

IEEE Madras Section

Student Branch Officers Meet – 2017



The IEEE Madras Section Student Branch (SB) Officers Meet -2017 was organised on 5th Feb 2017 at the TAG Auditorium, Anna University Campus. About 100 participants comprising of SB Counsellors and SB Officer Bearers from about 70 student branches across the state actively participated in the meet and benefited.

The meet started with the IEEE code of ethics read by Mr. Suriya Thilipan, Section Student Representative. Mr. H.R. Mohan, Chair, Student Activities welcome the gathering and stated that the meet is being organised in the beginning of the year to facilitate the SB officers to get familiarized with the opportunities well in advance and make use of the same and benefited. Further, he stated that combining with the Annual Meeting & Awards Presentation event of the Section will also facilitate the SBs to receive their awards in person. Dr. M.A. Atmanand , Chair, IEEE MAS, in his address, urged the members to participate in various projects, competitions and funding initiatives supported by R10 and HQ and get global recognition. He also stressed the need for the SBs to be active in the context of around 150 SBs been identified (by a sub committee headed by Dr. S. Elangovan.) as inactive and not yet revamped and being recommended to R10 for their closure for not meeting the requirements. Then the programme started with the self-introduction session in which the participants introduced briefly about their SBs and the spelt out their expectations from this meet.

The various sessions of the meet included the following:

- Hands-on session on drafting an annual action plan by Mr. A. Aravindhnan
- Highlights on competition & awards by Mr. A. Aravindhnan
- Newsletter Reporting & Issues by Mr. M. Arun & Mr. H. R. Mohan
- Websites for SBs using WordPress by Mr B. Ashvanth
- Publishing SB activities on the web using Word and gDrive by Mr. H.R. Mohan
- Tools for Volunteers by Mr. Prasanth Mohan
- India Strategic Initiatives by Mr. Nivas Ravichandran
- IEEE USA Perspective. Innovation & Creativity by Mr. R. Sampath, CEO & MD, BeWo
- Benefits from the Section & India Council by Mr. H.R. Mohan
- SB Funding Opportunities from other IEEE sources by Dr. S. Elangovan
- Highlights on Young Professionals Affinity Group by Mr. Nivas Ravichandran
- Presentations by Select SBs (BIT, Cape Inst, KIOT, KLNCE, Panimalar, SJCE, SSNCE and SXCCE) on their activities and best practices
- Presentations by chairs of COMSOC, CIS and Mr. Mohan on Society Chapters.

In the valedictory and the open discussions session, the queries raised by the SBs in the survey conducted by the Section and during the session were clarified by the OBs of IEEE Madras Section. The participation certificates were presented to all the participants and the meet ended with a group photo session.

The participants had ample time to interact, network with other SB officers and the IEEE Madras Section Office Bearer, Execom members and society and affinity group chairs and explore various avenues for organising events.

This IEEE MAS SB officers' meet was organized by Mr. H.R. Mohan, Chair, SAC with the support of Dr. P. Sakthivel, Secretary cum Treasurer, IEEE MAS and a group of student volunteers with the funding from IEEE Madras Section. All the presentations made during the meet and few select photos are shared in the gDrive of the IEEE MAS Events at <https://goo.gl/3nOLFz>

Apple to build a floating solar farm in Japan: Apple will build a floating solar farm in Japan to power its component supplier Ibiden's manufacturing entirely on solar energy. The move is aimed at curbing the country's emissions problem. The farm will generate 2.5 billion kilowatt-hours per year of clean energy, which is equal to taking over 4 lakh cars off the road for a year.

National Conference on Disaster Mitigation, Responsiveness and Management



The IEEE Madras Section sponsored two-days national conference on Disaster Mitigation, Responsiveness and Management on the 3rd and 4th of February 2017 was held at Sri Sivasubramaniya Nadar College of Engineering (SSNCE), Chennai. The conference was inaugurated by Dr. B. Venkatraman, Director, Health, Safety and Environment Group, IGCAR, Kalpakkam and Dr. M. A. Atmanand, Chair, IEEE Madras Section and Former Director & Scientist-G, National Institute of Ocean Technology, Chennai. Dr. M. A. Atmanand narrated on how the theme of the conference came into being after the 2015 Chennai floods and stressed the need for academia, industry and the public to come together for effective disaster mitigation and management. Dr. B. Venkatraman provided his views on the theme of the conference and dwelled upon the highly advanced Decision Support System developed in IGCAR. Dr. S. Salivahanan, Principal, SSNCE welcomed the gathering and the conference chair Dr. S. Ramanagopal provided the highlights of the conference sessions.

The conf. had six technical presentations and eleven key note addresses. The speakers included academics, scientists and service personnel from varied backgrounds allowing for the conference to serve as a platform for constructive interaction and amalgamation of ideas. The invited speakers and their sessions include:

- Mr. M. K. Pathak, Scientist E, Research Development Establishment (Engg.), DRDO, Pune, "DRDO Technologies for Disaster Management".
- Dr. P. Mukhopadhyay, Scientist -E, Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, "Potential of High Resolution (12.5km) Global Forecast System (GFS) Model in Capturing Extreme Events over Indian Region".
- Dr. Kaustav Chakravarty, Scientist -E, Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, "Characteristics of Heavy Precipitation Events as Observed over Western Ghat Mountains".
- Dr. A. Boominathan, Prof., Geotechnical Engg. Division, Dept. of Civil Engg., IITM, Chennai, "Geotechnical Aspects for Seismic Resistant Structures".
- Dr. Goudappa Dodagoudar, Prof., Geotechnical Engg. Division, Dept. of Civil Engg., IITM, Chennai, "Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Assessment for Ground Motion Studies at Kanchipuram, Tamilnadu".
- Dr. Saswati Mukerjee, Prof. & Head, DIST, CEG, Anna University, "Cloud Computing for Disaster Management".
- Dr. R. Venkatesan, Group Head - Ocean Observation Systems, NIOT, Chennai, "Advancements in Ocean Observation in India for Tsunami and Cyclone".
- Mr. G. Padmanaban, Senior Manager, Communication & Telecom Infra., L&T Construction, Chennai, "Early Warning Dissemination Systems - ICT Solutions in Practice".
- Mr. Vinoj P Joseph, Assistant Commandant, NDRF, Arakkonam, "Disaster Response & Management".
- Dr. S. Mohan, Prof., Environmental & Water Resources Engg. Division, IITM, Chennai, "Floods & Droughts: Disaster Mitigation Strategies".
- Dr. G. P. Ganapathy, Director, Center for Disaster Mitigation & Management, VIT University, Vellore, "Earthquake Hazards Mitigation & Quick Response during Emergencies".

Bill Gates named world's richest man for 18th time: Microsoft Co-founder Bill Gates has been ranked first on Forbes' 2017 Billionaires list with a fortune of \$86 billion, and has been the world's richest person for 18 out of past 23 years. Warren Buffett reclaimed the second slot after two years, while Amazon's Jeff Bezos was ranked third. Further, Mark Zuckerberg has been ranked fifth for the first time.