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## Letter from the Chairman – G. P. Committee

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Responding to our Editor's invitation I feel both pleased and privileged in communicating with our brother-members and sharing some thoughts with you. As you know, the newly constituted Council and GP Committee (99-2000) have started functioning since mid Jan./early Feb. of 2000 and we have a long path to travel. Thus the aims and achievements of GPC should be carefully planned and periodically reviewed taking a long-term perspective.

At the dawn of the new millennium, your Institute can boast of some new fetters in its cap – including notably the successful completion of IWC-99 and membership revival of International Institute of Welding. The activity of your Institute as well as Council has also widened in tune with the globalised scenario. With the advent of info. technology & e-mail / websites, your Institute - which enjoys the nodal status in India with world-wide collaboration – needs to be modern in its functioning, technology-oriented & member-friendly. Hence to be effective in its duty your GPC needs to be revitalized, with readiness to suitably embrace the advancements in systems & working style. The GPC will no doubt be enriched with the participation of distinguished members from across the country and that under guidance from our President & other Council Members mostly accomplish the year's set task.

Here are some salient features of our year-long programme :

- 1. Membership :** To surpass 10% yearly growth; call back dormant members & activate ICMs; simplify membership application procedure; publish new members list / profile in IWJ; expedite completion of members directory & distribution of members card. Drives are underway to initiate a new branch opening at Hyderabad.
- 2. IWJ :** Your Institute has now brought to you a colourful, new-look, world-class journal, thanks to our Editor. We hope to see more practically oriented/case-study based articles. I appeal to our sponsoring ICMs and other advertisers to continue their generous support which is so vital to the journal's up-keep.
- 3. HQ Library :** A wealth of knowledge is pouring in from the International Institute of Welding and other MOU countries. The Library is being vitalised with addition of some new books and a photo-copy machine.
- 4. AM-IIW Examination :** This is continuing with Vizag taking the lead. Our Chairman, Education sub-committee has a programme to adopt EWF-ISO Welders Qualifications & Training Guidelines. IIW is also gearing up to serve the Indian Welding Sector as ANB (Authorised National Body) under the International Institute of Welding to harmonise training & certification country-wide. For AICTE approval, a core group has been formed and we hope through the good offices of our President at New Delhi this would now materialise.
- 5.** First-time attention is being directed to the proposal of forming an ICG (Industrial Core Group) among our ICMs with the hope that this would enhance interactions & active participation. ICM Meets need to be organised by the branches, to promote alongwith consultancy Services to be industry "Institute-Industry Interactions".
- 6.** To keep pace with today's world, your HQ is going to have one new phone line, when internet, e-mail, web-services would be implemented by upgrading the existing computer network.
- 7. IWC-2001,** the most prestigious event to look forward to, will be held at New Delhi from 15th to 17th February, 2001 concurrently with the CII Exhibition. We request our brother-members' wide and active participation.

Lot of things needs to be done. As a professional body dedicated to the cause & advancement of "Dwe-Ekam" - it is our religious task to perform our functions effectively & diligently. The GPC is certain with continued support by all it will be able to deliver the goods.

With best wishes and warm regards,

Calcutta, April 2000

Anupam Haldar  
Vice-President & Chairman-G.P. Committee