

COC 19 - Valedictory Session
Vote of Thanks and Felicitations
1st March, 2019

Dr. Ganpati Shankarling *Chairman, Convention Committee COC 19*, Mr. Jitendra Patel *Co Chairman, Convention Committee*, Mentors Mr. Janak Mehta & Prof. Dr. V. R. Kanetkar, Dignitaries off the Dais, Distinguished Invitees, Ladies & Gentlemen:



All good things come to an end. AND here I am welcoming you to the Valedictory Session of COC 19. We have had 2 very useful learning days and I am grateful to the Convention Committee for having given me, in this Session, privilege of proposing a Vote of Thanks at this 8th edition of COC, and felicitating those who have worked hard not only to make COC 19 a success, but a grand success.

Let me begin with thanks to Dr. Ganapati Shankarling, the Convention Chairman - for his welcome address wherein referring to The Dyestuffs Manufacturers Association of India (DMAI) and Dept. of Dyestuff Technology, ICT (DDT) collaboration to organize these COCs, he stressed on their important role to focus on Research, process intensification for efficient use of resources, and environment. He emphasized that 2 key elements for the growth of the industry were sustainability and innovation.

Thanks to Mr. Jitendra Patel Co Chairman for his address, wherein he reiterated that in keeping with its mission of promoting research and development in the Colorants Industry through various knowledge initiatives, DMAI will continue to take necessary steps - the most significant one being this unique symbol of Industry-Academia partnership - the biennial International Convention on Colorants, that provides insights to the industry in topics relevant for its welfare.

Thanks to Prof. Dr. Kanetkar, who lauding the coming together of the 2 premier institutions - DMAI (*the Apex body of Colorants and intermediates manufactures in India*) and DDT, suggested that besides other relevant research related matters like “*different horizons color molecules are touching*”, this Convention should have unbiased deliberations on Environmental issues, for sustained growth of the industry.

Thanks to Mr. Janak Mehta for his address wherein referring to the birth of COCs, he expressed happiness that this baby now 14 years of age had reached its “adolescence” is on way to maturity, and is playing its crucial role in changing the mindset of the industry and unfolding new directions for its growth and sustainability.

Friends, Mr. P. Raghavendra Rao, Secretary, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Govt. of India, who has indeed been taking keen personal interest in the growth of our industry, was to be our Chief Guest at this Convention. Our thanks to him that though he could not be here due to some urgent matters requiring his presence in Delhi; he had sent his message with wishes for the grand success the this Convention “designed to address the key challenges in Colorant industry, promoting innovations and supporting technology development for overall growth of the colorant industry.

Thanks to Dr. Swaminathan Sivaram, Honorary Professor & INSA Senior Scientist, Indian Institute of Science Education & Research for his spell binding thought provoking key note address on the subject of - The Future of Colours:Arts, Science, Technology and Applications.

Stressing that we should always keep History in mind, he vividly referred to India's heritage of world renowned Indigo and Indian Yellow dyes and the beginnings of Chemical industry with BASF producing Synthetic Indigo in 1897. Reaffirming the beauty of natural Colors, he opined that they can come back, citing that natural indigo that was totally replaced by Synthetic indigo, is today again accounting for over 8 % of its total



production. Talking about Environmental sustainability, he rightly advised that we should go for “Chemistry which is desirable, rather than chemistry that is feasible”, “earn the license to operate from Society”, and “small or big, we certainly do not have the luxury of standing still”. These are words of wisdom; we cannot afford to lose sight of.

Thanks to Guest of Honor: Dr. Raman Ramachandran, Chairman and Managing Director, BASF India Ltd. for dwelling in his address this morning on sustainability, the Central Theme of this Convention. Illustrating with examples of steps taken by BASF (*establishing a supplier code of conduct, joining Global alliance to end plastics, coming together with European Manufacturers to form “Together for sustainability” -TFS, taking effective Steps to reduce Green house emissions and improving energy efficiency, and developing “green” products*); he brought home how climate change and environmental issues, expectations of consumers and stake holders were making it imperative for the industry to work for Sustainability.

For Colorants industry, he emphasized that process intensification renewed raw materials usage and innovation/differentiation were the need of the hour.

Ladies & Gentlemen, the Technical Sessions yesterday & today, saw the cream of Research Scientists & Industry experts, 11 of them, share their Research Work & experiences – covering diverse aspects related to Colorants Industry, the focus areas being - Functional Colorants, Process Development, Aesthetic Colorants and Regulatory Compliance.

In addition to this we had a Panel discussion on “Sustaining Colorant Business in the 21st Century” ably moderated by Mr. Janak Mehta, Chairman Asia Dyestuff Industry Federation, with his in depth knowledge of Colorants Industry eliciting responses from 6 stalwarts - 5 from the Industry and one from the China Dyestuff Industry Association about the future of the industry. It is probably the first time that leading manufacturers from India, China and Taiwan that account for the largest chunk of global Colorants production, expressed their views from a common platform, raising the status of this Convention to a much higher level. The message from the Panel discussion was loud and clear: “Need for change of attitude, adopt Self regulatory measures, reduce waste generation, make the necessary investments in environment, Innovation & new process technologies bearing in mind customers' & society's requirements, nurture human resources and above all communicate and cooperate for overall welfare of the colorants Industry”. *Friends, it is time for us to get determined that many sustainability issues being common for all of us; we would not only just talk about Cooperation, but will “walk the talk”.* The newly formed Asia Dyestuff Industry Federation (ADIF) can here play a catalytic role here.

