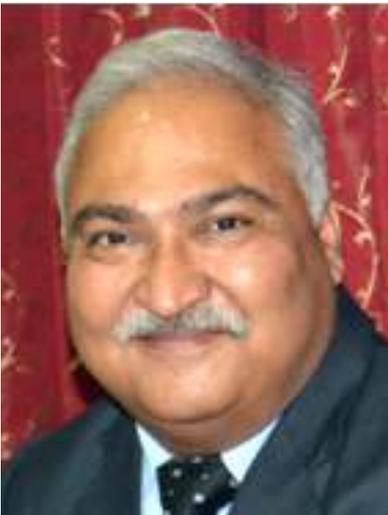


# MIDHANI Identifies Several Growth Areas - Dr. Dinesh Kumar Likhi



**M**ishra Dhatu Nigam Limited (MIDHANI), a government of India enterprises was set up in 1976 at Hyderabad with the objective of providing the nation self reliance in strategic materials. For over three decades now, MIDHANI has been handling challenging tasks of developing alloys, taking a lead position in indigenisation of critical technologies and products to render

support to several programmes of national importance and hi-tech segments of India industry.

Growth of high technology industries is invariably interlinked with availability of special materials. Aeronautics, space, Atomic Energy, Armament, Power & General Engineering Industries has attained a high level of technical perfection which has in turn dictated stringent quality requirement on the materials.

The company has now started offering its core competence of developing and manufacturing custom made alloys to suit the specific requirements of customers for their critical applications.

**Dr. Dinesh Kumar Likhi** has taken over as **Chairman and Managing Director of MIDHANI**, a Super alloys Company under the Ministry of Defence since 2015. He is a gold medalist in Engineering from IIT Roorkee and obtained his Masters in Engineering from NIT Rourkela, PG Diploma in Management from AIMA, MBA from the Maastricht School of Management, The Netherlands and PhD from IIT Delhi.

He started his career with Escorts Tractor Ltd., Faridabad in 1981, worked for Steel Authority of India Limited (at Rourkela Steel Plant, in Production/Operation/Process control, and

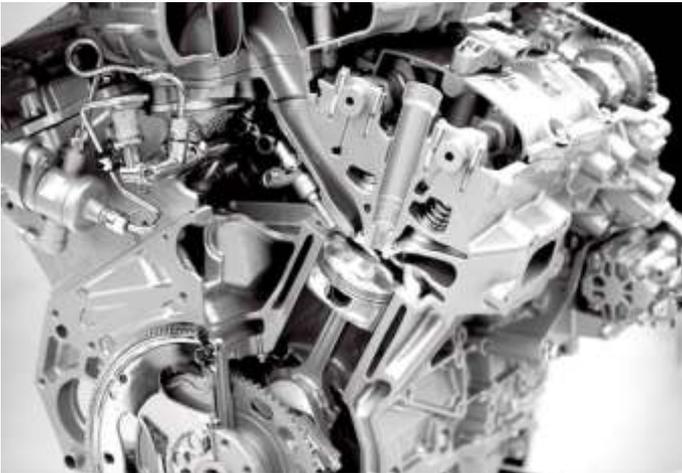
corporate office of SAIL (Delhi) for more than 31 years and is currently working for MIDHANI since the last five years. He has wide experience in automobile, steel and special alloys Industries.

He is also a Director, Andhra Pradesh Gas Power Corporation Ltd (APGPCL), Member Technical Oversight Committee (TOC), Member National Material Policy, Member Gas Turbine Research Establishment (GTRE), Member on the Governing Council of International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials (ARCI) & Member Materials for Hypersonic Vehicles (Hypermat)

He is a life member of Indian Institute of Metals, National Institute of Personnel Management, Indian Institute of Materials Management and Global Institute of Flexible system, Management. His areas of interest are formulating and implementing strategy and leading strategic and HR interventions around core and critical processes in mining and metal industry.

