

'Water engineers will be required under Smart City concept'

DBCE students enrol under Youth Forum for Water of Indian Water Works Association

Staff Reporter

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Students of Don Bosco College of Engineering (DBCE), who were among the first to be enrolled under the Youth Forum for Water (YFW) of the Indian Water Works Association (IWWA) Goa Centre, were urged to keep up with the developments and technologies associated with water works.

Twenty-eight students from the DBCE on Tuesday got enrolled for the YFW of IWWA Goa chapter with plans to organise activities, present research and help impart knowledge in the field of water supply, waste water treatment and disposal. Welcoming the students, IWWA Goa chairman Virkumar Sawant called on the need to bridge the gap between professionals and

students.

"We have around 250 members under the Goa IWWA chapter and we need to bridge the gap between professionals and students and our mission is to bring young professionals into water supply, waste water and treatment under one umbrella, transfer knowledge and bridge the gap between practical and theoretical knowledge. There is a wide gap between what is taught in college and what is there in the industry, which we need to bridge," said Sawant. He also spoke on the employability of water engineers and how the need for such engineers would only grow in the future. "Water is a product that will always be in demand. Water engineers require core-level skills in civil engineering but they also require basic-level skills



The newly-formed body of the YFW along with dignitaries at the installation ceremony on Tuesday. ■ Diana Fernandes

in other aspects of engineering; it is multi-skill based. Power generation is an area that will be big in the future. Similarly water engineers will also be required under the Smart City concept with remodelling of water and sewage networks based on GIS mapping and IoT. There will be a large scope for water engineers and you must start learning now," said Sawant.

Also speaking on the occa-

sion, DBCE director Fr. Kinley D'Cruz stressed on the importance of water and the need to conserve it.

"Water is the soul of our life and is the basis for progress and development. It is considered sacred and is a naturally available resource. But if we don't use it wisely, the next war will be for water. Water is synonymous with life and we cannot live without it, but we are becom-

ing rash and reckless with it. Even though we acknowledge this fact, yet we see that we mindlessly waste water and don't care about it. We have fresh water resources but they are in limited form and may run dry. We need to remind ourselves to prevent, conserve, educate and propagate and that we are in it together," he said.

Congratulating the students, DBCE principal Dr.

Neena Panandikar said, "This is one of the first student chapters in the state and we are confident that students will contribute to the chapter immensely. My suggestion is to prepare a roadmap of activities and may be hold a conference for students including research papers so that students get exposure for paper presentations and help learn new technologies."