



The Indian Engineer

India conquered and dominated China culturally for 20 centuries without ever having to send a single soldier across her border : Like Hu Shih, the former Chinese ambassador to US
"Many of the advances in the sciences that we consider today to have been made in Europe were in fact made in India centuries ago." : Grant Duff, Noted British historian

NEWSLETTER OF THE ENGINEERING COUNCIL OF INDIA

Volume : 7 - Issue : 2

June, 2013

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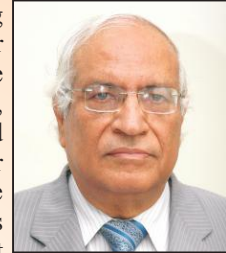
The Institute of Marine Engineers (India)

Shri P. N. Shali

Director

Message from the Chairman

ECI has taken up various issues confronting the engineering profession in the country. Apart from the Engineers' Bill, some other examples are: recognition of engineers as professionals to undertake practice from residential premises in the Master Plan of Delhi, demoralization of engineers after Commonwealth Games, suggested amendments to the Architects Act, 1972, registration of Valuers as per the new Companies Bill 2009, appointment of consultants for the conservation management plan for Rashtrapati Bhawan and its precincts. We also organized a get-together with engineer MPs last year to apprise them about some of these issues and seek their guidance and help.



Another important issue is the recent action by the Council of Architects (COA) to prevent engineers and engineering consultancy companies to undertake building designing and other related work. COA, a statutory body set up under Architects Act, 1972, has issued a Public Notice published in Times of India dated May 25, 2013. Notice warning individuals and companies not registered as architects against practicing profession of architecture. This is a misinterpretation of Architects Act 1972 as the Act only protects the title of 'Architect' and not the profession. There are several court cases on the subject and the legal opinion given by Justice D. A. Desai, former Supreme Court Judge and former Chairman of Law Commission sets at rest all the doubts, questions and misinterpretation of Architects Act; and it is the most useful document as guideline to protect the legal rights of engineers. The companies or firms (there are many in India) engaged in practice of architecture are the real sufferers from the COA public notice of 20/05/2013. ECI and our member organizations- CEAI and IAstructE have discussed this issue and we are contemplating to take necessary administrative and legal action jointly. We have also invited IE(I) to join hands in this effort.

The other important issue, which has come up recently, is cancellation of recognition by the AICTE of the Associate ship examinations conducted by some of the professional institutions of engineers, which was considered so far as equivalent to engineering degree, and was an option for diploma holders and others to get degree level engineering education. Some of our member associations such as IETE have taken up this issue also with the concerned authority and ECI will support these efforts.


(Uddesh Kohli)

What is Forensic Engineering?

Forensic engineering may be explained as the application of the art and science of engineering for the investigation of materials, products, structures or components that fail or do not operate or function as intended and/or cause personal injury or damage to property. Forensic engineering may include the investigation of the physical causes of accidents and other sources of claims and litigation, preparation of engineering reports, testimony at hearings and trials in administrative or judicial proceedings and the rendition of advisory opinions to assist the resolution of disputes affecting life and property. Forensic engineering aims to determine the root causes of a failure (whether it be a failure in performance or total collapse) and give expert opinion in a court of law when called upon to do so. Additionally it also gives techniques to identify possible modes of failure so that structures may be designed to prevent or avoid such failures. Forensic Civil Engineering (FCE) techniques can also be used to understand the secrets of ancient and historical structures.

ACCE(I)

Conference & Exhibition on Forensic Civil Engineering on 23rd & 24th August 2013 at Nimhans Convention Centre, Bengaluru, Karnataka. For details visit www.accehq.net, or send a mail to : accehq@vsnl.com, admin@accehq.net

NCSOFT 13

National Conference on Software Engineering 2013, during August 13-14, 2013, CUSAT Kochi. For details visit : www.csi-india.org, or send a mail on: hq@csi-india.org

IAStructE & CEAI: World Congress

Structural Engineering World Congress from 18th to 20th November, 2013 at IHC, New Delhi. For details visit: www.iastructe.co.in, www.ceaindia.org, or send a mail to: iastructe@iastructe.co.in, iastructe@gmail.com, ceai.ceai@gmail.com

The Indian Institute of Metals (IIM)

