

## Passing out Parade and Prize Distribution ceremony of GME Batch VI & ETO Batch 1-AEMA

The sunny Sunday morning of 14<sup>th</sup> October was exceptionally bright and radiant as the cadets of the GME Batch 6 and ETO batch 1 geared up to celebrate this d-day, an important day in the life of any cadet and a proud moment for their parents, who had gathered at the salubrious and the picturesque AEMA campus in Karjat, to witness the annual passing out parade and the subsequent prize distribution function.

The dignified dignitaries included Professor G. Raghuram (Vice-Chancellor Indian Maritime University), the Chief Guest of the ceremony; Mr. Cawsi. P.Lilauwala, the Fleet Director of AESM -Hong Kong as the Guest of Honor; Capt. Pradeep Chawla, Managing Director- Group QHSE & Training AESM- Hong Kong and Capt. Kersi Deboo, Principal & Director AEMTC-Mumbai.

An impressive Guard of Honor was the proverbial starter to the main course of the ceremony, presented by the enthusiastic cadets, for Prof. G. Raghuram, the chief guest and the other dignitaries at AEMA. The

subsequent "Breaking of the AEMA flag" took place followed by the guest of honor being escorted to the conference room in the academic block, where he was introduced to all the teaching faculties by the Principal Capt. Pawan Gupta. A brief brain storming session on AEMA set the ball rolling for the inspection of the Academic Block, exhibiting the Wheelhouse, Bridge Handling



bouquet of flowers to felicitate the Chief Guest Prof. Raghuram and the Guest of Honor Mr. Lilauwala. The Principal in his inaugural speech

dwelt upon the extensive and comprehensive training being provided to the cadets and how seriously the training is taken by the faculties, both engineering and humanities, who leave no stone unturned to train and teach the cadets in the most impressive manner. He



emphasized the importance of the 'first step', that the cadets have to take which proves to be the most painful for them, but the most important initial aspect of hard training to follow suit. He also put in a word of praise for the parents present who supported their wards in taking up a marine career. He congratulated the passing out cadets and gave his best wishes for their bright seafaring career life.

A welcome break-out from the monotony was provided by Cadet

Simulator along with the presentation of various projects made by our present and ex cadets, which was wholeheartedly appreciated by all the distinguished dignitaries.

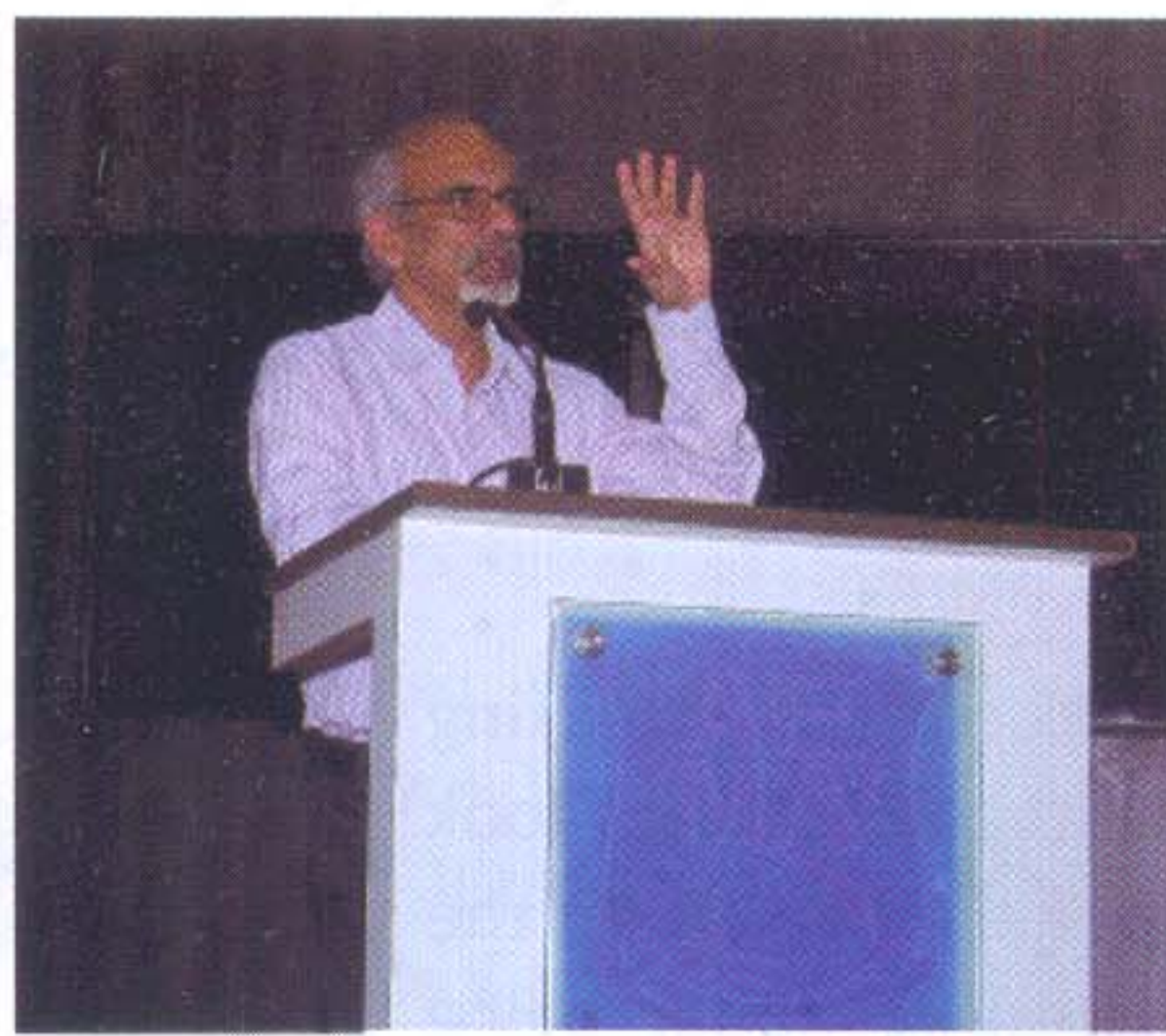
The formal inauguration of the ceremony started in the general auditorium, where Principal Capt. Pawan Gupta, presented a







