



JANUARY 2020 VOLUME-3 ISSUE-2

## *From the Chairman*



Dear friends,

✦ The last quarter of 2019 witnessed two Technical Talks:

1. Technology and Management by Jaya MS IAS (Rtd), former Collector Thrissur, (CET 1981 Civil) on 15th October 2019.
2. Advanced Spreadsheet Techniques Enable Effective Design of Electrical Systems by Hareendralal A.G, Director, Anantha Gangah Institute of Engineers, (CET 1968 Electrical & 1971 Power Systems). Both talks were well attended and appreciated by the members.

A follow up workshop on Building Construction was initially planned for November/ December but now scheduled to be held on 3rd and 4th January 2020. The workshop is on "Innovative Techniques in Building Construction" and will focus on Innovative trends in buildings, Safety & Health, Engineering Procurement and Construction, Acoustics, Elevators and Escalators, and Lighting & Illumination.

**CETAAT MC decided to give scholarships of Rs. 25,000 each to four Students of CET (selected based on merit and financial background through CETAA CARE scheme) for the next 4 years.** The initial funds for this scholarship has been contributed by the present MC members. This scheme needs to be continued in subsequent years also. With contribution from CETAAT members we can increase the number of scholarships in the coming years, Our vision is to raise an initial corpus of at least 20 lakhs so that we can give scholarships to 10 new students every year. I hope that more members will come forward to support the scheme either through lump sum or annual contributions. The contributions may be sent through Cheque/ DD/ online transfer to either of the following accounts with email to [secretary@cetaat.in](mailto:secretary@cetaat.in): **CETAAT A/c No: 3297842265** or **CETAAT Charity A/c No: 3576956468**, **Central Bank of India, Rishimangalam Branch, IFSC: CBIN0281329.**

In addition to the Technical Workshop in January, we are also planning a family get together and New Year Celebrations on 19th January 2020. In February a Technical Talk is being organized and in March we are going ahead with the next edition of *Devaragasandhya* by our **Ragatharangam** Troupe.

Wishing you all a very Happy New Year and best regards

**S. Gopakumar**, Chairman.

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



## Secretary's Report –for the third quarter of 2019-20



Dear fellow CETAATians,

Let me first of all wish you and your family a very happy New Year and the very best for 2020.

A two day workshop on “Innovative trends in Building Construction” is planned to be conducted by CETAAT on 3 and 4 January 2020 at Hotel

Prashanth, Thiruvananthapuram. We thank Architect N. Mahesh for his valuable guidance in finalising the topics for the workshop and arranging the faculty.

**Charity Activities:** An amount of Rupees One Lakh has been donated by the MC members towards CETAAT charity programme. We request all our members to donate generously towards CETAAT Charity fund. It is decided to provide a stipend of Rs. 25,000 per annum each to four economically backward and eligible first year students of CET up to the completion of their course subject to recommendation from authorities, based on their performance as per CET norms under “CARE” programme.

**Technical Programmes:** Two technical talks by CETians were conducted during the report period by Er. Jaya M. S. IAS (Retd) - 1981 Civil and by Er. Hareendralal (1968 Electrical).

**Cultural Programmes:** “Devaragasandhya”, the popular musical programme of CETAAT is proposed to be conducted on 15th March 2020. We solicit the support of all members to make this event a memorable one and request members to make earnest efforts in arranging sponsorships to meet the expenses.

**MC Meetings:** The 5th, 6th and 7th Management Committee (MC) meetings of CETAAT were conducted on 1 st October, 5th November and 3rd December 2019 respectively. It is decided to conduct the CETAAT Xmas and New Year Family Meet on 19th January 2020. All are welcome.

CETAAT has a rich pool of resource persons with expertise in multi disciplinary areas. It was decided to form a consultancy wing for CETAAT which would support Government and other initiatives.

*Those who are interested in offering their services may provide their field of experience and area of interest to the Secretary, CETAAT (secretary@cetaat.in) as per a format to be circulated soon.*

*I take this opportunity to thank each one of you for your support and look forward to eventful days ahead with your continued support and cooperation.*

**Anil G.**  
Secretary

## 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 ■

### Er. Dr. HRISHIKESAN BSc. Engg , LLB, FIE



1952 Electrical Engineering graduate, Dr. Hrishikesan was born on 6th May 1932, at Trivandrum.

Very humble, polite and soft spoken, reasonably healthy and with remarkable memory of past events and friends and other staff worked with him, Hrishikesan leads a peaceful life at 'Pournami, Vikas road,

Thiruvananthapuram, with his wife. Past 87 now, He spends most of the time reading teachings of Swami Paramahansa-yogananda and practising meditation etc.

