has been given in the Union Cabinet - Varun Arya

For the last couple of days, I am finding many comments and mails about Mrs. Smriti Irani, new Union HRD Minister about her qualifications vis-a-vis the position she has been given in the Union Cabinet. Though I am a proud alumnus of IIT Delhi and IIM Ahmedabad, based on my extensive experience and interactions with people in India and abroad, I would like to say that there is no correlation between qualification and competence. Qualification is neither necessary nor sufficient for competence. Qualification may possibly help in competence, but only if the concerned person has the right aptitude and attitude. Without taking any names, we all know the extensive sabotage and subversion done to the education in India during the last many years, despite the successive Union HRD Ministers having been "highly" qualified. Even the governance of our nation suffered significantly despite the



Prime Minister having been the most qualified in its history. Ishwar Dayal and U.R. Rao Committees and various surveys done by business magazines have been repeatedly saying that overwhelming 85% of AICTE approved institutions were sub-standard and almost 85% of the pass outs from AICTE approved institutions were not employable. I have had six meetings with AICTE team members including two with its Chairman during the last few months but not even in one meeting they wanted to talk about the merit of institutions. No one knows where thousands of crores of rupees collected over the years in the name of education cess were spent. Let us all sincerely pray and wish that Mrs. Smriti Irani, new Union HRD Minister, provides the much needed paradigm shift to overhaul the education, since it is the foundation of any society and the nation. If India is to really become a developed country then we have no choice but to bring education out of the mess it got into over the last many years, specially the last decade (via Email).

Letters to the Editor

Dear Mr. P Shali,

I have received a copy of the "Indian Engineer" newsletter and would like to thank you for all the time and energy used in making the newsletter very informative. I also appreciate the recognition given to ITM Universe in this newsletter.

Regards,

R.P. Singh Rathore
MD, ITMU

Dear Shri Shali,

I am highly thankful to you for having included me in your mailing list. I have found this News letter excellent and very informative.

I wish you all the best.

A.K. Shali
Superintending Geologist (Retd.)
Geological Survey of India

Dear Shri Shali,

Many thanks for sending me a copy of the Indian Engineer, March 2014 issue. Congratulations for an excellent publication, which I must say is getting better and better with every new issue and by now is of high standard.

With best wishes and regards,

Dr. Sanak Mishra
Vice President
Indian National Academy of Engineering

Dear Mr. Shali,

This has reference to our discussions we had on April 9, 2014 in your office when you were kind enough to hand over a copy of the news letter of ECI – the Indian Engineer published by the organization. I have gone through the same and found to be quite interesting for my professional services. I would, therefore, request you to put me in the regular mailing list for the news letter of ECI.

With best regards,

Arun K Chakravorty
Consultant

Eminent Engineer Award-2014 Conferred on Shri N. R. Narayana Murthy and Dr. Baldev Raj

Engineering Council of India (ECI) celebrated 12th Foundation Day on April 4, 2014 at a function was held at the India Habitat Centre on April 4, 2014 where Eminent Engineer Award was given, which was instituted by ECI in 2012, to be given to a person with engineering background who has made most distinctive and extraordinary contributions to any field of engineering, be it in academics, research, design, consultancy, project implementation, industry, while holding top level engineering/ management positions in corporate, government, industry, academic, research and other institutions, etc. The Chief Guest of the function was Dr. C. Rangarajan, Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister who could not attend the function due to some unavoidable reason and Dr Kirit S. Parikh, who presided over the function, presented the Awards to Shri N. R. Narayana Murthy, Executive Chairman, Infosys Ltd.



and Dr Baldev Raj, President-Research PSG Institutions, Coimbatore and former Director Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research. The High-Level Jury constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. V. Krishnamurthy, Chairman, National Manufacturing Competitive-ness Council (NMCC) with Dr. Kirit S. Parikh, Dr. R.A. Mashelkar, FRS, Shri B.

Muthuraman, and Shri A C Wadhawan as its distinguished members selected Shri N. R. Narayana Murthy and Dr Baldev Raj for the Award under the industry category and under the



research and consultancy category respectively. A total of 200 distinguished engineers and guests attended the function.

In his acceptance speech, Shri Narayana Murthy thanked ECI for honouring him with the

Award. He stated that we have to make India a better place to live in for future generations. We have got to improve on the existing infrastructure and build a new world class infrastructure. We have got to redeem the dream of our founding fathers. He said that engineers and technologists will have to play a major role for realizing higher growth of our economy. While delivering his acceptance address Dr Baldev Raj also thanked



ECI for conferring on him the prestigious Award. He said that engineers and technologies will have to play a greater role in our development process.



Breaking News

Dr. Uddesh Kohli, Chairman, Engineering Council of India recently participated in the meeting of International Board of UN Global Compact, chaired by Mr. Bak Ki Moon, Secretary General, United Nations.



ENGINEERING COUNCIL OF INDIA

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