

# SOCIETY OF NEPALESE ENGINEERS IN UK

# SONEUK

# NEWSLETTER

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# CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE



# Subodh Timilsina

As your Chairperson, I am honoured to take on this role with a profound sense of purpose and responsibility. Together, we will work towards a stronger, more engaged community of engineers. Our collective efforts will focus on key areas to ensure that we foster growth, professional development, and meaningful collaboration. Recognising the diversity in engineering, SONEUK will continue to provide a platform that supports engineers across all disciplines. We acknowledge the challenges faced by new engineers entering the workforce, and hence we pledge to use our resources to offer career guidance, networking, and technical training to help bridge this gap.

## VISION

- Membership growth: Target of reaching 500 members by next year and 650 by the end of this tenure (2024-26). I am confident that this target is an achievable goal, given the large number of engineers eligible for new membership.
- Enhancing technical engagement: We strive to enhance the technical skills of our members through various initiatives, such as weekly discussions, monthly/bimonthly CPD training sessions, and professional seminars. These skill sets are essential for getting into and working in the industry. Further, the annual conference/convention will also give members opportunities to present research papers, presentations, and posters.
- Publications and professional writing: A bimonthly newsletter will keep members updated on key events, while a dedicated proceedings/souvenir will be published annually to showcase the valuable contributions of our community.
- **Collaboration:** Furthermore, we are committed to working with esteemed professional bodies like ICE and APM to bring more opportunities to our members. We will also strengthen our ties with NEAUK to promote integration and collaboration within the engineering community.
- Time Management: We aim to implement a red-yellow-green system to respect time management during our interactions, and each subcommittee will have clear terms of reference to enhance governance.
- Think tank: A team of senior researchers and professionals will address the pressing challenges within the engineering sector and discuss potential solutions within the group or through panel discussion to agree on to resolution on the issues of national concern.
- Social and Networking events: Through several social events like tea-time, we aim to build a stronger sense of unity within our community. Together, we can create a progressive and supportive environment.
- **SONEUK Projects:** We are mindful of previous MoUs we have signed with multiple institutions in Nepal. We are currently reviewing these MoUs to see if any of these MoU can be taken forward for implementation in the near future.
- **Charity Events:** Considering the importance of charity in British Society and as a charitable organization, SONEUK is committed to delivering charity events.
- **SONEUK New Website Page:** At SONEUK, we are prioritising the website, and a Sub-committee is formed to implement the new website that will offer enhanced functionality, including dedicated sections for both general visitors and members. The website will also be equipped to manage both paid and unpaid events efficiently.

Our goal is to unite "engineers for positive change," and with your support, I am confident we can achieve this together. Let us continue to work towards making SONEUK a leading organisation that not only empowers its members but also makes meaningful contributions to society.

# ABOUT SONEUK

SONEUK believes in building a progressive society of Nepali engineers in the UK through trainings, talks, conferences and networking activities.

#### **Our Objectives**

- 1. To organise social gathering to foster relationship among and including the family members of Nepalese Engineers living in the United Kingdom
- 2. To share experience and knowledge in resolving personal as well as professional problems faced by Nepalese Engineers in the United Kingdom.
- 3. To promote and encourage professional interaction and learning among the member engineers.
- 4. To assist new arrivals and job seeker engineers in their settlement in the United Kingdom by supporting information and providing guidance during job search.
- 5. To empower Nepalese engineers with a sense of pride and achievement through collective actions including technical conferences, seminars and workshops.
- 6. To promote and foster good relations, exchange ideas, share experiences and skills between Nepalese engineers residing in the United Kingdom and engineers in Nepal
- 7. To initiate the process for recognition of Nepalese Engineering education in various organisations in the UK like ICE, RICS.
- 8. To promote, mobilise resources, and facilitate the advancement of engineering and scientific education, research, training, skills and technology transfer in Nepal through various Symposia, seminar and workshops, and other possible means.
- 9. To promote fraternity amongst Nepalese of other walks of life residing in the United Kingdom.
- 10. Skill & Technology transfer to Nepal.

