



JUNE 2024 VOLUME-5 ISSUE-1

From the Chairman



Dear CETians and Families,

It brings me immense satisfaction to see that our team successfully executed most of the planned activities. The Management Committee meetings, the two-day Technical Workshop, CETAAT Family Get-Together, Monthly Webinars, and Charity Initiatives were meticulously carried out with the guidance and support of the Management Committee.

Our vision for CETAAT to serve as a central hub for the dissemination of technical knowledge has been realized through active participation and appreciative feedback from delegates representing State/Central Government Departments, PSUs, Architects, Consultants, and practicing engineers in the two-day workshop. We covered topics on emerging technologies, contributing to knowledge enhancement in our field.

Furthermore, CETAAT's charitable endeavors have been reinforced by a generous contribution from the family of Er Bhagiyar G. Olikkara, amounting to Rs. 709,338 for an endowment benefitting two deserving CET students based on specific criteria.

In line with our commitment to identifying and nurturing talented students, we have initiated three additional Endowment Programs, awarding scholarships to students selected by the faculty of CET.

We are pleased to announce that the next edition of "CETAAT Devaragasandhya" is scheduled for September 2024. Details will be communicated through our established channels.

Regarding membership development, we are proud to report that 30 new members have joined since September 2023. I urge our existing members to spread the word about our activities and encourage their batchmates to join us on this noble journey of CETAAT.

Thank you for your continued support!

Warm regards,
Jayachandran V S

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

Editorial Board: MGK Nair, KG Chandrasekharan, Chitra R
Trivandrum Chapter of CET Alumni Association (CETAA)

Secretary's Report

Report on Activities of CETAAT: January 2024 - March 2024



I am delighted to present the report on the activities of CETAAT for the period spanning January 2024 to March 2024. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone for their unwavering support during this period.

Managing Committee Meetings

Three Managing Committee (MC) meetings were convened on 3rd January 2024, 6th February 2024, and 5th March 2024, with active participation from all MC members.

Sub Committees

Various sub-committees overseeing CETAAT's activities met regularly and submitted proposals to the Managing Committee, facilitating the smooth operation of our initiatives.

Activities during the Reporting Period:

1. Christmas and New Year Family Get-Together: Held on 21st January 2024 at Hotel Prasanth, this event saw a significant turnout. We had the honor of felicitating Er A C K Nair (1984 EE), the Electricity Ombudsman, Kerala, by our Chief Patron Padma Vibhushan Er G. Madhavan Nair. Additionally, newly enrolled members were welcomed by issuing Lapel pins. The Ragatharangam team organized a delightful musical program, followed by a dinner.

2. Annual Two-Day Workshop on Emerging Trends in Building Construction: Conducted on 20th and 21st February 2024, this workshop garnered substantial success. Approximately seventy participants from various esteemed organizations such as Kerala PWD, VSSC, KIIFB, HITES, KSEBL, Builders, Architects, Harbour Engineering Dept., and self-employed designers attended the workshop. The active involvement of all participants in the sessions was highly appreciated. I extend my sincere appreciation to the entire team behind the successful organization of this workshop.

3. 3rd WEBINAR: Hosted on 19th March 2024, the webinar focused on "Safer Bridges - Challenges and Solutions," featuring Dr. Lakshmy Parameswaran (1984 Civil) as the speaker. The webinar received commendations for its informative content and garnered a high attendance rate.

During this reporting period, six new alumni were enrolled.

Moreover, an amount of Rs. 7,09,338 was transferred to CETAAT by the family of Late Er Bhagiyan G. Olikkara to establish an Endowment Award in his honour. The family specified the utilization of the interest earned from the Corpus contribution as follows:

▶▶ 40% of the interest generated will support a CET student excelling in sports but facing financial constraints (selection to be made by CET authorities).

▶▶ Another 40% of the interest will assist a deserving economically backward student excelling in academics (selection by CET authorities).

▶▶ The remaining 20% of the interest will be reinvested in the Corpus fund FD annually to minimize depreciation.

CETAAT expresses profound gratitude to the family of Late Er Bhagiyan G. Olikkara for this generous gesture. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be executed with an authorized family member for the distribution of Endowment awards as per their wishes. The selection process for deserving students will be carried out in consultation with CET faculty.

Thank you,

Ranjit Kumar V.

Secretary.

●● FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES ●●

- ▶▶ 1. 12th Annual General Body Meeting (AGM) - 29th June 2024.
- ▶▶ 2. Webinar 16th July 2024
- ▶▶ 3. Webinar 20th August 2024

LEADERS WHO INFLUENCED THE NATION--FROM CET

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

Dr. T. R. JOHNY



Sri. T.R Johnny is a native of Irinjalakuda, Thrissur, born on April 13, 1935 in an aristocratic middle class family.