51th National Metallurgists' Day (NMD) and the 67th Annual Technical Meeting (ATM) is slated for November 14-16, 2013 at IIT-Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi. For details send a mail to : iimcal@dataone.in, or visit: www.iim-india.org

Indian Society of Non Destructive Testing – ISNT-14th APCNDT, November, 2013 at Mumbai. For details send a mail to: isntho@eth.net or visit : www.isnt.org.in

BES EXPO 2014

BES EXPO 2014 : 20th International Conference and Exhibition on Terrestrial and Satellite Broadcasting, 14-16 January 2014, in Hall No. 12 and 12A, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, For details visit: www.besindia.com or send a mail on : bes@besindia.com

Innovative World of Concrete

ICI-IWC 2013

International Conference on Innovations in Concrete for meeting Infrastructure Challenges during October 23-26, 2013 at Hyderabad. For details visit: www.indianconcreteinstitute.org, or send mail on: ici4@airtelmail.in, secgenici@airtelmail.in

IBC Awards 2013

IBC invites nominations from women professionals engaged in building activities for Smt Satya Goel Memorial Award 2013 to given during 19th Annual Convention of IBC in Dec. 2013. For details visit www.ibt.org or send a mail to info@ibt.org

Think it Over

Dr. Jim Swan, speaking at the Euro Med Lab conference in Glasgow in 2005 said, "Research has shown that there are even greater health benefits to people who drink single-malt whiskies. Why? Single-malt whiskies have more ellagic acid than red wine." That ellagic acid, also found in most fruits, is an antioxidant that may absorb rogue cancer cells in the body (via email).

From the Editor's Desk



We need to build the capacity of Indian Engineering Consultancy

Engineering consultancy industry is growing in India. The trade in engineering services is also going to open up in due course. This will further push up the market for engineering consultancy. The Indian engineering consultancy will get many opportunities to trade in its expertise internationally.

The pertinent question here is: Is Indian engineering consultancy industry ready to face these developments?

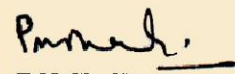
Presently, a reliable data on the size, technical depth, skills, training, etc, of engineering consultancy is not readily available. What are the new skills / training required? We should, therefore, identify engineering consultancy services that are there today; and we should also identify the new emerging areas. We should have this data for carrying out SWAT analysis of the Indian engineering consultancy industry. Then, we should identify the areas in which we need to develop new skills; and we should also identify areas of training thereof to develop these skills. We must then organize these identified trainings; and it should be made a regular feature of capacity building programme of engineering consultancy. We should built this capacity in such a manner that we produce internationally competitive Indian engineering consultancy for tapping future markets both in India and abroad.

Further, newer technologies are emerging at faster pace in all most all sectors. Obsolescence of what has been learned and experienced is a regular feature today. Our engineering consultancy industry recognizes this reality. It will have to keep improvising upon its capacity, capability and skills for meeting the emerging challenges. The continuing professional development must be taken seriously by the industry.

Illustratively, it is well recognized that the basic engineering consultancy services include feasibility and detail project reports. Due to the integration of Indian economy with the world economy, these basic services have crossed over to rather a complex phase from that of the earlier simple phase. For providing these services, engineering consultancy need to further sharpen its skills with appropriate training.

Sustainable development is the main mantra today. We have, though voluntarily, given our commitment to cut down carbon dioxide emissions. This will call for induction of new environment friendly technologies and innovated existing technologies. The engineering consultancy will have to acquire required knowledge and skills to deal with this issue. It should also be an important part of the capacity building programme.

It is heartening to know that the Consultancy Development Centre- a member association of ECI has taken up many programmes on capacity building of engineering consultancy, which I consider apt and timely steps that the centre has taken.


(P.N. Shali)

There are two modes of establishing our reputation: to be praised by honest men, and to be abused by rogues. It is best, however to secure the former, because it will invariably be accompanied by the later.