### ORGANISATIONAL CHART 6TH EC 2024/26



Subodh Timilsina, the founder of PMPS Consulting Ltd, is a seasoned Senior Project Planner and project controller with over 30 years of experience in Consulting, Defence, Nuclear, Rail, and Construction industries. His proficiency lies in integrated project controls, encompassing planning, scheduling, risk, and cost management. Supported by qualifications including Project Management Professional (PMP) certification and a Post Graduate Diploma in Project Management, along with memberships in esteemed professional institutions like the Project Management Institute (PMI) and the Institute of Civil Engineers



Dr. Rudra P.K. Poudel is a Senior Research Scientist in Al at Cambridge Research Laboratory of Toshiba Europe Ltd, UK, and supervises PhD students at Cambridge and Oxford Universities. He received his Ph.D. in Machine Learning and Computer Vision from Bournemouth University, UK. Before, he co-founded the big-data migration and data analytics company Elvsys and joined an M.Sc. analytics company Elvsys and Joined an M.Sc. program in Evolutionary and Adaptive Systems at the University of Sussex, UK. He has over 20 years of working experience in academic and industrial research, which includes Siemens Corporate Research, USA, Microsoft Research, UK, and King's College London. His main research interests include learning multimodal ed learning, causality, world reinforcement learning, and unsupervised representation models. embodied Al.





Manoi Pun is an accomplished civil and Manoj Pun is an accomplished civil and structural engineer with a wealth of experience in diverse and challenging roles. He began his career as a Design Draughtsman with the British Army's Queen's Engineers, where he contributed to projects in the UK and overseas. Building on this foundation, he transitioned to the role of temporary

works designer, specializing in delivering safe and innovative engineering solutions for complex construction projects. for complex construction projects. Currently, Manoj serves as a senior civil and structural engineer in infrastructure development throughout southeast England. Driven by a passion for community development, Manoj is dedicated to fostering growth and collaboration units his operation to make collaboration, using his expertise to make a meaningful impact within the UK.

Sangita Pokhrel is a lecturer and research group leader in the Department of Computer Science and Data Science at York St John University, and she has always been passionate about community engagement and supporting the growth of others. For the past 1.5 years, she has been an active member of the Nepalese Engineers Society in the UK (SONEUK). Additionally, she is actively supporting Nepalese students abroad, creating YouTube content to share valuable information and life in the UK passionate about community in the UK



Suman Chalise is a seasoned project management professional with over 14 years of extensive experience in managing a diverse array of projects in Nepal. Currently residing in Cambridge, Suman brings a rich blend of academic qualifications and practical expertise to the table, making him a highly skilled and versatile leader in his field. Suman's academic credentials include an MBA and an MSc in Project Management He believes social and professional networking can add more values to the peoples life"



#### MEMBER Dr. Brahmananda Sapkota

Dr. Brahmananda Sapkota works as a Knowledge Graph researcher for Samsung Research UK. He previously worked as a Principal Engineer at Samsung Electronics (South Korea) and as a Senior Solution Manager (South Korea) and as a Senior Solution Manager Huawei in Germany. Prior to that, he was a Postdoc researcher at the University of Twente in Netherlands. He has published over 30 articles in various peer reviewed journals, conferences, workshops and book chapters. He has also contributed to W3C and OASIS standards specifications. Outside of his professional duties, he acts as a reviewer for various journals and conferences such as AAAI, ATC, ICEI. He holds a PhD in informatics from the Insight Centre (formerly DERI), University of Galway, Ireland; a Master in Telematics from the University of Twente, the Netherlands; a Bachelor's in Software Engineering from Kathmandu University, Nepal.



Sujeet Sharma is based in the UK for over 2 decades currently living in Belfast. He is trained as an Architect from SPA Delhi, and worked in both public and Kong and in the UK since 2003. He is committed to minimising the regional isolation faced by engineers in Ireland including safeguarding their interests and professional wellbeing.



Pukar Siwakoti, is a PhD student and lecturer at the University of East London, researching on preparation of sustainable cement and concrete by utilising industrial waste. He completed his MSc in Civil Engineering from the University of East London (UEL) in 2022 and BE in Civil Engineering and Management in 2010. He has more than 8 years of experience in designing and implementing retrofitting of buildings, Early Recovery and Disaster Risk Reduction projects, as well as designing and supervising mini and micro hydroelectric projects in Nepal.



Sujan Sharma is working as a Research Assistant and studying PhD in AI at UWS Paisley campus (Scotland). He was an executive member in 5th SONEUK Executive Committee working as an IT coordinator and will be joining as an IT coordinator in 6th SONEUK executive committee as well.



