

IIF-WR Activity Report
1st July, 2025 – 31st May, 2026

Theme of the Year:



Mr. Saibal Sen
Chairman
IIF WR



Mr. Atin Jain
Vice Chairman
IIF WR



Mr. Mahesh Date
Hon. Secretary
IIF WR



Mr. Probal Sen
Joint Hon. Secretary
IIF WR



Mrs. Ruma Rao
Hon. Treasurer
IIF WR

Chairman : Saibal Sen – Pune
Vice Chairman : Atin Jain – Indore
Hon. Secretary : Mahesh Date – Kolhapur
Joint Secretary : Probal Sen - Pune
Hon. Treasurer : Ruma Rao – Greater Mumbai

Prayas Continuing the current National Theme of *United India United Foundrymen*

- Prayas is an Effort Eliminating the Regional Boundaries for a Better future of Indian Foundries
- Eklavya Project
- Technical Event
- YogyataVikas Workshop
- One day Seminar
- Urja Sanchay Project
- Job Fair
- Works Visit
- 74th IFC / IFEX 2025
- Chapter Day Celebration
- 65th Annual Regional meeting



➤ **Minutes of the 1st Council meeting on 11th June 2025 at Hotel Lagoona, Pune.**

Present Members: 30 Members

1. WR Chairman Mr. Saibal Sen welcomed all the council members for the 1st WR council meeting for the year 2025-26.
2. To Co-opt members to the Council:
 - Mr. Probal Sen, IIF Pune Chapter
 - Mr. Rajendra Newadkar, IIF Pune Chapter
 - Mr. Sameer Parekh, IIF Kolhapur Chapterwas co-opted as council members of WR for the year 2025-26
3. Mr. Mahesh Date read out the activity Calendar in brief in front of all the council member. Mr. Saibal Sen informed that the calendar will be shared to all the Chapter chairman. For any changes or any suggestions, they can get back to Saibal Sen Sir.
4. Mr. Saibel Sen Said budget will be shared in next Council meeting.
5. Vote of thanks: WR Hon. Secretary Mr. Atin Jain thanked all Past President, Past Chairman the Chapter office bearers for participating in the 1st Council meeting.

➤ **IIF Western Region, in collaboration with the GMC Chapter, Rajkot Chapter & Nagpur Chapter organised a webinar on "RCA (Root Cause Analysis)" on 28th June via Zoom Platform.**

The session, delivered by Mr. Sridhar Rao, focused on various RCA methodologies, highlighting their practical applications, best practices, and guidance on what to use — and what to avoid — for effective problem-solving and process improvement.

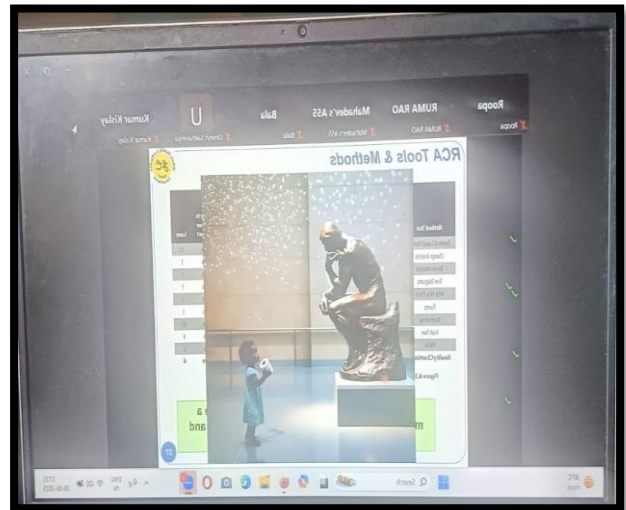
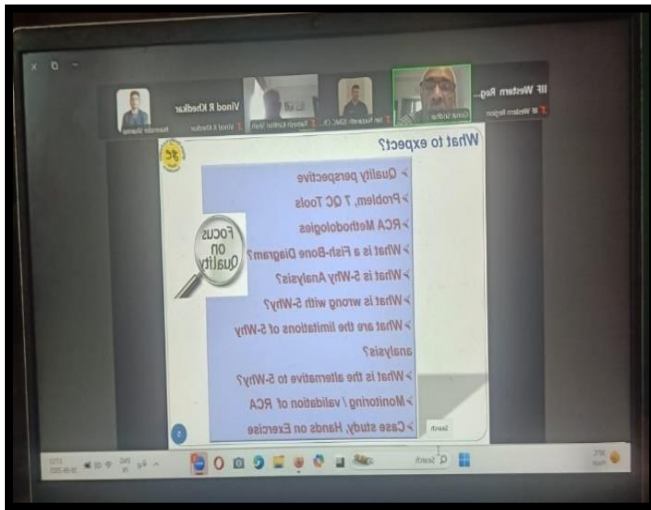
GMC Chairman Mr. Ian Nazareth started the Webinar by his opening remarks. 7

Speaker G N Sridhar Spoke about:

Quality perspective and its importance in an industry. Touched upon the 7 QC Tools. Overview about the types of problems and the RCA Methodologies. Examples of why-why Analysis, Fish-Bone diagram etc. were given. Highlighted about the limitations of 5 Why methodology and other alternative methods were explained. Validation of the RCA was touched upon. A case study of a casting problem and its RCA was presented. It was an interactive session.

More than 55 participants attended this webinar.

Webinar ended with the vote of thanks by GMC Chapter Hon. Secretary Mrs. Shyamal Aroskar.



➤ **IIF Western Region jointly with Ahmedabad Chapter on 2nd July, Town Hall meeting at Ahmedabad.**



➤ **IIF Western Region jointly with Vadodara Chapter, Town Hall meeting with National Office Bearers of IIF & Workshop on "Smart Tools for Foundries: Catalysing & Redefining Foundry Entrepreneurship" by Mr. Vipul Shah on 2nd July 2025 at Hotel Tara Suns.**



➤ **IIF Western Region Co- hosted by Rajkot chapter organised 3rd National Project Prayaas - Industrial work visit on 3rd & 4th July 2025, at Sunstar Castech Pvt Ltd, Sigma Malleable, Jyoti CNC Automation Ltd.**



➤ **IIF Western Region jointly with Rajkot Chapter, Town Hall meeting with National Office Bearers of IIF at Rajkot on 4th July.**



➤ **IIF - Western Region & Greater Mumbai Chapter jointly organised Eklavya Project along with Shree L R Tiwari College of Engineering on 29th July, 2025.**

Topic was Interaction with Students on Entrepreneurship & Sales on 29th July, 2025

Mr. Sanjay Professor of Tiwari Engineering College gave the welcome address and felicitated all IIF dignitaries on the dais.

Ian Nazareth Chairman GMC interacted with students spoke about IIF and he invited Hon. Treasurer – WR Mrs. Ruma Rao to speak in detail about IIF. She spoke about forming a student Chapter in the college.

Joint Hon Secretary WR Mr. Probal Sen spoke on the following subject.

1. The Business side of Engineering: "A Career Path You Didn't Know You'd Love"

Vice Chairman GMC Mr. Manan Shah spoke on the following subject with presentation.

2. Sales Engineering: "A Career path with Technical Depth & Global Reach."

Both the speakers were excellent and got good response from the students.

Hon. Secretary Mrs. Shyamal Aroskar also asked interacted with students asking whether they would like such sessions. Students gave very good response.

The interaction and the response of the students were good. They wanted such lectures to be conducted frequently.

The college professors were felicitated and also the speakers were felicitated by GMC chairman and hon. Secretary.

Hon. Secretary Mrs. Shyamal Aroskar then gave vote of thanks.



➤ **IIF- Western Region & Pune Chapter jointly celebrated 76th National Foundry Day was celebrated with the great enthusiasm on Thursday, 14th August 2025 at PYC Gymkhana Hall, Pune. Over 50 family members of our chapter gathered in the evening to celebrate**

Mr. Shirish Pingale, Hon. Secretary IIF Pune Chapter proposed to convey condolence & 2 minutes' silence in the memory of Late R. D. Chavan, Past Chairman of IIF Pune Chapter.

Over 50 family members of our chapter gathered in the evening to celebrate achievements of our outstanding children and of those completing 25 years of their membership. An interesting talk on the "Legacy of Indian Navy and Life on board a Nuclear Submarine" was delivered by Rear Admiral Ashish P. Kulkarni (VSM) (Retd.)

Chairman R. D. Dhumal welcomed Chief Guest Rear Admiral Ashish P. Kulkarni (VSM) (Retd) with a bouquet of Flowers. Felicitations by Vice Chairman were done of those completing 25 years of IIF membership. Felicitations by Secretary were done of the New Members after Annual Chapter Meeting held on 14th May, 2025. Felicitations by the treasurer were done of the children of our members for their meritorious academic and extra-curricular achievements.

Mr. Deepak Bhadkamkar and Mrs. Mukta Kulkarni received the trophies from IIF on their completion of 25 years of membership.

