Upper Kothmale Hydro Power Station commences commercial operations.
by: Eng. R.S.W. Wagrarachi, Project Manager, Upper Kothmale Hydropower Project

At the auspicious time of forty five minutes past the hour of ten on Fourteenth day of July 2012, His Excellency Mahinda Rajapakse, the President of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka ceremonially commissioned the 150MW underground power plant of Upper Kothmale Hydropower Project. The Project comprising of 0.8 MCM live storage reservoir and 12.9Km long head race tunnel conveys water to the two 75MW Francis Turbines in an underground power cavern at Niyamgamdora located 22Km away from the reservoir at Talawakelle. The Head race tunnel of the Project is the longest tunnel ever constructed in Sri Lanka.

The history of the much awaited power plant goes back decades and the implementation was delayed due to immense pressure from different political, social and environmental groups. With consensus, agreements, court decisions etc. the objective of the Project was achieved and the Project became a reality entirely on tireless efforts of officials of Project Staff and also the commitment of the officials of other related organizations. It is not a secret that project has implemented a comprehensive Resettlement Action Plan which has definitely uplifted the living standards of the affected community.

The Project has improved 33Km length of “B” class road connecting Talawakelle to Thawalantenna including other access roads utilized by the Project. The townscape of Talawakelle has changed dramatically. The reservoir located in the heart of the city has increased the beauty of the Contd. on page 6...

Portrait of the Immediate Past President, Eng. (Prof) A.K.W.Jayawardane unveiled

The portrait of Eng. (Prof.) A.K.W.Jayawardane – Immediate Past President, IESL was unveiled at a simple ceremony held at the Council Room of the IESL on 12th July 2012 in the presence of Past Presidents and Council members. Eng.(Prof.) Jayawardane himself was present, accompanied by his immediate family. Introducing Eng.(Prof.) Jayawardane, the Executive Secretary, IESL, Eng. Arundathi Wimalasuriya traced his gradual ascension from his first involvement with the Council in the 1994/95 when he was elected to represent the class of members, to his finally holding the mantle of presidency in the 2010/11 session. Eng.(Dr.) Ananda Ranasinghe, incumbent President of IESL in his speech paid a glowing tribute to Eng.(Prof.) Jayawardane for his contributions to the institution and for the general uplifting of the profession and to the engineering education in the country.

Contd. on page 6....
**FORTHCOMING ANNUAL EVENTS CALENDAR - 2012**

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**Note:** Associate Members who wish to apply for the Professional Review, are strongly advised to attend all Memorial Lectures and keep a record of the attendance for any future reference.

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**Get To Know the IESL Provincial Chairmen**

The IESL has a membership exceeding 15,000 dispersed all over the island. The IESL Provincial Centres which carry out many member services in the provinces provide much needed connectivity to its members in the provinces by organizing courses, seminars, workshops, field visits etc. for their continuous professional development. They also organize community programmes such as infrastructure improvements to least developed schools in the provinces, relief work in case of disasters etc. for interaction of its members with the public. These programmes are initiatives of the Executive Committees headed by the Chairman of each Provincial Centre. The May 2012 issue of your newsletter introduced the Chairmen, IESL Provincial Centres who are at the helm of three of the centres in Central, Northern and Eastern Provinces. In this issue we introduce the Chairman, IESL North Central Provincial Centre.

**Eng. R.M.J.N.Ratnayaka**

Chairman, IESL, North Central Province

Chartered Civil Engineer by profession, Eng. R.M.J.N.Ratnayaka graduated from the Faculty of Engineering, University of Peradeniya in 1994. He joined the Road Development Authority in 1995. He gained his Chartered Engineer status from the IESL in year 2000. He has held the posts of Executive Engineer, Nalanda – RDA from 2002 to 2007, Chief Resident Engineer, Kiwita Ferry Bridge from 2007 to 2009 and assumed duty as Chief Engineer Padeniya – Anuradhapura Road Project in 2009. Currently he is holding the post of Chief Engineer, RDA – MFAP Division (Miscellaneous Foreign Aided Projects).

Under his chairmanship the IESL, North Central Province has organized and successfully conducted several CPD Activities for its members - A presentation on “Southern Express way” by Eng. G.S. Chandralal- Additional Project Director- STDP-RDA, a presentation on “Construction Safety” by Eng. Padmasiri Narayana- Labour Dept., a presentation on “Arbitration & Adjudication” by Eng. Frankly- Irrigation Dept, a presentation on “Communication Skill Development through Toastmaster Club”, a presentation on “Energy Conservation and Future Energy Crisis in the World and How to Meet the Challenges by Yong Engineers” by Dr. Thilak Sivambalapitiya, a commentary on Modern Irrigation System Vs Ancient Irrigation Wisdom- by Chairman CECB, Chairman ICTAD, Engineer In-Charge – Victoria Power Project.

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**Induction & Graduation Ceremony 2012**

The ceremony will be held on August 18, 2012 at the Waters Edge, Battaramulla at 5.00 p.m.

