



FOREWORD

INFACON XI has no doubt earned the distinction as the first such Congress in India. This prestigious occasion could become a reality of a long cherished dream of the Indian Ferroalloy Producers, consumers and exporters. The International Committee of Ferro Alloys (ICFA), South Africa, the august body for organising INFACON, every three years, could be convinced by the Indian Ferro Alloy Producers' Association (IFAPA) to award INFACON (XI) to India.

This Congress, organized by IFAPA, has opened a window for the Ferroalloy Community of India, the upcoming Asian Tiger, to register their strength and weakness to the world forum with the principal objectives of evolving long and short-term optimum road-maps for development. It is to be reckoned that India is poised to be a steel giant by 2020 when it is envisaged that the steel production may reach a level of 120 million tons of which significant proportion has to be in the categories of alloy and special steels, requiring standard and high grade ferroalloys.

Keeping the above objective in view, the theme of this Congress has been rightfully designed as "Innovations in Ferro Alloy Industry." This Congress has also earned a distinction of more than eighty papers, finally selected for inclusion in the Proceedings. More than 100 internationally and nationally reputed experts in the field of ferroalloys (technology and manufacturing practices as well as world scenario) have been approached for critical review of abstracts and selection for the proceedings.

It needs to be mentioned without the cooperation received from ICFA the high standard of INFACON could not have been assured. The papers are suitably grouped under seventeen heads, starting from world situation to production and operation followed by present and future technologies and finally to modelling and simulation. It is a Herculean task to the Technical Committee to fit these papers in proper sequence. The Committee members kept no stone unturned to ensure the cogency with the subject matters and at the same time keeping the flexibility of interests of the participant, especially in the context of three parallel sessions.

The Proceedings containing only refereed papers of high quality, will serve the entire gamut of ferroalloy industry and will also highlight the present status of concerned countries. The areas of attention to make the industries globally competitive and at the same time laying emphasis on the prevailing practices, will help the industry leaders to formulate an appropriate global approach. Following the break-through step, instilled by INFACON XI, the Proceedings will be available both in bound and in searchable electronic CD-ROM format.

I, as the Chairman of the Technical Committee would like to express thanks and high appreciation to all the Committee members for their whole hearted efforts in all respects without which it would not have been possible to complete these proceedings in the scheduled time. Technical Committee desires to place on record their gratitude to Organising Committee for their synergic cooperation all through in successfully executing multifarious tasks, associated with such a grand international technical Congress.

Dr. T.K. Roy

Chairman
INFACON XI Technical Committee