

IESL to unveil Corporate Plan

To meet country's rapid development drive

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The Institute of Engineers Sri Lanka (IESL) is in the process of preparing its new Corporate Plan 2012 to 2016 incorporating the new developments, new goals, new opportunities and upcoming threats expecting to provide a more refined roadmap to achieve the IESL goals.

Outgoing IESL President Professor Ananda Jayawardena told at the 105th annual sessions inauguration at BMICH on Friday that the engineering profession has the proud recognition as a nation building profession, wealth creating profession, and the profession which contributes the most in raising the standard of living of the people.

The IESL established over 100 years ago to



Prof Ananda Jayawardena

address the interests of the engineers and the engineering profession has now grown to over 15,000 members covering all engineering disciplines, serving all sectors of the economy, in many industries, working in all geographical areas including other countries with increased scope of its activities.

He said at a time the country is going through rapid economic develop-

ment of over 8% growth, already witnessing many mega infrastructure projects, increased foreign direct investment, emphasis on social management systems, increased attention to research and development, innovation and entrepreneurship, there is no better time to make a significant impact making the engineering profession more important and dominant.

Prof Jayawardena said in order to provide a concerted effort, a more focused direction and a proactive approach by the IESL is needed. He declared his tenure as the 'year of outreach' and to work on enhancing the image of profession and professional practice, raise the international standing of the IESL, to enhance member services and membership, and position the IESL as

an important educational provider. The IESL was able to achieve significant progress in all these four goals.

He said that IESL made several other representations on national issues meeting the High Commissioner of India and Department of Commerce on CEPA, Ministers of Power and Energy and Transport on Railway Electrification, Minister of Construction, Engineering Services, Housing and Common Amenities on Construction Industry Development Act (CIDA) and for an improved construction industry, Director National Planning offering expert advice of IESL for prioritizing, formulating and monitoring of mega national infrastructure projects and proposals for preparation of 2012 National Budget.

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Development will reach rural areas - GL



Minister
Prof. G.L. Peiris

NADIRA GUNATILLEKE

The country is emerging from the shadows of conflict leaving behind the

pain, misery and anguish, and the government has ensured that the dividends of development are properly reaching the rural areas, said External Affairs Minister Prof. G.L. Peiris.

He was speaking at the 105th annual session of the Institute of Engineers, Sri Lanka at BMICH, Colombo yesterday.

The government is firmly committed to develop the country as the hub of knowl-

edge, technology, aviation and shipping in the region, he said. The minister also gave an account of the development activities being implemented in the country in the aftermath of the conflict. "Today there is a massive infrastructure development in Sri Lanka. Last year, the country received 50 million Sterling Pounds from the UK for the construction of bridges. Sri Lanka has received a fine opportunity

to make the aspirations of the people a reality", the minister added.

"Engineering is a nation-building profession. Today, the engineers of Sri Lanka have received a great opportunity to fulfill the people's aspirations.

"Today, we open a new chapter marked by expectations and confidence in ourselves. It is truly a renaissance that we are witnessing in all fields today," the

External Affairs Minister said. Prof. Peiris said the engineers are well equipped to seize all opportunities at their disposal to make a rich and rewarding contribution towards the country's success.

"Village schools, roads, tanks etc have been developed and computer facilities, playgrounds and access to opportunities have been provided, making social mobility possible.

Changes to the education system will produce graduates who could suitably and efficiently fulfill the requirements for the sustainable development of the country," Prof. Peiris pointed out. Power and Energy Minister Patali Champika Ranawaka speaking on the occasion said the 21st century will be Asia-centric. "China, India and Indonesia will emerge as economic giants."