



JULY 2019 ISSUE-2 VOLUME-1

## *From the Chairman*



Dear friends,

✦ The Seventh Annual General Body Meeting was held on 15th June 2019. The Management Committee headed by Er. K.G. Chandrasekharan had steered CETAAT to greater heights by their activities during 2017-19. The AGM elected a new team with me as the Chairman, Er. K. Nandakumar and Er. Varghese Mathew as Vice Chairmen, Er. G. Anil as the Hon. Secretary, Er. M. Pradeep Kumar and Er. V. Anil Kumar as Joint Secretaries, Er. KGP Namboothiri as Treasurer. 12 MC members were also elected. The new committee assumed office at the AGM and also held the first meeting of the Managing Committee immediately after the AGM.

I am thankful to the Nomination Committee and the General Body for electing me as the Chairman for 2019-21. It is with a bit of hesitation that I accept the post of Chairman of CETAAT because the three previous Chairmen have set the benchmark very high and it will be a tough task to match their activities. The last six years have witnessed a significant growth in the activities of CETAAT. The formation years witnessed hosting of the Third CETAA Galaxy Global meet at Trivandrum by CETAAT, the formation of our own music troupe – Ragatharangam, launch of Devaragasandhya, technical talks, launching of Newsletter, website, family get togethers, charity programs, seminars and workshops. I salute Er. Sreekantan Nair, Er. Ravindran, and Er. KG Chandrasekharan for their leadership during the last six years. I also thank other office bearers during this period for their whole hearted support without which CETAAT would not have become what it is today.

The new team will try their best to make CETAAT vibrant. We will continue the activities previous teams have initiated and also take up new activities. Technical Talks and Family get togethers will be continued. We will continue to nurture Ragatharangam and Devaragasandhya. Workshops and Technical Conferences are to be given more thrust. Newsletter, charity activities and Endowments will be pursued.

Some of the activities put forward by the previous committee, but could not be completed are also to be taken up on priority. The website and social media presence are planned to be further strengthened. Membership strength to be enhanced by carrying out special campaigns. We plan to come out with an annual plan of activities by next month and will kick start with a Technical Talk in July/August.

May I take this opportunity to request your suggestions and ideas on new activities to be taken up by CETAAT and how to meet the expenditure. Your suggestions may be mailed to me at [s.gopakumar@ieee.org](mailto:s.gopakumar@ieee.org) or through WhatsApp @9447035620.

I wish to thank each and every member of CETAAT for their contribution to the successful conduct of activities of CETAAT in the past and appeal to them to continue their patronage to our team also.

With all best wishes and regards

**S. Gopakumar**, Chairman

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**Editorial Board** MGK Nair, KG Chandrasekharan, SKK Nair, M Pradeep Kumar , Jaya G Nair



## Report of Secretary - CETAAT



Dear fellow CETAATians,

At the outset, let me thank you all on behalf of the newly elected team for providing us an opportunity to serve College of Engineering Trivandrum Alumni Association, Trivandrum Chapter (CETAAT) for the next term of 2019-21.

We also thank the outgoing Committee headed by Shri K G Chandrasekharan who had served CETAAT extremely well, setting very high standards.

On the joyous occasion of CET celebrating its 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, CETAAT too plans to join in the celebrations through few signature events starting with a tech talk by Er Tony Thomas, CIO of Nissan Motor Corporation, a CETian.

We request the whole hearted support and active participation of all the members in taking CETAAT to greater heights, enabling to give back to the society in general and our alma mater - CET - in particular.

Presently we have a strength of over 600 members, which we plan to augment through a membership campaign. We request every member to try to enroll at least two new members each.

As discussed in the last AGM, we are also planning for setting up of our own office building cum club house with the support of all our members, the modalities of which will be formulated based on detailed deliberations. We solicit your valuable suggestions.

Thank you all in anticipation of a very fruitful CETAAT term 2019-21.

