



Chandigné



Confederation of
Indian Industry
Northern Region

Chandigarh's bi-monthly e-Communique
Volume 1, Issue 2

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From the Chairman's Desk...

Through its constant dialogue with the government, thoughtful planning and consensus building with its members, CII is setting the agenda to steer India out of the economic slowdown that is affecting the world and has also touched India. From organizing sessions for members that demystify the economic scenario to proactively recommending confidence building measures to the Government, CII is at the forefront.

The CII Chandigarh Council is playing a proactive role as a catalyst for sustainable development of the City and has been regularly interacting with Administration, Industry, and Society on various economic and social issues to boost the competitiveness of the industry.

Through this publication, we desire to keep you updated with the CII Chandigarh Council's initiatives and activities in different areas. We intend to keep this Newsletter interactive and user friendly. We look forward to your invaluable suggestions and support.

With best wishes,

Partap K Aggarwal

Chairman, CII Chandigarh Council

Quote



Never look down on
anybody unless you're
helping him up

City Round – Up

Chandigarh to have tourism police

Keeping in mind the increasing number of tourists to Chandigarh and following the recent case of molestation of a German girl, the government has deployed a squad of 100 tourist police persons at major tourist spots like Sukhna Lake, Rock Garden and City Plaza. The tourism police would be entrusted with the task of guiding the tourists about law and order problems, security measures, places of medical help, matters relating to passports, visas, residential permits, exchange of currency, and immigration issues. The tourism department, as part of its innovative venture, has also introduced city cards that will cost Rs100, especially for the tourists.

Useful Website

<http://www.imba-tau.org/>

The Sofaer International MBA at Tel Aviv University



Minimum wages hiked in Chandigarh

The local administration has increased the basic daily and monthly rates of minimum wages as per the Consumer Price Index Number of Chandigarh for the half-year ending September 2008. The monthly minimum wage and daily minimum wage for unskilled workers and different levels of skilled workers and staff are revised. Revised rates for minimum and daily wages are applicable from October 1, 2008.

Administration seeks Rs 25 crore for tourism

The administration has sought Rs25 crore from the Union Tourism Ministry for augmenting the tourism infrastructure in the city. The major share of the amount is set to go for up gradation of various facilities at the Sukhna Lake to turn it into a major tourist destination. A tourist information kiosk at the newly-developed lake at the Sector 42 has also been planned.

New policy to make easy the transfer of ownership for leasehold industrial plots

As a result of the long-pending demand of industrialists and as another initiative to make the industrial area a business and commercial hub, the administration is proposing a new policy by which the transfer of ownership for leasehold industrial plots sold on general power of attorney (GPA) in the industrial area will be hassle free and industrialist friendly. A broad consensus on the proposal has been hammered out at a recent meeting of industrialists with the territory administration.

UT Administration extends date for furnishing of C Forms under the CST Act, 1956

The date for furnishing of "C" Forms under the CST Act, 1956 for the year 2007-08 has been extended up to 31 March, 2009. Non Submission of forms by this due date would attract full tax and interest.

Committee for Development of Infrastructure in Industrial Area

The Punjab Governor and Administrator, Union Territory, Chandigarh, Gen. (Retd.) S.F. Rodrigues, PVSM VSM, has constituted a Committee comprising Home Secretary, Finance Secretary and representatives of CII and other industrial organizations for development of infrastructure in the Industrial Area. This Committee would be broad-based with members from different trades of industry and commerce to suggest a road map for strengthening support structure in this major field of economic growth. He also emphasised the need for making a provision of a permanent exhibition

ground in the Industrial Area, which must be made a part of Industrial Area Development strategy.

Expressing his serious concern over the encroachment on government land, General Rodrigues asked the Home Secretary and Deputy Commissioner to review the functioning of the Committee of the task force assigned the job of removal of encroachments followed with corrective steps wherever necessary. He told them to follow the law and the decisions of the Hon'ble Courts from time to time and take appropriate action for removal of encroachments with no discretion or favour to anybody. He also wanted that the encroached land of the Timber Market must be got vacated and furniture business should be shifted to one appropriate place.