— Charles C. Colton

Eminent Indian Engineer: Shri B. Prasada Rao

Shri Rao, a strategic planner and visionary leader, represented India in the study group of World Energy Council on their initiative for developing "Energy Scenarios to 2050." He has rendered a yeoman's service in the capacity building for realizing our energy security. He has approximately 34 years of varied and diversified experience working through in strategic as well as operational areas in all major segments of the Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (BHEL) covering concept-to-commissioning activities such as corporate, planning and development, gas turbine division, diversification and strategic planning, and erection and commissioning etc. Shri Rao proved that a public sector company can hold its own in the face of stiff competition from India as well as overseas. He amply proved his managerial capabilities by cutting through bottlenecks to grab new opportunities in a growing Indian economy. As CMD of India's largest navratna public sector engineering and manufacturing enterprise, he leads the company at a time when BHEL is building capacity and capability to meet the country's power needs.



Mr. Rao started his career in BHEL as an industrial engineer at Industrial Systems Group (ISG), Bangalore in 1978, worked at project sites and initiated the project management function at ISG. He has been responsible for conceptualizing the approach for organization of BHEL's industry sector business segment and drawing up a blueprint for electronics in BHEL. Later, he spearheaded the diversification initiative at the company's electronics division for BHEL's entry into defence simulators and telecom products. He was instrumental in setting up the company's electronics systems division, the 14th manufacturing unit of BHEL, in addition to planning and development activities. Subsequently, he joined the heavy power equipment plant at Hyderabad as in-charge of manufacture of steam turbines, gas turbines and compressors during which the manufacture of the first frame 9E GT and the first 130 MW KN series two cylinder steam turbine was successfully established. He had been specially trained in GE, USA in the manufacture of advanced class gas turbines. At the corporate planning & development department, he successfully led two corporate plan exercises 'Strategic Plan 2007' and 'Strategic Plan 2012' involving company-wide activities. He led the project on 'Positioning BHEL for accelerated growth' along with a renowned management consultant. He also served as the company's interface with the investment community. As head of industrial systems & products business sector, the position occupied till his selection as CMD, he has been responsible for enhancing the overall business growth in the industry sector to an unprecedented level and a number of first time ever achievements in all the eight (8) business segments viz. captive power plants, transmission, transportation, industrial products -mechanical & electrical, defence, rod products and necessary systems. He has ensured a turnaround in transmission projects

group with the highest-ever revenue and profits during 2008-09 after a gap of 6-7 years of continuous losses.

Under his dynamic leadership, BHEL is giving special focus to manage its environmental impacts across the entire value chain. In addition, BHEL also facilitates the customers to manage their environmental and social impacts throughout the entire operational lifecycle of the power plants by offering them state-of-art engineering and technology inputs for reducing green house gas emissions, water consumption, better heat rate, less auxiliary power consumption with less fuel requirement. To substantiate that various performance reports from Central Electricity Authority, India and North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC), USA, explicitly indicate superior performance of power plants in terms of Plant Load factor, Operating Availability, Forced and Planned Outages with equipments supplied by BHEL. This ultimately leads to most optimal utilization of fossil fuel coal in such power plants.

Corporate Positions Held

Presently, he is a part-time Chairman of Bharat Heavy Plate and Vessels Limited. He has also been appointed as member, First Society and Board of Governors, IIM-Kashipur. He is a member of 'CII - National Committee on Capital Goods & Engineering'.

Awards and Recognitions

He has won many prestigious awards and recognitions. These include Recruitment & Staffing Industry Leader of the Year-2009 Award for most innovative recruiting & staffing programme given by world HRO congress, SCOPE Meritorious Award 2009-10 in recognition for excellent performance of the company in specialized field of R&D, Technology and Innovation, SCOPE Excellence Award under Individual leadership category in 2009-10 for "Excellence and Outstanding contribution to the Public Sector Management," Distinguished Fellow Award 2010 for his outstanding contribution in the field of corporate governance and corporate social responsibility by Institute of Directors, Rolta Corporate Award 2010 by the CII under the "engineering / capital goods category" Forbes India Leadership Award 2011 in the best CEO category as recognition of Transformational Leadership, BT-STAR PSU awards for Star PSU Man of the Year and Excellence in Innovation in 2012, Eminent Engineering Personality of India Award given by the IE(I) at the Indian Engineering Congress 2012, ICC-PSE Excellence Award 2012 given by the Indian Chamber of Commerce in recognition and honor for best practices adopted by CPSEs, and many more.

Mr. Rao is a B.Tech. (Mech) from Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh and did his post graduate diploma in 'Industrial Engineering' from National Institute for Training in Industrial Engineering, Mumbai.