Chief Guest : Prof. Susirith Mendis – Vice Chancellor of University of Ruhuna

The following awards will be conferred at this ceremony.

- Fellows 06
- Chartered Engineers 240
- IESL Graduands 17
- JIY Winners 05

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**EVENT PHOTOS OF THE EASTERN PROVINCIAL CENTRE**

The CPD lecture series of the IESL Eastern Centre crosses over a new horizon in that, unlike in the past, top level resource persons are now being sourced from all over the island and the CPD lecture series is being held in the East itself. This milestone was achieved with the facilitation of the IESL Headquarters in Colombo with the assistance of the staff of the Education and Training Division. Out of the three proposed courses the first CPD course was held at the Regional Director of Irrigation office Auditorium, Batticaloa on 13.07.2012 from 9.00 am to 5.00 pm on the topic, “Time Management” by Dr. (Eng) Jayalath Edirisinghe, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Engineering, University of Peradeniya. Thirty eight participants attended this magnificent session in which the lecture contents and method of presentation provided real value for the time spent by the Engineers at this session. The heart felt gratitude expressed to Dr.Jayalath Edirisinghe at the end of the session by the participants was not confined within the bounds of the educational value that the session provided, but also for the effective communication that he achieved through some interesting games and group activities during the lecture.

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**CPD Programs by the Eastern Provincial Centre**

**Workshop on Time Management for IESL members in Eastern Province by Dr. Jayalath Edirisinghe**

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Reaping globally from your hard earned ICT-expertise: A simple winning strategy in the knowledge economy.

Sri Lanka is currently undergoing one of the driest periods in its recent history. The inflow to the Hydro power reservoirs during the last 12 months commencing from June 2011 has been only 2163 GWH whereas the annual average has been well over 3000GWH. The inflow during the first six months of this year has been a mere 704 GWH, again the lowest in our records. Both monsoons of last year have failed and so is the South West Monsoon of this year. Our rainfall patterns are becoming more and more erratic, hinting at changes to local and global climatic patterns. Due to the shortage of water, a large extent of paddy was lost this year. However, what is most disturbing is the way certain quarters of the public react to the situation placing the entire blame for it on the Officials (“Govt”). Farmer protests staged in a number of districts are targeting the so called “Officials” whom they claim are not providing them with sufficient water, a complaint that is non-existing. Some accuse that officials have released water unnecessarily on the pretext of flushing away silt while still others are accusing that there has not been enough water in the tanks on time making the storage capacity of the tanks to come down.

Integrated planning and operation of Water Resources in Sri Lanka is done in a very methodical way. It is mainly thanks to this dedicated group of Engineers behind this meticulous planning process that the country could even come at least this far without power cuts or a major food crisis. A panel of Engineers, referred to as the “Water Panel” representing the Ceylon Electricity Board (CEB), theMahaweli Authority, the Irrigation Department and the Water Board meets weekly at the Water Management Secretariat to decide on the operation of all the reservoirs during the forthcoming week. They carefully review the “Tidal Water Operating Plan” (TWP) prepared at the beginning of each cultivating season and decide on the quantities of water that should be released for Irrigation, Hydro Power Generation etc for the next week. They base their decisions on a number of computer based models used by the operation planners of the CEB and the engineers of the Water Management Secretariat.

The extent of cultivation of paddy and other crops is decided upon using the CEB’s SOP, considering the quantity of water stored “at hand” in the reservoirs at the beginning of a cultivating season and forecasted inflows to them under different hydrological conditions. Sadly however, often this predetermined ratio of paddy to other crops is grossly violated by farmers. When the amount of water drawn is more than what was allowed, particularly when the inflow has been less than the SOP anticipated as is the case this year, the troubles begin and the Government Officers are blamed for the outcome. The very group of people who violated their own water allocation now gets on to the streets and the blame game begins, ably assisted by selfish politicians.

This situation is not much different in the power sector. Despite repeated requests from Engineers of the utility and the IESL, successive governments hesitated to give the green light for Coal Power generation. In order to fill the vacuum created by the CEB, the CEB had to resort to private Oil based thermal generation, once again drawing the blame for doing just that.

This sad cycle of blaming by only looking at the outcome and not at its root cause continues in our country unabated. Most of those at the receiving end are our own members.

There is a Sinhala proverb that says that the mother and the sky get blamed for everything no matter what. Thus unless we ensure that we do not become scapegoats, the latest addition to this two some could be the poor Engineer.

Lakshitha Weerasinghe, Editor
lakshitha@ieee.org

A public lecture on “Reaping globally from your hard earned ICT-expertise: A simple winning strategy in the knowledge economy,”delivered by Eng. Nihal Kularatna -FIEt (Lond.), Senior Member IEEE (USA), FIE(Sri Lanka), MIEEE, was held at the Wimalasurendra Auditorium of the Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka on 22nd May 2012. Eng. Kularatna is an electronics engineer with 35 years of experience in Aviation, Telecommunications & Research Environments and the author of 7 internationally published books in electronic engineering subjects. A former CEO of Arthur C Clark Institute for Modern Technologies (ACCIMT) in Sri Lanka, Nihal Kularatna is currently active in research in supercapacitor applications, power supply topologies, transient propagation and power conditioning area. He has contributed over 70 papers to international journals and conference proceedings and is involved in several projects including a recent US patent granted in 2011 for his work on super capacitor based efficiency improvement in DC power supplies.