Dr. Hrishikesan started his official life immediately after graduation in the Electricity Department of the Travancore State (present KSEB) as Head Draftsman, equivalent to Junior Engineer (designated Assistant Engineer now ), at the Electricity Division Office, Pallom, Kottayam. He has worked as Junior Engineer in various offices at Vaikom, Shencottah and Quilon.

When he was Assistant Engineer, he has undergone training in West Germany on Research in High Voltage Engineering during March 1957 to November 1961. He was posted to Transmission Division, Kundara, immediately after his return from West Germany and later posted to the Chief Engineer's office for design of Power Stations. He was

responsible for the design of Idukki Power Station at Moolamattom.

Dr. Hrishikesan was very much interested in teaching as well as research which prompted him to take up teaching assignments at Engineering College, Thrissur and later at CET, on deputation from KSEB, during March 1963 to March 1966. On return to KSEB, he took over as Executive Engineer, (Research). He also went to UK under Colombo Plan for training during May '74 to August 1974.

Other prestigious offices held by him include Generation Division, Moozhayar, of Sabarigiri HE Project, Executive Engineer (Commercial), and Executive Engineer (Planning), both key positions in the Chief Engineer's office at the Trivandrum. Later he went to Electrical Inspectorate on deputation in March 1977 and continued there till August 1980.

As Superintending Engineer, he held office of the Generation Circle, Kozhikode and Purchase Department in the Office of the Chief Engineer, Trivandrum, till he was promoted as Chief Engineer (Research and Development) at Trivandrum, in 1984. Later, he held many offices such as Chief Engineer (Distribution- North), Chief Engineer (Distribution-South), Chief Engineer (General and Materials Management) and Chief Engineer (General and Distribution- South).

Dr. Hrishikesan retired from service on superannuation in June 1987.

He is Fellow of the Institution of Engineers (India), (FIE).

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



# Coastal Regulation Zone



*SKK Nair belongs to Mech 1970 CET batch. He has acquired MBA from University of Cochin. He started his carrier in Ashok Leyland and was later in PWD, KSRTC and KSIDC. He was MD of Shipping and Inland Navigation Corporation, Kerala Automobiles Ltd. and a few companies in private sector during which time 5 star hotels such as Le-Meridian, Holiday Inn, Dreams etc. were executed. After retirement he promoted a Project Management Consultancy firm successfully for ten years.*

In recent times, this topic has been discussed much in our society, especially with the issue of demolishing the few apartment buildings in Maradu Municipality. Though it is known to everyone that there was some violation of rules, many are not aware of the complexities of the rules of the act. Let us see the basics of the CRZ act so that we do not get entangled in similar litigations.

The Central Government in September 2010 proposed certain restrictions for the construction and developmental activities in the coastal stretches of the country to conserve and protect its unique environment. After reviewing a few objections and suggestions received from the states, the act was implemented all over India in 2011.

According to these Rules, the coastal land stretches up to 500mts from the high tide line of sea (HTL) and upto 100 Mts from HTL (or width of the creek which ever is lower) in the case of Backwater/River/Water body which has connection to the sea, have been notified as Coastal Regulation Zone. For all practical purposes, in this notified area no constructions or developmental activities are permitted, with some limited exceptions to be allowed by an authority newly formed, known as CRZ Management Authority (CRZMA). Exceptions are mainly restricted to activities connected to National defence, existing residences of fishermen community, and those activities essentially needing water front.

The states and Union Territories with coastal line, were to prepare a map, within a period of four months, showing restricted areas and also the areas which are already developed such as Roads and residential townships etc. which cannot have such restrictions thus imposed. This map is known as CRZ management plan CRZMP. The map shall classify and demarcate CRZ area into five different zones having certain entitlements and restrictions as detailed below.

**CRZ I:-**Areas which are very ecologically sensitive such as Coral reefs and other bio diversity,

mangroves, Sand dunes, wildlife habitats etc. are included in this zone.

This area is strictly non development zone and no exemptions are allowed.

**CRZ II:-**These are areas which have already been developed up to coastal lines, like our Kovalam in Trivandrum or the Mattanchery-Fort Cochin areas in Kochi, which are mostly urban areas with Roads, drainage and other infrastructure.

In this area construction is permitted on the land ward side of the existing roads or behind the building line of existing structures.

