



NEWSLETTER

Institution of Incorporated Engineers, Sri Lanka

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A CELEBRATION OF ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE

47TH ANNUAL SESSIONS



Eng. S.B.G.C.P. Sampathbandara delivering the Presidential Address

The ceremonial session of the 47th Annual Sessions of the Institution of Incorporated Engineers, Sri Lanka (IIESL) was held on 28th June 2025 at the Lotus Hall of the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall, Colombo. The event drew an impressive audience of senior professionals, government representatives, industry leaders and members of the Institution, marking another milestone in this distinguished professional body's journey.

The Chief Guest, Hon. Anura Karunathilaka M.P., Minister of Urban Development, Construction and Housing, was ceremonially received by the Council of Management, Past Presidents and the Board of Trustees of IIESL. Following the lighting of the traditional oil lamp, Eng. Ananda Gunawardena, President Elect of IIESL, extended a warm welcome to all dignitaries and participants, reaffirming the Institution's commitment to advancing engineering technology, fostering professional standards and contributing to national development.

(Contd... Page 17)

DEMISE OF PATRON OF IIESL HON. P. DAYARATNE

It is with deepest respect and profound sadness that we mourn the passing of Hon. Eng. P. Dayaratna, the dedicated Patron of IIESL, a respected engineer and veteran statesman of Sri Lanka, who passed away in late July 2025 at the age of 89.

Within the IIESL community, Eng. Dayaratna was a proud Patron, serving as both a bridge between engineering and national governance and an inspiration to professionals entering public life. We extend our sincere condolences to the family of Hon. P. Dayaratna and to our IIESL members who admired his leadership. His remarkable integration of technical expertise with public service will continue to inspire

May he attain the Supreme Bliss of Nibbana!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It is with deep honor that I address you for the first time as a newly elected President of the Institution of Incorporated Engineers, Sri Lanka (IIESL). I take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation for the confidence you have

placed in me and to reaffirm my commitment to serving our esteemed community with integrity and vision.

One of the foremost priorities during my tenure is to enhance professional status of the Incorporated Engineer. These professionals are vital to the growth and sustainability of our nation's engineering and

technological progress and IIESL remains steadfast in championing their rightful position in society.

We are planning to establish roles, responsibilities and competencies for the Incorporated Engineer in collaboration with ECSL—a significant step towards professional standardization and enhanced credibility across the industry.

Additionally, IIESL has commenced construction of its new Head Office building. This endeavour marks a historical milestone for the institution. To ensure its successful completion, fundraising activities will be implemented as another main objective for this year. I warmly invite all members and partners to participate and contribute to this collective achievement.

Let us move forward united, guided by purpose, empowered by professionalism, and inspired by our shared values. Together, we will uphold the dignity of our profession and continue to elevate IIESL to greater heights.

Eng. Ananda Gunawardana
President, IIESL – Session 2025 – 2026

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE



I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the newly appointed President and the Council of Management of the Institution of Incorporated Engineers, Sri Lanka. It is with great pleasure that I warmly welcome you to the session 2025/2026 of IIESL.

IIESL is the only professional body in Sri Lanka for Incorporated Engineers. As Members of this professional body, our duty is to uphold the engineering standards. Continuation of professional development is strengthening our way forward.

During the new session (2025/2026), let us remember the vital role that we have to play for the advancement of engineering excellence, sustainable practices and innovation within the engineering community. Together, we can drive positive changes and further enhance the value of IIESL in the industry.

Warmest wishes for a successful and impactful year ahead.

Eng. M.E.P. Tennakoon
Secretary, IIESL – Session 2025 - 2026

PICTURE GALLERY I – HIGHLIGHTS OF ANNUAL SESSIONS - 2025



Chief Guest and other dignitaries are being escorted



A section of the audience with distinguished guests

EDITORIAL

Thinking like an innovator in problem-solving in Engineering

It is with great enthusiasm that I step into the role of Editor of the Institution of Incorporated Engineers, Sri Lanka. I am honoured to contribute to this institution's legacy of excellence and innovation in engineering.

Innovation is the engine of progress in engineering and only creative people will be able to sculpt the future. In the words of the engineer, the essence of solving problems, being adaptable and being fully innovative is to address the real-world challenges at hand.

Today, technology plays a vital role in problems and innovations. An engineer must be aware of the latest developments in artificial intelligence, automation and data analytics, which are all proving to be powerful tools for engineers to handle complex processes better and reduce human error while providing value-oriented solutions. With such a mindset, an engineer can not only solve the problem at some point but also create solutions that will revolutionize an entire industry and enhance the lives of millions.

Our publications serve as a mirror reflecting the ingenuity, dedication and progress within our engineering community. As the Editor, I am committed to curating content that resonates with our readers not just through technical excellence, but also through stories that spark curiosity, foster collaboration and provoke thoughtful discourse.

We aim to make this newsletter a vibrant forum where pioneering ideas are shared, celebrated and challenged. Whether you are a seasoned engineer, a student finding your path, or an industry leader shaping the future of your insight matter.

I invite you to contribute, connect and be a part of this exciting journey.

Together, let us elevate the voice of Sri Lanka's engineering talent and continue to push boundaries.

Eng. W.B. Damitha Abeykoon

Editor, IIESL

Session 2025-2026

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INCO AWARD CEREMONY 2025 – CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE AND INNOVATION IN ENGINEERING

The INCO Award Ceremony 2025, organized by the Institution of Incorporated Engineers, Sri Lanka (IIESL), was held with great splendor at the Golden Rose Banquet Hall, Boralesgamuwa, continuing its tradition of honoring excellence, innovation, and professionalism within Sri Lanka's engineering and industrial sectors. This prestigious event marked the formal conclusion of INCO 2025, the country's premier industrial exhibition and trade fair. It brought together industry leaders, professionals, exhibitors, sponsors and distinguished guests for an evening of celebration and recognition.