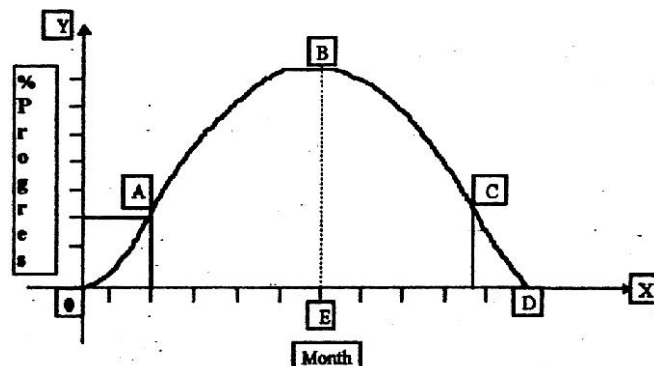
View Point

Role of Planning in Construction Industry - M.K. Raina

Any country's development depends to a large extent on its Industrial growth. In India new chemical plants, power projects, steel plants, cement plants, oil refineries, petro-chemical plants, etc. are being built by the public and private sector units. Thus, a large construction activity is taking place in the country. As such, this is pushing up the industrial growth. All this activity involves constructing big plants with least cost and on time. It all starts with formulation of a project. The success or failure of any project depends upon the extent of pre - project planning or advanced planning that goes into it. Planning should be preceded by a meticulous survey of project site, which may cover the weather condition, the time available each year for completion of various planned works of the project. For completion of all construction activities of a project as per the committed schedule, we have to ensure that all the sub-activities go on smoothly without any interruption, once the project construction is started. Any interruption during the construction stages on account of any reason can cause delay in achieving timely completion. To avoid this, effective planning will play a vital role which can 'prevent the major setbacks during construction of projects. Availability of funds is a key factor towards maintaining the frequency of construction activities. Normally, often there is a big gap between initial mobilization of funds and actual flow of funds to planned activities of a project due to one or the other reason. This needs to be bridged; and if it is not bridged when it must be bridged, it ultimately' affects the completion schedule of a project. Work on a project can also be affected by unforeseen factors such as: earthquake, floods, and external factors like: fire, riots, or political change. It should be ensured that the flow of funds at every stage of construction is as per the scheduled bar chart. Periodical checkups of the flow of funds should also be invariably carried out. Sometimes the non availability of even a small fitting or, accessory can result cumulatively in shortfall of the overall progress. Budgeting of the entire project needs to be done in a very careful manner keeping in view the entire site. After planning for funds, the next important aspect is planning of other inputs such as : workforce, equipments, tools and tackles and consumable items. The planning for skilled and unskilled workforce for the entire project is a difficult activity of the pre-project planning, it is equally very important for completing all activities of a project individually in time. For this, micro-planning i.e. detailed planning which considers even the smallest possible activity has to be carried out effectively. Category-wise workforce planning on monthly basis, considering even mini-activities, is very essential for achieving the purpose. The deployment of equipments, machineries and tools and tackles should be planned very carefully based on the overall bar-chart schedule. For civil jobs, deployment of hatching plant, mixer, loader, excavators, etc., and for mechanical and electrical jobs, the deployment of cranes, hydras, welding machines, grinding machines, etc.,



has to be considered after the sequential job analysis is planned thoroughly, taking into' consideration all independent activities side by side. The sketch shown below is the general construction curve :



Where 0 A and C D denote the initial mobilization period and demobilization period respectively while "B" - represents the peak construction duration. Requirement of consumable items such as cement, 'aggregate, welding electrode, grinding wheels etc. has to be projected on general basis for different periods shown as OA, AB, BC, & CD in the general construction curve for computation of which all the quantities (B.O.M.'s) of all activities should be fully known .

