

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT

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Today, industry hails ICC Awards in great esteem. This is mainly because of the very strict procedure of selection. The nominations for all the categories are invited by releasing advertisements in the news papers and journals. Awards Selection Committee is constituted consisting of representatives of Executive Committee of the Council, representatives from Academia, National Laboratories and Industry. The Awards Selection Committee after short-listing the candidates calls the CEOs for discussions. Thereafter site visits are also organized wherever necessary and final selection is made. I would like to briefly review activities of ICC during last one year:

CHEMICAL INDUSTRY

Chemical industry is largest manufacturing industry in the world with turnover of 3 Trillion and employing directly or indirectly more than 20 Million people. Indian chemical industry is ranked 6th largest in the world and 3rd largest in Asia. It is growing annually at over more than 12% which is almost 1½ times growth rate of GDP. Since liberalization the industries' speciality chemical, fine chemical and pharmaceutical sectors have registered significant growth. The exports of chemicals and related products were 24.066 Billion US \$ in 2008-09 amounting to 13.63% of total exports. Industry provides basic raw material to other key industries such as electronics, automobiles, sports, entertainment, aviation, pharma etc. but this is not recognized as it's connectivity to consumer products is not visible.

In spite of the breakthrough changes and developments that have happened in chemical industry, not to forget the immense contribution the industry has made to economies across the world, it continues to be associated with an image that is not very favourable. As you are aware and would agree, the chemical industry has made immense contributions to human life, it is an industry that has given the maximum number of innovations to the world and going forward with increased awareness about the needs

of the people, it is poised to be a key enabler of well being. Does it deserve to be perceived so negatively then?

While individual companies are working towards changing perceptions, it is upon us as an industry body to collectively take this up as a challenge and work towards the improvement of industry image. Some of the key examples have been the launching of a website www.humanouchofchemistry.com by Tata Chemicals Limited is an attempt to create affinity in kids who are next generation stakeholders towards Chemistry and Chemicals. With the economy now much better than what it was a year back, I think it is time now to re-look at some of the initiatives that we started sometime back. 'SPRUCE' (Society for Promoting Responsible Use of Chemicals) was one such initiative and I would urge that we should create a robust program around it.

The year 2011 has been announced as the International year of Chemistry by UN. I would like to see if we can put up committee that can work on a program to commemorate the IYC 2011. I am sure; you shall agree that we need to come together on this all important agenda of sprucing up the industry image.

The Government of India is also supportive and extends all possible help including policy initiatives for healthy growth of chemical industry.

Government of India has set up Task Force under the chairmanship of Mr. Arun Maitra, Member, Planning Commission and Task Force consists of several senior members of the industry. I have also been invited to be member of this Task Force. Terms of Reference includes assessing status of the Indian chemical industry and consider suggestions for National Chemical Policy with a vision for 2020 set goals and suggest strategies to achieve them through actionable programs. I am sure recommendations of the Task Force will long way in ensuring healthy growth of the industry.

INITIATIVES TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL

As mentioned in my 1st year's speech, as a proactive measure ICC has entered into agreement with Ernst & Young for mea-

suring Carbon Footprint, understanding liabilities and prepared for new regulations etc. I am happy to inform you that during the year some companies have taken advantage of this facility and have taken Carbon Footprint and GHG inventory. I appeal to the members to make use of this facility.

ICC has also agreed to cooperate with Bureau of Energy Efficiency for development of baseline energy audit format for baseline energy audit under PAT scheme for Chlor Alkali sector. The format will be developed taking into account the following:

- Complete review of the energy consumption data as reported by the industry to BEE
- Energy performance assessment of sub-systems, sub-processes, major equipments & comparison with design data or performance guaranteed data/ report
- Preparation of a detailed report specifying facts & figures, analysis, if any, technology status, energy consumptions trends etc. It should also highlight the possible improvements in energy savings based on the best available technologies.

PROCESS SAFETY CENTER

ICC has set up Process Safety Center and currently services are provided in following areas:

- Risk Based Process Safety
- Auditing Process Safety Management
- Accident Investigation Methodologies
- Hazard Evaluation Procedures
- Consequence Analysis
- Quantitative Risk Assessment

I am happy to inform you that companies have started using services of Process Safety Center though in small numbers. I would appeal to the interested members to contact ICC Secretariat for utilizing this facility. ICC recently entered into Memorandum of Understanding with Center for Chemical Process Safety (CCPS) for conducting seminars and training courses jointly. I am sure joint efforts will be beneficial to the chemical industry. Recently we have organized 2 programs jointly with CCPS and received

good response.

