



ISE Newsletter

Quarterly newsletter of the INDIAN SOCIETY OF ERGONOMICS (ISE)

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Forthcoming National events:

- **15th meeting of the ISE and HWWE 2017**
8 - 10 December 2017, Aligarh, UP

Forthcoming International events:

- **XVIII Research-Technical International Conference: Ergonomics for People with Disabilities**, "Social and Occupational Activation",
21-22 November, 2017, Lodz, Poland
- **Ergonomics 2018 – Emphasis on Well-Being Conference**, 7th International Conference sponsored by the Croatian Ergonomics Society, June 13-16, 2018, Zadar, Croatia

ISE is online at : <http://ise.org.in/>

* Editorial

ISE Newsletter regrets to record the passing of Prof. Dr. Rabindra Nath Sen, mentor to many who are at the forefront of Ergonomics throughout the length and breadth of this country, founder of the Indian Society of Ergonomics, and initiator of ergonomics research and teaching institutions which form the bulk of the history of Ergonomics in India. Though we had had a premonition of the event, it is only now that it is officially confirmed through a document obtained by our member Prabir Mukhopadhyay (IITDM). The obituary below is penned by his student, Pranab Kumar Nag. The photograph is courtesy Gaur Gopal Ray.

* Obituary



Rabindra Nath Sen
1 February 1931 – 7 July 2009

Prof. Rabindranath Sen, R.N. Sen, Robin Sen, Robin, Rabi, the very name reverberates in the ears of his countless students, disciples, followers and friends, including his well-wishers and critics. The Maker sent this Man with a magic wand in his hand, gifted with an amazing accommodative ability to adjust to situations from nearly pavement to palace. A life in full form of unrestrained boundary, transformed the Man into a legend in his own right, and perhaps one of the most knowledgeable Ergonomists and Applied Physiologists known in the world today.

Apparently clumsy at times, like any other mortal, a true scientist and an educator, his innate love and affection to students manifested even at testing times. Quite a few of Prof Sen's friends and disciples remained spellbound to his mastery and ingenuity in the occasional spurt of cooking exuberance or elegance in grand piano playing. Always carrying a leather bag full of goodies, he brought enigmatic curiosity among the onlookers, and thus making Robin distinct and distinguished.

He leaves behind his beloved wife Chhabi and Son Arkendu, hope his inexorable inquisitiveness to smaller details in extracting gem out of ashes, and persistent enthusiasm in bringing innovation in different sphere of life and living, left an indelible mark in the minds of those who happened to reach close to him. A heartfelt sorrow prevails among all. We pray to the Almighty for heavenly abode of the departed soul.

The 2nd Asian Conference on Ergonomics and Design (ACED2017) was held at the College of Industrial Technology, Nihon University in Chiba, Japan from June 1 to 4, 2017.

The conference was held in conjunction with the 58th Annual Conference of Japan Ergonomics Society. The theme of ACED2017 was “Towards the Asian center of comfort and functional design”

Prof. Kentaro Kotani, Chair of ACED 2017 opened the conference, followed by an introduction to the International Ergonomics Association (IEA) by Yushi Fujita, President of the IEA. opened with an introductory session on Asian ergonomics, with presentations from ergonomics societies of each country. These included Singapore, Malaysia, Taiwan, Vietnam, Korea, Philippines, Hong Kong, Japan and India.



Representatives of ergonomics societies at the start of the conference

These included Singapore, Malaysia, Taiwan, Vietnam, Korea, Philippines, Hong Kong, Japan and India.



President of ISE reports on ergonomics in India

Anindya Ganguli, President of ISE, reported on the situation in India and the current primary concerns for the society. He also reported on the situation in Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, where no formal ergonomics societies exist as on date.

Later, he presented a keynote address on this topic where he elaborated on the growth and development of ergonomics in India as well as on the primary concerns such as certification and education. During the



Kazutaka Kogi

interaction that followed the keynote address, a person well-known to many in India, Kazutaka Kogi, asked about the extent to which ergonomics was being applied to the burgeoning IT industry in India.

There were symposia, panel discussions, and key-note addresses on service design, ergonomics in the international space station, ergonomics certification, and ergonomics education. Apart from the President Yushi Fujita, the International Ergonomics Association was represented by Orlando Gomes (Vice President and Treasurer), Frederick Tey (Professional Standard and Education Committee Chair), and Andrew Todd (International Development Committee Chair).

About one hundred and fifty papers were contributed to the conference, among which were presentations by Debkumar Chakrabarti (Product Design), Rauf Iqbal (Biomechanics) and Reenu Singh (Service Design).



Debkumar Chakrabarti



Rauf Iqbal



Reenu Singh

Between the proceedings, the ACED council met to finalize the list of member countries. The proceedings were observed by Executive Committee members of the International Ergonomics Association. The next (3rd) ACED would be held in Bohol, Philippines, in 2020. India expressed its interest in hosting the 4th ACED (2023) at Mumbai. ACED 2017 ended on June 4th 2017.



ACED council meeting in progress, conducted by Kentaro Kotani, with observers from the IEA

* Member Activities

Somnath Gangopadhyay at the Institute of Naval Medicine, UK and the Chartered Institute of Ergonomics and Human Factors (CIEHF)

Somnath Gangopadhyay, Executive Committee Member ISE, was invited by the Institute of Naval Medicine (INM), UK to visit the Human Factor Laboratory in May-June 2017, and to deliver a talk on Recent Ergonomics in India. In his talk he described the recent ergonomics achievements in different ergonomics centres in India and also about the activities of Indian Society of Ergonomics (ISE). The event was attended by the all scientists, staffs and chief of INM. After the talk the Institute delivered the prestigious INM Plaque to him.