He is presently employed as a Senior Lecturer in the School of Engineering, University of Waikato, New Zealand and is currently on a short visit to ACCIMT as Visiting Professor.

The public lecture was organized by the IT & Communications Sectional Committee of the IESL under the chairmanship of Eng. Samath Pananamage – Retired, Director & CEO, Arthur C Clark Institute for Modern Technologies. The following is an abstract of the lecture:

"Reaping globally from your hard earned ICT-expertise: A simple winning strategy in the knowledge economy.

In areas related to electronics and communications, engineering knowledge half life is a mere 3 to 5 years today. As predicted by the Battelle forecast in USA, ten strategic technologies after year 2020 will be omnipresent; computing, nano-machines, super-senses, intelligent appliances, personalized transportation systems, safe water, green integrated technology, high energy packages and designer-crops.

If the ICT community in Sri Lanka is passionate about developing their careers, keeping this global picture in mind, their local careers can help them reap global benefits. We have the wrong view that “technology” resides in high tech boxes we use and manage in ICT environments. In contrast, we should believe that the technology is a set of creative products of the human brain power. In this process we are ready to be detailed minded, or, are we going to perish by becoming mere end users of “modern-technology”?

Given this scenario, a young ICT engineer should recognize the first 5 years of the career as the most valuable formative time. If one acquires solid hands-on engineering opportunities that can make you a true-professional in the longer run, that person will be comfortable in handling or designing any new system or even a technology masterpiece. Day one of your engineering career, you must consider that the education does not mean only a qualification acquisition process, but it should be treated as a life long learning activity. In this life long activity, a good ICT professional should consider acquiring a diverse set of skills, with applicability in the practical domain. Sometimes one should be brave enough to switch fields, and learn new skills and gain applicable knowledge, than merely waiting for only the seniority in the work places.

Research and Development at a global scale has made the knowledge economy moving fast forward. Countries such as Sri Lanka should place a strong emphasis on "RD" where, more resources should be provided to professionals looking to work as primary research, which demands far too large resources-set. Learning from the local needs, and identifying the economic scenarios, our own local environment could easily lead us to great design-development opportunities. If you grab them, and use international measures to benchmark your local achievements, it is not difficult to reap global benefits.

In your R & D or professional environments, it is necessary to identify the value of publishing your achievements and let the wider-world give you critique. When you attempt to write, you tend to think of your achievement critically and compare it with other people’s published work. This guarantees you to be a critical thinker, and look at the rest of the world through the lens of your research. The remainder of the professional will help you to overcome the engineering knowledge half life issue. A positive minded senior mentor, with sympathy (for your mistakes), can act as a guide to help your longer term career to be a successful one. If that advantage is there, make sure that you will be grateful to the mentor. Never enter into human politics in the Asian world, and that will waste your career and other’s too.

Creativity element is another winning factor, particularly in the ICT areas. These opportunities come with longer-term critical observations, and also by looking at the work in a problem solving manner. If one couples this with continuous detail minded hard work, you could be a global winner!

Undergraduate Inventor of the Year (UIY) Competition – 2012

The IESL invites applications for the above competition from undergraduates of University of Moratuwa, University of Peradeniya, University of Ruhuna and The Open University of Sri Lanka as per guidelines posted in the IESL website www.iesl.lk. Students must submit their inventions to the Deputy Executive Secretary IESL by the deadline which has been extended upto 25th August 2012.
Unsafe bridge in Talawakelle

We are a group of Engineers who passed out from the Engineering Faculty of the Peradeniya University in 1999. We wish to, through the Citizens' Mail Column, draw the attention of the relevant authorities to an unsafe footbridge located opposite the Talawakelle Urban Council Building. One of our members happened to spot this unsafe bridge, took photographs of it and discussed it within our group. The common consensus was that it is unsafe for the following reasons:

1. There is an unusual sag in the bridge close to the right bank. Under normal circumstances, when there is no load on the bridge there should be a small sag due to the self-weight of the bridge. We are concerned that the sag in the bridge occurs close to the right bank rather than the middle and that it is excessive.
2. The joints between the ties seem to be spaced too close together.
3. The upper and the lower joints are not staggered adequately.

What we recommend is a thorough inspection to determine the cause of this unusual sag and whether it is safe or in excess of the design standards. If it is deemed to be in excess of design standards, it can be corrected, by jacking the bridge at appropriate locations and affixing one or more ties at the point of the sag.

We trust that action will be taken without delay by the relevant authorities to inspect this bridge and make it safe for public use.

