

# AACEG E NEWS

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## EDITORIAL BOARD

S.V. Ramaswamy (Convener)  
P. Chandrasekaran  
R. Raghupathy

## SLOW BUT STEADY PROGRESS IN GUEST ROOMS FUNDING



The estimated cost of constructing guest rooms is about Rs. Sixty lakhs. It is encouraging to note that contributions are steadily trickling in. We thank the contributors listed below for their generous donations and for setting an example to be followed.

Batch of 1958	Rs. 350000/-
Batch of 1964	Rs 400000/-
Batch of 1963	Rs 150000/-
G.B. Jaiprakash Narain	Rs 10000/-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>Rs. 910000/-</b>

## CONGRATULATIONS

Anna University Basket Ball team secured fourth place in the Inter University South Zone Basket Ball Tournament held at SRM University during November 2009 and qualified to participate in the All India Tournament to be held at Varanasi in December 2009. Satyabama University, SRM University and Annamalai University secured the top three places in the South Zone tournament. Newly established Technical Universities are dominating the Inter University Basket Ball Tournaments during the past five years at the expense of older established Universities such as Madras, Madurai Kamaraj, Kerala etc.

## KURUKSHETRA –ANNUAL TECHNO MANAGEMENT FEST OF CEG



The driving spirit behind KURUKSHETRA, organized by CEG from January 21-23, 2009 is to provide young free minds a chance to explore, innovate and create. The state of the art technology and cutting edge research will be on display and eminent technologists and experts from the field will be explaining their innovations during the program. It is the only student organized event in India that is patronized by UNESCO.

There are a plethora of events spanning all streams of engineering which are a test of engineering skills of the students. Projects and Project K! are among Kurukshetra's highlights that brings forth the innovative and creative ideas.

Further details can be obtained from [www.kurukshetra.org.in](http://www.kurukshetra.org.in)

## INAUGURATION

The newly constructed elevator which will provide easy access to the first and second floors of Alumni Centre will be opened for regular use on December 23, 2009. The elevator will fulfill a long pending request of the senior Alumni and their spouses.

Sri A. Sankarakrishnan (1965 M), formerly CEO, Koney Elevators (India) will be the Chief Guest for the function

## SEMINAR ON TOWARDS ROAD USER'S SAFETY (CHEN SAFE – 2010)



The leading states in the number of Road Accidents are Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu. There were 60409 accidents in Tamil Nadu during 2008 and the number of fatalities was 12784. The number of casualties in fatal accidents has increased by about 35 percent between 2004 and 2008. The economic loss to our nation due to road accidents is estimated to be over Rs.1750 crores per annum.

In this context, the Alumni Association College of Engineering Guindy (AACEG), Anna University (AU) in association with Division of Transportation, CEG, AU and Division of Transportation Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras, Chennai will be organizing a Seminar on January 4 and 5, 2010 to evolve action oriented accident abatement measures to ensure Road User Safety. The focus of the Seminar is to evolve a pragmatic and action oriented program by examining the complex causative factors holistically to ensure the safety of the Road User.

The Themes of the conference are, Engineering aspects of Road Safety, Enforcement and Education, Debates and Awareness, Dissemination and Mass Media and Action Oriented Program for Road User Safety

Further details can be obtained from Dr. G. Umadevi, Division of Transportation Engineering, Anna University, Phone: 9444991595/22357515 E Mail: [gudevi@annauniv.edu](mailto:gudevi@annauniv.edu)

## TEACHING AND RESEARCH

College of Engineering, Guindy had an enviable reputation as a teaching Institution producing outstanding engineers and leaders in their profession. However it has not established itself as a research Institution. This is true of engineering institutions in India including IITs. Excerpts from an interview given by Dr. Venkataraman Ramakrishnan, Nobel Prize Winner and from an article by B.P.Kaushik, former UGC Member are reproduced from The Hindu indicating their views on research and teaching in Indian Institutions.

### Dr. Ramakrishnan

**On Promoting Basic Sciences:** It is true that currently top class research in India is limited to a few good Institutions. But that needs to change. One idea that I have come across is embedding research institutes within Universities, so students have a direct experience of first class research from a very early stage.

**On Evaluating Research:** This is a terrible worldwide problem (measuring the quality of research by the number of papers published). It is because those deciding on promotions etc do not want to spend the time and energy to make an informed judgment of their own

The worst thing about this is that one can publish a mediocre paper in a high impact journal and get more credit than for an outstanding paper in a less prestigious journal.

### Dr. B.P. Kaushik

#### On Research Potential of Deemed

**Universities:** Research is a long term process and does not show quick results. Nor are these institutions by their very nature of catering to the demands of students in emerging areas –for short term courses with an eye on jobs- could become the mainstay of research.

It is also well known that several government sponsored Institutions are languishing in a pitiable condition as far as research is concerned. Do we close down these Institutions? Is it not a laudable mission if Institutions can impart quality education to prepare future generation to be excellent managers, engineers, professional corporate executives? Will that not be the main contribution to a developing society by educational institutions? Although imparting quality education and engaged in research are not compatible, it is a question of emphasis and parenthetically singling out one or other.

