Job opportunities in real estate sector

ALTHOUGH the field of quantity surveying is well-known among students interested in an engineering career, many students are not fully aware of the career opportunities offered by the fields of Estate Management and Building Surveying.

These three fields, currently offered by Sunway College on a twinning basis with Greenwich University, UK, offer endless career prospects for where there is development, there is a need for such personnel.

While most students have an idea of what the job of a quantity surveyor or estate manager entails, many do not have a very good idea of what a building surveyor does, said Anthony Kelly, the director of the Sunway College-Greenwich University programme.

"Building surveyors are those who survey existing buildings for maintenance and renovation work. But most are still unsure about the career prospects for a building surveyor whose work involves refurbishment of buildings. They are the ones who design and manage the implementation of refurbishment work like adapting buildings to new developments and technologies. Quantity surveyors are involved in providing cost advice and forecasting, cost control and the financial management of construction projects from inception until completion. Estate managers, on the other hand manage properties, negotiate sales and purchases of properties and providing advice on development projects."

More than 200 students have taken up the programme since 1994. The BSc in Estate Management and Quantity Surveying is offered on a 2+1 basis while students who take up the Building Surveying course will need to spend two years of the three-year programme at Greenwich. Greenwich's School of Land and Construction Management has been rated excellent by the Higher Education Funding Council of the United Kingdom. The council recently rated the school as excellent and awarded it 21 out of the maximum 24 points. Rating was done based on the content and organisation, teaching, learning and assessment, students progression and achievement, student support and guidance, learning resources, and quality assurance and enhancement.

The school was recommended for offering the students a stimulating and up-to-date courses.

"Teaching at Sunway College is also at par with that at the university and all steps are taken to ensure that students transferring to the UK do so in a most comfortable manner and have no problem rolling into the programme there."

For more information, call 03-7358622 or fax 03-7359633 or visit the college's website at www.sunway.edu.my — By Jasbir Singh