

## **FOREWORD**

Pakistan Engineering Congress was established in the year 1912 under the name of “Punjab Public Works Department Congress”. In 1916 its name was changed to “Punjab Engineering Congress”. In 1955, upon amalgamation of the provinces at the western wing of Pakistan, it was renamed as “West Pakistan Engineering Congress. Again, in 1971 its name was changed to “Pakistan Engineering Congress”.

The Congress has lived up to its objectives enshrined in its constitution all these years and has continued to enlarge its activities’ manifold, it has also achieved admirations for the country, especially during the tenure of the Present 71<sup>st</sup> Session, led by Engr. Husnain Ahmad, President Pakistan Engineering Congress.

The activities of the Congress have not been confined to its territorial boundaries alone but during 71<sup>st</sup> Session its activities have been extended to International level. It is now one of the most active participants in the activities of 108-member International Commission on Irrigation & Drainage (ICID), of which the country is a signatory.

A six member delegation from Pakistan Engineering Congress attended the 60th International Executive Council (IEC) meeting and 5th Asian Regional Conference (ARC), held during 6-11 December 2009 in New Delhi, India. The 5th Asian Regional Conference highlighted the theme of “**Improvement in Efficiency of Irrigation Projects through Technology Up-gradation and Better Operation & Maintenance**”. Participation of the Pakistan delegation, under the leadership of Engr. Husnain Ahmad, President, PEC was considered as the most effectual and exceptionally commendable, not only because of its active participation in each and every session of Working Groups (WG’s), Task Forces, and various Committee meeting(s) but also for its valuable contributions. Engr. Husnain Ahmad, President, PEC was also selected as member for “**Permanent Committee for Technical Activities**” (PCTA).

After successfully participating in the 60<sup>th</sup> IEC Meeting of ICID and coming-out of it with great Laurels/achievements, a two member delegation of Pakistan Engineering Congress participated in the 61<sup>st</sup> IEC meeting and 6<sup>th</sup> Asian Regional Conference of International Commission on Irrigation & Drainage (ICID) held in Yogyakarta, Indonesia from 10-16 October 2010. The Congress brought a great honor for the country at the aforesaid meeting as Engr. Husnain Ahmad; President PEC was elected as **Vice-President ICID-2010-2013 (Asia & Oceania Zone)**. He was also selected on the Panel of Judges for evaluation of Nomination entries for Prestigious Watsave Award – 2011.

Pakistan Engineering Congress along with the participation of Pakistan National Committee on Irrigation & Drainage (PANCID) / Federal Flood Commission of Pakistan and ICID organized an **International Workshop on the topic of Floods in Pakistan 2010 (Lessons Learnt & Way Forward)** on March 12, 2011, at which experts from member Countries of ICID and other Countries (WWF etc) and from Pakistan probed, analyzed the phenomena of floods in the national and international perspective and formulated a strategy to fight-out the disastrous socio-economic fall-out. It was a highly attended event with wide coverage by the Electronic / Print media. The Conference was participated by eminent water resources /floods experts from abroad and Pakistan. The recommendations formulated by the panel of experts for combating the menace of floods were also furnished to federal/provincial Government departments as well as other relevant agencies.

The Congress also holds lectures, symposia as well as commemorates world events annually such as World Water Day, World Environment Day etc. The technical papers presented at the events are printed in book form and distributed free of costs to the members of the Congress /Engineering Universities and other concerned departments.

The Congress has taken pioneering steps for the advancement of Engineering Studies by instituting about 300 (100-recently) scholarships of Rs.3,000/- per month for full 4-years span of Graduate Engineering studies, covering 17 universities on all Pakistan basis.

The professional activities of the Congress that were participated by the luminaries of the Engineering Profession from abroad as well as Pakistan itself were widely covered by the Electronic and Print Media. The present book “Session in Press” is a chronicle of this coverage during its 71<sup>st</sup> Session.

**Congress Secretariat**