

A highly committed and loyal member of ASSP Kuwait

Chary named ASSP's 2019 Safety Professional of the Year

KUWAIT CITY, July 24: ASSP Kuwait Chapter takes the opportunity to congratulate CH Rama Krishna Chary, Chapter advisory committee member for achieving ASSP Safety Professional of the Year (SPY) 2019 award. He is highly committed and loyal member of the American Society of Safety Professionals, Kuwait Chapter.

Currently Chary is working as Senior Environment Engineer at Kuwait Oil Company. His wide-ranging areas of responsibility include environmental management system, environmentally friendly drilling operations, environmental and social impact assessment studies, air emissions compliance, global sustainability, waste management and energy management systems.

He is an expert at implementing workplace safety standards and has collected numerous awards and certificates for his accomplishments in occupational safety and health.

Chary holds a bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering from the National Institutes of Technology and a Master of Business Administration in oil and gas from the University of Petroleum and Energy Studies from India. His safety career spans more than 17 years in the oil and gas, refinery, consultancy and chemical sectors.

Chary is a member of ASSP's Kuwait Chapter and served as chapter president for 2016-17. For the past eight years, he has served on the advisory committee of ASSP's Environmental Practice Specialty.



A photo from the event.

He also served ASSP Region (Global) as a region operating committee member. He has taken various innovative steps to advance the safety and health profession and enhancing the ASSP membership in the region.

Currently he is serving ASSP as a member of ANSI/ASSE Z390 Accredited Standards Committee, Environmental Practice Specialty advisory committee, Kuwait Chapter Advisory Committee and Region IX Professional Development Chair (2018-19).

Chary honored with this award during ASSP's Safety 2019 Professional Development Conference & Exposition, held June 9-12 in New Orleans. In this global event more than 5,000 safety professionals from

40 countries learned about a wide range of best practices, industry trends and the latest product innovations in the occupational safety and health field.

Each year, ASSP honors an occupational safety and health professional who demonstrates outstanding achievement in the safety field while making significant contributions to advancing the profession. The award is named after Edgar Monsanto Queeny, president of the Monsanto Company on April 16, 1947, when a freighter explosion destroyed the company's Texas City plant. The incident killed 512 people, including 145 Monsanto employees, and led to measures that forever enhanced safety at the company through Queeny's leadership.

click

General

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(i) Persons of Indian Origin
(ii) Non-Resident Indians
(iii) Children of Indian workers working in ECR countries (including Kuwait).
(iv) Children of Indian workers in ECR countries — studying in India
The institutions that are covered under this Scheme are:
(i) NITs, IITs, Schools of Planning and Architecture
(ii) "A" Grade institutions accredited by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) and recognised by University Grants Commission (UGC).
(iii) Other institutions covered under Direct Admission of Students Abroad (DASA) scheme.

Income criteria will be applicable to all four categories. Applicants will seek scholarships after they obtain admission in the approved list of educational institutions.
Applications are required to be submitted online at SPDC portal — <http://spdcindia.gov.in/login/index.php>. Last date for submission of applications was extended till Oct 14, 2016. Nodal officer for SPDC is P. Bharadwaj, Deputy Secretary (OIA-II), Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi, Tel: 00-91-11-24197952, Email: dsoia2@mea.gov.in

Sastra Prathibha Contest: Science International Forum (SIF) Kuwait in association with UNIMONI Kuwait announced the commencement of registration for the 6th edition of the Sastra Prathibha Contest (VVM Vidyarthi Vignyan Manthan). Sastra Prathibha Contest (VVM Vidyarthi Vignyan Manthan) is a pan India and GCC Science Talent Hunt initiative by VIBHA in association with NCERT, HRD Ministry (Government of India) and the Department of Science and Technology (Government of India).

Sastra Prathibha Contest 2019-20 will be a two level contest. First level written examination will take place on Nov 7, 2019. A one-day science camp (Level II) will be organized on Jan 10, 2020 for the selected students from Level I contest, where the Sastra Prathibha title winners for the year 2019-20 will be selected. Winners of Sastra Prathibha Title will get the opportunity to visit prestigious research laboratories in India and also get the opportunity for personal interaction with top scientists in India.

