



President's Message



Dear Fellow Foundrymen,

Greetings from the President's Desk!

The Institute of Indian Foundrymen made a meaningful and encouraging international presence at **Metal China / Diecasting China / Non-Ferrous China 2026**, held from **6th to 9th May 2026** at the National Exhibition and Convention Center, Shanghai, China. The event, organised under the theme "**Casting Green and Intelligent Future**", brought together nearly 1,200 exhibitors, attracted around 150,000 professional visitors from more than 60 countries and regions, and covered approximately 120,000 sq m of exhibition space. IIF was provided a complimentary exhibition space of **18 sq m** at this prestigious platform, which gave us a valuable opportunity to showcase the strength and potential of the Indian Foundry Industry before an international audience.

The IIF booth received about **150 visitors**, reflecting growing global interest in India as a major casting destination. The booth was ably managed by Ms Anima Pandey, Director, National Centre for Export Promotion, IIF and Mr R K Gopalakrishnan, Director, National Centre for Skill Development, IIF. I sincerely appreciate their efforts in representing IIF with commitment and professionalism.

It was heartening to see an **84-member IIF delegation** at the exhibition representing various segments of the Indian foundry ecosystem, including casting manufacturers, raw material suppliers, equipment vendors, exporters, foundry chemical producers, aluminium foundries, auto component manufacturers and other allied sectors. Such a diverse delegation not only reflected the breadth of our industry, but also demonstrated India's collective aspiration to engage more deeply with global markets, technologies and opportunities.

In continuation of this international engagement, I also had the opportunity to participate in the **Foundry Industry Collaboration and Development Conference** held on **5th May 2026**. The conference brought together more than ten international foundry organisation leaders and experts at the International Foundry Forum to deliberate on the future direction of the global foundry industry. Along with Mr Subodh Panchal, Mentor, National and International Committee and Past President, IIF, I had the privilege of presenting India's perspective on foundry industry growth, technological advancement and our sector's increasing relevance in the global casting and manufacturing value chain. These interactions have further strengthened IIF's global connect and reaffirmed our commitment to positioning the Indian Foundry Industry as a progressive, competitive and future-ready force.

The visit to Metal China 2026 was highly enriching, offering members first-hand exposure to the global foundry value chain, including raw materials, modern equipment, diecasting, non-ferrous casting, moulds, patterns, 3D printing, software solutions and high-end cast components. It enabled the delegation to benchmark Indian practices against global standards and identify the areas of improvement in quality,

President's Message

productivity, technology adoption and operational efficiency. The exhibition also highlighted China's manufacturing scale, the growing focus on green foundry practices, cleaner production, automation, digital applications, intelligent manufacturing and the evolution of robotics from simple programmed operations to more intelligent, decision-driven systems. Insights into raw material sourcing, quality evaluation, advanced equipment, automated systems, diecasting, non-ferrous applications and additive manufacturing further reinforced the need for Indian foundries to embrace innovation and stay aligned with global technological trends.

While international engagement remains important, our connection with members at the grassroots level is equally vital. In this direction, Town Hall Meetings have become an effective platform for open interaction between National Office Bearers, regional leaders, Chapter members and stakeholders from foundry and allied industries. On the initiative of the National Office Bearers, Town Hall Meetings were organised at **Greater Mumbai, Pune, Kolhapur, Belgaum, Shimoga and Bangalore from 18th to 23rd May 2026**. Continuing our journey to connect with members and foundrymen across India, the National Office Bearers have now visited **23 Chapters**. These visits have created opportunities for meaningful discussions, valuable feedback and stronger engagement within the fraternity, further strengthening ties across the IIF network. Apart from the 20 Town Hall Meetings, the National Office Bearers also interacted with members during the 40th Year Celebration of the Chennai Chapter, National Council Meeting held at Coimbatore Chapter and the AGM at Nagpur Chapter.

As mentioned earlier, in order to make members more aware of IIF's wide range of services, we are preparing **Flyers in regional languages**. This initiative will help improve outreach, strengthen communication and ensure better engagement across Chapters, especially at the local level.

Another important initiative being continued by IIF is the **"Big Brother Project – Strength through Collaboration"**. This strategic programme aims to promote inclusive growth and strengthen inter-Chapter cooperation across all regions. Under this initiative, all the larger Chapters are gradually adopting and supporting smaller Chapters from other regions through structured mentorship, financial assistance and collaborative engagement. The objective is to enhance overall effectiveness and ensure balanced regional development within the Institute.

Even as we focus on growth, collaboration and global opportunities, we must also remain sensitive to the challenges faced by foundries. The Iran war has deepened the energy crisis across nations, impacting foundries and significantly increasing the cost of finished castings. In such a situation, casting buyers, including OEMs, need to be more responsive to ground realities and allow appropriate price upgradation to foundries. This is essential for the survival and sustainability of our industry.

The month of June in India brings with it the refreshing arrival of the monsoon, along with several celebrations that reflect our country's diverse traditions and cultural richness. I extend my warm greetings to all our members on the occasion of Pahili Raja on June 14, celebrating the beginning of the monsoon and womanhood; International Yoga Day on June 21 and Kabirdas Jayanti on June 28. May these occasions bring joy, reflection, wellbeing and togetherness to all.

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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