The event commenced with the arrival of invitees, special guests and the Chief Guest, followed by the lighting of the traditional oil lamp by IIESL officials and dignitaries. The national anthem was sung as the curtain rose to open the evening formally.

The Master of Ceremonies, Eng. Jagath Arewwawala, ably assisted by two young representatives from IET Katunayaka, guided the event proceedings. INCO Chairman, Eng. K Ariyawansa, delivered the welcome address, commending the efforts of the organizing team, participants and institutional supporters. A series of cultural performances by a talented dance troupe added a vibrant artistic touch to the evening, enhancing the celebratory spirit.

IIESL President, Eng. Chulabhaya Sampathbandara, in his keynote address, emphasized the importance of collaboration, innovation, and ethical leadership within the engineering profession. A video presentation followed, offering a visual recap of the key highlights and accomplishments of INCO 2025.

Recognition of Excellence: Awards Presentation

The centerpiece of the evening was the presentation of awards and certificates across 26 categories, recognizing outstanding exhibitors and contributors to the exhibition. Awards were presented in seven segments throughout the ceremony. Among the notable recipients were:

- Most Attractive & Dynamic Product Display – *Softnet Information (Pvt) Ltd*
- Best Stall – Well Managed – *ACL Cables PLC*
- Best Overall Exhibitor – *Softnet Information (Pvt) Ltd*

Additional categories celebrated excellence in areas such as:

- Best Engineering Service Provider
- Best Exhibitor in Education Services
- Stall with the Highest Technological Standards
- Best Contributor to Effective Social Information
- Most Innovative Product Display

Sponsor Acknowledgements and Special Moments

The event also showcased video tributes to key sponsors, who played an essential role in supporting INCO 2025:

- Main Sponsor – *Micro Power Engineering (Pvt) Ltd*
- Platinum Sponsor – *ADS Solar (Pvt) Ltd*, which featured a creative comedy video titled "Amathi Kolama"
- Gold Sponsor – *Sinhagiri (Pvt) Ltd*

A highlight of the evening was the introduction of the technical book, "*Lightning and Surge Protection*", authored by Eng. Leyart de Silva, Managing Director of Micro Power Engineering (Pvt) Ltd. The first copy was ceremonially presented to the Chief Guest, Mr. Mangala Wijesinghe, Chairman of the Export Development Board (EDB).

The IIESL also extended special appreciation to Mr. and Mrs. Botheju, acknowledging Mrs. Botheju's long-standing and generous support for the Institution and its activities.

International Participation and New Initiatives

INCO 2025 welcomed significant international participation, with 10 Chinese stalls and 5 Indian stalls, contributing to a notable increase in visitor engagement.

This year introduced two innovative additions to the INCO program:

1. A technical session, held for the first time on the second day of the exhibition, was successfully conducted in partnership with Indian collaborator FANUC.
2. A technical skills competition for students from the German Technical Training Institutes
3. (GTTI) in Ratmalana and Kilinochchi, which covered seven skill areas and was effectively coordinated by Eng. Shantha Senarath and his team.

Closing Remarks and Financial Achievement

Guest of Honour, Eng. Upali Rathnayake, Chairman of National Paper Company Ltd, addressed the gathering and spoke on the pivotal role of engineers in national development and sustainability. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Eng. Ananda Gunawardena, President Elect of IIESL, followed by a fellowship dinner, fostering networking and camaraderie among attendees.

Despite a challenging environment, INCO 2025 exceeded expectations, achieving a net income of Rs. 12.74 million, surpassing its ambitious financial target of Rs. 12 million, more than double the previous year's goal.

Eng. K. Ariyawansa, Chairman of the INCO 2025 Organizing Committee, expressed his gratitude, saying, “I take this opportunity to extend my sincere appreciation to the President and Council of Management of the IIESL, the INCO organizing team, the Marketing team, and the dedicated staff of the Institution for their unwavering support and commitment, which made INCO 2025 a resounding success.”

The INCO Award Ceremony 2025 was more than an evening of accolades—it was a reaffirmation of IIESL’s mission to empower professionals, drive innovation and make a meaningful contribution to Sri Lanka’s engineering landscape. With new initiatives, international engagement, and strong institutional support, INCO continues to evolve as a cornerstone platform for industrial and technological excellence in the region.

ENG. DR. T. A. G. GUNASEKARA APPOINTED VICE PATRON OF IIESL

The Institution of Incorporated Engineers, Sri Lanka (IIESL) is pleased to announce the appointment of Eng. Dr. T. A. G. Gunasekara, *PhD, MSc Eng, NDT, FIIESL, MIESL, CEng, IEng*, as its new Vice Patron. He succeeds the late Eng. Prof. Dayantha Wijeyesekera, whose service and leadership were of immense value to the Institution. Dr. Gunasekara acknowledged Prof. Wijeyesekera as his Guru, recognizing the guidance and mentorship he received from him throughout his professional and academic career.



University of Moratuwa, an MSc in Engineering with First Class Honors and a PhD in Engineering from the National University of Ireland. He began his career with the National Diploma in Technology (NDT) and completed the Part II examinations of the Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka (IESL).

Dr. Gunasekara has held numerous senior positions, including Director of the Institute of Technology, University of Moratuwa and Director of the Open University of Sri Lanka. He has chaired

several key state sector organizations, including the State Engineering Corporation, Road Development Authority, Construction Industry Development Authority, Urban Settlement Development Authority, National Engineering Research & Development Centre and the Road Construction & Development Company, and has served as Project Director for several major projects.

