

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

INTERNATIONAL WELDING CONFERENCE - '96 Mumbai 5th to 7th December '96

Respected Prof. P. Rama Rao, Mr. S. Bhattacharyya - M.D. of ESAB India, Dr. J. F. Key - President of American Welding Society, Mr. C. C. Girotra - Chairman of Mumbai Branch, Mr. N. K. Sarkar - Vice Chairman of Mumbai Branch and Honorary Secretary of Organizing Committee, Dr. S. Bhattacharyya - Honorary Secretary of Mumbai Branch and dear delegates from abroad and from my motherland, India. It gives me great pleasure to be before you and share some of my thoughts on this momentous occasion. As the President of The Indian Institute of Welding, I join you and share with you, a sense of achievement, a satisfaction, in organizing this International Welding Conference 1996. On this occasion, I am tempted to look back. It was way back in 1966, that The Indian Institute of Welding was established with objectives to promote the advancement of Science and Technology of Welding and its allied subjects by organizing Seminars, Workshops, Conferences, Refresher Courses, etc. on these subjects at different places. Provide Technical Guidance and Consultation to the Industries and

Educational Institutions etc. Provide Technical Information on Welding Research and Education. Conduct Associate Membership Examination equivalent to a Degree Examination, to offer an Education programme and Certification for Human Resource Development and career opportunities, besides incentive for personnel in profession, publish, issue and circulate Technical journals, Periodicals etc. on the subjects and to establish and maintain a Library service for the Welding professionals, coordinate and liaise with other technical organisations like AWS, SWS, Phi W.S, Ind W. Society, TWI, etc. Our Institute has been endeavoring to fulfill these objectives to the best possible way over the years.

The first president Sir L. P. Mishra laid a strong foundation and the successive presidents built upon it to give a position of eminence and stature to our Institute. Today with a total membership of more than 3250 members and 10 branches spread all over the country, we can be proud of our wide reach. Following figures show the strength of members,

category wise :

Industrial	
Corporate Member	166
Fellow	60
Member	1399
Associate Member	1259
Associate	351
Total	3235

The status of life membership as on 30th November 1996 are detailed below :

Fellow	42
Member	378
Associate Member	184
Total	604

It is in pursuance of this tradition and fulfillment of our avowed objectives, that we are organizing this grand International Welding Conference - Joining : The Art, Science and Technology and International Welding Exhibition.

Two years back at the Jamshedpur council meeting this idea was conceived to hold this conference and the exhibition at Mumbai, under the leadership of

Dr. Placid Rodrigues as the convener and me as the co-convener. There had been more than 25 meetings of the organizing committee during last 18 months. We have received more than 100 synopsis of which we could accommodate only 70 papers and 9 for poster sessions with 3 parallel sessions giving delegates adequate time to visit the exhibition. For the exhibition we had a modest area of 630 sq. meters. It is fully booked and the response has been overwhelming. I wish we had planned for more area. We had to turn down requests from our many friends and partner - members. We could get more than 100 advertisements. This conference attracted close to 400 delegates from USA, UK, Germany, China, Japan, Romania, Portugal, Switzerland and of course India. What more can we ask for, especially when, recently, there has been SOJOM '96, A gigantic event of 1996, at the Southern tip of our country !

My sincere thanks to Chairmen of various sub-committees, Mr. K. M. Panthki - Registration of delegates, Mr. M. Ismail - Advertising, Mr. C. C. Girotra - Exhibition, Mr. P. K. Supali - Finance, Mr. V. S. Shirgaonkar - Venue, Mr. G. L. Goswami and Dr. Krishanan - Technical services and Souvenir, Dr. Baldev Raj - Technical papers, Mr. V. M. Paraskar - Poster seminar, Mr. T. A. Ramesh - Travel and Tourism and all other Branch committee members. I would request these chairmen to

stand up and let us give them a big hand for their selfless service.

As per our National Welding Seminar convention we have awards for papers. These are :

I T Mirchandani Memorial Research Award for first best paper on research and development in welding, carrying a prize money of **Rs. 10,000/-**.

H. D. Govindraj Memorial Research Award for second best paper on Research & Development in welding carrying a prize money of **Rs. 2,000/-**.

