



# The All India Glass Manufacturers' Federation

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## Youth and Industry get-together to celebrate International Year of Glass 2022

### Awards given to Students and Glass Manufacturers



**Sept 3, 2022, DELHI:** As part of the celebrations for the International Year of Glass (IYOG 2022) an Industry meet was organised at its Annual General Meeting at Hotel Lemon Tree, Aerocity, DELHI where NTPC's Mr. DMR Panda, Head of Hydrogen Group and Planning Head of Renewable Business gave a presentation on Green Hydrogen Economy: Options for Indian Glass Manufacturers.

Mr. Panda highlighted that *"the Indian glass manufacturing industry can position itself as a low-cost, zero-carbon green hydrogen manufacturing hub which can help to achieve India's Net Zero target. As always, the Indian glass manufacturing industry lead by examples, it can be one of the early movers in the green hydrogen space and set an example for all MSMEs/hard-to-abate sectors."*

The program provided an excellent opportunity for The All India Glass Manufacturers Federation (AIGMF) to honour Youth of the country who participated from schools and colleges across India in its annual contest for Youth: 1<sup>st</sup> Poem / Essay Writing Contest on 'Green as Glass' or कांच और पर्यावरण coinciding with the International Youth Day on August 12, 2022. Online entries were invited from the age group between 7-24 wherein over 2,000 entries were received from educational institutes and youth across India.

Former Presidents- Mr. Sanjay Somany & CMD Hindustan National Glass & Industries Ltd.; and Mr. S C Bansal, CMD Adarsh Kanch Udyog Pvt. Ltd., were jury members who judged top 3 entries:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize (Rs. 25,000) was given to Akshita Tejwani aged 14 years, 10<sup>th</sup> class student of Maharani Gayatri Devi Girls School, Jaipur
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize (Rs. 15,000) was given to R. Shruthi aged 15 years, 10<sup>th</sup> class student of Jawahar Vidyalaya Senior Secondary School, Chennai
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize (Rs. 10,000) was given to Kanishk Sharma aged 16 years, 11<sup>th</sup> class student of Ajanta Public School, Gurugram (Haryana)

Winning entries may be viewed at: [www.aigmf.com](http://www.aigmf.com)

Former President Mr. Sanjay Somany gave the prestigious annual '**CK Somany Award for Innovation and Technology**' to Mr. Eric L'Heureux- Managing Director, Schott Poonawalla Pvt. Ltd. The '**Balkrishna Gupta Award for Exports**' was bestowed to M/s Schott Poonawalla Pvt. Ltd., by the Former President, Mr. Pradeep Gupta. Both awards are supported by Glass Worldwide, preferred international journal of the AIGMF in association with Kanch.

Mr. Eric L'Heureux, who joined Schott as a QA Manager at Schott Belgium in 1992, went on to become the Technical Director at Schott Indonesia in 1998, and was appointed the President Director of Schott Indonesia in 2001. He also served as the Managing Director of Schott Hungary and was responsible for operations of 2 plants in France from 2006 until 2009. In 2009, he was appointed as Vice President Asia operations.

Mr. L'Heureux's main contributions towards expansion of operations within the glass pharmaceutical packaging at Schott Poonawalla in India since 2011 are: Started operations at the state-of-the-art plant at Jambusar (Gujarat) with 20 ampoule lines and 16 vial lines having a total output of more than 3 million pcs per day; Completed first upgrade of forming and inspection technology at Jambusar plant; Roll-out of cosmeIQ inspection system (100% camera inspection system for cosmetic parameters) in Jambusar plant; Expansion of module 2 and 3 at Jambusar plant thereby enhancing capacities to over 3 billion containers per annum. He has been instrumental in starting and stabilizing the operations at the Greenfield plant at Umarsadi (Gujarat) for pre-fillable syringes, cartridges and sterile RTF products.