R&D INITIATIVES

Chemical industry is knowledge based industry and industry is making constant efforts through R&D initiatives for providing world class end products. As mentioned in my last year's speech, ICC is co-operating with TIFAC for understanding R&D requirement of the industry and I understand that report is in final stage and will be shared with the industry during the seminar which ICC and TIFAC are organizing in Mumbai and Hyderabad in the month of November 2010.

SAFE TRANSPORTATION OF CHEMICALS

Industry has taken lot of initiatives on safety related issues and is doing good work on onsite and offsite emergency including conducting mock drills etc. While the industry will have to take steps for process safety, the industry will also have to look for innovative technologies which conserves energy, conserves water, protects environment and is socially acceptable. In this context, I would like to compliment Institute of Chemical Technology (formerly UDCT) for starting M Tech course for green chemistry. The efforts from educational institutions needs to be supported by the industry and I am sure captains of the industry will take note of such developments.

Industry is also trying its best to ensure that chemicals are transported to the customers in a safe manner. In this context I am happy to inform you that ICC has entered into Memorandum of Understanding with the Chemical Distribution Institute, UK for cooperation in the field of safety, security and quality performance of marine transportation and storage for chemical industry. The scope of the agreement includes sharing information on best practice, understanding international legislation for marine transportation and collaborate in publishing perspective reports on Responsible Care in the Supply-chain industries within India.

INDIA CHEM 2010

Department of Chemicals & Petrochem-

icals (DCPC), Government of India and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI), Indian Chemical Council (ICC) with support of other organizations have arranged INDIA CHEM 2010 - 6th International Exhibition & Conference on 28-30 October 2010 at Bombay Exhibition Centre, Goregaon, Mumbai. Hon'ble President of India, Mrs. Pratibha Patil will inaugurate INDIA CHEM 2010. It is a great event for the industry as first citizen of India will be inaugurating and is indeed a matter of great honour. I would appeal to the members to attend inaugural session on 28 October 2010 at Lalit Intercontinental.

CONCLAVE COINCIDING INDIA CHEM 2010

Coinciding INDIA CHEM 2010, ICC is organizing conclave of overseas industry associations and seminar is also being arranged during which experts will share their expertise on topics such as:

- Status of the Indian Chemical Industry
- Upgradation of Skills in the Global Chemical Industry
- Impact of International Treaties on Global Chemical Industry
- Global Trend in R&D in Chemical Industry

Team of International Council of Chemical Association (ICCA) is also attending the event and will interact with the Executive Committee members of ICC for understanding status of Indian chemical industry and to brief about membership criteria for ICCA. I have no doubt in my mind that with so much initiatives taken by the Council on various fronts such as Safety, Health & Environment, Responsible Care, R&D, Indian chemical industry going global and ICC will be member of ICCA.

NOTIFICATION ISSUED BY MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS

Industry is aware about Memorandum issued by Ministry of Environment of Forests dated 13 January 2010 in terms

of which expansion of the existing units in certain clusters have been banned till October 2010 and in Maharashtra, areas at Kalyan-Ambernath, Tarapur and Chandrapur have been identified and Ankleshwar, Vapi in Gujarat are also included. While ICC is not holding any brief for the defaulting companies, ICC wishes to point out that in this process those chemicals manufacturing units who are meeting requirements of statutory bodies and in fact doing much better than even international standards are also affected. I would appeal to MoEF to please consider this decision on case to case basis, this will send positive signal for overseas companies which are interested in investing in India.

During my tenure, we have renovated ICC's Western Regional Office, acquired new premises at Vadodara and Navi Mumbai and started CWC Help Desk at Navi Mumbai, Hyderabad, Chennai and Kolkata. We have completely revamped monthly journal of ICC - CHEMICAL NEWS which I am sure members must have taken note of. ICC's website has been re-launched with special provision for "Discussion Board". We have also set up Process Safety Center. While all these efforts did add value to the ICC services, I am constrained to state that response from the members in terms of advertisement support, sending delegates for the seminars / workshops, commitment to Responsible Care, sending annual RC data etc. has been lukewarm which sometimes is very frustrating. I am aware that support to the Council is of voluntary nature but it is in the interest of the industry that industry must support Council in various activities.

I will be stepping down as President of ICC from this year and I must thank all members of ICC and ICC staff for wholeheartedly supporting me during my tenure and I must mention that I have enjoyed my tenure as a President of ICC. I am now handing over to new President, Mr. R. Parthasarathy who I am sure will take ICC to even greater height for benefit of all the members and chemical industry. I wish him and his team great success.