Roshan Dodanwala

Original News Item reproduced from the 'Daily News' of 16th July, 2012

IESL holds Training Programme under Washington Accord Guidelines

A Training Programme on Outcome Based Education and Accreditation as per Washington Accord guidelines was held at the IESL on 25th, 26th and 27th June 2012. Resource Person for the course was Prof. Dr. Wan Hamidon Wan Badaruzzaman, Associate Director, Engineering Accreditation Department, Engineering Accreditation Council, Board of Engineers, Malaysia. The IESL is currently a provisional member of the Washington Accord and is hoping to have full membership very soon. The full membership of the Washington Accord ensures that graduates passing out in Sri Lanka with accredited degree programmes are recognized as academically fully qualified engineers to practice engineering in any signatory country of the Washington Award. The IESL has made significant progress in this regard, revising the IESL accreditation instrument in line with the Washington Accord exemplars, providing training to accreditation panel members and to university academics developing more efficient systems and strengthening the IESL Accreditation Board. This Training Programme is a part of the above scope of activities and was attended by a large number of participants from universities all over the island.

CEB Replies

UNSAFE BRIDGE IN TALAWAKELE

A Pedestrian Bridge was Designed and Installed across the Kotmala Oya closer to the Middleton Bazaar (Malliappu) at Talawakelle. This bridge replaced a very unsafe suspension bridge that had existed for a long time which was in an extremely dilapidated condition and was used by large numbers of pedestrians with serious safety concerns to the users. This bridge was replaced by a steel bridge designed by the Contractor which was checked by our Consultant Engineers. I attach three pictures of this bridge.

An article about the safety of this bridge appeared on Monday July 16, 2012 in the Ceylon Daily News under the above caption with a picture showing this newly constructed bridge. The writer seems to be an Engineer passed out from the Engineering Faculty of University of Peradeniya in 1999 by the name of one Roshan Dodanwala. He claimed he had discussed with a group of their own and highlights certain design deficiencies in the said article. As the Project Director, I have initiated action to obtain a clarification from the Consultant on the concerns addressed in the article and for a design review. If indeed any corrective action need to be taken as suggested by this group of engineers, it will be promptly attended to.

What is of concern to me is, if the writer is an Engineer, he should have had the courtesy to direct the question to us in the CEB who was responsible for this construction, so that his concerns could be properly addressed by Engineers. The writer has taken the liberty (I do not deny his right for public expression) to publish an article in the Ceylon Daily News in the Column named ‘Citizens’ Mail Column’ which should obviously be concerned with problems of common interest. In this instance the matter deals with the design and should be of interest and concern to engineers who designed and constructed this bridge. Therefore, it should have been far better, if the writer is an Engineer either to write to CEB, Consulting Engineer or even the Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka before going public, to clarify this issue in the best interest of Engineers without going public straight away.

I am writing this letter with the hope that all our Engineers should be as concerned as this group of engineers, but would use utmost caution in safeguarding the professional integrity of our own engineers.

Eng. W J L S Fernando
Project Director (Upper Kotmale Hydropower Project) and Additional General Manager (Projects)
Ceylon Electricity Board
Assistant Governor of Central Bank delivers Special Lecture on “Current Economic Situation in Sri Lanka”

The Assistant Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, Mr. K.D. Ranasinghe delivered a special lecture on “Current Economic Situation in Sri Lanka” on Monday, June 25th, 2012, at 5.00 pm at the Wimalasurendra Auditorium of the IESL. The Continuing Professional Development Committee of the IESL had arranged this event in view of the prevailing situation where optimism that flowed from the ending of the war and the burst of economic activities that followed appears to have been shaken in recent times by events conflictingly interpreted by experts. On the one hand, issues such as the depreciation of Sri Lanka Rupee, increase in the price of essentials, slide in the share market, low foreign direct investments in the country, etc. are being portrayed as weaknesses in the economic situation. On the other hand the country’s economic growth figures of more than eight percent consecutively for the past two years reported by the Central Bank and the consequent increase in the Gross Per Capita Income is said to have pulled out Sri Lanka from the ranks of low income countries to the ranks of middle income countries of the world. The flood of conflicting opinions thrown at the general public is, to say the least, confusing. Laying out the facts without decorations of partisanship, the organizers hoped, would allow the public to discern the true causes of the sacrifices they are invariably called upon to make.

Mr. Ranasinghe who is an Assistant Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka has joined the Central Bank in 1986 and has served at various capacities including Director of Economic Research, Senior Economist, Deputy Director and Additional Director of the Economic Research Department. He obtained his Masters Degree in Economics from Michigan State University, USA and Bachelors Degree in Economics from the University of Colombo. His research interests are in the fields of public finance, economic growth, investment and inflation. He has published several research papers in these areas.