The introduction of Rear Admiral Ashish Kulkarni (VSM) (Retd.) was done by Mr. Probal Sen, Joint. Hon. Secretary, Western Region & Chairman Event Management, IIF Pune Chapter.

An excellent program with an interesting talk on the "Legacy of Indian Navy and Life on board a Nuclear Submarine" was delivered by Rear Admiral Ashish P. Kulkarni (VSM) (Retd.) and was very much appreciated by all present. Rear Admiral Kulkarni took us back in time to the Harappan age (3000 BC) when there was a dry dock in India for ship repairs!!! He explained about the importance of having such a sound and powerful coastal protection by the Indian Navy in the present scenario. The same was very much followed by our ancestors and kings like Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. He explained about the changes that happened in the last few decades and also about perceptions and approach by Indian government for procurement and readiness of warships. Now instead of purchasing warships, India is ready for total establishing new highly equipped war ships for our own purpose and also for exporting to other countries.

The life of a soldier on board a submarine was very well explained by him with all challenges the Submariners face on a day-to-day basis. It was a really thrilling experience to be a part of the audience to listen to Rear Admiral Kulkarni while he was sharing his personal experiences. It really helped in increasing the audience's respect for our Service's men multi folds.

All in all, it was a wonderful evening arranged by Pune Chapter jointly with the Western Region. Also, it is with great joy that we report to have received an excellent response.

IFEX 2026 theme video "Mumbai Meri Jaan" was played after the program which was very much appreciated by all present.

The celebration ended with a Gala dinner.



➤ **IIF- Western Region & Vadodara Chapter jointly organized Technical Meeting on “Operational Excellence in Foundries focusing on Productivity enhancement through Moulding Lines and Melting tips.” on 18th July, 2025 at Grand Mercure Surya Palace, Vadodara**

The Technical meeting on Operational Excellence in Foundries held on 18th July 2025 in Vadodara saw an enthusiastic participation of 60+ industry professionals. The session offered valuable insights on productivity enhancement through moulding lines and melting practices. Speakers shared practical tips and experiences, making it a highly useful and learning-rich event. Participants found the discussions relevant and applicable to their day-to-day foundry operations.

Mr. Shashank Agrawal (Oritech) spoke on innovative practices and solutions to enhance metallurgy and shop floor productivity with advance IGBT technology.

Mr. Vishal S. Wanmode (IIF Western Region) presented practical approaches to improve moulding line performance and process optimization to increase productivity and minimal human efforts.

Mr. Shyam Kulkarni (Senior Foundryman, Pune) shared invaluable melting shop tips about melting and moulding rate, how to plan moulding and melting practices from his 50+ years of hands-on experience across renowned foundries.



➤ **IIF- Western Region & Ahmedabad Chapter jointly organized Technical Meeting on “Operational Excellence in Foundries” on 5th September, 2025 at Atira Campus, Ahmedabad**

The Technical meeting on Operational Excellence in Foundries held on 05th September, 2025 in Ahmedabad saw an enthusiastic participation of 25+ industry professionals. The session offered valuable insights on productivity enhancement through moulding lines and melting practices. Speakers shared practical tips and experiences, making it a highly useful and learning-rich event. Participants found the discussions relevant and applicable to their day-to-day foundry operations.

Mr. Vishal S. Wanmode (IIF Western Region) presented practical approaches to improve moulding line performance and process optimization to increase productivity and minimal human efforts. Mr. Shyam Kulkarni (Senior Foundryman, Pune) shared invaluable melting shop tips about melting and moulding rate, how to plan moulding and melting practices from his 50+ years of hands-on experience across renowned foundries.



➤ **IIF- Western Region & Pune Chapter jointly organized Technical Talk on “Effective use of Metallurgical Chemicals, Die coats, Master Alloys & Ceramic Sleeves to Improve Bottom line of Aluminium foundries” on 14th September, 2025 at PYC Hindu Gymkhana, Pune**

A good number of delegates numbering 70+ had joined the technical talk which was presented by Mr. Sanjeev Tungatkar (B.E MET.) Chairman & MD of M/s. Ceraflux India Pvt. Ltd. from Kolhapur.

M/s. Ceraflux India Pvt. Ltd. is the first Indian company to achieve ISO accreditation for designing and manufacturing foundry Chemicals and consumables. A company which has a 250 Cr to which is serving more than 600 clients through 14 branches in India with Exports to more than 15 countries.

After the formal Introduction and felicitation of the speaker the technical meet started with the speaker first presenting a pie chart to the audience showing the composition of the Earth's crust and an 8% share of Aluminium in it which was an insight to the audience.

The Speaker introduced to the audience the Al-Si Phase diagram to show the effect of temperature vs the % wt. of Silicon and its behaviour vis a vis the temperature. He also showed the reactivity of aluminium to H₂ when exposed to high temperature. With this introduction it was easy for the audience to understand the importance of additions of Various fluxes, grain refiners, modifiers etc to achieve a good quality of aluminium melt. The Speaker also introduced the audience to the mainly two types of fluxes viz Granulated and Powder fluxes and their categories such as :- Melting fluxes, Cleaning & Dressing fluxes, Furnace Wall cleaning fluxes.

The author compared the economics of the use of Granulated fluxes vs the Powdered fluxes which was well understood by the audience. The role of Cleaning & dressing fluxes with a simple confirmatory test on the dross produced: - **Quote** “If the dross buyer is giving you a good price for your dross, then your dressing flux is not effectively separating aluminium from the dross!!” **Unquote.**

The Author also elaborated on the use of Grain Refiners and the various shapes in which they are supplied by them. They are one of the largest suppliers of coiled rod grain refiners to various continuous casters of aluminium in India and to the gulf countries where they have beaten the local competitors and are now the largest suppliers of grain refiners to the Gulf Aluminium Industry. The author also elaborated on the various aspects of Modifiers that they produce. He also explained in details the journey of modifiers from powdered form to tablet form to the current cast waffles which are highly user friendly, non-fume producing and economical to use.

The author also elaborated on the various die coats that they have in their range of products. He also explained the use of insulating Die coats/ Lubricating die coats and the highly insulating die coats which are high priced but in the long run are extremely economical to use as the application quantity goes on reducing after the first coat. The author spoke about their most premium product such as the range of Master alloys his company produces. The Master alloys produced by M/s Ceraflux are widely used by Industries in specific applications and is the most premium product of the company along with its Refractory shapes they are the unique products offered by them. The master alloys are mainly Al-Boron, Al- Zirconium, Al-Magnesium. These are most suitable for precision casting applications where the alloy composition is critical.

The refractory shapes are the USP of M/s Ceraflux India Pvt. Ltd. and has got them various awards and accolades. Their cutting-edge technology of manufacturing of the Various Ceramic

shapes/Launders for various applications/ Ceramic Risers/Hot tops are their best sellers and are widely used by the various Primary Smelters in India.

In conclusion the speaker said that the use of all the products that he spoke about is useful in;-

- a) Achieving the desirable Microstructure
- b) Achieving the desired Mechanical Properties
- c) Making the Al alloy Castings more popular for Auto Industry due to its high strength to weight ratio as compared to the ferrous castings

The meeting concluded with a Q&A session.

The Chairman Pune Chapter Mr. R. D. Dhumal presented a memento to the Speaker. The vote of thanks was proposed by Ms. Shyamal Aroskar, Hon. Secretary GMC.

The meeting was followed by a dinner.



➤ **IIF- Western Region & Pune Chapter jointly organized Work Visit at Sigma Electric Manufacturing Corporation, Pune on 15th September 2026.**

Works Visit to Sigma Electric Manufacturing Corporation, Pune.

Event Details

Organization: The Institute of Indian Foundrymen (IIF) - Western Region
Collaborating Chapters: Pune Chapter and Greater Mumbai Chapter
Date: Monday, 15th September 2025

Delegation

IIF Western Region Officials:

- Mr. Saibal Sen, Chairman
- Mr. Probal Sen, Joint Honorary Secretary
- Mr. Vinod Khedkar, GMC Treasurer
- Mr. Rajendra Newadkar, NCTS Chairman & Past Chairman, Pune Chapter

Other Participants: Delegates from various cities under Western Region

Host Representative: Mr. Kamlesh, Sigma Electric Manufacturing Corporation

Objective

The primary objective of this works visit was to observe and learn from Sigma Electric Manufacturing Corporation's excellence in Total Productive Maintenance (TPM) implementation and their journey towards achieving the TPM Excellence Award.

Program Overview

The visit commenced with a warm welcome extended by Mr. Kamlesh on behalf of Sigma Electric Manufacturing Corporation to all the officials and delegates. The program was structured to provide both theoretical insights and practical exposure to TPM implementation.

