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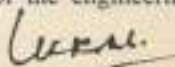


From the Chairman's Desk

We all are awaiting the Engineers' Bill. This is being followed up continuously. Once it is approved by the Parliament and the Act is notified, a new Statutory Council will be formed. The Board of Governors of Engineering Council of India (ECI) had considered the role of ECI thereafter and it was agreed that ECI should continue to remain the voice of the professional associations of engineers and could be renamed as the Engineers Confederation of India. It would be on the pattern of the other

professions such as medical, law, architects, etc, who have also their own representative bodies, distinct from the statutory councils.

The main role of ECI will include representation of member associations in government and non-government bodies, interaction on common policy matters relating to engineering profession, interface with statutory body, providing support and inputs for developing systems and procedures for the registration of professional engineers, CPD, code of ethics for meeting the requirement of the Engineers Mobility Forum (EMF), which will enable Indian engineers to take part in trade in engineering services. Further, ECI's role will be seeking authorization for the member associations for undertaking registration and assisting them in developing their internal systems for this purpose, CPD, enforcing code of ethics, providing forum for exchange of information and experience among them, assisting member associations in interaction with academic institutions and regulatory bodies in regard to their examinations, award of degrees etc., coordination for common thinking and views on important matters, helping in the analysis of existing education systems/bodies and making suggestions in order to make the education relevant for the engineering profession, assisting member associations in interaction with the academic institutions and regulatory bodies in regard to their examinations, award of degrees etc., developing systems for the registration of engineering organizations, setting up a resource centre and database of engineers, which can provide necessary information required for the development of the profession, interaction with professional associations/bodies in other countries, international bodies such as Engineers Mobility Forum and undertaking and supporting research for the development of the engineering profession. We should start preparing for the new role and suggestions from member associations in this regard are welcome.


(Uddesh Kohli)



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International Agreements on Joint Cooperation

For a meaningful functioning of an Institute of IChE's stature with a view to becoming a part of a wider network of the international chemical engineering circuit in this era of globalisation, two agreements for the joint cooperation were formalised recently – one with the Institution of Chemical Engineers, UK (IChemE) and the second with the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, USA (AIChE). On 22 November 2007, an agreement of cooperation and recognition was signed in Mumbai between Dr R A Mashelkar, President, the Institution of Chemical Engineers, UK (IChemE); and Mr K Venkataramanan, President, IChE. On 9 April 2008, a joint cooperation agreement was signed with the AIChE through video conferencing that simultaneously took place before august gatherings in three cities of two continents – Mumbai, Kolkata and New Orleans, USA. Both the agreements seek to extend professional and intellectual cooperation between the two organisations that would elevate the quality of engineering education and practice as well as ensure greater benefit for the members of both the bodies.

OBITUARY

Maj Gen R Z Kabraji, AVSM (F009162L) a fellow of the IETE passed away on February 21, 2008. ECI commiserate with his family at their loss. May his soul rest in peace.

Mr Ramesh N. Raikar, An eminent engineer of Mumbai, a Fellow of IAStructE and Chairman of Maharashtra State Centre and of Structural Designers & Consultants P. Ltd. has Left for his heavenly abode. Mr Raikar had the distinction of being the only Indian to be the Honorary Member of ACI (American Concrete Institute) International, USA. ECI commiserate with his family at their loss. May his soul rest in peace.

Amarnath Chakrabarti, President, Indian Buildings Congress passed away in February, 2008. He had, during his short life, attained a height of fame and recognition on a national scale. He was a source of inspiration to all and a leading light for young engineers. His departure has left a gaping void in the topmost layer of the engineering community in India. ECI commiserate with his family at their loss. May his soul rest in peace.

From Editor's Desk



The practice followed for decades of sending engineering students for industrial training and devising sandwich courses to make them employable have failed. Engineering, manufacturing, auto and other industries are starving today, as hordes of engineering graduates are netted by the IT industry, though the salaries are now coming at par. There is another strong, invisible and unacknowledged force of total disconnect with

engineering right in the first semester, developed by almost all engineering students, which is also pushing them away from the profession of engineering. This is so because nearly all engineering students have no clue to what an engineer does. Unfortunately, today all engineering subjects are taught in a manner where their connection with engineering is never revealed. As against this, medical students are taught by practising doctors, surgeons by practising surgeons, lawyers by practicing lawyers, chartered accountants by practising chartered accountants and managers by working managers. Engineers are taught only by academicians, who are generally far from the practice of engineering.

I fully agree with Dr. Harshwardhan Gupta Director, Neubauplan Machine Design Studio, Pune that "We live in a great country India where after we invented the zero, we have invented nothing! Over the last four millennia, we could not invent the wheel, the match, the pump, the steam engine, the printing press, the arch, the screw, the telescope, gunpowder, paper, glass or anything else of any significance. Nor could we discover electricity, magnetism, gravity, or any element of the periodic table, or the laws of motion. We have nothing to show for such a great and ancient civilisation!"

This must change. It can, provided, we love engineering and we develop design side of engineering. We promote creativity. We encourage the development of design skills. We encourage practising engineers to teach students of engineering. We change the present staid curricula of engineering and its delivery mechanism.

I would like to quote what Dr. Harshwardhan said at one of the conventions on the seamless engineering education for the better employability of engineers organised by the Engineering Council of India, "We Indians have this national handicap: we don't love machines; we just tolerate them! We love our films, our actors, cricket, food, clothes, ornaments, marriages, festivals, politics, TV serials... but engineering and industrial machines are things that we don't emotionally relate to! This has to be changed, and it has to begin by stopping beating the dead horse called "interaction with the industry" and seriously and comprehensively involving the professional and the practising engineer into the making of young engineers. "Industry" is a faceless, self-serving beast. The practising engineer is not!"

