

POST SHOW REPORT STONA 2018

STONA 2018 the 13th International Granite and stone fair was held at Bangalore International Exhibition Center, Bangalore from 7th to 10th February 2018

The Fair was conducted in a Gross area of 60,000 sq mts and net area of 31,000 sq mts occupied by 650 exhibitors from India and Abroad. There were country pavilions from Turkey, China, Italy and individual exhibitors from Portugal, Tunisia, Brazil, Germany, Ukraine, Morocco, Oman and other countries. Exhibitors from all over India representing Quarrying, processing, machinery manufacturers, tools & abrasives, Chemicals, Shipping agents, publications related to stone industry, Associations and Federations participated in the fair.

There was participation from State Governments of Karnataka, Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat etc who had their booths.

The Fair was well acclaimed by the exhibitors and visitors and more than 30,000 people visited the fair.

STONA 2018 had a growth of about 40 % in terms of area and participants when compared to the earlier STONA 2016, which is the all time record in any of the stone fairs.

Inauguration

The fair was inaugurated on 7th February 2018, by release of balloons and cutting the ribbon. Sri. Vinay Kulkarni, Hon'ble Minister of Mines, Government of Karnataka attended the programme. On this occasion, Exhibitors Directory and CD were released by the guests.



Sri. Vinay Kulkarni, Hon'ble Minister of Mines, Government of Karnataka and Sri. R. Sekar, President, FIGSI cutting the ribbon.



Dignitaries releasing the Ballon as symboli inauguration of the fair.



Release of Exhibitors Directory an CD by the Chief Guest.

For the first time, the federation had invited Ambassadors of various countries to visit STONA to have first hand information on the Natural stone Industry of India. All the ambassadors were also present on the dais.

After the inauguration, the delegation visited all the halls. And there after Trade meet of the ambassadors was held . Since the stone processing industry is facing sever shortage of raw material, this meeting was organised to explore possibility of getting new materials from across the world.



Trade Potential Meet with Ambassadors of African Countries.

Seminar on Natural stone usage in Environmental Green architecture.

On the morning of 8th February 2018, the above said seminar was organised to educate the budding architects to understand the usage of Natural stones in Green architecture. Mr. Kamal Malik , Padmsree .G.Shankar, Smt. Bhavana Bhat, Mr. Pradep Sachedeva , Sri. Peter Rich addressed and presented their papers. Students from Engineering colleges were invited to attend the seminar to get the guidance from the eminent architects from various parts of India and abroad.



Sri.Kamal Mallik address in the seminar Natural stone usage in Environmental Green architecture.

Natural Stone In the world : Facing the new Challenges.

On the afternoon of 8th February 2018 the above said seminar was conducted under the banner of WONASA –world natural stone Association. The participants included Paulo G Giafarov, DCG, Brazil, Rogerio Moutinho, MGLW, UK and Fernando Bolta, Ceramiche Dautona, Italy . sri Anil Taneja, Editor, Litos, from Spain was the moderator. The Indian industry participated in this seminar to undersand the various challenges faced by the stone industry of the world .

Panel discussion on Government policies for Sustainable quarrying ,environment protection and economic Growth

On the morning of 9th February 2018, a panel discussion on the government policies for sustainable quarrying, environmental protection and economic growth was organised. Officials from Central government Department of Mines and Geology and officers of various state governments also attended the discussion to understand the various government policies on quarrying sector and other issues were deliberated.



Meeting of IMM carrara

On the afternoon of 9th February 2018, Ms. Carolina Meanti , from IMM carrara made presentation on the ensuing marble fair at Carrara during June 2018 and invited the stone fraternity to participate in this fair.

Valedictory Function :

On the morning of 10th February 2018, the valedictory functi0n was held for which Sri. R.C Choudhry, Hon'ble Minister of states for commerce and Industry , Government of India was the chief Guest and Sri. Sidda raghava Rao, Hon'ble Minister of Environment and Forests Government of A.P. and sri. R.V.Sujay Krishna Ranga Rao, Hob'ble Minsiter for Mines and Geology, Government of of A.P were Guest of honour. On this occasion a comprehensive report of stone Industry of India , repared by M/s. Delloitte was released,



Sri. R,Sekar presenting welcome address in the Valedictory function

During the valedictory function the first committee members (founder members) of the FIGSI (EC members of 1983-84) were felicitated and also the pioneers of the Stone Industry of India were also honoured.

As per the tradition of the Federation, various categories of awards were presented during the event.

All the sponsors were also felicitated.

Also to encourage the students to take up geology as a major subject so that the natural stone industry will be in a position to get qualified hands , the federation had selected three candidates who were recommended by their universities and they were presented with a meritorious certificate and cheque for Rs. 25,000/- each.

On the whole STONA 2018 was a grand success and as per the feed back received from the Exhibitors and the visitors, they were in a position to get good exposure and business enquiries during the STONA fair.

The Federation places on record their sincere thanks and appreciations to all the Exhibitors for their participation in STONA 2018 and wish them all the best.