Dear Fellow Foundrymen,

“Well done and congratulations! The fruits of your labour is indeed sweet and you deserve it.” This is what I wish to convey from the bottom of my heart to my entire team here at Chennai. They who helped realise our ambitious collective dream of a successful IFC 2020.

18 months of toil and sweat bore fruit and it couldn’t have ended better than the way it did. Kudos are due to the rock-solid Organising Team who were relentless in their pursuit and overcame all the hurdles that cropped up and handled it with the greatest of tact and at times with an iron fist. As the old adage – When the going gets tough, the tough get going – couldn’t be more appropriate here.

The 20-month journey was extremely fulfilling in every sense. The team dreamt big & aspired for some really path-breaking initiatives and the acid test of success was in the acknowledgment by each and every delegate at the Congress. The proverbial shifting of paradigms was felt and applauded at every stage. There could not be anything more gratifying than the compliments which left us all with an immense sense of accomplishment and a feeling of euphoria in every team member’s hearts.

25+ first time events were attempted at this Congress, that truly reflected the theme of the Congress – “Paradigm Shift – Blueprint 2020”. It was truly gratifying to witness and soak in the successful completion of the events each day, and, being so well received by the delegates, visitors, invitees & guests alike. This indeed has energised the team egging them to work with renewed zeal and zest and hoping the legacy is carried forward in the truest sense by future teams at IIF.

To briefly list out the firsts would not be out of place as it is to the credit of the Organising Committee who braved many a storm and navigated through it all with aplomb.

- The IFC 2020 being planned as a 4-day event

President’s Message

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was itself a bold decision.

- The MSME Conclave
- Online registrations
- Self-printing badge kiosks
- National Quiz & Kaizen competition
- Focused Half day Plenary sessions
- Live Webcast of all 4 days watched by 17500 people from all over the globe
- Release of Metallica - an encyclopedia
- Opening the 68th IFC with a theme Jingle
- Aluminium conference concurrently with IFC
- Live showcase of innovative Demo Foundry by Aluminium team in the IFEX
- Exclusive Awards Ceremony
- IFC inaugural ceremony conducted in the morning session

These were, but some of the major game changing firsts attempted. The feedback from the delegates were truly overwhelming and made me realise that our dreams and aspirations were realistic and all it needed was the will & conviction to make the change.

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I would like to state here that it is imperative for the foundry industry to shift paradigms to stay relevant and charge to the top can happen only if we learn, change adapt, and execute. Small changes will be building blocks of the larger change that we need to embrace. We visualise the larger picture but fall shy of plotting the first few baby steps which will help us build the larger picture.

In my message last month, I had hoped that by the time you read my next message the COVID-19 virus hopefully would have faded off, but it seems to be enveloping us more than ever before. This is really a very sad event for the world and humanity. But we must learn many things and implement the change. We will all need to be safe and right now take care of ensuring that as a Nation we don’t allow it to become a pandemic that impedes our growth as a Nation.

Success is where preparation and opportunity meet – India will need to prepare to meet this opportunity to become successful. Every challenge throws up a new opportunity. Yes the COVID-19 is throwing up a new opportunity for India.

So, my friends Make the Paradigm Shift, the time is here the time is now, it’s the hour to mould a new future, it’s the moment to cast the path ahead!

As I sign off, I, for one, am wishing each one of you a safe and healthy period till we meet again.

Bets wishes

Sanjay Shroff
President 2019-20
The Institute of Indian Foundrymen