



President's Message



Dear Members,

It is a great honour and privilege to address you through my first message as President of The Institute of Indian Foundrymen for 2026-27.

As I begin this journey, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our Past Presidents, National Office Bearers, National Council Members, Regions, Chapters, Centres of Excellence, National Committees and the Secretariat for their continued support and commitment to IIF. I also acknowledge the leadership of our Immediate Past President, Mr Sushil Sharma, whose initiatives have further strengthened the Institute and provided a strong foundation for us to build upon.

For more than seventy-five years, IIF has grown through the vision, dedication and voluntary contributions of generations of foundrymen, technocrats, entrepreneurs and professionals. As custodians of this proud legacy, our responsibility today is not merely to preserve what has been created, but to prepare our Institute and our industry for the opportunities that lie ahead.

This responsibility assumes even greater significance as the global manufacturing landscape undergoes rapid transformation. Technology, digitalisation, sustainability imperatives, evolving supply chains and increasing international competition are redefining the way manufacturing is conducted. While these changes present challenges, they also offer tremendous opportunities for the Indian Foundry Industry to strengthen its position as a reliable, competitive and globally respected manufacturing partner.

Guided by this vision, our Presidential Theme for 2026-27 - **Innovation • Sustainability • Global Excellence** - reflects the direction in which we aspire to take our Institute and the Indian Foundry Industry. It represents our collective resolve to embrace technological advancement, promote responsible manufacturing and enhance our global competitiveness.

Innovation must become an integral part of our progress. Automation, digitalisation, artificial intelligence, research, skill development and emerging technologies can enable our foundries to improve productivity, quality and competitiveness.

Sustainability must guide our growth through energy efficiency, resource conservation, cleaner technologies, emission reduction and circular economy practices.

Global Excellence requires us to benchmark ourselves against the best, strengthen our export capabilities, adopt international best practices and consistently deliver world-class quality.

Our Presidential Work Plan translates this vision into action. A major priority will be to strengthen our four **Centres of Excellence - FIC, NCTS, NCSD and NCEP** - as four strategic pillars delivering business intelligence, technical support, skill development and export promotion to our members. Each Centre will be encouraged to expand specialised services, develop sustainable knowledge platforms and undertake flagship initiatives with measurable outcomes. Greater collaboration among the Centres will further enable us to provide integrated and meaningful support to our members.

Building upon successful national initiatives of the past, we will continue to strengthen **Town Hall Meetings, Urja Sanchay, Yogyata Vikas, Big Brother Project and Project Prayaas**, with greater participation from our Regions and Chapters.

President's Message

Alongside these programmes, we will work towards strengthening our National Committees as focused forums for technical deliberation, policy engagement and strategic planning. Clearly defined responsibilities and stronger collaboration among National Committees, Regions and Chapters will help enhance organisational effectiveness, facilitate faster decision-making and ensure the effective implementation of IIF's national initiatives.

Our institutional development must also be accompanied by greater engagement with the world around us. We shall work towards building a stronger and more visible **IIF brand** through deeper engagement with Government, OEMs, academia, research institutions and international organisations, supported by the accelerated digital transformation of the Institute.

Improved digital platforms, communication channels and access to knowledge will help make **IIF more connected, responsive and valuable** to every member.

While technology and institutions will shape our progress, the future of our industry will ultimately depend upon people. Attracting the next generation to the foundry industry will therefore remain an important priority.

We need to transform the perception of foundries from the traditional **3Ds—Dirty, Dangerous and Difficult**—to the modern **3Ds—Digital, Decarbonised and Data-driven**. Greater engagement with ITIs, polytechnics, engineering colleges and other educational institutions, together with internships, industry exposure, competitions and mentorship programmes, will help connect young talent with the exciting opportunities emerging in modern foundries.

All these initiatives assume special significance in a landmark year for our Institute as we prepare for the **Platinum Jubilee 75th Indian Foundry Congress, 23rd IFEX and Cast India Expo**, scheduled from **February 8–10, 2027, at India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida**.

Under the theme - **Innovate for New Opportunities** - this historic event will not only celebrate our rich legacy but also showcase the technological capabilities, sustainable practices and future potential of the Indian Foundry Industry to national and international stakeholders. It will be an important platform to demonstrate the strength, capability and aspirations of our industry to the world.

However, the success of our Presidential Theme and Work Plan cannot come through the efforts of an individual alone. The true strength of IIF lies in its members and in the collective contribution of our National Council, Regions, Chapters, Centres of Excellence and National Committees, supported by the dedicated efforts of our Secretariat.

Leadership, to me, is about listening, collaboration and creating opportunities for others to contribute and succeed.

I therefore invite every member of IIF to actively participate in this journey.

Share your ideas. Support the initiatives of your Chapter and Region. Utilise the capabilities of our Centres of Excellence. Mentor young professionals. Adopt new technologies. Explore international opportunities. And, above all, let us strengthen the spirit of **One IIF**.

The opportunities before the Indian Foundry Industry are immense. If we innovate with courage, pursue sustainability with responsibility and benchmark ourselves against the best in the world, I am confident that India can emerge as one of the foremost foundry nations globally.

Together, let us build a stronger Institute, create greater value for our members and take the Indian Foundry Industry towards Innovation, Sustainability and Global Excellence.

I look forward to receiving your ideas, suggestions and continued support at president@indianfoundry.org.

With warm regards,

Jai Hind!

Vikram Jain
President, IIF
(2026-27)