

MTLEXS Successfully Concluded its Maiden Event



MTLEXS' maiden event VISION 2022 for NON-FERROUS METAL INDUSTRY on the theme "Make in India: How to foster Indian demand and supply" was unique in nature. It succeeded in bringing together all non ferrous metal industry leaders on one common platform to deliberate on issues affecting the sector and to explore opportunities and avenues under the government's Make in India campaign. With very healthy attendance of over 150 participants, the event witnessed serious deliberations and achieved its envisaged goal in good measure.

Due to other pressing engagements, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra Shri Devendra Fadnavis and Hon'ble Minister of Industries, Government of Maharashtra, Shri Subhash Desai, could not be physically present at the inauguration function. However, the dignitaries marked their presence with their recorded video messages, whereby they wished the event a great success and showed eagerness to support any industry/cluster scheme that may be planned in Maharashtra.

The event was inaugurated at the hands of Chief Guest Mr. Panneerselvam, Principal Director – MSME, Technology Development Centre, Guest of Honour Mr. Tarvinder Singh Bhasin, Senior Vice Chairman – EEPC INDIA, and other distinguished guests Mr Ramesh Nair, Chairman Executive Officer, Bharat Aluminium Company Ltd, Mr S Nanda, Director (Operations), Hindustan Copper Ltd and Mr. B. Hariharan, Senior General Manager, Ordnance Factory Board, Ambarnath, graced the inaugural session.

Mr. Panneerselvam, in his inaugural address, emphasized the need of forming aluminium/copper clusters in Maharashtra and assured full support of his office. He further stressed on the need to implement national manufacturing competitiveness programme among MSME sector.

Mr. Tarvinder Singh Bhasin spoke about the 60 long years of services rendered by EEPC to the industry, and narrated how it has grown to its current status. He specially mentioned the tireless efforts of our Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi and India's achievement overseas, especially in Europe which he witnessed at the Hannover Messe, Germany, recently.

In his keynote address, Mr. Ramesh Nair shared growth prospects for aluminium and advised to go for value-added activities to be competitive vis-à-vis China. He expressed his desire that the government should promote aluminium parks, and pointed out that the inverse duty structure was a major bottleneck to the Indian aluminium industry.

Mr. S Nanda touched upon importance of role renewable energy sector for growth and also said copper recycling has tremendous scope in India. He too indicated that the inverse duty structure was a major hindrance in the growth of the domestic copper industry.

Mr. B. Hariharan welcomed entrepreneurs to explore opportunities in the defence sector. He mentioned that the defence sector is ready to cooperate with Indian suppliers, as part of the national Make in India campaign. He mentioned that the defence ministry has set a target to double its capacity by 2018—an announcement that was cheerfully welcomed by all present. He however cautioned that defence has many stringent norms in respect of meeting quality requirements.

Mr. L. Pugazenthy and Prof. K S S Murthy, both emphasized on the need to work together to initiate R&D and initiate dialogue with the government to remove inverse duty anomalies. They provided many other valuable inputs for the industry to move forward in the "Make in India" direction.

There were about 150 participants from various companies including BHEL, Vedanta Ltd (formerly Sesa Sterlite), Siemens, Voltas, Indian Air Force, Nalco, Crompton Greaves, ASM Scrap, MTC Group, Janya Extrusions, Al-Mufaddal Impex, Morakhia Copper, Metal Gems, H.T. Makhijani & Associates, Arcotech, Shree Balaji Industries, Mehta Tubes, Borhuka Aluminium, Economic Research India Ltd, Moulin Exports, etc.

Closing the session, Mr. Suneel Mardia expressed his satisfaction at the success of the event. Thanking all dignitaries and participants, he briefed how the platform can be utilized gainfully to deliberate on critical matters in the larger benefit of the non ferrous metal industry.

Mr. Surendra Mardia, Chairman, MTLEXS, extended the vote of thanks.