



The Indian Engineer

If you can't make it good, at least make it look good — Bill Gates

If every one is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself — Henry Ford

NEWSLETTER OF THE ENGINEERING COUNCIL OF INDIA

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Message from the Chairman

A meeting with member associations on Internship Programme for engineering students was held on February 26, 2015 where it was observed that the problem of employability of fresh engineers is becoming quite acute. Students passing out from a large no. of colleges are not able to get jobs as they are not considered suitable for immediate employment by the industry. National Conventions and Round Table organized by ECI had recommended 6-12 months internship for engineering students graduating from these colleges. This matter was discussed with AICTE and the Committee looking into AICTE's future role, suggesting that such internship be suggested to such colleges by AICTE if it cannot be made mandatory. Member organizations may consider organizing internship programmes for engineering students on a voluntary basis. Our member CIDC is already organising such internship for 6 months, jointly with the industry.



Three of our member organisations- CEAI, IAstructE, ACCE(I) jointly convened an Open House Meet on 17th March, 2015 at PHD House, New Delhi, which was attended by 180 participants, who had come from more than ten far off States. The meeting focused on 3 main issues of immediate concern to the engineering profession- (i) Public Notices by Council of Architecture and Implications of proposed amendments to Architects Act, (b) To ensure that Building bye-laws do not discriminate against engineers, and (iii) Expediting Engineers Bill. The meeting was a grand success, with a lot of interaction amongst the participants. It was agreed that all professional associations should unite to work together on the issues affecting engineers. An Action plan was developed and they pledged to take this movement forward in their respective states. Our congratulations to the 3 associations for organising this Meet! Following the meeting, presidents of CEAI, IAstructE, ACCE(I) met Hon'ble Minister of HRD who advised them to submit a joint petition regarding the Engineers' Bill. ECI has requested all member organisations to send this joint appeal, duly signed, on their letterheads which may be submitted to the Ministry.

ECI's Foundation day is being held on April 6, 2015 (April 4-5 are holidays). As a part of the Foundation Day programme, an Eminent Engineer Award will be conferred on Dr. Baba Kalyani, Chairman and Managing Director, Bharat Forge Ltd., Pune for the Industry Category and Dr. Anil Kakodkar, Chairman, Solar Energy Research Advisory Council, JNNSM and former Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission and Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Atomic Energy, for the Research and Consultancy category by the Chief Guest, Shri Bibek Debroy, Member, NITI Aayog, Government of India. The distinguished awardees were selected out of the 22 high quality nominations received for the Award by the top-level Jury under the Chairmanship of Dr. Kirit S. Parikh, Chairman, Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADe) and former, Member, Planning Commission with Dr. R.A. Mashelkar, Dr. Baldev Raj, Shri. B. Muthuraman, Shri A.C. Wadhawan, and Shri Mahendra Raj as its distinguished members.


(Uddesh Kohli)

Amaethon 2015

Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ahmadabad organised Amaethon 2015 : The International Food, Agribusiness & Rural Summit on January 16-18, 2015 in the Institute campus at Ahmadabad. Initiated in 2005, Amaethon has established itself as an outstanding forum in the management of food, agribusiness and the rural sectors. It has also stimulated great interest in the student community and industry.

Construction Industry Development Council

Executive Development Programs for PPPs in Roads and Highways covering six basic courses are proposed to be conducted by the UNECEP, an organization formed jointly by United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and Construction Industry Development Council (CIDC) - a Member Association of Engineering Council of India and a leading organisation involved in PPPs in India, between April, 2015 and August, 2015 for middle level executives of all the stakeholder organisations involved in PPPs based on the UN recommended curriculum. CIDC was jointly established by several Union Ministries, PSUs and the construction industry, to help promote efficient methods, technology, management and skill development in order to develop and implement world class projects within least time and at least cost. This is being organised in the background of plans of the government of India for the infrastructure sector of India. The plans incorporate infusions of substantial private-sector contributions to enable PPP projects assume vital significance and importance. UN has targeted the development of specific systems and procedures to be followed by member countries in such projects. The courses have been designed on the guidelines provided by the UN. For further query contact on +91-9999935755 or send mail at unecehindia@gmail.com

Indian Concrete Institute -ICI

ICI-ACECON 2015 - the 4th Asian Conference on Ecstasy in Concrete on advancement in Structural Concrete is proposed to be held during October 8-10, 2015 at Science City, Kolkata. For details visit <http://www.indianconcreteinstitute.org> or send a mail at ici4@airtelmail.in, secgenici@airtelmail.in.

Flash

Power Finance Corporation Ltd. (PFC) - a Government of India Enterprises - was the sole sponsor of the 13th Foundation Day function of the Engineering Council of India (ECI). The Council thanks PFC for this.