The core message he conveyed in his lecture was that the country had performed well in all sectors since the war was brought to an end in May 2009 and that it was only towards end of year 2011 that certain imbalances in the economy appeared due to expansion of credit beyond expectations. He stressed that counter measures taken by the government, including more flexible foreign exchange policies, restriction of credit, increased import taxes on motor vehicles, etc would in the long run restore the balance. As positive aspects he pointed out the more than 8 percent GDP growth rate the country has had for the two consecutive years, 2010 and 2011, the Gross Per Capita Income reaching more than 2000 US Dollar, the inflation being reduced to single digit, unemployment being at historical lows, the Tourism industry picking up, Government Debt to GDP ratio being healthy, etc. On the negative side he said that of late the undesirable credit expansion and the necessity to preserve the parity rate of the Rupee has had a run on the Foreign Reserves and caused temporary balance of payments problems.

The question and answer session proved lively with many in the audience questioning the various forms of foreign loans obtained by the government, the foreign loans component of the foreign reserve of the country, the logic in holding large foreign reserves without re-investment them and the role of the International Monetary Fund in recent increases in the prices of electricity supply and the depreciation of the Sri Lankan Rupee.

Mr. K.D. Ranasinghe was presented a memento in appreciation of his delivering the lecture.

The Civil Engineering Sectional Committee (CESC), jointly with the Continuing Professional Development Committee (CPDC), with the blessings of the Council, organized a workshop in the form of an activity for “Industrial Liaison” as an initiative to convey the above message to all those parties and to record their opinion as to how to enhance the services of IESL to its membership. It was held at the IESL on 9th July 2012 with top level participation as resource persons and members of the audience. The opening formalities like national anthem, lighting of the traditional oil lamp and the welcome address by Eng. (Dr.) Ananda Ranasinghe were followed by presentations by the Immediate Past President – IESL Eng. (Prof.) A.K.W.Jayawardane and Resource Persons, Eng. N.Rupasinghe – Chairman, CECB, Eng. S. A. Karunarathne – Managing Director, STEMS Consultants (Pvt.) Ltd, Eng. S.Jeyachandran – General Manager, State Engineering Corporation and Eng. W.J.L.S Fernando – Chairman, Continues Professional Development Committee, IESL.Eng.S.Rutheralingam and Eng. Sarah Gamini both of whom were unable to attend had dispatched their messages to be presented by the organizers in the form of written texts and voice cuts respectively during the presentations. The discussions that followed the presentations were chaired by Eng. (Dr.) Tilak Siyambalapitiya.Eng. Tilak De Silva – President Elect, IESL made the concluding remarks to the event while the vote of thanks was delivered by Eng. Wasalabandara, Chairman, CESC.

A detailed report on the objectives and outcome of the workshop is being compiled by the CESC, the organizers of the event. Eng. Nishanka Wasalabandara, Chairman, CESC has requested SLEN that his thanks be conveyed to all those who participated and made the workshop a success.
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Letter from Qatar

Lusail City is Qatari Diar’s flagship Project - One of Largest Commercial Projects in Middle East

by Eng. M. Chandrasekera / 18th June 2012

In late March, quite unexpectedly, I got an opportunity to move to Qatar and to work in one of the sub Projects under Lusail Development Project, which I have briefly described below.

Currently, the landscape in the area we work is as seen in the top part of the 1st picture. When you see the bottom part of the same picture, you will be able to visualize the scale of transformation Quarains are going to bring about in the coming ten years to this patch of desert. The water ponds shown in this view are all barren land without any habitation at present.

Lusail City is Qatari Diar’s flagship project.

More than just another development, it is a self-contained and comprehensively planned city signifying Qatar’s progress on a grand scale.

Created by Lusail Real Estate Development Company on behalf of Qatari Diar, Lusail City is the largest single development (spread in an area of 38 square km) to be undertaken in the State of Qatar. It embodies Qatar’s National Vision 2030 in the field of real estate development.

More than 200,000 residents will live in Lusail’s scenic surroundings, with 170,000 people expected to work in the city’s different districts, and 80,000 expected to visit its entertainment and recreation facilities. Lusail City’s 19 districts will encompass not only new residential, commercial, hospitality, and retail opportunities, but a full array of community needs such as 36 schools, mosques, State-of-the-art hospital, 2 golf courses, large blue water lagoon with two marinas (harbour specially designed to cater to the needs of pleasure boats and their owners), naturally functional silt-free beaches, entertainment and shopping centers etc.

The city of the future boasts a light rail network, a water taxi transportation system, cycle and pedestrian network. Construction work on the 38 square kilometer, progressive world-class development is well underway.

Lusail City is where the Art of Real Estate comes to life and best illustrates the values and commitment to the communities served by Qatari Diar.

With an overall budget of £30 billion, the project will create a world class city over the next ten to fifteen years. It was launched by His Excellency Sheikh Hamad Bin Jassim Bin Jabor Al Thani, the first deputy prime minister and foreign minister of Qatar, and chairman of Qatari Diar in year 2007.

Benefits to society

The aim of the development is to provide a high quality, well planned and sustainable extension of the city, attractive to tourists, future residents and businesses. The project as a whole will generate significant economic diversification and strengthen the tourism sector, which in turn will create great opportunities within Qatar.