As a part of the programme for empowering physically challenged people, General Rodrigues asked the Finance Secretary to chalk out a plan for giving them booths or sites to enable them to earn their livelihood. He said that the focus of every endeavour must consist of ameliorative measures and addressing the needs and aspirations of common people and extending them opportunities of social and economic emancipation.

General Rodrigues sets out Road-Map for Strengthening Infrastructure Development in the Industrial Area in Union Territory

Expressing his concern over the delay in the execution and monitoring of the plan of development of the Industrial Area, the Punjab Governor and Administrator, Union Territory, Chandigarh, Gen. (Retd.) S.F. Rodrigues, PVSM VSM, set out a Road-Map for strengthening and modernizing the infrastructure, in this growth-oriented field, with the Constitution of a High Powered Committee under the Chairmanship of Home Secretary, Chandigarh Administration.

It may be recalled that this work was assigned earlier to the Chandigarh Municipal Corporation, but the project remained a non-starter, despite the availability of sufficient funds and resources. General Rodrigues, while presiding over the meeting of Senior Officers attended by Adviser, UT, Home Secretary, Finance Secretary, Commissioner, Municipal Corporation and heads of concerned departments, General Rodrigues asked them to revamp the systems in their respective organizations and make the various components on this project workable within time-bound schedules. He said that there is no dearth of funds and the need is to change our attitudes and remove

procedural bottlenecks, to upgrade facilities for the stakeholders. He emphasised that there should be a clear concept of the Industrial Area Development, with the focus on water supply, sewerage and other functional requirements. He said that the deadline for the conversion has already expired on September 18, 2008 and a Project team under the Chairmanship of Home Secretary with members of CII and other Industrial Organizations has been constituted to assess the state of conversion and draw up a plan to resume plots not being used and to take a holistic view of their upgradation. He

emphasised that there is a need of rationalization of parking lots and beautification of the whole area and the need of promoting the “green building” concept in the City.

Asking the senior officers to adhere to the set deadlines for various projects, concerning societal requirements and empowering our people, General Rodrigues asked the Chief Architect and Chief Engineer to ensure that various plans for the growth of the City must focus on a harmonious linkage with its past heritage and new Resurgent India.

Chandigarh Administration – An Update*

UT Administration appoints Prerna Puri as Joint Secretary of UT Marketing Board

The Chandigarh Administration has designated Sub Divisional Magistrate (S), Mrs. Prerna Puri as Joint Secretary, Marketing Board, UT, Chandigarh to look after the affair of the Marketing Board in addition to her own duties.

Ms. Puri is also the Nodal Officer for Modern Terminal Market.

SEC appoints Electoral Registration Officer and Returning Officers

The State Election Commission, UT Chandigarh has appointed Electoral Registration Officer and Returning Officers in connection with the general election to the Gram Panchayats, going to be held in the near future. Secretary, CHB, Mr. Kamlesh

Kumar for Gram Sabhas area including Dhanas, Sarangpur, Lahora and Kuhda Jassu, Director Information Technology, Mr. Manjit Singh Brar for Daria, Raipur Kalan, Behlana and Raipur Khurd and Additional Commissioner, MC, Mr. P K Sharma for Kishangarh, Mauli Jagran, Khuda Alisher and Kaimbwala have been appointed as Electoral Registration Officer and Returning Officers.

UT Administration extends deputation period of R K Rao

The Chandigarh Administration has allowed UT Deputy Commissioner, Mr. R.K. Rao to continue on inter-cadre deputation with the UT Administration for a period of one year beyond 29 May, 2008.

New In Chandigarh*

UT Industries Department organizes EDP

An Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP) was organized today to commemorate the Global Entrepreneurship Week at Government College for Girls, Sector-11. UT Home Secretary-cum-Secretary Industries Mr. Ram Niwas was the chief guest on the occasion. The programme was organized by the Department of Industries, Chandigarh Administration.

The objective of the EDP was to provide knowledge, experience and training to the young entrepreneurs. The programme was consisted of lecture on DIC schemes, a panel discussion on entrepreneurship development and activities and practical sessions on creativity and speed networking.

Red Ribbon Express Project

UT Home-cum-Health Secretary, Mr. Ram Niwas inaugurated the Red Ribbon Express (RRE) project

at Platform No. 5 of Railway Station, Chandigarh. He took a round of the train and said it is an impressive endeavor of National AIDS Control



Organization to make public aware about the HIV/AIDS.