Dr. Gunasekara has been associated with the Institution since its inception, playing a pivotal role in the formation of the All-Ceylon Engineering Diplomates Association (ACEDA) in 1977–1978, the body that later transformed into IIESL. He has served as President in 1981–1982, 1982–1983 and 1993–1994, contributing nearly five decades of dedicated service to the Institution.

Currently, he represents IIESL as a Council Member of the Engineering Council of Sri Lanka (ECSL). The Institution warmly congratulates Eng. Dr. T. A. G. Gunasekara on his appointment as Vice Patron and looks forward to his continued leadership and guidance.

A distinguished Incorporated Engineer and Chartered Engineer, he is widely recognized as an academic, administrator and national leader. His academic qualifications include a Master’s in Engineering from the

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- Professional Affairs Functional Committee
Eng. U.A. Gunasekera
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- Statutes Committee
Eng. P. A. D. R. Chandrasiri
- INCO Organizing Committee
Eng. D.S. Senerath

VIDYA JYOTHI PROFESSOR DAYANTHA SEPAL WIJEYSEKERA COMMEMORATION ORATION 2025

The Institution of Incorporated Engineers, Sri Lanka (IIESL), held the Vidya Jyothi Professor Dayantha S Wijeyesekera Commemoration Oration on May 8, 2025, marking his second death anniversary. The solemn occasion paid tribute to a distinguished academic and an engineering visionary who dedicated his life to advancing engineering education and uplifting communities across Sri Lanka.

This year's Oration, under the theme "*Transforming Sri Lanka Railways: Driving the Engine of Economic Growth*," was delivered by Eng. Priyal De Silva, Former General Manager of Sri Lanka Railways and Past President of the Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka.



Commemorative Oration by Eng. Priyal De Silva

Honouring a Legacy

The ceremony commenced with a welcome address by Eng. Chulabhaya Sampathbandara, President of IIESL, who recalled with admiration Prof. Wijeyesekera's lifelong support for the Institution as its Vice Patron. He noted that the late Professor's mentorship and leadership had left an indelible mark on both engineering and society.

Eng. Prof. Bhadrani Thoradeniya, Immediate Past President of IIESL, made an inspiring introduction to Prof. Wijeyesekera's remarkable career. She highlighted his services as Vice Chancellor of both the University of Moratuwa and the Open University of Sri Lanka. During his tenure at Moratuwa, he



was instrumental in the establishment of the Institute of Technology, University of Moratuwa (ITUM). He was recognized among Sri Lanka's Ten Outstanding Young Persons in 1981, and he was later conferred the Vidya Jyothi national honour in 2005.

The gathering observed a minute of silence in his memory, followed by a symbolic garlanding of his portrait by Mrs. Wijeyesekera, accompanied by the IIESL President and Eng. Namalie Siyambalapatiya.



Mrs. Wijeyesekera garlanding the portrait of the Late Prof. Wijeyesekera

Commemoration and Oration

Past President Eng. Pushpa Jinadasa introduced the orator, after which Eng. Priyal De Silva began his address by recalling Prof. Wijeyesekera's early academic career, including his time at the University of Edinburgh while pursuing his PhD. He highlighted the late Professor's transformative contributions to education and vocational training in Sri Lanka.

Turning to the theme of the evening, Eng. De Silva traced the origins of Sri Lanka Railways, established in 1858 primarily for freight transport. He touched on its later expansion to passenger services and the challenges faced in adapting to modern demands. While noting that the sector requires urgent reforms, he stressed that visionary leadership such as that demonstrated by Prof. Wijeyesekera remains essential for infrastructural development. He concluded by recalling Prof. Wijeyesekera's belief that "*any project to be successful requires dedicated input from all levels of the engineering profession.*"

The event concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Eng. Sujeevan Kuruppu, Vice President/ Chairman, Events Committee of IIESL, who extended gratitude to the orator, distinguished guests and the Wijeyesekera family for their presence. Mr. Tharaka Siyambalapatiya conducted the evening with great grace as the compeer.

The 2025 Commemoration Oration not only honoured the memory of Vidya Jyothi Professor Dayantha S Wijeyesekera but also served as a reminder of the enduring value of vision, leadership and unwavering dedication to the betterment of society.

A SHOWCASE OF PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE AND INSIGHT

INCO FUSION 2025



President, IIESL and Dignitaries Lighting the Traditional Oil Lamp

The IIESL successfully hosted its Annual Technical Session, INCO Fusion 2025, on 27th June at the Grand Ballroom of Hotel Waters Edge, Battaramulla. Organized by the Education and Training Committee together with the Events Committee, this event provided a vibrant platform for knowledge sharing, leadership insights, and professional networking. The event drew broad participation from professionals, academics, and government representatives, reflecting the growing influence of the IIESL in Sri Lanka's engineering and development sectors.

Several high-profile personalities graced the event, including Eng. Dr. Tilak De Silva, Chairman, Engineering Council Sri Lanka, Prof. Chandana Jayalath, Chairman, Construction Industry Development Authority and Eng. Granie R. Jayalath, President, Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka. Their presence added distinction to the occasion.

The keynote speech was delivered by Eng. Anton Peiris, Past President of IIESL. Three speakers led the technical session. Dr. Kishu Gomes, Chairman of Exterminators PLC and Group Managing Director/CEO of Dreamron Group,

addressed the audience on "Navigating Modern-Day Challenges to Be an Unbeatable Professional."

This was followed by a presentation from Eng. Deepal Wickremasinghe, who is an experienced civil and structural engineer. He shared his expertise on the "Restoration of Bentota Beach Hotel."

Dr. Samantha Rathnayake, a senior faculty member of the Postgraduate Institute of Management, was the 3rd speaker who talked on "Setting the Leadership Agenda: Context Matters."



