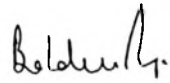

MESSAGE



India is racing at high pace to be among the frontier economies of the world by 2020. The track record in the last ten years and a way forward from \$1.4 trillion economy to \$3 trillion by 2017 translates into rapid growth in energy, infrastructure and strategic sectors, in addition to enhance contributions by services, consumables, tourism and agriculture domains. Among the policies, science and technology, finance and demographic issues, materials manufacturing and the welding are crucial to achieve the spectacular growth with competitiveness and in robust (minimum risk and high performance) manners.

The extremely successful conduct of International Congresses of 2005 and 2008 by Indian Institute of Welding (IIW-INDIA) at Mumbai and Chennai respectively, under the auspicious of International Institute of Welding, have led to well earned recognition of eminence and importance of the Indian Welding community. This recognition has paved the way for greater responsibilities and opportunities to IIW-INDIA for hosting the 64th Annual Assembly of the International Institute of Welding, International Conference and Global Welding Exhibition (IIW-2011) for the first time in India at Chennai during July 17-22, 2011. We are rightfully delighted for being granted the ANB status by the International Authorisation Board of International Institute of Welding. This is being leveraged with maturity, good administration and good administrative system for training a large number of welding professionals, at various levels, by implementing different international certification programmes and by appointing Authorised Training Bodies (ATB) that will provide the much-needed quality welding engineers and professionals to the industry and research institutes. I am confident all the sizes and sectors of Indian manufacturing industry, small, medium and large, would use this golden opportunity to personally interact with the worlds who-is-who in welding science and technology during IIW-2011 – Chennai for the betterment of the welding science and technology. Thus, participation is a wise and robust step to become a competitive force in education, research and best industrial technologies. The events also provide unparalleled opportunities to have collaborations of high merit, substance and growing the friendship and partnership. IIW-2011 is an eminent forum to learn and contribute to meet the present and future needs in areas of quality and competitiveness of joining technologies with emphasis on aspects such as human resources, safety, etc. We would also have the advantage of having many leading specialists from the world over, who will be participating in the most important and annual event of international institute of welding, sharing their valuable experience and thought. As the President elect of the Board of Director, International Institute of Welding it is my endeavour to represent India from a position of strength and pride. It is my duty to make you aware of the golden opportunities at your doorstep. Eminence of India and realization of opportunities can be harvested by your pro-active participation in the various events of IIW-2011 – Chennai, including the WELD INDIA EXPO – 2011 (the largest global display of welding products and technologies) ever organized in the country) concurrent with other events. I look forward to meeting you, accompanying person and your colleagues (senior and young leaders in Chennai during IIW-2011).

I am confident that you, your accompanying person, and your colleagues shall not miss this unparalleled opportunity important for your career and growth of your organization to reach eminence in true sense of global competitive world.



Baldev Raj
President – Elect, International Institute of Welding
Chairman, International Advisory Committee, IIW-2011