While addressing the gathering, Mr. Niwas expressed great concern over the increasing HIV prevalence. He said that the situation is alarming in our country and would require massive effort, commitment and dedication at all levels. He called upon the young generation to spread awareness among general public especially people living in rural areas.

AEROTECH-08

Former President of India, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam inaugurated the National Seminar on Recent Advances in Aerospace Technologies, Maintenance and Optimization (AEROTECH-08). The seminar was organized by Aeronautical Society of India-Chandigarh Branch and Terminal Ballistics Research Laboratory, Chandigarh.



The main objective of the seminar was to provide a platform for free flow of information and sharing of

knowledge and experience between the veterans and younger generation. The seminar aims to provide an exposure to the budding technologists to present their achievements at a national forum.

A New Lake in Sector 42, Chandigarh and Beant Singh Memorial

Punjab Governor and Administrator, Union Territory, Chandigarh, Gen. (Retd.) S.F. Rodrigues, PVSM VSM, inaugurated A New Lake in Sector 42, Chandigarh and Beant Singh Memorial.

The lake complex comprises of 3.25 acres of water body, 2 entry pavilions, 6' wide walking track with interlocking paver block all around the lake and 2 decks to perform rituals.

Le Corbusier Centre

The Punjab Governor and Administrator, Union Territory, Chandigarh, Gen. (Retd.) S.F. Rodrigues, PVSM VSM, inaugurated Le Corbusier Centre, Chandigarh in Sector 19, the work place of founder architect and his team. It may be recalled that General Rodrigues visited this historic building, last year and asked the senior officers of the Chandigarh Administration to renovate it and display the entire record by retrieving letters and the correspondence by Le Corbusier from different quarters, for use by researchers and students of art and architecture.

Inaugurations *

General Rodrigues Inaugurates Chandigarh Carnival

Marked with fun, frolic, merriment and creativity, the Punjab Governor and Administrator, Union Territory, Chandigarh, Gen. (Retd.) S.F. Rodrigues, PVSM VSM, inaugurated the Chandigarh Carnival at Leisure Valley, amidst releasing of balloons, playing of bands, beating of drums performances of Punjabi Giddhas, Bhangra, dances of different states and display of distinctive regional art forms. Full of cultural peasantry, festive feasting and artistic creative activities, the Carnival involving considerable effort, attracted huge crowds including foreign tourists as well as locals with a message of harmonious living and working together for a good cause.

The annual Carnival event, this year, has many new novelties with the participation of foreign countries

including Japan, Germany and France exhibiting their art and culture through medium of photography and visuals. It is for the first time that there was a special feature by 'Air Force Display'. The Carnival Village have huts made of Bamboos, Tart, mud lippai and other handicrafts. It also has a separate section for corporates and business houses. Pyramid of Flowers by the Municipal Corporation, Chandigarh and Water Feature by the Chandigarh Housing Board added more colors to the Carnival.

Amusement Park for Children providing swings and rides, Hanging Bridge and Children Traffic Park were the major attractions in the Carnival. Chandigarh Lalit Kala Akademi, Chandigarh Shaitya Akademi, Chandigarh Sangeet Natak Akademi, College of Architecture, College of Arts, Educational Institutes, Le Corbusier Center, Chandigarh State AIDS Control Society and various Departments of Chandigarh Administration including Information

Technology, Chandigarh Housing Board, State Legal Services Authority, Chandigarh Tourism, Chandigarh Police, Haryana Tourism also put up their stalls. Food Court comprising of 'CITCO da Vehra', stalls by Dr. Ambedkar Institute of Hotel Management and Chandigarh Institute of Hotel Management were put up for providing quality food to the visitors. The artistes of NZCC enthralled the visitors during the celebrations through their performances.

HS inaugurates Chandigarh Pavillion at IITF 2008 New Delhi

Chandigarh Pavilion set up at the 28th India International Trade Fair 2008 in Hall no. 6, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi was inaugurated by Shri Ram Niwas, Home Secretary, and Chandigarh Administration on 14 November, 2008. The theme of the fair i.e. Infrastructure Development, Women Empowerment and Observance of Fire Safety Norms were projected prominently which were highly appreciated by the Chief Guest.