Unfortunately, the lenient provisions of this section was over stretched by many local authorities as in the case of the flats in Maradu Municipality which finally had to be struck down by the supreme court, resulting in its demolition.

**CRZ III:-**Areas up to 200 mts. from HTL in the case of seafront and 100 mts. or width of creak in the case of inland water bodies, are notified as no development zone. (NDZ) and termed as CRZ III.

No construction is normally permitted in CRZ III. But reconstruction of existing authorized structures are permitted, as per existing floor space index.

There are some exceptions that can be granted by CRZMA in this zone such as construction of schools, dispensaries, power plants etc. One has to apply to CRZMA and take their prior approval.

**CRZ IV:-**Sea area of 12 nautical miles on sea ward side, is classified as IV and it is not of much relevance for public.

**CRZ V:-**These are specific to areas in municipal limits of Bombay, Goa and Backwater Islands of Kerala. As far as Kerala is concerned, the change from what is said above is only in this case of backwater Islands. Here permission can be given for construction of dwelling units of local communities within 50 mts. of coastal line by local Panchayats.

Unfortunately not much effort was taken by political parties or different Governments which came to power in Kerala, to argue and get exemptions for the State which has an extended coast line for the entire stretch and is interconnected with water bodies. And very surprisingly, against 4 months specified by GOI for the preparation of CRZ maps, Kerala took seven years to publish the map of CRZMP. Our real estate sector was also not very vigilant on this.

**CRZ-2019 Notification**

As a great relief to states like ours, the Govt of India relaxed its norms and notified in 2019 a set of revised guidelines. Though CRZ I and II are more or less same, there is a major change in the no construction Zone of CRZ III. This zone is sub divided in to **III A and III B**. In IIIA areas which are densely populated with a density of more than 2161 persons per Sq. km as per 2011 census are included. **Here the previous limit of**

**100 mts is halved to 50 mts from HTL. Hence no construction Zone will only be 50 mts** in coastal as well as back water shores provided the population justifies. In our state most of the Panchayats have population density of more than the minimum. Another important point is that for buildings up to 300 sq m of plinth area for self occupancy, approval can be issued by local Govt. authorities and need not be referred to CRZMA.

But a new plan for CRZMP has to be drawn showing CRZ III A and approval taken from Govt. of India. How long our Kerala Govt. is going to take for this is anybody's guess. Let us hope that sufficient pressure would be exercised by builders, professional bodies like CETA and the political circles so that the new plan would be prepared soon and made effective by March 2020 at least, which promise has been given by the Govt. to the High Court of Kerala.

**TECH TALK...**

A Technical Session was Hosted by CETAAT at Chamber of Commerce Hall, Kowdiar Trivandrum. CET Alumnus and current CIO of Nissan Motor Corporation, Tony Thomas delivered a comprehensive message on "Development potentials of Kerala and how we can all contribute to it". The evening saw participation by alumni from different batches of CET. It was followed by a Q & A session.





## A HELPING HAND BY A CETian....



Kerala was ravaged by an unprecedented flood during 2018. Countless number of people lost their homes during those black days. The reconstruction work is still unfinished.

It is heartening that CETians were among the hundreds of people who jumped in to help these people in their hour of need. Notable among them is Prof. N. Padmanabha Iyer 1962 Electrical who built a 500 sft 2bhk pre fabricated precast - prestressed concrete house with all modern facilities on 3 cents land purchased and sponsored by a group of Alumni of TKM College of Engineering & building sponsored by Mr Iyer- in Memory of his parents at a total cost of 11 Lakhs.

Key handed over to the beneficiary by Hon'ble Minister MERCIKUTTY AMMA on 31-7-2019 In Mondrothuruthu Panchayat Kollam district.

### Devaragasandhya - Season 4

*Devaragasandhya is an annual programme of Ragatharangam in the month of March to commemorate Devarajan Master on his death anniversary. This programme was conducted with Sri Sudeep Kumar, play back singer in 2017, Sri Sreekumaran Thampi, the all-rounder in Malayalam cinema industry in 2018, and Vayalar Sarchandra Varma in 2019 as Guest of Honour. Last year the chief Guest of the program was Hon, Minister Shri Kadakampalli Surendran.*

*This year, we intend to conduct the 'DEVARAGASANDHYA - SEASON 4' program styled 'Bhaskaraprabhayil' as a tribute to the great poet and lyricist the late P. Bhaskaran at 5:30 pm on 15th March 2020 at Tagore Theatre, Thiruvananthapuram.*

**Er. K. Nandakumar**

Vice Chairman & Programme Co-ordinator