Dear Mr. Banerjee,

With reference to your letter of November 17, the American Society of Civil Engineers has long felt the need for better communication and working cooperation within the engineering profession throughout the world. To this aim we have formally adopted the philosophy and operational approach that is set forth in the attached reprint, “International Relationships in Engineering”. Your careful study of the memorandum is respectfully urged.

In June 1963, this statement was presented for the consideration of the Conference of Engineering Societies of Western Europe and the United States (EUSEC). The Principles involved were promptly endorsed by EUSEC, and arrangements for the exchange of membership services on a guest basis have since been consummated with the national societies serving civil engineers in Great Britain, Ireland, France, Norway, Switzerland, Portugal, Finland, South Africa, New Zealand, Japan, Israel, Italy, West Germany, Sweden and Greece. Exchange with societies in several other countries are in negotiation.

Particularly gratifying has been the reception of the plan by individual engineers who are taking advantage of the exchange of services in connection with their assignments in other countries.

Today there is a greater need than ever before for understanding and cooperation throughout the world. Accordingly, we invite consideration by your society of an agreement covering exchange of guest privileges for your members engaged in the USA, and our members in India. Enclosed is a simple draft form of such an agreement that we propose for mutual acceptance. This draft contains two blank spaces that are open to negotiation, upon which we comment as follows:

1. With regard to the reference to the subscription fee in paragraph one, we suggest an amount somewhere between $5.00 and $10.00 (US) annually. We will be agreeable to any figure that you might specify within this range.

2. In paragraph four we suggest that a maximum enrolment period under the exchange plan be limited to two or three years. After that period we feel that a foreign engineer guest should properly apply for regular membership in the society of the country in which he is living or working.

Also enclosed is a sample of the identification card or “Professional Passport” that we are issuing to our foreign engineer guests under this program.

We will be glad to receive your further comments. Should your Institution decide to enter upon the mutual exchange, it is suggested that you draft the agreement with the terms that you prefer and submit duplicate copies for our consideration and signature.

You may be sure that we will welcome your participation in this move to advance the effectiveness and constructive influence of the engineering profession throughout the world.

Sd/-

William H. Wisely
Executive Secretary