

SIX POLY FEMALE STUDENTS BENEFIT FROM ESCOM'S SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME



The Electricity Supply Corporation of Malawi (ESCOM) has launched a university scholarship program where it aims to promote the involvement of female students in technical fields such as engineering. The Scholarship was launched at its head office in Blantyre where six high performing female engineering students from the University of Malawi, Polytechnic, were awarded with MK2, 100, 000.00 scholarship fees.

Speaking at the launch, ESCOM's Chief Executive Officer, John Kandulu, said this is in line with ESCOM strategy.

"ESCOM is committed to reducing gender imbalances. This is a deliberate effort that we have put in place and are pursuing." Said Kandulu while highlighting the importance of involvement of women in technical fields such as engineering.

Speaking on behalf of the students, Mary Mnawa, one of the female students, thanked ESCOM for the award while promising to keep working hard.

"This award means a lot to me. It will encourage me to work hard and will motivate other female students." Said Mnawa.

The Scholarship was received by Polytechnic's principal, Professor Grant Kululanga. While noting that the composition of female engineers in Malawi is less than 1%, Kululanga commended ESCOM for the scholarship program.

"Female engineers in Malawi are very scarce. We need to encourage and support them so we can increase the numbers." Said Kululanga while encouraging other organizations to emulate ESCOM.

The scholarship which will run for an initial period of four years is being made in fulfillment to an undertaking ESCOM made with government to commit to gender parity. As part of the scholarship, the students will be offered internship at ESCOM during their holidays.