(P. N. Shali)

Eminent Indian Engineer - Dr. Verghese Kurien



Dr. Verghese Kurien is called the "father of the white revolution" in India. He is credited with architecting Operation Flood – the largest dairy development program in the world. Verghese Kurien, set up the Anand model of cooperative dairy development, engineered the White Revolution in India, and made India the largest milk producer in the world.

Born on 26th November 1921 in Kerala, Dr. Kurien graduated with Physics from Loyola College, Madras in 1940 and then did B.E.(Mech) from the Madras University. After passing out of the university, he joined the Tata Steel Technical Institute, Jamshedpur from where he graduated in 1946. He then went to USA on a government scholarship to do his Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Michigan State University. When he came back to India, he was posted as a Dairy Engineer at the government creamery, Anand, in May 1949. Around the same time, the infant cooperative dairy, Kaira District Cooperative Milk Producers' Union Limited (KDCMPUL), – now famous as AMUL – was fighting a battle with the Polson Dairy which was privately owned. Young Kurien, fed up with being at the government creamery which held no challenge, volunteered to help Shri Tribhuvandas Patel, the Chairman of KDCMPUL, to set up a processing plant. This marked the birth of AMUL and the rest is history.

Tribhuvandas Patel was assigned by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel the task of "making the Kaira farmers happy and organize them into a cooperative unit".

Dr. Kurien has since then built this organization into one of the largest and most successful institutions in India. The Amul pattern of cooperatives had been so successful that Dr. Kurien setup NDDB (National Dairy Development Board) to replicate it across India.

He also set up GCMF (Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation) in 1973 to sell the products produced by the dairies. Today GCMF sells AMUL brand products not only in India but also overseas.

Dr. Kurien credits his success to the farmers of Gujarat. Says Kurien, "I was a 'foreigner' a Keralite if I had tried to do something on my own, I wouldn't have been able to do it. I merely provided the managerial component."

Awards

For his contribution to the dairy industry Dr. Kurien has received top awards not only in India but also overseas: Padmashri (1965), Padmabhushan (1966), Krishi Ratna Award (1986) by the President of India, Ramon Magsaysay Award for Community Leadership (1963), Wateler Peace Prize Award of Carnegie Foundation (1986), World Food Prize Award (1989), International Person of the Year (1993) by the World Dairy Expo, Madison, Wisconsin, USA and Padma Vibhushan (1999).

News Corner

The Director General, National Real Estate Development Council, New Delhi, invited Sh P.N.Shali, Director, Engineering Council of India, to participate at the Inaugural Function of the National Conference on "Affordable Housing for All". Inauguration by Kumari Selija, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge), Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, Govt. of India on Monday, 21st April, 2008 at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.

B Murthuraman, Managing Director Tata Steel, has stated recently that its self-sufficiency in raw materials such as iron ore and coking coal had ended after it bought European steel group Corus for \$12.9 billion and will, therefore, seek more joint ventures with Australian mining companies to make up the gap.

The Govt. of India has given special attention to higher education sector in the budget thereby proposing setting up of three IITs in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar and Rajasthan and two Indian Institute of Science Education and Research in Bhopal and Thiruvananthapuram, respectively.

According to a study by the Boston Consulting Group and Confederation of Indian Industry, India will occupy the eleventh position globally in manufacturing by 2015 and by 2025, it will be ranked seventh. It was at fourteenth place in 2005.

Initiative to improve engineering faculty – American Association for Engineering Education (AAEE), PanIIT Alumni and Infosys jointly launched an Indo - US programme on May 26, 2008 to improve the overall quality of engineering faculty, based on the "train the trainer" model, in India. The initiative is supposed to span over six weeks with 23 workshops being held by professors from the US at the Infosys campus in Mysore.

With the current high rate of economic growth in the country and the consequent rapid urbanization, we are witnessing an unprecedented boom in construction activities and infrastructure development almost through out the country. This has given rise to the need for structures which are ever-increasing in height, span and their inherent complexities. This necessarily demands more and more well-qualified structural engineers of high caliber and competence. Simultaneously, the need to disseminate knowledge and information on latest developments in structural engineering practices, both within India and abroad, has become paramount. It is in this background that the **Indian Association of Structural Engineers (IAStructE)** jointly with Akar InfoMedia Pvt. Ltd. (AJM), has brought out its new magazine "**Structural Engineering Digest (SED)**" which also aims at providing an insight into the professional issues facing in the practice of the Structural Engineering practice in India. It will be published once in two months in the beginning and will become a monthly afterwards.

Appointments

K.K Kapila, CMD, ICT Pvt. Ltd. was elected President, S.K Vij, Member (Engg.), Rly. Board, Sr. Vice President, D.S. Sachdev, ADG, CPWD, Vice President, D.B. Deshpande, Secretary (Works), PWD, Maharashtra, Vice President, S.K. Sachdeva, Vice President, Builders Federation of India, Vice President and Major General Brajesh Kumar, DG (Works), E-in-C Branch, MES, Hony Secretary at the Annual General Meeting of IBC held along with the 14th Annual Convention on May 8-10, 2008 for the year 2008-09.

Our Congratulations

Awards

Mr K K Kapila, President, CEAI and Chairman & Managing Director, Intercontinental Consultants & Technocrats Pvt Ltd has been given Outstanding Engineering Consultant of the Year award during the "Business Sphere National Conclave" held at The Ashok Hotel, New Delhi on April 29, 2008.



