

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

I am happy to note that the January 2005 issue of the Indian Welding journal will be published as a special issue commemorating the IWC 2005 to be held in Mumbai on 16th to 19th February 2005.

The International Welding Congress is a prestigious event and being held for the first time not only in India but also in South Asea. A large contingent of Welding technologists, scientists and manufacturers of welding products from almost all continents will attend this conference and share the platform with their counterparts in India.

The Indian Welding Journal is the official mouthpiece of our institute and has been providing the vital linkage among the welding professionals, educationists, researchers and students of our country. This special issue will certainly enlighten all the participants of the congress about the role played by the IWJ in advancing welding in our country.

I sincerely wish all success to the Editor for this praiseworthy effort.

Kobad Panthaki
President, IIW

**From the Hony. Secretary General's Desk**

Dear Members,

It is indeed a matter of great pleasure that on the eve of the International Welding Congress to be held from 16th to 19th Feb '05 at Mumbai, the Kolkata Branch is publishing the Indian Welding Journal – January 2005 issue on behalf of the institute.

The International Welding Congress has been organized to enable the stake holders of the welding fraternity to meet at a common platform not only to have a view of the present international scenario but also to form & formulate a vision for the future. Our heartiest congratulations to the International Institute of Welding for awarding us this prestigious mega event 'International Welding Congress' to be held in India.

As IWJ is the main organ of the Institute and will be circulated to all members, I would like to take this opportunity to appraise our members regarding different activities of the Institute.

All of you are aware that IIW is awarding the "AMIIW" degree equivalent to Bachelor Degree in welding which has been accredited by The Ministry of Human Resource Department, Government of India. As of now, IIW is conducting the examination presently in six centres i.e. Vizag, Bhilai, Baroda, Mumbai, Delhi & Kolkata. We would however, like to increase the number of centers to facilitate more students to appear in this examination. It will be possible only if all the Branches take initiative to enroll more students in their area. You will be happy to know that our Kolkata Branch with the active support from HQ entered a MOU with George Telegraph Training Institute (GTTI) for conducting Welding Engineering Course for AMIIW students and this course has already started at Asansol. We are also in process of finalization with some more Training Institute for conducting similar courses.

We are also very happy to inform you that your Institute has now got approval from the International Accreditation Board of International Institute of Welding to operate in India as the Authorized National Body (ANB) to certify welding professionals trained and tested as per International Standards.

We need to put our all out effort together to increase the membership strength. This will only be possible if all the Branches conduct regularly Technical Lecture, Branch Newsletter, co-ordinate with the industries to solve their technical problem related to welding. We appeal to all Branches to take immediate initiative to enroll new members.

We have organized an Annual Member's Assembly on 18th Feb'05 at 19:00 Hrs. at Nehru Centre during the Congress for our members to discuss the present scenario of the institute as well as our future plan. We invite all of you to be present in the assembly and help us with your valuable suggestions for the development of the Institute.

We look forward to meet you in the Annual Members Assembly.

With Best regards,

Parimal Biswas
Hony. Secretary General