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Under Mr. L'Heureux's guidance, Schott Poonawalla today has 4 state-of-the-art manufacturing units in Daman, Jambusar, Umarsadi and Baddi in India that produce an entire range of products including, bulk vials and ampoules, specialty vials and ampoules, siliconized vials, siliconized cartridges and Ready-to-Fill (RTF) vials and cartridges, siliconized pre-crimped RTF nested cartridges, sterile nested vials and an entire range of pre-fillable syringes.

As the world health safety concerns soared during the COVID-19 pandemic, Schott Poonawalla has been the supplier of vials for COVID-19 vaccines, not only for India but also supported the global vaccination drive by exporting substantial quantum of vials across the globe including Europe, USA, Russia and South Africa. The company successfully contributed towards 4.3 billion doses of COVID-19 vaccines globally, through supply of vials, out of which 3 billion doses were provided for India and 1.3 billion doses were provided for the global market.

The jury for Industry awards comprised of Dr. K. Annapurna, Chief Scientist, Glass Division, CSIR-Central Glass & Ceramic Research Institute (CSIR-CGCRI); Mr. Dave Fordham, Publisher, Glass Worldwide, London (UK); Mr. Sanjay Somany, Former President AIGMF and CMD HNG Industries Ltd.; Mr. P K Kheruka, Former President AIGMF and Chairman Borosil Ltd. and Mr. Vinit Kapur, Secretary AIGMF.

*"At the outset, I am honoured to be part of Jury for AIGMF glass awards 2022. I heartily congratulate Mr. Eric L'Heureux, MD, Schott Poonawalla Pvt. Ltd. for winning the prestigious C. K. Somany Award for innovation and technology with his splendid contribution in innovative technology implementations at Schott Poonawalla Pvt. Ltd. such that to meet the demand for glass packaging for pharmaceuticals at the need of the hour like COVID-19 pandemic. For this reason, again, M/s Schott Poonawalla Pvt. Ltd. had proved itself suitable to be bestowed with the Balakrishna Award for its exceptional exports in the last year. Kudos to M/s Schott Poonawalla Pvt. Ltd."* said Dr. K. Annapurna, Chief Scientist, CSIR- Central Glass & Ceramics Research Institute, Kolkata.

*"It is very fitting that Mr. Eric L'Heureux should receive recognition on the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of him joining Schott because his vast experience across many of the company's global operations led to the recent success story at Schott Poonawalla. Mr L'Heureux's achievements in overseeing the remarkable growth and accomplishments of the Indian operations over the last decade make him a very worthy winner of the prestigious C K Somany Award and Glass Worldwide sends sincere congratulations. Having been a front runner in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic by providing pharmaceutical glass for primary packaging to fill so many vaccines worldwide also fully justify Schott as the recipient of this year's sister award, the Balkrishna Gupta Award for Exports. It is an honour to be part of the judging process and we look forward to publishing an exclusive interview about Eric L'Heureux and Schott-Poonawalla in a future issue of Glass Worldwide and Kanch."* said Mr. Dave Fordham, Publisher, Glass Worldwide, London (UK).

Thanking AIGMF and the jury for industry awards, Mr. L'Heureux said, *"2022 being the International Year of Glass, it is a huge honour to receive the prestigious C. K. Somany Award for innovation and technology and the Balkrishna Gupta Award during this particular year. At Schott Poonawalla, we continuously invest in innovation and cutting-edge technology, not just to meet the needs of our customers, but better them. It is the collective effort and genius of all my teams that drive us forward to meet industry demands, even during challenging times like COVID-19 pandemic. I look forward to everything we can accomplish together in the years ahead."*

*As a token of appreciation, Top 250 entries of Poem/Essay contest will get a specially designed 2022 Calendar Glass Bottle made out of recycled glass (specially manufactured by AGI GLASPAC, official main partner for IYOG 2022 Indian activities) carrying logos of International Year of Glass 2022.*

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### About The All India Glass Manufacturers' Federation (AIGMF)

*As the National Apex Body of the Glass Industry, the AIGMF undertakes socially responsible steps as a voluntary service to society, thereby bringing increased awareness of Glass being a safe and 100% recyclable building and packaging material.*

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