A cluster of village women empowerment has been tastefully developed in which all the house hold activities of women folk have been depicted aesthetically. Sixteen stalls which mainly include Information Technology, Tourism, CITCO, Decorated Pottery, Gem Stones and Artificial Jewellery, Honey Products, Readymade Garments, Laptop Comfort Trays etc. have been nicely displayed.

Source : www.chandigarh.nic.in

CII Activities

Manufacturing Best Practices Mission

4 October 2008: Gurgaon

CII Chandigarh Council in its endeavor to create awareness and knowledge about the modern techniques and best manufacturing practices amongst the Manufacturing organizations , mainly



SMEs in this region, organized a Manufacturing Best Practices Mission and took the delegates from these organisations to visit the plants of Maruti Udyog Ltd & Sona Koyo Steering Systems Ltd on 4 October 2008.

The participants included employees from companies like - JREW Steels, Philips Electronics India Ltd, Avon Ispat & Power Limited, Trident Group, Forex Fasteners, Godrej and Boyce Mfg. Co, to name a few, under the leadership of Mr Nitin K Peshawaria, Member, Manufacturing Panel, CII Chandigarh Council & Proprietor, Alvind Industries.

Mr Nitin Peshawaria mentioned that this Mission was a stupendous gumption of CII in its ceaseless intendment to upgrade and enhance the knowledge and competitiveness of the SMEs in the region. He further iterated that the participants in this mission learnt best practices in manufacturing & automation, Shared views on the direction that needs to be taken by the industry to achieve technological excellence, got insight on the technology strengths of the leading automobile manufacturers and were also able to Identify the aspects that were relevant to their own organizations and how they could benefit and raise their own efficiencies, technologies and hence productivity levels. well.

India@75 Workshops

Date	Workshop	Venue
21-Oct-08	India @ 75 : Envisioning Workshop	UBS, Panjab University
22-Oct-08	India @ 75 : Envisioning Workshop	CII NR Headquarters
23-Oct-08	India @ 75 : Envisioning Workshop	Fortis Hospitals
11 Nov-08	Consolidation Workshop	CII NR Headquarters

It has always been an endeavour of Confederation of Indian Industry to set up a leadership agenda which enhances the speed of socio-economic development of the country. To take this agenda forward, CII has embarked on an ambitious mission to ignite a movement in evolving a vision for India@75.

For contributing in this visioning exercise, the Task Forces in various States have been constituted which would evolve visions for their respective states. A Task Force for the same has been created in Chandigarh too. Mr Partap K Aggarwal, Chairman, CII Chandigarh Council and Managing Director, IDS Infotech Limited is the Chairman of the Task Force while Mr Mohit Chitkara, Vice – President, Chitkara Education Trust is the Vice – Chairman of the Task Force. To facilitate this whole activity in Chandigarh, CII has joined hands with University Business School (UBS), Panjab University, Chandigarh.

To find out the aspirations of all sectors of society (industry, government officials, academicians, students, NGOs, CAs, Doctors, and other professionals) which would help in creating a shared vision for India@75, CII had organized three workshops in October 2008 at UBS, PU,

CII Chandigarh Fair 2008

17 October- 20 October 2008 : Chandigarh

The 13th edition of CII Chandigarh Fair was inaugurated by Punjab Governor and Administrator, Union Territory, Chandigarh, Gen. (Retd.) S.F. Rodrigues, PVSM VSM. Mrs Jean Rodrigues, Mr Sanjay Kumar and Mr Partap Aggarwal were also present at the occasion.

Complimenting CII for its efforts, Gen Rodrigues mentioned that the Fair has been becoming bigger and better every year with impeccable displays.

Chandigarh, CII NR HQ Chandigarh & Fortis Hospitals, Mohali, Around 150 participants took part



in these workshops very actively. These workshops were attended by varied cross section of society including industrialists, academicians, students, bureaucrats, government officials, salaried professionals, women entrepreneurs, self employed people and professionals such as Doctors, Engineers, CAs and NGOs etc.

These workshops would play a very definitive and cogent role in helping us evolve a vision for Chandigarh.

