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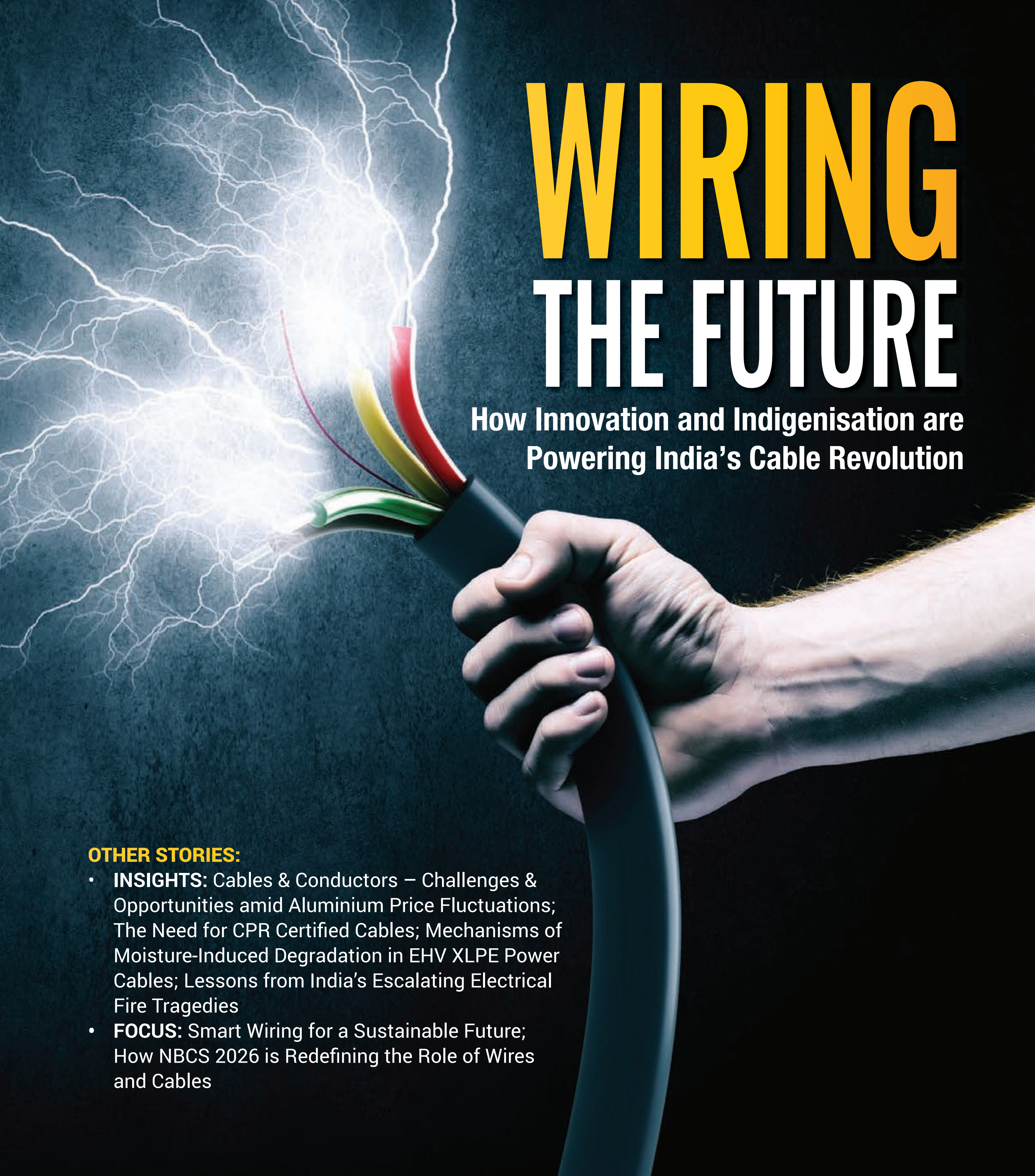

WIRING THE FUTURE

How Innovation and Indigenisation are Powering India's Cable Revolution

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Dear Readers,

India's industrial output surged to a 23-month high of 7.3 percent in June, fuelled by a 7.8 percent rise in manufacturing and a 10.6 percent jump in power output, majorly driven by electrical equipment, autos, and capital goods. Index of industrial production (IIP) grew at 5.1 percent in June, determined by strong performances of 7.8 percent growth in manufacturing and 10.6 percent in electricity and gas supply. Electrical equipment powered this growth witnessing a 34 percent jump, with switchgear, circuit breakers, UPS systems, and meter panels driving demand. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the electrical and electrical equipment manufacturing industries for this robust growth and strengthening our trust in India's growth story.

India's electrical equipment production is projected to scale from USD 50 billion to over USD 195 billion by 2035, driven by an annual growth rate of 11-13 percent that will triple domestic consumption to over USD 170 billion, according to a joint report by McKinsey and IEEMA. This expansion will simultaneously reduce import dependence by half and grow exports to more than USD 60 billion.

Driven by surging demand and expanding opportunities, India's electrical and electronics equipment sector is witnessing substantial, unprecedented investments. IEEMA estimates that the industry is poised for USD 500 billion in investments by 2032.