Dr Surya Ghimire holds a PhD and MSc in Civil Engineering with Structural Engineering from the University of Portsmouth and an MBA from University of Wales. He has around two decades of Wales. He has around two decades of industrial and academic experience in Civil and Structural Engineering. His area of research is numerical modelling to predict failure mechanisms of different structural materials and structures. He published a number of research papers in high impact factor journals. He is currently working as a Senior Lecturer at Southampton Solent University. He also has experience of supervising BSc, MSc, MRes and PhD research projects. He has been serving within SONEUK training and CPD subcommittee for the last three tenures.



Nirdesh Khatiwada is project planner with more than 5 years of experience in construction sector inside and out of UK. Graduated from University of West London in MSc Civil & Environmental Engineering with distinction, currently working as a project planner in PMPS.



# MEET THE TEAM : SUB COMMITTEE //

# Coordinator : Dr. Suryanath Ghimire

#### **Coordinator : Suman Chalise**

Roshan Bhattarai

• Pukar Siwakoti

• Brahmadanda Sapkota

• Rashmi Rana

Ex-officio member - Er Subodh Timilsina

# Coordinator: Dr. Rudra Paudel

- Krishna Kishor Shrestha Pukar Siwakoti • Raj Kapur Shah
- Ramesh Marasini
- Ramhari Poudyal
- Rishi Parajuli
- Roshan Bhattarai
- Sangita Pokrel
- Sujan Sharma

Ex-officio member - Er Subodh Timilsina

Ex-officio member - Er Subodh Timilsina

#### Coordinator : Sangita Pokhrel

- Pukar Siwakoti
- Ravi Chandra Koirala
- Roshan Bhattarai Suman Chalise

Ex-officio member - Er Subodh Timilsina

#### Coordinator : Subodh Timilsina

#### Coordinator: Nirdesh Khatiwada • Manoj Kapri

- Ex-officio member Er Subodh Timilsina
- Er Subodh Timilsina, Chairperson 6th EC Coordinator
- Er Manoj Pun, General Secretary 6th EC
- Er Rudra Koirala, Chairperson, 5th EC
- Dr Ravi Chandra Koirala, General Secretary, 5th EC
- Er Sanyukta Shrestha, Chairperson, 4th EC •
- Dr Bidur Ghimire, General Secretary, 4th EC

SONEUK



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- Punya Regmi
- Rajan Kharel
- Rajesh Pathak
- Naba Raj Adhikari
- Rajkumar Tripathi
- Laxman Ghimire
- Umesh Parajuli
- Bijaya Bajracharya
- Ashok Chapagain

Sep 2024 - Dec 2024

SONEUK

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#### 1. Annual General Meeting (AGM): 7 Sep 2024

- 2. Interaction programme with Mayor Harka Sampang: 23 & 26 Oct 2024
- 3. Training and CPD Event (Microsoft 365- Admin Training & General Training): 26 & 27 Oct 2024
- 4. Social Event: Seasons of festivals : 09 Nov 2024
- 5. SONEUK and ICE Joint Event: 20 Nov 2024
- 6. Training and CPD: Engineering Research Skills Training Series 1: 23 Nov 2024
- 7. Training and CPD: Engineering Research Skills Training (Methodology) Series 1, part 2 21 Dec 2024

#### 1. Annual General Meeting (AGM) - 7 Sep 2024

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Society of Nepalese Engineers in UK (SONEUK) commenced on 7 September 2024, Blackheath, London. The AGM was chaired by the incumbent Chairperson Er. Rudra Koirala and conducted by incumbent Secretary, Er. Sagyan Kharel.

During the AGM, the outgoing 5th Executive Committee presented a report detailing their activities over the past two years, which was subsequently endorsed by the AGM. Besides this, various activities in society were also discussed. Later in the day, SONEUK also elected the new 6th Executive Committee for the period of two years consisting of 10 members, following an election which was scheduled from 23-Aug-24 to 7-Sep-24. Er. Subodh Timilsina was elected as chairperson unopposed along with other executives. The session concluded with the newly elected Chairperson, Er. Subodh Timilsina, presenting his vision for the society for the upcoming term.