From the Editor's Desk

Regulation of engineering profession will give it a status of practising profession



I have written on this subject in the previous issues of the Indian Engineer, covering therein some aspects of this long pending issue. There are practising professions and non practising professions in India. Practising professions include law, medical, chartered accountancy, architecture, company secretaryship, nursing etc. Non practising

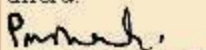
professions include engineering, management, education, agriculture, etc. What makes some professions practising professions and some non practising professions? Those professions which are regulated by an Act of Parliament are practising professions and those which are not so regulated are non practising professions. Since the engineering profession is not regulated, it is not a practising profession in India.

Dr. Sudhanshu Bhushan in his thought provoking concept paper on domestic regulation argues "that the case for regulation of engineering profession exists because inter alia it is also market determined. Its standards need to be assured. This can best be done by a statutory council of engineers. It will also regulate engineering professionals holding foreign degree to practice in India. He further argues that in today's world professionalisation of a service and continuous evaluation of the standards of professionals by respective (statutory) councils would increase the credibility of professionals not only in India but all over the world. There is a great need to think of assuring the quality of not only the education but also the quality of professionals. This can only ensure inter alia the exportability of various professional services abroad". In a developed country all practising professions are regulated in order to ensure that practitioners follow the standards set for these professions.

In the case of engineering profession in India, the desirable aspect is that procedure for assuring standards of professionals is there; and these standards are set and implemented by a statutory council. So far AICTE has focused only on the standards of engineering education. A statutory council would have done that also as it is generally a mandate to assure the standards of profession are set and up dated regularly because knowledge is getting outdated and new knowledge is being created with technological advancement. This is why continuing profession development is always there in the preamble of the Act regulating a profession. Besides, the professional conduct and ethics is also guaranteed in the Act. It is the statutory council of a profession which could guarantee the standards of that profession; it is only then that the professionals of that profession would also be able to get recognition abroad which will lead to the mobility of the professionals of that profession.

In India, there is no Engineers Act on the statute, nor, is there a Statutory Council of Engineers in position which could have regulated the profession. Today, India cannot export the engineering services- individual and of organizations. The point that needs to be considered is that in India engineers also need to follow the standards normally set by the statutory council which will regulate the engineering profession and make inter alia engineers accountable to the society.

So, engineering profession must also be brought on the list of practising professions from its present position of non practising profession through its regulation for assuring the standards of its practice. We cannot afford to let the engineering profession remain non practising profession. More so, because an incompetent engineer would build roads or bridges of inferior quality, and an engineer with outdated knowledge is also incompetent to deal with new technology within her/his own engineering domain which we cannot afford.


(P.N. Shali)

Distinguished Engineer : Dr. Arup Roy Choudhury

Dr. Arup Roy Choudhury was appointed Chairman and Managing Director of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) by the Government of India on September 01, 2010. NTPC is India's biggest power generating utility, one of the seven largest central public sector



Dr. Arup Roy Choudhury

undertaking of India, designated as a Maharatna and the 10th largest power producer in the world. Under his leadership, NTPC has been growing from strength to strength. Dr. Arup Roy Choudhury is a firm believer in achieving team-excellence through transformational shift to proactive, positive and value-based approach. Having experience in private and public sector organizations, Dr. Choudhury has an illustrious career of more than 36 years during which he has held the position of CEO for over fourteen years. He follows the motto "**Sankalpa Shuddha Hi Siddha**" i.e. **if your intentions are pure, you are bound to succeed.**

Since September, 2010, Dr. Choudhury heads NTPC, a 'Maharatna Company', ranked as #1 Independent Power Producer by Platts (part of the prestigious McGraw Hill Group), consistently from 2011 to 2014. NTPC is acknowledged as the best company in the world for capacity utilization. Dr. Choudhury has brought about a paradigm-shift in the Company and positioned NTPC on course to become the largest and best power producer in the world, with upward and downward integration in coal mining and distribution. During the period of four-and-a-half years of Dr. Choudhury's leadership, NTPC has already added about 11,000 MW, which is more than one-fourth of its total installed capacity of over 43,803 MW built in about 39 years. NTPC generates nearly one-fourth of India's total power with about 18% of installed capacity. NTPC has paid an impressive dividend of Rs. 32,939 crore to the Government of India against its pre-IPO paid up capital of Rs. 7,800 crore and a dividend tax of Rs. 5,771 crore. Thus, a total amount of Rs. 38,710 crore has been paid to the exchequer. Overall, an amount of Rs. 44,061 crore has been paid till now towards dividend and dividend tax. NTPC figures at # 424 in the Forbes List of World's Largest Public Companies in terms of sales, profits, assets and market value. It is the 2nd largest Power utility in Asia, as per the Forbes List.

