## **AMITY UNIVERSITY HARYANA**

## "Webinar on Civil Engineering Today and Roadmap Ahead"

Gurugram: 24th September 2021

Civil Engineers have been hugely contributing to shaping nations since the inception of the construction. It is a discipline that touches every aspect of human life by finding innovative solutions to the world's most critical issues, including population pressures, rapid urbanization, climate change, water and energy crisis, natural and anthropogenic disasters, and many more. Society advances with the scientific advancement and technological innovation in the field of civil engineering. These days the technological innovation in civil engineering is influencing the construction industry like never before, in terms of greener buildings and smarter cities. With the aim to encourage the professionals, faculty, staff, researchers and students to think a way forward, the webinar on "Civil Engineering Today and Roadmap Ahead" was organized by Amity Academics Staff College and Department of Civil Engineering at Amity University Haryana on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2021 to present a holistic view of the field through Academia-Government-Industry partnership perspectives as a part of Innovation Week Celebration. The programme was graced by the august presence of Mr. K. B. Rajoria, Former Engineer in Chief, PWD, Delhi & Addl DG, CPWD who presented the Opening address for the event. The programme was inaugurated in the august presence of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof (Dr.) PB Sharma, Hon'ble Pro-Vice ChancellorProf (Dr.) Padmakali Banerjee, Deans, Heads of Institutions, large number of faculty members and more than 100 registered participants from various universities and institutions from across the country.

Delivering the opening address Mr. K. B. Rajoria highlighted the glorious past of India by emphasizing on the structural and road developments which are of par excellence. He shared his insightful thoughts with a big take away "Here to Learn- Gyaan ki koi seema nahi hoti" stating that learning never stops and we should keep on learning. He emphasized on the statements "Training of professionals and workers is necessary and unless we have the desire to learn more, we cannot proceed". Further he emphasized on the fact that in order to move forward the most important things is continuous process of learning. He shared his personal views on why training has not been of much success in the field of civil engineering to date. He stimulated the minds of the young students and faculty members, to explore new horizons beyond the comfort zone of standard practices being followed world over. Shri. Rajoria enunciated construction project management and its important elements for quality time bound results. He stimulated the minds of the young researchers and student on the interesting issues and conclusions drawn from his vast experience in the field of construction.

Dr. Padmakali Banerjee, Pro Vice Chancellor and Dean Academics, Amity University Haryana enlightened the gathering with the Green Initiatives for sustainable development management. She coined the idea to record the proceedings and publish as a white paper. She stressed on the fact to take the thoughts into pedagogy and techniques into the new era of tools, knowledge and research. She also laid emphasis on dissolving the boundaries between architecture and civil engineering in the future.

The address by Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof. (Dr.) P B Sharma, Amity University Haryana, mesmerized the august gathering with his vast knowledge base on Civil Engineering. He very rightly stated that the "Society Advances with Civil Engineering". Behind any new construction, he highlighted those tremendous technological innovations and momentous challenges are involved. Amity believes in Research & Innovation and his talk ignitedthestudents, faculty members and other researchers to think beyond boundaries to find

innovative solution in Civil Environmental Engineering. He laid emphasis on the facts that civil engineering as a discipline is evergreen and remains relevant throughout the life of the mother earth.

Both the panel sessions of today were full of knowledge influx, by vast range of professionals and dignitaries. Among those who addressed the panel discussion today, eminent chairperson of the first panel on 'Smart Building, Smart City and Green Construction' Mr A K Jain, Former Commissioner Planning DDA, shared his life time experiences on the planning of low carbon urban development. He laid emphasis on the vicious cycle of climate change, the unplanned & unauthorized colonies, informal transport, inequities & gender gap, gap between planning & implementation, and the missing connections in terms of strategies, policies, mitigation, & development. He also laid emphasis on the sustainable development goals 2030 which will take us to the future we want. He sailed us through a series of cartoons to explain the complex problems in an easier way. Dr Satish Kumar, Ex-Director, DMRC discussed elaborately the innovations by DMRC in climate resilience and technology which **changed the way**. Dr K M Soni, Former Addl. DG, CPWD gave an elaborated presentation on important and thought provoking insightsaboutSmart Building, Smart City and Green Construction which is the need of the hour. Dr Amarnath, BIM Strategy, L&T, gave an insight on the technological advancements especially through digitalization in the form of Building Information Modelling (BIM). He shared his experience in the field of BIM and highlighted that digital technology has moved us beyond hand-drawn renderings to computergenerated models in recent years, visualizations have become more precise, innovative and essential. Before the actual construction, now one can visualize the project, and this engagement and planning strategy will continue to play a valuable role in the year ahead.

The speakers for the second session on "Safety, Security, Dams & Water Bodies and Highways" were no less, as their talks were equally absorbing. Mr C S Prasad, Former DG, CPWD, spearheaded the session as the chairperson. He dwelled upon as to how to safeguard multi-story buildings from earthquake and fire point of view. He also emphasised on the importance of scaffoldings, and formwork systems and their management giving relevant examples from the industry. The adoption of various codal provision laid by the government and bureau of Indian standards (BIS) was highlighted. The session also had other eminent speakers Mr N K Mathur, Former member, CWC, who expressed his concerns about dam safety and other structures. He highlighted that the vulnerability of earth dam is most critical, for which preventive maintenance is the answer.

Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof. (Dr.) P B Sharma, Amity University Haryana gave the closing remarks by expressing his gratitude to all the eminent panellists who graced the occasion with their immense and vast school of knowledge. He highlighted that "India is capable of taking on the challenges of Civil Engineering, town planning, architecture, in such a manner that people live a happy and a peaceful life." He also said "The future lies in reuse, recycle, reconstruction, and remanufacturing".

Rear Admiral KK Pandey (Retd.), Director HR and Director Academic Staff College, AUH whilst delivering the Vote of Thanks, highlighted andsaid, "The versatile speakers have reiterated the point that the Change is Constant and all of us have to keep learning from each other to promote high safety and security standards coupled with Innovative design and Construction. I'm sure with the wide canvas of deliberations today, we all must have broadened the horizons".

Excellent IT support for the program was provided by the Amity IT Team headed by Dr JS Sodhi.



