

Kimura Casting Training Course Inauguration Ceremony



Dignitaries at the inauguration

Kimura Foundry Co Ltd in collaboration with the Society for Technology and Action for Rural Advancement (TARA) and the Karnataka German Technical Training Institute (KGTI) Bengaluru, inaugurated Kimura Foundry's Casting Training Course laboratory facilities at KGTI-India "A Collaboration between Kimura, KGMSDC and JICA" in association with JICA, E-Square Inc., Japan, and the Karnataka German Multi Skill Development Centre (KGMSDC) Society, India, on Wednesday, 4 October 2023. The purpose of the Inauguration was to present the results of the Feasibility and verification survey in India.

Kimura Foundry, which specialises in full mould casting and which has been in continuous operation in Japan since 1927, initiated its first phase survey of the Indian casting industry in 2019. The survey examined local regulations, production standards and practices, and human resource development in India in preparation for the potential introduction of a local casting course by Kimura Foundry. The development effects of the creation of such a programme were also studied, and numerous interviews were carried out with public and private stakeholders. The current second phase survey involves the implementation of a casting training course at KGTI with the aim of sharing Japanese standards, best practices, and Kimura Foundry's in-depth knowledge with Indian trainees to help promote the advancement of India's own casting industry.

The Inauguration Ceremony witnessed physical and virtual participation of more than 75 stakeholders from India and Japan, mainly from the foundry and related trades, training institutions, academic and research institutions, business/commerce associations, and automotive and ancillary industries.

The dignitaries were presented by Mr B S Raghupathy, Joint Secretary of the Karnataka German Multi Skill Development Centre (KGMSDC) Society, during his welcoming speech. He called on the Honourable Minister of Medical Education and Skill Development, Entrepreneurship and Livelihood, Department Government of Karnataka, Dr Ragapriya R IAS, Commissioner, Department of Industrial Training & Employment (ITE), Govt of Karnataka, Member Secretary KGMSDC, Mr Mitsunori Saito,

Chief Representative, JICA Indian Office, Mr Kazutoshi Kimura, President, Kimura Foundry Co Ltd and Mr Mamoru Mizoguchi, General Manager, International Sales Department, Kimura Foundry Co Ltd.

Dr Sharanaparakash emphasised the significance of skill development aligned with industry demands and technology exchange between Japan and India in his opening remarks. Katsuo Matsumoto, Chief Representative of JICA India Office, highlighted JICA's support for Bengaluru metro's intercity transport and sanitation project and expressed



Guests going through the equipment of the laboratories at KGTTI

high expectations for the casting course's role as a model in the industry. He reaffirmed JICA's commitment to India's growth and fostering joint ventures. Mr Kazutoshi Kimura, President of Kimura Foundry, praised the participants and KGTTI, followed by the distribution of training certificates. Mr Mamoru Mizoguchi presented Kimura's casting industry status, their work, and future plans.

After the talks, a Q&A session was held, with many industry participants expressing interest in Kimura's upcoming foundry in India and the means for knowledge exchange between the two countries. They were also curious about the casting course's connection to job opportunities in the industry. Dr Kumar responded by mentioning ongoing discussions with relevant companies to create employment opportunities and expressed the willingness to collaborate with foundry personnel if specific requirements arise from the sector. The Director of KGTTI concluded the ceremony with closing remarks and vote of thanks.

Overall, the ceremony was conducted successfully with the dissemination of survey findings and the stakeholders validating the need for specialised skilled workers in the casting industry and improvement in the quality of casting products.