Dr Arup Roy Choudhury has the distinction of becoming the youngest chief executive officer of a central public sector enterprise (CPSE) at the age of 44 years when on April 03, 2001 he joined as CMD, National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited (NBCC). He scripted a stunning turnaround story as young CMD when he transformed NBCC, which was a sick company with negative net-worth and salary backlog in 2001, into a blue-chip enterprise having 'Schedule A' and 'Navratna' status bestowed upon it by the Government of India. The transformational turnaround of NBCC brought about by him enabled its turnover grow about 10 times and net-worth over 500 times during his tenure of nine-and-a-half years at the helm. He pulled NBCC out of the abyss and

catapulted it into the distinguished league of 'Top Ten CPSEs'. Under him, NBCC broadened its business horizons and paid its maiden dividend to the Govt. of India for the year 2006-07, after 45 years of its incorporation. Prior to that he had worked in prominent public and private sector companies since 1979, when he started his career.

As Chairman of Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE) - the apex forum of over 200 Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) - for two consecutive terms of two years each (From April 2009 to March 2013), Dr. Choudhury effectively led policy advocacy for greater empowerment of these enterprises. He led a team of select CEOs and made a presentation to the Prime Minister. He still remains the flag-bearer of Central PSEs. He was ranked as number 40 on a list of "India Inc's 100 Most Powerful CEOs 2013", compiled by the Economic Times. Dr. Choudhury consistently figures in the list of '**India Inc.'s 100 Most Powerful CEOs** released by The Economic Times every year. Dr. Choudhury has captured his rich experiences and insights into a very well received book titled - '**Management by Idiots**'.

Important Positions held

Dr. Arup Roy Choudhury has held a number of additional positions which include Chairman, NTPC Electric Supply Company Ltd, a subsidiary of NTPC engaged in electricity distribution business, Chairman, NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam Ltd., a subsidiary of NTPC engaged in electricity trading business, Chairman, Kanti Bijlee Utpadan Nigam Ltd, a subsidiary of NTPC engaged in electricity generation in association with Government of Bihar, Chairman, NTPC Tamil Nadu Energy Company Ltd., a JV of NTPC & NEB, Chairman, Meja Urja Nigam Pvt. Ltd., a JV with UPRVUNL for setting up of power plant, Chairman, NTPC BHEL Power Projects Pvt. Ltd. (NBPPL), an EPC company.

Awards and Honours

Dr. Choudhury has received several national and international awards, including the Award for '**The Best Organizational Turnaround**' from Hon. President of India in 2006, '**Top Ten PSU and Turnaround Award**' from Hon. Prime Minister of India in 2007 and 'Best Individual Leader of a Public Sector Enterprise' from Hon. Prime Minister of India in 2010. Some of the other awards that have been conferred on him include 'Best CEO Award - Public Sector' at Forbes India Leadership Award in 2014, '**Management Persona of the Decade - Energy & Power**' at the **8th Enertia Awards 2014**, and '**Power Persona of the Year Award**' for outstanding contribution to the Power Sector from Central Board of Irrigation & Power in 2015. He has been conferred doctorate in "Performance Assessment of Infrastructure Development Projects" from IIT-Delhi in April, 2013.

A graduate in civil engineering from Birla Institute of Technology, Mesra, and a post-graduate in management and systems from the IIT-Delhi, Dr. Roy Choudhury has an illustrious career spanning over 34 years of outstanding contribution in the fields of engineering, general management, strategic management and business leadership.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Shri Shali,

I thank you for sending me the September issue of news letter of Engineering Council of India. I have gone through the newsletter, which is covering all the events and news from the member associations all over India, which is more affirmative to all-the concerned. I also agree with the views expressed in your editorial for the necessity of enacting the legislation for engineers by the Government of India. Once again I thank you for the newsletter.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully

Narendra Kumar Nanda)
Director (Technical)
NMDC Ltd, Hyderabad

Dear Mr Shali,

I remain updated by enjoying reading the Indian Engineer regularly. What is more interesting is that I am getting to know about activities of other institutions also of which I am not a member. Dec 2014 issue made an interesting reading too.

My sincere thanks.

Col (Retd) B B Sharma
MPhil, FIE, FIIE
Chartered Engineer & Industrial Engineer

Sir,

The work you are doing is landmark and is very important in order to secure the technological future of our country. I extend my full support on behalf of the students' fraternity and sincerely hope that the points that came out of the 1st Students' Conclave on the reform of engineering education for better employability of engineers organised by the Engineering Council of India in September, 2014 at Kolkata will be heard. Please do let me know if any other assistance is required.

