On the 15th of September a grand Engineers day celebration was organised by AIGETOA Bangalore. It was held at BG East Telephone Exchange. There was good participation from members at NTB, Halasur, Mobiles etc. In all there were about 80 participants including all executives working at BG East Telephone Exchange in - Indoor, Outdoor, Electrical, MPLS, MLLN, P2.2, MP, P3 and vendor engineers. The Chief Guests were Shri. B K Misra, Sr. GMM STR and Shri Ezhil Buddhan, GM BBNW. Other guests on-stage included Shri Narayan Hegde, Branch President, SNEA, besides the office bearers of AIGETOA - Shri Ashok Shigli, CP, Shri Manjunath CS and Shri Chandran, DS.

The programme was anchored by Mr. Prashant Gaurav, BVP. He kept the programme upbeat with his quotes and quizzes. He introduced the significance of the day and highlighted the contribution of the first engineer of India - Sir M. Visvesvaraya whose birth anniversary is commemorated as Engineers Day.

The invocation song was rendered by Mr. C R Ravishankar, SDE (Web-hosting-P3), who is a National award winner more than 25 times.

Shri. Ezhil Buddhan spoke about the significance of engineers in nation-building. He called upon engineers to be of service to society.

Mr. Chandran spoke about the potential of engineers in BSNL. He said that though there were lacunae in the way engineers are treated in this organisation, the engineers should show their talent so that together we can pull BSNL out of the red.

We have an ice-breaker in the form of an action song by Mr. Sachin Koshy, BP, wishing everyone "Happy Engineers Day". He followed it up with the evergreen favourite - "Papa kahathe hai....." with the twist that engineers - "BSNL me apna naam karega"

Next, there was a discourse on the life and times of Sir M. Visvesvaraya by Shri. Hegde.

Our CS Mr. Manjunath said that he was eagerly awaiting the day in which the management would come forward to organise and celebrate Engineers day. He suggested that we should see more such events and participants in the days to come.

There was a special group song "Koi kahe" by Sachin, Anup (Exec. member), Rajesh (BFS) and Lata (DP). They were accompanied on the keyboard by Ananth (Exec. member). The punchline of the song was "Hum hai naya, Andaaz kyu purana?"

We had an inspiring talk by Shri B. K. Misra. He drew from his own journey of how he was drawn to the engineering stream inspite of his parents wanting him to be a doctor. He also impressed on the need for BSNL as an organisation to have a single HR wing across all stream like in other organisations so that the right policies for the career aspirations of engineers in BSNL can be realised.

Ms. Lata Jain, DP, drew from the life of Sir M. Visveswaraya. His simplicity and dedication are worth emulating.

In the same vein, it was suggested by Shri. Girish, DE, MPLS that all of us read the autobiography of Sir. M. V. entitled "Memories of my working life".

It was time once again to hear a rendition from the mellifluous voice of Mr. Ravishankar.

The concluding remarks were given by Mr. Hari Shankar Tiwari, BS. He stressed that the young engineers need to be recognised for the work that they do in the back-end in all the new technology areas of BSNL's operations.

The votes of thanks was proposed by Mr. Jagadhir Chowhan, BOS.

AIGETOA KTK thanks the newly formed BG East branch body for the efforts taken to organise and conduct the Engineers Day programme in such a grand manner at short notice.