He has published more than 30 articles in areas of technology and management and developed more than 10 steel products for higher-end markets. He has been awarded the Jawahar Award for Outstanding PSU Executive in 1995, Group Awards for his contribution in turnaround of SAIL, preparing growth plan for SAIL new business development projects. In addition, he has been recipient of Netherland Government Fellowship award in 1999 and Leadership Award in Technology and Management in 2013 by Lion Engineers & Architects Forum, AK Rao Memorial Award in 2015, UdyogRatan Award in 2016 & National Metallurgist Award 2016 – Industry (2016).

He has international exposure through business relationship with Organisations/Individuals of more than 50 countries. Speaking to **Sanjay Singh, Associate Editor of Steelworld**, he says that MIDHANI has identified several growth areas to meet the future requirements of the defence sector. Excerpts



**MIDHANI is into production of special materials for critical sectors. How do you see the growth of this sector in the coming decade ?**

- The role of MIDHANI as part of the National mission is to enhance self reliance in manufacture of high quality special steels, super alloys and titanium alloys for critical sectors and continue to be the material solution provider. The demand for these alloys has substantially increased over the years especially in the Defence, Space and Power sectors. This increase is due to the commercialization of Satellite launching programmes, production of various missiles by DRDO, expansion of Power plants etc.

**India is becoming self reliant in indigenous production of raw materials to meets its requirements for the Defence sector. What important role is MIDHANI playing to meets its requirements ?**

- MIDHANI plans to foray its bulk production activities into import substitution products through hybridization of home grown technologies with acquired knowledge of domestic/overseas sources. MIDHANI has identified several growth areas to meet the future requirements of the Defence sector.

**Can you give details about the various products manufactured by the PSU ?**

A MIDHANI manufactures Superalloys, Titanium Alloys, Special steels, Magnetic alloys in various forms like cast ingots, forgings, hot rolled and cold rolled rods, wire, sheets and strips and near net shapes. It also manufactures investment castings, industrial fasteners, bio medical implants etc.

**Can you give a brief update on the**

**production of special steel and its various grades and what percentage it contributes to its total production?**

- MIDHANI's strength lies in its special melting processes under one roof. Arc and Vacuum Induction Melting for primary melting, ESR, VIR and VAR for secondary melting are employed which yield in high quality grades having low gas levels, reduced inclusions thereby giving clean steels required for critical applications. Prominent steel grades of MIDHANI include ultra pure high strength

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martensitic steels, precipitation hardening, ferritic, austenitic and martensitic steels. Special steels contribute to about 77% of total MIDHANI production, the rest being of Titanium and Superalloys.

**What is the PSU contribution to the growth of nation in manufacturing special metals and superalloys ?**

- MIDHANI has contributed immensely to various national programmes of ISRO, DRDO, Navy, HAL and Ordnance Factories. Several variants of special steels for ISRO and DRDO,

Navy and Ordnance Factories are input raw material need special mention amongst the various other supplies made which are import substitute products thereby saving precious foreign exchange.

**Can you brief on MIDHANI growth strategy for the coming years, and what are the expansions planned in the near future ?**

- MIDHANI has embarked on a growth plan of becoming a Schedule A Company by 2021 and Navaratna by 2026 The strategy of MIDHANI for this growth shall be a blend of various development programmes which are under finalization. Some of the prominent areas are:

- Customer Diversification: Foray into new markets of Railways, Automobile, Oil & Gas and Chemical Sectors.
- **Technology** : For armour, 3D manufacturing, Close die forgings, investment castings.
- **Alloy Development** : (a) Al-AIL Alloys, (b) Tungsten Powder, (c) Carbon Fibers and Composites.

**How has the PSU performed financially for FY 2015-16 and what growth you expect in percentage terms for coming years ?**

- MIDHANI has been on a consistence growth path in terms of production and sales turnover since 2008. In the year 2015-16, MIDHANI achieved sales turnover of Rs.760 Cr registering a PAT of Rs. 120 Cr.

It is expected that MIDHANI will achieve a turnover of Rs.1500 Cr by 2020 and about Rs.4000 Cr by 2025. This will be achieved through flexible and pragmatic policy/strategies for production, sales and pricing of products.