Regards

N.G. Vishak
3rd year Mechanical Engineering Student from Camellia
Institute of Engineering & Technology

Dear Shri Shali,

I am delighted to receive a copy of the Indian Engineer of December 2014. It is a pleasure to read the contents and you have been able to give an overall account of all the professional organizations serving the engineering industries. My compliments to you for the excellent coverage and for the projection of recent trends. Wish you all the success in the year 2015.

With warm regards

A Srinivasulu
Former Director BHEL &
Past President of ISNT

Respected Inspiring Sir,

Sub : Your Letter dated 20 January, 2015.

Ref : The Indian Engineer, Volume No: 8, Issue No : 4, December 2014.

Please accept my warm greetings & thanks for INVESTING your time to spread smile, kindness & enthusiasm. The coverage of wide spectrum of topics is excellent. Distinguished engineer, news from member associations, students corner and salient features of 11th national conference on the theme, accelerating economic growth through speedy implementation of projects - challenge for engineers and technologists are very useful.

With warm regards

G Sankarasubramanian

Dear Mr. Shali

I enjoyed reading your well-written editorial on the need for "regulating" the engineering profession. All these years, we had regulated technical education, medical education etc., and we also witnessed the unpalatable consequences such as mushrooming of ill-equipped colleges, declining educational standards, rampant corruption, arrest of the officials of the regulatory bodies, etc. On the other hand, registration of engineers, like doctors, architects, chartered accountants etc., is long overdue for accountability, transparency and ethics. I am surprised to see that even countries like Malaysia, Tanzania, Pakistan etc., have already gone ahead with engineers registration and it is high time for India to bring in registration for engineers, like in the case of doctors, chartered accountants etc. Let the registration be done and monitored strictly by the concerned, well-managed professional bodies/societies. Better to keep away from the corridors of power for registration as otherwise the very purpose of registration will be defeated.

L. Pugazhenthay
Past President
The Indian Institute of Metals

Mr. P. N. Shali

Thank you for sending me the Indian Engineer and your message from the editor's desk compiling the status of the engineering profession in many countries. CEng -UK is a long time professional recognition by the Govt. of U.K. You may like to obtain the details from this management if you do not have them already. Shibpur Engineering Deemed University has been recognised as IEST [National Institute] by an act of Parliament through constant pursuance of interested alumni members/vice chancellor recently. ECI can take it as an example of efforts to achieve result.

With kind regards

A.K. Bhattacharyya

News from the Member Associations

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

ACCE(I) jointly with the Indian Association of Structural Engineers (IAStructE) and Consulting Engineers Association of India (CEAI) and other engineering professional bodies' organised the first national open house meet of engineers on March 17, 2015 at the PHD House, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry. It was very well attended by engineers who came over from all parts of the country.

Automobile Society of India-ASI

North East Frontier Technical University (NEFTU) is established in Arunachal Pradesh under Section 2f of UGC ACT 1956 vide notification No. Law/Legn/9-2014, Government of Arunachal Pradesh. The Automobile Society of India is the sponsoring body of the said university. NEFTU is the first technical university in Arunachal Pradesh. Shri Dileep K Nair, Chairman, of the Automobile Society of India has been appointed as the first Chancellor of NEFTU by His Excellency the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh. He is the youngest Chancellor in India. NEFTU is planning to start its academic session in this academic year.

Computer Society of India - CSI

A range of services and networking opportunities have been lined up through workshops, seminars, conventions and courses, participated by the industry majors sharing best practices and digital opportunities for development, exchanging knowledge and ideas. A national convention on IT for "IT" was organised jointly by the Visakhapatnam chapter and Visakhapatnam Steel Plant during March 26-27, 2015 at the Gateway Hotel, Visakhapatnam. It was very well attended by all the stakeholders.

An International Conference on ICT in Healthcare was organised jointly by the CSI Indore and Udaipur chapters, CSI Division III and Division IV communications and Sri Aurobindo Institute of Technology, Indore during March 27-28, 2015 at Indore. It was also very well attended by all the stakeholders.

Consulting Engineers Association of India-CEAI

With the modern day lifestyle all of us are going through stress. CEAI organised a therapy session on Stress Management on March 14, 2015 at the CEAI Centre, Pocket 9, Sector B, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi. The talk and therapy was conducted by Shri Gyan Prakash, Director General, Institute of Metro and Rail Technology, Hyderabad, who spoke on "Susruta Samhita and Marma therapy". As it was a personal therapy session for 2 hours, the participation was limited to 20 persons in the first such therapy sessions.