The three speakers – From Left Dr. Kishu Gomes, Eng. Deepal Wickremasinghe and Dr. Samantha Rathnayake

A panel discussion and interactive Q&A session moderated by Dr. Jayantha Hettiarachchi followed, enriching the discourse and allowing participants to engage directly with the speakers.

Mementos were presented to the speakers by the IIESL President, Eng. Sampathbandara and President Elect Eng. Ananda Gunawardena. The session was closed with a Vote of Thanks proposed by Eng. Gunawardena, followed by a fellowship dinner that fostered camaraderie among members and guests.

INCO Fusion 2025 stood out as a dynamic forum that reaffirmed the IIESL's commitment to professional excellence, innovation and the continuous advancement of the engineering community



Panel Discussion in progress



**Above – Panelists with the President and President Elect
Left: Audience of the INCO Fusion 2025**

PICTURE GALLERY II – INCO AWARD CEREMONY 2025



PICTURE GALLERY III – HIGHLIGHTS OF ANNUAL SESSIONS - 2025



Hon Minister Anura Karunathilaka lighting the traditional oil lamp with the Council Members and guests



The Chief Guest, Hon. Minister Anura Karunathilaka M.P. addressed the audience



Keynote Speech delivered by Eng. Prof. Bhadraniye Thoradeniya



The President and the President Elect presenting the memento to Hon. Minister Anura Karunathilaka



Ceremonial induction of the President, IIESL for Session 2025-2026



Above: Newly appointed Vice-Patron Dr. T A G Gunasekera addressing the audience



Far Left: Eng. Mahinda Tennakoon, Secretary, IIESL proposing the Vote of Thanks



Left: Section of the distinguished invitees

PICTURE GALLERY IV – HIGHLIGHTS OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 2025



Head Table with the President, President Elect and Council Members of Session 2024-2025



Eng. P A D R Chandrasiri Chairman, Statutes Committee, Tabling of Resolutions at AGM



Chief Returning Officer Eng. W A U Gunawardena and the Election Panel conducting the election of the Council of Management



A part of the Audience



Eng. Ananda Gunawardana President Elect addressing the AGM of Session 2024-2025

**ANNUAL
GENERAL
MEETING
2025**

OFFICE BEARERS OF THE IIESL: SESSION 2025 - 2026



Eng. Ananda Gunawardana
President



Eng. S.B.G.C.P. Sampathbandara
Immediate Past



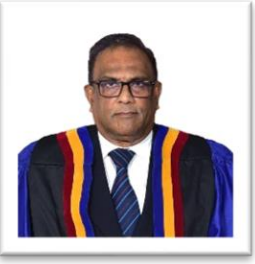
Eng. P.A.D.R. Chandrasiri
Past President



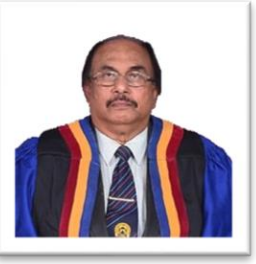
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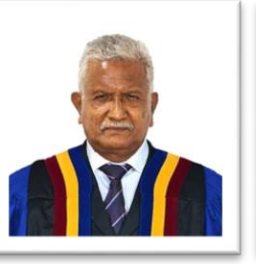
Eng. W.A. Kulathilake
Vice President
(From 12.07.2025)



Eng. U.K.S. Hettige
Vice President
(From 12.07.2025)



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(From 12.07.2025)



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19TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND ANNUAL GATHERING – IIESL UAE BRANCH

The 19th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Institution of Incorporated Engineers, Sri Lanka UAE Branch (IIESL-UAE) will be held on 21st September 2025 via a virtual platform or hybrid platform. The Annual Gathering of members and their families is scheduled for 27th September 2025 at the Pullman Hotel, Dubai.

Announcing the events, the current Chairman of the Branch, Eng. Tharanga Perera stated that the AGM will be conducted virtually to overcome the challenges faced by members travelling from distant Emirates and to facilitate the participation of IIESL Council Members joining from Sri Lanka. He also highlighted that the Annual Gathering will be designed to appeal more to the younger generation, with enhanced opportunities for networking and fellowship.

Eng. Dhammika Gamage, a Past Chairman of the branch and the Returning Officer, has called nominations to elect Executive Committee members for the Session 2025-2026.

Established in 2006 by a dedicated group of IIESL Members and Engineering Diplomates employed in the UAE, the UAE Branch holds the distinction of being the first-ever overseas branch of any Sri Lankan professional

institution. With strong support from Past Presidents and the Council of the IIESL, the founding Executive

Committee consolidated the professional network of Sri Lankan engineering diplomates in the UAE, conducting Professional Review Examinations (PREs) with the Council's participation. This initiative resulted in the election of over 150 Members and Associate Members within the first two years of operation. The UAE Branch also played a key role in the formation of the IIESL Qatar Branch.

Over the years, the IIESL UAE Branch has grown into a leading professional body in the region, spearheading several collaborative initiatives. These include facilitating the establishment of the UAE Branch of the Postgraduate Institute of Management (PIM), University of Sri Jayawardenepura, and the formation of the Sri Lankan Professionals Association (SLPA) in the UAE.

Demonstrating its commitment to the IIESL's growth, the UAE Branch has made significant contributions to the Institution's Building Fund, including Rs. 1,000,000 in 2006, Rs. 300,000 in 2013 and Rs. 500,000 by its members. Through its leadership and coordination, a combined total of Rs. 2.49 m has been contributed by the UAE Branch, Qatar Branch and IIESL members in Oman and Qatar.

