

EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK FOR ENGINEERS

By

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The Association of Engineers has now completed fifty years of existence. It is now no longer young and may be said to be growing old. On the occasion of its Golden Jubilee it is now, as it were, rising out of a stupor of seeming stagnation to an enlivenment with new vigour under the influence of ardent enthusiasm of the rising generation of dedicated young engineers.

The problems we have before us are great. Uppermost in our minds is anxiety regarding the future career of the large number of unemployed youth, who have been educated and trained for service in the Engineering profession. How to find employment for them? It is no fault of the youth that they are not employed. It is not that they have not the requisite training, education and ability for any job. It is not correct to say that they have been trained for jobs and services that are not required here. There is a vast amount of work that is yet to be done for the welfare of the public and for which these trained youth are eminently suited. But it is by some misfortune that there is no authority to take these much wanted works on hand. The plans are in abeyance for want of funds. The funds themselves are not in the right hands. Something must be done to secure them in good time. It is to be hoped that the control that is likely to be obtained by Government through the Nationalisation of Banks will provide some solution to the problems that have arisen.

If we take a detailed look at the basic requirements of the population of this country we will find the amount of work and the employment possibilities in the need for production of :

- 1) Food with sufficient calories & proteins.
- 2) Drinking water and sanitary arrangements.
- 3) Clothing—for each individual for summer and winter.
- 4) Housing for each family.
- 5) Book for education of each student.
- 6) Buildings for schools.
- 7) Watersupply, sanitation & drainage for each community.
- 8) Hospitals for ailing folk.
- 9) Mills for flour & rice.
- 10) Factories for manufacture of tools, machinery, agricultural implements, tractors & vehicles for transport.
- 11) Fertilisers & factories, improvement of of agricultural produce.
- 12) Sewage treatment plants for disposal of waste water.
- 13) Ship building yards for production of ships for transport of passengers, goods and for defence of our coasts.
- 14) Dry docks for repair of old craft.
- 15) Wet docks and harbours for shipment & discharge of goods.
- 16) Aircraft and landing & take off runways for Air traffic.

17) Radio, Telegraph, Telephone for communications.

18) Pharmaceutical works.

19) Technical Libraries, Technical Journals & Press.

20) Technical societies, civil, mechanical, electrical public health, telecommunication etc.

When we consider our basic daily needs, starting from the morning, as we wake to the time we go to bed we see the enormous amount of work and services we depend on :

1) The water for our ablutions before we begin our meals and the water we drink are supplied and purified by the Municipal engineers & Waterworks.

2) The food that we eat is provided by dairy workers, farmers, agriculturists, fishermen, food preservers and containers & container makers, Fertiliser Factory Workers, Designers, cooks, cooking ranges, stoves, coal & coal-miners.

3) For disposal of sewage and refuse we depend upon Municipal sanitary services, including scavengers, garbage removers, motor vehicle drivers, pumping machinery, workers, engineers & designers.

4) For our transport to and from one localities of employment, profession or business, we depend on transport workers, transport vehicles, their operators, drivers, manufacturers, and designers, locomotive, automo-

bile, ship, aircraft, designers, manufacturers, operators.

5) For our habitation we depend on the housebuilder, mason, brickfield worker, architect & contractor, furniture makers, dealers, designers, timber workers, joiners, plastic & board makers.

6) For our health we require, medicines, Vitamins, etc. produced by pharmaceutical works, surgical and dental tool manufacturers.

7) For our edification and knowledge we require, information by newspapers, magazines, books and radio, involving work for writers, printers artists, paper makers, printing press workers, Blockmakers, book binders, dealers & distributors, radio manufacturers, printer, press designers and manufacturers.

Without further enlarging the best of our numerous requirements, it is apparent from just these few items what a large amount of employment possibility there is for engineering workers and how much this increases with increasing population, if every body's requirement is to be met. It is to meet the needs of each and every body, not only in the cities but in the rural areas also, that our efforts and our planning must now be directed. With proper planning of priorities in the placement of orders and expenditure of funds the solution to the problem of suitable employment—for our educated and trained youth will be found.