Students from class 4 to class 10 are eligible to register under the categories Sub junior (Class 4, 5), Junior (Class 6, 7, 8) and Senior (Class 9, 10). Registrations for the same will be strictly through schools. Once the registration process is over, a Question Bank following the prescribed syllabus will be provided to the students. SPC will be a 80 question, one hour exam. 30 questions will appear from the question bank, 30 from existing syllabus, 10 analytical and 10 will be general questions. Those interested are requested to contact the science department HOD of respective schools.

SPC is the biggest and most prestigious contest of its kind in Kuwait, with the participation of more than 4500 students from the Indian schools in Kuwait. Registration forms are available at the science department / SPC coordinator of the respective schools. Registration closed on May 15, 2019. For further updates on SPC Season VI, please follow www.facebook.com/sifkuwait, or email at info@sifkuwait.com

Islamic and Arabic courses:

Islamic and Arabic courses are being offered at the Enlightenment into Islam Center starting from 5:00-7:00 pm.

Registrations can be done at the main office — Women's Committee in Qurtoba.
For more information contact: 24322684, 25362693, 97743327 and 25362681.

Islamic classes in French:

The Enlightenment into Islam is offering Islamic Classes in French for ladies. Timings 4:30 to 7 pm. Every Wednesday. Please register at the office (Women's Section), 2nd floor. For more information please contact us. Telephone 25362684, 99789954, 99507076, 97743327. Fax 25342573 (attention — Enlightenment into Islam)

Bridge game:

Bridge tournament is being held every Sunday and Wednesday at 20:00 hours, played at the Graduates Club, next to Kuwait Engineering Society. Interested Bridge pairs or individual players please contact Mohammed Merchant, Tel: 24815622, 24841158, 99612287.

Sports

Chess Round Robin Challenge:

Working Committee members of Idukki Association Kuwait's Women's Forum

Idukki Association Kuwait forms Women's Forum

Idukki Association Kuwait recently formed Women's Forum. Lancy Babu was selected as Chairperson, Akhila Sijo as Secretary, Joiseji as Vice Chair Person and Ancy Ivy as Joint Secretary. The event held on Farwaniya Metro Care Hospital Hall was inaugurated by Ms. Hadeel Buqrais, a prominent human right defender in Kuwait. She spoke about the women empowerment from childhood and gender equality. The programme was anchored by Sherin, welcome speech done by Akhila Sijo and presided by

Lancy Babu. Anusree offered the prayer song. Well known social worker Shiny Frank delivered the keynote address. Welfare Kerala Kuwait President Raseena Mohiudheen offered the facilitation. They spoke about women's social commitment and organizational activities.

Other members of the working committee are Bincy Preeth, (Riggai), Manu Baiju, Asha Sojan, Jolly Biju P Anto (Abbasiya), Bindu Mathew (Salmiya), Sini Binu, Ambily Babu (Mangaf), Johny Bino (Abu Halifa).

Facilitation speech was offered by Metro Care Hospital Vice Chairman and CEO Mustafa Hamsa, IAK President Thomas Chacko Vezhambasseril, Former Presidents Sunny Manarkkad, Babu Parayanickal, Jaison Kaliyanyil, Preeth Jose, Women's Forum Co Coordinator Ivy Alex, Women's Forum Working Committee Members Manu Baiju and Johny Bino, IAK General Secretary Jobins Joseph. The meeting ended with the vote of thanks by the Joint Treasurer Ancy Ivy.

Lifestyle

It's about exchanging advice, meeting like-minded people

Plant lovers find each other at swaps, online

By Tracee M. Herbaugh

Plant lovers have long gotten together to trade seeds and growing advice, and the latest generation is following suit with modern plant swaps.

