

Editorial



THE EVENT THAT WAS

The 64th Annual Assembly & the International Conference of the International Institute of Welding (IIW 2011) was recently held from 17th to 23rd July 2011 at Chennai, in the Southern State of Tamil Nadu, India and was organized by the Indian Institute of Welding.

While the Venues for the assembly were Hotel Hilton & Hotel Le Royal Meriden, the International Conference was held in the Auditorium & Meeting Hall of Chennai Trade Centre. Simultaneously, "Weld India", the 67th International Welding Technology Exhibition was held in the Exhibition Halls of the Chennai Trade Centre, between 21-23 July 2011.

As expected, the Annual Assembly & the International Conference- being the most significant events of the International Institute of Welding, attracted eminent scientists, engineers & practitioners in the field of Welding Technology from all over the world, but the tremendous historical & socio-cultural appeal of India as a destination also helped to draw a large number of delegates from 48 nations of the World. Altogether 923 persons attended the Assembly & Conference, which is perhaps the highest ever, the previous highest was in IIW 2010 held in Istanbul where, as reported by the organizers, there were almost 900 participants.

IIW 2011 was truly a superlative event, not in terms of numbers alone but also with respect to the meeting arrangements, official functions, social networking meets, cultural programmes, food, transportation and other services, social and technical tours, etc. But what distinctively won the hearts of all was the warm hospitality and personal attention provided by the organizers - true to Indian traditions.

The exhibition was an astounding success. 6000 business visitors, 2000 student visitors and nearly 30 crores of business transactions with a number of enquiries from prospective customers speak of the success of the exhibition. The exhibitors were very happy with WELD INDIA 2011 and promised to be back for our next show.

On behalf of the Indian Welding Journal, I congratulate Dr. Baldev Raj for assuming the office of the President of the International Institute of Welding and also take the opportunity to thank him for his very able guidance, which went a long way to make the event a great success.

A detailed Report follows.

Pabitra Kumar Das
Chief Editor
E-mail : pabitrakdas@gmail.com