

HONY. SECRETARY GENERAL'S DESK

Dear Members

At the outset I am very pleased to report that International Congress, IC-2014 had a very colourfull start on 9th April, 2014 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. The event was inaugurated by Mr. S. Ramadorai, Chairman, NSDA. In his address Dr. Baldev Raj, President, International Institute of Welding highlighted the importance of the welding industry for a developing nation like India. Dr. Cecil Mayer, CEO, International Institute of Welding expressed her pleasure for the way in which IIW-India had organized this International Congress. During the occasion, IIW-India conferred the "Life Time Excellence" award to the Chief Guest Mr. S. Ramadorai.

Dr. Prabhat Kumar, Distinguished Scientist and CMD, BHAVINI, IGCAR, Kalpakkam delivered the prestigious "Jaeger Lecture". The "Keith Hartley Memorial Lecture" was delivered by Mr. C. C. Girotra, Director, Weldwell Speciality Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai and Dr. M. V. Venkatesan from L&T Construction Skill Training Institute, Chennai delivered "Prof. Placid Rodriguez Memorial Lecture".

Concurrently with this event a special Plenary Session on "Skill Development Initiative in India in Welding" was also organized under the Chairmanship of Mr. J. P. Rai, Director General, NSDA, Govt of India. During this session eminent personalities from the National Skill Development Corporation as well as Skill Sector Council like Mr. Dilip Chenoy, CEO & MD, NSDC, Col. I. S. Gahlaut, CEO, Capital Goods Skill Council, Mr. S. K. Chaturvedi, CEO, Automotive Skill Development Council, Mr. Arun Kumar Pillai, CEO, IL&FS Skills Development Corporation delivered their views on the recent trends in Skill Development program in India and the role of Government of India on the same. Mr Ranajoy Banerjee Executive Director IIW India gave a presentation on " Role of IIW India in Skill Sector Council".

On 11th April, 2014 a Workshop on "National Welding Capability in India" was organized. Mr. Chris Smallbone, Chairman Working Group Regional Activity of Board of Director IIW & CEO-WTIA, Australia focussed on development of Education, Training, Skills and Career paths, Qualification and Certification, Technology Transfer, Research & Development in National & International level. Mrs Cecile Mayar also attended with other participants. 6 eminent personalities presented their paper on different subjects

Along with the International Congress, the 8th International Welding Exhibition, WELD INDIA 2014 was also held from 10-12 April, 2014, in association with "FABTECH" a leading Exhibition organizer in USA, Canada and Mexico and a partner of AWS. Around 101 Exhibitors including the leading global companies from Canada, China, Czechoslovakia, Finland etc. participated in the exhibition. On the whole, the Congress was an outstanding success.

I am also very pleased to inform that Editorial Committee of IWJ brought out a special issue of the journal on the occasion of IC-2014.

Coming back to IIW-India activities – as per decision taken by the Council, the IIW-India Hyderabad Branch had been formed on the auspicious day of 20th May, 2014. The Branch was inaugurated by the President, IIW-India on 29th May, 2014 along with the undersigned.

Regards,



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