The swaps (sometimes called plant exchanges) for amateur horticulturalists are popping up in homes, parking lots, trendy gardening stores and online. They're about exchanging advice and meeting like-minded people, says 35-year-old Ana Carlson, who has attended several plant swaps in New York City and Los Angeles, where she lives.

"People just talk and it is fun," she said. "I don't go looking for plants because I have more than enough." Carlson, who owns an online "plant decor" shop, Sill Appeal, and has nearly 200 houseplants, initially learned about the swaps through social media a few years ago, when plants became a hobby.

"They're very social events," she said. "Every time I go, I meet people."

While plant swaps can include outdoor varieties, many people trade houseplants, which are back in style thanks in part to social media. Instagram has been flooded with "Plantstagrammers" or "plant influencers", who post daily photos of houseplants under a variety of hashtags, including #plantcommunity (559,000 posts) and #houseplantlove (118,000 posts). On Pinterest, plant devotees display a plethora of photos, blog

posts and articles chronicling unusual, colorful and pet-friendly houseplants.

Organized

"Right now, the plant world is kind of insane," says Sue Eggen, the creative director at Urban Jungle, a plant shop in Philadelphia. "It's like the 1970s all over again — the coolest thing millennials can do is care for plants."

Last month, Eggen and the Urban Jungle team organized a plant swap for some 50 customers who purchased tickets. There were snacks

and beverages, and attendees listened to a live recording of Bloom and Grow radio, a podcast from Broadway actress Maria Failla that's all about houseplants.

Some plant lovers come to swaps for expensive and rare finds. A full-size pink princess philodendron or a variegated monstera, two fashionable plants not readily found in gardening stores, can cost upward of \$150 retail. At a plant swap, however, someone might bring in a cutting that can be propagated.

"People blew me away with what they brought in," Eggen said.



This undated photo provided by Ana Carlson shows people at a plant swap in Los Angeles. (AP)

Bala Rathinasabapathi, a professor in the horticultural sciences department at University of Florida, says the produce found in grocery stores today is a result of ancient plant swaps.

"Humans domesticated plants about 10,000 years ago, and plant exchanges followed shortly after," Rathinasabapathi said. "People used plants like currency."

Today, however, swaps are mostly characteristic of urban areas, he said. Philadelphia resident Christina Tessaro, 37, learned of a local plant exchange group on Facebook with more than 7,000 members. She originally joined the group to learn more about plants after she took a job at the Philadelphia Horticultural Society. Soon, houseplants became a hobby.

A couple members of the group have organized plant pop-up nights throughout Philadelphia for people to meet in person and socialize.

"I got to meet a few people I recognized online," Tessaro said. "It's been really nice to put a face to a name."

Online swaps have also expanded social circles for long-time plant lovers. "We started out swapping plants as teens," said Stan Miklis, 62, of Dallas, who studied horticulture in high school in Texas. He said he attended plant parties as a teen and young man.

Now, as a farmer, he learns of new plant swaps via the Internet.

"My whole life is and has always been plants," Miklis said. "All my friends are from the plant circle." (AP)

However, in certain cases, they recover their passports later and travel on those passports which already stand cancelled in data available with immigration authorities in India. These passports are immediately seized by Immigration authorities in India. This results in much harassment and inconvenience to these Indian travelers, whose passports are seized. They are also liable to pay penalties as per the law.

Indian Embassy advises all Indian nationals that if an EC is issued to anyone of them, that implies that his/her passport has been cancelled and that he/she should travel only on the EC issued to him/her.

Chinese Embassy notice: Documents issued in Kuwait and to be used in China mainland shall first be notarized and legalised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Kuwait, and then be legalised by Chinese Embassy in Kuwait. Specific requirements and information for document legalisation, please refer to the website of Chinese Embassy in Kuwait.

For documents issued by member countries of the Apostille Convention*, after getting Apostilles from the competent authorities, they can be used in Hong Kong SAR and Macao SAR of China directly.