**Anil G.**  
Secretary

### CETAAT ENDOWMENT



For the first time since its formation, CETAAT has established an Endowment Award sponsored by one of its members. The Endowment named 'P K NAIR AND P SREEKUMARI NAIR MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT' has been sponsored by Er K Venugopalan Nair, 1979 Mechanical, in memory of his parents P K Nair and P Sreekumari Nair. The award will be given to the student/team submitting the best Project of the Final Semester Mechanical Branch as selected by a three member committee of the Principal, CET or his nominee, HOD Mechanical Engineering Department and the Chairman, CETAAT. Award amount of Rs 5,000 (Rs five thousand only) will be presented annually in a function as decided by CETAAT etc.

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

#### Tech Talk

by

**Er. Tony Thomas , CET**

CIO of Nissan Motor Corporation,

**20th August, 2019 6.30 PM**

at

**Chamber of Commerce Hall**  
Jawaharnagar, Kowdiar

#### Family meet {Onam}

**29th September 2019**

#### Tech Talk

**15th October 2019**

#### Workshop

**19-21 November 2019**

## CETAAT News Letter

We solicit literary contributions from CET alumni and their family members for the quarterly News Letter being published by CETAAT.

The articles in the form of short stories, poems, cartoons, travelogue etc. will be published in the forthcoming issues of CETAAT NEWS LETTER.

The articles can be mailed to the e-mail :  
[mgknair@gmail.com](mailto:mgknair@gmail.com)



## THE LEADERS ■

The College of Engineering Trivandrum (CET) started functioning in 1939, under the University of Travancore, which itself was established in 1937, by the then Maharaja of Travancore, Sree Chitra Thirunal Balarama Varma. The college started functioning on 3rd July 1939 at the premises of the present PMG office and the Kerala State Science and Technology Museum. The college was shifted to the present location at Kulathur in 1961. Students then doing their final years in 1961 -1962, had the privilege to be the first batch to graduate from the new premises.

In its nascent phase, CET offered degree courses only in three branches viz. Civil, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering. Diploma courses were also offered in the same engineering streams. In 1939, 21 students were admitted for the degree course and same numbers of students were enrolled for the diploma courses. Besides this, there was also a certificate course with 40 students. Though seven seats were allotted for each branch of Civil, Mechanical and Electrical engineering, some of the seats in the electrical branches were not filled in some of the academic years. Adjustments were made among the branches in order to maintain the total number of seats. Thus, the first batch to pass out in 1943 had 11 civil, 5 mechanical and 3 electrical graduates.

The name and fame of an educational institution is amplified by its illustrious Alumni and the College of Engineering Trivandrum (CET) is no exception. CET boasts of many multifaceted engineers, academicians and administrators among its alumni, who adorned or are adorning the top positions in institutions all over the globe. Among them are leaders who have guided and inspired the younger generation.

CETAAT News Letter will carry a series 'THE LEADERS' which will portray personal details and the professional achievements of senior CETians, with the aim of introducing them to the younger Alumni ■

D. S. N. AYYAR, PVSM



CET has produced a large number of Engineers who has risen to very great heights and has given valuable contributions to the nation. Er D Sankara Narayanan Ayyar is one among them.

A CET graduate in Civil engineering passed out in 1955, Er DSN Ayyar joined Damodar Valley Corporation as Assistant Engineer immediately after graduation. After two years of

service with DVC, he joined Kosi Project (Bihar) and worked there for six years.

In 1963, he joined GREF (General Reserve Engineering Force), a Force integral to the Armed Forces, the executive force of the Border Roads Organisation under the Ministry of Defense. He was the Second in Command of a Border Task Force in NEFA (now Arunachal Pradesh) in the cadre of Executive Engineer equivalent to the Major in the Army. He was responsible to lay the first all-weather access to the Himalayan region of Subansiri Division.

From 1969 to '72, he was in command of a construction company in Sikkim to restore communications disrupted by heavy floods of Teesta river in Oct 1968. He was also in charge of roads in very difficult terrains, snow bound, to Nathula pass on Chinese border, where communication facilities had to be restored very quickly and on war footing for army logistics.

From 1977 to 1981 Er DSN Ayyar was Commander of the Border Roads Task Force in Eastern Bhutan and Meghalaya covering Garo, Khasi and Jaintia hills, including Cherrapunji belt on Bangladesh border. Also he was involved in the construction of East West Highway in Bhutan traversing snow bound altitudes above 12,000ft, operational tracks leading to international borders

and roads to Bangladesh border.