Reflecting the festive revelry, the 13th edition of CII Chandigarh Fair 2008, highlighted the spirits and depicted the trade potential of the participants. Setting a higher denominator of successive fairs, this year a whopping 2 lakhs footfalls were recorder at the Fair. Visitors from the adjoining cities of Amritsar, Ludhiana etc were also spotted at the fair.

Amongst the VIPs; Dr andana Disodia, Director Industries, Vivek Atray, Associate Director , PWC;



Dr. Roshan Sankaria, Commissioner- MC, Chandigarh Maj Gen Rajesh Pant, VSM Chief Signal Officer, Chandimandir offered their visits to the fair.

In high spirits with the overall business generation Charu Mathur, Regional Director, CII Northern Region said, "CII has always put its best foot forward in executing the opportunities which are persuasive mode of generating business. We have an equally designated mission to promote societal aspects of trade. The CII Chandigarh fair offers learning in this regard. Right from the very first edition CII has found dynamic participation in successive fairs. The only trend we record is greater interaction with the consumers and this offers a mode of understanding of markets better to the participants."

The four day Fair with nine concurrent exhibitions, designated for various consumer segments recorded accumulated high business transactions. The fair apart from providing a

Infotainment Session on Global Crises – Local action for the employees of IDS InfoTech Limited
4 November 2008-Mohali

Educating the masses is the only solution to prevent the rapid increase of the HIV/AIDS cases. This was the crux of an Infotainment Session on HIV/AIDS organized by CII Chandigarh Council at the premises of IDS Infotech Pvt Ltd in Mohali.

Gaurav, the facilitator for the session, through a very insightful presentation, said that the focus this year is to galvanise awareness and support of the industry towards the issue. This is

roadmap to the participants for future, helped in B2B negotiations directed towards generation of greater commerce.

Craftsmen to big brands got first hand account of consumer's requirements and market understanding. Overseas participants got exposure to the tier 2 market, and they see good potential of business generation in the non conventional markets of India as well. Enthusiastic with the exchange created, participants of Pakistan were full of spirits of friendship and expressed willingness to take part in such platforms in future as well.

On the consumer front, such vibrant platforms for understanding the product and service configuration presents extended exposure to the offerings. The visitors were flocking in and out with enthusiastic festive spirits credited to the innovative schemes and discounts offered. Every



segment of consumer could be spotted at the fair, as it catered to the needs of every strata of society.

important as maximum numbers of infections are from the most productive 15-49 years age group.

A powerful and moving film on the myths and misconceptions, was screened which evolved beautifully from one step to another disseminating information and touching all aspects substantiated with facts and figures about



different routes of transmission and prevention of HIV/AIDS, giving information on counselling and testing facilities, information on anti retroviral therapy causes and routes to stigma and discrimination as well. The soulful performance urged the youth to be aware, make aware and be responsible.

The session was followed by a very interesting and engaging Question – Answer session. The programme being designed to be an interactive workshop was attended by more than 50 Employees

Demystifying the Current Economic Scenerio – a Panel discussion on economic scenario and its implications for Industry

12 November 2008: Chandigarh

Having explained the genesis of the current economic crisis, the Panel on “Demystifying the current Economic Scenerio” assured the audience that India is in a better position than most of the other economies. However, demand has receded, corporates are playing cautiously, and the immediate need is to jumpstart public expenditure in infrastructure projects.

formation of a ‘National Infrastructure Implementation & Monitoring Agency’ to identify top 20 infrastructure projects where the expenditure is committed, closely monitor them and unclog any obstructions. The Agency should have 10 of the best top executives from top 10 corporates of India and 10 from the government, he said, and should report to the Prime Minister every week.



Sharing his views on what the industry could do to tackle the situation; Mr Chandra Mohan, Former Vice Chairman and Managing Director, Punjab Tractors Ltd suggested greater focus on tapping the potential of the domestic market and on increasing efficiencies. He also emphasized on the importance of expediting key reforms specially the labour reforms.

Mr Richard Rekhy, Chairman CII Northern Region Sub-Committee on Economic Affairs & COO KPMG, while agreeing to a decline in the business confidence level, said “Every crisis is an opportunity and it depends on us how we take the advantage of the situation”.