2. Interaction programme with Mayor Harka Sampang, 23 & 26 Oct 2024

The technical and policies interaction session was held on 23 October 2024 in Baker Road, Folkestone, which brought together Nepalese professionals from various sectors in the UK. General Secretary Manoj Pun delivered an insightful presentation on SONEUK's objectives within the UK-based Nepalese engineering diaspora, highlighting the organisation's vision and goals. Meen Gurung presented at the Cleve Hill Solar Park in Kent, focusing on renewable energy project management. Key points included the UK's net-zero goals, East-West solar panel orientation for 30% more efficiency, flood resilience, battery energy storage system, and project management overview. Suraj Rai presented on the academic training of Gurkha Engineers at the Royal School of Military Engineering. He highlighted the various trades, specialists, technical, and combat roles undertaken by the sappers. The presentation emphasised the qualifications awarded by affiliated accrediting bodies. Mayor Harkar Sampang expressed his optimism about potential collaborations with SONEUK, emphasising opportunities for productive partnerships. The event also included presentations from professionals of other UK industries.

SONEUK southeast regional members organised an insightful field visit program on 26 October 2024 for Mr. Harka Sampang, the Mayor of Dharan, during his visit to the United Kingdom. The initiative aimed to facilitate knowledge exchange and provide exposure to UK practices in traffic management systems. Dr. Birendra Shrestha, a Principal Transport Modeller at Transport for London and a member of SONEUK, led the session by showcasing various innovative traffic management measures implemented in the UK including: traffic signal systems, signalised pedestrian crossings, traffic calming measures, and pedestrianised streets.

Additionally, Mr. Shailendra Shrestha, Senior Drainage Engineer at National Highways and former Chairperson of SONEUK, provided a comprehensive explanation of effective oad surface drainage systems to ensure road safety and surface water management. In the program, SONEUK member Suraj Rai elaborated on the UK education system that equips engineers with practical knowledge and skills through hands-on training. The visit offered Mayor Sampang an opportunity to explore proven solutions to urban challenges and consider how such measures might be adapted to address Dharan's needs.







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#### 3. Training and CPD Event 1: Part 1 for administrator and Part 2 for General member - 26 & 27 Oct 2024

Society of Nepalese Engineers in UK (SONEUK) conducted its first professional training, and the CPD event was organised by Dr. Suryanath Ghimire (SONEUK CPD Coordinator ). Two training sessions were held, and the resource person for the training Er Prashant Dhewaju, who is a Microsoft Certified Trainer since 2010, Microsoft MVP-Office Apps & Services (2017-2021), and Microsoft 365 Adaptation Consultant, successfully delivered both trainings.

The Microsoft 365-Admin Training event was held on 26 October 2024, aimed at the EC members and it was attended by 8 participants. The Microsoft 365- General Training event which was targeted to all the members of SONEUK and was enthusiastically attended by 19 SONEUK members, was held on 27 October 2024. The turnout and participant responses, along with the enthusiastic Q&A sessions, demonstrated the event's overall success in equipping the attendees with essential skills that enhanced both individual and organizational efficiency.

#### 4. Social Event : Seasons of festivals - 09 Nov 2024

The Season of Festivals marked the first social event of its kind and was a vibrant, memorable evening held on 9 November 2024. Attendees were treated to a variety of performances, including dance, singing, storytelling, and comedy, as well as engaging activities such as a quiz and an exciting bingo game.

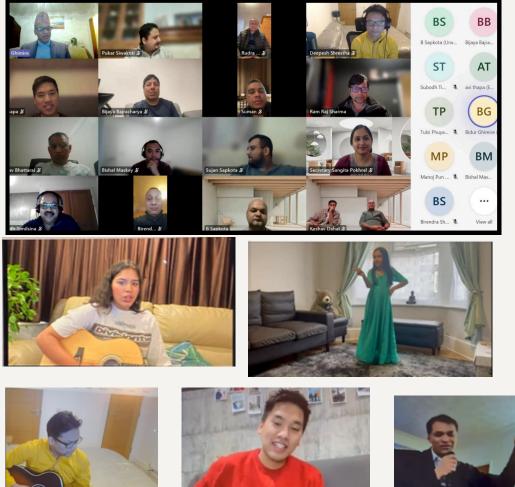
Special recognition is extended to Sanyukta Shrestha for leading the bingo game, Ravi Chandra Koirala for meticulous preparation, Deepesh Shrestha for his work on the quiz, Bidur Ghimire for coordinating performances, and Suman Chalise and Sujan Sharma for their valuable support. A heartfelt thanks also goes to Chairperson Subodh Timilsina for an impromptu performance that added a unique charm to the evening. Well done to all participants, and we look forward to seeing everyone at future events!