From 1982 to 1985 he was Commander cum Chief Engineer for the Project for improving 100 km logistics route in mafia controlled south Bihar coalfields which was lagging for more than two decades. Er Ayyar was given this tough task as a special assignment which he accomplished successfully. He was also assigned responsibilities for maintaining communication facilities to all border areas and operational planning.

Apart from his routine duties and assignments in office, Er Ayyar was given other special assignments also. He acted as Technical Member of a team of Govt. of India to make feasibility studies for road development in Sahara desert in 1976.

During the period 1985 to 1991 he was Deputy Director general and later Additional Director General Border Roads (equivalent to Additional Secretary to Govt of India/Lt General), the highest possible position in his service and profession, before retiring from service in December 1991 at the age of 58.

Er Ayyar was very active after his retirement from Govt service. He was consulting Engineer for National and other highways and environmental studies for Tamil Nadu and Kerala and also for TVS group of companies.

Er DSN Ayyar has won many awards and decorations during his career. He was awarded the Chief of Army Staff Commendation Card and Medal for Army logistics Communication Planning on the Independence day in 1987.

The highest honour he received was the military decoration PVSM (Param Vishisht Seva Medal), from the President of India, a decoration usually awarded for combatants in Indian Defense Forces. This award was given to him on Republic day in 1992 by the then President of India R. Venkataraman. He is the first and only officer from GREF who was so decorated.



A voracious reader and blessed with flair for writing, Er Ayyar has many publications to his credit. The most commendable among them is the 'Regimental History of Border Roads Organisation - 1960 to 1995', a 1600 page book in two volumes, published by the Director General Border Roads (DGBR).

He has authored the draft 'Hill Road Manual' of Indian Roads Congress. Another publication was on his family and clan and its history titled 'Red Fort to Red Fort- an Elephant March'. now an E-

book from Apple.

Born and brought up in Trivandrum, Er DSN Ayyar had his school education in Trivandrum. He has two children, son and a daughter, both are well settled. Still very active and always cheerful and well mannered, humble and unpretentious, enjoying the retired life happily, Er Ayyar now past 85 years, lives in his apartment at Sreevaraham, Thiruvananthapuram.

*Compiled by : Er. K.G. Chandrasekharan*



# CETAAT

## Annual Report 2018-19

### ACTIVITIES

CETAAT has chalked out and executed several activities for the advantage of its members and benefit to society in general.

- ❖❖ These include 'TECH-TALK', a forum for the CET Alumni to deliberate on various technical & managerial topics of interest.
- ❖❖ CETAAT provides avenues for its members and their families to exhibit their artistic skills during family get-togethers.
- ❖❖ Special efforts to rekindle and nurture the artistic talents of our members have resulted in the formation of "**Ragatharangam**", our own music group.
- ❖❖ CETAAT has undertaken several charity activities including financial aid to needy children in their studies, helping the flood affected families etc.
- ❖❖ To disseminate news and information on CETAAT's activities, provide glimpses of CET in yester years and make the younger generation aware of the achievements of senior CETians by publishing News Letter in every quarter.
- ❖❖ An Endowment Award is also introduced with the support of Er. K Venugopalan Nair, 1979 Mechanical in memory of his parents and named as '**P.K. Nair and P. Sreekumari Nair Endowment Award**', every year for the Best Project in the Mechanical Engineering branch among final year CET students.

### MANAGING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Managing Committee held nine meetings during the period from last AGM on first Tuesday of every month.

### TECH-TALKS

We have conducted Six '**Tech-Talks**' during this period.