Presentation Session

Sigma Electric Manufacturing Corporation presented a comprehensive overview of their TPM Excellence Award journey. The presentation highlighted:

- The organizational commitment to TPM principles
- Implementation strategy across all TPM pillars
- Measurable benefits achieved through TPM adoption
- Challenges faced and solutions implemented
- Best practices and lessons learned

The presentation emphasized the tangible benefits realized across all nine pillars of TPM, demonstrating how systematic implementation has contributed to operational excellence, improved productivity, enhanced quality, and overall equipment effectiveness.

Plant Tour

Following the presentation, delegates were taken on an extensive plant tour to witness firsthand the TPM implementation projects in action. This experiential learning opportunity allowed participants to observe the practical application of concepts discussed during the presentation.

Key Observations

During the plant tour, delegates observed several world-class manufacturing practices and Japanese management initiatives:

1. Andon System

- Visual management system for real-time production monitoring
- Immediate problem identification and escalation mechanism
- Enhanced communication across the shop floor

2. Kaizen Implementation

- Continuous improvement culture embedded in daily operations
- Employee involvement in problem-solving and process optimization
- Documented improvement projects and their impact

3. Poka-Yoke (Error Proofing)

- Mistake-proofing devices and mechanisms
- Prevention of defects at source
- Reduction in rework and quality issues

4. Industry 4.0 Integration

- Digital transformation initiatives
- IoT-enabled equipment monitoring
- Data-driven decision making
- Smart manufacturing solutions

Delegate Feedback

All delegates expressed overwhelming appreciation for the visit. The exposure to Japanese manufacturing philosophies and practices, combined with advanced Industry 4.0 technologies, provided valuable insights into achieving manufacturing excellence. Participants particularly appreciated:

- The systematic approach to TPM implementation
- The visible results of continuous improvement efforts
- The integration of traditional lean manufacturing with modern digital technologies
- The organizational culture of quality and excellence



➤ **Minutes of 2nd Council Meeting (2025-26) on 26th September 2025 (Zoom Platform)**

Members Present: 18

1. **Welcome Address** : Mr. Saibal Sen, WR Chairman, extended a warm welcome to all council members for the 2nd WR council meeting of the year 2025-26.
2. **Review and Confirmation of Previous Minutes** : Hon. Secretary, Mr. Mahesh Date, presented the minutes of the 2nd Council meeting, which were subsequently approved. The motion was Proposed by Mr. Ian Nazareth and Seconded by Mr. Prayas Vyas.
3. **Discussion on Open Points from Previous Meetings** : Nothing was to be discussed from the previous meeting points.
4. **Reports & Initiatives from WR**
 - IIF Western Region, in collaboration with the GMC Chapter, Rajkot Chapter & Nagpur Chapter organised a webinar on “RCA (Root Cause Analysis)” on 28th June via Zoom Platform
 - IIF Western Region jointly with Ahmedabad Chapter on 2nd July, Town Hall meeting at Ahmedabad
 - IIF Western Region jointly with Vadodara Chapter Town Hall meeting with National Office Bearers of IIF & Workshop on “Smart Tools for Foundries: Catalysing & Redefining Foundry Entrepreneurship” by Mr. Vipul Shah on 2nd July 2025 at Hotel Tara Suns.
 - Rajkot Chapter 3rd National Project Prayaas - Industrial work visit organised by Western Region Co-hosted by Rajkot chapter on 3rd & 4th July 2025, at Sunstar Castech Pvt Ltd, Sigma Malleable, Jyoti CNC Automation Ltd.
 - IIF Western Region jointly with Rajkot Chapter on 4th July, Town Hall meeting with National Office Bearers of IIF at Rajkot
 - Greater Mumbai Chapter IIF - Western Region & Greater Mumbai Chapter jointly organised Eklavya Project on 29th July, 2025 at Shree L R Tiwari College of Engineering
 - IIF- Western Region & Pune Chapter jointly celebrated 76th National Foundry Day was celebrated with the great enthusiasm on Thursday, 14th August 2025 at PYC Gymkhana Hall, Pune. Over 50 family members of our chapter gathered in the evening to celebrate. All other chapter individually celebrated National Foundry Day.
 - IIF- Western Region & Vadodara Chapter jointly organized Technical Meeting on “Operational Excellence in Foundries focusing on Productivity enhancement through Moulding Lines and Melting tips.” on 18 July, 2025 at Grand Mercure Surya Palace, Vadodara
 - IIF- Western Region & Ahmedabad Chapter jointly organized Technical Meeting on “Operational Excellence in Foundries” on 5th September, 2025 at Atira Campus, Ahmedabad
 - IIF- Western Region & Pune Chapter jointly organized Technical Talk on “Effective use of Metallurgical Chemicals, Die-coats, Master Alloys & Ceramic Sleeves to Improve Bottom line of Aluminium foundries” on 14th September, 2025 at PYC Hindu Gymkhana, Pune
 - IIF- Western Region & Pune Chapter jointly organized Work Visit at Sigma Electric Manufacturing Corporation, Pune on 15th September.

Upcoming activities:

- Mrs. Shyamal Aroskar reported on the GMC chapter's initiatives, including monthly technical lectures, student interactions, and a sponsored full-day seminar planned for December
- Mr. Rajendra Newadkar shared plans for a Vendor Development Program in November with Fcon at Pune.
- Mr. Prayas Vyas from Vadodara Chapters reported on their recent activities, including a student chapter at BBM College and upcoming workshops and webinars.
- Mr. Mahesh Date appealed to all chapters to consider and arrange activities related to metal treatment, carbon neutrality, productivity, and aluminium melt treatment to maximize the benefits of their sponsorship.

5. Discussion regarding the Annual Calendar for WR initiated by all the Chapter:

WR Chairman proposed all the chapter member present in the meeting to conduct the sponsored program in their respective chapter. He requested to send us the tentative dates to prepare the annual calendar of WR. Following is the sponsored program.

Sponsorship	Topic
Elkem South Asia Pvt Ltd.	Metal Treatment of ferrous castings
Inizent Internet Solutions Private Limited	Carbon Neutrality Initiative
VME Coimbatore	Sponsorship for "Productivity Enhancement in Foundries" Series
Ceraflux India Pvt. Ltd.	Aluminium Melt Treatment

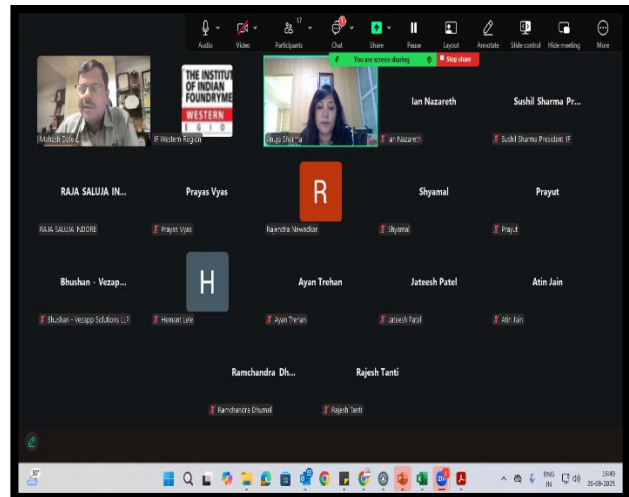
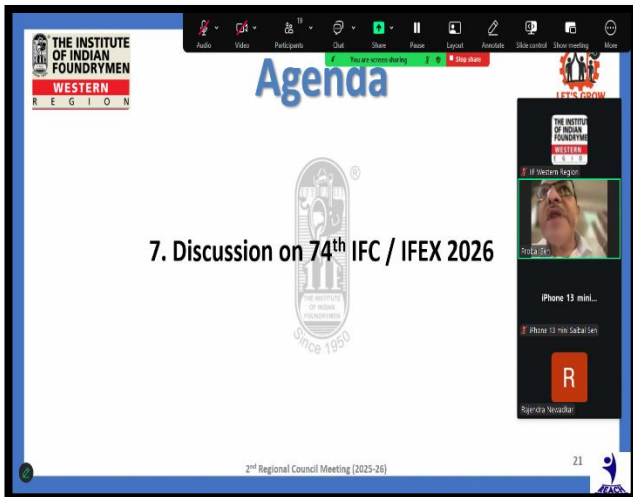
6. Reports, Concerns & Membership Status from Chapter:

- WR Vice Chairman, Mr. Atin Jain, presented the membership chart. He highlighted the efforts made to connect with chapter chairman to follow up on membership renewals.
- Membership status of last year was 1196 of which student members – 197 and current year membership status is 979 which includes 70 student members.

7. Discussion on 74th IFC / IFEX 2026: The council discussed plans for the upcoming IFC event, including technical presentations, panel discussions, and vendor development meetings and B2B meet. Mr. Sushil Sharma IIF President announced that IFC registration is going to start from 2nd Oct.,

2025 on the occasion of Dusshera.