K K Kapila

Our congratulations

Dr. Tridibesh Mukherjee, past President, Indian Institute of Metals (IIM) and Director, Tata Steel Group is the first Indian Professional to have been awarded the prestigious 'Bessemer Gold Medal' of The Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining (IOM³), UK for his outstanding services to the Steel Industry. The award will be presented to him on July 02, 2008 in London.

Our congratulations

Dr. Baldev Raj, Past President, IIM and Director, Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research, Kalpakam, Tamil Nadu, Government of India and a distinguished Nuclear Scientist of the country is the first Indian to have been elected member of the prestigious German National Academy of Sciences in

Engineering Sciences in recognition of his marvellous contribution internationally. Also, he has been selected for the Distinguished Alumni Award of the Indian Institute of Science for the year 2007.

Our congratulations

Intercontinental Consultants & Technocrats Pvt Ltd (member organisation of CEAI) received "The Global Road Achievement Award" instituted by International Road Federation (IRF) for outstanding performance in the field of Road Safety Public Awareness programme.

Our congratulations

HSCC (India) Ltd (a member organisation of CEAI) received Bhartiya Shiromani Puraskar for excellence in productivity & management from International Study Circle (ISC)".

Our congratulations

M/s C P Kukreja & Associates (a member organisation of CEAI) have achieved the unique distinction of being selected by one of the leading architectural journals in the UK among the top-100 most prominent architecture and design firms in the world. The firm has also achieved the distinction of being selected among the top-10 architecture firms in Asia.

Our congratulations

News from Member Associations

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

ACCE (I), Indore Centre, organized a National Seminar on the subject: A 360° view of Civil-Engineering on June 07, 2008 at the Hotel Sayaji, Indore (M.P.), which provided a platform to discuss crucial aspects of Civil Engineering, viz., "Project Management Consultancy (PMC), innovative construction techniques and smart construction materials". Renowned experts shared their views on these most vital topics. The seminar was attended by civil engineers, planners, academicians, builders, project management consultants, architects and other construction personnel. The ACCE (I) Hyderabad Centre organized a National Workshop on Fire Safety in Buildings on March 15, 2008 at Katriya Towers and Hotel, Hyderabad. The Bangalore Centre organized the Technical Talk on Design and Construction of Composite Precast and Prestressed Concrete Structures in association with Ultra Tech Cements at Hotel Capitol, Bangalore on January 07, 2008, a lecture on Stainless Steel in the Structures in association with Outokumpu India Pvt. Ltd. At the Atria Hotel, Bangalore on January 16, 2008, the Family Day at Confident Cascade, Bangalore for ACCE(I) Members and their families on January 20, 2008, the Study Circle Meet on "New Approach to Implement Building - Bye Laws at BIT-Seminar Hall, Bangalore on January 30, 2008, the Placement Orientation Programme (POP-2008) in association with the Department of Civil Engineering, KVG College of Engineering - Sullia at the college campus on February 22, 2008; and the ACCE(I)-Ultra Tech. Endowment Lecture was held at Vivekananda College of Engineering & Technology, Puttur. The Coimbatore Centre organized the six-monthly meeting with a product demo from M/s Finolex (Electrical Products) at the Kerala Club, Coimbatore on January 9, 2008, the NISA Software Training Programme and the Council Meeting on January 25, 2008, the 1st February Council meeting on February 5, 2008, the 7th monthly meeting for the February month on February 13, 2008, the February 2nd Council Meet on February 19, 2008, March 1st Council Meeting on March 4, 2008, the 8th monthly meeting for the March month on March 12, 2008 and the March 2nd Council meeting on March 18, 2008, the Auto DCR (Software demo by M/s Softech, Hyderabad) on March 21, 2008.

An International Conference on MRTS (India Infratech 2008) (Metro Transport, Mono Rail, Maglev, Bullet Train) was organized at Hotel TC Maratha (5 Star), Andheri (E), Mumbai on April 19, 2008 and two days' Training Programme on Project Management from Concept to Completion was organized at Bangalore on April 24-25, 2008.

Forthcoming Events : ACCE (I) will organize the Annual Convention, 2008 and a National Seminar on "Opportunities & Challenges for Civil Engineers in Today's World" at Dharwad during August 29-30, 2008. The ACCE (I) awards, 2008 will be presented during the conference. The membership of ACCE is growing with about 40 new members being approved recently. The ACCE is spreading its presence with the addition of one more local centre at Indore, to be inaugurated shortly. The Bangalore Centre is organizing a National Seminar & Exhibition on Recent Developments in Design and Construction Technologies (REDECON 2008) during August 7, 8 & 9, 2008 at Convention Centre, NIMHANS Campus, Hasur Road, Bangalore.

Consultancy Development Centre (CDC)

Consultancy Development Centre (CDC), in association with the Faculty of Management Studies (FMS) of the University of Delhi, organized the two-day event of tenth edition of Consultancy Congress in New Delhi on January 15-16, 2008 with the theme: Outsourcing: Role of Consultants. The congress featured eminent speakers and industry leaders. The ever-increasing contribution of services sector towards GDP of a country has become an important indicator of economic growth. The issues were focused around need assessment, design issue to public-private partnership. Outsourcing of services has acquired a new dimension in the present globalised economy offering immense benefits in terms of quality and cost effectiveness. After IT and BPO boom in outsourcing, it is outsourcing in consulting both engineering and management which is generating more business opportunities for engineers and managers. During the Congress, National Awards in excellence in consultancy services were presented by the Chief Guest, Professor S.K. Brahmachari, Secretary, DSIR & DG, CSIR and Chairman, CDC. The awards were finalized by a high level committee headed by Professor V.S. Ramamurthy, Chairman, Board of Governors, IIT, Delhi and Chairman, RAB, CSIR. A two-