- First Technical Talk was conducted on 17th April 2018 at Hospitality Centre, Trivandrum Club. Topic was "Sports Engineering" and Er. N. Mohan Kumar (1978 Civil), Chief Engineer, Sports Engineering Wing and Chairman- Technical Committee, SKYWALK Project, Govt. of Kerala was the speaker.
- Second Technical Talk on the topic Electrical Safety in Multi-Storeyed Buildings was conducted on 19th June 2018 at Hospitality Centre, Trivandrum Club and the speaker was Er. H. Dilip Kumar, Electrical Inspector (Rtd) and Director, Centre for Technical Training, Trivandrum.
- Third Technical Talk was held at Hotel Prasanth, PMG Jn., Trivandrum on 21st August 2018 by Mr. Satish Babu, President, InApp Technological Solutions, Technopark on "Cryptocurrencies and the Blockchain - A Revolutionary Development ?"
- Fourth Technical Talk was conducted on 23rd October 2018 at Hotel Prasanth, PMG Jn., Trivandrum. Topic was "The Philosophy of Cyber Security and Privacy" and Najor Krishna Lal, Cyber Digita Consultants, Techno Park, Trivandrum was the speaker.
- Fifth Technical Talk on the topic "Floating Solar Systems" was conducted on 18th December 2018 at Hotel Prasanth, PMG Jn., Trivandrum and the speaker was Er. M.R. Narayanan (1972 Electrical), Chairman, AdTech Systems Ltd. and Director, Poovar Island Resort, Trivandrum.
- Sixth Technical Talk was held at Hotel Prasanth, PMG Jn., Trivandrum on 19th February 2019 by Er. Noushad A (1988-Civil), Assistant Executive Engineer, Kerala Water Authority on "City Water Supply- Status and Challenges".

### THREE-DAY WORKSHOP

Workshop on **GOOD PRACTICES IN CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING** from 15th to 17th January 2019 at Hotel Prasanth, Trivandrum which was organised by the team headed by Sri. Zeril S. Jose by preparing its conceptual proposal and content preparation for the successful conduct of the event. 72 were registered and attended the workshop from different organisations. The Chief Guest of the valedictory function was CETian K. Madhavan Pillai, Chief Engineer (Rtd), PWD of 1958 Batch. The feedback analysis was presented by our Vice-Chairman Er. S. Gopa Kumar.

### FAMILY GET-TOGETHERS

We had also conducted two **Family Get-togethers**:

- The First '**Family Get-together**' was held on 20th May 2018 at Hotel Prasanth. A Magic Show by Manthrika Anandu was arranged on the occasion. Sri. Madhavan Nair, Former Chairman, ISRO was the Chief Guest of the function. A total of 109 participants were present for the family Get-together.
- Conducted second **Family Get-together** on 11th November 2018 at Hotel Prasanth. Musical entertainment by Raagatharangam team was arranged on the occasion. Sri. Madhavan Nair, Former Chairman, ISRO was the Chief Guest of the function. Children of our members were appreciated in the meeting by presenting mementos for their outstanding performance in their studies and extra curricular activities.

### SUPPORTING CETAA STUDENTS

1. As per the request of CET authorities, we paid Rs. 15,000 as semester tuition fees, expense for purchase of books and hostel fee up to 8th Semester to a needy girl student of 8th Semester under Civil Engineering Department, who untimely lost her father.

2. A BAJA racing team of CET was striving to build the best **All Terrain Vehicle** for Society of Automotive Engineers SAE eBAJA 2019 - an inter-collegiate engineering competition where the objective is to design and fabricate an All Terrain Vehicle. They were qualified into the final round with *AN all India rank 7 of the eBaja competition held at Pithampur in January 2019*. The fabrication cost of the eBaja vehicle was estimated as Rs.6,50,000. They requested CETAAT for financial assistance to complete their electric *All Terrain Vehicle* and CETAAT Managing Committee decided to provide a financial assistance of Rs. 15,000 and the amount was handed over to them by our beloved Chairman, Er. K.G. Chandrasekharan.

### COMMITMENT TO THE SOCIETY

As a part of Social Responsibility, a financial assistance of Rs. 1,00,000 was provided by CETAAT to the Chief Minister's Distress Relief Fund on 17th August 2018 for helping the Flood affected victims in the State. Our members actively participated in the activities related to the flood affected relief camps and restoration of electric supply in the most affected area of Chengannur Constituency. These activities were executed with the generous support from our members. It is requested that such support may be made available at enhanced levels in future.

### RAGATHARANGAM

'Ragatharangam', our own music group with vocalists as well as instrumentalists from amongst our Alumni, formed in 2016 under the inspiring initiative of Zeril S Jose (1987 Arch), has developed into an accomplished musical ensemble.

