

## From the Editor's Desk



*The process of Indian Economic reforms appears to have considerably slowed down - thanks to the stock scam. On top of this monsoon which has been hesitant so far this year has added uncertainty so far as growth prospects are concerned. Even if the monsoon recovers, the foodgrain production is not likely to be anything near the targetted levels and grain imports would be imperative - causing drainage on the forex reserves. There has been of course a decline in the inflation rate to a single digit level largely because of more diciplined spending by the Government. This has two sides, on one side the fall in inflation rate is derised and welcome, but on the other side the lack of Govt. funds is adversely affecting the Industrial production and this is likely to continue atleast in the short term.*

*This issue of IWJ covers a number of areas in welding technology. Materials and weldability, assesment of fracture resistance, weld designs at elevated temperature etc. and an interesting article on hyperbaric welding. I hope the readers will find these articles from the eminent professionals useful and educative. Also, the readers will find a general article on quality systems. This paper although not directly related to welding technology gives an overview of the system approach on quality for globalisation (ISO 9000) – a topic which must be appreciated and implemented by the Indian Industries in order to remain partners in the global trade.*

*This year's National Welding Seminar is being organised by Calcutta Branch during November 19 to 21, where a large number of practicing professionals in metals joinging technology from India and abroad will participate and exchange ideas. I would request all our members and readers to participate in this seminar.*

*I wish all our readers a very happy and prosperous festive season.*

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'A. K. Mitra', with a horizontal line underneath.

A. K. Mitra  
Editor