Akash, who presented a wonderful song in Hindi that was cheered widely by the cadets and guest alike. The Vice-Principal and HOD Engineering Mr. Mahesh Subramanian read the course report. He elaborated on the need to inculcate a constant and positive change in life by following all rules and regulations voluntarily and not forgetting the fact that 'no job is small'. This was followed by reading out of an inspirational message from Mr. Narendra Mathur, Head of ETO training who quoted extensively from the legendary Henry Ford statement



that says, "Come together, Stay together and Work together". If the cadets follow this dictum, they would never fail in life. The I.M.U Vice Chancellor Prof.



growth rate of India that had risen from 4 to 5 % to an all time high of 7 to 8 %, mainly due to the extensive four laned highway roads that provide connectivity and time saving in the travel by road- mode to all the four metropolitan cities of India. Emphasis on the wide Railway network crisscrossing the wide corners of our country and the constant improvement in their infrastructural facilities both freight and passenger traffic was laid by him. The constant eyesore and the proverbial sore thumb that stood out with the sorry state of



G.Raghuram, then commenced with his speech enumerating on the GDP





affairs as far as the port traffic infrastructure is concerned, was duly brought to the fore by the Vice-Chancellor who did not hesitate to name the ports in our country as the 'choke points', as Indian ports have a lot of waiting time as compared to the ports, in the rest of the world. Prof. Raghuram was equally emphatic when he turned the tables on the cadets by asking them to remain united as –“One India One Team” and to realize the need of the hour by developing the skill and expertise to take quick rational decisions while being a good listener and an equally good open minded person. He sensibly gave a valuable advise to the cadets to not to be straitjacketed and to take practical difficulties into cognizance while following rules and regulations and to make the best use of the opportunity of automatic placement with AESM , as a privilege given by their alma-mater.

Next in line to address the cadets was Capt. Pradeep Chawla, who stressed upon the commitment of AESM to provide placement on board ships to all cadets as soon as possible; notwithstanding the delays due to US Visa procedures. He assured the cadets of innumerable

opportunities of career development with the parent organization. Passion and a fire in the belly should be the motto of all cadets who should leave no stone unturned to improve their analytical ability and to be patient and innovative in their approach to practical problems .The need for finding permanent solutions and not quick-fix 'chewing gum' instant



solutions that are fleeting ; was strongly advocated. Further he exhorted the cadets to be proud of the fact that seventy five percent of work-force in AESM is Indian and they must work hard on their ships to prove their nationality worth.

Last but not least the Fleet Director Mr.Cawsi Lilauwala told the passing out cadets that they should be proud of being the

de-facto ambassadors of their country and they should always keep this in their mind while behaving with fellow colleagues from different nationalities and their own. The golden pearls of wisdom advice given to the cadets for improving their lives in general, were really worth it. He laid importance on the virtues of being true to their parents who have sacrificed so much for them by not forgetting them and taking care of them for life. The basic engineering principles learnt by the cadets should never be forgotten by them throughout their lives. Presumption is wrong. The program culminated on a patriotic fervour with the rendering of the Indian National Anthem by all those present. Thus a real fruitful culmination of a cadet's year long effort bore fruits of hope for their future.