Organised a musical night '**Devaragasandya - Season 3**' styled '**Vayalar Smrithiyil**' as a tribute to Music Legend the late **Devarajan Master** by our own musical troupe **RAGATHARANGAM** on Sunday 17th March 2019, at Tagore Theatre, Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram. **Sri. Kadakampally Surendran**, Hon. Minister for Co-operation, Tourism and Devaswom was the Chief Guest and **Sri. Vayalar Saratchandra Varma**, the poet son of late Vayalar Ramavarma was the Guest of Honour. All the singers were CETians and their family members including play back artists. More than 1200 were attended the function. The event was well appreciated by the Public including all leading News Papers.

Ragatharangam has really come of age and this is a typical example of how we can perform when the talents of our artists are combined with the organisational skills and the sincere and dedicated efforts of our other members.

### CETAAT NEWS LETTER

CETAAT News Letters were released in every quarter during the year. It is with joy that we report to you that the response we received from CETians all over the world has been overwhelming. The complete layout design work for the issues are being done by CETians and we hadn't taken any professional help from outside. The members of the Editorial Board under the leadership of Editor - Sri. MGK Nair deserve our appreciation for the commendable work being done.

### CONCLUSION

The support and encouragement by each and every member of CETAAT, as well as the sincere and tireless efforts of the members of the Managing Committee have resulted in executing the activities of CETAAT in a fruitful manner during the tenure 2018-19 of the present Managing Committee.

I thank all the members, especially our Chairman Sri. K. G. Chandrasekharan, Vice Chairmen Sri. S. Gopakumar & M.P. Aiyappan, former Chairman Sri. Raveendran T. Nair, former Secretary Sri. K. Nandakumar and Jt. Secretaries Sri. N. Suresh Kumar and Sri. M.S. Pradeep and Treasurer Sri. C.E. Bennychen for their valuable contributions for making the CETAAT year 2018-19, a grand success.



# CETAAT

## MANAGING COMMITTEE - 2019-2021

Office	Nos.	Name	Batch	Mobile No.
CHAIRMAN	1	S. Gopakumar	1972	9995777050
VICE-CHAIRMAN	1	K. Nandakumar	1988	9447064280
	2	Varghese Mathew	1986	9539936146
HON. SECRETARY	1	G. Anil	1981	9447110751
HON. JT. SECRETARIES	1	M. Pradeep Kumar	1981	9567861060
	2	V. Anil Kumar	1981	9496020038
TREASURER	1	K.G.P. Namboothiri	1988	9446807397
MANAGING COMMITTEE MEMBERS	1	Dennis Thobias	1968	9895554872
	2	S.K.K. Nair	1970	9847435231
	3	Muhammad Sali	1975	9020205000
	4	Simon P Varghese	1979	9995362104
	5	H. Dilip Kumar	1981	9447041537
	6	R. Rajesh	1984	9496259894
	7	E.N. Ananthapadmanabhan	1985	9447654958
	8	V. Renjit Kumar	1988	9446008582
	9	M.S. Pradeep	1989	9447246825
	10	Jaya G Nair	1988	9446395542
	11	Chitra Nair	1993	9447031323
	12	Hari Gopinath	1993	8129426498



### Tech Talk by Er Naushad

Naushad is a B Tech, Civil from CET 1989 and M Tech in Civil and Environmental Engineering, also from CET. Currently working as an Executive Engineer in Kerala Water Authority.

#### CITY WATER SUPPLY- STATUS & CHALLENGES

The Trivandrum Water Supply Scheme started functioning with Aruvikkara reservoir as its source, way back from the year 1933. In the beginning it was a project named the Wellington Water works entrusted with the task of bringing 36 MLD raw water from Aruvikkara to the treatment plant at Vellayambalam by gravity, through a 18 km long 33" CI pipe. During 1964 a 90 HP Booster pumping station was erected at Aruvikkara to increase the discharge of raw water to the plant. In 1968 a new 48 MLD treatment Plant

