

Message from Chairman

Dear NIQR Members, It is my great pleasure to present the latest edition of the NIQR Chennai Branch's third-quarter newsletter.

I am proud to report that the past three months have been focused on building capabilities and driving continuous improvement to meet future challenges. NIQR participated in a Technology Expo at Thirumudivakkam Industrial Estate, where we connected with industry leaders and promoted quality, reliability, and excellence.

We also provided training on 5S Internal Auditing, SOP , AI in Manufacturing, Problem-Solving and Office TPM, along with a webinar on Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG), highlighting its role in sustainable business and long-term operational excellence. All these initiatives were well received by participants. These achievements have been made possible by the dedication and hard work of our team , I thank you all for your continued support and active participation. Let us continue striving for new heights in quality and strengthening a sustainable culture of excellence.

Regards

K . Sathianarayanan



K Sathianarayanan

Message from Secretary

NIQR's journey is not merely about sharing knowledge, it is about transformation. We believe that stronger organisations and capable young people are the foundation of a stronger India. NIQR is committed to support MSME in capability building, strengthening systems, nurture a culture of quality, innovation and continuous improvement and preparing them to be future-ready. At the same time, our engagement with students is helping nurture young minds with a culture of proactive thinking , Problem solving and improving what they see around them. Our growing connecting between industry and academia is creating opportunities for knowledge to move from the classroom to the workplace and beyond.

As the world changes rapidly, NIQR will continue to embrace emerging priorities while staying rooted in the fundamentals of Quality and Reliability. Let us continue this journey together—with purpose, commitment and the conviction that every improvement matters.

Regards

P Arulmani



P Arulmani

Monthly EC meeting at NIQR , Chennai office

The Monthly meeting of EC Members – NIQR Chennai chapter is scheduled on the first Sunday of every month and EC members join at the NIQR office to discuss the way forward and review the activity plan against Plan Vs Actual to improve it further.

The training program, conventions and webinar in the near future are planned in advance for effective execution.



Jul'26



Aug' 26



Sep' 26

5S Internal Auditor Training Programme

NIQR Chennai Branch successfully conducted a one-day 5S Internal Auditor Training Programme on 11th July 2026 at the SIPCOT Office Training Hall, Pillaippakkam. The programme was inaugurated by **Mr. K. Sathianarayanan**, Chairman, NIQR Chennai Branch, and witnessed the enthusiastic participation of 22 executives from diverse industries. The training sessions, led by **Mr. R. Mohana Krishnan** and **Mr. S. Murugan**, provided participants with practical knowledge and auditing skills essential for sustaining workplace excellence through the 5S methodology.

The course covered 5S Basics, Deeper Understanding of 5S , 5S Audit Methodology , Visual Observation Enrichment Exercises , 5S Mock Audits and Audit Report Writing and presentation. As a part of the training, the trainees visited companies such as M/s Unitech industries, Royal tyres and Teknovet Plastics to demonstrate the knowledge acquired during the training.



AI-Driven Engineering for Manufacturing and Quality

"Artificial Intelligence is no longer the future—it's becoming an essential part of today's manufacturing landscape " On 18th July 2026 , NIQR , Chennai Branch organised the One-Day Workshop on AI-Driven Engineering for Manufacturing and Quality at EDII – TN Ekkattuthangal, Chennai. A total of 35 participants from diverse industry background took part in and benefited from the training session. **Mr P Kothandaraman** , Vice Chairman – NIQR inaugurated the session with a pep talk.

Mrs. Hamseswari Ranganathan, Principal Product Strategy Manager , Oracle was the resource person she had the ability to simplify complex topics such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML), Large Language Models (LLMs), Generative AI, and Agentic AI making the session highly engaging and accessible to professionals from diverse backgrounds.

The interactive discussions, thought-provoking examples, and enthusiastic participation made the workshop a truly enriching learning experience. It was encouraging to receive excellent feedback from the participants, who appreciated the relevance and practicality of the session.





