

# 27<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Glass

(Jan 20-24, 2025)



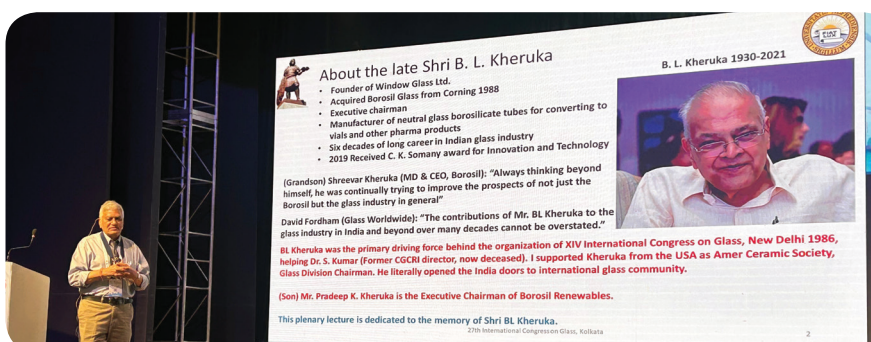
(L to R:) Mr. Sitendu Mandal (ICG 2025 President), Prof. Hiroyuki Inoue (ICG President), Prof. Reinhard Conradt (Past President ICG), Dr. Bikramjit Basu (Director, CGCRI), Honorable Dr. Jitendra Singh (Union Minister of State for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences), Prof. Arun Varshneya (President, Society of Glass Technology), Dr. Manoj Choudhary (Past President ICG), Dr. K. Annapurna (ICG 2025 Program Chair), and Dr. Atiar Rahaman Molla (ICG 2025 Organising Secretary)

After a gap of 39 years in India, the 27<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Glass 2025 was held from Jan 20-24 at Biswa Bangla Convention Center in Kolkata INDIA.

The theme of the Congress was “Glass: A Smart and Indispensable Material for Sustainable Society” and the focus of the ICG 2025 event was on emerging technologies that can catalyze transformations in the use of glass products in various fields.

The Congress was organised by CGCRI and supported by the AIGMF, Indian Ceramic Society and Glazing Society of India.

Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences, graced the inauguration ceremony on Jan 20<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Singh praised the significance of the Glass industry in driving India's future economic growth, while highlighting the need for enhanced collaboration and awareness among







academics, R&D centres, and the private sector.

Addressing the International Congress on Glass organised by CSIR-Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute, the Union Minister of State for Science and Technology and Earth Sciences stressed the growing importance of the recycling industry alongside manufacturing for sustainability.



The event brought together eminent figures from the global glass community. The Congress included several plenary talks, industry presentations, and round table discussions devoted to the theme of the congress, focusing on the contribution of glass in creating a Green World.







Prof. Bikramjit Basu, Director of CSIR-CGCRI, emphasized multiple aims of the Congress significantly benefitting the Indian glass community, encompassing faculty, researchers, students, and industry professionals; Cultivate fruitful collaborations with institutions and Universities globally, focusing on cutting-edge research, development, and futuristic applications.



In conjunction with the main Congress, the 3<sup>rd</sup> ICG-CGCRI Tutorial on Glass was conducted from Jan 17- 19, 2025, facilitating knowledge exchange and skill enhancement.

The Glass Congress, a triennial event organized by the International Commission on Glass (ICG), serves as a pivotal platform for the global







Dr. K Annapurna, Chief Scientist CSIR-CGCRI and Member Editorial Board of KANCH formally handed over the AIGMF's C K Somany Award for Excellence 2024 to Dr. Manoj Choudhary at the ICG 2025 Meet at Kolkata where he also delivered the 1<sup>st</sup> C K Somany Memorial Lecture as part of the overall ICG proceedings. The prestigious annual award was originally conferred to Dr. Manoj Choudhary, Former President of the International Commission on Glass at the Hybrid Annual General Meeting of the AIGMF held on Sept 30, 2024. Dr. Choudhary is a fellow of the American Ceramic Society and the Society of Glass Technology and an Academician of the World Academy of Ceramics. His close and friendly association with India is certainly a boost for the Indian Glass Industry to benefit the most in forms of latest technology knowhow, expertise; and in the fields of research, innovation, etc.



glass community to exchange ideas, knowledge, and experiences.

Hosted by member countries, this prestigious event aims to address critical challenges and explore promising opportunities within the field of glass technology; Provide invaluable benefits to India's glass community, including faculty,

researchers, students, and industry professionals; Foster collaborations with renowned institutions and universities worldwide, focusing on cutting-edge research, development, and futuristic applications.