Construction Industry Development Council - CIDC

The Construction Industry Arbitration Council (CIAC) jointly with the CIDC organised for the first time 2015 UNCITRAL India Workshop on "Dispute Resolution in the Construction Industry" on February 16, 2015, in the scope complex, New Delhi. UNCITRAL is the core legal body of the United Nations system in the field of international trade law with universal membership specializing in commercial law worldwide. Its business includes modernisation and harmonisation of rules on international business. The objective of the workshop was to

provide focus on the emerging trends in international arbitration, etc. It was a very important workshop, particularly for practising engineers.

Shri D. Sadananda Gowda, Union Minister of Law & Justice was the Chief Guest and he inaugurated the 2015 UNCITRAL workshop. Shri P.K. Malhotra, Secretary Law & Justice, Government of India was the Guest of Honour and he delivered a thought provoking address. Mr.



Shri D. Sadananda Gowda, Union Minister of Law & Justice
Presenting his Inaugural Address

Joao Riberio, Head Regional Centre for Asia and Pacific, UNCITRAL, Mr. Christopher, Executive Director, Construction Industry Council, Hong Kong, Prof. Rajesh Sharma, City University, Hong Kong, Dr. Uddesh Kohli,



Signatories on the dais of Inaugural Session

Chairman, Construction Industry Arbitration Council and Chairman Engineering Council of India, Dr. B. D Mundhra, Chairman UNECEP, Dr. P.S. Rana, Chairman, CIDC, Dr. P.R. Swarup, DG, CIDC and several

other Indian as well as the overseas experts addressed a galaxy of legal as well as engineering experts. While inviting Construction Industry Arbitration Council to work with the Ministry, Shri Gowda emphasized the need of resorting to Institutional Arbitration in place of the ad-hoc mode of arbitration, a quick post award settlement of the disputed issues and also extensive use of conciliation and mediation mechanism as an effective tool of dispute resolution. He suggested that the Ministry of Law and Justice should develop a panel of bodies providing the institutional arbitration and advise government departments and public enterprises to include institutional arbitration clause in their contracts. Shri Gowda also spoke about resorting to on-line-dispute resolution in view of the smart cities being planned. Special emphasis was given by him on training a strong cadre of specialists as arbitrators as well as mediation and conciliation experts. Shri Gowda also distributed the certificates of competence to various experts empanelled by CIAC as Institutional Arbitration Specialists. It is noteworthy to mention that UNCITRAL has organized this important event after 50 years for the first time in India and has also joined hands with CIDC to establish a centre of excellence for highway construction under PPP mode. In view of over 55 lakh crore investment going in building the physical infrastructure in the nation, this meet was both timely and helpful in meeting the national objectives. About 100 delegates attended the workshop.

The foundation day of CIDC was celebrated on March 7, 2015 and as a part of the celebrations, 7th CIDC Vishwakarma Awards 2015 were also conferred on the winners who were selected from out of the list of nominations received for the Awards.

Indian Association of Structural Engineers - IAStructE

IAStructE organised a technical lecture on the subject "Pre-Engineered Bamboo Structures: A Step Towards Sustainable Construction" on March 26, 2015 at New Delhi. Dr Suresh Bhalla, Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, delivered the lecture. A Technical Lecture on the subject New Detailing Provisions of IRC:112-2011 & Comparison with Previous Codes (IRC:21 & IRC:18)" was also organised on February 26, 2015 at New Delhi. Mr Alok Bhowmick, Managing Director, B&S Engineering Consultants Pvt. Ltd delivered the lecture. Both these lectures were very well attended by all the stakeholders.

Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers-IIChE

The Mumbai Regional Centre of the IIChE organised in collaboration with the Board of Research in Nuclear Science, Mumbai a national seminar on "Advances in Chemical Engineering 2015" on January 17, 2015 at Mumbai. Experts from Sulzer India Ltd, Reliance Industries, Genesis Membrane, BARC, and ICT, Mumbai delivered lectures on the various aspects of the subject. Mr. Ramdas Bhattacharya, Director, ITSD & IPSD and Secretary, Atomic Energy Regulatory Board was the Chief Guest on the occasion. The seminar was attended by all the stakeholders. The Mumbai Regional Centre of the Institute in collaboration with the D.J. Sanghvi College of Engineering, Mumbai organised an Outstanding Young Chemical Engineers (OYCE) international competition during March 13-14, 2015 at Mumbai. OYCE is an annual event and offers a platform to the undergraduate students, postgraduates and young working professionals to showcase their skills in the field of chemical engineering through a variety of competitive presentations and lecture series. The Calcutta Regional Centre of IIChE organised a day-long seminar on 'Trends in Petroleum-Based Lubricants and its Condition Monitoring Practices in Industries' on March 14, 2015 at Kolkata. The seminar was attended by a number of industry representatives and academics. The eight speakers highlighting various aspects of the subject included Prof. S K Roy Choudhury, IIT, Kharagpur, Shri H.K. Ganguly, Indian Oil Corporation, Prof. U.K. Chatterjee, Adjunct Professor, IEST, Shri M. P. Srivastava, IRD Mechanalysis Ltd., Dr. B. Ghosh, Balmer Lawrie, Shri A.N. Pal, Indian Oil Corporation, Haldia, Shri C.S. Kartik, Capron Oil Management & Engineering Solutions, and Shri S. Murali, Balmer Lawrie. The seminar was attended by all the stakeholders.