- 8. Administrative Matter:** A new intern Ms. Madhushreeya Dhuri joined one month back was introduced to the council and was welcomed by everyone. Mr. Shushil Sharma addressed the need for formal contracts for new employees in the Western region.
- 9. Any other Matter:** Pre intimation for 3rd IIF - WR council meeting was announced on 9th Oct., 2025 at Ahmedabad.
- 10. Vote of thanks:** The meeting was concluded with a vote of thanks from Hon. Secretary, Mr. Mahesh Date, who expressed gratitude to all council members for their participation.



➤ **IIF - Western Region & Ahmedabad Chapter jointly organised Technical Series#1 CarbonMinus- Savings-Sustainability Compliance reporting for foundry sector through energy & resources efficiency using Industry 4.0 data analytics by Mr. Nilesh Shedge on 09th October, 2025 at Hotel Hillock Ahmedabad.**

CarbonMinus is Pune based tech company working in the field of energy resource efficiency and sustainability management.

CarbonMinus provides IoT based advanced analytical software platform for energy resource analytics.

Foundries today are facing business challenges related to competitiveness, cost effectiveness as well as different compliances related energy, sustainability, carbon accounting as well as pollution and all these challenges boil down to data requirements or reporting requirements related to shop floor level data. At the same time, foundries face difficulties in decision making related to adoption of energy efficiency technologies and practices. CarbonMinus platform delivers real impact in all these challenges by tapping the potential of data analytics through smart meter data making foundries sustainable.

This tech mart session was well received by all the audience and also got participation interest for CarbonMinus. Foundry units acknowledged the importance of platform like CarbonMinus in today's business environment.

Vote of thanks was given by Jt. Hon. Secretary. Mr. Probal Sen.



➤ **Minutes of the 3rd Council Meeting (2025-26) on 9th October 2025 at Hotel Hillock Ahmedabad.**

Members Present: 22

1. Welcome Address: Mr. Saibal Sen, WR Chairman, extended a warm welcome to all council members for the 3rd WR council meeting of the year 2025-26.

2. Review and Confirmation of Previous Minutes: Hon. Secretary, Mr. Probal Sen, presented the minutes of the 2nd Council meeting, which were subsequently approved. The motion was proposed by Mr. Hemant Lele and seconded by Mr. Rajesh Tanti.

3. Reports & Initiatives from WR :

Mr. Saibal Sen said this year in the western region, we have taken the initiative on series of lectures called Foundry Excellence: Operations Excellence and Products. Under operational excellence, we have got four sponsors. One is Carbon Minus for carbon neutrality initiative; they are giving a lecture today. One is Elkem for ferrous metal treatment, one is Ceraflux for Non-Ferrous Metal Treatment, and VME for Automation Molding Lines. So, they have agreed to sponsor all the eight chapters, one lecture each, and they are willing to give us the sponsorship of about ₹ 4,00,000 per annum.

Initiative of WR with other chapters was displayed with the help of PPT to all the council members. In western region if we remember last year, the Project Prayaas logo was designed, which had storyline behind it & was appreciated, and it was adopted by the National Council. Other activities were discussed like Technical Talk, NFD celebration in all chapters, work visit, inauguration of student chapter and visit of engineering college student at Sigma. Pune chapter conducted Artificial intelligence machine learning, Dr. Manisha Nene the director at DRDO.

4. Discussion on 74th IFC / IFEX 2026

Mr. Amish Panchal IFC OC Chairman & Mr. Subodh Panchal IFEX Chairman briefly discussed on progress so far about IFC / IFEX.

IFEX booked 90.7%, Sahara Star & other hotels are booked and paid in advanced, Technical paper and session are selected and fixed, 40 buyers have confirmed for buyer seller meet, Event management, registration & branding agencies are finalized, website is launched and sponsorship of 2 Cr collected.

279 No. of exhibitors, area booked 12,593 sqm and available area 1,282 sqm.

B2B Meet to be organized with almost 40 -50 buyers. Metal Power is the Co- sponsored of B2B Meet.

5. Discussion on Aluconf Non – Ferrous Session

Focused on organizing papers and panel discussions for an aluminium session.

The team discussed the structure and content of an upcoming aluminium conference, planning for two panel discussions and eight technical presentations across two days.

They suggested focusing on the importance of non-ferrous metals in strategic sourcing for defense, highlighting how lightweighting can improve tank mobility by reducing weight from 55 tons to 20 tons. They agreed that organizing a panel discussion on defense and non-ferrous metals could

attract delegates interested in market potential, with the possibility of involving vendors and PSUs in the discussion.

The first day will feature an opening panel discussion with CEOs discussing tariff policies and their impact on aluminium casting supply chains, while the second day will include Yogesh's presentation on automation for non-ferrous foundries.

The second day will feature three 30-minute papers and a 30-minute question-and-answer session. The group agreed to create a list of 15 potential technology video presenters and follow up on paper synopses for specific topics including endurance and heat treatment. They plan to present this format to the non-ferrous committee meeting on the 27th for final approval. The team discussed organizing a panel discussion for the aluminium industry during a plenary session.

6. Raw Material Situation & market outlook

All the Raw Materials are Stable at the Moment. The slight impact is more due to the US in market pay, due to which exports are currently slow.

We are working out on different HSN codes and there is also talk of shipping a warehouse from the U.S. to Mexico or Canada within the exports mostly by the end of November, there will be some picture in, its clarity and will come in case of export. Particularly to the US. The tractor industry is doing good, and commercial vehicles are also doing well. US are highly dependent on exports & Easter side are highly affected.

7. Any Other Matters :

➤ Eklavya Project

We have designed the logo & storyline for the Eklavya project. Western region, along with chapters, have taken up projects with the engineering colleges in the various chapters.

The logo was shown & logo story was read to the council members. The resolution was made in the on-going council for the approval of Eklavya Project logo. Which was proposed by Mr. Kamlesh Patel & was seconded by Mr. Dhwanish Shah. It's very important that the logo, along with the storyline, will be forwarded to HO

➤ International Committee & NCEP

International committee has been strongly building the image of IIF in marketing and relationship with various worldwide organizations over the last many years. The recently formed NCEP has also taken up the task of promoting international market access through participation in exhibitions, trade fairs, and delegations.

Trade Facilitation and Capacity Building which previously International Committee used to manage this.

Since it was discussed that there should be clarity in the roles between the International Committee and NCEP, so that there is no overlap or duplication of activities carried out.

On the above discussion a resolution was passed in WR council & was proposed by Mr. Probal Sen & seconded Mr. Hemant Lele.

8. Date and Venue for 4th Council Meeting : The next council meeting is tentatively planned in Rajkot and Techmart in Jamnagar. Asked the Rajkot Chapter Chairman to plan & revert.

9. Vote of Thanks : The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks from Hon. Secretary, Mr. Probal Sen, who expressed gratitude to all council members for their participation.



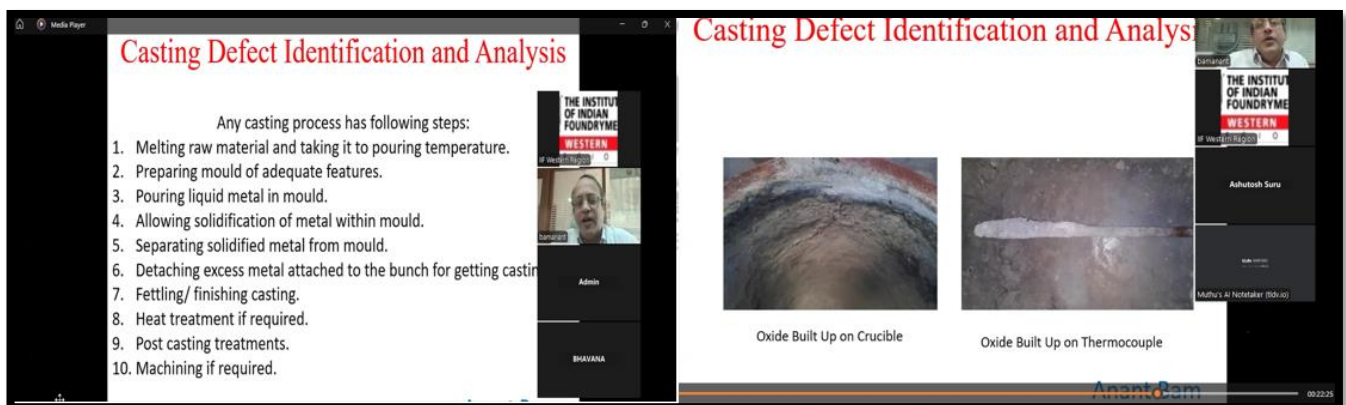
➤ **IIF Western Region organized a national webinar, “Non-Ferrous Series 1: Defects in Aluminium Casting—Causes & Remedies,” delivered by Mr. Anant Bam on 9th December 2025 via Zoom. The session drew 60–65 participants and concluded with an engaging discussion on future events and initiatives.**

The national webinar on **“Defects and Solutions in Castings”** was organized by the Non-Ferrous Activity Center of IIF, focusing mainly on aluminium and non-ferrous castings. The session highlighted the growing importance of the non-ferrous segment in the foundry industry and attracted around **60–65 participants**.