day day seminar on the theme of Benchmarking Best Consulting Practices was organized in association with the International Management Institute (IMI), a leading business school and an institutional member of CDC on 22-23 January 2008. The seminar was inaugurated by Professor V.S. Ramamurthy, Chairman, Board of Governors, IIT, Delhi and Chairman, RAB, CSIR. The key speakers included from leading consulting and client organizations comprising EIL, Indian Oil Corporation Ltd, ONGC, NTPC, IMI, and so on. Awareness programme on the theme: Programme on Consultancy as a Career Option for Women was conducted on 15 February, 2008 at Bangalore and it was well attended. The objective of the Study on Consultancy Capabilities and Opportunities in India is to bring out a report which provides comprehensive information on the present status of consultancy in various sectors, the nature and type of consulting assignments executed over the last decade, the capabilities and opportunities in the consultancy profession in India, in a holistic manner so that a roadmap can be evolved suggesting the measures to be taken to strengthen the Indian consultancy capabilities. A Committee was constituted for technical evaluation of the proposals. The Committee short listed M/s Ernst and Young Private Limited and awarded the contract after discussions of the scope of work and expected deliverables. Work has commenced and report is expected to be ready by September 2008. CDC has initiated the preparation of state-of-the-art report on consulting in the Agro Food Sector, Services Sector (Focus: education, legal and financial) and SME Sector (Focus: chemical process, mechanical and electrical). The objective of the Study on How to make Indian Consulting World is to document the standard consulting practices – both in India and abroad which would help in promoting awareness amongst Indian Consultants to adopt standard and successful consulting practices as a business strategy, which would help in creating a competitive edge for their business. The study has been awarded to International Management Institute. Work has commenced and report is expected to be ready by September 2008. The objective of the study on Development of Women Consultants is to assess the number of women consultants operating in different sectors and sub sectors, to assess the nature and types of services provided along with SWOT analysis, to identify key issues/impediments restricting growth of women consultants, to recommend strategies for development of women consultants, to identify potential areas in consulting for women to opt for the same, to identify gaps in terms of capabilities vis-à-vis demand and suggest measures to overcome the gaps and to suggest a roadmap and an action plan to develop women consulting capabilities in the country. This study assignment has been awarded to M/s International Management Institute (IMI). Work has commenced and report is expected to be ready by September 2008. National Institute for Disaster Management, Ministry of Home Affairs has agreed to conduct several training programmes in the area both within India and abroad in collaboration with CDC. The modalities have been worked out and the activities are likely to be completed by Sept 2008.

Consulting Engineers Association of India (CEAI)

CEAI represents the Indian Engineering Consultancy profession at the International Federation of Consulting Engineers (FIDIC). FIDIC is the International Federation of National Associations of Independent Consulting Engineers founded in 1913 by the National Associations of three European countries. With membership from over 75 countries, FIDIC now represents most of the practising consulting engineers in the world. Members comply with a code of ethics guiding their professional standard. FIDIC works to promote the common interests of consulting engineers through seminars, conferences, training programmes and regular discussions with the national associations and international financial institutions (such as the World Bank, ADB, etc.). Preparation of standard forms of contract and other documents is a major activity of FIDIC. CEAI and Consultancy Development Centre (CDC), in association with FIDIC, organized a special 2-day training seminar on "Management of Contract Claims and Resolution of Disputes" on 7-8 April, 2008 at Gulmohar Hall, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi. Developing countries in the Asia Pacific region are in the process of

liberalization and globalisation of their economies and have accorded high priority to the augmentation of infrastructure facilities and embarked upon mega-sized projects. Today, it is almost universal for large size projects, particularly those financed by International funding agencies, to follow FIDIC contract documents and to adopt the route of Dispute Adjudication Board (DAB) and/or Arbitration as a part of contract agreement, to resolve claims, along with other FIDIC Conditions. This special practical two-day training programme provided by professional engineers with extensive international experience explained and illustrated the use of the FIDIC Conditions of Contract for Construction and for Plant and Design-Build. The next FIDIC Training Seminar is planned to be in August 2008 at New Delhi and Mumbai. The Annual Conference 2008 of FIDIC on the subject "A strong industry serving society" will be held during 7-10 September 2008 in Quebec, Canada. The governing council meeting of the CEAI was held on 11th April 2008 at the Conference Hall of Indian Buildings Congress, New Delhi wherein Construction of CEAI building and Preparations for the FIDIC Annual Conference 2010 to be held in India in September 2010 at New Delhi were discussed. A core group has been constituted under the Chairmanship of K K Kapila, Member of the Board of Governors of ECI and CMD Intercontinental Consultants & Technocrats Pvt Ltd, for this purpose.

The CEAI – Kolkata Regional Centre (CEAI-KRC) - will hold a National Seminar on 'Geotechnique in Present Development Scenario' jointly with the Kolkata Chapter of Indian Geotechnical Society, who are celebrating their Diamond Jubilee Year, during 6th and 7th September 2008 at Kolkata. A National Seminar on Energising Urban India will be held at the Intercontinental Hotel, New Delhi during July 11-12, 2008 with a view to discussing the subject objectively and evolving innovative solutions for fulfilling rising energy needs and promoting sector-based initiatives to run successfully energisation programs. For further information, write to Ms. Richa Kapoor, Jt. Director, Consulting Engineers Association of India, Core IV-B, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003.