was commissioned at Aruvikkara. The weir at Aruvikkara was upgraded to Dam status by introducing 2.5 metre high shutter in the Dam and laying 48" CI clear water pumping to the reservoir at Observatory hill. Subsequently, considering the increasing demand and storage during the draught season, a new dam at Peppara was constructed at 29 Km upstream side of Karamana river during the year 1985. At the same time a new treatment plant of 24 MLD was commissioned at Aruvikkara there by increasing the total plant capacity to 72 MLD. As the demand in the city increased during the subsequent decades, two more treatment plants 182 MLD, an interim augmentation plant and 74 MLD plant of JICA aided project were commissioned during the years 1999 and 2011. In a nut shell, the major treatment plants catering to the city now are the 72 MLD Treatment Plant serving observatory and the main city area, the 82 MLD Treatment Plant serving Peroorkada, Medical College and Manvila area, the 74 MLD Treatment Plant for Thirumala and Iramimuttom; and the 36 MLD for the low level zone, viz. Thampanoor and Manacaud. In addition to the above, supply from Treatment Plants at PTP Nagar and Paramala can also be used, thus bringing the total quantity supplied to the city to the tune of 286 MLD.

The pipe distribution network in the city also has grown to 6500 km from the original length of 184 Km in 1933 by additions, replacements, extensions, improvements, etc., at various stages during different periods. The originally anticipated 35000 house connections has now crossed 2,70,000. Even though there is less growth due to development in the old city area such as Palayam, Pattoo, Kowdiar, Peroorkada, Kuriyathi, etc., the fast growth in number of connections in Pongumoodu, Kazhakkootam, Thirumala, Karamana and Thiruvallam areas leads to anticipated high demand of piped water supply in the city. For meeting the demand, Kerala Water Authority has already taken proactive steps with the construction of a new 75 MLD Treatment Plant at Aruvikkara that will be commissioned in 2020 and an alternate source of supply from the 100 MLD Treatment

Plant planned to be commissioned in the year 2021. This will keep the city of Thiruvananthapuram as the most privileged City in the country with 24 x 7 continuous supply a position it had enjoyed earlier for a long period and eliminating scarcities currently experienced in certain elevated points in some seasons. However, to make the dream come true, the most challenging factor is the reduction of Non Revenue Water (NRW) which is now estimated as 40% of the production. In simple terms, out of the 286 Mld of water produced, only 172 MLD could be accounted by billing and collection through the metered supply. The balance is getting lost by way of leakages, theft, unaccounted usage with no meters or wrong meters, delay in controlling / rectifying leakages, etc. If the NRW is not reduced or controlled in the near future, the anticipated production of 461 MLD of treated water for the city in 2021 will lead to availability of 277 MLD only, making the city to suffer in thirst.

Thus the greatest challenge ahead in the city is to reduce the NRW to at least 20% by reducing leakages, keeping control over thefts, ensuring replacement of old pipes, fixing precise flow meters including smart meters, extending Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system in service lines, implementing water literacy programmes, coordination with other stakeholders and departments especially the PWD, introduction of utility corridor in new roads, pollution control in water resources, etc. It is also important to control excessive domestic usage by utilizing other available sources in the households such as existing wells, rain water harvesting system and also by introducing surcharges for excessive usage. The existing sources are also to be made more reliable by ground water recharging, construction of check dams, and in the case of TWSS, by raising the water storage level of Peppara Dam to 110 m from the existing level of 107.5m.

Apart from these, another factor that is most important for the engineers, contractors, pipe manufactures and other stake holders dealing with piped water supply is the need for remodeling the strategy used in implementing learned technology in to practice, as followed in developed countries.

The design and construction of pipe laying projects must be treated as very important as any other civil construction work since it involves proper profile design and selection of pipes. The vertical profiles of pipelines and the horizontal alignment with co-ordinates are to be finalized in the studio considering all design factors such as slopes, deflections, position and intervals of air valves, etc. Construction on the field has to exactly follow the approved shop drawings, taking in to consideration all the ground realities. The pipe manufactures must issue technical catalogues with information about proper laying and jointing techniques. While selecting suitable pressure rating for pipe lines laid in heavy traffic area, exterior pressure load also must be considered in addition to the fluid pressure. *Trenchless technologies* such as micro tunneling, thrust boring, HDD, etc., are to be introduced in heavy traffic area and prime roads.