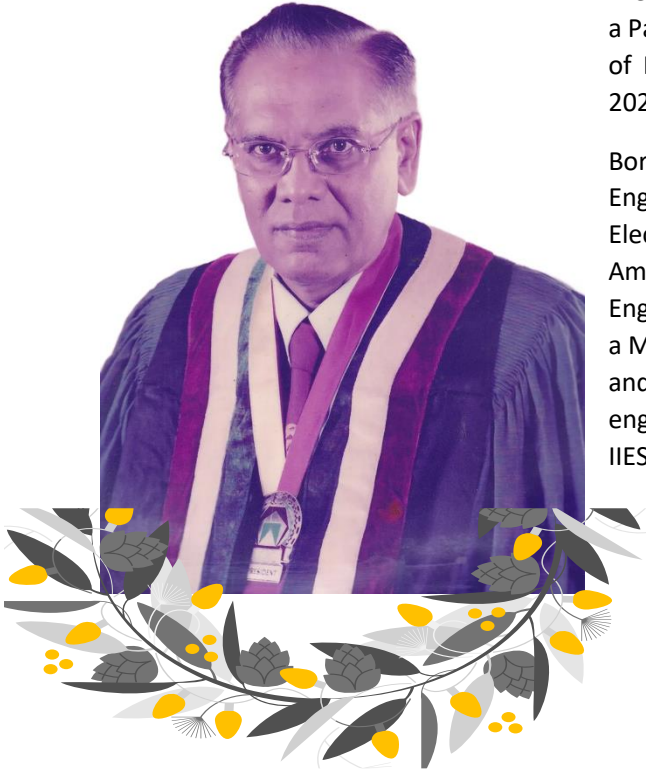


From its inception, the UAE Branch has set a benchmark for professional associations, continuously advancing its mission and achieving new milestones. The upcoming AGM and Annual Gathering will mark yet another step in its journey of service, collaboration and professional excellence.

Prof. Dayantha Wijeyesekera, Eng Sisira Walaliyadde - Founder Chairman of the UAE Branch, Eng Bandula Wimalasundara - President IIESL, (2006-2007) with Mr. Mufthy Hashim and other dignitaries from City & Guilds at the C&G Award Ceremony during Session 2006-2007

TRIBUTES TO MEMBERS WHO ARE NO MORE

Eng. H. B. Jayaratna (F0025)



We are deeply saddened to announce the passing of Eng. H. B. Jayaratna, a Past President, a former Hony. Secretary and a Fellow of the Institution of Incorporated Engineers, Sri Lanka (IIESL), who passed away in July 2025.

Born in Lunugalagama, Pattipola in June 1944, Eng. Jayaratna pursued his Engineering education with distinction. He obtained his Diploma in Electrical Engineering from the Hardy Institute of Technical Training, Ampara, in 1965 and was elected as a Member of the Institute of Engineers and Technicians, London (MIET, UK) in 1985. He was elected as a Member of the Institute of Engineering Diplomates, Sri Lanka (M0299), and later, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the engineering field, he was conferred membership class of 'Fellow' of the IIESL in 1996 (F0025).

Eng. Jayaratna's engineering career spanned a wide range of public and private sector organizations. He began as a Technical Assistant with the River Valleys Development Board and later served at the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation, Plywood Corporation and other notable institutions as an Electrical Engineer. In 1992, he assumed the role of Managing Director at the Consultancy Consortium and subsequently served as Senior Project Manager at Electroserve (Pvt) Ltd.

As a very prominent member of the IIESL, Eng. Jayaratna played a pivotal leadership role, serving as the President of the Institution for the session 1999–2000. His tenure was marked by a steadfast commitment to the growth and development of the institution and its members.

We offer our heartfelt condolences to his family, colleagues, and friends. **May he attain the Supreme Bliss of Nibbana!**

Eng. P. Lionel De Silva (F0079)



With deep respect and sorrow, we commemorate the life of Eng. P. Lionel De Silva, a dedicated Fellow of the Institution of Incorporated Engineers, Sri Lanka (IIESL), who passed away in July 2025.

Born in Colpetty in 1946. Eng. De Silva earned his National Diploma in Technology in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Ceylon, Katubedda Campus in 1971. He obtained a Diploma in Technology in Mechanical Engineering from the Open University of Sri Lanka in 1994.

He commenced his professional journey at Pure Beverages Co. Ltd. as the Officer-in-Charge and Senior Foreman. Subsequently, he served at Upali Consumer Products, Board of Investment (BOI) as Director (Administration), and later at Lankaputhra Development Bank, where he held the position of Manager (Administration) until his retirement.

Eng. De Silva was a Member of IIESL from the time of ACEDA and was later elevated to the membership class of 'Fellow' in 2011. Throughout his membership, he made significant contributions to the institution, serving as Treasurer, Hony. Secretary and as a Council Member for an impressive 15 years. His colleagues and peers will long remember Eng. De Silva's contributions.

We extend our deepest condolences to his family and loved ones. **Wish him the Supreme Bliss of Nibbana!**

TRIBUTES TO MEMBERS WHO ARE NO MORE

Eng. Asai Thiagarajah (F0013)



It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of Eng. Asai Thiagarajah, a distinguished Fellow of the Institution of Incorporated Engineers, Sri Lanka (IIESL), departed from us in July 2025.

He was born in Moratuwa in 1939. Eng. Thiagarajah obtained his Diploma in Mechanical Engineering from the Technical Training Institute in Ampara in 1963. He later became a Graduate of the City & Guilds of London in 2007.

Eng. Thiagarajah commenced his career in River Valleys Development Board (RVDB), serving from 1963 until 1980 and rising to the position of Equipment Manager. His subsequent appointments included the Cement Corporation, East-West (CLF) Ltd., the Fisheries Corporation and the Land Reclamation and Development Corporation as a Mechanical Engineer.