Ms Bidisha Ganguly, Economist CII, said that India’s economy would continue to grow at 7-7.5 per cent as it is not very dependent on exports. “So the slowdown in the US economy will not affect the Indian economy to an extent it has done so in other Asian economies like China,” she said.

Sharing CII’s key recommendations vis-à-vis increasing public expenditure for demand stimulation, Mr Rekhy said that CII has suggested

Ms Ganguly pointed out that “this kind of global crisis happened because of the huge risk and leverages in the financial sector,” A lot depends on right proportion of saving, she said adding, “At present

our saving is pretty good at 25 per cent of GDP. What we need is greater intermediation and banking of these savings so that it could serve the Indian corporate sector better.”

We should be cautious with our approach towards retrenchment as there is significant cost that has gone into their recruitment and training said Dr Upinder Sawhney, Head of Department, Economics, Panjab University. Explaining the slowdown in the FDI in the recent past, she said that while the same is largely because of the current economic crisis, but there are internal issues as well which have contributed to the same.

Awareness Session on Goods and Services Tax

19 November 2008: Chandigarh

In order to enable the industry to plan long term business operations with more certainty, clarity on the proposed contours of GST is necessary. The GST regime would entail a significant departure from the existing Indirect tax regime in several areas. It therefore becomes imperative for the Industry to analyze the possible impact of GST on its business and accordingly plan their future operations. However, as of date, in absence of any concrete information in the public domain, there appears to be an ambiguity surrounding fundamental issues under GST (like structure, rate, etc.). Various models, possible GST rates, uniformity legislations across states

Mr Ajay Swaroop, Chief General Manager, SBI stated that the Indian Banks are better regulated and hence are not exposed to the kind of risks that have led to the crisis in the banking system of the Western countries. Complementing the recent RBI measures Mr Swaroop said that the same have led to an improved liquidity situation. Further the fall in international commodity prices, including oil, has given us some breathing space.

The session on Demystifying the Economic Scenario was preceded by an Awareness Session on Goods and Services Tax.



were discussed by Mr Pratik Jain, Executive Director, Indirect Tax KPMG. CII called for an early release of the White Paper on GST.

CII Chandigarh IT Cluster Meeting & Interaction with Mr Hy Hetherington, Managing Partner and Founder, HLP Integration, USA

21 November 2008: Chandigarh



CII Chandigarh Council conducted the IT Cluster meeting along with an interaction with Mr Hy Hetherington, Managing Partner and founder, HLP Integration, USA on 21 November 2008.

During the meeting Mr Hy Hetherington discuss current global economic scanerio with the members. He further discuss the various strategies on how to expand business globally.

Workshop on Labour Laws & HR Best Practices

19 November 2008: Chandigarh

In the current economic scenario the key challenge is to 'Close Strategic Gaps' in Productivity, Quality, Product Innovation and Customer Orientation. HR Department plays a crucial role in closing strategic gaps through recruitment, training, performance, recognition & reward, organisational development and change management. This was the key takeaway at the Workshop on Labour Laws & Best HR Practices organized by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Chandigarh Council at Chandigarh.

Mr M L Kalra, Advocate and Management Consultant asserted that Companies should exercise flexibility in adopting the global best HR practices that would help them in the long run. The emphasis then has to be on becoming better by following the best HR practices and have sound knowledge of applicable labour laws. Mr Kalra, an expert on Labour Laws, updated the participants on the Factories Act 1948; Industrial Disputes Act 1947; Employees' Provident Funds & Misc Provisions Act 1952; Employees State Insurance Act, 1948 and the Scheme; Contract Labour Act, 1970 and the Rules; Industrial Employment (Standing Orders Act, 1946); Payment of Bonus Act, 1965; Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972; Maternity Benefit Act, 1961; etc.

