



President's Message



Dear Fellow Foundrymen,

Season's Greetings from the President's Desk!

74th IFC & IFEX 2026: An Invitation to celebrate the Spirit of Foundry Excellence

It gives me immense pleasure to extend a heartfelt invitation to all members of the Institute and our wider foundry fraternity to be part of a landmark celebration of our industry—the 74th Indian Foundry Congress, IFEX 2026, and Cast India Expo. This grand event will unfold on the 12th, 13th and 14th of February 2026 at the iconic NESCO Exhibition Centre in Goregaon, Mumbai. Held under the inspiring theme “Gateway of Global Foundry Industry,” it promises to be a spectacular showcase of innovation, excellence and global engagement—truly an event of the next level. Let us come together in the spirit of unity and progress to witness the vibrancy and strength of our industry, exchange ideas, forge partnerships and shape the future of Indian foundries on the global stage. I urge each one of you to be there—not just as participants, but as proud ambassadors of our dynamic and ever-evolving sector.

US Tariff Regime: A significant challenge for the Indian Foundry Industry

The current US tariff regime continues to pose a significant challenge for the Indian foundry industry. The United States has raised tariffs on Indian imports — including steel and related products that are critical inputs or outputs for foundries — ranging from 25% to as high as 50 % under “reciprocal” and penalty tariff measures that took effect in mid-2025. These levies, which build on longstanding Section 232 of the US Trade Expansion Act of 1962 on steel and aluminium duties, significantly increase the cost of exporting castings and metal products into the US market, eroding competitive pricing and leading to production slowdowns for many Indian foundries, especially smaller SMEs that are heavily export-oriented. While Indian exporters have worked to absorb costs and explore alternate markets, the uncertainty surrounding tariff policies affects long-term planning and pricing. IIF continues to engage with relevant stakeholders, including the Government and industry bodies to monitor developments and highlight the need for fair trade practices that allow Indian foundries to compete on a level playing field.

Shifting of Iron and Steel products from DPIIT to Ministry of Steel, GoI

In a significant policy shift, the Government of India transferred all iron and steel related products (4 HSN codes under Chapters 72 and 250 HSN codes under Chapter 73) from Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) to the Ministry of Steel. 13 QCOs on Steel products issued by DPIIT, will stand withdrawn with effect from the date on which the Ministry of Steel notifies corresponding QCOs. As this shift also includes matters related to policy, regulation, and the Foundry Development Council, IIF

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representatives have met the Joint Secretary, Ministry of Steel and received assurance of Ministry's support to the Indian Foundry Industry. The Ministry has also informed that consultations would be initiated with DPIIT and BIS on the Quality Control Order for Cast Iron Products.

Withdrawal of QCO on Aluminium and Aluminium Alloys

The recent withdrawal of the Aluminium and Aluminium Alloys Quality Control Order (QCO) 2023 by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has brought considerable relief to the industry. By removing the requirement for mandatory BIS certification, the move reduces the requirements associated with frequent inspections, testing, and new licence renewals. However, this shift from a mandatory to a voluntary quality regime also places greater responsibility on industry players to self-regulate and maintain product standards. While the immediate impact is positive, it is likely that the Government will continue monitoring product quality in the market and any lapses may invite a reimposition of stricter controls in the future.

IIF to sign tripartite agreement with CSIR-CRRI and Suyog Elements on valorisation of Foundry sand

In a notable step towards promoting sustainable practices in the foundry sector, The Institute of Indian Foundrymen (IIF) is about to enter into a tripartite agreement with CSIR-Central Road Research Institute (CSIR-CRRI) and Suyog Elements India Pvt Ltd. The initiative focuses on the techno-commercial valorisation of foundry sand from the Coimbatore cluster, with potential extension to other foundry hubs such as Ahmedabad and Rajkot. The project aims to explore the use of processed foundry sand in road construction and maintenance, thereby offering an environmentally responsible alternative to conventional materials. This collaboration is expected to support Indian foundries by facilitating responsible waste utilisation and contributing to the broader goals of sustainability and resource efficiency. By combining the scientific prowess of CSIR-CRRI, the processing capabilities of Suyog Elements, and the outreach and support from IIF, this partnership paves the way for impactful circular economy solutions in India's infrastructure sector.

I take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt wishes to all members and their families on the joyous occasions of Makar Sankranti, Pongal, Lohri and Vasant Panchami. Also, on Republic Day, let us take pride in our democratic values and reaffirm our commitment to nation-building through innovation, integrity and industrial growth in the year ahead.

I welcome your thoughts, feedback, and ideas at president@indianfoundry.org.

Let's GROW Together.

Thank you

Jai Hind!

Sushil Sharma

President, IIF

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