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Issue 2, 2017



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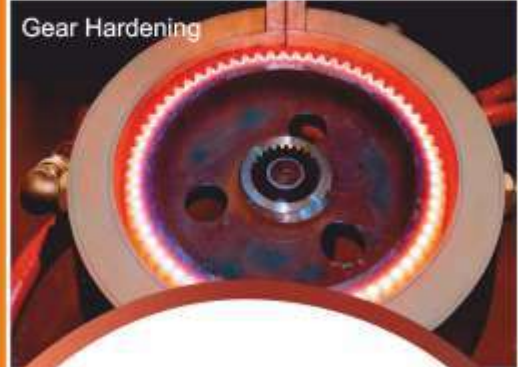
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CONTENTS

1. From the Editor's Desk.....	01
2. New Members.....	02
3. Understanding India's Economic Growth.....	04
4. Increasing Forging Die Life and Reducing Rejections using Protective Coatings.....	10
5. Anti-Profitereing Clause in GST.....	18
6. Tete-a-Tete with Mr. Arun Thandapani.....	22
7. Indian Automobile Industry Scenario- 2016-17: Facts and Figures.....	25
8. Around the World in 2000 Words.....	31
9. Tete-a-Tete with Ms. Silvia Ribeiro deAquino.....	36
10. AIFI Initiatives at a Glance.....	38
11. AIFI Corner.....	40

From the Editor's Desk...



Since the last issue of Focus, so much has changed with respect to the global scenario. France welcomed her youngest President, Emmanuel Jean Macron. Earlier in May 2017, the Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe initiated his controversial plans to revise Japan's pacifist Constitution by 2020. 2017 marked the 70th anniversary of the country's charter, which was enacted during the US occupation of Japan after World War II. Across the ocean, the US President Donald Trump has emerged as the harshest critic of the H-1B visa program apart from taking the internet world on a laughter ride with his most famous tweet 'covfefe'.

And where does India stand amidst all these changes?

India continues to remain the fastest-growing economy in the world despite the fourth-quarter GDP growth slipping down to 6.1 per cent. However, the nation has received the most comprehensive indirect tax reform—the Goods and Services Tax (GST) from 1 July 2017.

The Indian Forging Industry has also embraced GST with a mix of scepticism and hope. Speaking about hope, we are also looking forward to a good monsoon after a poor performance of the automobile industry in the fourth quarter of 2016-17. We can always hope for the best and prepare for the worst!

The Association of Indian Forging Industry has been active with respect to training programmes for its members. After organizing the ZED Awareness Programmes across the regions, the Association organized workshop on “Functionality of GST Mechanism: Road Ahead” in Pune, Rajkot, Chennai, Bengaluru and Ludhiana.

With the objective to provide a common platform for not just the decision-makers but also the machine-runners, it wishes to conduct the first inter-company competition -Forge Premier League 2017-across cities of the Indian Forging Industry. The two-day event would comprise sports as well as cultural and literary events. The first leg of Forge Premier League 2017 would be held in Pune on 15 and 17 August 2017. We look forward to your support and enthusiasm.

Lastly, your Association is launching a new initiative-Vriksharopan Abhiyaan- in an attempt to 'Go Green'. The initiative involves planting of trees across companies on a pan-India basis. Once again, nothing would be possible without your co-operation.

*Shrabana Mukherjee
Assistant Manager
24-June-2017*

