The report on a course on "Welding Metallurgy, Technology and Quality Assutrance" on 16-20 January, 1996, organised by the Technical Committee of IIW and held at IGCAR, Kalpakkam, reveals how widely the course was accepted by the Welding related industries in general. This is yet another pointer apropos to the future organisers of such courses in the country. The inherent question probably is not so much about the uncertainty of (numbers of) participants but lies in the realm of organisation of those courses in general. Other reports of such courses, which could be termed broadly as refreshers', continuation, special or beginers, have several course aspects in common. For instance, all such courses are related to the technology of joining of metals and alloys and, either singular or multiples of joining technologies are read, selection criteria of joining techniques - including welding consumables are referred and the quality assurance aspect of welded joints is emphasised as a matter of course. Binding it all together is the general metallurgy aspect which is revered actoss the course content. It is indeed assuring that such courses, at all different levels, are in great demand and the supply side probably needs a bit more support then hitherto spared from all relevant quarters - the welding related industries, the professional institutions, the technical journals - to name a few. Information regarding the potential contents of such courses needs to be highlighted and in this regard, IWJ is committed to do it's bit by arranging to publish the related materials of such courses, whenever possible, at a short notice.

As we go th the press a "Refreshers Course On Are Welding For Welders" is being organised (24-27 April, 1996) by the IIW, Calcutta Branch. The course is to be read in Bengali. Here, the language skill of the course participants is highlighted. In the recent past similar courses have been organised elsewhere in the country and the organisers of these courses have claimed a modest success. One of the outcome that has underscored the achievements of these courses is the broadening of the scope of class-room teaching and learning of a technical subject, such as welding technology, in an indigenous language be it in Tamil or in Bengali for that matter. We except more such ventures in future would be welcomed by all concerned with HRD in industry.

In the long technical articles, published in this issue, aspects of physical metallurgy, analysis of fracture surface (fractography) and characterisation of the effects emanating from the use of different welding parameters have gained due prominance. Readers would find helpful references in these works of high standard.

MOUs: IIW has recently signed MOUs with internationally reputed organisations such AWS (USA) TWI (UK) and Singapore Welding Society. We would bring in the details of these MOUs in the next issue.

Apology: Advertisement revenue and IWJ - is to be published in the next issue of the Journal.

Best wishes,

Yours sincerely

(Dr. P. Majumdar)

Editor