Infrastructure Packaging

For bidding purposes, the deliverables for the Lusail Development Project are divided into construction packages:

• Primary infrastructure (12 packages)
  o 21.5 km of roads and highways, including 12 bridges and five underpasses
  o 39.5 km of pipes for potable water and firefighting
  o 34.1 km of storm water drainage (in case there is rain!) and five pumping stations
  o 36.8 km of irrigation channels (for watering of grass tops and plants!)
  o 518,000 m² of hard landscaping and 409,000 m² of soft landscaping
  o 40.5 km of 66-kV cables and 69.9 km of 11-kV cables
  o Three 66/11-kV substations and twelve 11/0.4-kV substations
  o 1,048 lamp posts
  o 42.4 km of telecommunications cables
  o 14 km of utility tunnels

2-One of the many Sites (note the number of tower cranes. There are hundreds of tower cranes all over)

Contd. on page 9...
Lusail City... 

- Marine earthworks and site preparation (7 packages)
- Underground car parks (1 package)
- Sewage treatment plant and networks (1 package)

To date, substantial infrastructure work has been accomplished at Lusail City.

Serving as a Model for Sustainability

Through environmentally responsive protection policies and a controlled development strategy, Lusail City will generate significant economic diversification as it strengthens Qatar's tourism sector, transforming existing raw tidal flats into a valuable product that highlights sustainable features such as:

- Energy and water conservation
- Indoor environmental quality
- Co-generation Renewable energy
- Alternative transportation
- Reduced trucking distance
- Reuse of construction spoils for fill

In June 2010, Lusail Real Estate Development Company (LREDC) implemented its new method for rating green buildings: the Qatar Sustainability Assessment System (QSAS). This procedure, developed specifically for Qatar, ensures that all commercial, residential, and school projects in Lusail City follow the defined requirements to receive QSAS certification.

Hosting the World's Most Memorable International Tournament

On December 2, 2010, Qatar was selected as the World Cup's location for the 2022 FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football Association), making it the first Arabian country to host football’s (soccer’s) most important and most widely viewed international tournament. Lusail City will play a major role during the 2022 FIFA World Cup by housing thousands of visitors and hosting related events. An iconic structure, Lusail National Stadium will be constructed for the 2022 FIFA World Cup, and it will host the opening and final games. Solar energy will power the cooling system for the Lusail Stadium—resulting in a zero carbon footprint. The stadium will have an almost circular base, surrounded by a moat and connected by six bridges to the parking area.

Writer’s Comments.

According to above statistics, $3 billion will provide a city of 200,000 residents, 170,000 working population and 80,000 visitors. On a very crude calculation, this will work out to a per capita cost of create waterways and ponds. Initially, I could not come to terms with this reality.

Contractors and Consultants from many countries are working here. The labour gangs are mainly from Bangladesh, China, and Nepal. In our Project, we have Koreans leading, then Filipinos, Indians and a few Sri Lankans.

There are many opportunities for young Engineers (mostly for Males) to gain valuable experience in all the disciplines. Anybody interested could try their luck, by registering in a website such as 'Guiltalent'.

Although English is contractual language mostly spoken languages are Pilipino and Hindi. Not a single local is working in any capacity in these Projects. Everything is handled by expatriates. Only the top most managers are said to be locals. I am yet to see any of them.

All kinds of machinery and equipment are at work in large numbers. Wherever you go, you will find many tower cranes. See the picture. Our bridge work is yet at the sub structure level. Note that the pile cap is on excavated ground but not in a waterfront.

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Golden Jubilee Celebration of graduation from the Faculty of Engineering, Colombo

by Eng. Suranjith Peiris

The 1961 graduates of the University of Ceylon, Faculty of Engineering at Colombo celebrated their belated fiftieth anniversary of graduation at the banquet hall “The Link” of Water’s Edge, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka on May 12th 2012. Two days later a group of them also visited the University of Peradeniya, Faculty of Engineering which was still on the drawing boards at the time they graduated.

The group travelling to Peradeniya took the First Class air conditioned EXPORAIL coach with reclining airplane seats and was attached to the InterCity Express to Kandy. We were very happy to note that the good old Ceylon Government Railways had loosened its tentacles and had accommodated this privately operated luxury coach. The ability to purchase tickets for the EXPORAIL on the Internet prior to the date of departure was a bonus that the expatriate engineers really appreciated. Well-dressed smart young men in the coach served us a copious breakfast and aromatic Ceylon Tea which the expatriates enjoyed as they do not get such tea in their countries of domicile. The participants enjoyed the two and a half hours of camaraderie and fellowship during the train trip, after the busy dinner event in Battaramulla. The group toured the Peradeniya Engineering Labs which were far more advanced than the ancient labs of the Ceylon Technical College Maradana that they had used when they were students. The High Voltage Lab staff impressed some of the visitors by demonstrating the voltage was increased. Exchange of views on the role of engineering in the ever changing world and the establishing of bonds between the expatriate engineers and the Faculty Staff will no doubt bring fruitful results in the future.