Had his basic education in different schools and St. Joseph's College, Thiruchirapalli before joining CET in 1952. Passed out in 1956 in Civil Engg.

Er. Johnny was appointed by the Govt in Vazhani Irrigation Project, Thrissur, even without applying for the job. The training and experience he got from the construction of this 27 metres high, first earthen dam of Travancore Cohin State, made him an expert in the construction of earthen dams. Because of his experience and competency in this field, he was subsequently assigned key roles in the construction of all the five earthen dams under KSEB including Padinjarethara (38.50 m), Near Kottagiri (16m), Kottagiri (15 m), Kosani (14 m). The prestigious Anayirankal dam was the first earthen dam of KSEB. This 34 metres high dam had severe foundation problems due to its founding on sand where water was flowing twenty four hours. The work was done directly by the Department, which added more burden on the Engineers involved. The machinery used were very primitive, procured under Rupee Loan scheme, to save foreign exchange. Needless to say, the area was the dense habitat of wild elephants. Er Johnny used to comment that these wild elephants gave him good company during his four year tenure in the Project from its inception to the completion.

In the total span of 34 years of his official career, Er Johnny had to stay in 17 places spread all over the project area of Travancore, Cochin and Malabar regions, under the State Government and KSEB. Moreover, he could play active roles in almost all projects of KSEB, in different areas such as Investigation & Planning, Design, Construction & Research and Maintenance. Er T R Johnny retired as Chief Engineer in April 1990.

Very few engineers of KSEB, or any other department for that matter, could get opportunities like Er Johnny, to implement his knowledge and experience for the benefit of the State. He could actively participate in the construction of 13 dams of different types, eight tunnels and nine bridges. He was also responsible for the co-ordination works of five seismological stations and Research works carried out as per the direction of the Central Water and Power Commission, New Delhi.

At a time when KSEB started manufacturing precast concrete poles for the distribution network, many technical problems the pole casting stations faced in the initial stages were effectively handled by Er T R Johnny and by streamlining the production process he could increase the efficiency of the casting units and also could instill confidence among those who were involved in the works.

The second Power House at Poringalkuthu (left bank) and the Vaidyuthi Bhavanam, Kozhikode are two major works where the initiative and practical approach of Er Johnny sir led to the early completion of these works. A major challenge to the Engineering and management skills of Er Johnny was during the execution of foundation works of the Padinjarethara

alias Banasurasagar earthen dam in Kuttiadi Augmentation scheme in North Malabar, where the dam is placed on sand bed.

After his retirement in 1990, Er Johny took up an assignment as the General Manager of a factory making pre stressed concrete sleepers for Railways. A Chartered Engineer and Fellow of the Institution of Engineers (India), FIE for short, Er Johny is also a member of a Nature Cure organization, Indian Institute of Natural Therapeutics (MIINT).

A strict disciplinarian and gentleman of high integrity and principles, a hardcore worker, a very friendly person, he was loved by all his colleagues and associates who came into contact with him. An admirable quality noticed in Er Johny is that he finds

pleasure in keeping touch with a large number of his erstwhile colleagues.

His three daughters and a son are all well settled. His son was Chief General Manager and Chief Information Officer, South Indian Bank. Having lost his wife about three years back, Er Johny who celebrated his 89th birthday a few weeks back lives at his home at Irinjalakuda.

An Engineer of varied experience, Er Johny's main passion is writing articles and travel stories. He has published his service story "ഒരു എൻജിനീയറുടെ സർവ്വീസ് ഉത്സവം" in Malayalam.

*Compiled by : K.G. Chandrasekharan, 1962 Civil.
Former Chairman, CETAAT*

Christmas and New Year Family Get-Together:



Christmas and New Year Family Get-Together: Contd...



CETAAT Workshop- Emerging Trends in Building Construction

The fifth edition of the Annual Two day Workshop on Emerging Trends in Building Construction was organised on 20th and 21st February 2024 at Hotel Residency Tower, Thiruvananthapuram and was a highly successful one. 70 participants from Kerala PWD, VSSC, KIIFB, HITES, KSEBL, Builders, Architects, Harbour Engineering dept., and self employed Consultants attended the workshop and was highly appreciated by the participants. The speakers also acknowledged the active involvement of all the participants in all the sessions. The workshop was inaugurated by Ar N .Mahesh. The Chief Guest of Valedictory Session was Padma Vibhushan G.Madhavan Nair. He addressed the Delegates and distributed the Certificates to the delegates.

Sessions were held on Tensile Fabric Roofing, Pre Engineered Steel Buildings, Dry wall concepts, Glass in Buildings, Building Management Systems (BMS) and Ceilings -True or False.