The conference featured 12 symposia covering a diverse range of topics within glass science and technology.



Archives

Dr. K Annapurna (right) of CGCRI receiving C K Somany Award for Excellence 2024 from the Former President AIGMF Mr. Sanjay Somany (left) on behalf of Dr. Manoj Choudhary which will be presented to Dr. Choudhary at the ICG 2025 meet in Jan at Kolkata



A major highlight of the event was a mega exposition showcasing innovative products and technologies from leading glass companies, research institutions and professional societies worldwide. Approximately 15 exhibitors participated.

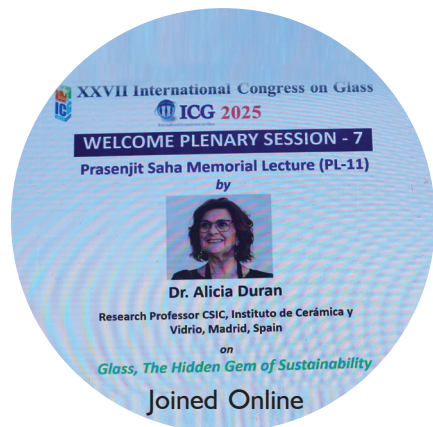
The Congress hosted over 500 delegates, including 150 international participants from 20 countries. The distinguished attendees included







marking the first time in UN history that a material has been honoured in this way. Glass's potential to address pressing global issues, including climate change, highlights its importance in sustainable development.



eminent researchers, academicians, industry leaders, young faculty members, and students. The event featured 11 Plenary Speakers, 22 Keynote Speakers, and 94 Invited Speakers, who contributed through insightful presentations and discussions. Furthermore, there were around 140 poster presentations and 111 contributory presentations.

Glass is widely regarded as a transformative material, contributing to approximately 11 of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set by the United Nations. Recognizing its critical role in human progress, the United Nations General Assembly declared 2022 as the International Year of Glass,

A large degree of success of the ICG 2025 Kolkata could be ascribed to an incredible number of conference sponsorships received. Each sponsor was thanked for the same. The Conference Banquet January 20 aboard cruise boat the Ganges Queen was sponsored by Türkiye Sisecam. The fundraising Chair, Prof. Arun Varshneya thanked Dr. Ilkay







Sokmen of Sisecam for this generous sponsorship and sang a song to her from the 1951 movie "Aawara" marking the birth centennial of late Mr. Raj Kapoor (an Indian actor, film director and producer, who worked in Hindi cinema).

Conference dinner on January 21<sup>st</sup> evening was sponsored by AGC. Dr. Akio Koike of AGC USA congratulated Prof. Arun & Mrs. Darshana Varshneya on their 51<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary. The Bengali classical cultural program in the memory of Ustad Zakir Hussain, a highlight, January 21<sup>st</sup> featuring Pandit Kaushal Das, Pandit Samar Saha, and Mr. Vishal Krishna was sponsored by Saxon Glass Technologies, Alfred NY.

Lunches (all 5) were sponsored by Saint-Gobain, Borosil Renewables, Horn Glass Industries, Furnotherm, and Gold Plus Glass Industry Ltd.

Sponsors of other events were: Hindalco, Asahi India Glass Ltd, Corning India, Hindustan Platinum, Nippon Electric Glass (NEG), Planet Ceramica Pvt. Ltd., Schott India, AGI Greenpac, Glass Power Group, Anton Paar, LabIndia Instruments Pvt. Ltd., SD Logistics Pvt. Ltd., Tempsens Instruments Pvt. Ltd., ThermoFisher Scientific, Glass Service Company (Czech Republic), F-I-C UK Ltd.,

Refsol Marketing Pvt. Ltd., the American Ceramic Society, and the Society of Glass Technology.

The support of Dr. Bikramjit Basu, the CGCRI Director, Mr. Sitendu Mandal, the Congress President, Dr. K Annapurna, the Program Chair, and Dr. Atiar Rahaman Molla, Organising Secretary was commendable in the overall success of the Congress.



AIGMF was allocated a stall that provided an ideal platform to interact with stakeholders, students, research scholars, glass technologists and participants from various glass



related institutions and companies. The students in particular were welcomed with open arms and were even gifted calendar glass bottles and literature on the glass industry news and developments. They were even invited to share ideas on glass promotion by also participating in the annual Youth contests organised by the AIGMF, which offer cash prizes as a direct motivation seeking Youth



participation. Several student groups requested for arranging special talks at their institutes which would be planned in future in tie up with the International Commission on Glass and The All India Glass Manufacturers' Federation ■

Select photos of the event are available at <https://aigmf.com/past-events.php>