Mr Gaurav Kapoor, Senior Manager - Corporate HR, Vardhman Textiles Limited mentioned that the biggest challenge facing the HR function today is to create and sustain an innovative work culture. With the global and Indian economy being very volatile and the sensex surprising us each day with unexpected variations the expectations from HR has increased many folds. The ultimate challenge for HR today is to help the businesses survive these testing times, how to attract, develop and retain the scarce and precious talent and how to make a loyal workforce that stands by the business in tough times, he added. Mr Kapoor also shared various tips on how to formulate and then put in process

Agro Tech 2008

28 November – 1 December 2008: Chandigarh

"For the farmers to become consistently prosperous in the long term, it is very important that the private sector invests in setting up food processing industries and helps Indian agriculture move up the value chain," stated Hon'ble Mr. Pawan Kumar Bansal, Union Minister of State for

various procedures, to further form guidelines for future growth of the organizations to be technically and financially sound and be recognised as Centers of Excellence.



The participants, mainly HR and Personnel Heads of 25 organisations, from the Chandigarh Region, not only gained proper knowledge of currently applicable Labour laws but also learnt how to frame and implement systematic and strategic HR policies and procedures oriented towards participation, communication, teamwork and introspection. The need is to adopt 'Problem Solving' Orientation rather than that approach.

The workshop was a useful interface with knowledge sharing and case studies and turned out to be an enriching and learning experience for the delegates who were thrilled and joyous to be a part of this workshop. The delegates represented various organisations from diverse sectors of the industry like, Vodafone Essar South Ltd, Abhishek Industries Ltd, Advance Technologies, Bluestar, Dr Grewal Eye Clinic, Kamla Dials & Devices Ltd, Johnson & Johnson Ltd, Surya Pharmaceuticals Ltd, Parabolic Drugs Ltd, Hindustan Uniliver Ltd, Quark Media House, Vardhman Chemtech Ltd and Nectar Lifesciences Ltd etc.

Finance, Govt. of India, at the Valedictory session of Agro Tech 2008.

Commenting on Agro Tech 2008, Mr. Bansal said that he was thoroughly impressed by the Exhibition and the thought-provoking international conferences held as part of the Fair. "This is



indeed very good that CII has brought the captains of agro-industry to Chandigarh and has been successful in creating an atmosphere through which industry will be able to help the farmers in terms of new seeds and new production techniques, apart from setting up food processing industries. While the Government is doing all it can to support the farmer, it is the corporate world that can help achieve consistent

Agro Tech 2008 was a complete success," stated Mr. Salil Singhal, Chairman, Agro Tech 2008. "Over 23,700 farmers visited the Fair from 17 states while there were 45,454 business and general visitors. Over 100 JVs / MOUs were signed and more than 175 new products launched. What was even more heartening was the fact that over 85 per cent of the exhibitors stated that they would participate again in Agro Tech and this is a true indication of the practical benefits the Fair has brought to industry and the farmers."



Snapshots

- 23,783 farmer visitors from 17 states
- 45,454 business & general visitors
- 100 plus JVs / MOUs Signed
- 175 plus new products launched
- 85% exhibitors will participate again at Agro Tech 2010
- Conference: concrete suggestions at deliberations to be taken forward with stakeholders

growth of the agricultural sector."

Interaction of Mr T Nanda Kumar, Secretary Agriculture, Government of India
28 November 2008: Chandigarh

Over 100 progressive farmers and industrialists involved in agri-business participated in a Special Session chaired by Mr T Nanda Kumar, Secretary - Agriculture, Government of India.

Dr Rahul Mirchandani, who has been leading the young farmer project spoke on the efforts his team was making on educating farmers. A special report on this, compiled by the CII, was released by Mr T Nanda Kumar.



AGRO TECH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

Conference 1: Impact of Organised Retail on Food Value Chain Saturday, 29 November 2008

Organised retail has an excellent future and is expected to grow four-fold to get a market share of around 16 per cent from the present share of 4 per cent. This will mean a tremendous improvement in the quality and standards of the Food value Chain." This was the general consensus at an International Conference on 'Impact of Organized Retail on Food Value Chain' organized by the Confederation of Industry, in conjunction with Agro Tech 2008. Mr Ramesh Inder Singh, Chief Secretary, Government of Punjab, was the Chief Guest.



Conference 2: Diversification of Agriculture Vs Food Security Sunday, 30 November 2008

"Diversification is necessary to keep the momentum of growth alive in the agricultural sector and this will help increase income of the farmers. At the same time, food security is also vital and hence diversification needs to be planned systematically with adequate financial support from the institutions" was the key takeaway of the conference on "Diversification of Agriculture Vs Food Security". H E Mr Bob Hiensch, Ambassador, Royal Netherlands Embassy was the chief guest at the conference.