Indian Building Congress-IBC

IBC has invited entries for the IBC Awards for Excellence - 2013-14 which will be presented during IBC's 20th Annual Convention to be held some times in May/June 2015. For details send a mail to info@ibc.org.in or visit website: www.ibc.org.in

Indian Geotechnical Society - IGS

IGS organised 6th International Geotechnical Symposium on Disaster Mitigation in Special Geo Environmental Conditions on January 21-23, 2015, IIT Madras, Chennai, India. It was very well attended by all the stakeholders.

Indian Institution of Plant Engineers - IIPE

A two day seminar was organised by the IIPEs, Maharashtra Chapter, on Statutory Requirements for Industries on February 20-21, 2015 at Mumbai with the objective to acquaint with the

latest regulatory requirements rules, acts, regulations, notifications and their strict observance for total industrial safety and day-to-day working of industry, to stress the importance of compliance with the industrial regulations as legal obligation, to stress the safety codes as applicable to the concerned field, develop comprehensive plans for their fulfillment, avoid unsafe practices in day-to-day working atmosphere in industrial establishments, to form a bridge between industry and different government authorities/bodies for safer and faster compliance of objectives, and implementation of projects and ideas for higher productivity and growth. The seminar was very well attended by all the stakeholders.

Indian Society for Non Destructive Testing-ISNT

Since 1992, the Quantitative Infrared Thermography (QIRT) conference is a biannual international forum which brings together specialists from industry and academia, who share an active interest in the latest developments of science, experimental practices and instrumentation, related to IR Thermography. With the growing interest in this field and the growing number of attendees particularly coming from Asian countries, the QIRT Council has started a sister conference series called QIRT Asia. The first Quantitative Infrared Thermography Asian Conference, (QIRT-ASIA 2015) will be held on July 6-10, 2015, Mahabalipuram, (near Chennai) India. For details visit website: [http](http://isnttheadoffice@gmail.com) or send a mail to isnttheadoffice@gmail.com.

Indian Society of Agricultural Engineers- ISAE

ISAE organised the "49th annual convention and symposium on Engineering Solutions for Sustainable Agriculture and Food Processing" during February 23 - 25, 2015 at the College of Agricultural Engineering and Technology, Ludhiana. The event aimed at bringing all stakeholders-policy makers, scientists and engineers- on a common platform to deliberate on contemporary and futuristic issues for providing advanced farming solutions for the Indian agriculture. It was very well attended by all the stakeholders.

Indian Society for Technical Education-ISTE

ISTE with more than 80,000 life members organizes annual conventions and national seminars every year at different prominent institutions in India. The conventions and seminars are attended usually by more than 500 to 600 delegates. The proceedings of the seminars provide useful observations, comments and assertions on various current issues pertaining to technical education. The themes of the past national seminars were: The Foreign Universities in India (2010), (ii) The Role and Relevance of Regulatory Bodies (2011), (iii) Excellence in Technical Education (2012), (iv) Sustainability of Technical Education (2013), and, as reported by the Indian Engineer (June 2014), the theme of the 27-29 December, 2014 was 'Shaping Technical Education to meet the Challenge Beyond 2020'. Needless to mention that ISTE deserves due compliments for its contribution for technical education.

The Council of Engineering & Technology (India)-CET(I)

CET(I) organised jointly with the GIT National College, Assam the 1st regional seminar on 'Challenges and Opportunities of Employment in Rural Areas of India' on February 19, 2015 at Guwahati, Assam. The leading news papers of Assam published reports on the seminar. It was very well attended by all the stakeholders including students. On



behalf of CET (I) the Chairman, Dr. K. C. Sahoo and the Secretary General, Shri Debmallya Chatterjee also attended the seminar. The other eminent personalities who also attended the

seminar included Mr. Mehdi Alom Bora, spokesperson, Assam Pradesh Congress Committee, Mr. Haren Gogoi, ACP, Central Police District, Guwahati, Mr. Amitav Sinha, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Central Police District, Guwahati and others. The Chief Guest was Mr. Kanak Sen Deka, Editor, Dainik Agradoot. The guests included from DGP of Assam police to professors from renowned colleges and universities. All of them shared their precious views about the topic. It was a grand event.

