

**Report on Expert Lecture “Opportunities and Challenges in Civil Engineering”
Organised by the Department of Civil Engineering, Integral University, Lucknow on
28th August 2024**

The Department of Civil Engineering at Integral University, Lucknow, organized an expert lecture on August 28, 2024, focusing on the topic "Opportunities and Challenges in Civil Engineering". in collaboration with UltraTech Cement Ltd. The event took place at the Seminar Hall of the Department of Civil Engineering. The primary goal of the lecture was to provide students with insights into the opportunities available in the field of civil engineering while also highlighting the preparations needed to tackle the challenges associated with seizing these opportunities.

A total of 104 students from both the B.Tech and M.Tech programs attended the session. The event commenced with a warm welcome to the dignitaries and speakers from UltraTech Cement Ltd. Dr. Zishan Raza Khan, Associate Professor and Deputy Director of HRDC, along with Mr. Kashif Khan, Associate Professor, presented bouquets to the guests from UltraTech Cement Ltd. The representatives from UltraTech Cement included Er. Supreet Singh Dhadwal and Er. Ravi Thakur, along with the keynote speaker, Er. Hemant Jain, Assistant General Manager at CMO, Mumbai, UltraTech Cement Ltd.



Dr. Zishan Raza Khan presenting bouquet to Er. Dhadwal



Mr. Mohd Kashif Khan presenting bouquet to Er. Hemant Jain

During the event, Er. Hemant Jain provided a detailed overview of the plentiful opportunities for young professionals in civil engineering, with a particular focus on the Indian context. He pointed out that India’s current cement consumption is significantly lower than in developed countries, indicating a substantial potential for growth in the infrastructure sector. This anticipated growth is expected to increase the demand for skilled civil engineers, creating a wide array of career opportunities.



Er. Hemant Jain presenting to the students

Furthermore, he highlighted the rising demand for civil engineers across various sectors, including the software industry, where their expertise is crucial for developing specialized applications and software.



Er. Hemant Jain presenting to the students

Er. Jain also addressed a pressing issue in the construction industry: a severe shortage of skilled civil engineers. He attributed this shortage due to disconnect between industry needs and academic training. As traditional practices in civil engineering evolve rapidly, acquiring new skills has become essential. Er. Jain emphasized the importance of not only technical skills but also basic computing abilities, proficiency with modern equipment, and the development of soft skills. He stressed that

both Intelligence Quotient (IQ) and Emotional Quotient (EQ) are critical for navigating complex situations and interactions effectively in the professional realm.

Drawing from his extensive experience, Er. Jain also provided practical advice on crafting an effective resume and excelling in interviews, offering valuable tips to make a strong impression on potential employers. The talk was concluded with an interactive question-and-answer session where students had the opportunity to engage directly with the experts. The insightful responses provided by Er. Jain were highly appreciated by the attendees.



Er. Dhadwal addressing the students



Er. Thakur interacting with the students

In a brief but motivating talk, Er. Dhadwal encouraged students to gain a thorough understanding of technical civil engineering courses, emphasizing that a solid educational foundation is key to a successful career in the field. Meanwhile, Er. Thakur shed light on the abundant opportunities awaiting skilled civil engineers, underscoring the promising prospects for those who are well-prepared and knowledgeable.

The event was successfully organized by Mr. Mohd Kashif Khan and Mr. Mohd Asim of Department of Civil Engineering, Integral University. At the conclusion of the session, Prof. Syed Aqeel Ahmad, Head, Department of Civil Engineering and Director of HRDC presented University mementos to the distinguished guests as a gesture of thanks and appreciation. Dr. Zishan Raza Khan expressed his gratitude to the dignitaries from UltraTech Cement Ltd. for their invaluable support for the event. He also extended his thanks to Prof. Syed Aqeel Ahmad for his invaluable motivation and support and students for their enthusiastic participation throughout the session.



Prof. Syed Aqeel Ahmad presenting memento and shawl to Er. Hemant Jain



Prof. Syed Aqeel Ahmad presenting memento to Er. Dhdwal and Er. Thakur

The expert lecture was a resounding success, providing students with a comprehensive understanding of the current opportunities and challenges in civil engineering and equipping them with knowledge and skills essential for their future careers.



Dignitaries for UltraTech Cement Ltd. and Faculty members, Department of Civil Engineering