During the actual construction period, resource planning charts need to be reviewed as per the latest site status every month - if required weekly. Project monitoring is a key element to successful completion of projects, helping the implementation agencies in trouble shooting, changing some components of the project and even discarding some planned work in the interest of high quality and early completion of tasks. For achieving this important task , the overall detailed list of all mini- activities (like bolt fixing) made in pre-planning stages has to be monitored physically at working construction site on day - to - day basis and the status to be highlighted to the concerned unit head and to the overall project head. Monitoring has an important component called constraint-identification. Without this component, monitoring is incomplete. Once this identification is done properly, monitoring will have desired results which will ultimately boost the progress and help effectively in achieving the scheduled completion of a project. All leading international construction companies have realized that for achieving project completion as per schedule, effective planning is a must which should be made strong right from the pre-planning stage to site demobilization stage, and the planning staff members should be of very good site experience in various fields; in addition, they should have analytical mind, adopt problem solving approach and should have sense of co-ordination. Over and above, the planning team should have team spirit which can co-ordinate rightly and effectively with site people and other units of an organization, resulting ultimately in the successful completion of a project on scheduled within prescribed safety regulations. The author has served as JGM (Planning) & Adviser (Construction Management) Essar Constructions Ltd.

News Corner

EDP-Project Management for Engineers

Executive development programme for engineers on project management was organized by the Engineering Council of India during April 8-12, 2013 at New Delhi. About 48 working engineers both from the public sector and private sector companies attended the programme. All participants appreciated the programme. They opined that such programmes should be organized more frequently in different parts of the country.



CIDC's RECL Training Programme in Sidharthnagar (U.P.) Inaugurated



CIDC has started training program for SC/ST/OBC/EWS and women of Sidharthnagar district. Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd has extended the complete financial support

to train and make employable 250 unemployed youth of Sidharthnagar. The program was inaugurated on 19th May 2013 by Shri Jagadambika Pal, Hon'ble Member of Parliament and Chairman of Parliamentary Committee on Public Undertaking (COPU). Shri Rajeev Sharma, Chairman and Managing Director, REC and Dr. P. R. Swarup, Director General, CIDC were the special honored guests on the occasion. Hon'ble Jagadambika Pal, in his inaugural speech

motivated the youth to get maximum benefits from the training. Dr. P.R. Swarup highlighted the details of the training programme and the benefits that it will give. Shri Rajeev Sharma hoped that the maximum number of unemployed youth will join the training programme and get employed in the growing construction industry. Hon'ble MP, CMD-RECL and DG-CIDC distributed the course kit to the selected trainees and blessed them for their bright future.

CIDC 's RECL Training Centre in Dumariyaganj. (UP) Inaugurated

A CIDC - RECL Training Centre was also inaugurated in Khair technical centre, Dumariyaganj by Shri Jagdambika Pal Hon'ble MP and Chairman COPU in the



honored presence of Shri Rajeev Sharma, CMD -RECL and Dr. P .R. Swarup, DG -CIDC on 19th May 2013. In his inspiring and motivating speech, he called upon unemployed youth to join CIDC -RECL training programmes for acquiring skills which will give them employment in the construction industry. Hon'ble MP also welcomed Shri Alok Tiwari, Member of Parliament, who was the special guest, and Shri G. Narayan Rao, CMD -ALIMCO who was also present on the occasion. Shri Alok Tiwari, Hon'ble MP expressed his concern on unemployment and appreciated the efforts of CIDC for skill development of unemployed youth. He expressed satisfaction with these efforts of CIDC and said that this was a sure way towards employment of the youth.

News from the Member Associations

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

ACCE(I) will be organizing a conference & exhibition on forensic civil engineering on August 23-24, 2013 at NIMHANS convention centre, Bangalore. This will be a prestigious and unusual in that it will be the first conference of its kind to be held in the country covering all aspects of forensic civil engineering (FCE), which is a well- established subject and discipline oversees but which is almost unknown in India amongst engineers in general and civil engineers in particular. For details send a mail to: admin@accehq.net or visit: www.accehq.net. A national conference on steel structure was organized by the Mysore Centre of ACCE (I) during April 26-27, 2013 at Mysore, Karnataka. It was very well attended both by the Industry and academia.

Computer Society of India (CSI)

A range of services and networking opportunities through workshops, seminars, conventions and courses, participated by industry majors sharing best practices and digital opportunities for development, exchanging knowledge and ideas are being provided by the CSI. The Department of Computer Science and CSI Cochin Chapter is jointly organizing a national conference on software engineering on August 13-14, 2013 at CUSAT, Kochi. For details visit www.csi-india.org or send a mail on : Email : hq@csi-india.org.

