

Challenging Construction Project Management in India & Korea

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With the funding from the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), a series of project management seminars and course under a project titled: 'Improving the Competency of Local Project Managers in Construction Projects in the Asia Pacific Region' were held successfully in January 2012. The events, including one course and two seminars, was co-organized by the City University of Hong Kong (CityU) and the Hong Kong Institute of Project Management (HKIPM), supported by the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB), the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE), a Chapter of The American Institute of Architects (AIA) and Hong Kong Association of Energy Engineers (HKAEE) and facilitated by Dr. Mei-yung Leung.

Targeting at updating and disseminating the project management (PM) knowledge and skills to enhance the competitiveness of construction professionals in a region context, two experienced international PM practitioners were invited to share their valuable PM knowledge, techniques and information. They reviewed the local and international PM processes and qualification systems in India and Korea respectively. More than 100 Hong Kong, Mainland and overseas professionals benefited from this series.

Mr. Adesh Jain, the 1st non-European President of the International Project Management Association (IPMA), a former President of the International Construction Project Management Association, and an Honorary Chairman of Construction Project Management Association was invited to facilitate a seminar named "Challenges in Managing Projects" on 6th January 2012 and a course "Modern Project Management – Where are we and where do we go!" on 7th January 2012. After a brief introduction by Dr. Leung, Mr. Jain further interpreted the term of PM, compared the differences between matured economy and transition economy, explained strategic risk management and demonstrated effective PM systems in the training. During those two days, participants were given chances to co-operate with others and also showed their achievements at the end of the series.

Mr. Yung-Hwi Bae, a chairman and a founding member of the Construction Management of Associate of Korea delivered a seminar "The Status of CM in Korea" on 7th January 2012. This seminar focused on the development of construction management (CM) in Korea and the status of CM market. Mr. Bae highlighted the structure of construction industry and factors hindering the use of CM. He also indicated the current problems in CM market and suggested a number of coping strategies. The participants actively involved in a Q & A section at the end, so that they could deeply understand the CM market in Korea.

All in all, this PM event was held successfully with desired objectives being fulfilled and considerable positive feedback was resulted. We look forward to organizing more new events so that more construction professionals can enhance their competitiveness continuously.

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