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Engineering as a viable career option

BY J.B. MULLER,
CO-ORDINATOR MASS COMMUNICATIONS
AND INFORMATION,
INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS, SRI LANKA

From the viewpoint of the Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka (IESL), it would seek to promote engineering as a viable career for all those who have the aptitude for science and the desire to change (and a sense of unsatisfactoriness about the way things are) and develop new ways and means. The discipline of engineering is vast with many fields of specialisation from aeronautics to marine to civil, electrical, electronic, mechanical, environmental to metallurgy and so on. It caters to the creative urge like no other discipline on earth and the engineer has the satisfaction of seeing his or her creations in tangible form, rising from an idea to become real, serving real, felt needs in society.

It may not be obvious but engineers are the creators and sustainers of civilisation from the earliest times and even if their names have been forgotten their works endure to this day. Witness the great

hydraulic and religious works thousands of years old that still continue to serve and sustain our people's material and spiritual needs and wants so well. The IESL offers a valid and recognised career path for those who choose engineering as a lifetime profession. It leads to the professionally recognised degree of Chartered Engineer and a world of opportunity in the public and private sectors lie before the young engineers who have qualified. The prospective candidate need not go through a university to qualify as an engineer. The professionally conducted IESL courses, in three parts, are delivered and supervised by leading academics from the engineering faculties of the universities such as Moratuwa, Ruhuna, Peradeniya and the Open University at Nawala.

Youngsters with good 'A' Level passes in the mathematics stream both old and new syllabi with English to qualify to enrol and follow lectures and practical at the IESL, conveniently located in the heart of Cinnamon Gardens at Vidya Mawatha, off Wijerama Mawatha in Colombo where there are well-equipped classrooms, auditoriums and a state-of-the-art computer laboratory.