



President's Message

Dear Fellow Foundrymen & Foundrywomen,

Greetings from the President's Desk!

As we step into the second half of 2025, it is heartening to witness the dynamic momentum our foundry fraternity is achieving across multiple fronts. Guided by our vision of inclusivity, innovation, and international collaboration, the past month has been rich in progress and partnerships.

One of the most transformative initiatives of this year has been the **Town Hall Movement**, which has now become a cornerstone of how we connect across the country. From Jaipur to Ahmedabad to Chennai, these gatherings have served as vibrant platforms for transparent dialogue, sharing of local insights and policy alignment. In continuum of NOB Visits to Chapters, Town Hall Meetings were held in Ahmedabad and Vadodara on July 02, Rajkot on July 04 and Jaipur on July 26, 2025, reaffirming IIF's commitment to fostering leadership, entrepreneurship, and transparency within the foundry ecosystem. I personally thank all Chapters for their overwhelming participation and invite others to embrace this open format of engagement.

IIF National Council (NC) Meetings have so far mostly been limited to the larger cities. This year, the vision of the NOBs has been to take National Council Meetings to newer locations where such meetings have never been held to enable local Chapter members have a flavour of the proceedings. In line with this thinking, the 5th NC Meeting 2024-25 was held at Rajkot on July 4-5, 2025, generating a lot of enthusiasm amongst the local foundry fraternity. It was a joy to connect with our fraternity members there and understand their innovative way of thinking.

We also witnessed impactful activities under our **Centre of Excellence (CoE)** umbrella.

National Centre for Technical Services (NCTS) organised refresher courses, held in collaboration with National Institute of Advanced Manufacturing Technology (NIAMT) Ranchi, are empowering professionals with hands-on training in Smart Foundry practices, Non-Ferrous and Ferrous Casting, Casting Simulation, Defects, QA & Testing and more. These efforts aim to elevate the technical capabilities of our industry and attract more young talent into our fold.

Additionally, our **online B2B meeting with Saudi Arabia organised by National Centre for Export Promotion (NCEP)** on July 14, 2025, supported by the Indian Embassy and Asharqia Chamber, opened new doors in the Middle East, aiming to explore commercial collaboration in the metal casting sector, introduce Indian suppliers to the Saudi industrial ecosystem and capitalise on emerging trade opportunities driven by Saudi Vision 2030. This event was organised as a part of the 75th-year celebration of IIF. With over 140 participants and enthusiastic engagement, this event underscored Saudi Arabia's increasing demand in automotive and infrastructure casting segments where Indian foundries can play a defining role.

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In a bid to strengthen the understanding of cross-border trade among Indian exporters, the NCEP conducted an intensive **training programme on the Export-Import Cycle** with Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) on July 12, 2025 on zoom platform. The session was aimed at enhancing the capacity of exporters to manage international trade procedures with accuracy and efficiency.

MoU between IIF and CSIR-CMERI

On 4th July 2025, The Institute of Indian Foundrymen (IIF) and CSIR-Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI) entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to synergise their expertise and resources for collaborative research and development initiatives aimed at advancing the Indian foundry sector. Scope of Collaboration includes Indigenisation & Import Substitution, Advanced Casting Research, Strategic Industry Support, Research & Knowledge Enhancement, Skill Development and Academic-Industry Interface. This partnership marks a significant step towards strengthening India's foundry ecosystem through focused research, innovation and skill-building.

We have also signed an **MoU with the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), Government of India, for the ADEETIE scheme**. The MoU was formalised during the national launch of the ADEETIE scheme by the Ministry of Power, Government of India, held on 15th July 2025 in Panipat, Haryana in the presence of Cabinet Minister Shri Manohar Lal and officials from the Ministry and the Government of Haryana. The main objective of MoU is to facilitate MSMEs to upgrade with energy-efficient technologies/measures through financial instruments and handholding them in carrying out investment grade energy audit, detailed project report, monitoring and verification of the implementation. Under the ADEETIE scheme, early recognition has already been granted to Batala, Coimbatore, and Howrah clusters, paving the way for bankable energy-saving projects and green financing.

IIF National Council Election 2025-27, organised digitally for the first time in Right2Vote platform was a resounding success in terms of having seamless and faster election process with maximum member outreach. It was a fitting tribute to members on the 75th Year organised successfully by the Secretariat to fulfil the vision of NOBs and the National Council. The active and enthusiastic participation of members across Regions and Chapters in the E Voting process has strengthened our democratic governance contributing to future growth and representative leadership in the Institute.

With Rakhi Purnima falling on August 9th, let us all celebrate the spirit of **Raksha Bandhan** which is a symbol of care and protection, promotion of shared values, not only between siblings but also beyond biological kin. August 27 brings us **Vinayaka Chaturthi** which is a time for unity within the community, seeking blessings for new beginnings and the removal of obstacles.

To each one of you contributing to this shared journey—thank you. Let's continue listening, learning, and leading together. The Foundry fraternity of India is not only growing—it is transforming.

I would like our members to send any ideas and opinions for improvement to me directly on my email president@indianfoundry.org.

Thank you.

Happy Rakshabandhan – Please make your bonds even stronger.

Happy Reading,

Jai Hind!

Warm regards

Navneet Agarwal

President, IIF (2024-25)