Contractors involved in the execution of work have a major role in ensuring the quality of work with proper supervision. The contractor's construction team should have an approved organogram for management control approved by the department. The key staff of the contractor must be interviewed before posting and separate head in preliminaries must be introduced in payment terms, as salary of contractor's key staff. This will drastically reduce any additional requirement for department/client Engineers as the contractor's key officials are considered to be on Government duty under the supervision of client/consultant engineers until the project is completed and handed over.

The procedures of pipe laying and method statements must require to be separately approved and documented for each project and the work construction team must follow the approved drawings and procedures. The pipelines are to be properly protected with the use of maker tapes and marker posts so that unexpected breakages by other utility agencies can be avoided. The technology has to be revamped and public/private participation must be introduced where ever required. Implementation of new technology needs the active participation of contracting companies and manufactures who possess the latest infrastructure facilities in conjunction with Government agencies such as Kerala Water Authority. Holistic thinking by the technocrats in the department and all the other stakeholders is the need of the moment.

**Er MINI VASUDEVAN GETS THE HIGHEST HONOUR FOR WOMEN IN INDIA, FROM THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA**



Mini Vasudevan, CET 1987 Electronics was awarded the highest civilian honor for women in the country, *Nari Shakti Puraskar*, for the year 2018 by the President of India.

**Treating all species as equal: Mini Vasudevan believes in co-existence for sustainability of the planet**

Dr. Mini Vasudevan, the co-founder of Coimbatore city-based NGO Humane Animal Society (HAS), received the *Nari Shakti Puraskar*, the highest civilian honour for women in India given by the Ministry of Women and Child Development at Delhi, as recognition for her work in animal welfare, on International Women's Day March 8 of 2019.

Mini belongs to the 1987 batch of AEI at CET. After her graduation, she joined BHEL in Bangalore as project Engineer and after 4 years left India for doing higher studies at the University of Texas at Arlington. In 1995, while pursuing her doctorate, she joined as a member of the scientific staff at Nortel

Networks. After completing her doctorate, she continued there for 14 years. Later, she served as General Manager at Ericsson until 2016.

Mini and her husband Dr. Madhu Ganesh returned to Coimbatore in 2004, after having worked in the US for some years. Madhu is also an alumnus of CET of ME 1987 batch. Having had a deep connection with animals from a very young age, Mini was



appalled by the condition of street animals in the city. This led her and Madhu to found the Humane Animal Society (HAS) in 2006, a non-governmental organization that works for the welfare and protection of animals in Coimbatore. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Coimbatore Corporation for the Animal Birth Control (ABC) program in November 2006 for the control of stray dog population helped HAS to establish itself firmly in the city. Later, HAS got involved mass-vaccination drives as well as rescue and rehabilitation of injured and abandoned animals. In 2015, HAS played a key role in Coimbatore for implementing 'Mission Rabies', which was aimed to prevent the spreading of rabies through the mass vaccination of dogs.

It takes progressive thought and an evolved mindset to view animals through the lens of coexistence and to treat them as equal inhabitants of the planet. Towards that, HAS runs a shelter as well as a sanctuary for animals in Coimbatore. What started off small, with the involvement of only Mini, Madhu and two other trustees is now a big family with 17 full-time staff and over 50 volunteers. HAS's work has, till date, helped at least 50,000 animals. HAS also has an outpatient facility to help those who cannot afford treatment for animals under their care. HAS sanctuary is home to around 70 rescued animals that cannot be rehabilitated elsewhere as they require care for life. Today, through education and creating awareness, HAS serves as a common platform and touches several thousands of people every year, empowering and enabling them to create a better world for all life, something that is crucial for the future of the planet.

Mini is extremely grateful for the completely uncharted but deeply emotional journey that HAS has offered her. She believes that it was her work with animals that truly opened up an amazing world of knowledge and understanding of the ways of nature. This has helped her to respect and appreciate the ecosystem that we live in, where every sentient creature plays a role in maintaining the delicate balance of life. She says that thanks to all the animals that she has had an opportunity to rescue and rehabilitate, she is certainly a better human being today.

Mini has also made significant technical contributions to the telecommunications Industry during more than 27 years of as part of Nortel Networks and Ericsson and her contributions have been widely recognized internationally. She has a doctorate in Electrical Engineering from the University of Texas at Arlington and is an inventor with several patents to her credit in the field of Wireless Telecommunication Engineering.