Indian Association of Structural Engineers (IASE)

The IASE organized a seminar on Green Buildings – Role of Professionals at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi on March 29, 2008 in view of the impact the buildings have on the environment, climate change, etc. The seminar was duly supported by the American Concrete Institute – India Chapter, Association of Consulting Civil Engineers, Construction Industry Development Council, Consulting Engineers Association of India, Indian Green Buildings Council, Indian Institute of Architects, Indian Plumbing Association, the Energy and Resource Institute and Indian Society of Heating, Refrigerating & Air-conditioning Engineers. India International Construction & Contracting Exhibition (ICON) was held at India Expo Centre Expo XXI, Greater Noida during April 25-27, 2008 with the theme being "Impact of New Materials, Information Technology & Construction Techniques on Structural Engineering Practice" with the support of IAStructE.

Indian Buildings Congress (IBC)

Migration of people in India to the urban areas has increased significantly in the recent past. Industrial Growth resulting in enhanced employment opportunities, excellent facilities for higher education, research, lucrative career, infrastructure development and social welfare facilities available in towns and cities have acted as powerful magnet to attract rural population. As a result, population densities in towns and cities have increased to a large extent. Further, the increase in land cost and desire of the people to reside near the heart of towns are some of the various factors which have given rise to construction of high-rise buildings. High rise development has come in vogue not only in mega cities like Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata and Chennai but also in large towns like Chandigarh, Bhubaneswar, Bangalore and Hyderabad. The design and construction of high-rise buildings is much different as compared to the conventional low-rise buildings. The high rise buildings are subjected to increased seismic

and wind forces for which they have to be suitably designed. The common services such as electric supply, water supply, sewage disposal, solid waste disposal, fire fighting, etc, have also to be dealt with in an appropriate manner, during construction, mechanized and environment friendly construction need to be adopted for early completion of the building. The high rise leads to traffic congestion all around its vicinity. Many of these problems can be avoided or at least mitigated by foresight in planning and development of high - rise buildings. It is in this context that the IBC organized the 14th Annual Convention and National Seminar on "Recent Trades in High Rise Buildings" at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on May 8-10, 2008. The Convention was inaugurated by Shri S. Jaipal Reddy, Union Minister of Urban Development. IBC awards for excellence in Built Environment for the year 2007 were also presented by the Hon'ble Minister. The Valedictory function of the event was held on May 10, 2008; and it was graced by the Hon'ble Shri Tejendra Khanna, Lt. Governor of N.C.T., Delhi. IBC awards for 'Best Paper' selected out of the papers presented during the 13th Annual Convention held at New Delhi & Mid Term Session held at Ranchi in December, 2007 were also presented by the Hon'ble Lt. Governor. During the 14th Annual Convention, Annual General Meeting of IBC was also held in which elections for the new Governing Council for the year 2008-09 were held. The PWD, Madhya Pradesh hosted 49th Governing Council Meeting & National Seminar of IBC on "Mechanised Construction and Maintenance" on March 14-15, 2008 at Hotel Sayaji in Indore. Quarterly 'IBC News' for the period January to March, 2008 was published.

Indian Concrete Institute (ICI)

ICI launched its forthcoming mega international event "ICI-Innovative World of Concrete '08", being held during December 11-14, 2008 at the India Expo Centre, Expo XXI, Greater Noida, at a function held on June 25, 2008 at the India International Centre, New Delhi. The event is being organized to celebrate the ICI's Silver Jubilee.

Indian Geotechnical Society (IGS)

IGS, Guntur Chapter organized a one-day Seminar on "Geotechnical Investment" on February 23, 2008. A one-day Seminar on Segmented Piles was organized by the Society during May, 2008. The Guntur Chapter, in association with the Department of Civil Engineering, R.V.R. & J.C. College of Engineering, Guntur, Tamil Nadu conducted a one-day Seminar on "Recent Advances in geotechnical Engineering", on March 02, 2008 at R.V.R. & J.C. College of Engineering, Guntur. IGS, Hyderabad Chapter and the Department of Civil Engineering, JNTU College of Engineering, Hyderabad, organized a two-day National Symposium on Engineering of Ground and Environmental Geotechnics during Feb. 29-March 01, 2008 at the Academic Staff College, JNT University, Hyderabad. The national symposium was organized to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of IGS. IGS, Suratkal Chapter organized a one-day Indo-Japan workshop on "Recent Advances in Geotechnical Engineering" sponsored by NITK-TEQIP on March 04, 2008.

Among the forthcoming programmes of IGS include the annual conference of 2008, which is the Diamond Jubilee Year of the Society and will be held jointly with the Indian Institute of Science (Centenary Year 2008-2009) with the theme: Advances in Geotechnical Engineering at the J N Tata Auditorium, National Science Seminar Complex, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore on December 17-19, 2008. A workshop on Directional Drills is planned during August-September, 2008. The IGS is organizing the Sixth Asian Young Geotechnical Engineers Conference (AYGEC-2008) under the aegis of Karnataka Geotechnical Centre (KGC) at the Indian Institute of Science Campus on December 20-21, 2008. This conference is the sixth in the series following the first held at Bangkok in 1991, the second at Singapore in 1994, the third at Singapore in 1997, the fourth at Seoul in 2001 and the fifth in Taiwan in 2004. This conference aims at providing interactive platform for the young geotechnical engineers from across Asia. The IGS will host the 6th International Congress on Environmental Geotechnics (6ICEG) at New Delhi in

Oct.-Nov. 2010 on behalf of the International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineers (ISSMGE). The Congress comes to India after the first was held at Edmonton, Canada in 1994, the second at Osaka, Japan in 1996, the third at Lisbon, Portugal in 1998, the fourth at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 2002 and the fifth at Cardiff, UK in 2006. The Congress theme will be: "Environmental Geotechnics for Sustainable Waste Management and Development". Nominations for the IGS-Prof. Dinesh Mohan Award are invited for the years 2004-2005 & 2006-2007. The award is presented once in two years to an eminent geotechnical engineer for excellence in geotechnical practice in India. All Indian Nationals are eligible for the award. IGS-Guntur Chapter would be hosting IGC-2009 at R. V. R. & J. C. College of Engineering, Guntur, Tamil Nadu during December 17-19, 2009 with the theme: "Geotechnics - The First Step in Nation Building". IGS, Varanasi Chapter, will organize a National Seminar on Recent Developments in Geotechnical Engineering for Applications in Pavement, Embankment and Retaining Wall Constructions on November 13, 2008 at Varanasi. The event will be hosted by the Department of Civil Engineering, Institute of Technology, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi.

Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers (IICChE)

The IICChE hosted the 60th Chemical Engineering Congress - CHEMCON 2007 - at Kolkata during 27 to 30 December, 2007 and it coincided with the conclusion of the Institute's Diamond Jubilee celebration.

Forthcoming Events : The American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) has requested IICChE to organise a Joint Session on Sustainability and Environment at the next AIChE Annual Meet, to be held in Philadelphia, USA in November 2008. Preparations are on for the purpose. On 28 December 2008, 12 'Diamonds' of Indian Chemical Engineering, who have made their mark in their respective fields, will be felicitated for their academic and professional contributions. The 61st Chemical Engineering Congress, CHEMCON 2008, with the central theme: Green Technology and Sustainable Development will be held at Chandigarh during 27 - 30 December 2008.

Indian Institution of Bridge Engineers, Delhi State Centre

Forthcoming Events : The Institution is organizing an international seminar in December, 2008 with the theme: Latest Trends in Construction of Bridges incorporating Safety of Bridges, Flyovers, Maintenance, Rehabilitation, Delays in Construction and Corrective Measures as sub themes.

Indian Institution of Bridge Engineers (IIBE)

Having an institution at national level solely devoted to the Bridge Engineering to address specific issues related to planning, design and construction of bridges has been a long felt need of the community of Bridge Engineers in the country. To meet this objective and provide a common platform to planners, designers, construction agencies and research fellows/institutes to share their experience, Indian Institution of Bridge Engineers was formed in the year 1989 with its Headquarters at Mumbai. Over the period of time, it has developed as an effective forum to bring together practising engineers, designers, construction and R & D agencies including universities, institutions and government departments at all levels to fulfill the need of the bridge industry. With the passage of time, IIBE has expanded its activities in a big way and has established centres in every state to promote interaction at the state level. Presently, it has 33 state and local centres all over India. To meet its objective of knowledge sharing among the fraternity of Bridge Engineers, IIBE has so far conducted 8 international seminars, 19 national seminar, 8 workshops and training programmes in Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad, Warrangal, Pune and Kolkata and 5 national round table conferences in Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai, Hyderabad and Kolkata. IIBE organized technical lecture on "Feasibility of Various Bridge Schemes of a Proposed Typical Bridge Site" on March 04, 2008 and technical visit to Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) Project under construction near AIIMS on April 02, 2008.

Forthcoming Events: IIBE will hold an international seminar on "Latest Trends in Construction of Bridges" at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on October 16-18, 2008. His Excellency the Vice President of India, Shri Hamid Ansari, has consented to inaugurate the seminar.

Indian National Group of the International Association for Bridge & Structural Engineers (ING of IABSE)

The Indian National Group of the IABSE organized its Annual Day-2008 along with technical presentation on Airport Structures & Overview of Roofing Structures by M/s Larsen and Toubro Ltd on Saturday, the 31st May, 2008 at the India International Centre, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi. The function was well-attended by renowned persons from industry and academia.

International Council of Consultants (ICC)

ICC, the apex representative organization of consultancy services, in association with the Construction Industry Development Council (CIDC), the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC) and the Construction Industry Arbitration Council (CIAC), organized a two-day interactive programme "Managing Your Construction Contract" at Radisson SAS Hotel, Dubai Media City, United Arab Emirates.

The Aeronautical Society of India (ASI)

The Aeronautical Society of India conducts examinations leading to the Certificate of the Aeronautical Society of India. This is considered to be equivalent to a Bachelor's degree in Aeronautical Engineering. The society also recognizes professionals in engineering by grading its members into various categories such as Fellows, Members, Companions, Associate Members, Graduate Members and Student Members.

The Indian Institute of Metals (IIM)

The Delhi Chapter of IIM, in association with the Ferrous, Non-Ferrous and Metal Sciences Divisions, IIM, organized National Seminar on Energy, Environment & Economy in Metallurgical Industry (EEE '08) on April 10-11, 2008 at New Delhi. The seminar was cosponsored by the Ministry of Steel, Govt. of India. The IIM Kolkata Students-affiliated Chapter organized METALLIX 2008 and a National Symposium on the Indian Steel Industry - Technology and Progress - during February 17-18, 2008 jointly with the Department of Metals and Materials Engineering, Jadavpur University, Kolkata in which undergraduate metallurgical engineering students from across India participated. The IIM, Durgapur Chapter celebrated the 45th National Metallurgist Day in the premises of Durgapur Steel Plant on March 8, 2008. The IIM, Kolkata Chapter is organizing one-day seminar on May 9, 2008 at Kolkata on 'Augmenting Steel Supply in India through Induction Furnace and Sponge Iron route'. The IIM, Kalpakkam Chapter and Metal Sciences Division is holding the 5th International Conference on 'Creep, Fatigue and Creep-Fatigue Interaction (CF-5)' at Kalpakkam during September 24-26, 2008. The IIM will hold its 46th National Metallurgists' Day on November 14, 2008 along with the 62nd Annual Technical Meeting. An International Conference on "Towards Global Leadership in Minerals & Metals" will be held on November 13, 2008. The 2008 National Metallurgists award and the other IIM awards will be presented during this programme. The 7th edition of the international Exhibition- MMMM, 2008- will also be held during 13-16 November as a part of the NMD programme.

