

IESL Qatar Chapter

In Brief, IESL-Q (Formerly Sri Lanka Society of Engineers Qatar -SLSEQ) founded in Feb'2009 in affiliation to Sri Lankan Embassy in Qatar. In September 2014 this society was accredited as an overseas branch of the Institution of Engineers Sri Lanka. Also, the Qatar Chapter became the 3rd Overseas branch among the other overseas branches.

It was a long way through all the hardships and efforts for the IESL Qatar Chapter to become one of the most successful overseas chapters. As usual, remarkable events were taken place during the year, and achieved the expected success with the support of all the Chapter members (Or either Chapter Members). Qatar Chapter conducted its 5th Annual General Meeting, Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Sessions, and Corporate Social Responsibility Projects. Some of the planned events such as family gathering, and sports events were not conducted due to the prevailing pandemic situation. The IESL Qatar Chapter proudly presents its Annual Report for the year 2019/2020.

A synopsis of the IESL Qatar chapter events and activities of the year 2020 are as follows.

1. IESL Annual General Meeting 2019/2020

The Annual General Meeting 2019/2020 and Engineers' Night of The Institution of Engineers of Sri Lanka – Qatar Chapter was held on 31st of January 2020 at Mercure Grands Hotel – Doha, Qatar. Mr. Kohularangan Ratnasingam, Minister/Head of Chancery, Embassy of Sri Lanka - Qatar, graced the event as the chief guest.

A thoughtful welcome speech was given by the outgoing chairman of IESL Qatar Chapter Eng. Kamil Ariff. He thanked all outgoing ExCom members and previous chairmen, Eng. Niyamathulla, Eng. Saman Ranjith, Eng. Sarath Wejisoma, Eng. Jagath Perera, Eng. Thilakasiri Ekanayake, Eng. Rohana Egodagama, CEng. Chandralal Mendis and CEng. Jagath Gunasekera. He also stated that we need to produce great leaders who can take up the leadership in the future.

The Vision, Mission and Action plans of the IESL-Qatar Chapter were presented by the new President Eng. Prasanna Janakasiri and requested to all members, outgoing ExCom and incoming ExCom to extend the fullest support to take the chapter to the next level. Following the speech, an Interactive session with Qatar Chapter Engineers was held in an effective manner with the active participation of the members. AGM was concluded with the vote of thanks given by the new Secretary Eng. Manoj Vellaiyapillai, where he thanked all who supported to make the AGM very successful.

The following members were inducted as office bearers for the upcoming year 2019/2020.

Chairman	: Eng. Prasanna Janakasiri
Vice Chairman	: Eng. Chanaka Guruge
Secretary	: Eng. Manoj Vellaiyapillai
Treasurer	: Eng. Mohamed Fazil
Editor	: Eng. Janaka Samarathunga
Executive Committee Members:	

1. Eng. Prabuddha Lokuliyana
2. Eng. M.A.A. Rumais
3. Eng. A. M. Mohamed Riyas
4. Eng. Saddhathissa Sirisena
5. Eng. Nareshkumar Subramaniam



**Fig-01- Speech by Former President
Eng Kamil Ariff**



**Fig-02- Speech by New President-
Eng. Prasanna Janakasiri**



Fig-03- EXCOM Members (Year 2020/2021)

2. Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Events conducted by IESL Qatar Chapter for Year 2020

Even with the pandemic situation all around the world due to COVID-19 Outbreak, IESL Qatar Chapter managed to conduct six CPD sessions for last nine months and three (3) more CPD sessions have been scheduled by rest of year 2020 Considering the prevailing

pandemic situation, Qatar Chapter decided to continue CPD sessions via ZOOM Technology.

All CPDs were consisted of comprehensive presentations and Question & Answer sessions. As appreciation, Electronic Certificates were issued to all the participants. From the sixth CPD session onwards, we have opened our CPD sessions for all the members of IESL Worldwide as a positive approach. All these CPDs were led by Eng. Ahamed Rumais and Eng. Mohamed Riyas, who are the subcommittee members of CPD in Qatar Chapter for the year 2020.