Prior to 1949 the requirement of engineers in Ceylon was satisfied by those who were granted degrees by the University of London, that recognized the teaching and training provided by the Ceylon Technical College at Maradana. A crisis occurred in December 1949 when the University of London, decided to reconsider its recognition of the facilities at the Ceylon Technical College at Maradana. This was a time when Ceylon was however industrializing rapidly since gaining independence from the British Raj in 1948. The Government of Ceylon therefore rightfully decided to establish the Faculty of Engineering under the University of Ceylon by July 1st 1950. It was no easy task at the inception to recruit staff and to set up the institute.
The Faculty. The Faculty therefore started by training a few engineers each year in the fields of Civil, Electrical and Mechanical Engineering. The rapid progress in industrialization by establishing multiple Centres, Manufacturing Plants and new industries such as the manufacturing of steel building components, Caustic Soda and Chlorine made it imperative to increase the number of engineers that were being trained. The first large batch of sixty nine was chosen from those that qualified in the Science and Math stream at the December 1957 Matriculation or Equivalent – Advanced Level Examination and excelled at a stiff interview held by the staff of the Engineering Faculty and the Science Faculty.

The Engineering Faculty was at one time confined to a small Engineering Drawing Office and a few Class Rooms at the Thurstan Road Campus of the University of Ceylon in Colombo. Who was the large number of Engineering Undergrads to be accommodated? A large enough Engineering Drawing Office and an adequately sized Class Room were completed adjacent to one another at the Reid Avenue end of the University Campus. The large all male batch of engineering students soon became the envy of the comely Science Faculty Girls. The ingenious Science Faculty and the Science Faculty girls quickly conjured the name Takarung Faculty to ridicule the cream of the crop who had entered the University for engineering at the competitive exam for which they also had sat. This nomenclature was not based on myth. The special building nomenclature was not based on tradition and required a large number of our batchmates and we commemorated them also. Only sixteen of us are now in Sri Lanka while the others are spread all over the world. Thirteen of us are now in Australia, four in the United Kingdom and one each in Malaysia, Egypt, South America, Trinidad and the United States of America. We noted that a large number of our progeny were married to non Sri Lankans and were rendering valuable professional services to countries other than Sri Lanka.

We were the 1957 batch of engineering students. We have contributed extensively and are continuing to do so through our progeny for the development of not only Sri Lanka, but also of the entire world.

The annual report of the University for engineering 1957

The ultra smart Takarung Faculty inmates quickly took advantage of the structure of the Takarung Building. At the end of each lecture, the instructor would command the students to call out their index numbers to mark the attendance register. Many of us used to play truant and not attend the classes conducted by some of the boring instructors, sometimes playing Contract Bridge in the canteen and enjoying the 5 cents cup of plain tea saturated with brown sugar. We would then quietly slip into the adjacent Engineering Drawing Office and request the instructor to call in our index numbers in the right sequence. The instructor would recognize the voiced request as a genuine, but did not ever realize that it came from the adjoining Engineering Drawing Office and not from the Class Room. We somehow established the mandatory required attendance. Of the sixty nine who charted the course in 1957 a few had to drop out after we failed to reach the top percentile in the First in Science Exam which we had to sit for. We subjects for the exam included Chemistry that stunk worse than H₂S – Hydrogen Sulphide. Worst still was that in the section on Organic Chemistry it was compulsory although it had little to do with engineering materials used at that time like steel, cement, sand, and bricks. The Faculty broke away from tradition and required a few of us to repeat the Engineering Part One Lectures without proceeding to follow the Part Two Lectures and repeating the Part One Exam the following year.

Because different circumstances split our batch into two sections we decided to open our celebrations to all who were interested in joining us. The result was that the celebrants formed an unique set, never to be duplicated elsewhere. At least one engineer was from the first batch that graduated from the Faculty in Colombo. To complement this there was another engineer from the last batch that graduated from the Faculty in Colombo before it was moved to Peradeniya. An engineer from the last “males only” batch was also included to enhance our uniqueness. We were greatly privileged to have the immediate elder brother of the First Female Engineer of Ceylon School of Engineering. Mechanical Engineer who was awarded the title Chartered Engineer by the IESL also marked his presence but we hid and locked it in his drawer at the beginning of the third year. The students who cycled around girls schools during day time and completed their drawing assignments rapidly discovered this guy’s smartness. They slipped the drawing table top off, removed the glass sheet and quickly glass sheeted his handy work. Glass sheeting was a special sophisticated technique developed by engineering students during the rush batch to duplicate drawings. It required a large enough sheet of glass and a powerful lamp that shone through it, through the selected drawing and through the blank drawing paper laid over it. Only patience was then necessary to copy the fly wheel in the Thermolab on turns in riding their precious Rs.50/= brakable bicycles two miles to the restaurant named the Lion House at the Banamulla Junction and bringing – 05cts per cup plain tea for the glass sheeting experts. The affluent students from the Colombo Schools used to come in small tea at 10 cts per cup as their nightcap.

