

The 63rd Annual Session (1987-89) was held on January 24, 1989 at PC Hotel, Lahore under the Presidentship of **Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ikram ullah**. Engr. Illahi Bux Soomro, Chairman of the Engineering Council was the Chief Guest.

The following activities were pursued during the Session:-

1. MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the Congress had gone up to 2003.

2. TECHNICAL PAPERS FOR SYMPOSIUM ON “HYDEL POWER PROJECTS IN PAKISTAN”

A total number of nine papers were received which were included in the symposium. The recommendations of the Symposium Committee, as a result of discussions on the papers, were submitted to the Government during the ensuing session.

3. BUILDING AND OFFICE

During the Session, the seepage in the basement resurfaced and posed serious problem. Thanks to the courtesy of the Communication & Works Department the menace was overcome at a very reasonable cost.

Design and planning work for the construction of the second storey of the Congress Building was taken in hand with the efforts of Engr. Ch. Mazhar Ali.

LECTURES BY EMINENT ENGINEERS/SCIENTISTS

Four very useful lectures were arranged during the Session by competent and eminent Engineers.

The President (PEC) in his address of welcome highlighted the aims and objectives of the Engineering Congress which interalia aimed at promoting science and technology. Through presentation of technical papers of annual session, he said, the members pass on to the posterity fruits of their experience and know-how. The President felt elated in declaring that Engineering Congress ever since its formation was living upto its objectives and over the decades had produced enviable technical literature which adorned the archives of the Congress and National libraries. He unequivocally pointed out the problems faced by the Engineering Community despite their selfless and devoted service to the Nation.

The President of Pakistan Engineering Congress highlighted the grievous malaise which the nation was confronted within almost all walks of life, may it be water shortage as a result of complacent attitude of the Government for non-conservation of water loss by construction of reservoirs leaving untapped run of river flows of millions of acre feet to the sea, shortage of energy generation in turn allowing the industry to wane to irredeemable extent or improper maintenance of withering infrastructure etc. At the same time ignoring the Engineering Committee's recommendations in this regard as well as discouraging them by humiliating their skill/technical worth by retrograding them to lowest structure of cadre added salt to injury, he added.

He felt concerned that while many projects failed due to multitude of extraneous factors, the entire responsibility was put on the shoulders of Engineers.

In his reply the Chief Guest expressed his pleasure, as an engineer, himself to have been invited at the august forum of the Congress. He said that as Chairman of the Engineering Council he had strongly felt the problems faced by the engineers which had been expressed by the President Pakistan Engineering Congress. He however, was of the opinion that only high powered commission could point out and suggest solutions to those matters and appealed to the Government to take action on such problems without delay.