The webinar was presented by **Mr. Anant Bam**, who explained various casting defects, their causes, identification methods, and remedies. The discussion covered gas-related defects such as blowholes and pinhole porosity, shrinkage cavities, inclusions, discontinuities, thin-wall casting issues, cracks, and grain growth problems during machining.

The speaker emphasized the importance of understanding the casting process, proper nucleation, temperature control, cleanliness, degassing, and traceability to prevent defects. Remedies such as grain refiners, rotary degassing, fluxing, ceramic foam filters, and controlled pouring techniques were also discussed.

Participants actively interacted during the session by raising queries related to bimetals castings, machining defects, and defect prevention methods. The webinar concluded with discussions on future technical sessions, registration for upcoming events like IFC and ALUConf, and a vote of thanks to the speaker and organizing team for conducting an informative session successfully.



➤ **The Vendor Development Meet, held on 15–16 December 2025 at PCCOE, Pune, was jointly organized under the aegis of MSME DFO, Mumbai, in collaboration with IIF WR, IIF FIC, IIF PC, PCCOE, and its Centre for Innovation, Incubation & Linkage Forum (CIIL). The event was conducted under the guidance of Mr. Abhay Daptardar, Assistant Director, MSME DFO, Mumbai, and brought together stakeholders for meaningful industry interaction and collaboration.**

The meet was jointly held under the aegis of the MSME DFO, Mumbai, along with IIF WR /IIF FIC/ IIF PC / PCCOE and their Centre for Innovation Incubation & linkage forum (CIIL) under the able guidance of Mr. Abhay Daptardar Asstt. Director MSME DFO, MUMBAI.

Mr. Manish Bhardwaj, Technical Advisor to chairman DRDO Defence Research and Development Organisation was the Honourable Chief Guest for the event along with Mr Bhushan Mahale GM EATON MOBILITY GROUP was the Hon. Guest of Honour.

It was an Honour for us to have a total of 107 registered delegates and 25 Exhibition stalls at the spacious auditorium of the PCCOE Pune. The CPSE and the Private Sector Buyers were as follows:-

- 1) IOCL
- 2) BPCL
- 3) HPCL
- 4) Mazgaon Dock
- 5) AFK, PUNE
- 6) EATON corporation
- 7) HEMRL, PUNE
- 8) L&T PES

The meet started with the MOC Mr. Shirish Pingale who brought the session to order.

The welcome speech was given by the WR chairman Mr. Saibal Sen. This was followed by the inaugural address by Mr. Daptardar who in his speech emphasizes the need for holding regular VDP meets to make the CPSE aware of the potential of the MSME sector to cater to the CPSES need for critical products and stringent quality requirements. He also appreciated the arrangements made at the venue by the joint efforts of PCCOE and the IIF PC and had promised to make it an annual event.

This was followed by an address by the guest of honour Mr. Bhushan Mahale, General Manager who emphasised in his speech the requirements of M/s. Eaton Corp. A private sector giant requiring huge no of castings and allied products. He also stressed on the requirements of Eaton corporation vis a vis several critical castings. In his address he mentioned his company's future ventures into very critical castings such as the 4th generation EV Transmission Housing Castings etc. The guest of honour welcomed the delegates and the exhibitors to become vendors of Eaton corp.

Mr. Saibal Sen chairman Western Region invited Hon. Mr. Manish Bhardwaj to the podium to deliver his keynote address as the hon chief guest of the Vendor Development Program.

Mr. Manish Bhardwaj in his brief address to the delegates stressed on the improvement in the foundry shop floor environment from the ESG point of view. He mentioned that Foundries need to make their shop floor conditions, clean and tidy. He also mooted the idea of a technology development fund for the foundries which will be a sort of sinking funds for which IIF to be the flag bearer and the foundries should use this fund for upgrading their technology from manufacturing as well as ESG point of view. After his address, he along with the Western Region chairman / Pune Chapter chairman spent quality time with each and every stall at display.

In all the 25 stalls at the exhibition the main emphasis was on ferrous and nonferrous casting manufacturer displaying their products and technology. In addition to the foundry a number of stalls displayed technology innovations in the field of analytical/ visual inspection fields. A special attraction was the 5 stalls exhibited by the students of PCCOE who displayed their capabilities in the field of drones / surveillance equipment etc. These stalls were appreciated by the visitors and dignitaries alike.

The technical sessions on day 1 and day 2 were engrossing for the delegates as well as exhibitors. The participating CPSE and Private sector Buyer's presentations were very well received by the audience.

The CPSE such as IOCL /HP/BPCL in their presentations gave figures about the business opportunities available with them in term of tonnage as well as the requirements In Rupees. Each CPSE focussed on the potential available for Foundries for business with them. They shared the sector wise business allocation in their presentations. Typical Product wise requirements were also given by the CPSE in their presentation.

Notably, AFK Pune showcased the Grenade shell requirements in Zinc and aluminium and also casting requirements for Mortar Shells. However, each CPSE emphasised on the need for the prospective Vendor to register on the GeM portal as a mandatory requirement.

We had already earmarked a GeM Registration presentation (Spread over 2 days) by Mr Ritesh Singh from GeM, New Delhi on the use of the GeM portal. This was very well appreciated by the audience.

Prof. Dhoke's technical paper was also much appreciated by the audience.

It has to be mentioned here that the excellent arrangements by the PCCOE for exhibition/ seminar and the audio / video facility at the venue were top class. The snacks/ meals provided by the PCCOE caterer were also top class. The volunteers and the support staff of the PCCOE did an excellent job of provide on site support to all the invitees.

The two days program ended with the valedictory function presided by Dr. Shitalkumar Rawandale who addressed the delegates and showed his willingness to host the program every year with the IIF. The IIF felicitated the volunteers as well as the support staff as a token of gesture for their enthusiastic support to make the program a huge success.

All the guest of honours the chief guest and the speakers were felicitated by a memento as a token of appreciation on behalf of MSME DFO, IIF and the PCCOE.



Lighting of lamp



WR chairman - Welcome Speech



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**WESTERN
R E G I O N**



WR chairman welcome to Chief Guest



PC chairman Presenting a memento to Guest of Honor



Delegates present for VDP



Visit to Exhibitors



Visit to Exhibitors



Delegates present for VDP

➤ **IIF- Western Region & Vadodara Chapter jointly organized Yogyata Vikas Programme on 17th to 19 December 2025 Mr. Sandeep Kulkarni had visited IIF Vadodara for 3 days and visited the following foundries.**

1. Nodule Cast
2. Fine Cast Pvt. Ltd.
3. Suryadeep Alloy Steel Castings Pvt Ltd.



➤ **IIF- Western Region & Vadodara Chapter jointly organized Technical Talk on "Savings – Sustainability – Compliances by Mr. Nilesh Shedge on 19th December 2025. Total 70 delegates participated.**



➤ **IIF Western Region organized a national webinar, "Non-Ferrous Series 3 on "A review of advances in HPDC technique for production of aluminium Structural castings for Cars by Mr. Madhav Athavale on 20th January 2026 via Zoom. The session drew more than 55 participants and concluded with an engaging discussion on future events and initiatives.**

At the beginning, Mr. Mukund Pant, Chairman Non-Ferrous WR Activity Centre, welcomed the speaker & all attendees.

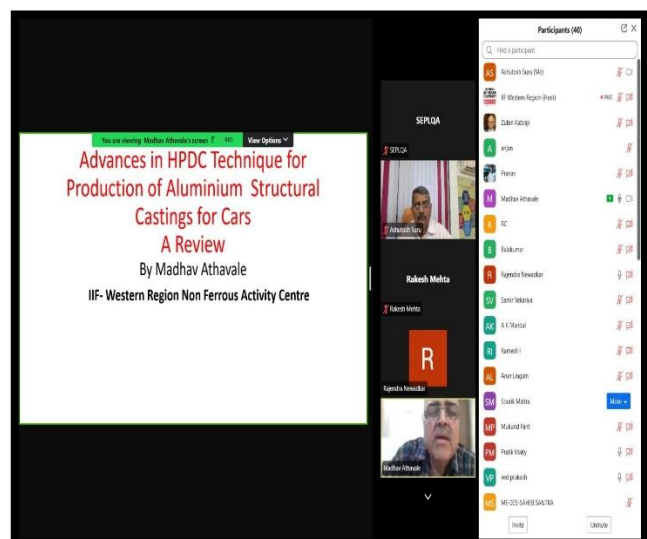
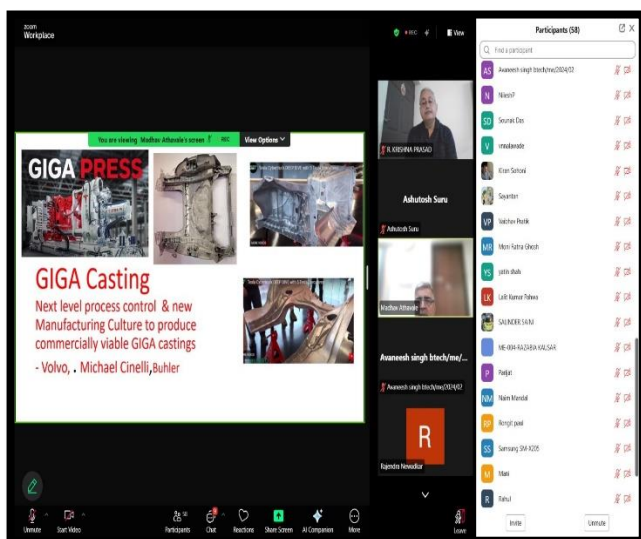
Mr. Rajendra Newadkar, Mentor IIF NCTS, introduced the speaker.