The Mining Engineers' Association of India-MEAI

MEAI, Ahmadabad chapter launched a new students' centre at Bhuj for mining engineering and geology students of Kutch, on February 15, 2015. The chapter already has 42 mining engineering students as members; and 11 more students from the engineering colleges and 60 from polytechnics have applied for student membership. In addition, applications of another about 40 students from M Sc (Geology) are under process. With this the students' centre's membership strength would be over 150. The programme was held at the Court Hall of KSKV Kutch University, Bhuj. Shri M S Patel, IAS, Collector Kutch, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and Dr. B S Patel, Vice Chancellor, Kutch University, presided over the inaugural session. Nearly 200 stakeholders including students attended the programme.

The 1st All India Mine Managers' Meet is being organized on May 8-9, 2015 at Hotel Royalton, Chirag Ali Lane, Abids, Hyderabad which seeks to develop requisite knowledge and managerial competence to face not only new challenges but also enable managers and mining engineers achieve their full potential and be counted among the best in the world. This mega event is expected to attract wide participation from mining fraternity from India & abroad. The high -impact meet will have star speakers, experts, thought leaders and social scientists from the mining companies, manufacturers and suppliers, regulatory bodies, administrative bodies, academics, etc., who will thoroughly discuss issues/challenges currently impeding mining industry and offer solutions. For details visit Web: www.meai1957.com or send a mail at Meai1975@gmail.com

The Indian Institute of Metals-IIM

A reciprocal 'IIM-ASM Lecture Programme, enabling eminent scientists, researchers, academicians from India and North America to deliver lectures in each calendar year in North America and India respectively, was approved in 2013. IIM invites applications under this programme for the year 2015. The eligibility criteria and selection procedure include persons of eminence in the field of 'Metallurgy & Materials Science' who are members of the Indian Institute of Metals (IIM). The selection shall be limited to two individuals for the lectureship programme in an year; one within the age of 40 years, the other over the age of 40 years, as on March 31, 2015. Web based applications are solicited. Applicants should e-mail, at least 90 days prior to the date of lecture, a CV, inclusive of date of birth, current affiliation, IIM membership number, honours and awards received, list of publications, current research, and a list of Institutions that the applicant wishes lecture at. The last date for filing the application is May 31, 2015. For details visit www.iim-india.net or send a mail at iim_kol@yahoo.co.in or roy.skiiom@gmail.com.

The Institution of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineers-IETE

IETE and Taylor & Francis have joined hands to co publish the three well-established journals of the IETE namely Journal of Research, IETE Technical Review and the IETE Journal of Education. Taylor & Francis Group partners with researchers, scholarly societies, universities and libraries worldwide are bringing knowledge to life. As one of the world's leading publishers of scholarly journals, books, eBooks and reference works, they cover all areas of humanities, social sciences, behavioural sciences, and science, technology and medicine. Engineers of the SAARC countries can order the journals directly through IETE.

The institute celebrated students' day on February 1, 2015 at various centres. IETE, Bangalore and Kerala chapters under the overall facilitation of IETE HQs organised 9th Sir C.V. Raman memorial lecture and IRSI Award ceremony on February 28, 2015 at Bangalore and 6th Royal Conferences for Knowledge Sharing 2015 (ROCKS 2015) during March 26-28, 2015 at Thrissur, Kerala. All these programmes were well attended by all the stakeholders.

Awards and Honours

The B.P. Godrej Life Time Achievement Award was conferred by the IICChE on **Mr. K. Venkataramanan**, the CEO & MD, L&T Limited and Past President of the IICChE in the field of chemical engineering.

Our Congratulations

News Kiosk

Ministry of Urban Development has uploaded a document on Model Building Bye-Laws which is likely to be adopted for the entire country

An Open House Meet of Engineers was held on March 17, 2015 at the PHD Chamber of Commerce and industry where it was stated that the Ministry of Urban Development has uploaded a document on Model Building Bye-Laws which is likely to be adopted for the entire Country. This document can be accessed at <http://moud.gov.in/model> A brief reading of the document indicates that it defines parameters for

Planning, Design & Construction of Buildings and Complexes – all falling in the domain of civil engineering. However, a reading of Appendix-E defines the competence of civil engineers in a very limited way and also does not match with that given in the National Building Code of India 2005, Part 2: Administration. It implies that civil engineers can not submit plans for building permit nor indulge in planning which they have been doing for the last 100 years. In this scenario the construction industry will become monopolistic and even unaffordable to prospective clients.

