

38th ECM of ACECC Held

38th Executive Committee Meeting (ECM) of Asian Civil Engineering Coordinating Council (ACECC) was organized successfully in Karachi on 12 – 14 March, 2020 by the Institute of Engineers, Pakistan (IEP) through video conferencing. Out of 14 Member Societies, representatives of 12 (ASCE, CICHE, EA, ICE (India), IEP, JSCE, KSCE, MACE, NEA, PICE, VFCEA and HAKI) participated from their place while the IEB transferred the voting rights to the Chair and Fed. MES to JSCE Dr. Horikoshi, Secretary General, ACECC alone remained physically present at the meetings. The meetings were held at IEP Karachi Centre and all the meetings of the conference namely – Technical Coordination Committee Meeting (TCCM), Planning Committee Meeting (PCM) and including ECM were organized in orderly manner.



On the 1st day, 12th March, two meetings namely 27th TCCM and 32nd PCM were held. Chaired by the respective Chair of the committees, all the set agenda of the were discussed which importantly includes – nomination of the Chair of TC 17, Dr. Robin A. Kemper, preparation of CECAR9 (21-23 Sept, 2022 in Goa (ICE, India) and holding of next 39th ECM in Philippines (PICE). Then 38th ECM was held on 13th March from 9:00 am – 11:00 am where Dr. R. Vasani, Chair, ECM expressed warm welcome to the delegates of various countries. The meeting included important agenda like – inclusion of two sessions of “Strategic Planning” in PCM, approval of host society for the 40th ECM on 25-27th March/2021 in Taipei, selection of host society of CECAR10, arrangement

of video conference between two ECMs by the GS if needed by any Society and etc. In fine, it may be said that the meeting hosted by IEP via video conferencing in disciplined and orchestrated manner was a successful one.

Iconic J.R. Choudhury Passes

Away



National Professor Dr. Jamilur Reza Choudhury second to none iconic figure in the engineering community in Bangladesh expired at his Dhanmandi residence in the night on April 28, 2020 due to severe heart attack. He left behind him his wife, 1 daughter, 1 son and innumerable admirers to mourn his death. We, the whole engineering community deeply mourn for the irreparable loss.

During his luminous professional career, he acted as the president of IEB and dedicated himself for the development of engineering profession and education. With an extra ordinary bright educational background, he served in various important positions spanning over long four decade including Professor of BUET, Vice Chancellor of BRAC University and Asia Pacific University including as the Advisor to the Care Taker Govt of Bangladesh 1996. Prof. Choudhury attained exceptional reputation in teaching research and as an education advocate and the whole engineering community would remember him for his indelible mark left behind him as an internationally respected civil engineer, a reputed researcher, a beloved teacher of thousands, a leader of generation as well as a visionary. Bangladesh Govt. accolated him with Ekushey Padak in 2017 and as the National Professor in 2018, most prestigious position in one’s educational career. Engineering community would be indebted to him greatly for his cardinal role played in the

development of the infrastructure of Bangladesh.

ECM of IEB Australia Chapter

Australia IEB Chapter organized a virtual Executive Committee Meeting (ECM) with presence of the IEB’s Honorary General Secretary (Vice President Elect) , Engr. Khandker Manjur Morshed on June 20, 2020 in Sydney. The theme of the meeting was “Update on Washington Accord Accreditation” and was attended by over 30 members.



IEB Australia Chapter’s Secretary Engr. Dr. AHM Kamruzzaman initiated the program with warm welcoming of the respected guest, HGS of IEB. Then he apprised the updates on Washington Accord Accreditation and IEB Australia Chapter’s initiative. Thereafter, IEB HGS, Mr. Morshed spoke on detail updates of the progress of various activities being undertaken by IEB centrally at Dhaka. The meeting ended with a short prayer for our beloved Prof. J. R. Chowdhury followed by the concluding remarks by Engr. Abdul Matin, Chairman of the Chapter.

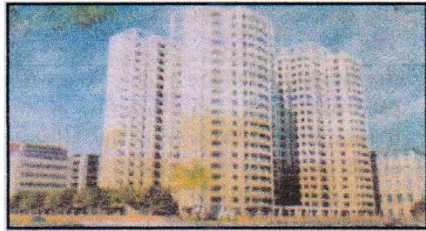
New Chief Engr. of RHD



Engr. Quazi Shahriar Hossain took over the position of the Chief Engineer of Roads & Highways Department (RHD) on 13-04- 2019. Prior to this position, he was the PD/ACE (Dev. & Deptn) (Grade-II). A civil engineering graduate from BUET in 1984, Mr. Hossain joined RHD as an SDE in 1996 and served in various important positions as an XEN, SE and PD with commendable reputation over a period spanning over three decades. During his luminous service career, he earned enviable reputation for his high professional excellence with tremendous insight into the objectives combined

with the rare quality of vigorous dynamic leadership. As a sound and committed professional, Mr. Hossain possesses exceptional managerial capability with immense creativity in efficient discharging of the responsibilities and efficiently running of an organization as the Chief Executive.