In his presentation, Mr. Madhav Athavale explained about current changes in casting requirements linked to new EV based car technology. He explained about changes needed in production, process control & quality requirements for GIGA casting manufacturing compared to current HPDC technology practices. He covered the topic in great details through sharing comparative cases between current practices & control specifications requirements and highlighted kind of process changes are expected to achieve changing requirements in making GIGA castings. Q & A session was well covered by Mr. Madhav Athavale.

At the end, Mr. Probal Sen, Non-Ferrous National Committee Chairman given a vote of thanks to speaker sir, all the attendees for attending this webinar.

Sharing a few photos of this webinar event.

On behalf of National Non-Ferrous Committee, once again I would like to give thanks to all attendees, Mr. Madhav Athavale, Non-Ferrous National Committee members, Non-Ferrous WR Activity Centre Committee members and WR, NCTS & HO staff for extending the support.



➤ **On 30th January 2026, IIF Western Region is apart of the Co-organizing team – “Indradhanu: International Grand Challenge” a flagship global innovation Hackathon & multi – Stage competition designed to promote interdisciplinary collaboration & practical, Real – world problem – solving at PCCOE, Pune Campus.**

The “Indradhanu: International Grand Challenge 2025–26” was a global innovation competition organized by the International Relations Cell of Pimpri Chinchwad College of Engineering on the theme “AI for Climate Change,” aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 13 – Climate Action. Conducted in three stages from May 2025 to January 2026, the initiative provided an international platform for students and innovators to conceptualize, prototype, and demonstrate AI-driven solutions addressing climate-related challenges. The event witnessed remarkable participation, with 1,002 teams registering from India and abroad, including participants from countries such as the USA, Malaysia, Angola, Nepal, and Ghana. After multiple evaluation rounds, 25 finalist teams were shortlisted for the Grand Finale held on 30th January 2026 at PCCOE, where teams presented live demonstrations before eminent jury members from academia and industry.

The event received strong support from international and industry partners including Bronx Community College, City University of New York (CUNY), NuGen Intelligence, Capgemini, IEEE Pune Section, Pune AI Community, and The Institute of Indian Foundrymen, which contributed sponsorship support for the successful execution of the challenge. NuGen Intelligence also provided API credits worth approximately ₹6 lakhs and conducted hands-on workshops for finalists. The competition focused on innovation, sustainability, technological implementation, and real-world impact, while encouraging global collaboration and interdisciplinary learning. The Grand Finale included keynote sessions, project evaluations, networking opportunities, certificate distribution, and recognition of jury members and co-organizers. Overall, Indradhanu 2025–26 successfully established itself as a meaningful international platform promoting innovation, responsible AI, sustainability, and collaborative problem-solving for climate change challenges.



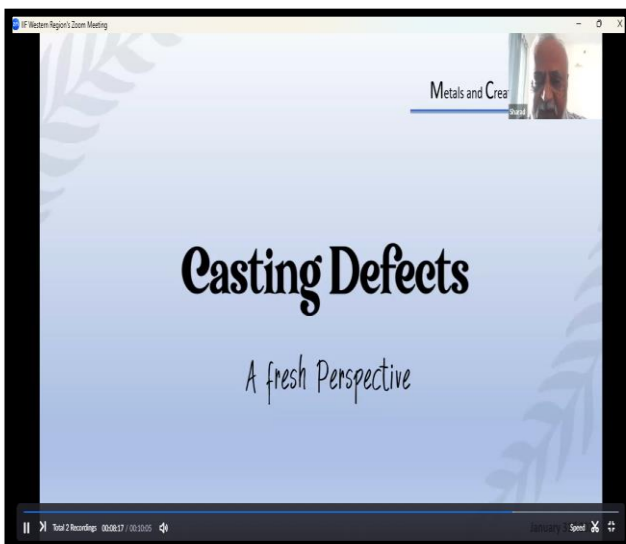
➤ **IIF Western Region & GMC Chapter jointly organised a Webinar on New Perspective to Solving Casting Defects by Mr. Sharad Dhumane, on 31st January 2026.**

The session was delivered by Mr. Sharad Dhumane, an experienced metallurgist and consultant, who shared practical insights into addressing casting defects in steel, grey iron, and ductile iron. His emphasis on root cause analysis, process optimization, and quality improvement provided valuable takeaways for the foundry community.

The program commenced with a welcome address by GMC Chairman Mr. Ian Nazerath, followed by Mr. Saibal Sen, Chairman WR briefing the audience about IFC, and Shyamal introducing the speaker.

With participation from over 55 members, including industry professionals and students, the lecture concluded with an engaging Q&A session, making it a highly informative and value-adding event.

Hon. Secretary Mrs. Shyamal Aroskar gave vote of thanks.



- **The commercial capital of Mumbai became the crucible of India's industrial aspirations on February 12, 2026, as the 74th Indian Foundry Congress was formally inaugurated at the Bombay Exhibition Centre (NESCO), Mumbai. In a ceremony that seamlessly blended high-level industrial strategy with profound institutional emotion, The Institute of Indian Foundrymen (IIF) set a decisive agenda: the transition of the Indian foundry sector from a global supplier to a creator of core technologies.**

The 74th Indian Foundry Congress (IFC), IFEX 2026, and Cast India Expo were successfully organized from 12th to 14th February 2026 at the Bombay Exhibition Centre, NESCO, Mumbai, by the Western Region of The Institute of Indian Foundrymen. The event marked a significant milestone as IFC and IFEX returned to Mumbai after nearly three decades and witnessed an overwhelming response from the foundry industry across India and abroad. Spread across 15,551 square meters, the exhibition featured 413 exhibitors and attracted an impressive footfall of 46,736 visitors, making it one of the largest foundry industry gatherings in the country.

The congress focused on the theme "Gateway of Global Foundry Industry" and highlighted key industry trends such as digital transformation, automation, sustainability, energy efficiency, smart manufacturing, and advanced casting technologies. Technical sessions and panel discussions were conducted by industry experts, researchers, and international delegates, covering important topics including decarbonization, productivity improvement, non-ferrous and aluminium casting, defence manufacturing opportunities, and future-ready foundry practices. The event also emphasized green manufacturing initiatives and sustainable operational practices for the foundry sector.

A major attraction of the event was the Casting Buyer-Seller Meet, which created a strong platform for business networking and collaboration. The meet included participation from 58 buyers representing 31 organizations and 88 suppliers, resulting in 651 structured B2B meetings. Buyers from sectors such as automotive, railways, construction, agriculture, electrical equipment, and heavy engineering participated actively, generating significant business opportunities for exhibitors and foundries.

The event also strengthened international cooperation through the World Foundry Forum, where delegates and speakers from countries including Germany, Italy, and Brazil shared global industry insights and technological advancements. Alongside the technical and business activities, several networking and hospitality programs such as Foundry Durbar, Bollywood Night, IIF Awards, premium lounges, and spouse engagement activities added value to the overall experience for participants and delegates.

Overall, the 74th IFC and IFEX 2026 successfully showcased India's growing strength and global relevance in the foundry sector. The event demonstrated the industry's commitment toward innovation, sustainability, digitization, and global collaboration while setting a new benchmark for future foundry exhibitions and congresses in India.



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**WESTERN
R E G I O N**

Glimpses of 74th IFC & IFEX 2026



➤ **IIF Western Region and Pune Chapter jointly organized a visit to the Satara Works facility on 21st February 2026. Approximately 15 members from the Pune and Kolhapur chapters actively participated in this knowledge-sharing visit, making it a valuable and engaging experience.**

Industry visit organized by IIF- Pune Chapter along with Western Region at Paranjape Autocast Pvt. Ltd., Satara Works facility on 21st February 2026, we are pleased to share the highlights. Around 15 members from both Pune and Kolhapur chapters actively participated in this knowledge-sharing visit.

