



सीएसआईआर -केंद्रीयविद्युतरसायन अनुसंधान संस्थान
(वैज्ञानिक तथा औद्योगिक अनुसंधान)

कारैकुडी - 630 006, तमिलनाडु, भारत

CSIR – CENTRAL ELECTROCHEMICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE
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निदेशक

Dr. Vijayamohan K. Pillai

Director

Dear friends and colleagues,

As 2016 dawns, bringing with it new challenges, it is my pleasure and privilege to wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year. At the same time, as 2015 closes, I would like to ask you: “How have we performed last year? What in general are signs, if any, of growth or improved quality of life for the staff and students? Are there outstanding individuals who realized their potential irrespective of grade, position, division or work?” Of course, 2015 was an excellent year for us as we did well in many areas including roof-top solar power plant installation, ERP implementation, sewage disposal plant inauguration, Abdul Kalam Auditorium renovation and induction of bright young talents. I would like to thank each one of you for your whole-hearted support and cooperation in making CECRI better in many ways. Similarly, the recently concluded Open RC was a great success. Many of you expressed your honest opinions, which bordered on your strong emotional bond with the institute. A coherent road map was presented thanks to the outstanding leadership in you, both young and old alike. We are also proud of our BTech and PhD students, who continue to demonstrate their talent and creativity. Key recognitions also came by way of publications, patents, awards/honours, technology/know-how transfer and new management initiatives.

The birth of a New Year is also an occasion to contemplate new aspirations and visions—for the institute, CSIR and the country at large. And, as we welcome 2016, we need to reposition ourselves strategically with more focus on innovation. We also need to commit ourselves more strongly to national missions and goals. Our core research and development activities must be clearly aligned with the Dehradun Declaration, and our strengths must be channeled into challenging industrial projects and societal benefits. In particular, our technologies should target national missions such as Swachh Bharat, Swasthya Bharat, Skill India, Smart Cities, Digital India and Namani Ganga.

Our efforts on the strategic sector are moving well although in some cases our complacency turns the outcome somewhat cloudy. We need to translate core competencies for developing entrepreneurship in the small-, medium- and large-scale industrial sectors. I request all to focus more sharply on this so as to generate confidence in the region in terms of social impact. The



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biometric attendance system introduced last year would be upgraded to an Aadhar-enabled one in compliance with the Prime Minister's mandate on BAS. The system would bring more transparency in terms of man-hours and corresponding work output/deliverables. As for recruitment of staff, the first phase of screening for 21 posts of scientists is over; the second phase is in progress.

We, as global leaders in electrochemistry, must spread the word—loud and clear—that solutions to the world's grand challenges are linked to science and technology. Electrochemical science and engineering, as a trans-disciplinary field, is well positioned to tackle small and big problems in areas such as clean energy, affordable health, green environment and sustainability. I urge the CECRI family to embrace the New Year with a determination to work as a team and to converge our expertise for the betterment of the society at large.

Wishing you all once again a wonderful and productive 2016!

Year's end is neither an end nor a beginning but a going on, with all the wisdom that experience can instill in us.

- Hal Borland