From the Coordinators Pen :

Dear Members,

Warm Greetings to you,



World's largest democracy, India, has completed one more General Election and

a new government under the leadership of Dr. Manmohan Singh is in place. The regime of liberalisation started in 1991 when Dr. Manmohan Singh was the finance minister and we hope the industrial segment in the country will show good growth under his leadership as Prime Minister.

This issue of IWJ focuses on fabrication of two key metals, *viz.*, Aluminium and Copper. Both of them find extensive application in industry. Being highly electrically and thermally conductive materials, welding of aluminium and copper pose great challenges to the engineers. Further, their great affinity to oxygen makes welding very difficult unless special care is taken.

In the first section, a number of papers relating to aluminium welding is presented.

Recently, a one-day workshop was conducted at Kolkata by the Indian Copper Development Centre on joining of copper and copper alloys. Some very interesting and useful papers were presented there. Some of them are published in this section. We sincerely thank the Director of ICDC for the permission granted to us for reprinting the papers.

Yours Sincerely,

V.R. Ramsh

V.R. RAMESH, Vice President - IIW & Co-ordinator - IWJ.