Special credit goes to all performers, namely, news reading by Pranavi Siwakoti (lovely daughter of Er Pukar Siwakoti), Nepali song singing by Bristi Ghimire (daughter of Dr Bidur Ghimire), and nice dance performance by Aarohi Koirala (daughter of Dr Ravi Koirala). It was also great to listen to songs from Er Abhinash Thapa, Er Dipesh Shrestha, and Dr. Bidur Ghimire. Jokes shared by Dr. Keshav Bhattarai made everyone laugh. Thanks for all the great performances, especially to energetic coordinator Er Sangita Pokhrel and her team.



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+ Four	Corners	+ Second Row	-	-	-	-	-	-	ā				
+ Full	House	+ Third Row	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	



#### Congratulations to all Our Winners

- **Quiz Winner: Bishal Maske**
- **Bingo Winners:** Sagar Gwacha, Yogesh Ghimire, Bishal Maske, Birendra Shrestha, Nirdesh Khatiwada, and Umesh Parajuli.









#### 5. SONEUK and ICE Joint Event - 20 Nov 2024

The recent joint event hosted by the Society of Nepalese Engineers in the UK (SONEUK) and the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) served as an excellent platform for networking, sharing objectives, and exploring collaborative opportunities. The event took place on 20 November 2024 at Hotel Du Vin, Tunbridge Wells.

A key feature of the event was a presentation by Dr. Binod Lal Amatya on Master Planning Metro Rail Development in the Kathmandu Valley, Nepal. His detailed analysis provided valuable insights and generated productive discussions among attendees. We appreciate the participation and contributions of everyone involved, which made the event a meaningful and successful experience. This collaboration highlights the importance of working together to achieve shared objectives and support professional development.



#### 6. Training and CPD Event 2: Engineering and Research Skills Training -Series 1 - Introduction, 23 Nov 2024

The first part of the series on engineering and research skills training was held on 23 November 2024, online via Microsoft Teams. The training's topic was "Introduction". It was organised by Dr. Suryanath Ghimire (Training and CPD Coordinator, SONEUK).

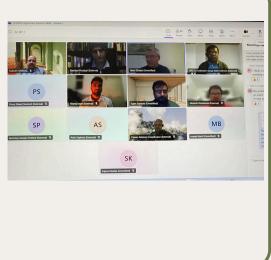
The main aim of the Engineering Research Skills training series is to provide the participants with essential tools and techniques in research methodologies, literature reviews, data analysis, and presenting findings.

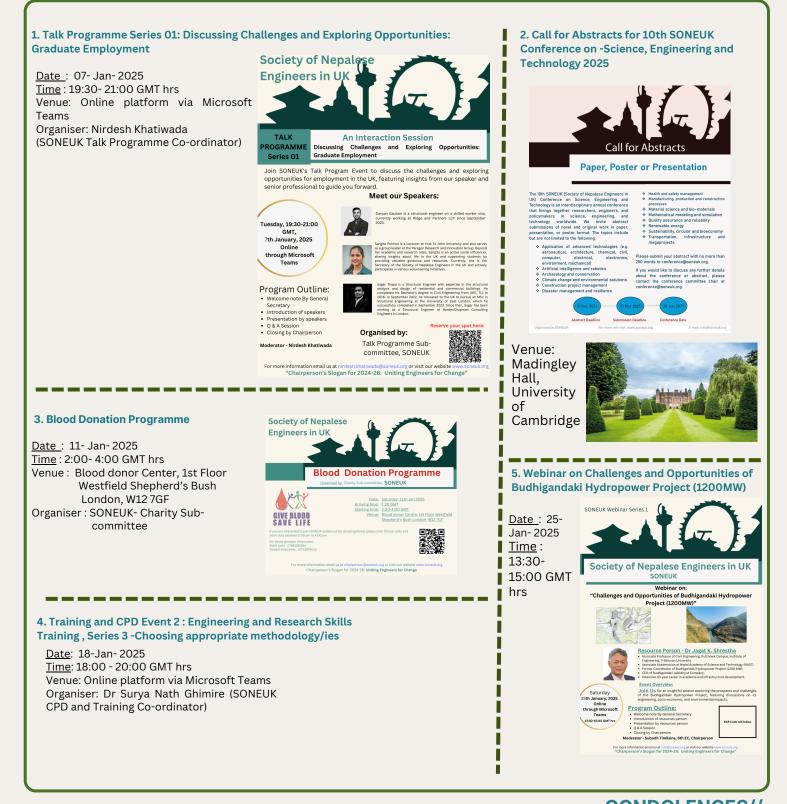


#### 7. Training and CPD Event 2 : Engineering and Research Skills Training -Series 2 - Effective Literature Search and finding a Research Gap, 21 Dec 2024

