



President's Message



Dear Fellow Foundrymen & Foundrywomen,

Firstly, I would like to pay homage to all the soldiers who have fought and lost lives in the recent conflict. Many of our members were also affected, especially those living near the borders. I would like to let them know that the foundry fraternity is there to support them always.

I extend my warm wishes to all our readers on the upcoming occasions of **Eid al-Adha** and **Shri Jagannath Rathayatra**. May these festivals unite us in the true spirit of celebration, spreading joy and harmony across our communities.

Let us also renew our commitment to a **cleaner, greener, and safer environment** on the occasion of **World Environment Day being celebrated on June 5**. As a part of the foundry ecosystem, it is our responsibility to save our environment by doing our bit, as little as planting a tree or switching off lights if not in use.

As many of you are aware, I often use this platform to share updates on the wide-ranging initiatives undertaken by **your IIF** for the benefit of our members and the foundry fraternity across India.

A significant recent event was the **Fireside Chat** organised jointly by IIF–Southern Region and Chennai Chapter on **April 26 at Mahabalipuram**. It was a privilege to moderate this enriching discussion featuring industry stalwarts like Mr Deepak Reddy (MD, Nelcast Ltd), Mr Baskar Radhakrishnan (MD, Baettr India Pvt Ltd), and Mr Sriram Sivaram (MD, Madras Engineering Industries Pvt Ltd). The session, part of our 75th year celebrations, delved into critical industry topics such as cost efficiency, material sourcing, and regulatory challenges while underlining the power of collaboration.

Our **National Centre for Export Promotion (NCEP)**, a new Centre of Excellence in Kolkata, held a **Hybrid Session on Export Finance on May 7, 2025**, in collaboration with **ICICI Bank**.

Our Policy advocacy helping our members - on **May 9**, an IIF delegation met with Mr Pramod Tiwari, IAS (DG, BIS) and Mr S K Verma (Sr Director, CMD-2, BIS) in New Delhi regarding the **BIS marking fee issue**. We articulated the industry's concerns and received a positive response that our representation would be considered.

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The **15th Aluminium Conclave – CEO Meet** organised by the IIF–Chennai Chapter on **May 10** brought together 100+ members to discuss key topics including exports, financial and strategic planning, and the future of aluminium die-casting. The regional activity centres for non-ferrous are now taking shape, with each region trying to garner members from the non-ferrous casting fraternity to strengthen our focus on this part of our ecosystem.

On **May 12**, IIF–Western Region and Greater Mumbai Chapter hosted the **Global Casting Buyer Seller Meet (B2B Meet 2025)** in Mumbai. It was a highly interactive full-day session with 50–55 delegates, including buyers and sellers who had dedicated time slots for detailed engagements.

Finally, the **58th Chapter Day of IIF–Coimbatore Chapter** on **May 15** featured a valuable interaction with National Office Bearers and a dynamic **Young Entrepreneurs Conclave**, highlighting the role of second-generation foundry leaders in shaping the industry's future. The Town Hall session was a candid one-on-one engagement allowing NOBs to listen and exchange views directly with members.

YEF (Young Entrepreneurs Forum) is now busy conducting its first virtual meet. I am confident that this young blood will propel our organisation to newer heights and carve a brighter future for the industry.

FIC is now working on creating a one-of-the-kind defence symposium with several defence PSUs participating with the purpose of indigenising several equipment. This is going to open a huge new opportunity for our members. Do look out for details on this.

NCEP is taking a large delegation to Vietnam for a foundry visit in June and later a large group to GIFA Cairo in September. Please look for details and register. It will provide a huge platform to look at various export opportunities.

Lastly, please do not forget to book your stalls at the upcoming 74th IFC & IFEX in Mumbai. It is almost getting sold out and will be the largest exhibition in the history of IIF.

I invite all members to share their thoughts, suggestions, and ideas for improvement directly with me at president@indianfoundry.org.

Thank you.

Joy Hind!

Warm regards

Navneet Agarwal

President, IIF (2024-25)