



# KARPAGA VINAYAGA

## COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

(Approved by AICTE, New Delhi, Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai and Accredited by NAAC)  
GST Road, Chinnakolambakkam, Madhuranthagam Taluk, Chengalpattu District - 603 308, Tamil Nadu

### EVENT REPORT ON INAUGURATION OF INDIAN PLUMBING ASSOCIATION & CAREER PROGRESSION AND MAINTENANCE EXPERTISE WITH IN CIVIL ENGINEERING

On 21st January 2026, Karpaga Vinayaga College of Engineering & Technology became a pioneer in industry-academia collaboration by inaugurating the Indian Plumbing Association (IPA) Chennai Chapter within its campus. Uniquely integrating professional association engagement with student learning, the event featured a specialized professional development program that exposed Civil Engineering students to real-world plumbing standards, skill-based practices, and emerging industry requirements. This initiative bridged the gap between theoretical instruction and practical application, equipping students with industry-relevant competencies and fostering career-ready professionals in sustainable and modern plumbing systems.



The inauguration brought together eminent academic leaders and industry experts, fostering a rare confluence of theoretical insight and professional practice. Distinguished speakers, including Dr. T. Subbulakshmi, Head of Civil Engineering; Dr. M. Senthil Kumar, Dean of Academics; Mr. Vinod Inderlal, Regional Head of KPT Pipes; and Dr. S. Virapan, Chairman of the IPA Chennai Chapter, delivered forward-looking perspectives on contemporary plumbing systems and infrastructure management. A distinctive feature of the program was the professional pledge and hands-on technical discourse, complemented by an interactive Q&A session that enabled direct industry engagement. This innovative format provided students with

clear career pathways, practical exposure to maintenance-oriented design thinking, and industry-ready competencies aligned with current professional standards.

The Indian Plumbing Association (IPA) plays a transformative role in elevating national plumbing standards by positioning plumbing engineering as a core pillar of civil infrastructure, especially in the domains of water efficiency, sanitation, and public health. Through proactive collaboration with academic institutions, IPA enables structured knowledge exchange, exposure to professional standards, and skill-oriented training that aligns education with industry realities.

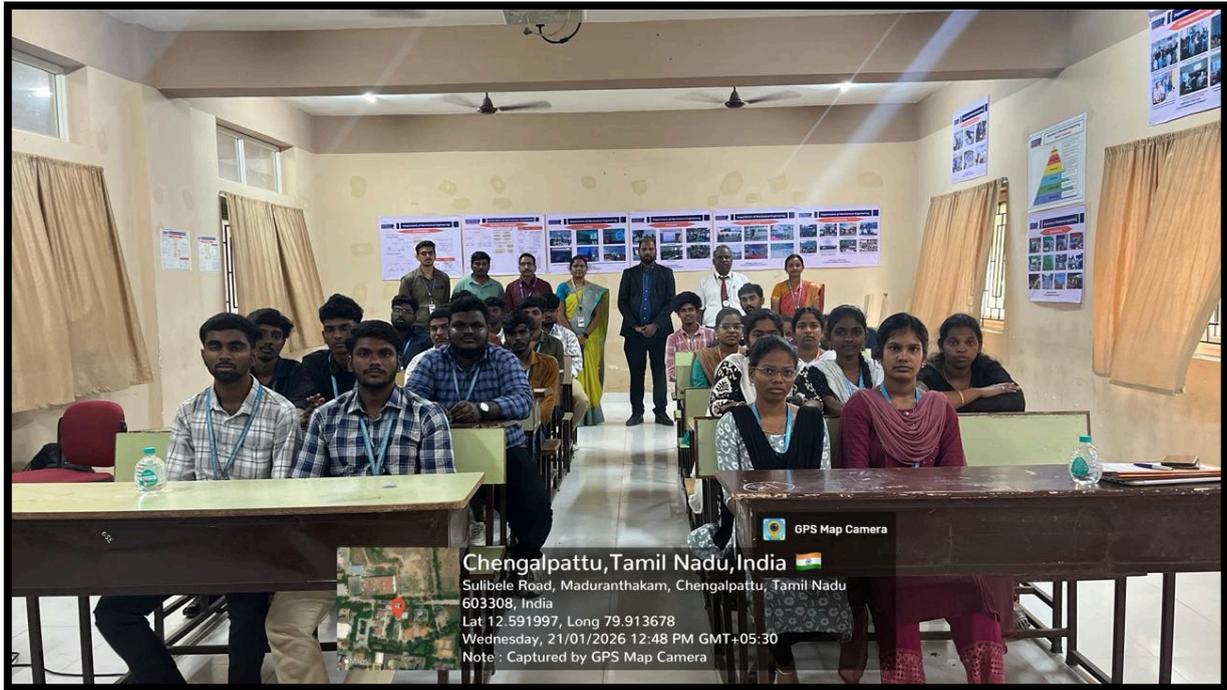
The inauguration of the IPA Chennai Chapter at Karpaga Vinayaga College of Engineering & Technology marks a forward-looking initiative that institutionalizes industry engagement within academic learning. This strategic integration of professional plumbing expertise into the Civil Engineering ecosystem empowers students with applied design insights, regulatory awareness, and sustainability-driven practices. The initiative strengthens graduates' readiness to address real-world infrastructure challenges, reinforcing the institution's commitment to producing industry-ready engineers capable of contributing to resilient and sustainable development.

