



---

## CAN INDIAN COMPOSITES INDUSTRY TAKE THE CHALLENGE OF EXPORT?

---

We have reproduced in this issue of FRP TODAY an article by Mr. S. Sundaram from our Asian special edition that was made to coincide with the JEC Singapore Show. This article presents a review of how the composites industry is developing in various regions. Mr. Sundaram says that by the year 2015, about 50% of the world production of composites will be in the Asian region and China will be spearheading this growth accounting almost 60 to 70% of the Asian production.

By that time, India can at the most produce at the current growth rate about 600,000 Tonnes per annum of composites. This can be about 5% of the world production and about 10% of the production in Asian region. While the growth appears impressive, it is not sufficient for a country like India with huge middle class population having excellent buying capacity. The composites produced may be just enough to meet the internal demand. While China exports almost 35% of the composites and the raw materials they produce, India's export looks almost negligible.

India needs to achieve a good amount of export both for the global integration of this industry and for the up-gradation of product quality. There is a remarkable change in the industrial environment of composites manufacturers who export their products. It is a welcome change. To achieve this growth rate, the composites industry has to look for all round developments in technology, raw material production and productivity. This is the challenge the Indian composites industry and fraternity have to take head on.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N.G. Nair'.

**Dr. N.G. NAIR**  
Honorary Editor