He was a committed and active member of IIESL, elevated to the membership class of Fellow in 1995 (F0013). He served as the Executive Secretary of the IIESL from 2000 to 2007 and also served as a Council Member of the Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka. He was a former General Secretary of the Hardy Alumni Association.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to his family and loved ones. **May he attain Moksha!**

Eng. W. Ranjith Nihal Hemachandra Epa (M0350)



We are deeply saddened by the recent passing of Eng. W. Ranjith Nihal Hemachandra Epa, a long-standing Member of the Institution of Incorporated Engineers, Sri Lanka (IIESL).

Born in Kottawa on 20th February 1958, Eng. Epa obtained his National Diploma in Technology in Civil Engineering in 1982, following studies at the University of Moratuwa. Eng. Epa became a Member of the IIESL in 1989.

He started his career as Maintenance Superintendent (Civil) at the Ceylon Ceramics Corporation and subsequently joined the Central Engineering Consultancy Bureau (CECB) as an Engineering Assistant and faithfully served in various projects, including Kothmale Hydro Power project. In 1999, he was promoted as an Engineer and thereafter he served in various capacities such as Site Engineer, Resident Engineer etc. until his retirement.

We extend our deepest sympathies to his family, colleagues and friends.

May he attain the Supreme Bliss of Nibbana!

Eng. D. Bimal Sampath Ranasinghe (M1577)



We express our heartfelt condolences on the passing of Eng. D. B. S. Ranasinghe, a valued Member of the Institution of Incorporated Engineers, Sri Lanka (IIESL), who departed in July 2025.

Born in Kottawa in 1963, Eng. Ranasinghe received his early education at Mahanama College and Royal College, Colombo. He obtained his National Diploma in Technology in Mechanical Engineering in 1991 from the University of Moratuwa. Furthering his professional qualifications, he became a Graduate of the City & Guilds of London in 2007. Eng. Ranasinghe joined IIESL in 2004 as a Member of IIESL (M1577),

His professional journey began in 1992 at House of Malibun, where his consistent performance and technical expertise were conducive for saw him to rise from the position of Engineering Assistant to Engineer (Technical) by 2006. Later, he joined ACL Cables Ltd. and Colombo Dockyard Ltd. to continue his professional career.

His demise is an irreparable loss to all of us.

May he attain the Supreme Bliss of Nibbana!

NEW FELLOWS OF THE IIESL

During the session 2024 - 2025, three distinguished Members of the Institution were elevated to the 'Fellow' class of Membership. Their achievements were ceremonially honored as they received their 'Fellow' certificates at the 47th Annual Session from Senior Prof. P. M. C. Thilakaratne, Vice-Chancellor, Open University of Sri Lanka.



Eng. M.E.P. Tennakoon - F 0134



Eng. K.G.I. Deshapriya - F 0137



Eng. A.B. Sarathsiri Silva - F 0135

TRIBUTES TO MEMBERS WHO ARE NO MORE

Eng. R. D. Nimalaweera (M0123)



The Institution of Incorporated Engineers, Sri Lanka (IIESL) mourns the passing of Eng. R. D. Nimalaweera, a long-serving Member of the Institution, who passed away in June 2025 at the age of 71.

Born in Niyadandupola in Kegalle district in April 1954, Eng. Nimalaweera obtained his National Diploma in Technology in Mechanical Production Engineering from the University of Sri Lanka, Katubedda Campus in 1975. He was a member of IIESL in 1989 at the time of ACEDA.

Eng. Nimalaweera started his professional career as a Foreman at Austin Metal Industries. His professional journey included roles at the National Apprentice Board, CISIR and the Ceylon Cement Corporation. He also gained valuable international experience at the Iraq Cement Works. Upon returning to Sri Lanka, he served as a Mechanical Engineer at the Central Engineering Consultancy Bureau (CECB) and later transitioned into the private sector, where he held the position of Managing Director.

May he attain the Supreme Bliss of Nibbana!

MOU BETWEEN IIESL AND CPM

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Institution of Incorporated Engineers, Sri Lanka (IIESL) and Institute of Chartered Professional Managers of Sri Lanka (CPM) was signed on 28th June, 2025 at Lotus Hall, BMICH, Colombo, Sri Lanka, on the occasion of the Annual General Meeting of IIESL focusing to obtain multiple benefits to members of both institutions.

The Institute of Chartered Professional Managers of Sri Lanka known as **CPM Sri Lanka**, is a duly incorporated professional body under the laws of Sri Lanka, having its office at No. 11, Melbourne Avenue, Colombo 04.

The CPM has recognized the IIESL as a Professional Institution that is dedicated to the advancement of engineering technology and the professional development of incorporated engineers in Sri Lanka. Similarly, the IIESL has recognized that the CPM Sri Lanka is a recognized professional body committed to promoting best practices in business management and professional development in Sri Lanka.

Both IIESL and CPM recognize the value of collaboration to advance mutual objectives in professional development, industry engagement and knowledge dissemination.

The IIESL first met with the CPM in 2022, following the introduction of Eng. W. A. Kulathilaka, who is a Fellow Member of both the Institutions. Since 2022, the IIESL has participated in many events organized by CPM and CPM has participated in many events organized by the IIESL.

Former Presidents of the IIESL, Eng. Pushpa Jinadasa and Eng. Prof. Bhadrane Thoradeniya have given the leadership necessary to finalise this worthy cause and during the Session 2024-2025 under the guidance of Eng. Chulabhaya Sampathbandara President, the IIESL was able to finalise the MoU with the CPM. Prof Lakshman R Watawala, President CPM, Dr. Samantha Rathnayake and Mr. Dilshan Arshakularathna, Director CPM, along with all the Governing Council Members, have unanimously given their agreement to make this partnership.



