



डॉ. अरुणा शर्मा, भा.प्र.से.  
Dr. Aruna Sharma, I.A.S.

सचिव  
इस्पात मंत्रालय  
भारत सरकार  
उद्योग भवन, नई दिल्ली-110011

SECRETARY  
MINISTRY OF STEEL  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
UDYOG BHAWAN, NEW DELHI-110011  
TEL.: 23063912 FAX : 23063489  
e-mail :secy-steel@nic.in  
4<sup>th</sup> October, 2017

## MESSAGE

India is currently the third largest producer of steel in the world. However, in spite of the recent slowdown, India is poised to become the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest steel producer in the next 2 years. At present, the per capita steel consumption in India is around 63 kg as against the world average of around 208 kg which justifies higher growth potential. To reach per capita consumption of around 160 kg, India has set an ambitious target of steelmaking capacity of 300 MT by year 2030-31.

For steel making, India adopts different process routes comprising of BOF Route (40% approx. of the total capacity) and Electric Route (60% approx. of the total capacity). The electric route further comprises of Electric Induction Furnace with approx. 31% capacity and Electric Arc Furnace with approx. 29% capacity. India is also the largest producer of sponge iron with a production of around 24 MT (2016-17).

In the growing steel market, the small and medium enterprise units making steel through Electric Induction Furnace route play a vital role. Thus, it is important to mention here that these units need to grow exponentially, inter-alia, in terms of technological innovations, energy efficiency, quality assurance and production efficiency. The widespread footprint of these units across the nation and their agility to produce various profiles of steel within a short time span, with a relatively lower capital, provides a huge potential and tailwind for such Electric Induction Furnace route based units compared to the Integrated steel plants using the conventional BF-BOF route. However, due to inherent challenges, these units need continuous support in terms of technical assistance and capacity building.

I am delighted to know that the **All India Induction Furnaces Association** is organizing a conference on "**Strengthening Green Steel Production: Building Pillars for New India**" on **24<sup>th</sup> November, 2017** at New Delhi. The conference will provide a platform to the various stakeholders in the steel industry, to discuss on issues and opportunities in the sector. I am hopeful that the deliberations will bring the insights needed to drive the steel sector for scaling new heights and work hard for a promising future. The Government is fully committed to provide the best possible support to the industry for ensuring an inclusive growth and better future.

I wish the conference a grand success.

  
(Dr. Aruna Sharma)