*Refer to the Convention of Abolition of the Requirement of Legalisation for Foreign Public Documents

Chinese Embassy notice: Please be noted that effective starting today, the photo used in a Chinese visa application must meet the requirements (for details, please visit the website of Chinese embassy <http://kw.chineseembassy.org/eng/>). Application with non-compliant photos will not be processed.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

Indian Embassy notice: India has further liberalized grant of visas to nationals of USA, Canada and Japan. Fee structure is as below:

1. Visa fee for USA nationals:
(a) Tourist visa: Multiple Entry of ten years duration — KD 36; (b) Business visa: Multiple Entry of one year duration — KD 51; (c) Business visa: Multiple Entry of ten years duration — KD 76.

2. Visa fee for Canadian and Japanese nationals:
(a) Tourist visa: Multiple Entry of six months duration — KD 14; (b) Tourist visa: Multiple Entry of one year duration — KD 22; (c) Tourist visa: Multiple Entry of ten years duration — KD 42; (d) Business visa: Multiple Entry of one year duration — KD 39; (e) Business visa: Multiple entry of ten years duration — KD 64.

3. Visa fee for Kuwaiti nationals:
(a) Tourist visa: Multiple Entry of six months duration — KD 14; (b) Business visa: Multiple Entry of One year duration — KD 39; (c) Business visa: Multiple Entry of Five years duration — KD 64.

All applicants may visit Passport and Visa Centres of CKGS at (a) 17 Floor, Bebbhani Building, Sharq, Kuwait; Tel. No. 22440392 (e-mail: indiavisa.kuwait@ckgs.com) or; (b) Complex Kais Alghanim, 4 Floor, Mecca Street, in front of Anmod Complex, Fahaeel, Kuwait; Tel. No. 22909229 (e-mail: indiavisa.kuwait@ckgs.com), (c) Jleeb Al Shuyoukh (Abbasiya) 2nd Floor, Jleeb Al Shuyoukh Block 1, Street 1, Xcite Building, Kuwait Tel. No. 24342428 (e-mail: indiavisa.kuwait@ckgs.com). CKGS's website is <http://www.kw.ckgs.in>.

In emergency cases, Indian Embassy accepts visa applications directly at its Visa Wing from applicants.

Indian Embassy notice: All Indian nationals in Kuwait holding handwritten passports are advised once again to apply for urgent re-issuance of new passports, in lieu of handwritten passports, under the following circumstances:

■ The International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) had set a deadline of Nov 24, 2015 for globally phasing out of all non-Machine Readable Passports. From Nov 25, 2015 onwards, foreign governments may deny Visa or entry to any person travelling on a non-Machine Readable Passport.

■ The Government of India has been issuing Machine Readable Passports since 2001. The Passports, however, issued before 2001 and particularly those issued during mid 1990s with a validity of 20 years will fall in the category of non-MRPs. All handwritten passports with pasted photographs are also considered non-MRPs.

■ Indians living in Kuwait holding handwritten passports as explained in Para (b) above, are advised to apply urgently for re-issuance of their passports well before the deadline in order to avoid any inconvenience in obtaining valid visa for international travel.

■ For more details related to passport services, visit the website — <http://www.indembktw.org/Pages/Passport.aspx> — or call Tribhuvan Kumar, Assistant Consular Officer at Tel: 22530600, Ext-261 or Shri. K.K. Pahel, First Secretary (Consular) on Mob: 97229948.

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www.kbfsa.co.uk.

Embassies

Indian Embassy notice: Indian nationals are issued Emergency Certificates (EC) to facilitate their one-way travel to India due to urgency or deportation, under the circumstances of loss of passport or non-retrieval of passport from their sponsors in Kuwait. Since it

is illegal to hold two travel documents in India at the same time, the concerned passport has to be cancelled before an Emergency Certificate (EC) is issued to an Indian national. At times, Indian nationals who are either detained or due for deportation may not have their passports with them. They apply for travel documents (Emergency Certificate) either directly or through Kuwait Police. In such cases, ECs are issued to them after cancelling their passports.