Being an Engineering Undergraduate was a grueling task those days. A few days a week we had four hours of lectures in the mornings. After a quickly gobbled lunch we then cycled five miles in the hot sun to the Ceylon Technical College in Maradana for lab work. One cannot forget the huge diesel engine with a four foot diameter fly wheel in the Thermolab on which we were to run performance tests. This was typically the type of engine that operated the multitude of tea factories, which were coupled to it through belts and pulleys mounted on a long shaft that ran from one end of the tea factory. On the other hand more often than not we had to trek up the Maradana Lab and back. This left us completely exhausted. Yet we had to write the lab reports and complete the tutorials for the next week. We did not realize at that time that this was a course designed to make fun loving teenage pranksters who enter the university into hard boiled mature engineers. We are now grateful to those who designed the grueling course as all of us were fully converted at the end of four years. A few of us left Ceylon for further studies while others found jobs in Ceylon without delay in the Ceylon Industrial Sector or the Government Sector. The twenty five engineers who participated in the celebrations had all left our original batch for fifty years. Each engineer was therefore requested to present a self introduction within two minutes on their personal and professional achievements. As each of us shared fifty years of achievements, two minutes were hardly sufficient to relate all of them. We therefore had to give a bell warning at one and a half minutes followed by a loud ring at two minutes. Other than for a detailed account on the achievements of the twenty five had to be run out several times to stop them describing their professional and personal achievements. We were delighted to note that most of us had reached the pinnacle of our careers in reaching positions such as: senior managers in organizations, professors in university and consultants to governmental organizations. The unofficial and unofficial toast for the first female engineer who proudly declared that he had fifteen grand children.
Civil Engineers’ and Council Members’
Family Get Together - 2012

Reservations now on!
Novelty over novelty! This time it’s a Chartered Train! The organizers of the Annual Civil Engineers’ Get Together seem to have novelty in their veins!

Not to be outdone by their own efforts of the previous year aboard the Jet Liner ship, a train, chartered specially for them, will haul Civil Engineers and their families, to the tunes of calypso music, all the way from Colombo Fort Railway Station to Koggala for their annual get together on 25th August 2012.

The palm fringed beaches and in-house facilities of the Club Koggala Village will be the setting this time for the nearly 400 men, women and children of the civil engineering fraternity to meet and renew friendships and refresh cherished memories.

All in all, a fun filled and exciting day where light banter, rich food, fun and entertainment will help them unwind is on the cards for another memorable annual get together. Registrations for participation have just opened and is expected to become brisk. To avoid disappointment those aspiring to be part of the get together are advised to reserve their places early. Contact IESL Headquarters, Mr. Praneeth at 011-2698426 Ext 220 for reservations.

Club Koggala Village is a beautiful hotel set on a glorious stretch of un crowded palm fringed beach. This is the perfect place to relax and unwind, to soak up the sun and go for long walks on the beach. All rooms were recently refurbished and have a direct view of our wonderful beach.

To: All Corporate and Associate Members of the IESL

IESL DIRECTORY OF CORP o R A T E & ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

The IESL intends to publish a directory of all Corporate Members and Associate Members with updated information. When we peruse the information available with us we still find incomplete data and we are also doubtful about the current records which we have as the members have failed to update their information in order to incorporate correct information in our database.

Therefore, we would like you to send your current details on or before 15th August 2012 enabling us to publish this directory as you will appreciate that it is a long-felt need of the IESL for an updated database. If your information is not received on or before the aforesaid date, the IESL will proceed with finalizing the directory with the available information:

Please provide current details on the following format:

Name:                              Prof./Dr./Eng.
Membership No:              F/M/AM
Telephone/Mobile:                  
Fax:                               
E-Mail Address:                    
Present Postal Address:             

A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY FOR EXPERIENCED SENIOR ENGINEERS TO SERVE THE NATION

The Project Director of Greater Kandy Water Supply Project Invites Expression of Interest from Experienced Senior Engineers Associated with the Water Industry for Improving Technical Manuals and Training Modules for National Water Supply & Drainage Board

A. List of Technical Manuals to be Developed

A1: Water Industry
   A1.3: Leak Repair Manual
   A1.4: Computer Model for “Water Infrastructure Asset Management Database”

A2: Domestic Plumbing
   A2.1: Improvement to Existing Domestic Plumbing Manual (for Plumbers)

B. List of Training Programmes to be Developed

B1: Development of Plumber Registration and Licensing System (Industrial/Domestic)
B2: Consumer Awareness Training Module on Domestic Plumbing
B3: Plumber Training Module (Industrial/Domestic)
B4: Consumer Awareness Training Module on “Importance of Water & Environment Protection”

Expression of interest is invited from eligible Engineers who can undertake development of above mentioned Technical Manuals and Training Modules on the lines of global best practices with deep understanding of ground realities in Sri Lankan context. Those who are interested may furnish their Expression of Interest by e-mail to newt@kandywater.lk with the subject “Improving Technical Manuals & Training Modules” clearly indicating the Manual/Training Module they offer to develop to enable us to forward the TOR and other relevant documents for assessing their proposals.