Historical signing of the MoU on behalf of IIESL by Eng. Chulabhaya Sampathbandara, President IIESL and on behalf of CPM by Prof Lakshman R Watawala, President CPM.

Standing From Left - Eng.W.A.Kulathilaka, Eng.Ananda Gunawardena, Eng. K.S.P. Nonis, Eng. M.E.P. Tennakoon, Eng. Prof. Bhadrane Thoradeniya, Eng. Pushpa Jinadasa, Mr. Kosala M. Dissanayake, Mr. H.M. Hennayake Bandara and Mr. Dilshan Arshakularathna.

47TH ANNUAL SESSIONS

A video presentation traced the Institution's journey from its inception in 1977 as ACEDA, transformation into IEDSL in 1989 and adoption of its present name, IIESL, in 2000, culminating in its recognition as a partner of the Engineering Council of Sri Lanka in 2017. This legacy, built over decades, reflects the dedication of generations of Incorporated Engineers.

Keynote Insights

Delivering the keynote address, *"Empowering Practical Engineering: The Role of Incorporated Engineers in National Development"*, Eng. Prof. Bhadraniya Thoradeniya described the Incorporated Engineer as a "practical engineer" forged through rigorous technical education, hands-on industry experience and resilience in real-world problem-solving. Far from being auxiliary, they are systems integrators, frontline managers and first troubleshooters, mission-critical to projects ranging from water supply schemes to energy grids.

She emphasized that what sets them apart is not a lack of theory, but an abundance of applied competence—technical proficiency, diagnostic skill, communication ability and adaptability. Drawing parallels with global standards such as the UK-SPEC, she noted that Sri Lanka must adapt similar recognition frameworks, valuing engineers for their role and capability rather than their entry pathway. Her call to action urged formal inclusion of Incorporated Engineers in public service leadership, clear career progression routes and professional parity across the engineering spectrum.

Address by the Chief Guest

Commending IIESL's contributions over nearly five decades, the Chief Guest highlighted the profession's vital role at a time when Sri Lanka is striving for economic recovery, social stability and infrastructure renewal. He echoed the keynote's message that all engineers, regardless of pathway, must be unified and recognized for

their contributions. Incorporated Engineers, he said, exemplify professionalism, dedication and purpose, serving as engines of national development.

Ceremonial Highlights

A landmark moment was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between IIESL and the Institute of Chartered Professional Managers of Sri Lanka, aimed at fostering educational promotion, professional development, joint programmes, membership pathways, and resource sharing. The programme also featured a vibrant cultural performance by talented artists, adding a touch of tradition and celebration.

Vice Patron Eng. Dr. T. A. G. Gunasekera addressed the gathering, commending the Institution's steady progress and encouraging innovation. The awards ceremony recognized three newly appointed Fellows, 101 new Members and 126 Associate Members, each presented with certificates marking their professional advancement. A dedicated video presentation updated attendees on the progress of the new IIESL Head Office Building, a project of strategic importance to the Institution's future.

In appreciation, mementoes were presented to the Chief Guest, Guest of Honour and special guests. The session concluded with the ceremonial induction of Eng. Ananda Gunawardena as President for the 2025/2026 Session, marking a smooth leadership transition. The Vote of Thanks by Secretary Eng. Mahinda Tennakoon closed the formalities, followed by refreshments.

The 47th Annual Sessions ceremonial session not only celebrated professional achievements but also reinforced IIESL's role as a unifying force in engineering, committed to excellence, collaboration and national service—continuing a proud tradition while charting a course for the future. (See Photo gallery I (Pg 2) and II (Pg 9).

47TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE IIESL

The 47th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Institution of Incorporated Engineers, Sri Lanka (IIESL) was held on 28th June 2025 at the Lotus Hall, BMICH, following the ceremonial session. The meeting, chaired by the outgoing President, Eng. S.B.G.C.P. Sampathbandara proceeded with a full agenda of institutional business and concluded with the induction of the new leadership for the session 2025/2026.

The proceedings began with the tabling and adoption of the Minutes of the AGM 2023/2024, followed by the presentation of the Annual Report. The Audited Financial Report for the year ending March 31, 2025, was then tabled and unanimously adopted.

A key highlight of the session was the tabling and adoption of ten Resolutions amending the By-Laws of the Institution. These amendments, proposed by the Council of Management (2024/2025) and explained by the Chairman of the Statutes Committee, Eng. P.A.D.R. Chandrasiri, were adopted unanimously by the corporate members present.

Summary of Resolutions

- Resolution No. 1 – Amendment to Para 13 'Interpretation' of By-Laws on reciprocal membership awarding procedures.

- Resolution No. 2 – Amendments to By-Laws 5.2.3 (ii), 5.2.3 (iii) and insertion of new By-Law 5.2.6 under ‘Election to Membership’, establishing an Appeal Board on membership elections.
- Resolution No. 3 – Introduction of By-Law 6.6.0 under ‘Rights and Privileges’, requiring members representing IIESL externally to submit comprehensive reports to the Council.
- Resolution No. 4 – Addition of By-Law 7.1.7 under ‘Subscription’, regarding authorization of applications for registration in Engineering Council, Sri Lanka.
- Resolution No. 5 – Introduction of By-Law 13.13.10 under ‘Powers and Duties of the Council’, assigning the Editor responsibility for all institutional publications and related media.
- Resolution No. 6 – Amendment to By-Law 14.1.1 under ‘Eligibility to be in the Council’, revising qualifications and conditions for election as President Elect.
- Resolution No. 7 – Amendment to By-Law 20.1.0 under ‘Accounts’, reinforcing requirements for maintaining up-to-date accounts, by adding “donations”.
- Resolution No. 8 – Amendment to By-Law 11.5.1 under ‘Proceedings at Meetings’, correcting the designation as “External Auditors”.
- Resolution No. 9 – Amendment to By-Law 20.3.0 under ‘Accounts’, correcting the designation as “External Auditors”.
- Resolution No. 10 – Amendment to By-Law 20.7.0 under ‘Accounts’, limiting the continuous appointment of the same external auditors to five sessions, with provisions for re-appointment after a lapse.

