

HALDIA MEET 2007

PROCEEDINGS OF INDUSTRY-INSTITUTE INTERACTION PROGRAMME HELD AT DR. MEGHNAD SAHA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, HALDIA ON AUGUST 9, 2007

An Industry-Institute Interaction Programme was held at Dr. Meghnad Saha Institute of Technology, Haldia on August, 09, 2007. Shri P A Siddiqui, IAS, Chief Executive Officer of Haldia Development Authority was present in the programme as the Chief Guest. At the outset, Dr. Tapasi Biswas (Roy), Principal, Dr. Meghnad Saha Institute of Technology, Haldia welcomed all the delegates at the Interaction Meet & expressed her gratitude for tremendous respond and overwhelming support for both Industries & Institutes. Thereafter, Shri A K Ghosh, Asstt Director of Training, Board of Practical Training, (ER), Kolkata briefly explained the objective and purpose of the Industry-Institute Interaction Programme through a presentation.

The main purpose of organizing such a programme was to bring the Industry and Institute more closer by establishing better and transparent linkage between the two which ultimately would help to build up the stock of qualified and trained technical manpower for industries in coming years. Shri S M Sundaram, Director, Board of Practical Training (ER) elaborated on the aspects of practical training under the Act. According to him, India to be a developed nation, the strength lies in the quality of technical manpower and the world is coming towards us for this quality human resources. So, the industries should take this Act very seriously and fulfill the quota in relation to the engagement of fresh degree, diploma holder engineers & Higher Secondary (voc) pass outs as earmarked by the Regional Central Apprenticeship Advisor.

Dr. Parijat De, Director, Technical Education and Training, Government of West Bengal, delivered the keynote address. He said that his department was trying to provide extensive technical education in the state to match the upcoming industrial requirements. He informed that Government of West Bengal is negotiating with World Bank for a fund of Rs.1200 crores for more polytechnics in the state especially in rural and underdeveloped areas.

In his speech as Chief Guest Shri P A Siddiqui, IAS, Chief Executive Officer, Haldia Development Authority said that industry cannot grow in isolation. If the industries need good engineers then they would also have to contribute in the process of building up of qualified technical manpower. In this context, he opined that engagement and training of apprentices deserved a proper attention.

S. Bhaskar Kumar, General Manager (Operations), Tata Chemicals Ltd in his inaugural address emphasized on the imperative link between the industries and institutes. He said that the theoretical and latest knowledge lied with the institutes whereas the practical experiences were with the industries. So, combining these two would lead to success.

At the end of the Inaugural Session the Vote of Thanks was delivered by Shri A K Ghosh, Assistant Director, Board of Practical Training (ER). He said that the growth of industries and institutions should be proportional to each other. The interaction should occur in reality and students needed to be sent to industries for field exposure and post-institutional practical training.

Dr. Parijat De, Director of Technical Education and Training, Govt. of West Bengal kindly chaired the Interactive Session I. Representatives from industries and institutes actively participated in this session. Shri S S Moitra, General Manager (Plant HR), Haldia Petrochemicals Ltd. appreciated the initiative taken by Board of Practical Training (ER) in organizing such an effective Programme for industries and institutes.

Thereafter, representatives of both industries and institutes interacted on various issues related to technical education and training.

Interactive Session II was also chaired by Dr. Parijat De, Director of Technical Education and Training, Govt. of West Bengal jointly with Prof. R. Srinivasan, National Institute of Technical Teachers' Training and Research, Kolkata.

In this session, detailed discussions were held mainly on (i) Proper Implementation of Apprentice Act (ii) Preparation of Training Programme & Quality of training (iii) Performance appraisal system (iv) Scope of training to female candidates etc.