The brief summary of each CPD events are as follows:

1. CPD/01 2020 - "Completion & Close-out of Construction Projects":



For the first ever event for the year 2020 in our chapter was the CPD presented by Eng. Ahamed Rumais, held on 11th April. He is the Contract Manager of Domopan Qatar WLL and he is having 20 years' experience. He is holding BSc Engineering degree from University of Peradeniya in the field of Civil Engineering and he also having qualifications such as LLM Construction Law and Arbitration in Robert

Gordon University UK, Associate Member of IESL (SL) and Member of Chartered Institute of Arbitrators in UK-MCI Arb(UK). During this CPD session Eng. Rumais, briefed an overview as of how a construction project is was completed under construction contracts in general as well as especially in the perspective of Qatar. Further he explained the consequences of Taking Over Certificate refer to FIDIC clauses.

2. CPD/02 2020 - "FIDIC Contracts & Qatar's Law Provide Contractors with Relief from the Adverse Impact of COVID-19":



The second CPD session was held on 08 May 2020 and presented by John Coghlan, Principal of C&E Legal Solutions in U.K. He is a Construction & Engineering law specialist with over 30 years' experience, as a sub-contractor and a lawyer working with the construction and engineering industry.

During the CPD session John briefed about WHO's beneficial contemporaneous evidence of "pandemic"; FIDIC relevant clauses related to "epidemic", "governmental actions" , "change in law" and "Force Majeure"; Relevant Articles of Qatar Law and finally explained Contractor's optimal strategy to protect its position and enhance its prospects of success if the matter evolves in to a formal "dispute".

3. CPD/03 2020 - "Project Risk Management":



Third CPD event was held on 4th June 2020 and presenter was Eng. Janaka Samarathunga who is currently working as a Senior Planning Engineer / Risk Coordinator in Doha Highway projects in Qatar. He is a Chartered member of CIOB (U.K.) and graduated from University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka.

During the CPD session, Eng. Janaka elaborated about Project Risk Management Procedures under the sub topics of Risk identification, Categorization, Analysis, Risk treatments and monitoring and finally how Risk monitoring can be ~~done~~ performed through Primavera software. His focus was the need of our professional

engineers to understand “Big Picture” about Risk Management in order to have a successful completion of project by identifying and monitoring all the related risks in advance to minimize as much as possible.

4. CPD/04 2020 - “Causes and Effects of Beach Erosion, Design & Construction, and Its Mitigation Measures” (Special reference to Mount Levinia, Sri Lanka recent Beach Erosion):



The fourth CPD session was held on 3rd July 2020. This CPD was resourced by Eng. Mohamed Ismath, Acting Director (Coastal/Marine) of Urbacon Trading and Contracting Company (UCC Holding) in Qatar. Eng. Ismath is a Chartered Engineer and obtained Post Graduate Diploma in Construction Project Management at University of Moratuwa and Graduated from University of Moratuwa as well.

During the CPD session, Eng. Ismath briefly explained about the beach erosion, and types of beaches; , basic requirements for beach design and its consequences, and different types construction methodology of beaches considering fund availability and mitigation measures for beach erosion.

5. CPD/05 2020 - “Marketing for Engineers”:



The fifth CPD session was held on 7th August 2020, presented by Eng. Thilakasiri Ekanayake, Group Managing Director of Procons Group of Companies in Sri Lanka. Eng. Thilakasiri is a Chartered Engineer, Project Management Professional (PMP) and currently reading for doctorate in Business Administration. He is having more than 27 years of experience in Project Planning Management and Business administration. He was Ex-President of Sri Lanka Society of Engineers Qatar in 2014.

During the CPD session, Eng. Thilakasiri explained about modern marketing concepts; how to improve our profile as an engineer; image building and branding; marketing professional importance within an organization and among co-workers; how marketing helps engineers to create product and services that meet need of customers, and finally briefed about how customers and other stakeholders extract value of Engineers’ service and product.

6. CPD/06 2020 - “Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Modern Era”:



The sixth CPD session was held on 4th September 2020, and presented by Eng. Harsha Kumara, PhD Researcher at La Trobe University, Melbourne Australia. This is the first CPD session which was opened for members of IESL Main Chapter and other Overseas Chapters. It would be a positive approach to raise the brand name of IESL Qatar Chapter among the Engineers of Sri Lanka and Overseas. The final appreciation should go to IESL Main Chapter to grant us such an opportunity to break the

challenges.

