

*Speech given by the Chief Guest, Mohamed Amir, CEO  
TAM at the Colombo Plan Staff College In Country  
Programme on "Enterprise Development in Technical  
Education and Training (TET)" at FMC on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2005  
Thursday*

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

Professor Dr Man Gon Park, Director General, Colombo Plan  
Staff College for Technician Education,

Mr. Hussain Haleem, Vice Rector, MCHE,

Mr. Abdulla Nafiz, Dean, Faculty of Management and  
Computing.

Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Assalaam Alaikum and *Good Morning*

We came to this workshop from different institutions with  
diverse notions of enterprise development. To the extent that  
this workshop has succeeded, we leave as colleagues and  
companions united with comparable philosophies of  
enterprise development. There is no greater measure of  
learning than everyone looking in the same direction / rather  
than at each other.

Enterprise development in technician training matters to a country's future, now more than ever before. In today's knowledge driven, rapidly changing world it can make the difference between a dynamic economy and a stagnant one. In many industries, the workforce is being reduced due to increased mechanization. At the same time the number seeking technical employment are increasing. Therefore, there is a renewed urgency to equip our trainees with the business skills that will generate jobs and create industries.

Technical education and training, merely for the sake of honing one's skills / leads us nowhere. It must lead to gainful employment. It must be driven by enterprise. This program on developing enterprise is both timely and important. Oftentimes, technicians when they leave training are ill-equipped to start new businesses. I hope that this workshop has enhanced the understanding of all the participants of / how to integrate enterprise education in technician education.

I congratulate the Faculty of Management and Computing / and the CPSC / for holding this important workshop. At the same time, let me thank the workshop instructors for their preparation and guidance, / and the participants for their unflagging enthusiasm.

The great purpose of education is action. We need to carry forward / the work done in this workshop. The acid test of the utility of any workshop or program is / how effectively the participants make use of the new learning / in their everyday activities.

Thanking you and good luck