Mr. Rishi Raj (Vice President–Manufacturing) delivered the welcome address, followed by a comprehensive presentation on company history, ongoing activities, product portfolio, customer base, and the different plant locations of M/s PAPL.

The team visited the plant with full safety compliance, while foundry personnel explained the production process and its controls, inspection and Quality assurance, Kaizen gallery, SQDCM monitoring etc. Delegates engaged in interactive discussions and queries raised by the team during the visit were clarified by M/s PAPL team.

Key takeaways and suggestions were shared with the PAPL team, reinforcing the spirit of continuous improvement and collaboration.

During the discussions, emphasis was placed on the IIF Pune Chapter’s role in academic-industry linkage, aimed at bridging institutions and industries for better understanding of foundry operations and requested M/s PAPL to extend support for the students’ chapter through internships, factory visits, and innovation-driven initiatives.

Finally, Mr. Dhupal (Chairman–IIF Pune Chapter) offered the vote of thanks, appreciated the support of M/s PAPL management, meticulous planning and visit execution activity by Mr. Rishi Raj sir and his team, which made the visit fruitful and very successful.

Mr. Pingle (Secretary–IIF Pune Chapter) also expressed gratitude to the delegates for their enthusiastic participation.

We once again extend our heartfelt gratitude to M/s PAPL for accepting our request and making this important industry and IIF Pune / WR collaboration event possible.



➤ **Minutes of the 4th Council Meeting (2025-26) on 5th March 2026 online on Zoom Platform.
Members Present: 15**

1. Welcome Address: Mr. Saibal Sen, WR Chairman, extended a warm welcome to all council members for the 4th WR council meeting of the year 2025-26.

2. Condolence for Dr. Bhagwati

The council paid respects to late Dr. P N Bhagwati, Past President and World Foundation president.

- Joint Hon. Secretary, Mr. Probal Sen Proposed one-minute silence and formal condolence letter to Mrs. Reena Bhagwati
- Hon. Secretary Mr. Mahesh Date: Agreed to draft the condolence letter
- All members: Observed moment of silence
- Official condolence letter to be sent to Dr. P N Bhagwati's family
- Additional silence to be observed at physical meeting on March 23rd.

3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The council reviewed minutes from the previous meeting.

- Mr. Mahesh Date requested approval of previous meeting minutes already circulated via email.
- Mr. Kamlesh Patel confirmed no need for detailed explanation as minutes were pre-shared
- Previous meeting minutes unanimously approved
- Proposed by Mr. Kamlesh Patel and seconded by Mr. Rajesh Tanti.

4. Administrative Matter:

Regional and Chapter Elections for 2026-2028

Discussion on election procedures and timelines for upcoming council elections.

- IIF Western Region: Confirmed nomination deadline as March 25th
- Explained composition - 6 foundry industry members, 4 non-foundry company members, 4 individual members totalling 14 elected positions
- Noted 3 co-opted members plus 3 ex-officio members making total of 20 council members
- IIF Western Region officer confirmed election officers appointed for region and each chapter
- Mr. Probal Sen: Suggested coordination meeting with incoming chairman Mr. Atin Jain to finalize active member participation
- Election forms circulated to all chapters and regional members
- Chapter chairman and secretaries automatically become regional council members.
- Each chapter conducting separate elections with designated election officers

5. Office Working Hours Adjustment

Request to modify office timings due to severe traffic conditions affecting staff commute.

- IIF Western Region: Explained current 10:00 AM to 6:30 PM timing results in 2.5-hour commute, reaching home by 9:15 PM
- IIF Western Region: Proposed shifting to 5:30 PM closing time with earlier start
- Mr. Probal Sen: Suggested formal letter to HO with unanimous council approval
- Mrs. Shyamal Aroskar Confirmed no objection from GMC members who use office most frequently.
- Mahesh Date: Supported the proposal

- Unanimously approved to change office hours to end at 5:30 PM
- Formal resolution to be documented in minutes
- Secretary to send approval letter to ED Madam Head Office for final consent.

6. Any Other Matter:

a. Wescon 2025 Status & alternative event.

- Discussion on cancelling Wescon due to recent IFEX and considering alternative event.
- Mr. Probal Sen: Proposed cancelling Wescon 2025 due to significant effort invested in IFEX and difficulty securing sponsorships again.
- Mr. Mahesh Date Suggested making it standard practice not to conduct Wescon in years when Western Region hosts IFEX.
- Mr. Probal Sen Proposed alternative one-day defence conference in May at cooler location like Mahabaleshwar or Panchgani with family participation.
- Mr. Arpit Bhut Expressed willingness to host in Rajkot with family-friendly arrangements.

b. IFEX and 74th IFC Success Recognition

Appreciation and feedback on recently concluded IFEX exhibition and IFC conference.

- Mr. Probal Sen congratulated Western Region team, especially IFC Chairman Mr. Amish Panchal and IFEX Chairman Mr. Subhod Panchal.
- Mrs. Shyamal Aroskar Reported 621 one-to-one B2B meetings with 21 international buyers over 2 days
- Mr. Vinodkumar Aggarwal Praised event as international standard with excellent organization and hospitality
- Mr. Rajendra Newadkar Highlighted successful first edition of ALUCOM with good participation and feedback
- Mr. Rajendra Newadkar Noted first-time allowance for non-delegates to attend technical seminars.
- Mr. Probal Sen Acknowledged exceptional student-industry exchange with student chapters attending exhibition.

c. Town Hall Meeting Arrangements

Planning for NOB visit and town hall meetings across three cities.

- Mrs. Shyamal Aroskar proposed 3:00 PM council meeting on March 23rd followed by 2-3 technical lectures on presidential theme, finishing by 6:00 PM
- Mrs. Shyamal Aroskar reported venue changed from Ginger Hotel to Ira by Orchid due to cost considerations, reducing per plate cost from 3,500+ to more reasonable rates.
- Mr. Probal Sen: Confirmed schedule - March 23rd Mumbai, 24th Pune, 25th Kolhapur
- Mr. Ramchandra Dhumal requested agenda for town hall meeting.
- Mr. Probal Sen Directed chapters to coordinate with ED office for agenda and format

7. Date and venue of 5th council meeting

- On 23rd March 2026 in Mumbai During the Town Hall Meeting.

8. Vote of thanks by Hon. Secretary

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks from Hon. Secretary, Mr. Mahesh Date, who expressed gratitude to all council members for their participation.

➤ **On 27th March, 2026 Western Region, Non-Ferrous Activity Center, Pune Chapter and NCTS had jointly conducted training program at Vulkan Technologies - Pune. Mr. Rajendra Newadkar sir (Mentor NCTS & Consultant) was the speaker and the topic of the training program was - "Introduction to Aluminium and Melting Practices". Total 17 participants from Vulkan Technologies Pvt. Ltd. were present.**

Mr. Ajay Yeole, Vice Chairman Pune Chapter & Mr. Ashutosh Suru from NCTS were also present during this program.

Mr. Laxman Waghmare General Manager – Foundry Vulkan Technologies Pvt Ltd. welcomed speaker and participants.

Mr. Newadkar informed participants about IIF & various activities undertaken by IIF.

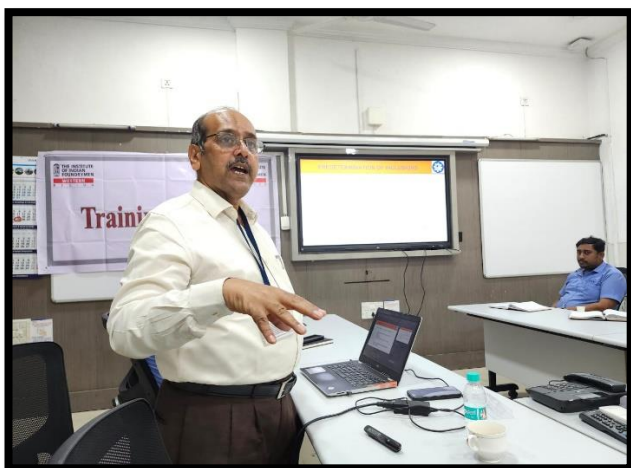
While delivering training, Mr. Newadkar covered basic aspects of Aluminium and melting practices with audio-visuals & examples in detailed way.

Training was well received & appreciated by all the participants.

On behalf of WR & Pune Chapter Mr. Yeole, Vice Chairman and Mr. Ashutosh Suru from NCTS had given vote of thanks to Vulcan Management for organizing this training program, all the participants for attending and Mr. Newadkar for conducting this training program smoothly & well within time limit given to us.

Sharing few photos of this training program for your ref.

Thanks to Mr. Newadkar for good training and Mr. Ajay Yeole for his presence.



➤ **Minutes of the 5th Council Meeting (2025-26) on 25th April 2026 at Hotel Bawa International, Mumbai.**

Members Present: 12

1. Welcome Address: Mr. Saibal Sen, WR Chairman, extended a warm welcome to all council members for the 5th WR council meeting of the year 2025-26.