### **Event Overview**

Conducted at the Seminar Hall of the Mechanical Science Block, Karpaga Vinayaga College of Engineering & Technology, the event attracted vibrant participation from Civil Engineering students across all academic years, along with faculty members and representatives of the Indian Plumbing Association. The Department of Civil Engineering demonstrated exemplary organizational excellence by orchestrating a well-structured program that harmoniously integrated traditional ceremonial elements with technically enriched academic sessions. This thoughtful balance enhanced student engagement, reinforced professional values, and underscored the department's commitment to holistic engineering education.

### **Welcome Address**

Dr. T. Subbulakshmi, Head of Civil Engineering Department. Dr. T. Subbulakshmi emphasized the growing significance of interdisciplinary learning and urged students to embrace the evolving nexus between plumbing and civil engineering.



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Note: Captured by GPS Map Camera

### Felicitation of the Chief Guest

The formal felicitation ceremony was led by Dr. M. Senthil Kumar, Associate Dean, who honored the Guest Speaker, Dr. S. Virapan, Chairman of the IPA Chennai Chapter, and the Guest of Honour, Mr. Vinod Inderlal, Member of IPA, with commemorative mementos. This symbolic gesture reflected the institution's appreciation for industry leadership and professional mentorship. The dignitaries' acceptance of the mementos was accompanied by a reaffirmation of their commitment to sustained academic-industry collaboration, reinforcing a shared vision for nurturing engineering excellence, skill-oriented learning, and long-term professional engagement between the Indian Plumbing Association and Karpaga Vinayaga College of Engineering & Technology.



Following the felicitation ceremony, the dignitaries presented a commemorative IPA Chapter frame to Dr. T. Subbulakshmi, Head of the Department of Civil Engineering. This symbolic presentation marked the official establishment of the Indian Plumbing Association Chennai Chapter within Karpaga Vinayaga College of Engineering & Technology. The moment signified institutional recognition of the Civil Engineering Department's leadership in integrating professional association activities with academic learning and underscored its proactive role in promoting sustained industry collaboration, skill development, and professional engagement among students.

## Presidential

In his



## Address

thought-provoking presidential address, Dr. M. Senthil Kumar, Associate Dean, emphasized the transformative influence of professional bodies such as the Indian Plumbing Association in defining ethical practices, technical benchmarks, and professional accountability within the engineering community. His address highlighted the importance of industry-linked professional engagement in nurturing responsible, standards-driven engineers capable of addressing contemporary infrastructure challenges with integrity and competence.



Dr. M. Senthil Kumar outlined a forward-looking vision for the establishment of a Centre of Excellence (CoE) within the Civil Engineering Department, envisioned as a specialized platform for advanced research, innovation, and sustained industry collaboration in the domains of plumbing integration and infrastructure maintenance.

The proposed CoE aims to function as an experiential learning ecosystem, offering students hands-on exposure to emerging technologies, industry-driven problem statements, and applied research initiatives. This strategic initiative is designed to effectively bridge academic learning with practical implementation, nurturing future-ready engineers equipped to address complex infrastructure challenges.

### **Inauguration Ceremony**

One of the most memorable moments of the event was the formal inauguration of the Indian Plumbing Association (IPA) Chennai Chapter, marked by the ribbon cutting ceremony of the IPA Foam Board. This symbolic gesture officially established the chapter at Karpaga Vinayaga College of Engineering & Technology, signifying the start of a collaborative effort to enhance plumbing and civil engineering standards.



The ceremony was honoured by the presence of distinguished dignitaries including Dr. T. Subbulakshmi, Head of the Civil Engineering Department, Dr. M. Senthil Kumar, Associate Dean, Mrs. J. Prasanya, Assistant Professor of Civil Engineering, Mr. Vinod Inderlal, Regional Head, KPT Pipes & member of the IPA Chennai Chapter and Dr. S. Virapan, Chairman of the IPA Chennai Chapter along with other office bearers.

### **Guest of Honour Speech**

Addressing the gathering, Mr. Vinod Inderlal, Regional Head of KPT Pipes and representative of the IPA Chennai Chapter, outlined the Indian Plumbing Association's strategic mission to standardize and advance plumbing practices across the country. He challenged students to reimagine plumbing as a critical and evolving specialization within Civil Engineering, directly influencing sustainability, public health, and infrastructure resilience. Emphasizing professionalism, lifelong learning, and adaptability, his address equipped students with a forward-looking industry perspective essential for navigating rapid technological advancements and emerging career pathways.