Chapter Events : The IIM Kolkata Students affiliated chapter organized METALLIX 2008 a National Symposium on Indian Steel Industries - Technology and Progress during Feb 17-18, 2008, jointly with the Department of Metallurgy & Materials Engineering, Jadavpur University. The symposium was attended by a large number of students, members from industry and academic institutions. Most interesting part of the program was the presentation made by the undergraduate metallurgical engineering students from across the country. IIM Durgapur Chapter celebrated the 45th National Metallurgist Day at the Synergy Hall of Durgapur Steel Plant on March 8, 2008. Shri V Shyamsundar, Managing Director, Durgapur Steel Plant inaugurated the function and emphasized that Durgapur is

the growing industrial hub in this part of the country and it is necessary that the industry and the academic/research institutes work closely for the mutual benefit. Shri J C Marwah, Secretary General, IIM elaborated on the diverse activities of the Institute and the contribution made by the Institute towards nation building since its creation in 1946. Shri R N Parbat, past President of IIM delivered prestigious Dr G P Chatterjee Memorial Lecture titled "Challenges to Steel from Aluminum". The IIM, Kolkata Chapter organized one-day seminar on May 9, 2008 at Kolkata on 'Augmenting Steel Supply in India through Induction Furnace and Sponge Iron route'. IIM Council meeting was held at Visakhapatnam on May 31, 2008. IIM Council and Annual General Body meetings will be held at Kolkata on July 25, 2008. Kalpakkam Chapter and Metal Sciences Division of IIM will hold the 5th International Conference on 'Creep, Fatigue and Creep-Fatigue Interaction (CF-5)' at Kalpakkam during September 24 - 26, 2008.

The Institute of Marine Engineers (India) [IMARE(I)]

A mega event: Shipping Forum was held at Chennai from 31st Jan to 2nd Feb 2008 in which approx 350 delegates from over 30 countries participated. IMARE(I) organized technical presentations on "Sethu Samudram Project", at Goa on March 29, 2008, on "Ship Board Duties and Responsibilities of Fresh Marine Engineers" at Kolkata on March 28, 2008, on "LNG Trade in Indian Sub-Continent" at Mumbai on February 20, 2008, on "Maintenance & Repairs : Welding of Engineering Components" at Bangalore on February 22, 2008, on "International Ship & Port Security" at Kolkata on March 19, 2008 on "Latest Developments, Innovative Ideas and Environment Protection Initiatives" at Pune on March 08, 2008.

Forthcoming Events: The next mega event: 3rd World Maritime Technology Conference 2009 (WMTC2009) will be held during January 21st to January 24th, 2009 at Mumbai. This event takes place every three years at a different place in world. The 1st WMTC2003 was held at San Francisco, USA, the 2nd WMTC2006 was held at London, UK and the 3rd WMTC 2009 will be held in Mumbai. A technical presentation on Eliminating Sub-Standard Ships from Indian Waters is slated for March 24, 2009 at Visakhapatnam.

The Institution of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineers (IETE)

IETE organized the 4th World Telecommunication and Information Society Day Celebrations on May 17, 2008 at Delton Hall, IETE, Institutional Area, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003. Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Minister of State for Communications & Information Technology, was the Chief Guest. IETE co-sponsored "16th Convergence India 2008", an International exhibition and conference, organized by Exhibitions India Pvt. Ltd. on March 19-21, 2008 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. The conference dealt with available opportunities for finding innovative approaches to convergent technologies and its applications, and also to understand and anticipate the technical needs of today's market. IETE organized the 40th World Telecommunication and Information Society Day on May 17, 2008 on the subject "Connecting Persons with Disabilities: ICT Opportunities for All" with emphasis on the special requirements of persons with disabilities. IETE is organizing a joint seminar with IGNOU on "Distance Education in Bharat Nirman" in June, 2008 and the 4th ELCOMP India-2008, International Exhibition & Conference on September 10-12, 2008 at New Delhi.

Events of the State Centres : The IETE Jaipur centre hosted the Mid-Term Symposium on the theme "Recent Advances in Broadband Systems" during April 12-13, 2008. The symposium was inaugurated by His Excellency Shri S. K. Singh, Governor of Rajasthan. IETE Aligarh centre organized a two-day National Conference on "Modern Trends in Electronics and Communication Systems - MTECS-2008" in collaboration with the Department of Electronics Engineering, AMU, Aligarh during March 8-9, 2008. Bangalore centre conducted short-term course on VLSI Analog Layout Design on February 10, 2008, sponsored a one-day seminar "VITAL 2008" (Visually Impaired Technology Assimilation and Learning) at the National