Appointments



Dr Anirban Basu

Prof. A. Srirama Rao has taken over as the president of Indian Geotechnical Society. **Dr Anirban Basu**, Research Professor and Consultant of Technology, Kolkata and **Member of Board of Governors of Engineering Council of India (ECI)**, has been elected as the President of Computer Society of India (CSI) for the period 2016-2017. Dr Anirban Basu is a dynamic executive based in Bangalore with more than 35 years experience in academia, advanced research & development, commercial software industry, consultancy and corporate training.

Shri Dileep K Nair, Chairman of the Automobile Society India has been appointed as the first Chancellor of the North East Frontier Technical University (NEFTU) by His Excellency the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh. **Shri**



Prof. Pratapsinh Kakaso Desai

Sadhan Kumar Roy has taken over as the Secretary General of the Indian Institute of Metals. **Prof. Pratapsinh Kakaso Desai**, former Vice President, ISTE, has taken over as President of ISTE on January 1, 2015 for a term 2015-17. **Prof. Indra Mani Mishra** has taken over as the Secretary General of Indian Society of Agricultural Engineers.

Our Congratulations

National Open House Meet of Engineers held on March 17, 2015 at New Delhi

An open house meet of engineers was organised by the Consulting Engineering Association (India), Indian Association of Structural Engineers and Association of Consulting Civil Engineers (I) - all members of the Engineering Council of India - on March 17, 2015 at New Delhi. The meet was attended by around 180 engineers from all over India. Among other things, it was realized that the engineering profession is at present coming under non practising profession and, therefore, it is facing many problems as elaborated in the meet. The profession needs to be regulated and for this Engineers Act needs to be brought on the statute at the earliest. With this, many issues that the engineers are confronted with at present will be resolved. It may be considered as a first bold step that engineers have taken for launching a nationwide mass movement later.

Specifically, the meet discussed and drew strategy and action plan to deal with the issues that the engineering profession is facing today including its non regulatory status. In particular, civil and structural engineers are grappling with several professional issues, which unfortunately do not get the desired attention from the politicians and from the media. For the last 40 years, engineers have been knocking at the doors of the competent authority for regulation of engineering profession through enactment of 'Engineers Act', but without much success. Today engineering profession has no legal backing. Further, the Building Bye-Laws & Policies affecting civil engineers are being framed nationwide without practicing engineers. In brief, the entire eco system of civil engineering professional practice is not at all conducive for the growth development of our country. The Council of Architecture (CoA) is misusing the Architect's Act to make civil engineers subservient to the architects. In order to address all these and other issues, the first bold step, in a big way, has been taken unitedly and cohesively by engineers in organising the open house meet.

Joint Petition of Engineers on "Engineers Bill"

The engineering fraternity through various professional associations/bodies jointly appeals for strengthening the engineering profession in India through a strong legislation. This is to ensure that safe and sustainable environment is provided to the Indian public at large. The Bill is, therefore, essential to give a legal recognition to the engineering profession and regulate it to ensure that the activities of engineering and technology are performed by competent persons upholding professional ethics and integrity as these have a direct impact on the growth, development and functioning of industry and infrastructure, environment, health, safety - which are crucial for the society and the country. Besides, the Bill will give engineers an equal opportunity vis-a-vis foreign engineers. All major professions such as medical, lawyers, architects, nurses, chartered accountants etc., already have legislation, but not engineers who are about 1 million in number. Due to the need of new infrastructure, many projects are under implementation and many are being planned for implantation involving complex technologies such as metro, highways, flyovers, bridges, ports, airports, power plants, residential & commercial buildings, smart cities and high speed rail. Consequently, the role of engineers has increased considerably. Apart from this, engineers would have to adopt new technologies for complex services and automation. So, competent engineers can only meet these challenges, ethically with accountability to the society. This will be possible only if they are regulated. The draft "Engineers' Bill" is ready with Ministry of HRD. The Bill is supported by all engineering associations, in addition to various government ministries. An Open House Meeting of Engineers held on March 17, 2015, also unanimously resolved to request the government for early introduction of Engineers' Bill in the Parliament for its enactment as the Engineers Act.

ENGINEERING COUNCIL OF INDIA

3rd Floor, Jawahar Dhatu Bhawan, 39, Tughlakabad Institutional Area (Near Batra Hospital), M. B. Road, New Delhi-110062
Tel.: 65640356, 29963281, 29963282 Fax: 29963283 E-mail : eci@ecindia.org, director@ecindia.org Website: www.ecindia.org

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