### **Guest Speaker's Address**

Dr. S. Virapan, Chairman of the Indian Plumbing Association Chennai Chapter, presented a comprehensive and forward-looking discourse on emerging innovations in plumbing technologies, encompassing smart water management systems, advanced piping solutions, and sustainable materials. His address demonstrated how technological advancements are reshaping infrastructure efficiency, water conservation, and environmental sustainability. Emphasizing the need for lifelong learning and continuous upskilling, he inspired students to develop technological curiosity and adaptive thinking, positioning them to thrive in a rapidly evolving engineering landscape and contribute meaningfully to future-ready infrastructure solutions.

### **Pledge Ceremony**

All participants collectively affirmed a professional pledge, committing themselves to uphold the highest standards of integrity, professionalism, and quality in their future roles as Civil and Plumbing Engineers. This shared ethical commitment reinforced the importance of responsible engineering practice and highlighted the role of professional values in achieving sustainable, safe, and socially accountable infrastructure development.



## Technical Presentation

Following the formal proceedings, Dr. S. Virapan, Chairman of the IPA Chennai Chapter, delivered a strategically structured presentation on Career Progression and Maintenance Expertise in Civil Engineering. The session provided students with a clear roadmap of evolving career trajectories, highlighting the synergistic role of technical mastery, leadership development, and industry-recognized certifications in achieving long-term professional growth.

A distinctive feature of the presentation was its focused attention on infrastructure maintenance—a traditionally underrepresented yet mission-critical domain for ensuring sustainability, resilience, and public safety. Introducing cutting-edge asset management methodologies, preventive and condition-based maintenance models, and the integration of IoT-enabled monitoring with predictive analytics, the session exposed students to data-driven approaches for proactive infrastructure management, aligning civil engineering practice with smart and sustainable development paradigms.



By integrating practical case studies and real-world engineering scenarios, the session translated theoretical concepts into actionable knowledge. This experiential learning approach enabled students to critically analyze professional challenges, apply industry best practices, and develop problem-solving skills essential for successfully navigating the dynamic and complex landscape of Civil Engineering careers.

### Interactive Q&A Session

The ensuing interactive session reflected a high level of student engagement, with participants actively seeking clarity on professional certifications, industry expectations, internship opportunities, and emerging technological trends. The expert panel offered insightful, experience-driven responses that bridged academic learning with industry realities, encouraging students to adopt a proactive and informed approach toward career planning and continuous professional development in a rapidly evolving engineering ecosystem.



## Vote of Thanks

Concluding the proceedings, Mr. V. Kanagavel, Civil Engineering student, delivered a sincere vote of thanks, highlighting the pivotal contributions of the management, esteemed dignitaries, faculty, and fellow students. He emphasized that the success of the event exemplified the power of collaborative effort and a shared vision, reflecting the institution's culture of inclusivity, teamwork, and commitment to fostering meaningful academic–industry engagement.



The program culminated with the National Anthem, symbolizing unity and collective aspiration towards engineering excellence and national development.



## Key Takeaways

1. **Industry–Academia Collaboration:** The inauguration marked a strategic partnership between Karpaga Vinayaga College of Engineering & Technology and the Indian Plumbing Association, fostering practical exposure, skill development, and industry-aligned learning for Civil Engineering students.
2. **Professional Ethics and Standards:** Through the pledge and expert talks, students were sensitized to uphold integrity, professionalism, and quality in their future roles as Civil and Plumbing Engineers.
3. **Career Pathways and Skill Development:** Sessions by IPA experts provided clear insights into career progression, certification, leadership, and emerging opportunities in plumbing and civil engineering domains.
4. **Infrastructure Maintenance & Innovation:** Emphasis on asset management, preventive maintenance, IoT applications, and sustainable materials highlighted the importance of integrating innovation with traditional civil engineering practices.
5. **Experiential Learning and Engagement:** Practical case studies, interactive Q&A sessions, and real-world examples enabled students to apply theoretical knowledge to industry challenges, bridging the gap between classroom learning and professional practice.
6. **Student Motivation and Professional Outlook:** The event inspired students to cultivate lifelong learning, adaptability, and technological curiosity to remain competitive in an evolving engineering landscape.
7. **Institutional Recognition and Leadership:** Felicitations and symbolic gestures like the IPA Chapter frame highlighted the department's leadership in promoting academic–industry synergy and sustainable infrastructure education.
8. **Unity and Collective Vision:** Concluding with the National Anthem and collaborative reflections, the event reinforced the ethos of teamwork, shared purpose, and commitment to national development through engineering excellence.

  
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