2. Leave of Absence: Was given by Mrs. Ruma Rao, Mr. Atin Jain & Mr. Mahesh Date.

3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The council reviewed minutes from the previous meeting.

- Mr. Probal Sen requested approval of previous meeting minutes already circulated via email.
- Mr. Kamlesh Patel confirmed no need for detailed explanation as minutes were pre-shared
- Proposed by Mr. Kamlesh Patel and seconded by Mr. Rajesh Tanti.

4. Administrative Matter:

a. Office Working Hours Adjustment

Request to modify office timings due to severe traffic conditions affecting staff commute.

- The Change of office timing, discussed in the previous meeting, was reviewed.
- Staff are facing challenges due to local travel constraints and late commuting hours.
- Current working hours (10:00 AM – 6:30 PM) result in reaching home around 9:00–9:15 PM.
- Draft letter to Head Office (HO) is prepared but not yet sent.
- It will be shared with Mr. Mahesh Date and senior authorities and sent shortly.
- Change office timing to 9:00 AM – 5:30 PM.
- Staff will remain available for calls and work beyond office hours if required.

5. Western Region Activity Report:

- A presentation (PPT) covering activities was prepared and briefly reviewed.
- Key highlights included:
 - Webinars and technical sessions (Ferrous & Non-Ferrous)
 - Town Hall meetings (Ahmedabad, Vadodara, Rajkot)
 - Industrial visits (Pune, Satara, etc.)
 - Vendor Development Program (PCCOE, Pune)
 - DRDO-supported event (approx. ₹4 lakh support, 30+ participants/stalls)
 - National-level initiatives like **Indradhanush Hackathon** (international participation)
 - Collaborative programs across chapters

6. Chapter Activity Report: Due to time constraints, the Chapter Activity Report will be presented during the ARM.

7. N D Desai Award – Discussion

- Guidelines with Change in Criteria has been sent to all the chapters & Annual activity submission deadline given is 15th May
- Mails need to be sent to the Jury panel of last year as informed by WR chairman Mr. Saibal Sen.

8. Any other Matter:

A) Awards – Policy Updates:

- Mr. Patrikar informed that during the current NC meeting, it was discussed and agreed that no time extension will be granted for Regional Awards this year.
- Strict timelines to be followed (finalization by **September**). Applicable to all awards including: Best Chapter, Best Foundry, Best Region etc...
- Proposal to name awards after **eminent personalities** (instead of sponsors). Example: Proposal to rename an award in honour of **C.R. Swaminathan** (for a fixed tenure).
- Awareness to be increased among chapters.
- WR Chairman requested Mr. Anant Bam to conduct a webinar in **(June)** for office bearers on award guidelines. Webinar may be Common for WR, or Chapter-specific (if required for better focus).

B) (IIF) Launch President's Project of "Big Brother Project – Strength through Collaboration"

A strategic initiative aimed at fostering inclusive growth and strengthening inter-chapter cooperation across all regions. This initiative encourages well-established Chapters ("Big Chapters") to adopt and support smaller Chapters from other regions through structured mentorship, financial assistance, and collaborative engagement.

During the WR Council Meeting, it was discussed that the Regional Office should compile data with Membership Department identifying Big Chapters and Small Chapters. Subsequently, this information can be circulated via mail among all Chapters to enable informed decision-making regarding participation in the initiative.

9. Date and venue of 6th Council Meeting.

- **Next WR Council Meeting:**
 - **Date:** 26th May 2026
 - **Venue:** **Essentia Luxury Hotel Indore**
 - **Time:** 6:00 PM
- Details have been circulated via email.

10. Vote of thanks by Hon. Secretary

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks from Jt. Hon. Secretary, Mr. Probal Sen, who Expressed gratitude to all council members for their participation.



➤ **Western Region & Greater Mumbai Chapter jointly organized a Technical Talk on “Energy Management for Sustainable Manufacturing” on 25th April 2026 at Hotel Bawa International.**

The program commenced with the introduction of the speaker by GMC Chairman, Mr. Ian. The technical session was delivered by Anant Bam, a highly experienced foundry consultant with over three decades of expertise in aluminium and non-ferrous industries.

During the session, Mr. Bam shared valuable insights on energy efficiency, reduction of carbon footprint, and sustainable manufacturing practices. He emphasized the growing importance of sustainability in industrial operations and discussed practical approaches to measure, monitor, and reduce emissions in manufacturing industries.

The session provided participants with a deeper understanding of effective energy management strategies and their significance in achieving long-term environmental as well as economic goals.

The event witnessed active participation from 35 industry professionals and members. An interactive question-and-answer session was also conducted, enabling participants to engage in meaningful discussions and clarify technical aspects related to sustainable manufacturing practices.

The program concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Hon. Secretary Mrs. Shyamal Aroskar, who expressed gratitude to the speaker, participants, and organizers for making the event successful.



- **On 23rd May 2026, Western Region organized a Webinar on "Navigate your business through the present uncertain Geo Political situation."**



The Institute of Indian Foundrymen - Western Region
Organising a
Webinar on
Navigate your business through the present uncertain Geo Political situation.

Moderator


Mr. Anant Bam
Foundry Consultant and
Energy Manager.

Panelists


Vijay Kishore Purohit


Mr. Jitendra Lakhota
CEO, M/s. Aakar Foundry, Pune


Mr. Manish Patrikar
Sr. Director (Sales, Mkt & Tech.)
ASK Chemicals India Pvt. Ltd.

Day & Date: Saturday, 23rd May 2026 | Time: 4pm - 5pm

 **Zoom Meeting Details**
Meeting ID: 884 0227 0979 | Passcode: 897292
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88402270979?pwd=OgQ6vfdPZX8m23xHWIzMyq2gwyodd.1>

Western Region

Mr. Saibal Sen Chairman	Mr. Atin Jain Vice Chairman	Mr. Mahesh Date Hon. Secretary	Mrs. Ruma Rao Hon. Treasurer
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MEMBERSHIP GROWTH OF ALL THE CHAPTERS & REGION:

Membership strength as on 01.04.25= 1196

Membership strength as on 31.03.26= 1305

117.21% Performance %

13.64% Growth as per the weightage % in the year 2025-26

Membership as on 01.04.2025

REGION	CHAPTER	LM	AM	<===== INDUSTRY MEMBERS =====>						M	SM	FEL	TOT
				2R	4R	7R	10R	13R	16R				
WES													
	AHM	24	1	25	7	4	4	3	10	63	1	4	146
	BAR	68	0	13	11	3	5	3	2	14	47	1	167
	GBM	13	0	25	19	10	13	3	8	50	1	4	146
	IND	8	0	10	5	1	1	0	3	54	52	0	134
	KOL	5	0	14	12	7	3	2	7	136	1	2	189
	NAG	18	0	7	4	2	3	3	6	10	0	0	53
	POO	16	2	11	14	12	7	2	11	63	92	2	232
	RAJ	39	0	43	9	9	4	1	0	21	3	0	129
	TOTAL	191	3	148	81	48	40	17	47	411	197	13	1196

Membership as on 31.03.2025

REGION	CHAPTER	LM	AM	<===== INDUSTRY MEMBERS =====>						M	SM	FEL	TOT
				2R	4R	7R	10R	13R	16R				
WES													
	AHM	23	20	35	7	3	5	4	10	55	0	4	166
	BAR	50	8	19	8	3	4	4	1	14	37	1	149
	GBM	9	22	41	21	9	11	3	10	58	2	5	191
	IND	7	1	11	5	2	1	0	4	53	0	0	84
	KOL	5	10	20	13	6	4	3	7	153	1	2	224
	NAG	9	5	9	3	4	1	6	8	12	1	0	58
	POO	15	15	21	18	9	7	3	11	72	92	2	265
	RAJ	28	22	57	13	12	7	1	0	27	1	0	168
	TOTAL	146	103	213	88	48	40	24	51	444	134	14	1305

SUPPORTERS:

By the generosity of the supporters, Western Region could do so many new and different activities. WR council is thankful to all its supporters.

N. D. Desai Regional Award the following awards were presented during WR Annual Regional Meeting.

- **Best Chapter of IIF – WR for the year 2025-26 to – Kolhapur Chapter**
- **Membership Growth Large Category Award of IIF – WR for the year 2025-26 to – Rajkot Chapter**
- **Membership Growth small Category Award of IIF – WR for the year 2025-26 to – Nagpur Chapter**
- **Appreciation Award of IIF – WR for the year 2025-26 to – Pune Chapter**

Administration:

- Region conducted 06 Council meetings
- 65th Annual General Meeting for the year 2025-26 of the Western Region will be held On 26th May 2026 at Essentia Hotel, Indore.

Daily News Letter

- 3851 issues complete
- Daily Pour has circulation base of more than 1500 members.



Western Region Thanks all its Supporters





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 ***Thank You*** 