



President's Message



Dear Fellow Foundrymen & Foundrywomen,

Greetings from the President's Desk!

Festivals are not only a time for celebration but also a reminder of our shared values, traditions, and community spirit. The season of festivals has begun with Navratri/Durga puja/Dussehra being celebrated across India in the last week of September and beginning of October invoking blessings of the Divine Mother for eternal triumph of good over evil. This is followed by Lakshmi puja on Oct 6 wherein we pray to the goddess for prosperity and happiness and Karwa Chauth on Oct 9 when women reaffirm the deep love for their husbands. Diwali/Kalipuja - the festival of lights on Oct 21 marks the victory of knowledge over darkness and ignorance and while observing Chhath puja during Oct 25-28, we thank the Sun for sustaining life on Earth. As we come together to celebrate this festive season, I extend my warmest wishes to each one of you and your families and pray that it brings you peace, happiness and harmony. At IIF, we take pride in fostering a culture of excellence, integrity and unity—values that are deeply reflected in the festivals we celebrate across our diverse nation.

Townhall Visits

Continuing from previous year, NOBs had successful **Townhall Visits at Andhra, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Howrah, Durgapur and Jamshedpur Chapters along with a visit to HO during Sept 15-20**. The journeying across India, listening to member voices and holding Townhall Meetings revitalises the grassroots fabric of IIF and serves to bring the leadership closer to members, ensuring every voice is heard, thus making growth a collective mission. I feel deeply humbled by the support and affection received from members during the Townhall meetings and the interactions held are part of the great learning process for understanding the local issues and concerns which I assure would definitely be addressed in due course.

Urja Sanchay Project Kick off at National Level – by NCTS

The Urja Sanchay project is a part of the **Presidential Work Plan** this year. It has already been successfully implemented in Western Region, in the previous year. The nationwide launch of Urja Sanchay under NCTS seeks to systematically organise energy audits across industrial units, aiming for more robust energy efficiency, reduction of waste and optimisation of operational costs. The scheme will draw on the network of accredited energy auditors for conducting of audit. It is expected that through Urja Sanchay many more foundries would adopt higher standards for energy use and thus reduce both cost and carbon footprint. Sponsored by Oritech Solutions & Allied Refractories, this project has specific quarterly and annual targets and aims to cover a significant number of foundries during the current term.

Relaunch of Yogyata Vikas Programme at National Level – by NCSD

Yogyata Vikas - the customised, multi-language, pan-India, in-plant training programme for foundry workmen/workwomen since 2016, targeted to upgrade skills, improve quality & productivity and enhance the competitiveness of the Indian foundry industry has been relaunched by NCSD at the national level. Given global pressures, including competitive tariffs and changing export demand, this upskilling becomes critical for maintaining margins, product quality and also for compliance with environmental and safety norms. The programme features multiple modules, delivered in the local language, with a practical, technical orientation.

President's Message

Foundries are therefore invited to take recourse to both these programmes to enhance their energy efficiency and upgrade employee skills to take their units to the next level.

Indian Foundry Industry Showing Resilience Amidst US Tariffs

Though recent US tariffs have imposed additional costs and trade barriers for many exporting sectors, India's foundry industry is showing resilience. This is because of many foundries catering to domestic demand or exporting to multiple markets, reducing over dependence on the US. Also, industries have been adjusting through alternate supply chains, adapting cost structures, seeking product value addition and leveraging Government trade support and incentives. This resilience has helped maintain order books, continue capacity utilisations and instil investor confidence in many foundry operations despite external headwinds.

That said, there are certain sectors in foundry and allied manufacturing which are more exposed – those that ship finished goods, components or castings directly into US markets or those reliant on input materials with higher import content. These units are facing higher tariff burdens, cost escalations and sometimes non tariff barriers. For these foundrymen, the challenge is two fold: mitigating cost impacts through efficiencies and/or diversifying markets. The Government's support through trade policies, duty structures, logistics improvements and incentive schemes will play a key role in helping these sectors adapt to the unfolding situations.

GST Reforms-Industry in a Positive Mood

In line with the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision, the 56th GST Council Meeting, chaired by Hon'ble Union Finance Minister Smt Nirmala Sitharaman has approved Next-Gen GST reforms, effective from Sept 22, 2025 aimed at improving the lives of the common man and ensuring greater growth with ease of doing business for all. The comprehensive reform package includes rate rationalisation with a simplified two-slab structure (5% and 18%), sweeping rate reductions across sectors with focus on labour-intensive Industries, farmers and agriculture, healthcare - considered as key drivers of the economy. These reforms are expected to help offset some of the losses due to US tariffs, particularly for export linked and labour intensive sectors. They also promise to stimulate domestic consumption, reduce inflationary pressures and improve demand for foundry products that feed into sectors such as automobiles, infrastructure and machinery.

Upcoming 74th IFC & IFEX 2026

The **74th Indian Foundry Congress, IFEX 2026 and Cast India Expo** would be conducted at **NESCO Exhibition Centre, Goregaon, Mumbai on 12th, 13th & 14th February, 2026** under the theme Gateway of Global Foundry Industry emphasising on ground breaking opportunities for business growth and best practices. IFEX 2026 with over 15,000 sq m of exhibition space, 300+ exhibitors and thousands of visitors is set to break all records. The exciting and stimulating event would bring together foundry fraternity from around the world to focus on latest trends, technologies & markets, and forge and explore new business alliances & opportunities. With focused technical sessions, impactful meeting presentation on cutting-age technologies, presence of world-class speakers and global leaders - it is expected to be the ultimate platform for exposure, connection and growth for the foundry fraternity, promising to be an unforgettable experience.

For members and foundrymen, who would like to lend your ideas, opinions and queries for building a greater foundry industry and a stronger IIF, I would be available at president@indianfoundry.org.

Let's GROW Together.

Thank you.

Jai Hind!

Sushil Sharma
President, IIF
(2025-26)