K.C.P. Award for best paper on Process & Fabrication :
First best paper : **Rs. 3,000/-**
Second best paper : **Rs. 2,000/-**

Modi Award for best paper on Application & Development in Welding carrying a prize money of **Rs. 5000/-**.

Nucor Award for best paper on Quality Control and a prize money of **Rs. 3,000/-**.

Mrs. D. M. Panthaki Award for best paper on Non-Ferrous Welding carrying a prize of **Rs. 2,000/-**.

Fusion Award for best paper on H.R.D. in welding carrying a prize money of **Rs. 5,000/-**.

Weldmen Award for best poster paper in welding carrying a prize money of **Rs. 2,000/-**.

Eutectic Award for best paper on Reclamation in welding carrying a prize money of **Rs. 5,000/-** and finally,

D & H Secheron Award for best paper presented during

Welding carrying a prize money of **Rs. 4,000/-**.

It has been a traditional Indian belief that Vidya Dhanam Sarva Dhana Pradhanam, that is, the wealth of knowledge, is the best form of wealth. It is the only wealth which increases more the more you spend it, the more you share it ! Conferences such as Joining : The Art, Science and Technology, give an occasion to share our knowledge with others, learn from the authorities in their respective fields and exchange notes with our fellow professionals. It leads to an overall increase in the pool of our collective knowledge. It is no coincidence that this conference has evoked such an enthusiastic response from all over the world. There are reasons for this. Foremost, it is the promise that Indian economy holds for the future. As the centre of global activity shifts to South East Asia, the hitherto developing countries like China and India offer a good potential for the growth in future. Indian economy is not yet classified as the emerging Economy, but holds the promise to be there in near future. The very size of our economy, coupled with our large population, would indicate a huge, as yet untapped potential. Some studies have indicated that a growing rise of the middle class in India, would have a purchasing power equivalent to entire Europe by mid 21st century ! Another study indicates that Indian economy, which is presently 10th largest in the world would move

up to become the 6th largest by year 2020. Clearly, the 21st century will belong to Asia, and India is destined to play a major role in it! This progress will of course require concerted efforts from every sector of the India industry. The Welding Industry, the mother industry should be called upon to give the necessary cutting edge to other industries to be competitive. As the requirements of user industries become more and more stringent, as more and more materials find their way into established applications, the Welding Industry will have to be on our toes all the time to rise to the occasion. It is time for the Welding Industry for a serious introspection.... It is time for the Welding Industry to ask the basic question What business We are In ?.... It is time we shed the old notions and adopt new Paradigm.... The Welding Industry of future would have to deal with not just metals but all types of materials be they metallic alloys,

plastics, composites ... any materials which find an application. Similarly, the applications would include not just Joining but also the Surface Engineering be it for wear resistance, corrosion resistance or heat resistance ... The Welding Industry of future would also include various processes ... not just arc welding but also plasma, electron beam welding, HVOF coatings and so on ... The Welding Industry will have to bring continuously new things into its fold to remain relevant and competitive. As the lines demarcating Welding Industry get blurred and expand into new areas, the Welding Professionals will have to continuously upgrade their skills and knowledge base to remain useful to the user industries. Against this backdrop, the importance of Welding Conferences, such as this, becomes more evident. The overwhelming response received for the conference .. 400 delegates, 70 papers from 9 different countries, 9

poster sessions and 35 exhibitors, is a sign that welding professionals are interested in sharing and upgrading their knowledge. It is my appeal to the fraternity of welding professionals, to continue to show such a solidarity. Together we shall weld a bond of progress and prosperity into not just the twenty first century but into the third millennium!

I welcome all guests from abroad and India and hope they are enjoying and will continue to enjoy our hospitality.

I sincerely wish they leave Mumbai with fond memories of the place and rich technical learning.

I wish the International Welding Conference - '96 and Joining : The Art, Science and Technology, the International Welding exhibition a grand success.

Thank you

J. K. Nanda

NOTICE

**PLEASE SEND YOUR SUBSCRIPTION DIRECT TO
THE INDIAN INSTITUTE OF WELDING**

Head office at
3A, Loudon Street, Calcutta 700 017