Product presentations by M/s Serge Ferrari India (P) Ltd., M/s WOOTZ, M/s Gyproc Saint Gobain India, Glass and Glazing Systems (P) Ltd. M/s R R Kabel were also part of the Workshop. The delegates provided positive feedback about the various presentations as well as general conduct of the Workshop. This programme is well appreciated by the various Government Departments and builders. This was reflected in the number of delegates sponsored by various departments. CETAAT plans such technical activities in future after giving due consideration to the topics suggested by participants of the Workshop in their feed back.

CETAAT wishes to place on record the efforts taken by the Technical sub committee members led by Anil G, for the successful conduct of the Workshop.



Workshop on Emerging Trends in Building Construction 20th and 21st Feb 24





D. Sudheeran
CET 68 Mechanical

After working in Kerala Electricals, a Kerala Government Company he moved over to Singapore. While in Singapore did his MBA from University of Hull, UK. He has worked with Panasonic Singapore for 30 years and retired as Senior Manager.

He is very active in most of the Malayalee Organizations. Was President and Vice-President of SKKN for many years. Main activities in Drama and Stage are Direction, Acting, Song writing, Music composition, Singing etc. Took an active role in the revival of Singapore Kairalee Kalanilayam to its glorious days by presenting a full length drama, Manassaakshi, on 22/4/2017 in NUS UCC Theatre.

Published many poems through local and on-line Magazines. As an active member of Singapore Malayalee Literary Forum, published a collection of Malayalam poems titled "Shima Sakki" in 2014. Preface was written by Poet Prabha Varma and was launched by Poet Prof. V. Madhusoodanan Nair. Was a contributor to the Anthology of Malayalam Poems titled "Kavya Sopanam1" published by SMLF in 2016.

ഞാൻ അനശ്വരൻ

ബാല്യത്തിൽ ബന്ധു മരണങ്ങൾ തമ്മിൽ
കാലാന്തരം ഏറെയായിരുന്നു.
ഓർമ്മയിലുള്ളതാമാദ്യ വേർപാടന്റെ
ഏഴാം വയസ്സിലെ മുത്തച്ഛനിരൂപണം,
വെറ്റില തിന്നു ചുവപ്പിച്ചു തുപ്പുന്ന
വെള്ളക്കുറിയിട്ട ചാരു കസാലയ്ക്കും,
പൊട്ടിച്ചിരിക്കും മെതിയടിക്കും, ആദ്യ-
നൊമ്പരം കാത്തിരിപ്പായ ദിവസം.
പിന്നെ പതിനഞ്ചു വർഷങ്ങൾ പിന്നിട്ട്
വന്നതാണമ്മമ്മ തന്റെ വിരാമം,
വെറ്റിലച്ചെല്ലം, ഇടികല്ലു, കോളാമ്പി-
യെല്ലാം ചിണുങ്ങാത നാഥരായ്ത്തീർന്ന നാൾ.
മൃത്യു രചിച്ചയപൂർവ്വ ചിത്രങ്ങൾക്ക്
ശേഷമായ് വന്നച്ഛനമ്മമാർ തന്നുഴം.
അച്ഛന്റെ ശ്രാദ്ധനാളമ്മയും യാത്രയായ്
സ്നേഹവും പഴമയും താളിച്ച രുചിയുമായ്.
കാലത്തുണർത്തും കവിതയും, സന്ധ്യാ-
നാമവും ചിതയിലമർന്ന ദിനങ്ങൾ.
പ്രായവും ബന്ധുമിത്രാദികളും ഏറി-
യപ്പോൾ മരണത്തിനെണ്ണവും കൂടി.
അറുപതായപ്പോൾ ശ്മശാനത്തിലേയ്ക്ക്
യാത്രകളാണ്ടിൽ രണ്ടെങ്കിലുമായി.
സപ്തതി പിന്നിടെ സന്ദർശനത്തിന്റെ-
യിടവേള ഏറെക്കുറഞ്ഞു വന്നു.
വീണ്ടും കുറഞ്ഞു കുറഞ്ഞതരം ശൂന്യ-
മാകുവാനനിവാര്യം ഇനിയൊരു യാത്ര.
പ്രജ്ഞയിഴന്നു പ്രതികാര ശേഷിയും
നഷ്ടമായ് തീർന്നെന്റെ സ്ഥൂലശരീരം,
സൂക്ഷ്മ രേണുക്കളായ് പലരിൽ, പലതിലു-
ടനുസ്യുതമനം തുടർന്നിടും വീണ്ടും.
യോഗ, വിയോഗ, വിഘടനമണുഭാവം
വിസൃതമീ യാത്രയനശ്വരമാക്കിടും.

ഡി. സുധീരൻ, 1 /1/2021