Association for the Blind, Karnataka Branch, on February 15, 2008, Sir C V Raman Memorial Lecture by Shri V Mahadevan, Sec 'H' Head, IRS, PMO, ISRO Satellite Centre, Bangalore on "Phased Array Antenna for Spacecraft on National Science Day on February 23, 2008, free seminars on VHDL & FPGA design and embedded systems on March 09, 2008 and short-term course on Embedded Systems on March 16, 2008. Burdwan centre organized a one-day seminar on "Recent Trends in Information and Communication Technology (ICT)" on March 01, 2008. Chennai centre signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Chennai telephones, BSNL on March 31, 2008 for utilizing the expertise and infrastructure of the BSNL in the field of training and dissemination of knowledge to the younger generation of upcoming engineering personnel and arranged a seminar on "Wireless Links to Multimedia Convergence - A Reality Check" in association with IEEE Wie Affinity Group, IE(I) and CSI on February 27, 2008. Coimbatore centre organized a one-day workshop on "Network Simulator (NS2)" on March 05, 2008. Hyderabad centre organized the 8th Prof K K Nair Memorial Lecture on "The Era of Mobile Convergence and Role of WIMAX & LTE" by Prof A J Paulraj, Stanford University, California at the Hyderabad campus on February 23, 2008. Jammu centre organized a one-day seminar on "Challenges in Electronics Technologies" at Govt. Women Polytechnic on February 23, 2008. Kochi centre jointly organized a national Seminar on "Information, Communication & Intelligent Systems" with Model Engg. College, Kochi during February 8-9, 2008 which was inaugurated by His Excellency, Shri R. L. Bhatia, the Governor of Kerala. Nagpur centre organized a seminar on "Development of Cellular Technology beyond 3G" in association with BSNL Telecom District, Nagpur on March 15, 2008, a technical lecture on "CMMI-Capability Maturity Model Integration" by Dr D A. Deshpande, Director, Computer Studies & Research, VMV College, Nagpur on March 13, 2008, jointly organized a Vidarbha Level Project competition titled "AAVHAN" with VMV College, Nagpur for the engineering students on March 08, 2008, a Vidarbha level quiz competition jointly in association with ISF Chapter of Shri Ramdeboba Kamla Nehru Engineering College on March 04, 2008.

Albert Einstein quotes

"Gravity cannot be held responsible for people falling in love."

"When you sit with a nice girl for two hours, it seems like two minutes. When you sit on a hot stove for two minutes, it seems like two hours. That's relativity."

"The 21st century will see the end of American dominance, as new powers including China, India and Brazil, continue to grow and make their voices heard on the world stage. The defining challenge of the 21st century will be to face the reality that humanity shares a common fate on a crowded planet."

- Jeffrey Sachs, *Commonwealth, Economic Times, April 21, 2008*

Some Language Facts

There are around 6,912 living languages in the world today. Asia with 2,269 languages accounts for 61% of all language

Think It Over

Success in life depends on action, that is, on what you do and not on what you feel or think. The price of success is hard work.

- Sir M. Visvesvaraya

Some words of wisdom on 'ego':

'One may understand the cosmos, but never the ego; the self is more distant than any star.' - G. K. Chesterton

'Whenever I climb, I am followed by a dog called Ego.' - Friedrich Nietzsche

'There really is no such thing as failure. There is only the rearrangement of plans and surrender of ego.' - Susan Falter Barny

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and a lecture on "Laser Angioplasty" by Dr G G Sarate of Govt. Polytechnic on January 17, 2008. Rajkot centre arranged a seminar on "New Horizons to Process technology Through Industrial Automation" which was hosted by the Managing Director, Neo Creative Vision Technologies Pvt Ltd, Ahmedabad to commemorate the opening of IETE Rajkot sub-centre on January 23, 2008. The Vijaywada local centre conducted a one-day national level workshop on "Modern Trends in Broadcasting (MTB)" jointly with the ISTE Student Chapter of Nalanda Institute of Engineering & Technology, Sattenapally, Guntur on January 23, 2008. Students Forum (ISF) of various centres of IETE organized a workshop on "Advances on High Performance Communications and networks (AHPCN'07)" at ISF-College of Engineering & Management, Kolaghat on November 28, 2007, organized a guest lecture on "Satellite Communications" by Shri Pammi Kalee Prasad, Vice-Chairman, IETE Vijaywada centre and Engineer in Doordarshan, Machilipatnam on January 22, 2008, a national level Technical Symposium on January 29, 2008, a state level technical symposium 'Praneta-08' on February 03, 2008, "CRUX-08" hardware contest during February 12-14, 2008, an expert lecture on "Satellite communication" by Shri Rajeev Jyoti, ISRO on February 16, 2008, a one-day workshop on "PCB Design and Recent Trends in Electronics" on February 18, 2008, a National Level Technical Symposium on "ElectroFest-08" on February 22-23, 2008 and a guest lecture on "Digital Video Broadcast Return Channel via Satellite" (DVBRCS) by Shri N G Visantkumar, Scientist-F Project Manager (R&D), ISRO, Ahmedabad on February 23, 2008. IETE-ISFs were formed at Babaria Institute of Technology, Varnama, Gujarat, on January 21, 2008, at Charotar Institute of Technology, Changa (CITC) on February 16, 2008 at Shirdi Sai Engineering College, Anekal, Bangalore on February 20, 2008 at SIES Graduate School of Technology, Nerul, Navi Mumbai on February 27, 2008 at Gayathri Vidya Parishad College of Engineering, Visakhapatnam on February 27, 2008 and at the Dept of Electronics & Communication Engineering, Kumaraguru College of Technology, Coimbatore on March 03, 2008.

speakers in the world. Africa with 2092 languages has 11.8% speakers; America has 1002 languages, Europe 239, Pacific 1,310.

Airport Noise Boosts BP

Aircraft noise is not only irritating, but also leads to health problems, high decibel noise can boost the blood pressure while sleeping.

Disaster in Mines

Nineteenth National Convention of Mining Engineers was organized during March 10-11, 2008 at the Indian School of Mines University, Dhanbad, to identify the causes of mining disasters, find the solutions and help the mining industry take the necessary steps to prevent future disasters by the Dhanbad Local Centre of the Institution of Engineers (India) in association with the Indian School of Mines University, Dhanbad.