

Welcome Address
By
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Good morning. It is my pleasure to welcome our distinguished guests Mr. Mauskar, Mr. Singh, and Mr. Harvey and ladies and gentlemen:

What I would like to also acknowledge right at the start, wonderful gratitude to Cement Manufacturers Association which has been a keen anchor and sponsor of all the work that we are going to talk about. I would like to provide a context and overview for this Conference. Run up to this Conference, with a lot of important work, that has taken place since 2012 and also re-visit to go for this Conference. So, first I would like to acknowledge a common interest that alternate fuel and raw materials and use of that in the Cement Industry is very, very important and timely. Benefits are various. It reduces the coal usage; it reduces GHG emissions, addresses many of our environmental and societal problems, for example, relating to pollution and so on. It is right now, just a pressing priority for where we are in India.

With the help of CMA, IIP launched multi-stakeholder initiative, as I mentioned, in 2012, with the aim of increasing the thermal substitution rate, through the use of AFR in the cement industry. When this initiative was first launched, with the help of various stakeholders and experts, we developed a strong action plan, with a lot of interaction with different parties involved. And then, with this action plan, we went into a major Conference, as you may recall, in August 2013. That was the first conference we organized. It was a venue for providing this action plan and solicit your responses and feedback; which is what we did. Using all of that, we went into a sort of second phase. With all of the feedback in the last conference, we established national forum of regulators, comprising senior members of the State Pollution Boards and tried to refine recommendations for overcoming the barriers which relate to technology, financing and ultimately

leading up to policy and regulations. This Forum of Regulators, came up with a series of white papers – five in numbers and put together a compendium, that tries to further refine sort of action plan and give specific direction to it. So, the good news was, Central Pollution Control Board of India, CPCB recognized these findings and created a National Task Force of eminent members from the Cement manufacturers as well as some of the key experts. So, this National Task Force on co-processing was launched by CPCB. This compendium of 5 white papers is included in the delegate bag. So, your feedback is most welcome, both during the Conference and subsequently. Feel free to write to us. To take some of these activities further and to understand, maybe, how to finance some of the important projects that would come in the wake of these action plans, we also partnered with the Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs to see if the CSR (Corporate Social Responsibilities) activities, would provide a venue for financing some of these projects, that obviously have lot of social and environmental merit. In March of 2014, last year, we followed up with a virtual Round Table of CEOs from the prominent cement companies and it gave us a great opportunity to have them reiterate their interest and commitment to finding solutions for AFR usage and potentially looking at CSR as an opportunity. A very important milestone we would like to mention is that the Bureau of Energy Efficiency is very engaged. They have decided to form Knowledge Exchange Platform. This is being launched next week on February 26. This is extremely important because this helps peer to peer exchange of best practices and also provides a venue for lessons from international developments and ultimately helps in participating and meeting some of the requirements of the very important Perform, Achieve and Trade (PAT) initiative. I would like to mention that the British High Commission is quite involved in helping in this work as well.

So, we have many achievements. But we still have a long way to go. We want to address many of these different barriers. It is very important to address them in a collective manner, the reasons these remain as barriers, because this requires collective effort. So, this conference provides us a very important link to various key players, for example, for Municipal Solid Waste co-processing, we

would benefit from the participation of Ministry of Urban Development. They have presence here in this conference. The Bureau of Energy Efficiency for mainstreaming AFR activities jointly under the PAT scheme. And the Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs to help us tap into sort of CSR funding scheme.

We very much want to thank you for your presence, hopefully for your strong participation at this conference. We look forward to your feedback. I just want to mention that we in, IIP remain committed to this ongoing process and our thanks to Mr. Viswanathan personally for his strong commitment and leadership in this area.

Thank you.