

EDITORIAL

The 11th All India Conference on Engineering Materials & Equipment held on 15 & 16th January, 1982 marked the beginning of the 2nd Decade of the AICEME. AIGEME is not only a Conference but a Forum—a Forum where engineers and technologists from various walks of life from all over India meet, discuss and exchange views on problems confronting the profession and for that matter the country as a whole. When we look in retrospect we find lots of things happened since the beginning of the AICEME in 1970. There are many changes in the social, economic and technological frontiers in the country. We are proud for our achievements in the fields of agriculture, electronics, space technology and in the quantity and quality of our scientific man-power. However, there cannot be any denial of our lapses and failures. We have not succeeded to take the fruits of technology to our masses; who yet to have a square meal a day and a shelter to sleep at night.

Scientific community as a whole have yet to come out from their shells in their outlook towards problems and issues confronting the society. Our approaches towards motivating and educating people around us are faulty. Firstly, we talk too much among ourselves and secondly we show little respect or patience to listen to people from other walks of life. The wedge of communication gap between our leaders, politicians, policy makers and the

scientific community is getting thicker and thicker contrary to common belief. Rational minds in the country would hardly encourage such practices to continue for long.

The Association of Engineers, India has long been pondering and voicing our concerns over these matters. This is a formidable task to break the age old traditions and bring out the scientific community from the world of their own. Scientific community cannot afford to forget their duties and obligations towards the society which maintains them. The society is equally responsible to see that the scientists and engineers and technologists have their proper place and involvement in the chain of planning and development works of the country. It is reasonable to expect that the members of the scientific community and sister bodies would consider these important issues in proper perspective and would join hand at this crucial time as the ice of tradition has began to melt.

To have effective and fruitful discussions on important scientific and technical matters, knowledgeable and selective audience could not only bring the best from the speakers but also would make the deliberations of the conference more lively and interesting. It is very fortunate for us that deliberations at the Seminars arranged during the 11th AICEME were not only lively and interesting but also

were very effective. We would like to put on record our appreciation to the speakers and experts and delegates who made the Seminar interesting and fruitful.

We thank our collaborators : Department of Science & Technology, Government of India, Science & Technology Committee, Government of West Bengal and our patrons

who helped us to hold the 11th AICEME with such success.

Lastly, we invite suggestion and advice from all regarding topics of the Seminar to be held during the 12th AICEME next year.

Jai Hind.

B O O K R E V I E W

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