

6th FICCI Quality Systems Excellence Awards for Industry

The Director General of the Bureau OF Indian Standards (BIS), Surina Rajan, on 24th April 2018 underlined the need to evolve and promote quality standards that are realistic and implementable, address technology gaps and skilling issues to make Indian products of world-class quality.

Addressing a FICCI conference on 'Sustainable Industry Growth Through Quality Systems' and presenting the 6th FICCI Quality Systems Excellence Awards for Industry', Rajan said that it was imperative to have standards for both safety and performance and these have to be ingrained in the value system. She lamented that "In our zeal for achieving numbers, we are sacrificing systems that drive performance excellence."

The FICCI Quality Systems Excellence Awards were presented to 11 companies in large, medium and small categories in construction, power, mining and manufacturing along with giving away the Certificate of Appreciation to 17 companies in the three categories.

M S Rajan said that the awards would help in creating a value system and provide



an opportunity to take a re-look at practices that determine excellence in economic activities. She called for expanding the coverage of the awards to micro units which are currently constrained by regulatory burden, high cost of capital and inadequate IT support. The need, therefore, is to develop quality management systems appropriate to tiny industries and evolve standards and efficient practices for them.

In a video message to the participants, Suresh Prabhu, Union Minister for Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, congratulated the award winners and said that quality has to be the cornerstone for all output and realisation of better value for products. He assured the the industry for full support of the government in taking the quality movement forward.

Ajay Shankar, Former Member-

Secretary, National Manufacturing Competitiveness Council (NMCC) said that the ready availability of the methodology, tools and resources give rise to confidence that India had the potential to leapfrog in the quality domain. The need of the hour, he said, was to ensure that the culture of quality percolates to the rank and file as there was no escape from quality if companies were to survive and prosper.

Dilip Cheny, Secretary General, FICCI, said that the objective of the awards was to share the best practices adopted by the awardees from large industries with the MSMEs to help them scale up their operations and expand.

Shyam Bang, Chairman, Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB) & Chairman, FICCI Taskforce on Manufacturing Excellence, pointed out that if India was to emerge as a reliable and quality supplier in international markets, it was important to change the perception of quality to align it with global standards. The awards represented a vehicle for bringing about this change, he added.

Pradip Kumar Mishra NALCO'S New Director (Commercial)

Pradip Kumar Mishra (57) has assumed the office of Director (Commercial) of National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO), a Navratna company, under Ministry of Mines, Govt of India, on 23.4.2018. Prior to this assignment, he was with Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) as Executive Director (Marketing).



in the field of marketing management. During his 35-year tenure in SAIL, he served in various positions, including being the Regional Manager in three regions of SAIL. Mishra is the recipient of the prestigious Jawahar Award for outstanding

contribution in Marketing area in SAIL.

Dr. Tapan Kumar Chand, CMD, NALCO has congratulated Shri Mishra on his appointment to the Board of NALCO and expressed the hope that his rich experience in SAIL Marketing Function, will help in formulating the new marketing strategy under Corporate Plan of NALCO.

A Post Graduate in English literature from Utkal University, Mishra started his professional career as a Management Trainee in SAIL in the year 1983. He brings along rich and varied experiences

Seifsa Encouraged by the Continuous Improvement of the Metals & Engineering Output

The Steel and Engineering Industries Federation of Southern Africa (SEIFSA) is encouraged by the continuous improvement in production in the metals and engineering (M&E) sector, given that this is the third consecutive annual acceleration from January 2018, the Federation said. "The progress shows that local businesses are gradually responding to the generally improving consumer and business confidence, which is characteristic of the Ramaphosa era. Hitherto, the concern had generally been that despite improving sentiments from the start of the year, supply-side data as evidenced by lead economic indicators were still nondescript.