

Report on the West Zone Alumni Meet 2017

IEI Alumni Association, with IE(I) Gujarat State Centre organised the IEI Alumni Meet for West Zone in the august Bhaikaka Bhavan premises of Ahmedabad State Centre on 11th June 2017. This was organised based on the vision of the President IE(I) Er. Navin B. Vasoya, whose direction helped generate great enthusiasm in the Alumni Community. The program was attended by a large number of Alumni from across five states of West India (Gujarat, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Madhya Pradesh), and included many successful entrepreneurs, eminent bureaucrats, educationists, and many distinguished personalities.



The Location

The inaugural session started with lighting the lamp and invocation. The Secretary Gujarat State Centre Er. Kalyani Hiro Udhavdas welcomed the guests and participants and lauded the efforts of Organisers and the large number of Alumni who were present. While Er Sandeep B Vasava, Chairman, Gujarat State Centre, was unable to attend the function due to his other commitments, he sent his regards and best wishes for the function, which was conveyed by the Secretary to the August gathering.



Er. Kalyani Hiro Udhavdas delivering welcome address and Guests lighting the lamp

It was a great moment when Er. Navin B. Vasoya, President IEI, distributed the Distinguished Alumni Awards, the Certificates and ID cards for the Alumni and released the second edition of IEI Alumni Newsletter.



The Distinguished Alumni Award Winners with the President IE(I) Er. Navin B. Vasoya



The Guests on the Dais



Release of the Newsletter.



Receiving the Certificate and the ID Card

The occasion also saw the formal release of the “*IEI Alumni Mobile Application*”, developed by Er. Bharat Patel. This is an application which is a White pages application for members of Alumni Association, where you can search members by Expertise, Branch and Year of Passing, and many other criteria. This is a great step for members collaboration and meets one of the expressed needs of the members.



Er. Bharat Patel introducing the Application



The App View.

The President IE(I), Er. Navin B. Vasoya then delivered the inaugural address, where he talked of the Alumni-Alma Mater relationship and talked of the efforts being done to foster this relationship by the Institution. He recalled the direction he gave to the Alumni Association and the Zonal Meets happening in response to his direction and the amount of enthusiasm it has generated in the Alumni community. The highlight of his talk was his vision for the Alumni Association and the Alumni Community. He expressed the hope that the activities he has initiated will spread across the country, in every State Centre and the Local Centre.



Address by the President IE(I) Er. Navin B. Vasoya

The Chairman, IEIAA, in his talk assured the President that he, with his Office bearers would work towards fulfilling his vision and continue with the Membership drive, bringing the Alumni back in to the activity hub of the Institution.



Er. S. A. Sathyamurthy gave the Vote of Thanks and this concluded the first session of the program.

The Second session started with a talk on “Make in India” by Er. Padmin Buch, Senior Visiting Faculty, Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDI), where he addressed its real implication and challenges to be overcome.

This was followed a talk on “Role of Engineers in Nation Building” by Er. Vivek Purushottamdas Kapadia, Chief Engineer, Water Resources Department, where he demonstrated the contribution of Engineers in Water Management and how it has moved India from a “State of Hunger” to State of Food Self Sufficiency”.

The last part was the usual Open House Session. This found very active participation by the Alumni and many concerns, suggestions and ideas were discussed. Most of the Alumni were thankful for the current leadership of IE(I), which they found was very responsive. Most of the Alumni promised to help identify more Alumni and have them as members of both Institution of Engineers (India) and IEI Alumni Association.

Alumni then had a networking session.

Some of the significant outcomes of the meet include

- identifying many Alumni who are not members of IE(I) and who have now come forward to become members and be active participants
- inauguration of the IEIAA App, that can help Alumni network better
- enthusiasm and volunteerism demonstrated by many alumni where they were willing to start and nurture many programs for students and other alumni
- support for mentorship program and request by many mentees