



Defence Minister Tilak Marapana at the sixth Induction and Graduation Ceremony of the Institute of Engineers, Sri Lanka held on Friday at the BMICH. Secretary of the Ministry of Tertiary Education and Training, Saman Ediriweera, President of the IESL, Eng. B. R. O. Fernando and President elect Prof. L. L. Ratnayake were also present. (Pic. by Kamal Wanniarachchi)

Marapana tells engineers — "Put to good use your knowledge"

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By Saman Indrajith

The Minister of Defence, Transport and Highways and Aviation, Tilak Marapana said that the time has come for the local intellects to apply their acquired knowledge for the development of the country and thereby create better living conditions for its people.

"That is the sad state of our country," Minister Marapana said addressing the Sixth Induction and Graduation Ceremony of the Institutional of Engineers, Sri Lanka held last Friday evening at the BMICH.

"In every discipline, be it engineering, medicine, liberal arts or law, we must try to get out of this stagnant situation and try to improve the living condition of our people. We certainly

can do that. Be bold and come forward with innovative ideas so that we can kick start the economy," he added.

One hundred and sixty seven associate members, who had completed Professional Review examinations, were inducted as Chartered Engineers after they made an affirmation of the IESL's Code of Ethics, while 17 members who had completed examinations conducted by the IESL received their graduation certificates.

President of the IESL, Eng. B. R. O. Fernando, in his message said that professional development is a continuing process of learning throughout one's career.

"As professional engineers it is of profound importance to uphold and enhance honour, integrity and dignity of the engineering profession whilst

at the same time safeguarding the public interest at all times. Our institution, whilst providing membership covering all disciplines of engineering gives the opportunity of participating in seminars and workshops on topics of national and public interest and also conducts professional development programmes throughout the year to assist our members to meet the challenges with confidence and commitment," he said.

Five scholarships were awarded to school children who received awards at the Junior Inventor of the Year competition held last year.

The Secretary of the Ministry of Tertiary Education and Training, Eng. Saman Ediriweera and President-elect of the IESL, Prof. L. L. Ratnayake, also addressed the convocation assembly.