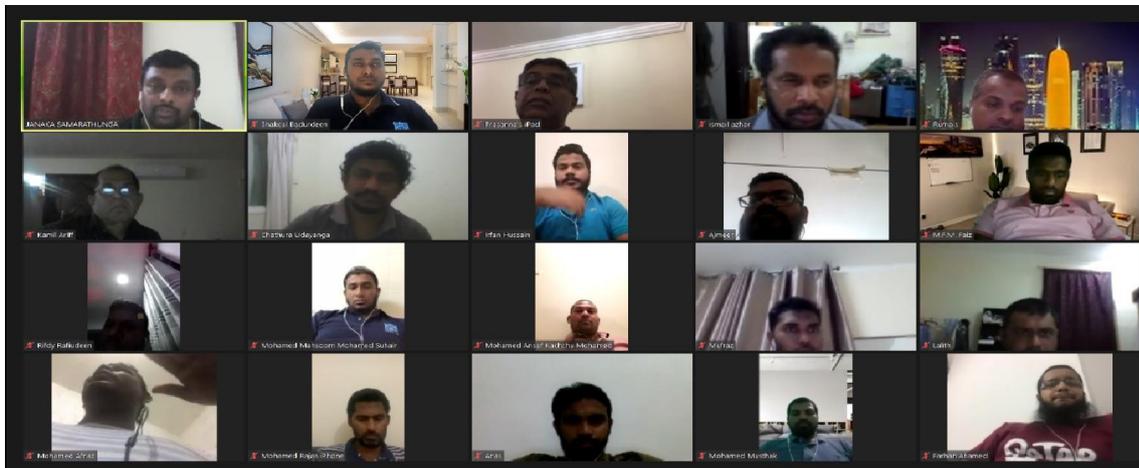


Fig-04-Snapshot of participants attended for one of CPD Session

3. Monthly EXCOM Meetings

Qatar chapter conducts its Executive Committee Meetings monthly basis, and also conducted ad hoc meetings where necessary. The Qatar Chapter has taken steps to conduct the meeting through Zoom application as viable solution for the current pandemic situation. The Agenda of the meeting is prepared in advance and circulated in the EXCOM group. Apart from the chapter future activities, information and requests gathered from other professional organizations in Qatar, Sri Lankan embassy in Qatar and Provincial/Overseas Chapter meetings are also being discussed in the EXCOM meetings. Minutes of the meeting is prepared by the secretary for circulation.

4. Article Publication

It was a great kick-off from the new President Eng. Prasanna Janakasiri by publishing the first Article from the Qatar Chapter for the year 2020 under the topic of “Technology and Work-Life Balance.”. the rest of the article have been published as follows.

- “Keep Your Heart of the project Heathy” by Eng. Janaka Samarathunga
- “Three Rules in Leading People” By Eng. Chathura Udayanga

The EXCOM Members are continuing to strive to collect more articles from the chapter members in the coming months of the year.

5. Corporate Social Responsibility Projects (CSR) conducted in year 2020

The ISEL Qatar Chapter has conducted few Cooperate Social Responsibility Projects (CSR) specially to support the affected communities due to pandemic situation. The Chapter has taken its full caliber as a team to accomplish the intended purpose of the CSR projects. We wish to highlight the following projects as the significant projects conducted by the Chapter during the most difficult situation.

1. Provision of two washing machines to District Hospital in Maho
2. Provision of Thousand (1000) Face masks through GMOA
3. Provision of food packages worth 1000 Qatari Riyals

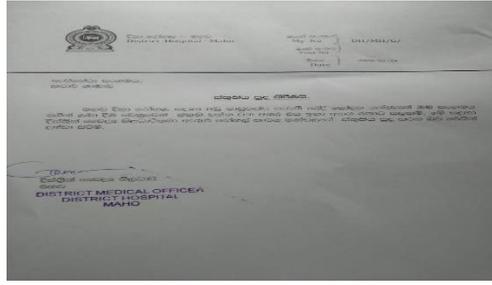


Fig-05-CSR Project:01- (Provision of Washing Machine to District Hospital, Maho)



Fig-06- CSR Project :02- Handing over of 1000 Face masks