Gangopadhyay with Robert Bridger, Head of Human Factors and Ergonomics Unit of INM



with Brendan Hazlett at CIEHF

Somnath Gangopadhyay was also invited by the Chartered Institute of Ergonomics and Human Factors (CIEHF) to discuss about the advancement of Ergonomics and Human Factors in Informal sectors. The event was organised by London Ergonomics Group at ATKINS. The evening event was well attended by members and Fellows of CIEHF. Members put several queries on the informal economy in India and expressed their interest in future collaboration with the ISE. To quote the CIEHF, *"We were lucky to have guest speaker - Dr.Somnath Gangopadhyay, Professor at the Occupational Ergonomics Laboratory University of Calcutta. We thoroughly enjoyed his passionate talk about the "magic" of low cost ergonomic interventions within "informal" sectors (unregulated) in India, including embroidery, rolling mills and foundry works, goldsmiths, tea picking, wood cutting and carpentry."*

* **Liberty Mutual Research Institute for Safety closes its doors**

In 1954, in the rural area of Massachusetts, USA, a research center was born. Its parent company, Liberty Mutual Insurance, held an important role in providing workers' compensation coverage to employers. During the first 40 years, they conducted their investigations about occupational injuries arising from a business need: how to make workplaces safer and help injured workers return to work. Since those early days, features such as collapsible steering columns, armrests and headrests, air bags, and seatbelts became standard equipment in all US automobiles. In the 1960s, the first Horizontal Pull Slipmeter™ was patented.

From the 1960s and continuing into the early 2000s, another important legacy of the research center was pioneering research in psychophysics. The guidelines for manual materials handling were developed in the center's laboratory, where participants carried, pushed, pulled, lifted, and lowered objects. The Liberty Mutual Tables - or, more commonly nicknamed after their legendary researchers, Snook and Ciriello Tables, which suggest maximum acceptable loads of all common work-related exertions - became the standard tool in job assessment and workplace (re)design.

The Liberty Mutual Research Institute for Safety closed its doors on June 6, 2017. This unexpected news saddens many researchers and practitioners in the fields of human factors and ergonomics, occupational safety, injury epidemiology, workers' compensation, and disability.

Source: *Faded Glory: Liberty Mutual Research Institute for Safety, 1954–2017, HFES Bulletin, June 9, 2017*



Ergonomics for people with disabilities – Social and Occupational Integration

Lodz, Poland, 21-22 November 2017

Organized by the Department of Production Management and Logistics, Lodz University of Technology, Poland.

Deadlines:

- September 15, 2017 Abstract electronic submission via www.mken.woiz.pl.
- October 15, 2017 Full paper electronic submission
- October 15, 2017 Conference fee payment.
- November 15, 2017 Paper assessment by reviewers.
- November 30, 2017 Full paper submission with corrections after review.

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2017 15th meeting of the ISE and HWWE 2017
HWWE 8 - 10 December 2017
Aligarh, UP

The 15th meeting of the Indian Society of Ergonomics and HWWE 2017 will be held at the Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, UP. The theme of the conference will be “Ergonomics for Improved Productivity”. Call for papers has been published, and the HWWE’2017 website is live.

Important dates:

- Deadline for abstract: September 15, 2017
- Notification of acceptance: September 30, 2017
- Deadline for full paper: October 20, 2017
- Last date for registration: October 30, 2017

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7th International Ergonomics Conference
Ergonomics 2018 Emphasis on Wellbeing

The 7th International Ergonomics Conference - ERGONOMICS 2018 - Emphasis on Wellbeing will take place from 13-16 of June 2018 in Zadar, Croatia. The Conferences in this series have been organized by the Croatian Ergonomics Society (CES) since 2001.

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Ergofuture 4 is planned for October 28 - November 2, 2018 in Bali, Indonesia

*** New Ergonomics Standards (IS)**

The following standards have been issued by the Ergonomics Sectional Committee (PGD-15) of the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)

- IS 16572 : 2016 /ISO 14738 : 2002 Safety of Machinery — Anthropometric Requirements for the Design of Workstations at Machinery
- IS 16562 (P-1) : 2017 /ISO 15536-1 : 2005 Ergonomics — Computer Manikins and Body Templates — Part 1 General Requirements
- IS 16561 (P-4) : 2017 / ISO 11064-4 : 2013 Ergonomic design of control centres — Part 4 Layout and dimensions of workstations
- IS 16568 : 2017 / ISO 24500 : 2010 Ergonomics — Accessible design — Auditory signals for consumer products
- IS 16559 : 2017 /ISO 7243 : 1989 Hot environments — Estimation of the heat stress on working man, based on the WBGT-index (Wet Bulb Globe Temperature)
- IS 16563 (P-1) : 2017 / ISO 9355-1 : 1999 Ergonomic requirements for the design of displays and control actuators — Part 1 Human interactions with displays and control actuators
- IS 16563 (P-2) : 2017 /ISO 9355-2 : 1999 Ergonomic requirements for the design of displays and control actuators — Part 2: Displays
- IS 16561 (P-1) : 2017 /ISO 11064-1 : 2000 Ergonomic design of control centres — Part 1 Principles for the design of control centres

*** Ergonomics Checkpoints in Health Care Work**

"Ergonomics Checkpoints in Health Care Work," a document of guidelines created by the Human Ergology Society in collaboration with IEA, is now available for download. See the link at the IEA website (<http://www.iea.cc/>).