EXCEL 3.0 competition

Continuous improvement is not an event—it is a culture. **EXCEL 3.0** celebrated that culture beautifully. In order to showcase Kaizen from various organisations, **NIQR – SRM** jointly organised EXCEL 3.0 – A Competition on Business Excellence Projects & Case Studies at SRM University , Kattankulathur on 24th Jul 2026

It was truly rewarding to witness the enthusiasm and commitment shown by 66 participating teams from diverse industries , including school students from Ambur. They presented real, implemented shop-floor improvements across manufacturing, supply chain, quality, HR, finance and service sectors. Every presentation reflected a common purpose—solving real-world problems through continuous improvement, innovation and teamwork



NIQR – QCI meet



National Institution for Quality & Reliability (NIQR) had the privilege of engaging with the leadership of **Quality Council of India (QCI)** to explore strategic initiatives that can strengthen India's quality ecosystem.

The discussions focused on advancing professional certification, accreditation awareness, capacity building, institutional partnerships and joint outreach initiatives that will help industries, educational institutions and professionals embrace globally benchmarked quality practices.

Shop Operatives Programme

NIQR successfully conducted the 256th edition of its signature Shop Operatives Programme (SOP) during 7–8 August 2026, continuing its sustained commitment to building a strong culture of quality and operational excellence at the shop-floor level. The two-day program brought together 16 participants from diverse organizations, providing an engaging platform for practical learning, knowledge sharing and capability development. The successful completion of SOP 256 marks yet another milestone in NIQR’s continuing journey of empowering industry professionals with the mindset and practices essential for quality, productivity and continuous improvement.

Awareness of the changing industrial environment, the importance of team work, understanding ISO systems, Knowledge of TPM and 5S Methodology, understanding QC Circle, the role of employees in continuous improvement and familiarity with Lean Six Sigma were key takeaways from the session. The technical sessions were led by **Mr. P. Kothandaraman**, Vice Chairman, NIQR Chennai Branch, **Mr. V. Kumar** and **Mr. Rathinasabapathy** – EC members, NIQR Chennai branch.



Promoting the Life membership at NIQR

Established in 1987, the National Institution for Quality & Reliability (NIQR) is a charter-governed professional body dedicated to strengthening disciplined systems across industry and academia. Operating through structured governance and practitioner stewardship, NIQR serves as a national platform for institutional engagement, recognition, and continuity.

NIQR functions through an EC and Regional Branches that steward national engagement via conventions, recognition platforms, academic collaboration, and professional forums

Why become a Life member of NIQR?

- Convene national platforms for professional engagement
- Strengthen academic and industry collaboration
- Preserve institutional continuity in Quality disciplines
- Support system maturity across organizational ecosystems
- Recognise institutional and individual excellence

Become Life member of NIQR – learn , connect and contribute to a stronger culture of Quality and Reliability. Let your experience shape others. Let your commitment raise the standard. **Mr. C Stanley John** , Director General – NIQR appeal to professionals to become part of this growing community.

Total Life member : 1689





Office TPM Program

NIQR Chennai Branch successfully conducted a one-day program on Office Total Productive Maintenance (TPM) on 19th September 2026. Total of 14 professionals from diverse industry attended and the program, facilitated by **Mr. C. Sundaravadivelu**- EC Mmember, NIQR. The program focused on applying TPM principles to office and support functions, with emphasis on eliminating losses, improving processes , strengthening cross functional coordination, building a culture of continuous improvement and enhancing productivity.

The session was combination of lectures , interactive sessions and exercises. The participants were divided in to teams to complete the exercises and every team made a presentation to demonstrate their learning. All the participants were provided with course completion certificate.



Problem Solving through Disciplinary Approach

Operational excellence begins when organisations stop repeatedly solving symptoms and start systematically eliminating root causes. NIQR Chennai Branch conducted a one-day training program on "Problem Solving through Disciplinary Approach" on 26th September 2026 at EDII, Chennai. **Dr D Ravindran**, EC member – NIQR inaugurated the training program with a briefing on the curriculum.

Mr T R Renukathan, Primal solutions was the trainer for this program and provided participants with a structured and practical approach to problem solving, covering root-cause identification, Cause&Effect and Why-Why Analysis, corrective and preventive actions, effectiveness monitoring and standardisation. Twenty-five participants worked in four teams on real-time manufacturing problems through brainstorming and case studies, transforming problem-solving concepts into practical workplace capability.

Not only were course completion certificates issued to all participants, but three winners from the quiz contest as well as three participants who were actively engaged throughout the session were also provided with gifts.