## CETAAT Family News



Yashwant R Kamath, son of Ranjit Kumar V (1988 Electrical) Executive Engineer, KSEBL was invited by the Royal Institution of Naval Architects (RINA), London for presenting his paper titled "Concept of Design and Operation of Pilgrim Ships in India" during the RINA event on *Design and Operation of Passenger ships* held at London on 1st May 2019. Financial assistance was provided by the Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT) and U.K Alumni chapter of Department of Naval Architecture and Ship Building. Yashwant has passed B.Tech degree in Naval Architecture and Ship Building in First class with distinction and has secured placement as Naval Architect with Oshima Shipbuilding Company Ltd., Japan.



Kum. Ishaani. R.Kamath, daughter of Er. Ranjit Kumar,V. (1988 Electrical), Executive Engineer, KSEBL has secured A plus for all subjects in the SSLC Examination 2019. She has been selected in the GOLD group by the National jury for the Young Innovators Programme YIP (2018-2021 cycle) conducted by Kerala Development and Innovation Strategic Council (K-DISC), Govt.of Kerala for her innovative idea *4HER, a completely biodegradable sanitary pad..*



### Two Novels by the age of 20 !

Devadas R, final semester B.Tech student in College of Engineering Trivandrum is the only son of V. Ramakrishnan, who is an entrepreneur and Anuradha P. V who graduated from CET in 1987 Applied Electronics batch and currently Head of Dept. of Electronics in College of Engineering, Attingal, Trivandrum.

Devadas, has written two English novels by the age of 20 years and both the novels are published. The first novel "The Despised Souls" was published by Paridhi publications Trivandrum in 2013 while he was studying in class XI in Saraswathi Vidyalyaya Trivandrum. Its preface was written by Sri K. Jayakumar who was formerly Chief Secretary, Kerala and



former Vice-Chancellor, Malayalam University. A tale of love, greed, revenge and truth is told in this novel. Written in a style akin to the ancient periods and old classics the canvas is set in two cities London and Paris with French revolution as background theme. He tells the story of four friends, with the story beginning from London Bridge and ending on London bridge through an epilogue which is the highlight of the novel.

The second novel 'Echoes" was published in January 2018. The preface is written by Sri. K.Kunhikrishnan (former Additional Director General, Doordarsan) and the book was released at Press club Trivandrum by Sri. K.Jayakumar. This book is a fiction depicting the profile of society through events taking place in the life of a few characters of upper class families living in Germany. The events are set in the background of Second World War with some occasional references to war events. The novel depicts the personal lives and relations among family members and friends. The canvas is set in Germany and Russia. The book is published by FOLIO publishers Trivandrum and it has been accepted for distribution by Kerala Bookmark under Dept. of Cultural affairs.

The author narrates the society, lifestyle and culture of a foreign country during a period in 1940s. The novel is intended for both natives and foreign readers. The novel consists of 120 pages and is expected to entertain English fiction readers of all age groups from teens and above.

Both the novels have received commendable reviews and media coverage. In both the novels Devadas tells a story in a background that is remote from his time and place and creates reality out of his imagination. He exhibits a natural skill to narrate dramatic turns in life and relations with the essential ingredients of a typical novel. The characterization is done through dialogues rather than narration. The author born and brought up in Kerala narrates the society, lifestyle and culture of foreign countries during the remote days of French Revolution and Second World War. **The way in which the emotional attachment between the characters are portrayed is the first thing that gathers reader's attention. Whatever the emotions, be it love, friendship or revenge, it is presented in a unique manner also that the reader is forced to empathise with the characters.**

Devadas was in the habit of reading English classics during his school days. and was always fascinated by the theme, culture and style of narration depicted in the old English novels. His command over the language was developed from early childhood itself by his maternal grandfather Sri. M. Varadarajan. Devadas is interested in listening to music, both western and Carnatic. He plays mridanagam and has a passion for short-film making. Both the books can be obtained through his website [devadasr.com](http://devadasr.com). ■■

## Family Get together 25th May 2019





# Family Get together - Contd....