The session also included addresses by members and the President, followed by the election of the new Council of Management for the 2025/2026 session. The election was conducted by the Chief Returning Officer, Eng. W.A.U. Gunawardena and his panel.

The newly elected President, Eng. Ananda Gunawardena was ceremonially inducted and delivered his inaugural address. The AGM also appointed members to the Board of Trustees, as well as External Auditors for the new session.

With the adoption of these important by-law amendments and the induction of new leadership, the 47th AGM marked another significant milestone in strengthening the governance and professional standing of the IIESL.

The full text of the approved Resolutions can be downloaded by clicking the link.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xwHyfMuCL9XpVK80KfSDyxAR-Yg-2pp/view?usp=sharing>

Or the QR code here: [CLICK HERE]



See photo gallery IV on page 10

CDR WRITING WORKSHOP HELD AT LAK VIJAYA POWER PLANT, NORACHCHOLEI

A Competency Development Record (CDR) Writing Workshop was successfully conducted on 13th March 2025 at the Lak Vijaya Power Plant in Norachcholei. The workshop was organized on the invitation of the Lak Vijaya Diplomates Association, aiming to support prospective engineering diplomates of the power plant, in preparing their CDRs for obtaining membership of IIESL.

The workshop was conducted by a team from IIESL, comprising President Eng. Chulabhaya Sampathbandara, Eng. U.K.S. Hettige and Eng. Dr. Jayantha Hettiarachchi. The session was well attended, with over 25 participants actively engaging in the event.

The team delivered a comprehensive presentation on the structure, purpose and content of a Competency Development Record (CDR). The CDR is a key document required from applicants seeking the IIESL Member class, where candidates must clearly demonstrate their educational background, career development, and professional experience to satisfy the criteria set by the IIESL examiners' panel.

In addition to the workshop, the IIESL team was given a guided tour of the Lak Vijaya Power Plant, offering valuable insights into the operations of one of the country's most significant power generation facilities.

The impact of the workshop has been highly encouraging. A total of 47 applications with completed CDRs have already been submitted to IIESL as a direct result of this event. These submissions are currently under review by the panel of examiners.

This initiative forms part of IIESL's ongoing membership drive, with similar workshops planned across the country to facilitate and guide engineering diplomates aspiring to elevate their membership status within the Institution.



Eng. Dr. Hettiarachchi, conducting the workshop



President with the Council members and staff members of the Power Plant

FIRST COUNCIL MEETING OF THE SESSION 2025 - 2026

The first Council meeting of the 2025 - 2026 session was held on 12th July 2025 at OPA, Colombo 07. The newly appointed President Eng. Ananda Gunawardana, Secretary Eng. Mahinda Tennakoon and the Council members attended the meeting.



FIRST MEMBERSHIP DRIVE OF THE SESSION 2025 - 2026 ON 26.07.2025



PROPOSED IIESL HEAD OFFICE BUILDING – PROGRESS UPDATE

The long-cherished dream of the members of the Institution of Incorporated Engineers, Sri Lanka (IIESL), of having a permanent head office building of their own, is now becoming a reality.

The project was formally launched in February 2025 under the leadership of the President, Session 2024-25, Eng. Sampathbandara and the Building Committee, Chaired by Eng. W.A. Kulathilaka.

Stage 1 – Pile Foundation Works Completed

The contract for the pile foundation was awarded to M/s KD Piling (Pvt) Ltd at a value of Rs. 40,758,924.78, saving over Rs. 10 million from the original estimate. Piling work comprising 16 bored, cast-in-situ piles commenced on 21st February 2025 and was completed ahead of schedule on 18th June 2025. Supervision was carried out by Mr. Nuwan Lakmal (AM2650), the appointed Site Engineer.

The IIESL expresses deep appreciation to Council Member Eng. Deepal Wickramasinghe, proprietor of M/s Deepal Wickramasinghe Associates, for voluntarily undertaking the structural design work and supervision from the piling stage onwards. This contribution resulted in substantial financial savings to IIESL. Thanks, are also extended to Eng. Noel Joseph for the design and supervision of MEP services voluntarily.

Stage 2 – Superstructure Works (Up to 3rd Floor Slab)

Following a competitive tender process, the Stage 2 contract, covering superstructure works up to the third-floor slab level (G+2), was awarded to the Contractor, VOV Engineering (Pvt.) Ltd.

Contract Details:

- Contract Value: Rs. 75,229,354.20
- Date of Commencement: 09 July 2025
- Contract Period: 240 Days
- Scheduled Completion Date: 06 March 2026

Mobilization payment has been made and the contractor is currently on site, carrying out preliminary works and preparations for the superstructure construction.

Stage 2 of the project is managed under the leadership of President Eng. Ananda Gunawardena, the Building Committee and its Chairman, Eng. W.A. Kulathilaka.



According to Eng. Kulathilaka, “the progress of the project is moving successfully on schedule as the project team works methodically, demonstrating their expertise. All Council members are providing their fullest support, and a dedicated Fundraising Team has been established within the Council of Management to secure the raising of necessary funds. We are confident that the IIESL will not have to wait long before moving into its own head office building.”

The completion of the head office will mark a significant milestone in the history of the IIESL, providing not only a permanent home for the Institution but also a modern facility to serve its growing membership and enhance its contribution to the engineering profession and the nation.