Consultancy Development Centre (CDC)

CDC has run a programme on management consulting from May 5 to July 14, 2013. It has taken up another programme on fellowship scheme which is being run from June 25, 2013 to July 25, 2014 at its headquarters in New Delhi. For details visit www.cdc.org.in or send a mail on: info@cdc.org.in

Construction Industry Development Council (CIDC)

Shri Jitesh Khosala, Addll Chief Secretary Assam, visited CIDC's training programme at Vishwakarma Pratham Faridabad on 28th May 2013. He was impressed with the CIDC training



facilities and wished them success for their hard work. He also said that it was an essential effort meeting the capacity gap for the growing infrastructure needs of particular to the north east, where significant infrastructure development plans are on the cards. He had discussion with Director General Dr. P. R. Swarup regarding training of unemployed youth in Assam as there was much infrastructure development taking place in the state. He visited the facilities and also interacted with students specially those who came from Tripura. Mr. Birajit Sinha MLA of Tripura and Mr. Ajay Gupta from RECL also visited CIDC's Vishwakarma Pratham, Faridabad on 28th May 2013 to attend the valedictory function for RECL students who had completed their training.

Consulting Engineers Association of India (CEAI)

CEAI is organizing seminars on Construction Contracts - International and Indian Experiences on 19th and 20th July, 2013 at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi and on 23rd & 24th July, 2013 at IIT Madras, Chennai. The seminars will provide a platform to interact with highly experienced faculty members from UK, Dubai, Romania and India, who have vast experience in dealing with contracts across many countries. The topics that will be discussed include: a. Key Legal Concepts, Cross Border Transactions in the Construction Context, Case Studies, Liability Insurance Claims in India, Bilateral Investment Treaty Actions, Key Contractual issues. For details on New Delhi seminar send a mail to ceai.ceai@gmail.com; and for Chennai seminar to elley@chemproindia.com; jeffrey@chemproindia.com

Indian Association of Structural Engineers (IAStructE)

IAStructE organized national seminar on Safety of Structures on 26th April, 2013 in New Delhi. It was very well attended. Structural Engineering World Congress is organizing an international colloquium on "Architecture -Structure Interaction For Sustainable Built Environment" in association with IAStructE & CEAI from 18th to 20th November, 2013 at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. For details visit www.iastructe.co.in, or, send a mail to iastructe@gmail.com.

Indian Society for Technical Education (ISTE)

ISTE has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Anna University on May 31, 2013 at Chennai to organize 200 faculty development programmes in various engineering colleges throughout the country for the benefit of faculty working in various technical institutions. The 16th students annual national convention will be held during September 27-28, 2013 at Periyar Maniammai University, Vallam, Thanjavur. The 43rd national annual convention will be held during December 19-21, 2013 at Tatyasaheb Kore Institute of Engineering & Technology, Warananagar, Dist. Kolhapur. For further information on these programmes visit: www.isteonline or send a mail on : istedhq@vsnl.net.



Indian Building Congress (IBC)

IBC organized a national seminar on state of the building technology during April 26-28 at Patna, Bihar. The subjects that were discussed included innovative building designs, green building concepts, innovative technologies/ machineries and case studies etc. It was very well attended both by the industry, academia, research organizations and students. For more details visit www.ibc.org.in or send a mail to; info@ibc.org.in.

Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers (IChEs)

IChEs invites nominations for IChE Awards/Prizes for 2013, which are given in recognition of meritorious work in the field of Chemical Engineering in India. For details visit : www.iche.org.in, or, send a mail on: iichehq@vsnl.com

Indian Geotechnical Society (IGS) - The 18th ICSMGE 2013

An international conference on "Challenges and Innovations in Geotechnics" will be held in Paris, France from September 2 - 5, 2013. From India 13 papers have been submitted for the conference. A good number of delegates from India are expected to attend the conference. For details visit www.issmge2013.org, or, www.geotechnique.org, or, send a mail to e-mail: cfms.secretariat@orange.fr

Indian Institute of Industrial Engineering (IIIE)

The Kerala Chapter of Indian Institution of Industrial Engineering organized the Productivity Contest 2013 for industrial/service organizations on April 20th 2013 at Productivity House, PB. No. 8, HMT Road, Kalamassery. The participants competed in presenting case studies on productivity improvement.

