

**Technical Meeting on “Current Practices & Quality Assurance in Welding”
held on February 19 – 21, 2020 at SRI-AERB, Anupuram**

A Technical Meeting on “Current Practices & Quality Assurance in Welding” was organized by SRI-AERB at the Seminar Hall, SRI Guest House, Anupuram during February 19-21, 2020.

Shri. G. Nageswara Rao, Chairman, AERB inaugurated the technical meeting and delivered the inaugural address. Dr. A.K. Bhaduri, Director, IGCAR, presided over the inaugural function as the Chief Guest and Dr. Kallol Roy, CMD, BHAVINI participated as the Guest of Honour.

Around 70 engineers from the utilities, regulators and research organizations from various DAE units participated in the technical meeting. Sixteen invited talks in six sessions were delivered by speakers from various DAE units, AERB and IITs over two days. Apart from this, a half day visit was arranged to Central Workshop (CW) and Quality Assurance Division (QAD) of IGCAR on the third day for all the participants.

The lectures covered a wide range of topics such as: Overview of welding process, defects in weld and quality assurance, NDE methods for weld qualifications, welding procedure specifications, welding qualification criteria (ASME, RCC-MR etc.), methodology of failure analysis, etc. Recent international trends in welding automation and computer assisted QA methods were also presented and future directions for undertaking related R&D works identified. The meeting concluded with a panel discussion presided by Chairman, AERB and eminent experts from AERB, units of DAE and IIT; bringing out several recommendations and suggestions in the area of quality assurance during welding, weld inspection and repair.

The deliberations in the technical meeting have provided better understanding of the welding process and qualification criteria and also provided several insights for weld defect minimization and improvement of weld reliability, which will further help in improving safety of critical components of NPP. The discussions have also provided the necessary thrust and direction in focusing on future research activities among the participating organizations.

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Shri. G. Nageswara Rao, Chairman AERB delivering the inaugural address



Dignitaries during panel discussion



Dignitaries and delegates at the Technical Meeting