The second part of the series on engineering and research skills training was held on 21 December 2024 online via Microsoft Teams. The training's topic was "Effective Literature Search and Finding a Research Gap." Seven participants presented on research gaps. This was followed by presentations on research gaps delivered by seven participants, including joint presentations by Manju Bhatt and Rohit Joshi and individual contributions from Nirdesh Khatiwada, Manoj Kapri, Asim Sapkota, Pravu Silwal, Srijana Khadka, and Sujan Sapkota.

Esteemed experts, including Prof. Dr. Hom Dhakal, Associate Prof. Dr. Ramesh Marashini, Dr. Raj Kapoor Shah, Dr. Ramhari Poudyel, and Er. Sangita Pokhrel, provided valuable feedback. Dr. Ramhari Poudyel also led an insightful session on effective data collection and analysis techniques. The event concluded with closing remarks from Chairperson Subodh Timilsina.





It is with deep sadness that we share the news of the passing of Mrs Bishnu Maya Adhikari on 17th October 2024, the beloved mother of our founding member of SONEUK, Er. Naba Raj Adhikari. We offer our heartfelt prayers for the departed soul. During this difficult time, our thoughts and condolences are with Er Naba Raj Adhikari and his family.



It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of Mrs. Rohita Devi Thapa, beloved mother of SONEUK member Er. Shyam Thapa, who peacefully left us on 21st November 2024.

We offer our heartfelt prayers for the departed soul. During this difficult time, we extend our deepest condolences to Er. Shyam Thapa and his family.



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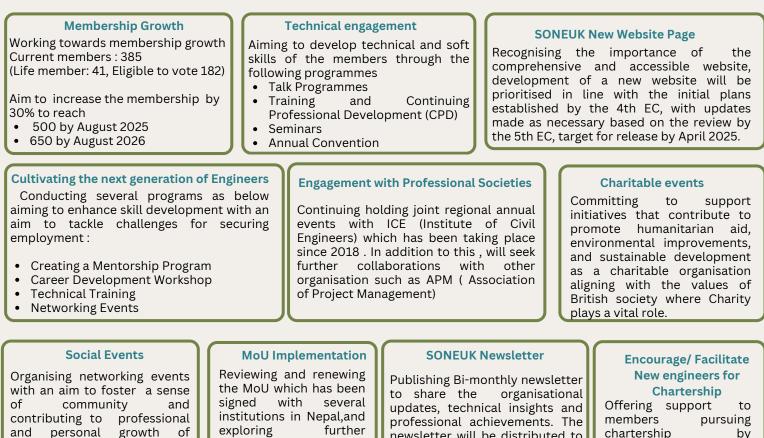
Society of Nepalese Engineers UK

Sep 2024 - Dec 2024

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# **ROAD MAP//**

#### Activity roadmap for the 6th Executive Committee 2024-26 has been summarised below :



for

Online and in person social events

members.

of

opportunities

committee.

partnership through the

Project Support sub-

Annual summer gatherings

newsletter will be distributed to engineering С organisation and professional 5

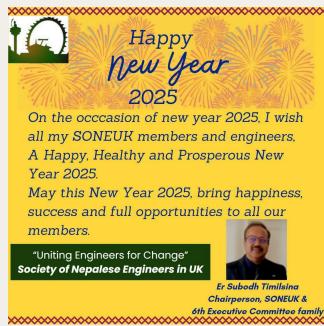
members	pursuing
chartership	by
organising	guidance
sessions	with
experienced	reviewers
and assessors.	

## HAPPY NEW YEAR 2025 TO ALL SONEUK MEMBERS AND ENGINEERS. WE ARE FEELING PROUD TO CELEBRATE THE COLLECTIVE ACHIEVEMENTS EARNED IN 2024 AND EVEN MORE EXCITED TO WELCOME NEW YEAR 2025. WE ARE SURE, YOU ALL WILL JOIN US TO WELCOME 2025 FOR ALL NEW HOPES. PROGRESS AND PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES IT **BRINGS**!

relevant

SONEUK.

bodies to elevate the profile of



## **Publication Credits:**

- Subodh Timilsina
- Manoj Pun
- Srijana Khadka
- Sujan Sharma
- Nirdesh Khatiwada

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