Indian Institution of Plant Engineers (IIPE)

IIPE organized a national seminars on the theme : Statutory Regulations for Industrial Safety & Operations during June 6-7, 2013 at Hotel Minerva Grand, Secunderabad. The seminar was very well attended by both the academia and the industry.

Indian Concrete Institute (ICI)

ICI is organizing in association with Indian Association of Structural Engineers, Jawaharlal Technological University Hyderabad, Ready Mixed Concrete Manufacturers' Association, and Hyderabad Metro Rail Limited an International conference on innovations in concrete for meeting the infrastructure challenges during October 23-26, 2013 at Hyderabad. For details visit: www.indianconcreteinstitute.org, or send a mail on ici4@airtelmail.in, secgenici@airtelmail.in

Indian Society of Agricultural Engineers (ISAE)

Professor Gajendra Singh delivered a seminar at MIT Boston on "Indian Agriculture and the grand challenges surrounding technology" on 5th March, 2013 in new Sloan School of Management building. The Seminar was a part of Tata Pro-Seminar series and was attended by a large number of faculty, staff, post-docs and graduate students, both from MIT and Harvard. During his two day stay at MIT, Prof. Singh had discussions with many faculty, staff, post-docs and graduate students working on projects in India.



Indian Society of Non Destructive Testing (ISNT)

ISNT is organizing 14th Asia Pacific Conference on Non Destructive Testing -APCNDT during November 18-20, 2013 at Mumbai. Contributions in terms of papers, participation and exhibition towards making 14th APCNDT relevant and excellent are also solicited. For details send a mail to: isntheadoffice@gmail.com, or visit website: www.isnt.org.in

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

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

Institute of Urban Transport (India) IUT(I)

The 17th foundation day of the institute was celebrated on May 7, 2013 at New Delhi. On this occasion IUT(I) also moved to its new premises located at Anand Vihar Metro Station, New Delhi. The Annual General Body Meeting of IUT was held on April 25, 2013 at New Delhi.

Mining Engineers Association of India (MEAI)

MEAI is organizing, in collaboration with the Southern African Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, 9th international Heavy Minerals Conference 2013 - 'Overcoming New Challenges' during November 27-29, 2013 at Visakhapatnam, AP. The heavy mineral industry, globally and particularly in India, is confronted with new challenges of exploration at depths, separating complicated assemblage, mining high slime deposits and reducing environmental footprint. Land, energy and water are extremely scarce resources world-wide. These and several other challenges being confronted globally call for a rethink on the way we do business. Our theme for HMC 2013 is, therefore, 'Overcoming New Challenges'. For details visit website www.meai.org or E-mail to - contact@meai.org or fax to +91 - 08942283758.

The Indian Institute of Metals (IIM)

The AGM of the IIM will be held on July 27, 2013 when a new national council and the office bears of the institute will be

elected and the various functional committees will also be constituted for the year 2013-14.

The Institute of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineers

The IETE organized 45th world telecommunication and information society day celebrations on ICTs and improving road safety on May 17, 2013 at New Delhi. Shri Vimal Wakhlu CMD, TCIL was the chief guest and Dr H.S. Sharma, Past President, IETE was the guest of honour on the occasion. A special postal cover and video on IETE to commemorate the diamond jubilee year were also released on this occasion. Shri S. Paul, President of IETE also addressed the gathering. The function was very well attended. IETE is organizing diamond jubilee zonal seminar on "Advances of Electronics, Information and Communication Technology on July 18, 2013 IETE HQ, New Delhi.

The Institute of Marine Engineers (India) (IMEI)

IMEI organized international workshop, conferences and expo for military and marine applications - IWCEM2013-during May 18-20, 2013 at Pune. It focused on shipbuilding and maritime operations. The industry presented their contemporary products during the technology meet to the users. The IWCEM2013 also initiated the process of product development, accounting for futuristic user requirements and available R&D talent. IMEI in association with MPHRP organized Danish movie on Somali Piracy on June 20, 2013 at New Delhi. It was organized on June 21, 2013 at Mumbai, and on June 22, 2013 at Chennai. The AGM of Mumbai Branch, Navi Mumbai and Gujarat Chapters of IMEI will be held on August 10, 2013 at the respective chapter headquarters.

