

Institute Seminar on “Global Trend in Towers and Opportunities”

Topic: Global Trend in Towers and Opportunities

Speaker: Shri Rajah Venkatraman (Director, Fortune Consultants Ltd.)

Venue: Adjacent to Library, 4th Floor, Main Building, IIT Bhubaneswar

Date: 16th August 2019 (Friday)

Time: 5.30 P.M. to 6.30 P.M.

The seminar began with welcome by Dr. C. N. Bhende (PIC Seminar) followed by brief introduction of the speaker.

Large number of students (300+) gathered in the hall to listen the talk and gave very warm welcome to the speaker. Shri Venkatraman spoke about importance and key role played by the various engineering disciplines (ex. Civil, Mechanical, Electronics, Materials, etc.) in design and building of tall towers of international standards. He emphasized on vertical technology (VT) for the towers and buildings and told that they are economical as well. He told that there is technological aspects, financial aspects, human psychological and natural influences (TSunami, Earthquake), etc. which play major role to withstand through and provide optimal solution for such structures. The technical requirements start from the basic design parameter assumptions, the occupancy considerations, the expectancy in waiting interval, the loading of elevator cars, etc., to the exact need for specific cases. Later, he talked about safety and reliability of elevators and how technology has changed in the years for safer elevators.

Students participated with enthusiasm and asked many interesting questions to the speaker. One of the students asked, can large towers be connected together (for example say top floors of two adjacent towers). Shri Venkatraman replied, yes they can be, however not rigidly from safety point of view. Another student asked how our ancient structures are very strong even today. In response, our Director told that one of reasons is speed of building those structures as compared to the today's structures. One student enquires about use of solar panels on the buildings so that some of the building electricity requirement can be fulfilled by the solar panels. Speaker replied that, yes, the technology is shifting towards that and it has a good future.

The seminar concluded with the Director, Prof. R. V. Rajakumar felicitating Shri Venkatraman with a memento of appreciation.

Biography of Speaker:

Shri Rajah Venkatraman is the Director of Fortune Consultants Ltd. In Asia with offices in Dubai, Abu Dhabi and India. He is Engineering graduate from IIT Kharagpur. He underwent a course at the IIM and he did course in International Relationship at Bombay University. He was in the elevators with Otis in Mid 70's, then worked with Mitsubishi and then as Elevator Consultant with LBA and FCL.