NIQR Coimbatore Branch launched its Knowledge Sharing Session Series with an engaging program on "Standard Approach for Preparing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on 1st August 2026. The interactive session brought together professionals from industries across Coimbatore.

The enthusiastic participation and engaging discussions marked a promising beginning to this new knowledge-sharing initiative.



NIQR Trichy Branch organised a training Program on Non-Destructive Testing (NDT) on 12th August 2026 to provide valuable insights into NDT principles, techniques and their practical applications in strengthening quality assurance, safety and reliability across industry.



NIQR Trichy – MMA Trichy chapter jointly organized program " AI unleashed : From Industry adoption to Business Impact on 31st Aug 2026.



NIQR-Institute of Indian Foundry men (IIF) jointly organized a Knowledge Sharing Program on 24th September 2026 on "Work Station Standardization," and Trends in Air Treatment and Water Conservation.

Knowledge Sharing Program – NIQR Coimbatore Branch-



TEXPO 2026

As a part of Strategic Partnerships & National Initiatives , NIQR actively participated in **TEXPO 2026**, held between 16–18 July 2026, showcasing its initiatives in Quality, Reliability, Operational Excellence and professional development.

The exhibition provided an excellent platform to engage with industry leaders, MSMEs, professionals, academic institutions and other stakeholders, creating awareness about NIQR's training, certification, consultancy and membership initiatives. The event also facilitated valuable networking opportunities and strengthened NIQR's outreach within the industrial ecosystem.



Webinar on ESG The New Imperative for Sustainable Business

As industries rapidly evolve from basic compliance toward strategic value creation, mastering the intersection of Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) priorities has become essential for long-term operational excellence. In a Webinar organized at the NIQR Chennai office on 25th Sep 26, with around 120 professionals , **Mr Venkatamurugan N.S**, National Head of Operations, Glass Business & Head – International Technical Directorate Saint Gobai – Glass Business and **Ms.Trishaa Bhattacharya** , Sustainability Professional, Saint-Gobain delivered a master class, on the highly critical corporate theme "ESG – The New Imperative for Sustainable Business"

Key areas covered during the session were Bridging the 3Ps & ESG, Regulatory Compliance, Capital & Markets and Community & Culture.

Seeing such massive engagement from professionals and students alike during the live Zoom session reinforces our drive to keep curating high value knowledge sharing forums.



NIQR Student chapter



On 1st August 2026 ,NIQR launched its second workshop for school students at Sri Saraswathi Vidhya Mandir Matric Higher Secondary School, Chennai on "Housekeeping, Environment & Safety, Problem Solving, and Small Kaizen " with 32 students , for three Hrs. in the morning session and Wing commander **Mr Stanley Jhon , Dr. D Ravindran , Mr V Kumar** and **Dr. Vijayaragavan** represented NIQR, Chennai Branch.



The enthusiasm of the students throughout the session was truly encouraging. Five active participants were recognized with gifts for their excellent interaction, and the workshop concluded with a group photograph and overwhelmingly positive feedback from both students and teachers. Every student was encouraged to make a Kaizen of their own at the school campus. Our sincere thanks to NIQR leadership, School Principal **Mrs. Swarnalakshmi Ganesh** and the fellow resource persons for making this outreach initiative a grand success.



Activities Completed in Q3 -2026

- Three Monthly EC members meetings conducted on the first Sunday of July, August and September.
- Student chapter – NIQR started at Saraswathi Vidya Mandir school, Chennai in Jul 26.
- EXCEL 3.0 competition completed in Aug ' 26
- Trainings : One each program on SOP , 5S auditor , AI and Disciplinary Problem Solving were conducted.
- Joined one Expo and one Webinar conducted in Q3, 2026

Activities Planned in Q4-2026

- Ayudhapooja celebration at NIQR Chennai office ,Oct '26
- Student chapter – NIQR planned to start in one school / College in Q4, 26
- Formulate a committee to vet the training material , Nov '26.
- Series of webinars during Oct – Nov ' 26
- Daily Tidbits on Quality - Nov ' 26
- Releasing the Training calendar for 2027 , Dec ' 26
- Derive a road map for utilizing the expertise of NIQR Life members .

Editorial Committee:

P Kothandaraman
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