

IV. CONSULTANCY DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The Consultancy Development Centre (CDC) came into being as a registered society in January 1986, and is functioning from its office at India Habitat Centre Complex, New Delhi since May 1994. CDC was approved as Autonomous institution of Department of Scientific & Industrial Research (DSIR) in December, 2004. The Centre is managed and guided by a Governing Body, the Chairman of which is nominated by Secretary, DSIR. The Governing Body consists of representatives of consultancy organisations, R&D institutions, Government Departments, academic institutions, public sector units etc. CDC had a membership of 609 as on 31st March 2004 and 770 in December, 2004 representing various types of consultancy organisations and individuals connected with the consultancy. CDC has concentrated mainly on development of human resources, providing computerized data/ information services, and strengthening of technological and managerial consultancy capabilities including promoting consultancy exports through the Consultancy Promotion scheme. CDC is providing consultancy and training in ISO-9000 Quality Management Systems and training in ISO 14000 Environmental Management Systems.

1.2 DSIR Support

In accordance with the recommendations of the Fifth Report of Expenditure Reforms Commission dated 7th March, 2001, the Cabinet approved the proposal for CDC to be an autonomous institution promoted by DSIR and to continue financial support to CDC each year based on performance and review. The capital assets of CDC include computer

systems, with peripherals and accessories as well as some software. This facility is used for collection, analysis and dissemination of data and for training activities. It is estimated that these investments have resulted in useful activities for nurturing consultants and users of consultancy for better returns on investments and enhanced earnings of foreign exchange directly and indirectly, besides several other qualitative advantages bringing long term benefits to the country. The Centre is equipped with Library facilities for consultants.

1.3 Secretariat for Technical Consultancy Development Programme for Asia and the Pacific

In order to enhance technological and managerial capabilities as well as the export capabilities of consultants, interactions with international organizations – such as World Bank, Asian Development Bank, ESCAP, APCTT, have been developed and programmes have been arranged for consultants at national & international levels which have proved to be useful to promote consultancy business. CDC has been identified to be a nodal agency for Technical Consultancy Development Programme for Asia and the Pacific (TCDPAP) by ESCAP.

CDC was nominated to function as the secretariat for TCDPAP upto 2004 AD by the General Council of TCDPAP. During the fourth meeting of the General Council held in October, 2004, CDC was re-nominated as Secretariat for a further period of 4 years upto 2008. The fifth meeting of the Executive Committee was also held in October 2004 in conjunction with the meeting of General Council wherein it was decided to review the MOA of TCDPAP and work for its institutionalization in the form of an independent entity.

2. ACTIVITIES

Some of the salient features of the activities carried out during the year are as under:

2.1 Technical Consultancy Development Programme For Asia and The Pacific (TCDPAP) International Conference

International Conference on *Development of Knowledge Infrastructure : Role of Consultants* was organized by CDC, the TCDPAP Secretariat during 11-13 October, 2004 at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.

The Conference was amply supported by DSIR both financially as well as in terms of technical input. The other collaborators were UN-ESCAP, APCTT, Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation, Govt. of India and Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India.

The Conference was inaugurated by Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, Hon'ble President of India on 12th October, 2004. The Keynote address was delivered by Dr. R.A. Mashelkar, Secretary, DSIR & Director General, CSIR. On this occasion National Awards for Excellence in Consultancy Services were presented by the chief guest.

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) supported the conference as the Principal Sponsor. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL), Housing & Urban Development Corporation Limited (HUDCO), Oil India Limited, were the main sponsors, Export Import Bank of India, Intercontinental Consultants and Technocrats (ICT) Pvt. Ltd, Indian Aluminium Company Limited, National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC), Larsen & Toubro Ltd. (ECC), Power Finance Corporation Limited and Oriental Structural Engineers Pvt. Ltd., were sponsors Consulting Engineering Services (India) Pvt. Ltd., Engineers India Ltd., HSCC (India) Ltd,

National Council for Cement and Building Materials, RITES Ltd, Telecommunications Consultants India Limited (TCIL), TCE Consulting Engineers and Hindustan Construction Co. were Co-Sponsors.

