



116th ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING

Mining, Geological and Metallurgical Institute of India



P M Prasad
President

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Respected Members of MGMI,

It is my privilege to welcome you all to the 116th AGM of this prestigious organization. It is indeed an honour for me to have been the President of a century old institution and I take this opportunity again to thank each and every member.

India completed 75 years of its independence on August 15 and has now entered 'Amrit Kaal' which will last till 2047. This year we have overtaken our colonial masters to become the fifth largest economy of the world.

The period till 2047 will witness a fast growth of economy. Energy and resource requirement will grow and this will significantly increase demand for coal, oil & gas and new age minerals like lithium, rare earths etc.

Energy use and access are strongly correlated with economic development. But the question is how to meet energy demand of the nation. If we talk about energy option of India, it is very limited. Coal-fired power plants contributes about 70% of India's electricity demand. We are highly dependent on import for oil and natural gas. Domestic oil production has declined 21% since 2010-11 and production of natural gas has declined even more by 35%. This is increasing onus on coal to meet energy and resource security of the nation. Coal is available in abundance and has potential to meet energy and infrastructure demand of the nation and domestic coal production has increased substantially in an effort to cope up with the demand.

The mineral requirement for new power generation capacity has increased by 50% since 2010 as low-carbon technologies, like - renewable and nuclear, take a growing share of investment and its demand for clean energy technologies would rise by at least four times by 2040 to meet climate goals. Manufacturing solar panels, wind turbines, and batteries will shape the supply and demand for critical minerals for the foreseeable future. Mining and mineral industry will continue to be of utmost importance.

The time has come to give emphasis on the need of the Circular Economy and is the only way towards the conservation of resources. India's material recycling rate stands at



116th ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING

Mining, Geological and Metallurgical Institute of India

30 %. The rate of recycling to be increased substantially for Aluminum, Copper and Zinc. We must understand that the future of humanity cannot be built on a 'take-make-dispose' model i.e., Linear Economy. Metal sector needs to be at the forefront of the circular economy model in view of its pervasive applications besides the inherent potential of metals to be amenable and adaptable to business models following 6R principles of Reduce, Recycle, Reuse, Recover, Redesign and Remanufacture.

The country is blessed with young population, with cheap and skilled labour. The country has abundant reserves of coal and minerals. It has FDI inflow. If India is poised to grow into a \$5 trillion economy and keep its growth high while generating employment, the Geology, Mining, Metallurgy sector has a big role to play in ensuring energy security and availability of resources while on the other hand, has to reduce carbon footprint. Despite thrust on renewables, coal won't be easy to shake off and industry needs to adopt new technologies to mine scientifically to remain cost competitive and to ensure environmental sustainability.

All these above needs are where we in MGMI come in, and can strive to be the knowledge and skill partner for many of the arms of the government and other likeminded agencies which are dealing with energy and resource security of the country.

The 9th edition of our flagship event, Asian Mining Conference and International Mining Exhibition (9th AMC & IME) organised by MGMI and held concurrently at Kolkata between 4th and 7th April 2022 was an effort to be back to normalcy by being the first such physical event in the Mining Sector organised in India, after the pandemic induced disruptions that started in March 2020. More than 250 professionals from Mining, Oil & Gas, Earth Sciences, Power companies and Educational & Research Organisations participated in the conference and about 180 companies (including 6 international Mining and Mining Equipment companies) related to Mining, Earth Sciences and related fields put up stalls exhibiting their wares in the exhibition. Top government functionaries, and Industry leaders spoke during the conference and several eminent persons presented very interesting and enlightening papers.

With the easing up of life, MGMI also held the pandemic delayed 17th Foundation Day Lecture in July this year by Prof S P Banerjee, our past President and a very respected and eminent Mining Academic and was attended by a full house physically and watched by several members through Youtube Live.



116th ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING

Mining, Geological and Metallurgical Institute of India

Due to the pandemic, some of our Journals could not be published on time, but with the help of our eminent Editorial team, MGMI is trying to make up for the lost time. It is a matter of pride that the quality and contents of the MGMI News Journal are appreciated by the readers and I sincerely hope that they will continue to do so in future. I congratulate the News Journal editorial team led by Shri AK Singh for this and at the same time wish that efforts are made to further improve and enrich the contents of the News Journal for the benefit of the readers and the members.

Though there was a setback due to the last two years of inaction regarding conferences, MGMI is now again in good financial health. As a not-for-profit society, our goal is to organise events that are affordable for members while maintaining the financial strength and flexibility of the Society. Councils have taken great care in managing the Institute's balance sheet and this year was no different. I would specially like to thank the Honorary Secretary Ranajit Talapatra for his efforts to successfully steer the team of very senior committee members who sincerely toiled over 6 months to make the 9th AMC and IME a grand success despite the odds, even having to rework schedules due to relapse of the Omicron variant in January this year, considering the squeezed timeline. The conveners of the Conference and Exhibition, Sri Rajiw Lochan & Sri Prasanta Roy have given yeoman service in tandem with MGMI staff in getting the maximum participation for this event.

The future programme of this institute involves a Holland memorial lecture held with a Half day Seminar and the President's Golf Tournament, other than short courses held in collaboration with other Mining research and Educational institutes, both Indian and International. We were in talks with CSIR-CIMFR as well as the Polish embassy and GIG, Katowice, Poland for organizing trainings in India and abroad. Hope that my successor will carry that forward and the name of this august institute will transcend boundaries in days to come.

I thank the numerous organisations and individuals who have helped to make my tenure gratifying and successful. We look forward to a healthy, safe and sustainable future of mankind and hope that MGMI keeps contributing to that end. It has been my honour to represent MGMI as President in the last two years. I am thankful to the Council members for the trust they reposed in me. I look forward to this institute's continued success under the new President.

JAI HIND