Engineering Council of India is organizing EDP on Economics & Finance for Engineers in September/October 2013 at BITS Pilani, Hyderabad Campus. For details send a mail on eci@ecindia.org, director@ecindia.org.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Shri Shali,

This is to acknowledge with thanks your letter of 16 May 2013 enclosing with it a copy of the March 2013 issue of "The Indian Engineer". I have perused the publication and find it extremely informative and useful. Please continue to send subsequent issues to me.

With warm regards,

Umesh Shrivastava
Executive Chairman
Holtec Consulting Pvt. Ltd.

Dear P.N. Shali,

I am at present working for Essel Group as their CTO & at present I am in Muzaffarpur Bihar. We are taking over Power Distribution of the city. This is Zee Group Company of Subhash Goenka. The regulation (of engineering profession) is really required at the earliest. The type of engineers (that) we are getting now a day is very sad affair. Graduates do not know basics. Mushrooming of colleges by politicians has done this damage. You are doing a great service to the country. Pl keep this up.

Rajinder Kachroo

What difference does it make to the dead, the orphans and the homeless, whether the mad destruction is wrought under the name of totalitarianism, or the holy name of liberty or democracy?

— Mahatma Gandhi

11th Foundation Day of Engineering Council of India (ECI)

ECI completed 11 years of its service to the engineering profession on April 4, 2013. All these years were eventful one way or the other. Last year the Eminent Engineer Award was institutionalized, to be given every year on ECI's Foundation day to a person with engineering background who has contributed significantly to any field of engineering such as academics, research, design, consultancy, project implementation, industry, while holding top level engineering/management positions in corporate, government, industry, academic, research and other institutions, etc. S/he should have demonstrated innovative thinking and leadership qualities, have impeccable and unblemished record, not subjected to any disciplinary or criminal proceedings and have contributed significantly to sustainable economic development and social welfare. A top-level Jury was constituted for selecting the candidate for the prestigious Award under the Chairmanship of Shri K.C. Pant, former Dy



Chairman, Planning Commission, with Dr Kirit S. Parikh, Dr. V. Krishnamurthy, Dr. R.A. Mashelkar, Shri. B. Muthuraman, Dr. P.V. Indiresan and Shri A C Wadhawan as its distinguished members. For 2013 Award, while the same Jury continued, Dr V Krishnamurthy chaired it since Shri K C Pant passes away in November 2012 and Dr. P V Indresan also passed away. Out of the 17 nominations received for the Award and 4 added by the Jury members, the Jury decided to confer two Awards in 2013, one for Industry and the other for Consultancy and Research category. For this prestigious Award in 2013, they selected two eminent engineers. April 4, 2013 was celebrated as the Foundation Day of ECI. On the occasion an the Eminent Engineer Award was conferred by Dr Narendra Jadhav, Member, Planning Commission on Dr F C Kohli, who is considered the father of the IT industry in India and Mr. Mahendra Raj, who is the senior most practicing consulting engineer in the country and has made a significant contribution to the field of structural engineering.



Awards/Honours

Shri K. K. Kapila, CMD, ICT Pvt. Ltd has been unanimously re-elected by General Assembly of IRF Geneva Programme Centre held prior to a high-level IRF Regional Conference at Marrakech, Morocco on 18th March 2013 to serve a second term as Chairman of International Road Federation (IRF), Geneva. Rich tributes were paid to Mr. Kapila's achievements in not only streamlining the Federation but also extending the membership of Federation into new territories to become a truly global community of prominent road organizations and professionals worldwide. Mr. Kapila expressed his confidence



that the Federation will relentlessly work to achieve the Global Plan of the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety, which calls for a 50% reduction in road accidents and fatalities by the end of 2020.

Our congratulations

Appointments

Prof. G.N. Gandhi has been elected as the president and Shri Jai Bhagwan as the Hony Secretary of IGS for the term 2013-14.

Our congratulations

ENGINEERING COUNCIL OF INDIA

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Published by Shri P.N. Shali, Director, Engineering Council of India for restricted circulation from Jawahar Dhatu Bhawan, New Delhi-110062
Printed by : Maansee Printers, E-mail : maanseeprinters@yahoo.co.in