



President's Message



Dear Fellow Foundrymen,

Greetings from the President's Desk!

As we step into July, a month marked by devotion, gratitude and vibrant cultural traditions, I extend my warm greetings to all our members and their families on the auspicious occasions of Jagannath Rath Yatra, Guru Purnima and Bonalu. The grand Rath Yatra of Lord Jagannath, to be held on July 16th, is celebrated with immense faith and devotion in Puri and other parts of India, reminding us of humility, service and collective participation. The sacred tithi of Guru Purnima, falling on July 29th, holds deep significance across Hindu, Buddhist and Jain traditions for honouring teachers, mentors and spiritual guides who illuminate our path in life. Bonalu, observed with great fervour for a month in Telangana beginning mid-July in honour of Goddess Mahakali, reflects community spirit and gratitude. May these festivals inspire all of us to collectively move forward with wisdom, unity and renewed commitment towards our shared goals.

At the same time, our industry continues to face a challenging business environment with severe cost pressures arising from the sharp escalation in fuel, power, transportation and energy-linked inputs such as coke, ferro alloys, refractories, moulding materials and other consumables. While foundries have made sincere efforts to absorb these increases through productivity improvements, operational efficiencies and internal cost optimisation, the magnitude and pace of cost escalation have made further absorption commercially unviable beyond a point, particularly for MSME units that form the backbone of our casting ecosystem. In this situation, I urge members to engage with casting buyers in a transparent and data-backed manner, placing before them the actual movement in input costs and seeking timely, realistic price compensation. Foundries should negotiate for an immediate price revision, making use of the Open Letter from the President's Desk seeking a more responsive pricing mechanism that provides for periodic reviews linked to actual changes in energy, fuel and other major cost drivers. Such a fair and collaborative approach between foundries and casting buyers is essential to ensure uninterrupted supply, preserve competitiveness and sustain the long-term strength of India's Foundry Industry.

In this backdrop, I am pleased to share that **Urja Sanchay** -the national-level flagship programme of IIF has emerged as an important cost-mitigating factor in terms of energy savings, being implemented through NCTS to promote energy efficiency, awareness and best practices in foundries through structured trainings and field visits. Supported by our valued sponsors Allied Refractory Products India Pvt Ltd and ORITECH Solutions, the programme offers significant practical benefits to member foundries, including expert-led training, on-site technical guidance, identification of energy losses, improved melt-shop performance,

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better productivity, reduced energy consumption and the ability to produce more at optimised cost. At a time when power and fuel costs are putting pressure on foundry margins, Urja Sanchay provides a timely opportunity for foundries to adopt simple, actionable improvements in areas such as charging practice, holding time, superheating, ladle handling, compressed air usage and overall energy management. The recently concluded Urja Sanchay programme in the Eastern Region on April 16th - 18th has covered six foundries with more to come, and with the encouraging response from members, we expect the initiative to cross 100 foundries during this Presidential term, making it a meaningful national movement towards cost-effective, energy-efficient and sustainable foundry operations, which should be continued next year.

While we address current challenges, it is equally crucial to prepare for emerging opportunities. I am pleased to invite all IIF members to actively participate in **RAILCON 2026** – a Business Summit (Supported by the Ministry of MSME, Govt of India) to be held on July 20, 2026, in New Delhi, organised by the Foundry Informatics Centre (FIC) - a Centre of Excellence under IIF. This important initiative will bring together stakeholders from the foundry industry, Indian Railways, procurement agencies, OEMs, policymakers and technology providers to discuss business opportunities, supply chain needs, technological progress and policy support for strengthening India's railway manufacturing ecosystem. I encourage members to utilise this platform to share knowledge, build valuable partnerships, understand new requirements in the railway sector and position their companies for sustainable growth. Your participation will not only help individual businesses benefit from the proceedings, but also enhance the collective contribution of Indian foundries to the nation's infrastructure and self-reliance goals.

As we move towards the end of this Presidential term, the continued support, active participation and valuable feedback of our members remain crucial in shaping the future direction of our Institute. I encourage all members to stay engaged with IIF's initiatives, share their suggestions and move ahead together to contribute effectively for the growth of the Indian Foundry Industry.

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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