While the industry is ramping up investments in anticipation of robust demand from the domestic and global markets, we see limited investments towards R&D. The Indian industry's R&D is a fraction of global comparison, and this must be enhanced if we must become a global leader. I encourage our members to continue ramping up investments in R&D as well as building capacity.

IEEMA is also focused at ensuring that industry expands its global footprint and grow the pie in newer geographies. We are taking tangible steps in this direction by leading focused industry delegations to various markets. We are also working on setting up a trade facilitation centre and international office.

While the demand remains buoyant, Indian manufacturers remain dependent on imported critical components and raw materials. A case in point is the transformer segment that exemplifies this vulnerability – currently, only 25 percent of India's cold-rolled grain-oriented (CRGO) steel requirement is met domestically, leaving the sector reliant on imports. Given the growth in the power transformer industry, the consumption of CRGO has and will continue to surge. IEEMA is actively engaging with the government on the anti-dumping duty investigation concerning CRGO imports and the timely renewal of BIS licences for overseas CRGO steel mills to safeguard supply continuity and prevent disruptions to the manufacturing ecosystem.

We have always encouraged our members to continue focusing on localisation, which can lead to both economic and strategic gains across the electrical equipment value chain. We have a significant opportunity to build indigenous capabilities in critical systems such as cable technologies, specialised cable accessories, and critical components to further enhance supply chain resilience.

That brings me to this edition of IEEMA Journal, which explores the countless opportunities for innovation, indigenisation, and global ambitions for the cables and wires segment in India. The Rs900 billion market is already seeing a structural 11-13 CAGR growth. With this comes an even bigger responsibility – avoiding the risk of electrical fire incidents by using materials of higher standards in our electrical systems. We as an industry need to advocate the adoption of adequate fire safety measures that comply with a safer evolving electrical landscape. Do check this edition for a deep dive in this segment.

Finally, bookings for the 17th edition of ELECRAMA 2027 are officially open, and we have received an unprecedented response. To accommodate this surge in demand, we have added new halls to make sure maximum industry participation. Stay connected to learn more as excitement builds for the upcoming event.

VIKRAM GANDOTRA

Dear Readers,

India's industrial sector is demonstrating robust momentum, with the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) clocking a growth of 5.1 percent in June. This surge comes on the back of strong performance in the manufacturing and electricity generation segments. Manufacturing, which carries the heaviest weight in the index, grew 7.8 percent, while electricity and gas supply saw a 10.6 percent expansion. Within electricity, generation from renewables grew 7.3 percent and 13 percent from non-renewable sources. Electrical equipment led the pack with a 34 percent jump, powered by strong demand for switchgear, circuit breakers, UPS systems, and meter panels. These figures reflect a structural shift in domestic manufacturing and highlight sustained capital formation across both public and private sectors.

The integration of massive energy demand and progressive grid expansions is creating a powerful multiplier effect, positioning electrical manufacturing as a foundation of India's long-term industrial ambitions. To meet this momentum, the industry is maintaining a robust investment pipeline pegged at USD 500 billion by 2032 and a scale-up of up to USD 2 trillion by 2047. Buoyed by a strong manufacturing push and a robust investment pipeline, the sector is well-positioned to capitalise on demand in both domestic and international markets.

In line with our vision to expand the industry's global footprint, IEEMA hosted an exclusive session with Dr. Kgosientsho Ramokgopa, Hon'ble Minister of Electricity and Energy, Republic of South Africa; H.E. Cedrick C. Crowley, Deputy High Commissioner of South Africa; and other members of the South African delegation. With South Africa's energy sector undergoing a major transformation, it offers significant opportunities for partnerships with Indian EPC companies, engineering firms, and equipment manufacturers. To take this forward, IEEMA and the South African delegation will get into a more structured dialogue in June 2027, when a larger business delegation from South Africa will be visiting India. The Hon'ble Minister of Electricity and Energy, Republic of South Africa, also agreed to visit ELECRAMA 2027 with a larger business delegation.

As for ELECRAMA, I am delighted to share that we have received an exceptionally overwhelming demand for space in ELECRAMA 2027. To cater to this demand, IEEMA has added new halls. You can check the new layout with addition of space on our official website. Our team will continue to host a series of webinars to explain the changes.

On July 30, we concluded the ElectraNorth 2026, a flagship platform catering to the industry based in the Northern region. The programme registered good participation from the government and industry and addressed themes around growth of the industry in the region and its drivers.

On August 5-6, we have E3 – Energise Empower East – in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, that will feature conferences, buyer-seller meets, and an exhibition. It will cover energy collaborations in a wide range of sectors, including battery storage, minerals, mining, port, oil and gas, cement, data centres, metals, railways, and more. I urge our friends from the East to make the best use of this platform, which will host industry leaders, emerging technologies, and endless opportunities.

This edition of the IEEMA Journal on Cables and Wires highlights a pivotal shift; fuelled by robust domestic and international demand, the sector is primed to aggressively scale indigenisation and local manufacturing. As Indian manufacturers secure key international certifications and grow their export footprints, stricter domestic safety norms are driving rapid adoption of fire-survival and low-smoke zero-halogen cables.

Stay tuned to know about this power packed month and all the upcoming action.

CHARU MATHUR