



Some photos from the event.

Photos by Khasim Basha

IEI Day and Exposition marked

Institute celebrates its growth and success

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KUWAIT CITY, Oct 23: "From time immemorial India has been the nerve center of scientific, social, political and economic power in the world," Chairman of the Institution of Engineers (IEI) — Kuwait Chapter, Eng. Joseph Panicker said in his welcome speech to mark the celebration of IEI Day and Exposition in memory of Sir M. Visvesvaraya who was an outstanding Engineer statesman of India.

Addressing the gathering at the Ramada Hotel Panicker said the IEI — the largest multidisciplinary engineering professional society — was founded in Calcutta in 1920 to promote and advance science and technology in the country.

The Royal Charter was granted to the Institute in 1935 by His Majesty King George V. The Institute has been the founder member of World Energy Council (WEC) in 1924, the Commonwealth Engineers Council (CEC) in 1946 and World Federation of Engineers Organization (WFEO), and many more, he added.

He disclosed the IEI will host the Engineering

Congress from Nov 15 to Nov 18 this year. He said he has received many enquiries from Kuwait engineers who are keen to attend this event.

He added, "The IEI is proud of its growth over the years. The IEI, he said, has bilateral relationship with 24 foreign engineering institutions in countries such as the United States, the UK, Japan and Germany. In the Middle East "we have six overseas chapters — Abu Dhabi, Bahrain, Dubai, Qatar, and Sydney," he disclosed. In Kuwait the IEI has entered into an agreement with the Kuwait Society of Engineers for technical cooperation.

The Kuwait Chapter was established in 1995. The Engineers Day celebration is the largest of its kind in Middle East and in many countries and is the largest held in this region, he noted.

He added it is heartening to see the Kuwait Chapter is being closely associated with Kuwait Society of Engineers, the Ministry of Higher Education, the Volunteers Work Center, the Kuwait Science Club, the Environment Protection Society, and various ministries. This is possible mainly due to the warm and close relationship of India with Kuwait over the years.

He said the Voluntary Work Center, through their

philanthropic programs has not only attracted the attention of Kuwaitis but also expatriates. The relationship of the IEI Kuwait Chapter with the VWC is warm and "we are partners with them in many areas of common interest." The VWC is headed by Her Excellency Sheikha Amthah Al-Sabah as Chairperson and deputy chairman Eng. Ahmed Al-Mirshed whose untiring efforts have led to the success of VWC.

In his keynote address on 'The Convergence of Technologies for Rapid Development' which was this year's Engineers Day theme, former Minister of Municipality Eng. Dr Abdul Rahman K. Al Ghunaim said development and convergence of technologies have helped in improvement of healthcare, defense, e-governance, human-machine interface and education, etc.

He added the nano-technology has shown its presence and is being recognized as a foundation for advance in bio and info technologies. It has helped in shrinking chip electronics, reduction in power disruption, creation of value of wealth besides creating cures and treatment resulting in extending life expectancy and elimination of suf-

fering of mankind.

He hoped the world of tomorrow will utilize this tremendous potential for the advancement and welfare of the society and enhance longevity and equality in life.

He noted, this convergence of technologies will cause strain on law makers, politicians and social activists, and that is the area where institutions such as the IEI, IEEE, etc. can cooperate and work towards utilizing these changes for the benefit of mankind.

Those present at the occasion were the Ambassador of India to Kuwait HE V. Ganapathi, President of Kuwait Society of Engineers Talal Al-Qahtani, former Minister of Communications and Ex-Minister of Municipality Eng Adul Rahman Al-Ghunaim, former Minister of Health and former director of PAAET Dr Abdul Rahman Al-Muhailan, Deputy Chairman of Voluntary Work Center, Eng Ahmed Al-Mirshed, chairman of Kuwait Society of Engineers Talal Al-Qahtani, Head of Prevention Department at Fuwair Fire Service Directorate Brigadier Amin Ablul.

At the end mementos were presented to guests of honor, sponsors, followed by a sumptuous dinner.