



'AEMA's focus is to transform young minds'

Prisilla Nadar

Situated between a river and a picturesque mountain range, the Anglo-Eastern Maritime Academy (AEMA) is one of the most beautiful, lush and green campuses in India. Located at the foothills of the Sahayadhri range at Karjat near Mumbai; this maritime centre of learning focuses on transforming the young generation of newcomers in to skilled seafarers, while also aiming to make them better professionals than their predecessors.

Capt Kamal Chadha- Managing Director and Editor, Marex Media- along with his team visited this world class academy on June 22. Capt Narang and members of AEMA's faculty took time off to take the Marex team on an elaborate tour of the institution.

"Here we are deliberately disconnected from Mumbai's metro life, because it then prepares the young minds training here to face similar isolation on board ships," says Capt Sureen Narang, Principal, AEMA.

Spread across 60 acres of land, AEMA's sole vision is to be

recognised as a leading, innovative, dedicated and practical education provider to the maritime industry. The institute strongly believes that training of entry level cadets is one of the most critical factors in achieving the safe, economical and profitable operation of vessels.

AEMA conducts three entry level maritime courses - all have been developed in close consultation with shipboard officers, ship superintendents, ship operators and maritime regulators. These courses bring in a large element of practical knowledge and shipboard case studies to enhance the application of such knowledge in a real shipboard environment.

The Academy Campus has a focus on supporting the individual needs of the learner. Every classroom has internet access. It also leads with the introduction of Interactive Whiteboards in every classroom. Both of these support the development of interactive learning environments and promote high levels of academic engagement in learning tasks.

AEMA is the first institute in India

to have a Ballast Water Treatment station and has been awarded with the A1 Grade by the DGS. For the greater benefit of the students, the campus library has, besides the mandatory books, 150 laptops with internet facility.

On the day of the Marex visit AEMA had organised a blood donation drive. The cadets were seen taking part in this CSR activity enthusiastically.

"I am very happy that I have contributed my bit for this noble cause," said Toby Abraham, a Diploma of Nautical Science Cadet. Cadet Abhijit Jeevan added, "AEMA gives us motivation to participate in such social causes. I am donating blood for the first time and am honestly feeling very good about it".

The social work done by AEMA does not stop here; their reservoirs supply water to a nearby village whenever there is a water shortage.

AEMA also encourages girls to join merchant shipping as cadets. Ms Rachel Rebello is one of them.



"The atmosphere here is very good. We do not have to worry about our future as we already have jobs in hand," she says.

AEMA also retains Ms Parinita Rasal, a consulting psychologist, permanently on campus, exhibiting the depth to which it cares for its students.

"It is very refreshing to see such a unique institution that has based its values upon making well-rounded seafarers out of grainy recruits", observed Capt. Chadha at the end of the tour, adding, "The shipping industry is all the richer because of the excellent work being done here. I congratulate all at AEMA."

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