Ladies & gentlemen, as various Speakers & Session Chairmen have been felicitated in individual Sessions, we now express our sincere thanks jointly to all the Outstanding Speakers from different parts of the World (*China, India, Japan, Russia, Switzerland and Taiwan*) for opening our minds to new ideas in diverse areas in the Colorants field, and Eminent Session Chairmen for very effectively conducting the Sessions, within the prescribed time frame. Let us please give them all a big round of applause.

For arranging this excellent array of Experts, our thanks are due to Prof. Kanetkar, Prof. Bhate & Dr. Shavak Bhumgara from Scientific Committee, Conference Chair Dr. Ganapati Shankarling and Mentor Mr. Janak Mehta, for helping us ensure that COC is an “*on going process to acquire knowledge*”. PLEASE GIVE THEM A BIG HAND.

One of the Highlights of COC 19 was 24 Posters displayed by Students – 22 from Department of Dyestuff Technology, ICT, Mumbai and 2 from Department of Dyes & Pigment Technology, Shroff S.R. Rotary Institute of Chemical Technology, Ankleshwar. Our sincere thanks apart from ICT, to Dr. Anant Desai, Dr. Nilesh Badgujar & Mr. Harshal Patil of SRR ITC Ankleshwar for making this possible. We do hope for a better participation from Ankleshwar next year. The Posters are meant to encourage young & upcoming Color Chemists by giving them a platform to showcase their research work/ideas, and enable delegates/visitors to learn about additional active research areas from different academic institutes/research centers. Research will always be the need of the hour, and I am sure with our students putting in their heart & soul in their work, our dream for Colorants Industry to become a Technology Leader will be realized. After all, this young generation is the future of our Industry & country. PLEASE GIVE THEM A BIG HAND.



During the Poster Session I had an opportunity to interact with some Students, and was impressed with their enthusiasm in showing their work. Preparing these posters is in itself a great learning experience for them from various angles. However, I feel that their work should not just remain on paper, and wherever it appears to have the potential to be upscaled to commercial scale, the Institutes should look into ways & means to bring them to the attention of the Industry. I touched on this point with Dr. Ganpati Shankarling, Prof. Bhate and Dr. Some of DDT last evening, and we in DMAI can consider the possibility of giving some support in this regard.

Friends, Cash Awards are being given, as in the past, for three posters, adjudged as best by the Panel of Judges. All participants will of course be receiving an appropriate Certificate of participation.

1st Prize (Rs. 7,500) – Prashant Ghorpade, *Department of Dyestuff Technology, Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai, India* – Graphene oxide promoted oxidative bromination of anilines and phenols in water

2nd Prize (Rs. 5,000) – Suryapratap Sharma, *Department of Dyestuff Technology, Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai India* - Effect of structural manipulation in hetero-tri-aryl amine donor-based D-A'-p-A sensitizers in dye-sensitized solar cells

3rd Prize (Rs. 2,500) Vidula Kamble, *Department of Dyestuff Technology, Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai, India* - Greener protocol for the synthesis of NIR fluorescent indolenine-based symmetrical squaraine colorants,

Events of this magnitude need large funds, to help cover part of the costs, and we are grateful for their support to:

1. Department of C&P
2. Corporate Sponsors for this event, and would now like to recognize them.

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Thanks are also due to:

- Publication Partner – Colour Publications, particularly their Mr. Rajesh Labde for their proactive involvement & commitment in ensuring that all printing work was well designed & delivered as per very tight time schedules
- Interpreters
- Management and Staff of The Club Andheri for their courteous service, and good food

Friends, now is the time to felicitate COC Mentors, the Convention Committee, Conveners & members of various Organizing Committees - 32 of them & thank DMAI Secretariat (led by Mr. S. Balasundram), who over the last many months, have been toiling hard to ensure that each and every activity related to the Convention was meticulously carried out.

(Felicitation of Committees in Alphabetical order, ending with Prof. V.R. Kanetkar and Mr. Janak Mehta, COC Mentors, who have nurtured COC with utmost care).

Student delegates (68) here for COC 19, I am sure you found this Convention to be very educative and informative. *(Human mind, when stretched by a new idea, never regains its original shape)*. We do look forward to your playing in due course a significant role in the growth of Indian economy in general and the Colorant Industry in particular. *Thanks to Student Volunteers.* PGTBH

Participants: 228 - Delegates (94), Foreign Delegates (42 from China & Taiwan)

Friends, a Chain is only as strong as its individual links, and an Event of this magnitude could not have been possible but for each “link” playing its “part” effectively. I hope I have not missed out thanking some one who has contributed to the success of The Convention, and would beg to be excused, if someone has through oversight been missed.

“Coming together is a beginning, keeping together is progress, working together is success”, said Henry Ford. We in DMAI & ICT are proud of our successful collaboration; and besides regularly holding this Biennial Convention, will continue to work closely for the overall betterment of the Colorants Industry.

Though we have tried our best make this Convention “result oriented”, there is always a scope for improvement. Please do fill up the Feedback Form –which will help us further improve the contents & conduct of the Convention. *(NOT ONLY DELEGATES, BUT ALSO SPEAKERS, SESSION CHAIRMEN AND ORGANISING COMMITTEE MEMBERS).*

Well looking forward to seeing you again at COC 21, I sincerely thank for your patient hearing.

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU – GOOD BYE, ZAIJIAN, SAYONARA & DASVIDANIYA,

VIRENDRA WIDGE

Convener, Publicity & Publication Committee
1st Vice President, DMAI