PWD Constructs Residential Building



Public Works Department (PWD), responsible for providing accommodation facility for the employees of Govt departments has executed erection of a massive 20 storied building complex at Kakrail. The complex has been built for the residential accommodation of Hon'ble Chief Justices of the supreme Court of Bangladesh. The building has been designed with the blend of modern construction and architectural design located at a plot of land at at 67, Circuit House, Kakrail in the heart of capital city of Dhaka. Each building will have 76 units each covering 3500 sft with all kind of modern residential facilities. The cost of the GoB funded project being 1409.70 million and has duly been handed over to the concerned clients after its completion.

ToT on EPMS held in LGED

An Electronic Project Monitoring System (e-PMS) has been developed centrally to manage contracts all schemes of Local Govt. Engineering Department(LGED) projects through preserving information and generate monthly progress review reports in an automated way as per the prescribed format developed by the a Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation Division((IMED) of the Ministry of Planning and other ministries. Govt. of Bangladesh and the



World Bank financed Second Rural Transport Improvement Project (RTIP-II) of LGED assisted to develop the system. A-day long Training of Trainers (ToT) was organized on 21 March 219

to further enhance the capacity of the officials of LGED headquarters about the system. Speaking on the occasion, Addl Chief Engineer, Md. Shafiqul Islam Akand said, currently LGED is implementing 145 projects and it is not an easy task to collect and update information and keep the relevant ministries including planning commission and IMED informed on a regular basis. He also remarked that the tasks will be easier once the system is in place. He further added that the monitoring approach system is a unique one and would help to ensure accuracy of the data.

BR Introduces Modern Rail Coach

Trial-Run of 3 nos. modern coaches have been tested recently by Bangladesh Railway(BR). Worth mentioning that these coaches provided with all kind of modern facilities for the passengers, have been manufactured in Sayedpur Rly Workshop. The Trial run was completed on 27 February, 2018 on a track of 152 km from Parbatipur to Panchagar. During the test-run it was possible to run the train with a speed of 85 km per hour. A number of high officials, employees and workers were present at the occasion. In this context The DG of Rly said, dependency on import of coaches will be reduced with the manufacturing coaches in our workshop.

RHD's Showcasing Program



Every year Roads & Highways Department (RHD) arranges some innovative activities for the beneficiaries. As the Pioneer of ICT, a showcasing was organized on June 18, 2020 which was held at the Conference Room of the Chief Engineer(new building), RHD. Quazi Shahriar Hossain , Chief Engineer of RHD inaugurated the showcasing program. The topics of the program includes among others – Bridge design and acquisition program, Field maintenance budget preparation database, Inspection Banglow booking, Tenderers Database management System which are showcasing in that program. As per the Govt instruction, every department needs to arrange this type of program to

benefit its manpower. Although COVID-19 delayed this program, officers from any other dept. may also participate with their innovative ideas and valuable comments.

ESCB Training Course

1000. Electrical Machines Operation, Maintenance & Trouble Shooting (07th Batch) : Duration : 02 April to 04 April 2020 ; Time : Thursday 6.00 pm – 9 pm on Thursday, 10.00 am – 05 pm on Friday and Saturday; Registration Fee : Tk 4500/- per participant, Tk 4000/- for members of IEB; Last Date of Receiving Nomination : 30 March 2020; Venue : Training Lab, ESCB City Campus, IEB Headquarters. **1001. Captive Power Generation (6th Batch No.):** Duration: 16 April to 18 April 2020; Time: Thursday: 6.00 pm – 09 pm, Friday and Saturday 10 AM to 5.PM. Registration Fee: Tk 4500/- per participant, Tk 4000/- for IEB Members, Last Date of Receiving Nomination : 12 April 2020; Venue: ESCB City Campus, IEB Headquarters.

1002 Plumbing Technology:

Duration: 04 April to 07 April 2020; Time : Every Day 6.00 pm – 09 pm, 12 hours , 4 classes. Registration Fee : Tk 3500/- per participant, Last Date of Receiving Nomination : 01 April 2020; Venue : ESCB City Campus, IEB Headquarters. **1003. Rajuk Imarat Nirman Bidhimala and FAR Calculation) (3rd Batch) :** Duration : 11 April to 13 April 2020; Time : On every Day 4 Class: 6.00 pm – 09 pm, 09 hours , 03 classes. Registration Fee : Tk 2500/- per participant Last Date of Receiving Nomination : 07 April 2020; Venue : ESCB City Campus, IEB Headquarters.

EDITORS' NOTE

The issue contains the news on holiday of the 38th ECM of ACECC hosted by IEP in Karachi through video conferencing. It also speaks as usual the progress in brief on the development frontiers of civil engineering projects under the departments/organizations which include BR, LGED, PWD, and RHD etc. Besides, it includes news on the sad demise of iconic civil engineering legend Dr. J. R. Chowdhury, Vice Chancellor of Asia Pacific University including appointment of a new Chief Engr. of RHD.

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