About 475 delegates from various organizations including consulting, industry, government departments, public sector undertakings, academic and financial institutions, international organizations etc., including 55 foreign delegates participated in the three day deliberations. The countries which participated in the conference were Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka & Vietnam and also from non-TCDPAP member countries like Azerbaijan, Mauritius, Singapore, Turkey, Australia and Thailand.

The Valedictory address was given by Shri Kapil Sibal, Hon'ble Minister of State(Independent Charge) for Science & Technology and Ocean Development, Govt. of India on 13th October, 2004.

2.2 Training / Skill Upgradation Programme

- During 2004-05, the Centre has organised 17 training programmes on ISO-90001:2000 Quality Management Systems, Business Process Analysis, Construction Services, etc. These also include in-house programmes for officials of CSIR, DRDO and professionals from Military Engineering Services.
- The 8th batch of MS Programme in collaboration with BITS, Pilani commenced in August, 2004 with 27 students.

2.3 Consultancy and Facilitation in ISO-9000 QMS

- Three ongoing projects were completed.
- During the year, the Centre obtained five ISO 9000 Facilitation Projects including one overseas project of Bangladesh Consultants Ltd. and one project on NABL Facilitation.

2.4 Study/Assignments

Four ongoing Study Assignments/ Projects were executed during the year. During 2004-05, the Centre obtained 2 assignments till date. They are:

- Carrying out Customer Satisfaction Survey & Submission of Evaluation Report on Timely Completion & Quality of Works
- Project on Cost Benefit Assessment of CNG introduction in Delhi

2.5 Database and Information Services

The database of Consultants and Consultancy Organisations was further augmented during the year, and their profiles were updated on a regular basis. Also, subscription management system for tracking subscription details of members was developed and the same is under testing.

2.6 Developmental Services

Contact/ Interaction Programmes:

- During 2004-05 the Centre has organised 2 interaction meets on Development of Domestic Consulting Services at Delhi and Mumbai. Also 2 Meets were organised

during the launch of Mumbai and Chennai Chapters of CDC.

- During the year, CDC had close interactions with the Technical Consultancy Organisations (TCOs).
- The Centre continued the scheme for business developments for consultants through a fortnightly bulletin on Consultancy Business Opportunities–A fast Announcement Service, which gives information on project opportunities likely to emerge in India and in global markets for consultants and professionals.
- The Centre continued to provide referral services to clients at a nominal cost.
- The Centre continued to provide services to the Ozone Cell of the Ministry of Environment & Forests.

2.7 Scheme for Financial Assistance and Skill Upgradation of Consultants

As one of its schemes towards promotion of consultancy, CDC provides partial financial support to consultants and consultancy organizations for participation in overseas seminars to provide them an opportunity to expose themselves to the latest developments in their areas of operation. Four consultants were supported during the year.

Through the skill upgradation scheme, financial support is provided to consultants and consultancy organisations who wish to upgrade their skills through short term courses organized by reputed public funded institutions in the country.

3. BRANCHES / CHAPTERS OF CDC

During 2004-05, the Centre started chapters of CDC at Mumbai, Chennai and Hyderabad.

4. PUBLICATIONS

- One issue of Newsletter “TCDPAP Focus” during 2004-05 was brought out.
- Issues of Quarterly Newsletter “Consultancy Vision” during 2004-05 were brought out.
- Consultancy Business Opportunities – A Fast Announcement Service was brought out on a daily basis and disseminated to members through e-mail.

5. REVENUE

CDC has earned a revenue of about Rs. 125.46 lakhs during the year 2003-04 as against Rs. 105.14 lakhs during 2002-03 from assignments, services rendered to various agencies, membership, etc. During the year 2004-05 the centre has generated revenue of Rs. 115.44 lakhs upto December 2004.