Conference 3: New Drivers in Food Processing Sector Monday, 1 December 2008

"The food processing sector has immense potential and technology is the biggest driver for the industry. The need of the hour is to promote entrepreneurship in this area." This was the consensus at an international conference on "New Drivers in Food Processing Sector".



Interaction with Mr K V Kamath, President, CII
29 November 2008: Chandigarh

Mr K V Kamath, President, CII started with a quick brief on his agenda for the industry and quick view of industrial behavior in context of



current economic scenario. He said, government still talk about 7 – 7-1/2% growth, which means inflation clearly is under control, also all commodity prices have crashed. And hence you are talking of a new way of doing business from a high cost economy to a low cost economy in a span of 6 months. The consequences of this sought of a price correction is

- a. Inventories get re priced
- b. Banks will say that you don't have enough collateral

CII National Council Meeting
29 November 2008: Chandigarh

The CII National Committee was held in Chandigarh on 29 November 2008 after a gap of 13 years.



- c. Time where payments are getting stretched, people are not paying and this is a chain reaction up and down the chain
- d. The consequences of the falling price and the impact on inventory is that industry have to take a loss in their profit and loss account
- e. Where industry will need more funding but not available. Because of stretching of cycles and a P&L rate
- f. How we are going to handle is a challenge

He informed members that The CII started representing to the government. Some have happened. 2 – 3 things we quickly need from government, i.e.

- i. Release liquidity into the industry which is not so far is released and
- ii. Secondly to get the interest rate down. These are two immediate constraints.
- iii. 3rd provide the funding that is required in this 6 months to 1 year of time.

The Interaction was attended by over 85 participants from the industry.

CII in Coming Months

Interaction with Mr Ram Niwas IAS, Home Secretary, Chandigarh Administration
5 December 2008 : Chandigarh

Visit to Le Corbusier Centre
12 December 2008 : Le Corbusier Centre, Chandigarh

Yi–FranklynCovey Session on Leadership
19 December : Chandigarh

Training Programme on Total Quality Management
14 January 2009 : Chandigarh

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18th International Engineering & Technology Fair

23 - 26 February 2009

Bangalore International Exhibition Centre (BIEC), Bengaluru, India

Concurrent Shows

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ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

Event: Energy & Environment
 Date : 23 - 26 Feb 09
 Place: BIEC, Bengaluru
 Email: j.chandrasekhar@ciionline.org

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part mart & AUTOCARE 2009

Event: Partmart & Autocare 2009
 Date : 23 - 26 Feb 09
 Place: BIEC, Bengaluru
 Email: r.shivakumar@ciionline.org

THE PARTS THAT MAKE A BUSINESS

www.ietfindia.in

Image Tech Asia 2009
1st International Exhibition on Image Tagging and Entertainment Industry

Event: Image Tech Asia 2009
 Date : 23 - 26 Feb 09
 Place: BIEC, Bengaluru
 Email: mohandasiv@ciionline.org

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MANUFACTURING 2009

Event: Manufacturing 2009
 Date : 23 - 26 Feb 09
 Place: BIEC, Bengaluru
 Email: s.kannan@ciionline.org

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SAFE
For Small Business Security, Safety & Protection

Event: Safe 2009
 Date : 23 - 26 Feb 09
 Place: BIEC, Bengaluru
 Email: ramesh.k@ciionline.org

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2nd ROBO EXPO 2009
TECHNOLOGY AND COMPETITIVENESS

Event: 2nd Robo Expo 2009
 Date : 23 - 26 Feb 09
 Place: BIEC, Bengaluru
 Email: sudha.srikant@ciionline.org

THE NEXT GENERATION OF BUSINESS ADVANCEMENT

IETF GLOBAL 2009 Participation : greta_varughese@ciionline.org

International Hospitality Fair 2009

Event: International Hospitality Fair
 Date : 23 - 26 Feb 09
 Place: BIEC, Bengaluru
 Email: s.rajagopal@ciionline.org

www.internationalhospitalityfair.in

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