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Dear former Presidents, Office Bearers, Council Members, Various Committees, Chapter Representatives and Members

At the outset, let me wish each one of you a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year 2021! Let us resolve to strengthen metallurgy and materials engineering & technology and the related professionals, in the spirit of achieving larger public good. Even in these difficult times, the Institute, led by the Office Bears, the HO and the Chapters, has been working tirelessly to maintain the momentum of its activities with professional approach and zeal, aiming to reach higher levels of performance.

The pandemic brought new challenges before us. But it presented new opportunities to us, making communications faster, bringing chapters closer, and blurring the differences between chapter events and national events. Any Institute is, what its members make of it. I invite all the members to put in their ideas and efforts to take the institute to greater heights in the year to come.

I take this opportunity to give you glimpses into the on-going activities:

With the help of the reconstituted International Relations Committee, we have signed an MOU with GDMB, a prominent nonferrous metallurgical society from Germany, to conduct joint programs in the future, starting this April. More such collaborations are in the offing. (Dr D Banerjee, Dr S V Joshi (University West, Sweden) and Mr Kushal Saha in the lead)

A special issue on 'Design and Manufacturing' will be brought out by Transactions of IIM, in Feb 2021. By doing this, we are sending signals to the design and manufacturing professionals, who are increasingly becoming inseparable from metallurgists and materials engineers, to come in the fold of our Institute. (Dr Sanak Mishra and Dr Jyoti Mazumder (U Michigan) in the lead)

A new Subcommittee on Professional Educational Courses has been formed to conceive and organise courses for working professionals. The next course in the series (together with CII) is slated for later this month. (Dr R Balamuralikrishnan, Dr G Balachandran, Dr Vilas Tathavadar, Dr M M Mahato and Prof Ashish Garg in the lead)

IIM is looking at opportunities to serve Institutions of Eminence, defined by the Ministry of Education, to help build metallurgy programs, where they do not exist. Very soon, an MOU with a prominent IoE will be signed (Prof Sushil Mishra, Prof Asim Tewari in the lead)

A national Symposium on 'New Horizons in Metals, Materials and Manufacturing' was organised by young Council Members (present / past) which attracted large audience. A book with the same title is under publication and will be pre-released during 74th ATM. (Professors Chandan Srivastava, Amber Shrivastava, Amit Arora, Sudhanshu S Singh and Nikhil Dhawan in the lead along with Chief Editor Book Series Dr U Kamachi Mudali)

Digital outreach of the Institute has significantly increased by activating LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook and Instagram handles. Our activities are known quickly and to a wider audience. Many of our programs are streamed live on Youtube. (Prof Sushil Mishra, Prof Amit Arora, Ms Atashi Saha and Ms Tanisha Das in the lead).

A Handbook on Steels is planned (Dr D Bhattacharjee and Dr G Balachandran in the lead).

Students Chapters at NIT Durgapur and NIT Rourkela were launched recently. The IIM Rourkela Chapter has also been revived recently. (Mr S K Basak and Mr P K Dash in the lead). The Baroda Chapter is back with a bang with many programs conducted since its re-start. (Dr Sunil Kahar in the lead)

The Platinum Jubilee Core Committee has planned various activities (Dr Debashish Bhattacharjee, Mr Sudhansu Pathak, Dr Vilas Tathavadkar, Mr Sagar Dhamorikar, Dr R Balamuralikrishnan, Dr M K Jain, Dr Divakar Ramachandran and Dr Anjana Deva along with Mr Kushal Saha in the lead)

IIM Metal News has become more attractive to read and regular in publishing. With the appointment of its new Chief Editor, there is promise to make the awareness magazine more vibrant and up to date with information. (Dr Santanu Ray, Dr N Eswara Prasad, Nabatara Mitra of HO in the lead)

Transactions of the IIM are doing well and are full of original technical articles with greater participation of international authors. The reviews are rigorous, making the journal more respectable in the materials community. (Prof B S Murty and Dr Arup Dasgupta in the lead)

Work is in progress to publish a commemorative volume "Indian Metallurgy: the Platinum Years" planned for release during 75th ATM (Dr S Srikanth, Dr Divakar Ramachandran and Dr SVS Narayanamurty in the lead)

A Platinum Jubilee Logo competition has been announced and entries are coming (Dr Anjana Deva and Ms Atashi Saha in the lead)

An Essay Competition for students will be announced shortly (Mr Sudhansu Pathak and Dr Mita Tarafder in the lead)

IIM HO has subscribed to MS Teams, thus creating a platform for conducting meetings, sharing resources and communicating IIM matters. The possibilities are many. (Kushal Saha, Atashi Saha, Tanisha Das in the lead)

ERP is being implemented at HO. It will be extended to the Chapters so that accounts will be seamlessly merged at the end of the FY. (All at HO)

The Core Organising Committee of NMD ATM 2020 is putting together an ambitious program to be conducted online for the first time in the history (Prof Sushil Mishra and a large team from IITB, BARC, L&T, GRIET taking the lead in association with Chapters at Mumbai, Pune, Nagpur, Baroda, Dolvi and Goa)

The list is partial...as there are innumerable people led by Chapter leaders who are taking IIM to wider areas and deeper corners of the Country.

Thanking you,

With Regards,



**(Amol A. Gokhale)**